

UMO - Walsall

Union of Muslim Organisations

Tuesday 27th October 2020

Press Release: Respect for the Prophet Muhammad (Peace be upon Him) and Islam

السلام عليكم ورحمة الله

The tempestuous times which we are going through has shown that we as humans can come together collectively and support one another not just against the Covid-19 pandemic but also against those who ignorantly try to break this unity and universal bond we as humans share. Comments made by the French President, Emmanuel Macron in early October in which he said: "Islam is a religion that is in crisis all over the World", rather than attacking those who carry out acts of terror regardless of their religious or racial identity, President Macron has attacked Islam itself and thereby attempted to normalise and justify Islamophobia. The continuous publication of cartoons insulting the sentiments of billions of Muslims across the globe and lack of good leadership to address the matter reassures that the freedom of 'some' ends where the freedom of 'others' begins.

It should be well noted that any violent, barbaric and acts of terror are strongly condemned by many Muslims across the globe, especially in the name of Islam as it is forbidden within Islam for any individual except for the state or government to carry out legal punishments.

By simply attacking Islam, without any understanding of it is simply unacceptable and improper for a leader of any country. Such statements and actions will lead to marginalisation and polarisation throughout the world; this will create more hate and feed the fuel for extremism. We need to create room for dialogue, mutual respect and tolerance amongst communities and respect each other for their views, rather than provoking, marginalising, and dividing.

"Ignorance of each other is what has made unity impossible in the past. Therefore, we need enlightenment. We need more light about each other. Light creates understanding, understanding creates love, love creates patience, and patience creates unity. Once we have more knowledge (light) about each other, we will stop condemning each other, and a United front will be brought about." (Malcolm X)

#OurProphetOurHonor

Mohammed Arif
Interim Chair - Trustees & Management Board

Mahmood M Sacha
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Note: The UMO is an umbrella organisation for Mosques in Walsall

Unity is our Strength

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