



With the Name of Allah, the Most Benevolent, the Most Merciful

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ICN Condemns the Brutal Murder of George Floyd

The Islamic Center of Naperville (ICN) unequivocally condemns the brutal murder of George Floyd. This inhumane act of police brutality and dehumanization is disgusting and disappointing. Unfortunately, this was not an isolated incident, but the latest example of injustice and oppression that our African American brothers and sisters experience on a regular basis. The ICN Board and community send our condolences to Mr. Floyd's family and pray that they may have the fortitude to bear this loss. We pray that our nation stands up in support of justice by implementing policies that truly reflect liberty and justice for all.

Over the past few days, ICN has been working with the NAACP, local interfaith partners, Unity Partnership and elected representatives in public rallies to show our solidarity as well as participating in Call to Action discussions to effect sustainable, meaningful change.

These are opportunities to reflect and learn and to work towards solutions. The Prophet Muhammad in one of his last and most influential sermons said, there is no virtue of a white person over a black person or a black person over a white person except by piety and God-consciousness. He also taught us that God does not look at our physical bodies, but he looks at our hearts and our actions. Our African American brothers and sisters have been discriminated against and oppressed, and it is our collective responsibility to stand with them and make sure that any discrimination, racism, and prejudice is eliminated. We need to stand up together for what is right and just. In the Noble Quran, God said, *“You who believe, uphold justice and bear witness to God, even if it is against yourselves, your parents, or your close relatives. Whether the person is rich or poor, God can best take care of both. Refrain from following your own desire, so that you can act justly— if you distort or neglect justice, God is fully aware of what you do. (Quran: 4:135).*

This is a serious issue that not only impacts the African American community, but something that affects us all as humans and Americans. Martin Luther King eloquently stated, “Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere. We are caught in an inescapable network of mutuality, tied in a single garment of destiny. Whatever affects one directly affects all indirectly.”

We pray to God that He allows us to examine and eradicate our own biases and prejudices and make us all sources of peace, comfort, and justice. We pray that God allows us to heal collectively and brings our hearts together and allows peace and justice to prevail.