News Release from Our Organizations

 The Quad Cities Muslims against Violence and Terrorism

We, the Muslims of the Quad Cities join the rest of the world in condemning the action of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS). ISIS is neither a state, nor does it represent Islam. ISIS is a group of terrorists maligning the name of Islam for political gain, a most heinous crime. They are doing what Islam forbids: harming civilians, driving out the minorities from their homes, and beheading foreign journalists. Islam, on the other hand, teaches that we must treat others with dignity and respect, and particularly protect the rights of Christians and Jews (called “the people of the book” in the Quran.) Emissaries, dignitaries, ambassadors and journalists are all to be protected in Islam. ISIS knows nothing of the Islamic faith and its teachings. Like extremists of all faiths and

Types, they prey on ignorance, spread hatred, and use fear and mistruth to forward their agenda. We condemn all of their actions and statements outright. Many Islamic scholars and the parent organization of Muslims in America (the Islamic Society of North America) have all condemned ISIS’ actions publicly and on their website ([www.isna.net](http://www.isna.net)).

Islam is a peaceful religion that respects the sanctity of life. The Holy Quran specifically

Mentions that taking of any innocent life is like killing all of humanity while the saving

Of a single life is like saving all of humanity.

We are deeply saddened and distressed by the recent acts of violence and any other injustice perpetrated by anyone who calls him or herself a Muslim. Our condolences and prayers go out to the families and friends of the victims of these unspeakable acts. These terrible actions are not representative of Islam or Muslims anywhere in the world.

President Obama has correctly stated that, “The United States is not and never will be at war with Islam. Islam teaches us peace. Muslims the world over aspire to live with dignity and a sense of justice, and when it comes to America and Islam, there is no “us and them.” There is only “us” because millions of Muslim Americans are part of the fabric of our country.”

While celebrating the Muslim Holiday, Eid Ul Adha (the festival of sacrifice) an Abrahamic tradition, we should stand together as people of faith, and pray for the suffering of Muslims and non-Muslims alike all around the world, and encourage tolerance and respect among all people.

I will be happy to answer any question at the time of prayer. Anis Ansari, MD 563-249-3340.

Muslim Community of Quad Cities

Islamic Center of Quad Cities

Clinton Islamic Center