



Islamic Center of Baton Rouge

ESTABLISHING A MUSLIM COMMUNITY IN LOUISIANA WWW.ICBRSITE.ORG

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful

ICBR STATEMENT ON DEATH OF MR. GEORGE FLOYD

Islamic Center of Baton Rouge (ICBR) condemns the brutal killing of **Mr. George Floyd** at the very hands of those sworn to protect him. However, it is shamefully clear that he was a victim of the same systematic oppression that affects all people of color in our society. Yet sadly, the number of unfortunate incidents does not appear to decrease over the years. It is paramount that all offenders be brought to justice as soon as possible.

Following the principles of **Qur'an** and the guidance of our prophet, we feel compelled to condemn injustice and discrimination, and to cultivate an environment that establishes equality, diversity, and transparency as highest priorities to set an example for the community.

Almighty Allah tells us in the **Qur'an**:

O People! Surely, We have created you male and female, and have made you nations and tribes that you may know one another. Truly, the noblest of you in the sight of Allah is the best in piety and conduct. Surely Allah is the Best Knower and the Most Aware (49:13).

The Holy Qur'an calls on believers to stand up for justice and bear witness to the truth “*even if it is against yourselves, your parents, or your close relatives*” (4:135) and warns believers to never allow “*hatred of others to lead you away from justice*” (5:8).

It is a teaching that commands believers throughout the Qur'an to “*be a community that calls for what is good, urges what is right, and forbids what is wrong*” (3:104).

It is an urging to pursue greater moral action, exemplified as “*Is to free the slave, to feed at a time of hunger an orphaned relative or a poor person in distress, and to be one of those believe and urge one another to steadfastness [in doing good] and compassion*” (90:13—17).

It is encouraging the “*fair and kind*” *treatment of women* (4:19—21). And, it is pushing people *to defend the oppressed even if it means putting their own lives at risk* (4:74—76).

The anger and frustration seen by African American communities is fully warranted. They have protested for, suffered without, and deserved justice for hundreds of years. As we echo the call for fairness in law enforcement, the murder of Mr. George Floyd reminds us that we have a long way to go.

ICBR calls upon the Muslim community to help bring about a just society. This is fundamental to the mission of the Last Prophet Muhammad (peace be upon him) and a consistent message throughout the Blessed Qur'an.