



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

Media Statement

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Australia and the international community must pressure India to stop demonising minorities before widescale pogroms result in loss of innocent lives.

“I see the escalation in calls for violence from Hindu monks and priests as well as political aspirants as a cause of great alarm that India is heading towards genocide against not only the 250 million peaceful Indian Muslims, but also against all minorities in India.” Said AFIC president Dr Rateb Jneid.

“Last week, I attended a conference that included some of the world’s most accomplished speakers. One after the other, these speakers pleaded with the international community to intervene in order to stop the escalation into a genocide as seen in Rwanda and Burma.” Said Dr Jneid.

“I have personally seen video clips of Hindu monks/priests calling for violence against Muslims. We have seen reports of Hindus in India [attacking Christian Churches](#) as well. The 30 January attempted assassination of a Muslim member of the [Indian parliament is a direct](#) result of these calls for violence. The promotion of Hindu nationalism by political leaders and members of the Hindu clergy must be stopped before the populous are further polarised and before more violence is perpetrated against minorities.” Said Dr Jneid.

“In recent years, we’ve seen the lockdown of the state of Jammu and Kashmir (started 5 August 2019), the Delhi riots, the beatings and the killing of many innocent people by Hindu Zealots motivated by the ideology of the governing BJP government and its political party’s militant arm the RSS. The Modi government has destroyed the social fabric of India through manipulating the faith-identity of the majority. The Modi government must be stopped before it is too late.” Said Dr Jneid.

“The Australian government must take the lead to do what is right and protect Christians, Muslims, Sikhs and other minority faiths in India. It must lobby the international community for support and it must take a stand without fear or favour. If we don’t, then we will be complicit through silence for all the blood that is shed and the pain that is inflicted. Once more violence starts, we will see an influx of refugees coming to our shores far greater than anything that we have seen before, we will not be able to cope and the neighbouring countries will not be able to cope. Let’s act now before it is too late.” Said Dr Jneid

Authorised by:

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Australian Federation of Islamic Councils

*The peak body for Australian Muslims representing
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