

Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society's Statement on Recent Terrorist Attacks in Paris and Beirut

11/14/15 – Columbus, Ohio

The U.S. based Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society condemns in the strongest possible terms the recent terrorist attacks in Paris, France and Beirut, Lebanon. These barbarous acts, responsibility of which is claimed by the so-called “Islamic State”, is an attack on humanity and the universal values that bind us as one people. As the Holy Quran states “All mankind is a single nation” (2:213) and “...whoever kills a person ... it is as though he had killed all people” (5:32).

But condemnation is not enough. Although the acts of such terrorists are deeply rooted in political grievances, the religion of Islam is being exploited by groups like the so-called “Islamic State” to justify its actions, recruit the impressionable and uninformed, and self-promote their political goals. This propaganda must be countered, and this battle of stripping these terrorists of the garb of Islam that they wear can only be achieved by Muslims.

The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society works tirelessly towards this goal, primarily through its international translation and publication projects. Our publications — in particular a translation of the Holy Quran with commentary by the world-renowned scholar Maulana Muhammad Ali — is recognized for its spiritually inspiring lessons and its effective rebuttal to extremist ideologies that terrorists often rely on in furtherance of their criminal actions. And we have these publications translated into a host of languages, placed free of charge into the hands of people around the world, so that they may have an opportunity to study Islam for themselves, in their own language, and be equipped with an understanding of Islam that is a natural refutation to radical views and interpretations. As the famous British Muslim Marmaduke Pickthal commented while reviewing the treatise *The Religion of Islam* by Maulana Muhammad Ali:

“Such a book is greatly needed when in many Muslim countries we see persons eager for the revival of Islam, making mistakes through lack of just this knowledge.”

More recently, *The Religion of Islam* and many of our other publications have been translated into Arabic, have received certifications of authenticity from the premier Islamic institution Al Azhar Al Shareef, in Cairo, Egypt, and have been distributed in many parts of the Middle East in partnership with like-minded local Islamic organizations. The esteemed late Grand Imam of Al Azhar, Sheikh Muhammad Sayyid Tantawy, even endorsed the Arabic translation of *The Religion of Islam* with a personal Foreword, thereby further paving the way for its acceptance among the masses.

We continue to pray for those injured and the families of those who have lost loved ones in these very trying days. And we hope that our efforts, and those of many other Muslims, will one day result in the religion of Islam never being associated with such disgraceful acts against humanity. This, we believe, is the noble striving, i.e. “*jihad*”, of our times. Let us unite in this cause.

The Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society is headquartered in Columbus, Ohio and is the U.S. branch of the international Lahore Ahmadiyya Movement.

For more information about the Lahore Ahmadiyya Islamic Society and its work, please contact Fazeel S. Khan, Esq. at aaail@aol.com and visit www.muslim.org.