

## To the Christian Community of Lahore! The "German Muslim League" shares your grief and sorrow

Dear brothers and sisters in humanity,

Dear sisters and brothers in the community of Adam,

As salaamo aleikum,

The murderous attack on the members of your congregation on the eve of Easter is a ferocious attack on all of us. It constitutes an utter betrayal of the basic teachings of Islam, and it is a callous act of criminal violence.

We pray to the Almighty who is the Creator of the Community of Adam to bless those who have lost loved ones with the blessing of patience.

And we pray to the Almighty that the injured will recover in body and soul.

We pray to the Almighty that the terrorists, their henchman and their treacherous teachers will experience severe punishments in the here and the hereafter. They break the commandments of all faiths, they betray the teachings of all religions, they poison the minds of ignorant people, they are preachers of hatred and **they are missionaries of Satan**.

Our prophet Mohammad has said: "He who hurts the persons entrusted in our care hurts me, and he who hurts me annoys Allah." Islam looks upon the People of the Book, that is, Jews and Christians, with special regard, whether they reside in a Muslim society or outside it.

The Qur'an never addresses the Jews and Christians without saying, "O People of the Book" or "O You who have been given the Book," indicating that they were people of a revealed religion. For this reason, there exists a relationship of mercy and spiritual kinship between them and Muslims, all having in common the principles of the one true religion sent by Allah through His Prophets (peace and blessings are upon them all). In the Qur'an, Allah says: "He has ordained for (the Muslims) the same religion which He enjoined on Noah, and that which We have revealed to thee (Muhammad) and that which We enjoined on Abraham, Moses, and Jesus: that you should establish the faith and make no division in it." (Surah "Ash-Shura", the 42<sup>nd</sup> Surah in the Quran, Verse 13).

Muslims are required to believe in all the Books revealed by Allah and in all the Prophets sent by Him, otherwise they are not considered true believers. Allah says in the Qur'an as follows:

"Say: We (Muslims) believe in Allah and in what He has revealed to us, and in what He revealed to Abraham and Ishmael and Isaac and Jacob and the tribes (of Israel), and in what was given to Moses and Jesus, and in what was given to (all) the prophets by their Lord. We make no distinction between any of them, and to Him do we submit." (Al-Baqqarah the 2<sup>nd</sup> Surah in the Quran, Verse 136)

Consequently, if the People of the Book read the Qur'an, they will find in it praise for their Books, Messengers, and Prophets.

In having dialogue with the People of the Book, Muslims should avoid such approaches that may cause bitterness or arouse hostility, Allah says in the Quran: "And do not dispute with the People of the Book except by (the way) which is best, unless it be with such of them as transgress, and say, 'We believe in what has been sent down to us and sent down to you, and our God and your God is one, and to Him do we submit." (Al-Ankabut, the 29th Surah in the Quran, Verse 46)

The Prophet of Islam also said, "Whoever hurts persons entrusted in our care, I am his adversary, and I shall be an adversary to him on the Day of Resurrection."

And on another occasion he stated:

"On the Day of Judgment, I will dispute with anyone who oppresses a person from among the People of the Covenant, or infringes upon his right, or puts a responsibility on him which is beyond his strength, or takes something from him against his will."

The murderous attack on the members of your congregation on the eve of Easter is a ferocious attack on all of us. It constitutes an utter betrayal of the basic teachings of Islam, and it is an extremely callous act of criminal violence.

We pray to the Almighty who is the Creator of the Community of Adam to bless those who have lost loved ones with the blessing of patience.

And we pray to the Almighty that the injured will recover in body and soul.

We pray to the Almighty that the terrorists, their henchman, their prejudiced sympathizers and their treacherous teachers will experience severe punishments in the Here and the Hereafter. They break the commandments of all faiths, they betray the teachings of all religions, they poison the minds of ignorant people, they are preachers of hatred and they are the missionaries of Satan.

In the end we assure you of our heartfelt sympathies and pray for the departed souls and their families. Our sympathies are with you in these days of devastation, pain and agony.

Wasalaam,

M. Belal El-Mogaddedi (President)

On behalf of the Board of directors "German Muslim League"

(The German Muslim League was founded in Germany in the year 1949 and officially registered in 1954. It is oldest, continually existing Muslim organization in Germany. For more information about the German Muslim League one may contact the website:

www.muslim-liga.de)