



## **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK Condemns the Attack on Charlie Hebdo**

January 7, 2015

**Rafiq Hayat**, National President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK, has condemned the ruthless attack by gunmen on the Charlie Hebdo offices in Paris today.

He said:

"We are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved.

"Under no circumstances does Islam permit a person to take the law into his own hands. It is never right to mock the sensitivities of any religion; nevertheless, there is absolutely no justification in Islam for violent response to any provocation.

"It is hoped that the perpetrators of today's attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.

"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

Source: <http://www.prnewswire.co.uk/news-releases/ahmadiyya-muslim-community-uk-condemns-the-attack-on-charlie-hebdo-287847021.html>

## Merton unites to show solidarity with Paris after terrorist attacks

First published Monday 12 January 2015 in [News](#) by [Louisa Clarence-Smith](#), Reporter - Wimbledon

Politicians put their differences aside on Friday night to show their solidarity with Paris after a spate of horrific terrorist attacks.

With Merton's union jack at half mast as a mark of respect for the 17 people shot dead last week, the small crowd lit candles, laid flowers and held signs proclaiming 'I am Charlie'.

The vigil was organised by Mr Hilton, who said he was contacted by a number of residents who said they wanted an opportunity to show their solidarity with Paris.

Mr Holmes said: "We stand united with Paris and tonight in Morden we have shown that no matter how many times people try to stop free speech, it will not work.

"As a democrat I am pleased to stand together with fellow candidates and residents and present a united message. Terrorism will not win."

Seventeen people were killed last week in shootings at the offices of satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, in a kosher supermarket and on a street in the south of Paris.

The dramatic events ended on Friday after armed police stormed the supermarket and printing offices where gunmen were holding hostages and killed the suspected terrorists.

**Merton's Muslim community has also condemned the attacks, which were carried out in the name of Islam.**

**Speaking at a sermon on Friday, His Holiness Hazrat Mirza Masroor Ahmad, world leader of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, condemned the attacks which he said bore no relation to "the true teachings of Islam".**

**He said: "Nowhere does Islam permit taking the law into one's own hands or to injure or murder anyone.**

**"Yet these so-called Muslims and Muslim groups still do not abstain from such cruelties and atrocities."**

Yesterday world leaders were among over a million people who marched through Paris to defend the values of liberty, democracy and equality.

**[http://www.wimbledonguardian.co.uk/news/11717384.Merton\\_unites\\_to\\_solidarity\\_with\\_Paris\\_after\\_terrorist\\_attacks/](http://www.wimbledonguardian.co.uk/news/11717384.Merton_unites_to_solidarity_with_Paris_after_terrorist_attacks/)**



13 January 2015

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**PARIS ATTACKS**  
**IS IT RIGHT TO REPUBLISH MOHAMMED CARTOONS?**  
12:39 BREAKING NEWS PM SPOKESMAN SAYS DAVID CAMERON WHOLEHEARTEDLY DEFENDS THE RIGHTS OF

0:38 / 7:19

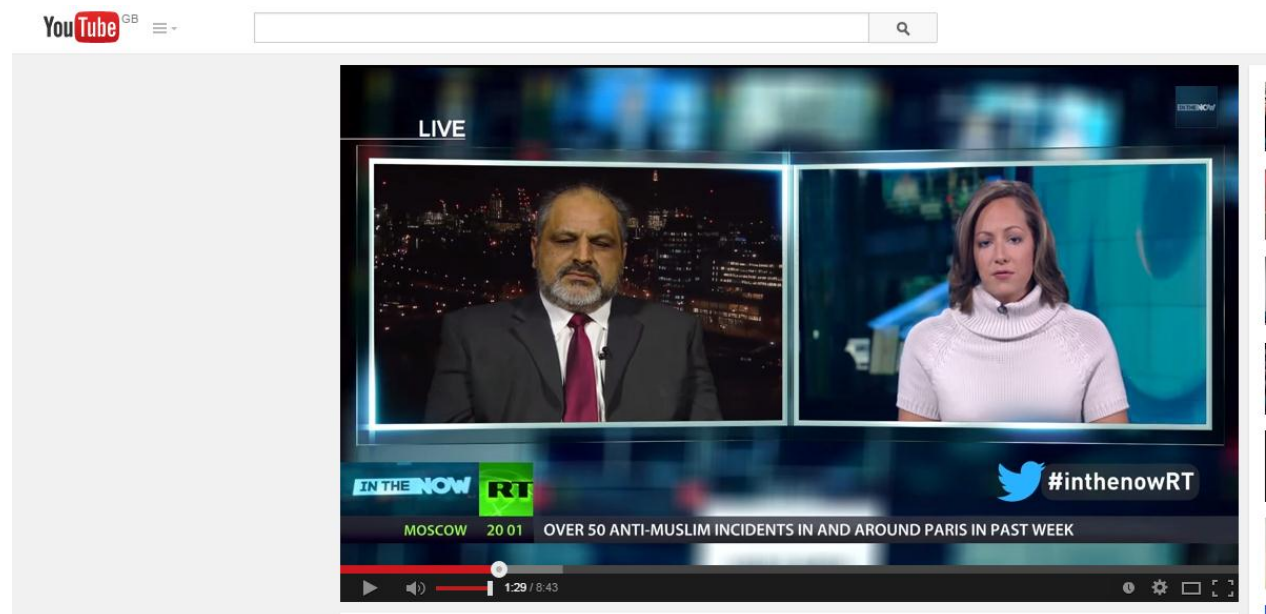
SKY News - Rafiq Hayat on images of the Prophet Muhammad by Charlie Hebdo 13.01.2015 12:38hr

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=phKwNbE39oA&feature=youtu.be>



# Russia Today TV

14 January 2015



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vY3cDu9MIEI#t=57>



**Sputnik UK:**



15:29 13.01.2015(updated 16:30 13.01.2015)

**The UK Ahmadiyya Muslim Association representative calls on European governments to persecute those clerics who incite hatred and violence.**

MOSCOW, January 13 (Sputnik), Svetlana Alexandrova — European governments need to take legal action against extremist preachers who endorse violence and hatred, a spokesperson for the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association in the United Kingdom, Basharat Nazir, told Sputnik Tuesday, commenting on the recent extremist attacks in Paris.

"The European governments should take legal action against extremist preachers who endorse violence and hatred for other nations," Nazir told Sputnik on Tuesday. He urged EU authorities to avoid a "soft approach to Muslims who preach hate, wish to cause disorder and do not understand that Islam teaches every Muslim to be loyal to his country."

Over the past week France has seen a wave of gun violence caused by radical religious beliefs that have led to the deaths of 17 people.

In the aftermath of the attacks in France, EU authorities realize that extremist groups in Europe are producing militant homegrown jihadists, and that these jihadists are EU citizens raised and educated in Europe.

The history of extremist movements across Europe offers a similar pattern. A radicalized minority of European Muslims inspired by extremist polemic and in response to wars waged by the West throughout the Middle East, Africa and Central Asia has brought the violent reality of terrorist conflict home.

Nazir states that "militants target young Muslims who often feel confused and guilty for not knowing what Islam really stands for and what it takes to be a true Muslim."

He reaffirmed that the mainstream European Islamic community unanimously condemns violence, and expressed a concern "that these atrocities will impact negatively not only on the image of Muslim communities but their very position in various European societies."

The UK Muslim association representative also stated that ordinary Muslims may face hatred, mistrust and Islamophobia. "People are beginning to fear a growing "Islamisation" in Europe," he said, adding that "this growing concern has given organizations like the Patriotic Europeans Against Islamisation of the West greater support, as they assembled 18,000 protestors in Dresden, Germany." Nasir, pointing out three recent attacks on mosques in Sweden noted they take place "as the far-right groups across Europe [are] making large electoral gains."

According to Nazir, the key to avoiding a polarization in European dialogue is to keep open communication between all religious and secular groups.

"Terrorists are born through ignorance," he stated, adding that education is the only effective and long-lasting way to move past the fear that breeds the ignorance engendering terrorist behavior.

The Ahmadiyya Movement in Islam is an international religious organization, with branches in over 176 countries in Africa, North America, South America, Asia, Australia, and Europe. Total current membership is estimated at around 200 million.

**<http://sputniknews.com/europe/20150113/1016839342.html>**

## **Hanworth imam condemns Charlie Hebdo massacre and Paris sieges**

January 9, 2015



**Atta ur Rahman Khalid, Imam of the Baitul Wahid Mosque, in Hanworth, speaks out against atrocities after police storm hostage sites**

**A Muslim leader in Hanworth today condemned the Charlie Hebdo massacre and the ensuing terrorist atrocities in Paris, which appear to have ended this afternoon with the storming of two hostage sites.**

**Atta ur Rahman Khalid, Imam of the Baitul Wahid Mosque in Raleigh Way, Hanworth, offered his condolences to the families of 12 people killed in Wednesday's attack and those killed or injured in subsequent atrocities linked to it.**

The terrorists who shot dead staff and police at the satirical magazine on Tuesday reportedly shouted 'Allah is great' as they fled the scene, but Mr Khalid said their actions had nothing to do with Islam's true teachings.

**Speaking on behalf of his mosque and as a member of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association, he said: "We are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken over 12 lives and injured scores**



more. We offer our condolences to the families of the victims and those left bereaved.

"It is hoped that the perpetrators of the attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.

"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings. It was said that the perpetrators raised the slogan of 'Allah is the greatest'.



#### **Baitul Wahid Mosque in Hanworth**

"Did they not realise that God does not permit a person to take the law into his own hands. Allah says about Himself that His Mercy encompasses everything. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) who was only sent as a Mercy for Mankind taught that a Muslim is the one from whose hand and tongue all other people are safe.

"Killing, particularly whilst raising slogans of the Name of Allah, is a great injustice towards God Almighty, his Prophet and indeed all Muslims."

Police were this afternoon reported to have stormed two hostage sites in Paris, both believed to be connected to Wednesday's mass shooting. The captors were reported by the BBC to have been killed during the rescue operation.

Source: <http://www.getwestlondon.co.uk/news/local-news/hanworth-imam-condemns-charlie-hebdo-8415989>

## *Muslim leader for Beds condemns Charlie Hebdo killings*

January 8, 2015

***The attack on French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo has been condemned by the local Muslim community.***

**Abdul Sami - regional Amir for Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Beds, Herts, Bucks and Cambs - said: "We condemn the attack on Charlie Hebdo and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims.**

**"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."**

Bedfordshire Police paid tribute to their fallen colleagues in Paris by holding a one minute silence at 10.30am last Thursday.

It took place 24 hours after the tragic incident in France that left 12 people, including two French police officers dead.

Chief Constable Colette Paul said: "Bedfordshire Police wished to show their sympathy and esprit de corps with our colleagues in France.

"We are not alone, forces across the UK stood in solidarity with our French police comrades by holding a one minute silence."

Four of cartoonists from Charlie Hebdo, six other employees or visitors and two policemen were killed when the Kouachi brothers, self-proclaimed 'avengers of the Prophet' attacked the magazine offices in Paris last Wednesday.

Three million copies of Wednesday's edition of the magazine are being printed.

The cover of the latest edition shows the Prophet Muhammad holding a sign reading 'I am Charlie', below the words 'all is forgiven'.

**Soure: <http://www.bedfordtoday.co.uk/news/local/muslim-leader-for-beds-condemns-charlie-hebdo-killings-1-6518034>**

## Paris killers acted in defiance of the teachings of Islam

This week's terrorist murders in Paris have shocked the world, not least members of the Muslim community. **Fareed Ahmad** says such acts are against all the teachings of Islam

The gruesome scene of a policeman being mercilessly shot dead on a street in Paris sent shockwaves around the world.

As the story broke and details emerged of the callous murders at the offices of Charlie Hebdo, I, like millions of others, was stunned, horrified and sickened.

My immediate thoughts and prayers were for the victims' families, for one can only imagine the pain and anguish they must have suffered.

The fact that this atrocity was committed in the name of Islam, a religion of nobility, respect and peace, only added to my grief at this senseless killing.

It was an act of brutal murder that I condemn emphatically, absolutely and unequivocally, for it strikes at the heart of every civilised society and in no way does it, or those who perpetrate such slaughter, represent my faith of Islam.

It is said that the killers sought to justify their actions by saying that they had avenged the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), but nothing could be further from the truth. While the company had in the past

published irreverent cartoons of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) that were offensive to many Muslims and many people of faith, such offence offers absolutely no justification for violence.

On the contrary, the holy founder of Islam provided an excellent example of patience and fortitude in the face of extreme provocation. He was subjected to ridicule, abuse

teachings that emphasised prayer, respect and the sanctity of life.

Had the killers truly studied Islam they would have known that the Holy Quran condemns murder and states that "whosoever killed a person... it shall be as if he killed all of mankind" (Chapter 5, Verse 33).

Indeed, they would have realised that there are many Quranic verses that

the right to debate and discuss beliefs and ideas. It would be a cruel victory for the murderers and peddlers of hate if, despite having all these rights and freedoms we, too, chose – for the sake of simplicity and ease – to react with ignorance over knowledge, for that is exactly the path of those who gunned down their victims in Paris.

Extremists thrive on hate, division and destruction that feeds off ignorance. We should therefore seek to ensure that our understanding and our knowledge is not merely based on the multitude of headlines, sound bites and 140 character tweets that seem to dominate our lives. By seeking true knowledge I would hope it would then become evident that terrorists follow no faith.

We stand united with all who seek to promote justice and peace and in such a world there is no room for terrorists or extremists of any hue or colour or indeed any self-proclaimed creed.

Fareed Ahmad is the former President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for Devon and Cornwall and the National Secretary External Affairs for Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK.

Terror in Paris **PAGES 14-15**



What do you think? Why do some young Muslim men turn to violence?

Leave your comment at  
[westernmorningnews.co.uk](http://westernmorningnews.co.uk)

and violence but not even once did he call for the harming of anyone in response. The Prophet's reaction was to respond instead with dignity and he worked tirelessly to improve the life of all.

Through love and affection he created a society where all faiths were honoured and sensitivities respected. That was the supreme response to such insults and derision.

Clearly the killers in France failed to grasp the wisdom and import of the Prophet's example and

underline Islam's absolute commitment to peace.

Therefore, the murderers who claimed to have acted in honour of Islam in reality acted in defiance rather than in defence of its teachings.

Despite this, I know that some will still choose to blame Islam for these actions simply because they were carried out in its name. To those I can only offer the following thoughts.

We are fortunate that we live in a country where we have the right to education, to hold and express opinions,



## Paris killers defy the teachings of Islam, says Devon Muslim leader

By [Plymouth Herald](#) | Posted: January 10, 2015

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As the story broke and details emerged of the callous murders at the offices of Charlie Hebdo, I, like millions of others, was stunned, horrified and sickened.

My immediate thoughts and prayers were for the victims' families, for one can only imagine the pain and anguish they must have suffered.

The fact that this atrocity was committed in the name of Islam, a religion of nobility, respect and peace, only added to my grief at this senseless killing.

It was an act of brutal murder that I condemn emphatically, absolutely and unequivocally, for it strikes at the heart of every civilised society and in no way does it, or those who perpetrate such slaughter, represent my faith of Islam.

It is said that the killers sought to justify their actions by saying that they had avenged the Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him), but nothing could be further from the truth. While the company had in the past published irreverent cartoons of Prophet Muhammad (peace and blessings be upon him) that were offensive to many Muslims and many people of faith, such offence offers absolutely no justification for violence.

On the contrary, the holy founder of Islam provided an excellent example of patience and fortitude in the face of extreme provocation. He was subjected to ridicule, abuse and violence but not even once did he call for the harming of anyone in response. The Prophet's reaction was to respond instead with dignity and he worked tirelessly to improve the life of all.

Through love and affection he created a society where all faiths were honoured and sensitivities respected. That was the supreme response to such insults and derision.

Clearly the killers in France failed to grasp the wisdom and import of the Prophet's example and teachings that emphasised prayer, respect and the sanctity of life.

Had the killers truly studied Islam they would have known that the Holy Quran condemns murder and states that "whosoever killed a person... it shall be as if he killed all of mankind" (Chapter 5, Verse 33).

Indeed, they would have realised that there are many Quranic verses that underline Islam's absolute commitment to peace.

Therefore, the murderers who claimed to have acted in honour of Islam in reality acted in defiance rather than in defence of its teachings.

Despite this, I know that some will still choose to blame Islam for these actions simply because they were carried out in its name. To those I can only offer the following thoughts.

We are fortunate that we live in a country where we have the right to education, to hold and express opinions, the right to debate and discuss beliefs and ideas. It would be a cruel victory for the murderers and peddlers of hate if, despite having all these rights and freedoms we, too, chose – for the sake of simplicity and ease – to react with ignorance over knowledge, for that is exactly the path of those who gunned down their victims in Paris.

Extremists thrive on hate, division and destruction that feeds off ignorance. We should therefore seek to ensure that our understanding and our knowledge is not merely based on the multitude of headlines, sound bites and 140 character tweets that seem to dominate our lives. By seeking true knowledge I would hope it would then become evident that terrorists follow no faith.

We stand united with all who seek to promote justice and peace and in such a world there is no room for terrorists or extremists of any hue or colour or indeed any self-proclaimed creed.

***Fareed Ahmad is the former President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community for Devon and Cornwall and the National Secretary External Affairs for Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK.***

Source: <http://www.plymouthherald.co.uk/Paris-killers-defy-teachings-Islam-says-Devon/story-25835187-detail/story.html#ixzz3Opc9fF8U>



# Liverpoolecho

## **Charlie Hebdo solidarity march to take place in Liverpool this weekend as Muslim leaders condemn violence**

January 7, 2015

Muslim community leaders and French nationals living in Merseyside have condemned the massacre of cartoonists carried out at the Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris.

**Irfan Ahmad, president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association in Liverpool, said: "We condemn the attack on Charlie Hebdo and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved.**

**"It is hoped that the perpetrators of Wednesday's attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law. It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."**

Meanwhile a group of French people living in Liverpool are organising a march in support of the victims and their families on Sunday.

Organiser Vincent Moog, 26, said: "I think it's very important because this attack against the freedom of speech in France. It's important not only for France but for Europe and the world.

"Everyone in France has grown up with this magazine. People in France are organising marches to support those who died and their families and though we are not in France we think it's very important to give them our support."

The march will start in Derby Square at 2pm and continue around the city centre.

Meanwhile a two minutes silence was held by Liverpool city council cabinet earlier today.

Liverpool mayor Joe Anderson also told the cabinet meeting he had written to the mayor of Paris offering the city's sympathy and support.

At the first Liverpool council cabinet meeting since the attack, Mayor Anderson said: "It was a really shocking and disgusting attack.

"I have written to the Mayor of Paris, and we will support them in any way we can."

Twelve people were killed when masked gunmen stormed the offices of the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo on Wednesday.

The magazine had previously published controversial cartoons featuring the Prophet Mohammed. Eyewitnesses said the attackers claimed to belong to Al-Qaeda and shouted "we have avenged the Prophet Mohammed" and "God is Great" in Arabic.

The attacks have been condemned by Muslim groups worldwide.

The violence in France has continued, and two sieges are currently ongoing, one north east of Paris where two terrorists are holding a hostage in a printing plant, and another in a kosher market in Paris involving five hostages.

The attacker in the market appears to be linked to the Charlie Hebdo massacre.

A police officer said the gunman opened fire in the market, saying: "You know who I am."

The man named by police as being in the market, Amedy Coulibaly, is also suspected of killing a female police officer yesterday.

Earlier two suspects also hijacked a car in Dammartin-en-Goele, near Charles de Gaulle airport.

Source: <http://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/liverpool-news/charlie-hebdo-march-take-place-8413873>



# The Northern Echo

## Speak freely, but wisely, says North-East Muslim leader



First published Wednesday 14 January 2015 in [Leader](#)

Last updated 10:45 Wednesday 14 January 2015

**A moderate Imam at a Hartlepool mosque believes that newspapers should not show cartoons of Mohammed, but still defends the right to free speech. Here Tahir Selby explains his stance**

DEPICTING the Holy Prophet and all prophets of God is offensive to Muslims and is forbidden in Islam.

We have wonderful rights of free speech in our country, rights which I sometimes feel English people take for granted, but I believe in totally.

But those rights don't mean that because you can print something that you always should. That's why I would advise The Northern Echo not to print the Charlie Hebdo cartoon, but to use wisdom and judgement. What good does it do to stir this up even more?

Showing any pictures, of the Holy Prophet is forbidden in Islam. There is a description of the Holy Prophet in the Ahadith (sayings of the Holy Prophet) but pictures were forbidden at the time by the prophet himself. He didn't want to be worshipped but wanted his followers to worship God.

Some of the images that have been produced are especially offensive. For example, the cartoons published in a Danish newspaper that caused such offence showed the Prophet with a bomb on his back. They went out of their way to mock us. That was very offensive because the Prophet was known as

the 'Prince of Peace' and was against violence. The word 'Islam' actually means peace.

We are also offended by such depictions of Jesus Christ, a prophet in Islam.

So, yes, we are offended by these images. But what I want to stress is that ordinary, decent Muslims, true to their religion, would never react to that offence by hurting anybody.

This is a good place to stress, in the strongest possible way, that ordinary Muslims absolutely condemn the terrible crimes by the terrorists in Paris. Our thoughts are 100 per cent with the families of the dead and injured.

The people who committed this crime are not portraying the real Islam and, in fact, they often kill Muslims in their terrorist attacks, as they did in Paris. Their actions have nothing to do with real Islam. They have perverted its teachings. The Koran says that if you kill one person, you kill all mankind.

The Islamic way of reacting to offence is simply to approach the people causing it and explain, to talk and discuss peacefully. That is what the vast majority of Muslims believe: the way of peace. The Koran teaches us to leave the company of people whose speech and actions you find offensive, until such time that they revert to pure speech and actions, then you are permitted to return to them.

The community I represent, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, a sect of Islam, believe very strongly in free speech and we are totally against any blasphemy laws.

In Pakistan they have such a law and people can be imprisoned for three years or even put to death for the crime of blasphemy. That includes people in my community. We believe that a sub-ordinate prophet to the Holy Prophet, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, has come among us to revive the true peaceful religion of Islam by highlighting its teachings on love and forgiveness. Some people have condemned our belief as blasphemy. So we know how such laws can be abused.

So, for us, the liberties and freedoms in this country are a great blessing and I gave a sermon last Friday stating that we cannot afford to lose these precious freedoms in this country, especially given what is happening in Pakistan.

Like most British people we simply believe that freedom of speech is a great right but must have limitations. You can't just say whatever you like about anybody, as a newspaper dealing with libel law well knows. You must be responsible and wise with that right.

Finally, I would like to commend ordinary Hartlepudians for their behaviour shown towards us and all the Muslims in Hartlepool in these last few days. In spite of these atrocities and media attention, they have continued to be supportive and warm to us.

Source:

[http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/features/leader/11721444.Speak\\_freely\\_but\\_wisely\\_says\\_North\\_East\\_Muslim\\_leader/](http://www.thenorthernecho.co.uk/features/leader/11721444.Speak_freely_but_wisely_says_North_East_Muslim_leader/)

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16 January 2015

# THE HUFFINGTON POST

UNITED KINGDOM

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## Why the Prophet Muhammad Would Condemn Such Violence

Meliha Hayat, 8 January 2015

The brutal attack on French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo has thrust Islam in to the spotlight once again. Even though Muslims across the world are unanimously condemning the attacks, many critics are claiming that Islam goes against European values. Protests in Dresden this week against the supposed Islamisation of Europe appear justified to some as liberals and conservatives alike seem to agree that Islam is just an authoritarian religion that promotes nothing but violence and hate.

Government ministers in the capitals of Muslim nations took to the media to voice their sympathy and solidarity. The Muslim Council of France, and of Britain, have denounced the attacks on the offices of Charlie Hebdo.

It is thought that this attack was backlash against the magazine, which had reprinted Danish cartoons depicting the Prophet Muhammad and named him editor-in-chief for a week's edition. It also published a "halal" comic book on the life of the Prophet. In the past the French satirical magazine has pushed the boundaries of free speech to the limits of offence and degradation. And while the cartoons were considered very offensive to Muslims, nothing in Islam justifies such violence. Muslims like myself are equally pained by such horrible attacks which is why it is so important that we create open dialogue between different faiths and cultures to show that religion can also be a uniting force for peace.

Islam is not the first religion to be manipulated by criminals for their own socio-political agenda, but unfortunately the glaring voices of extremism have overshadowed the moderate majority, who much like the rest of the world, strongly condemn such horrific acts of violence.

It was the Prophet Muhammad that once said: "Forgive him who wrongs you; join him who cuts you off; do good to him who does evil to you, and speak the truth although it be against yourself." He was a man who suffered great persecution but he never promoted unmitigated violence against those who mocked him.

It's ironic that the gunman thought that the only way to 'avenge' the Prophet Muhammad was through death and bloodshed. Throughout his life The Prophet Muhammad had always supported freedom of speech because it was that freedom that gave Islam the

opportunity to preach its message of peace. And it's that same freedom that allows Muslims all across Europe to practice and preach their faith without any hindrance. Unfortunately the stories of the Prophets Compassion and kindness have been tarnished by modern fanatics.

He encouraged free thinking and individual thought, in Al Tirmidhi the Prophet was quoted to have said: "Do not be people without minds of your own, saying that if others treat you well you will treat them well, and that if they do wrong you will do wrong to them. Instead, accustom yourselves to do good if people do good and not to do wrong (even) if they do evil."

The Prophet had people swear at him, spit on him and throw garbage on him as he walked through the street but never once did he respond with hate and aggression.

This is because such violence and terrorism is impermissible in Islamic law. It is forbidden to attempt to impose Islam on other people. The Qur'an says: "There is no compulsion in religion." Attacks like this are an assault on religion; by gathering the best of religion we can defeat those who represent the worst of it. The majority of Muslims living in Europe stand for the values of peace and humanitarianism but the acts of a few crazed criminals has whitewashed their efforts. Ed Husain said it rightly in the Guardian: "The killing of journalists in Paris on Wednesday was not only an attack on France but also an assault on Islam and the very freedoms that allow 30 million Muslims to prosper in the west."

**[http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/meliha-hayat/why-the-prophet-muhammad-would-condemn-violence\\_b\\_6433120.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.co.uk/meliha-hayat/why-the-prophet-muhammad-would-condemn-violence_b_6433120.html)**

# Halesowen News

## Halesowen Muslim group condemns French magazine slaughter

First published Tuesday 13 January 2015 in News

Last updated 11:01 Tuesday 13 January 2015

THE massacre of 12 people at the offices of French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo last week has been condemned by Halesowen and Sandwell's Ahmadiyya Muslim community.

Its president Dr Masood Majoka said the gunmen's attack in Paris last Wednesday as "ruthless" and had nothing to do with the teachings of Islam.

He said: "We condemn the attack on Charlie Hebdo and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more.

"We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved."

He added: "It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

Source:

[http://www.halesowennews.co.uk/news/11719900.Halesowen Muslim group condemns French magazine slaughter/](http://www.halesowennews.co.uk/news/11719900.Halesowen_Muslim_group_condemns_French_magazine_slaughter/)

# Liverpoolecho

## City stands shoulder to shoulder with French after days of violence

Around 400 people are taking part in a march in Liverpool city centre in support of the victims and families affected by the Paris terrorist attacks.

The event was organised by a group of French people living in the city and one of those, Vincent Moog, 26, said it was “important not only for France but for Europe and the world”.

It followed the deaths of 17 people following two days of terrorist attacks in the French capital which began with the attack by two gunmen on the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo last Wednesday, followed by further incidents in Paris including the siege at the Hypercasher supermarket.

Bill Connolly and Jane Foat who took part in the march in Liverpool today said they have French students staying with them and joined the march to show their “solidarity”.

Joan told the ECHO: “We came to pay respect to those who were killed last week

“Charlie Hebdo is about humour and being able to have an opinion and a choice.

“It’s not ridiculing but showing another side of life.”

Alizee Bezzi, who is from France but working as a teaching assistant in Liverpool, is one of those who organised the event.

She said she is sad and angry about the killings in her home country this week.

“Even in small towns in France people are gathering today,” she said.

“I want to show them that although I’m abroad, I’m French and I support them.

“I was afraid people wouldn’t come today but they have travelled from places like Manchester and Warrington to march.

“I’m really glad people showed up to support this.”

Many of the marchers carried ‘Je suis Charlie’ banners.

Among those attending today’s march was Carla Monestier, from Crosby.

Carla, who is married to a French man, said: “We just wanted to show solidarity towards those who were killed and demonstrate against terrorism.”

Another participant was Ronnie Williams, from Huyton.

Ronnie, 60, has a friend in France and said he was taking part to show unity with him and support freedom of speech.

Mr Moog told the ECHO ahead of the march: "People in France are organising marches to support those who died and their families and though we are not in France we think it's very important to give them our support."

The march took place over about an hour and saw participants walk from Derby Square, near Liverpool Crown Court, around the city centre before heading back for a minute's silence.

Last Friday a two minutes' silence was held at the first Liverpool council cabinet meeting since the attack. Mayor Anderson said: "I have written to the Mayor of Paris, and we will support them in any way we can."

Twelve people were killed when masked gunmen, later identified as brothers Cherif and Said Kouachi, stormed the offices of the satirical magazine which had previously published controversial cartoons featuring the Prophet Mohammed.

Eyewitnesses said the attackers claimed to belong to Al-Qaeda and shouted "we have avenged the Prophet Mohammed" and "God is Great" in Arabic.

**The attacks have been condemned by Muslim groups worldwide, and Irfan Ahmad, president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association in Liverpool, said: "It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."**

**<http://www.liverpoolecho.co.uk/news/paris-terror-attacks-500-people-8421338>**



## **Charlie Hebdo: Police in Cambridgeshire hold minute's silence over Paris terror attack**

January 8, 2015

She added that the fatal attack which claimed the lives of 12 people will not silence free speech in France, and that her colleagues used to joke about the “crazy stupid people who were violent enough to be afraid of a simple cartoon”.

Ms Fourest told Australian broadcaster ABC: “They can continue to be afraid, because there will be more cartoons.

“We have all decided, the journalists who survived and their ex-colleagues, that we are going to have a meeting tomorrow to publish the next Charlie Hebdo, because there is no way, even if they killed 10 of us, that the newspaper won’t be out next week.”

The French satirical magazine where the shooting took place has a history of causing controversy with cartoons of Islam's prophet Mohammed.

Charlie Hebdo is a weekly political and social French newspaper with no adverts and its content is not influenced by external shareholders.

Its offices were firebombed three years ago after it published a special edition titled Charia Hebdo and "invited" the Prophet Mohammed as its guest editor.

No one was injured in the attack.

Speaking to the BBC after the attack in November 2011, the paper's editor-in-chief Stephane Charbonnier said the incident had only confirmed that it was right to take the stance that it did.

He said: "This tells me we are right to publish the magazine, and we are right to continue defying Islamists and make their lives difficult as much as they do ours.

"If we can poke fun at everything in France, if we can talk about anything in France apart from Islam or the consequences of Islamism, that is annoying."

Mr Charbonnier - also known as Charb - said the attack was the act of "idiot extremists" and not representative of all Muslims who live in France.

In 2007, Charlie Hebdo reprinted 12 controversial cartoons of the Prophet Mohammad that were first shown in a Danish newspaper, Jyllands-Posten, and caused outrage in the Muslim world.

The magazine was sued for incitement to racism by two Islamic groups in France, but was cleared by a Paris court.

Mr Charbonnier insisted that the publication of Mohammad caricatures was no provocation, but a signal that free speech was alive and well in the country.

He also said the paper would not stop criticising whatever it wanted.

On its Facebook page, the paper is described as "weekly satirical, political and social, without ads and or external influences".

**Rafiq Hayat, National President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK, has condemned the ruthless attack by gunmen.**

**He said: "We are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved.**

**"Under no circumstances does Islam permit a person to take the law into his own hands. It is never right to mock the sensitivities of any religion; nevertheless, there is absolutely no justification in Islam for violent response to any provocation.**

**"It is hoped that the perpetrators of today's attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.**

**"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."**

**Source:** <http://www.cambridge-news.co.uk/Charlie-Hebdo-Police-Cambridgeshire-hold-minute-s/story-25825225-detail/story.html#ixzz3OojAcnvG>

## Paris shooting victims remembered by police forces across Surrey and Hampshire

Jan 08, 2015 11:51

The people brutally gunned down in Paris have been remembered by Surrey and north-east Hampshire police officers.

Surrey Police and Hampshire Constabulary staged a two-minute silence at 10.30am on Thursday in respect to those killed the day before at the Charlie Hebdo magazine office.

The tributes took place around 24 hours after 12 victims including a policeman were shot in the French capital.

Constables and detectives based in Staines, Guildford, Woking, Epsom & Ewell, Reigate & Banstead, Runnymere and Mole Valley joined the memorial.

**Mohammad Luqman Chaudhry, president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association Aldershot, said: "We condemn the attack on Charlie Hebdo and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved.**

**"It is hoped that the perpetrators of the attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.**

**"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."**

Another police officer died on Thursday morning (January 8) after she and her colleague were shot in southern Paris.

It is not known at this stage whether the two shootings are connected.

<http://www.getsurrey.co.uk/news/surrey-news/paris-shooting-victims-remembered-police-8404707>

<http://www.gethampshire.co.uk/news/local-news/paris-shooting-victims-remembered-police-8404707>



## Paris killings condemned by Sheffield Muslim group

9<sup>th</sup> January 2015

### Video report :

Sheffield's Ahmadiyya Muslim Group say local community must stand together against terrorism in the wake of the Charlie Hebdo shootings.

A screenshot of the Sheffield Live! website. The top navigation bar includes links for Home, News, Shows, Music, Opinion, Sports, Community, Get Involved, Shop, and Advertise With Us. Below this is a secondary bar with links for Communities Live! Show, Festivals, Campaigns, Competitions, and Training. The main headline reads "Paris killings condemned by Sheffield muslim group". Below the headline, it says "newsdesk" and "9th January, 2015". There are social media sharing icons for Facebook, Twitter, Google+, LinkedIn, and Print. A video player is embedded, showing a man wearing a black and white striped keffiyeh and a grey jacket, speaking. The video title "Paris killings condemned by Sheffield muslim group" is displayed above the player. To the right of the video player, there is a sidebar with a search bar, "Watch Live" and "Listen Live" buttons, and a "Radio Podcasts (TV Catch-Up coming soon)" section. Below this is a "NOW &amp; LATER" section listing upcoming programs: "NOW [5 - 6pm] Soul Casino", "NEXT [6 - 7pm] Alphabet Sounds", "LATER [7 - 8pm] Lusheng Sheffield", and "LATER [8 - 9pm] Sitten Daqiqa be Alarabi". At the bottom of the sidebar, there is a promotion for "the LOCAL TALENT Show" with a red checkmark graphic and text encouraging users to listen live on 93.2FM or via a livestream every Friday at 4pm.

Source: <http://www.sheffieldlive.org/paris-killings-condemned-by-sheffield-muslim-group>

## **Muslims in Hillingdon condemn Charlie Hebdo murders in Paris**

8 January 2015

MUSLIMS in Hillingdon are rallying to condemn the murder by gunmen of staff on the French satirical magazine yesterday.

**The President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community of Hayes and Hillingdon, issued a statement in the wake of the attacks.**

**Sohail Qureshi said: "We condemn the attack on the Charlie Hebdo offices and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more.**

**"We offer our condolences to the families of the victims and those left bereaved.**

**"It is hoped the perpetrators are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.**

**"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."**

**Source:**

**[http://www.thisislocallondon.co.uk/news/11710835.Muslims in Hillingdon condemn Charlie Hebdo murders in Paris/?ref=rss](http://www.thisislocallondon.co.uk/news/11710835.Muslims_in_Hillingdon_condemn_Charlie_Hebdo_murders_in_Paris/?ref=rss)**



## YOUR LETTERS

▶ You can read letters and further comments on our website at

[keighleynews.co.uk](http://keighleynews.co.uk)



Dr Aziz Hafiz has hit out at the actions of the terrorists in Paris

## We will fight hate with compassion

THIS week once again we have all witnessed the painful sickening scenes on our television screens when man regresses to his base animal instincts and becomes a wild barbarian, murdering indiscriminately.

The evil terrorists in Paris not only murdered in cold blood they also, by their actions and their claims, attempted to murder and malign the faith I hold so dear.

By their evil actions and the blood they spilt on the streets of Paris they, along with others who recently murdered 132 children in cold blood in Peshawar, joined the ranks of a breed of evil that knows no humanity, no decency, no morals, no religion. They say they kill in the name of God, the same God that tells me if someone kills one soul it is as if he had killed the whole of mankind.

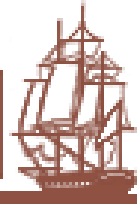
How do you fight their evil ideology, their perverted thinking that brainwashes disillusioned, confused, impressionable young minds, turning them into monsters?

We Ahmadi Muslims will fight their ideology like we have always done – we will fight it with love, with reason and human compassion. We will fight it by loving our neighbour as our Lord has taught us. We will fight it by continuing to proudly practice our faith, which teaches us to be upstanding citizens of our country – giving blood, planting trees, cleaning streets, helping the needy, educating our children to be true citizens of this world. We will fight their ideology by continuing to spread peace and love among the societies we live in, here in Keighley and everywhere else in the world where we reside.

Although this week my heart bleeds for those who have lost their lives and their loved ones, I take some solace from the fact all such previous violent murderous ideologies have died a natural death, and so to, I believe, will this violent extremist ideology that has hijacked my faith.

**DR AZIZ AHMAD HAFIZ**

Ahmadiyya Muslim Association Keighley president



## **‘Terrorists are not real face of Islam’ – Hartlepool Muslim leader condemns Charlie Hebdo attack**



**A HARTLEPOOL Muslim leader has condemned the Paris terror attacks and defended people’s right to free speech.**

Tahir Selby, the Imam of the Nasir Mosque, in Brougham Terrace, said ordinary Muslims “absolutely condemn” the shocking events in France and others carried out in the name of Islam.

Mr Selby, who has worked for a number of years to change the public perception of Islam, said he does not support the publication of cartoons of the prophet Mohammed – or Jesus, but defended the importance of free speech.

He was reacting to the shocking events of the last week in France when gunmen killed 12 journalists of the magazine Charlie Hebdo for publishing cartoons of Mohammed.

He said: “Showing any pictures, of the Holy Prophet is forbidden in Islam.

“We are also offended by such depictions of Jesus Christ, a prophet in Islam.”



He added: "Ordinary Muslims absolutely condemn the terrible crimes by the terrorists in Paris. Our thoughts are 100 per cent with the families of the dead and injured.

"The people who committed this crime are not portraying the real Islam and, in fact, they often kill Muslims in their terrorist attacks, as they did in Paris.

"Their actions have nothing to do with real Islam. They have perverted its teachings.

"The Quran says that if you kill one person, you kill all mankind."

Rafiq Hayat, National President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK, added: "It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam – despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

Mr Selby described people's freedom of speech as a "great blessing" but is a right that must be treated wisely.

He added: "The community I represent, the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, a sect of Islam, believe very strongly in free speech and we are totally against any blasphemy laws.

"In Pakistan they have such a law and people can be imprisoned for three years or even put to death for the crime of blasphemy.

"That includes people in my community.

"We believe that a sub-ordinate prophet to the Holy Prophet, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, has come among us to revive the true peaceful religion of Islam by highlighting its teachings on love and forgiveness.

"Some people have condemned our belief as blasphemy. So we know how such laws can be abused.

"So, for us, the liberties and freedoms in this country are a great blessing and I gave a sermon last Friday stating that we cannot afford to lose these precious freedoms in this country, especially given what is happening in Pakistan.

"Like most British people we simply believe that freedom of speech is a great right but must have limitations.

“The Islamic way of reacting to offence is simply to approach the people causing it and explain, to talk and discuss peacefully.

“That is what the vast majority of Muslims believe: the way of peace.”

Mr Selby also praised the reaction of Hartlepool people to the town’s Muslim community following the France attacks.

He said: “I would like to commend ordinary Hartlepudlians for their behaviour shown towards us and all the Muslims in Hartlepool in these last few days.

“In spite of these atrocities and media attention, they have continued to be supportive and warm to us.”

<http://www.hartlepoolmail.co.uk/news/terrorists-are-not-real-face-of-islam-hartlepool-muslim-leader-condemns-charlie-hebdo-attack-1-7050832>



## **Sheffield Muslims condemn gun attack in Paris**

**Sheffield Muslims have condemned a gun attack on the offices of the French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo which left 12 dead.**

Masked gunmen men burst into the offices in Paris shouting 'Allahu Akbar' - God is greatest - as they opened fire, killing a number of the publication's staff and two police officers.

A chilling video later captured them climbing out of their black car and jogging towards a police officer as he lay injured on the floor, and gunning him down before fleeing.

Eight journalists, two police officers, a maintenance worker and a visitor were killed.

Another 11 people were wounded, four seriously.

The gunmen are said to have headed straight for the magazine's editor Stephane Charbonnier, killing him and his police bodyguard first.

They then turned their guns on cartoonists Georges Wolinski and Berbard Verlhac.

Also killed were Bernard Maris, an economist who was a contributor to the newspaper, and another policeman.

Dr Nadeem Ahmad, President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Sheffield, said: "We condemn the attack on Charlie Hebdo and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured more.

"We offer our condolences to the families of the victims and those left bereaved.

"It is hoped that the perpetrators of the attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.

“It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam’s true teachings.”

Police hunting those behind the massacre have made ‘several arrests’, French Prime Minister Manuel Valls said.

Photographs of two prime suspects - brothers Said Kouachi and Cherif Kouachi - have been released by police.

The French nationals are both in their 30s and have possible links to al Qaida.

A third suspect, Hamyd Mourad, 18, has handed himself in.

The French PM said preventing another attack was the country’s ‘main concern’.

Charlie Hebdo, a weekly satirical magazine, had been threatened before for its caricatures of the Prophet Muhammed.

The terror attack has been condemned by global leaders and France’s president Francois Hollande has declared a national day of mourning today following the raid.

France has raised its terror alert system to the maximum - Attack Alert - and bolstered security with more than 800 extra soldiers to guard media offices, places of worship and other possible targets.

In the UK, Home Secretary Theresa May will chair a meeting of the Government’s emergency committee Cobra today.

Prime Minister David Cameron has offered the assistance of British spies to help French agencies investigate the atrocity.

Source: <http://www.thestar.co.uk/news/crime/sheffield-muslims-condemn-gun-attack-in-paris-1-7038975>

# Telegraph & Argus

## **'Terrorism, not religion' is behind the Paris Charlie Hebdo murders**

Friday 9 January 2015

The shocking scenes from Paris reverberated around the world. The massacre of 12 people at the offices of a French satirical magazine by gunmen shouting Islamic phrases has once again put international terrorism firmly back to the top of the agenda.

Ten of those who died were from the editorial staff of the magazine and two were police officers attending the incident.

Bradford played its part in honouring those who were killed in Wednesday's shocking scenes at the offices of the Charlie Hebdo magazine in the French capital... and in calling for calm.

Because it is easy for such events to polarise people and shift the focus on to Islam in general rather than terrorism in particular.

Dr Mohammed Iqbal, President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Bradford, said the attack had nothing to do with Islam's true teachings.

He said: "We condemn the attack on Charlie Hebdo and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved.

"It is hoped that the perpetrators of today's attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.

"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

Mohammed Ajeeb was the first Asian Lord Mayor in the country, and is also a former deputy leader of the council's Labour Group.

He said: "It was a barbaric attacks which must be condemned by all fair-minded people.

"I am sure there are many moderate-minded Muslims in the UK and in Europe who would condemn the attack on this newspaper. There were legal and constitutional means to make a protest. These people cannot have an open license to kill.

"It wasn't a random attack, it was probably well-prepared. It could be linked to French involvement in Syria. I think al Qaida, which has been weakened in Afghanistan and Pakistan is trying to make a come back, maybe join forces with Islamic State.

"The attack should be regarded as an act of criminality rather than an expression of religious belief. We need to isolate these people. There was a vigil in Bradford after the Taliban killed those 140 kids in Pakistan last year. I think there should be a public demonstration of abomination by Muslims against what happened in Paris."

The Tricolour flew at half mast on City Hall yesterday to remember the victims of the attack.

At 11am people across the UK joined France in a moment of silence to remember the victims, who were thought to have been targeted for their satirical cartoons.

Bradford Council Leader David Green said: "We received several requests to fly the French flag to mark our solidarity with the victims of this tragic event and their families and we had no hesitation in agreeing.

"I think these horrific acts will be condemned by all right thinking people in Bradford, and it is important we show solidarity with the French people and make it clear that we stand for freedom of speech and freedom of expression within the law.

"We need to remember the victims and the principles they were espousing."

Many police officers across the area also honoured the dead by holding a minute's silence.

Nick Smart of the West Yorkshire Police Federation said: "Some officers have marked the sad occasion by paying their respects in their own way while there have been others in groups marking their respects.

"We are a worldwide family, and it is a dangerous job for those in uniform, who we have seen targeted recently. Officers have been reminded to remain vigilant."

security was stepped up at UK ports and border controls following yesterday's terrorist atrocity in Paris.

More cars and lorries are being searched on cross-Channel routes, and a more visible security operation is in place at the Eurostar terminal in Paris at the Gare du Nord.

The measures have been put in place "on a precautionary basis" but there has been no change to the threat level in the UK, Downing Street said.

A Downing Street spokeswoman said: "The intelligence does not suggest there is any change in the threat level here but on a precautionary basis we have tightened up border security, particularly at our juxtaposed controls.

"For example, at ports people going through them will see increased car and truck searches, a bit more scanning of freight."

**Source:**

[http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/news\\_behind/11713870](http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/news_behind/11713870). Terrorism not religion is behind the Paris Charlie Hebdo murders/

## **Ahmadiyya Muslims in Leamington condemn Paris attack**



**Ahmadiyya Muslims in Leamington have condemned the attack in Paris by suspect al-Qaida gunmen which left 12 people dead yesterday (Tuesday).**

The attack happened at the offices of the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, which has been subjected to violent attacks in the past following its publication of cartoons of the prophet Muhammad.

As a result Mohammed Salim JP, president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association in Leamington, has published a **video made by a fellow member which speaks out against the attack**.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Association says that since its inception in 1889 by Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, it has always taught the 'true message of Islam' - which is of "peace and love".

The Association will also be holding a function to promote the true peaceful values of Islam later this month entitled 'How to Achieve Peace in the World'.

<http://www.warwickcourier.co.uk/news/local-news/ahmadiyya-muslims-in-leamington-condemn-paris-attack-1-6509069>



## **Police officers in Merseyside ordered to wear body armour after terrorist attacks in Paris**

12 January 2015

Police officers in Merseyside have received orders to wear body armour following the terrorist attacks in Paris.

A Merseyside Police spokesperson, said: "Effective immediately, the wearing of body armour by all uniformed police officers on Merseyside is mandatory.

"The safety of police officers and staff is an absolute priority for the force and this is a precautionary measure in response to the terrorist incidents in France.

"There is no current intelligence to suggest there is a specific threat on Merseyside or to the UK mainland."

Advice has also been given to increase security at Jewish locations in Merseyside by Community Security Trust, a charity which helps ensure the security of the Jewish community in the UK.

They advised synagogues and other Jewish locations to provide "visible reassurance" in the community.

This comes after a hostage situation developed at a kosher supermarket in eastern Paris in which four hostages were killed. Their assailant, Amedy Coulibaly, was killed when police stormed the store.

Chérif and Saïd Kouachi, the brothers responsible for the 12 murders at French satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo, were also killed by special forces after they took a hostage in a printing plant in Dammartin-en-Goele.

Meanwhile, Muslim community leaders and French nationals living in Merseyside have condemned the events in Paris.

A group of French people living in Liverpool yesterday held a march in the city in support of the victims and their families.

Organiser Vincent Moog, 26, said: "I think it's very important because this attack against the freedom of speech in France. It's important not only for France but for Europe and the world.

"Everyone in France has grown up with this magazine. People in France are organising marches to support those who died and their families and though we are not in France we think it's very important to give them our support."

Irfan Ahmad, president of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Association in Liverpool, said: "It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

Source: <http://www.southportvisiter.co.uk/news/southport-news/police-officers-merseyside-ordered-wear-8422228>

JANUARY 8TH, 2015 9:38

## Shocking Paris Shootings

By [shermeen](#)

I have never been to Paris but yesterday I felt its pain very deeply, as if my own. The perpetrators of the massacre committed at the offices of Charlie Hebdo were Muslims and in their astounding ignorance they 'avenged the Prophet' by slaughtering defenceless men. They 'avenged' him by totally disregarding his teachings; utterly tragic on all counts.

One's heart goes out to the friends and families of those who lost their lives and those who are injured. How can such brutality visit an office block in a peaceful city!

A large number of people here in the West and indeed here on My Telegraph have their own perspective of Islam and its history. They consider it inherently violent and believe this to be an indisputable fact. As a practicing Muslim who has studied her faith all her life and continues to do so, I vehemently disagree with their view as I aspire to follow the faith the Qur'an teaches.

The murder and mayhem raged by Muslims around the world for more than a decade now is a devastating reality none can deny. Without exception it is based on power, greed, sociopathic and geo-political reasons. But in order to mobilise the masses or to recruit would-be killers it is given the 'legitimacy' of religion. Lack of education and awareness helps and they use Islam to meet their ignoble objectives, defaming and discrediting it in the process.

I am not here to argue/discuss the difference of opinion on what constitutes Islam at length. We have done that over and over again here on My Telegraph since 2007. And we agree to disagree. I have been away from this site for months but yesterday's shocking atrocity made me visit these pages this morning and I read a few views here which spurred me to write mine.

No injustice, no historical grievance, nothing on the face of earth justifies harming by word or practice let alone killing defenceless people in an office or anywhere else for that matter. It was absolutely abhorrent and contrary to what Islam is about.

There is much talk about Qur'an inciting to violence. What is overlooked is that the few verses of the Qur'an which are cited in this regard are rules of engagement for battle field. What is also overlooked is that the Qur'an very clearly and precisely commands only to fight back in self-defence when your life is in danger.

People have used religion for their own ulterior motives through the ages. This is nothing new. But it is time the world of Islam gets a grip and purges itself of the rottenness that seems to be increasing at an alarming pace. All the answers to this grotesque problem are within the faith itself. If only they opened their eyes!

<http://my.telegraph.co.uk/shermeen/shermeen/15001531/shocking-paris-shootings/>

# Express & Star

Saturday 10 January 2015

## Third jihadist killed after taking hostages at Jewish store **Paris terrorists die in police gun battle**

Report by Daniel Wainwright  
[daniel.wainwright@expressandstar.co.uk](mailto:daniel.wainwright@expressandstar.co.uk)

**THEY claimed they wanted to die as martyrs. And as they emerged from their bolthole firing at police, two brothers were brought down days after their brutal assault on the offices of French newspaper Charlie Hebdo.**

Said and Cherif Kouachi shot at officers as they tried to fight their way out of a print works.

Minutes later their suspected accomplice in the terrorist outrage Amedy Coulibaly was killed as armed officers stormed a Jewish supermarket where he had held them in a stand-off, threatening to slaughter hostages.

Ambulances sped away from both scenes after the gunfire and explosions which brought the sieges to an end.

Hostages from the supermarket were led to safety and a hostage taken by the Kouachis was also freed.

The operations ended the worst spate of terror attacks in France since 1961, a murderous spree that has rocked Europe.

### Cornered

On another day of extraordinary developments, Coulibaly, an associate of the Charlie Hebdo killers, launched a fresh strike at the Hyper Cacher kosher store in Porte de Vincennes in the east of the capital.

That came hours after the Kouachi brothers were cornered in Dammartin-en-Goele, a town around 25 miles north of Paris. Two police officers were injured in the gun battle with the brothers.

Coulibaly, aged 32, was also behind the murder of a policewoman in the Parisian suburb of Montrouge on Thursday morning.

He is believed to have been connected to the Kouachis, who started the killing spree on Wednesday morning when they attacked the Paris offices of satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo.

Four hostages were killed at the supermarket, taking the death toll since Wednesday to 20. Hostage-taker Coulibaly opened fire in the supermarket. Police were also trying to trace Hayat Boumeddiene, a 26-year-old woman said to have been Coulibaly's partner.

It is understood that the Kouachi brothers, who were well-known for holding jihadist views, were on a British watch and no-fly list to prevent them from entering the UK.

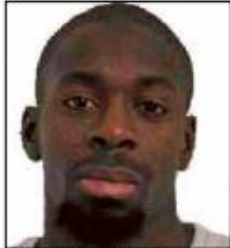
The Kouachis stole a Peugeot yesterday in the town of Montigny Sainte Felicite,



Cherif Kouachi died in shoot-out



Said Kouachi shot at police



Hostage taker Amedy Coulibaly



Police officers take position on top of a building where the Kouachi brothers were cornered



French police officers storm a kosher grocery store to end the hostage situation in Paris

triggering a car chase during which gunfire was reported.

The enormous operation to apprehend them ended on its third day at the premises of a printing firm called Creation Tendance Decouverte on an industrial estate in Dammartin-en-Goele.

Before they were killed, they were said to have declared they wanted to die 'as martyrs'.

Meanwhile, a Muslim group in Wolverhampton has sent its condolences to the families of the 12 people murdered in the attack on the Charlie Hebdo office. The Ah-

madiyya Muslim Community Centre and Bait-ul-Atta Mosque in Willenhall Road, condemned the killers and said their actions had 'nothing to do with Islam's true teachings'.

Muhammad Yaseen Khan, president of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Wolverhampton, said: "We condemn the attack on Charlie Hebdo and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved. It is hoped that the perpetra-

tors of the attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.

"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

David Winnick, MP for Walsall North, raised the attack in the Commons. He said: "We are dealing here with people with a Nazi mindset, who consider it an obligation to take lives."



# Telegraph & Argus

## City Hall flies French flag in memory of those killed in Paris Charlie Hebdo attack

First published Thursday 8 January 2015 in [News](#) Last updated 12:35 Thursday 8 January 2015

BRADFORD is standing in solidarity with the people of France today following the massacre at the Paris offices of a satirical magazine.

The Tricolour is flying at half mast on City Hall to remember the victims of the Charlie Hebdo attack, in which 12 people were killed by gunmen shouting Islamic phrases.

At 11am people across the UK joined France in a moment of silence to remember the victims, who were thought to have been targeted for their satirical cartoons.

Bradford Council Leader David Green said: "We received several requests to fly the French flag to mark our solidarity with the victims of this tragic event and their families and we had no hesitation in agreeing.

"I think these horrific acts will be condemned by all right thinking people in Bradford, and it is important we show solidarity with the French people and make it clear that we stand for freedom of speech and freedom of expression within the law. We need to remember the victims and the principles they were espousing."

Dr Mohammed Iqbal, President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community in Bradford, said the attack had nothing to do with Islam's true teachings.

He said: "We condemn the attack on Charlie Hebdo and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved.

"It is hoped that the perpetrators of today's attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.

"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

[http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/11711014.City Hall flies French flag in memory of those killed in Paris Charlie Hebdo attack/](http://www.thetelegraphandargus.co.uk/news/11711014.City_Hall_flies_French_flag_in_memory_of_those_killed_in_Paris_Charlie_Hebdo_attack/)

# Woking News & Mail

15 January 2015

SOMBRE MOMENT – representatives from Surrey Police congregate in Woking's Jubilee Square to pay tribute to the victims of the attack

## French officers end Paris siege

### THREE DAYS OF TERROR CLOSE WITH SOLDIERS GUNNING DOWN *CHARLIE HEBDO* ATTACKERS

AS FRENCH police shot dead the men suspected of killing 12 people during the savage *Charlie Hebdo* terror attack, Woking's Muslim community added their voice to worldwide condemnation of the tragedy on Wednesday last week.

The siege on free speech – which has been associated with radical Islam and was sparked by the satirical publication printing a cartoon depicting the Muslim Prophet Muhammad – sent shockwaves across France and the rest of the world.

The deplorable travesty, which claimed the lives of the magazine's editor and senior cartoonists as well as two police officers – one of whom has been identified as Ahmed Merabet, himself a Muslim – reached a conclusion on Friday when police killed the gunmen, named now as brothers Said and Cherif Kouachi.

#### Liberty

Speaking on behalf of his family, Ahmed's brother Malek said: "My brother was Muslim and he was killed by two terrorists – false Muslims.

"Islam is a religion of peace and love. As far as my brother's death is concerned it was a waste. He was proud of the name Ahmed Merabet, proud to represent the police and of defending the values of the Republic – liberty, equality, fraternity."

Following a stand-off with police, the terrorist brothers ran straight into the gunfire of soldiers and officers.

Just 12 minutes later police brought a dramatic end to a hostage situation at a Jewish grocery store that stemmed from the authorities' pursuit of the *Charlie Hebdo* attackers.

Commandos rushed the store and killed an Al Qaeda-linked suspect named Amedy Coulibaly, 32, who was holding 15 hostages at gunpoint. He had previously been reported to be demanding the

■ by Ben Brown

safe release of the Kouachi brothers. Four hostages were reportedly killed in cold blood by Coulibaly, who on Thursday also murdered a police officer.

Woking Ahmadiyya Muslim Community President, Hameed Ahmad, was just one of many to offer his condolences to those who have suffered during the terrible saga.

He said: "We condemn the attack on *Charlie Hebdo* and are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured many more. We offer our condolences to the families of the victims and all those left bereaved.

"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam – despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

The day after the *Charlie Hebdo* attack, members of Surrey Police gathered in Woking's Jubilee Square to respect a two-minute silence in memory of the victims.

Constables and detectives based in Staines, Guildford, Epsom & Ewell, Reigate & Banstead, Runnymede and Mole Valley joined their colleagues in the silence, which was observed across Surrey at 10.30am on Thursday.

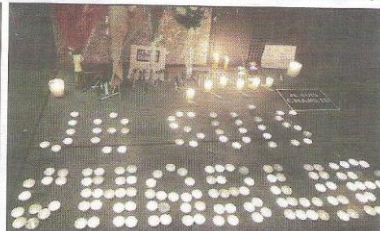
*Charlie Hebdo* printed their publication as usual yesterday (Wednesday), with a cover picture of the Prophet Muhammad.



TRIBUTES – have flooded in from across the world



TRAGEDY – the attacks sparked outrage



CONDEMNING VIOLENCE – Woking Ahmadiyya Muslim Community's Hameed Ahmad





## **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK Condemns the Attack on Charlie Hebdo**

January 7, 2015

**Rafiq Hayat**, National President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK, has condemned the ruthless attack by gunmen on the Charlie Hebdo offices in Paris today.

He said:

"We are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved.

"Under no circumstances does Islam permit a person to take the law into his own hands. It is never right to mock the sensitivities of any religion; nevertheless, there is absolutely no justification in Islam for violent response to any provocation.

"It is hoped that the perpetrators of today's attack are swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law.

"It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."

Source: <http://finance.yahoo.com/news/ahmadiyya-muslim-community-uk-condemns-225500411.html>

# Uxbridge Gazette

14 January 2015

Wednesday, January 14, 2015 TJG1ST 15

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**OPINION**

## YOUR LETTERS

**POST:** Letters, Trinity Mirror Southern, c/o Trinity Mirror Colour Print, St Albans Road, Watford, Herts WD24 7RG  
**ONLINE:** [www.getwestlondon.co.uk/send-your-story](http://www.getwestlondon.co.uk/send-your-story)

Letters should be 300 words maximum. The Editor reserves the right to edit letters. Anonymous letters will not be considered but names and addresses can be withheld.

## Attack was against all Islam's teachings

*RE: The terrorist attack at the Paris headquarters of Charlie Hebdo on January 7, 2015.*

WE ARE deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more.

We offer our condolences to the family of the victims and those left bereaved.

It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam – despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings.

It was said that the perpetrators raised the slogan of 'Allah is the Great'.

Did they not realise that this very Allah does not permit a person to take the law into his own hands?

Allah says about Himself that his mercy encompasses everything. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad, who was only sent as a mercy for mankind, taught us that a Muslim is the one from whose hand and tongue all other people are safe.

Killing, particularly whilst raising slogans of the name of Allah, is a great injustice towards God Almighty, his prophet and indeed all Muslims.

**MANSUR AHMED**  
Imam, Baitul Amn Mosque  
Royal Lane  
Uxbridge

# Theafronews

## **Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK Condemns Charlie Hebdo the Attack in Paris**

**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> January 2015**

***Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK has strongly condemned the Islamist attack on Charlie Hebdo magazine in Paris, France.***

**On 7th January 2015 two masked men, armed with assault rifles, forced their way into the newsroom of the satirical newspaper that caricatured the Prophet Muhammad and killed 12 people including a police officer.**

**Rafiq Hayat, National President, Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK, said: "We are deeply shocked by this atrocity that has taken 12 lives and injured scores more. We offer our condolences to the families of the victims and those left bereaved.**

**"Under no circumstances does Islam permit a person to take the law into his own hands. It is never right to mock the sensitivities of any religion; nevertheless, there is absolutely no justification in Islam for violent response to any provocation."**

**Witnesses said they heard the gunmen shouting "We have avenged the Prophet Muhammad" and "God is Greatest" in Arabic ("Allahu Akbar") while calling out the names of the journalists killed.**

**Hayat expressed hope that the perpetrators of the attack would be "swiftly arrested and brought to justice with the full weight of the law."**

**He added: "It is a great source of regret that such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."**

**Source:** <http://www.theafronews.eu/news/uk-news/3156-ahmadiyya-muslim-community-uk-condemns-charlie-hebdo-terrorist-attack-in-paris.html>

# PENNLIVE

## Young Muslim-American condemns attack on Charlie Hebdo: PennLive letters

January 13, 2015

This eleven year old Muslim-American was shocked by the report of a deadly shooting in Paris this week at the office of the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo. My heart goes out to the victims and their families.

On top of the mayhem, what made the account even more troubling was that the gunmen were allegedly getting back at the magazine for publishing insulting cartoons of the Prophet Muhammad. **In Sunday school at my Ahmadiyya Muslim Community mosque, we are taught to respond to abuse from the tips of our pens and the strength of our voices, not from the barrel of any guns.**

**Instead of destroying lives, a truly Islamic response should have been peaceful and constructive.**

Source: [http://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2015/01/young\\_muslim-american\\_condemns.html](http://www.pennlive.com/opinion/2015/01/young_muslim-american_condemns.html)



## In brief

### Attacks 'nothing to do with Islam'

LAST week's Paris attacks have 'nothing to do with Islam,' the president of a group of Woking-based Muslims has said.

The attacks by so-called Islamist gunmen, beginning with the shooting at the office of the satirical magazine Charlie Hebdo on Wednesday last week killed 17 people.

Hameed Ahmad, president of Ahmadiyya Muslim Community Woking, said: "We condemn the attacks are deeply shocked by these atrocities. We offer our condolences to the families of the victims and those left bereaved.

"It is a great source of regret such violent acts and terrorist activities continue to be associated with Islam - despite the fact they have nothing to do with Islam's true teachings."