



Press Release

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Muslim Group Condemns Franklin Graham's Rhetoric on Islam

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community says Graham's hate-filled and inaccurate comments expose his ignorance and malice towards Islam

On Dec. 10th 2009 on CNN, Franklin Graham – son of famous evangelist Billy Graham – defended his controversial post-9/11 comments in which he called Islam an evil and wicked religion. **The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA condemns Graham's incorrect statements, which expressed his hatred and willful ignorance of the Islamic faith.**

Graham falsely claims that *“true Islam cannot be practiced in this country. You can't beat your wife. You cannot murder your children if you think they've committed adultery or something like that, which they do practice in these other countries.”* Instead of acknowledging the peaceful Muslims who do not prescribe to any extremist ideals, Graham asserts that such people aren't truly Muslims. He continued to voice this jaundiced view by stating that such Muslims *“would like to get out of Islam”* but cannot do so due to fear of being killed.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community finds it deplorable for a perceived leader within the Christian faith to have such an erroneous understanding of Islam and would make such incorrect and hateful statements.

Graham previously exposed his ignorance and malice towards Islam when he declared *“The god of Islam is not the same God of the Christian or the Judeo-Christian faith. It is a different god, and I believe Islam is a very evil and a very wicked religion.”* Graham's attempt to discredit Islam through fear tactics and false, divisive accusations is appalling.

“The Islamic faith is one of peace and tolerance. Reverend Graham has a false and uninformed view of the Islamic faith as practiced by millions of individuals in the US and beyond” said **Nasim Rehmatullah, VP of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA.** *“As Muslims who believe in the Messiah we invite Rev. Graham to review our doctrine and our action (www.alislam.org) to learn the true Islam and become truly informed.”*

Representatives from the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community are available and welcome the opportunity to share the true message of Islam.

About the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community:

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is a dynamic, reformist and fast growing international movement within Islam. Founded in 1889, the community spans over 190 countries with membership exceeding tens of millions. Its USA chapter, established in 1921, is the first American-Muslim organization.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is the only Islamic organization to believe that the long-awaited messiah has come in the person of Mirza Ghulam Ahmad (1835-1908) of Qadian. Ahmad claimed to be the metaphorical second coming of Jesus of Nazareth and the divine guide, whose advent was foretold by the Prophet of Islam, Muhammad. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community believes that God sent Ahmad, like Jesus, to end religious wars, condemn bloodshed and reinstitute morality, justice and peace. Ahmad's advent has brought about an unprecedented era of Islamic revival and moderation. He divested Islam of fanatical beliefs and practices by vigorously championing Islam's true and essential teachings.

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