



School of International and
Political Studies
Faculty of Arts
Melbourne campus
221 Burwood Highway Burwood
Victoria 3125 Australia

Dr Steven Slaughter
2011-10-21

Re: Abdullah Shariat

To Whom It May Concern:

I was the honours coordinator in the School of International and Political Studies at Deakin University where Abdullah Shariat completed his honours degree. In the Australian and English educational systems, the honours degree is the entry path for further postgraduate education. The honours degree at Deakin University is equivalent to a Masters Degree, if suitably high marks obtained, in terms of being a prerequisite for doing a PhD. Abdullah secured a distinction in his honours degree. This would permit entry into a PhD program in most Australian universities. Our honours degree program included course work of 20,000 words and a thesis of 15,000-20,000 words.

Further to this formal education, Abdullah has demonstrated a good mastery of the English language and strong organisational skills. In addition, in 2005 he also published a book entitled *Fighting Masoud's War*.

Because of his results here at Deakin and his extra-circular activities, I believe that a student of his calibre and dedication to his studies would be more than capable of undertaking a PhD.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require information beyond what I have already provided. I can be contacted at work on (03) 9251 7755 or by electronic mail: slaughts@deakin.edu.au.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Steven Slaughter".

Dr Steven Slaughter