



Date: December 21, 2008

Press Release:

Ahmadiyya Muslim Sect under a wave of Persecution in South East Asia

Toronto, Ontario: Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Canada condemns a recent statement from the Malaysian State Government in curtailing the Communities' activities in the State of Selangor, an act to appease the pressuring Islamic militant groups acting in such states.

The State Minister of Selangor - Malaysia, in charge of Islamic Affairs, Dr Hassan Mohamed Ali was recently quoted stating that 'action would be taken against Jama`at leaders soon.' In the same article he further claimed that the Ahmadiyya Jama`at was the 'last of the deviant groups operating in the state'. Another newspaper quoted him as saying, 'Qadiani teaching would be buried' and that the authorities were discussing how to 'solve the problem' of the Ahmadiyya Jama`at. At the same time Ahmadi officials in the country were ordered to take down two signboards located at the Ahmadiyya central mosque.

This matter is extremely worry some as it has the potential to lead to State sanctioned persecution of the Ahmadiyya Community as has been witnessed, to varying extents, in Pakistan, Bangladesh and Indonesia. In the very recent past such acts have been undertaken by the Indonesian Government, and then in Pakistan in a wave of violence directed at Ahmadi two doctors were martyred, only last week another Ahmadi was severely injured in an attack on his life.

The President of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Canada expressed his anguish on such statements and said, "It is ironic that only in November 2008 an Interfaith Conference was held under the auspices of the United Nations, where leaders of around 80 Islamic States gathered and expressed concern at "serious instances of intolerance, discrimination, expressions of hatred and harassment of minority religious communities of all faiths". At the same forum King Abdallah of Saudi Arabia stated, "Human beings were created as equals and partners on this planet, either they live together in peace and harmony or they will inevitably be consumed by the flames of misunderstanding, malice and hatred." It is time for the Islamic leaders to live up to their declarations".

Ahmadiyya Muslim Community is a religious organization, international in its scope, an embodiment of the benevolent message of Islam – peace. The community lives by the motto '*Love for All – Hatred for None*'.

For more information on Ahmadiyya Muslim Community please visit www.alislam.org or www.ahmadiyya.ca

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