



# NATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHURCHES IN INDIA

Regd. Under the Societies Registration Act XXI of 1860 (Regn. No. 13 of 1933-34) and under the Bombay Public Trusts Act 1950 (Regn. No. F/715{N})

QUADRENNIAL THEME 2016-2020: TOWARDS JUST AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITIES

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## A Joint Response by the National Council of Churches and Jamiat Ulama-I-Hind towards the Terrorist Attack in Sri Lanka

The National Council of Churches in India along with our Islamic faith friends Jamiat Ulama-I-Hind condemn the terrible and tragic terrorist attack on innocent people in Sri Lanka on Easter Day, 21<sup>st</sup> April 2019. We extend our emotional support and assure that we will stand with the families of the victims of the attack. We are with the Government of Sri Lanka in all its genuine initiatives to bring peace in the affected areas. We pray for the speedy recovery of the injured and comfort for those who have lost their loved ones. Our thoughts and prayers are with every citizen of Sri Lanka.

We as representatives of faith communities in India are concerned about the escalation of conflicts and violence all over the world in the name of religion. Terrorism, fanaticism and communal divide are growing. We understand that such attempts are politically motivated, and religion is being used to gather support for the vested interests of a minority. We are afraid that in this context religions are being imaged as identity-oriented ideologies because of which religion appears to be meaningless. Our common effort today is to bring back the core values of different religious traditions which foster life as an integral part of spirituality. Therefore, we stand for peace, justice, love, mercy and mutuality. We genuinely pray that the entire human society will realize the value of life and transform their religious endeavors to promote life. Hate perpetuated by the fanatic outfits should be encountered with love and peace.

During this time of grief, disgust and distrust we the representatives of the National Council of Churches in India and Jamiat Ulama-I-Hind jointly offer our solidarity and support to the Government of Sri Lanka for your initiatives to make peace a living reality in the island nation. We also promise that we can work with our counter parts in Sri Lanka for maintaining peace. We strongly believe that we will overcome the culture of hate and violence with inter-faith coalitions for peace and justice. Peace be upon all of us!

The delegates:

1. Mr. Alwan Masih, The General Secretary of Church of North India
2. Rt. Rev Warris Masih - The Bishop of CNI - Diocese of Delhi
3. Colonel Daniel Raju Dasari, Territorial Commander of Salvation Army
4. Rt Rev Collin C. Theodore - The General Secretary of North West India Council of Churches
5. Maulana Mahmood Madani, General Secretary, Jamiat Ulama-I-Hind
6. Mr. Niaz Farooqui, Secretary, Jamiat Ulama-I-Hind
7. Ms. Ella Sonawane, Assistant General Secretary, ISPCK
8. Rev Asir Ebenezer, the General Secretary, National Council of Churches in India
9. Rev Dr. Abraham Mathew, the Executive Secretary, Policy, Governance and Public Witness of NCCI.

  
**Rev Asir Ebenezer**  
The General Secretary, NCCI



**Date: 30.04.2019**