



March 1, 2017

In The Name Of God, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful

O mankind! We created you from a single soul, male and female, and made you into nations and tribes, that you may come to know one another. Truly, the most honored of you in God's sight is the greatest of you in piety. God is All-Knowing, All-Aware. (Quran 49:13).

The Ugly Head of Anti-Semitism and Racial Rhetoric against Muslims Reawakens

We are living in an unfortunate period where any of us and or our families on any day could be the target of mindless hate. These are indeed testing times for all of us. Times during which we must stand shoulder-to-shoulder with each other, to protect our rights, our future and to alleviate the continuance of appalling situations.

The Jewish community is enduring the appalling situations of intolerance and ignorance. We as Muslims know all too well how hurtful it is from our own personal and group experiences, to be or have our family members be targets of misguided individuals that lack compassion, understanding and kindness.

More than 68 threats have been made including one shooting through a synagogue window in Evansville, Indiana; bomb threats against Jewish Community Centers, pre-schools and schools in 11 states forcing the evacuation of children. As well, in St Louis, Missouri and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania headstones at hundreds of gravesites were uprooted, crushed, broken and vandalized. In Washington state on Mercer Island, The Stroum Jewish Community Center was evacuated Monday night February 27th, 2017 after a bomb threat.

We are deeply concerned by the recent rise in anti-Semitism against people of Jewish faith and the daily bias rhetoric against Muslims. Our world is one wherein all things; beasts, beings, animals and nature were created by the Almighty as one Ummah [family] where we should “want for each other what we want for ourselves” because we are interrelated, interconnected and interdependent. Thus, whatever affects one of us similarly affects all of us.

The Jewish community in Seattle and the surrounding areas, and our neighbors at Temple Beth Am have collaborated for many years with us, stood with us, and supported us after 9/11 and in other recent incidents when threats were made against Muslims. We feel blessed and are thankful for the relationship that we have developed with the Jewish community. They have stood and protected us and our Mosque while we slept on many cold nights.

We are deeply disturbed and standing in solidarity with the Jewish community against these incomprehensible acts of hatred, intolerance and ignorance that are occurring to the Jewish people, their community centers, cemeteries and institutions throughout this country.

Together we must stand against and condemn all types of threats, hate crimes, bigotry, and intolerance against all people.

In Solidarity

Hisham Farajallah

Hisham Farajallah, Secretary

Idriss Mosque Board of Trustees