

## IRISH MUSLIM DECLARATION OF PEACE & GUIDE TO PREVENT RADICALISATION

## **Preamble**

Recent decades have seen the world's great faiths and cultural communities torn apart by misunderstandings and mistrust to such an unfortunate degree that people of good intentions towards each other are now compelled to declare their unequivocal rejection of the beliefs and activities that divide them and their unreserved embrace of the beliefs and activities that unite them.

We, the signatories to this 'Irish Muslim Declaration of Peace & Guide to prevent Radicalisation', affirm that all humans everywhere possess inherent dignity and immutable rights: these including freedom from poverty, oppression, fear and prejudice and freedom of belief, worship and expression.

This declaration is being launched by Muslims of Ireland for the Muslims of Ireland and for the rest of humanity on Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> July 2015 at O'Connell Street during the "Not in our Name" protest.

- 1. We the signatories to this declaration send a message of peace and fraternity to all communities and individuals in Ireland and abroad along with a call for respect, dignity, compassion, equality, solidarity and justice for, and between, all people.
- 2. Christians, Muslims, Jews, Hindus, Buddhists, and those of other religions, along of course with all people who do not identify with any faith, must enjoy the same civil and legal rights and freedoms and be able to live in peace and harmony and must pursue peace only through mutually respectful engagement and dialogue.
- 3. We reject unequivocally all terrorism because at the heart of all religions is a belief in the sanctity of the lives of the innocent. The indiscriminate nature of terrorism, which has in recent years killed far more civilians and other non-combatants than it has combatants, is un-Islamic, un-Judaic, un-Christian and it is indeed incompatible with the true teachings of all faiths. Because of its manifestly indiscriminate and therefore murderous nature, we condemn all terrorism in all forms and in all countries regardless of any claimed religious and political intentions.
- 4. We unequivocally reject, disown and condemn all terrorism committed in the name of Islam, just as we reject and condemn all terrorism committed in the names of other religions or causes. Terrorism is never a legitimate and honorable act of war but is always a cowardly act of indiscriminate murder.
- 5. Whereas we do not overlook the real or perceived grievances that may serve as a causative fuel for terrorist violence and we call upon all national and local governments to address those grievances with haste and resolve we commit ourselves to the non-violent resolution of those issues as well as to the removal through education and dialogue of conspiracy theories that seem to blinker some peoples' world views'..
- 6. We believe that the too-long-running conflict between Israel and Palestine needs to be resolved urgently and with scrupulous fairness.