



**OrphanCare Foundation (PPAB: 23/2012)**

No. 54, Jalan 5/60, Bukit Gasing, 46000 Petaling Jaya, Selangor, MALAYSIA

Tel +60 3 7770 1900 Fax +60 3 7780 1900

Email [admin@orphancare.org.my](mailto:admin@orphancare.org.my) URL [www.orphancare.org.my](http://www.orphancare.org.my)

Tax Exemption: (LHDN.01/35/42/51/179-6.7539)

PRESS STATEMENT

## **ENFORCE STRICT ADOPTION PROCEDURES**

We, the Trustees and staff of OrphanCare, are appalled and greatly saddened by the death of the toddler Muhammad Al Fateh Abdullah who passed away at the Sultanah Nora Ismail Hospital (HSNI) on 11 July. According to news reports, the toddler was believed to have been abused by his adoptive parents who have eight biological children.

To avoid such tragic incidents, OrphanCare advocates proper screening of couples or families before they are allowed to adopt. At OrphanCare, our comprehensive screening process includes a face-to-face interview, a 'Potential Adoptive Parents' training workshop and inspections of the adoptive family's home pre and post adoption. Our Social Workers conduct the post-adoption visits on a regular basis to ensure the well-being of the child and to assess if counselling is required by both the adoptive family and the adopted child to increase the chances of a successful adoption. Any evidence of abuse would most definitely result in removal of the child from the family, at least temporarily until the Social Workers are convinced that the adoptive parents have displayed genuine remorse and a commitment to regular inspections by qualified Social Workers.

The unfortunate death referred to earlier could have been avoidable if the adoption adhered to Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) such as ours at OrphanCare.

To read more about the work that we do, please check out our website [www.orphancare.org.my](http://www.orphancare.org.my)