



Press Release

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Malaysian Muslims do not own ‘Allah’

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community denounces violence against Malaysia’s Christian Population

Malaysia’s High Court recently overturned a government ban on Roman Catholics' using ‘Allah’ as a translation for God. Many Malaysian Muslims are outraged by this decision, claiming that Allah is a religious word that only Muslims should be able to use. Since the court ruling, hateful comments and threats against Christians have been posted widely on the Internet and on Friday, January 8, 2010, three Malaysian churches were attacked with firebombs. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community strongly condemns this violence towards Malaysia’s Christian population and the very idea that Allah or any religious term should be reserved only for Muslims is absurd.

“The Holy Quran declares clearly that there should be no compulsion in religion,” said Dr. Nasim Rehmatullah, National Vice President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in the United States. “The notion that religious terms can be patented or trade-marked is absurd,” he declared.

The recent attacks on places of worship by so-called Muslims opposes the teachings of the Holy Quran and the practice of Muhammad, the Holy Founder of Islam – the Holy Quran demands that Muslims make whatever sacrifices necessary to protect and safeguard the sanctity of all places of worship whether they be cloisters, churches, synagogues, or mosques.

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community strongly supports the decision of the Malaysian High Court to grant Christians the right to use the word, ‘Allah’ to refer to God. There are verses in the Holy Quran in which people identified by the Holy Quran as being Jews and Christians used this word to refer to God prior to the advent 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. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Community USA, 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 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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