

28. March 2023

Integration Council

## **City of Bocholt invites to public commemoration of earthquake victims**

### **Friday, 31 March, at 6 p.m. on the market square in front of the Historic Town Hall**

The city of Bocholt invites you to a public commemoration of the many victims of the earthquake catastrophe in Turkey and Syria next Friday, 31 March. It will begin at 6 p.m. on the market square in front of the historic town hall.

After a greeting by Mayor Thomas Kerkhoff, Pastor Rafael van Straelen will speak. This will be followed by a sura from the Koran, which will be recited by the Imam of the DITIB, Mesut Gültepe, and translated for all participants. This will be followed by a prayer in German by the Imam of the Ahmadiyya community, Muhammad Bilal Awais.

"With this prayer, we want to express our deepest sympathy to all the relatives of the victims, the injured and those affected by the catastrophic earthquake," said Mayor Kerkhoff. He added that the thoughts of the citizens of Bocholt are with the relatives of the dead, those still missing and those affected at this painful time. "I hope that the many helpers on the ground, some of whom were there from Bocholt, will carry the spark of hope to Turkey and Syria that the people there need to draw new strength."