

## PRESS RELEASE

Attention: News editors. Social affair, Ethnic media, interfaith media, and community writers

Saturday 14 November 2015

## Islamic Council of WA denounce terror attacks on Paris

Our deepest condolences go out to the victims of the mindless violence perpetrated on innocent people in Kabul, Lebanon and Paris this week.

We would like to express our sympathy to all the victims of terrorism across the world. There is no justification for killing innocent people, especially in the name of religion, which have core values of kindness and compassion such as Buddhism, Christianity, Judaism and Islam. It is worth noting that these religions are practiced peacefully by billions of people.

As a peak body of Muslims in Western Australia, we urge the community to respond to these horrific incidents with solidarity, unity and strength. Such acts do not represent the values, culture and faith of billions of Muslims across the world. Terrorism does not discriminate against its victims and neither should we in responding to such mindless acts of violence. The only way to defeat this divisive ideology is through courage, unity and solidarity.

Those who use such incidents to create further divisions are inadvertently helping the extremist cause. Religious fanaticism and divisive extremism are our common enemy.

The Muslim community of Western Australia along with members of the wider community stand united against all those who try to cause division and strife.

Islamic Council of WA president Dr. Rateb Jneid said, "Our thoughts and prayers go out to the victims of all the terrorist attacks. Our response has to be a united one, as terrorists do not discriminate - the stats clearly indicate that the majority of the victims of terrorist violence across the world are Muslims". He further states that "unity is the only way to defeat terrorism".

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Islamic Council of Western Australia Inc.

Islamic Council of Western Australia (ICWA) was established in 1976 and incorporated as a State Council for Islamic affairs in 1977. We promote unity and friendship amongst Muslims and other communities within and outside of Western Australia. <a href="http://www.islamicouncilwa.com.au/">http://www.islamicouncilwa.com.au/</a>