

*In the name of God, the Most Compassionate, the Most Merciful*

30 Oct 2020

Dear leaders of the Christian Community and our Christian Friends,

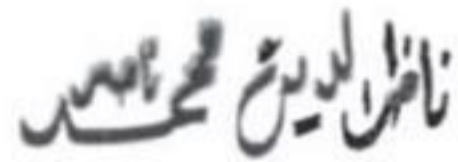
We read with deep anguish and concern the recent horrific murders in Paris and the Notre Dame Church in Nice, France. Once again, radical elements and extremists have committed heinous crimes on innocent individuals and in the most sacred of places. We have seen far too many atrocities that desecrate the sanctity of places of worship and target worshippers in recent years – Sri Lanka, Christchurch, Charleston, South Carolina, and now, Nice. These incidents clearly show that perpetrators of violence have no care or concern for who and where these atrocities are, because their ideology of hate seeks to fracture community relations.

Such attacks are not only an affront to the sacredness of the human soul, but also an assault on Islam, as they took place in the month where Muslims commemorate the birth of the Prophet Muhammad by honouring him with good deeds and behaviour. These terrorists may have sought to exploit our love for the Prophet to gain sympathy but their actions are a clear desecration of his teachings, and have no place whatsoever in Islam or in any religion.

It is important that our society remains committed to shared values and to continue to work with each other with kindness and compassion so that peace and harmony prevail. We will continue to work tirelessly with the Christian community to affirm our commitment to the bonds of faith and friendship. We are confident that by strengthening the trust and confidence in each other, we will be able to prevent such incidents from ever taking place here.

We offer our sincerest prayers and solidarity to those whose lives were taken unjustly, to those who were injured and to their loved ones. May their sorrows heal and may the ones whose lives were lost be never forgotten. May God restore peace and compassion in a world that urgently needs it.

Sincerely yours,



**DR NAZIRUDIN MOHD NASIR**  
**MUFTI**  
**THE ISLAMIC RELIGIOUS COUNCIL OF SINGAPORE (MUIS)**