

## **STATEMENT: WA MUSLIM LEADERS RESPONSE TO PROTEST IN SYDNEY**

The Western Australian Muslim community condemns in the strongest possible terms the provocative and offensive content of the film depicting the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon Him) that was recently released; however such insults do not provide individuals with the right to react violently against others. We do not condone violence of any sort against anyone.

Although we believe in the right to freedom of speech and expression, it cannot be seen as freedom of speech to insult religions, Prophets and the sacred values of scriptures or articles of any people or faith.

Although we understand that many in the world are deeply offended by the release of the offensive film, we call upon our community to react in a manner that exemplifies the noble character of the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon Him) and the spirit of Islam by exercising wisdom and patience. We do not sanction any upcoming rallies or protest in relation to this issue in Western Australia.

Thank you and peace be upon you.

Endorsed by:

Islamic Council of Western Australia

Muslim Theological Council WA ( Jamiatul Ulama WA)

Muslim Youth WA

Islamic Centre of WA

Al Furqan Islamic Association

Muslim Charity Committee

Noorul Islam Society

Muslim Womens Support Centre

Curtin Muslim Students Association

United Australian Islamic Association

Iqra' Academy (Southern River, Perth)

Islamic Association of the Southern Districts