



# Christian Study Centre

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*Celebrating 50 Years Of The Christian Study Centre*

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## THE CHRISTIAN STUDY CENTRE STRONGLY CONDEMS THE JARANWALA RELIGIOUS VIOLENCE

The recent unfortunate abuse of Religious Freedom and Rights of the Christian community in Jaranwala has without doubt damaged the image of Pakistan, projecting a clear message of zero tolerance and non-acceptance of the other person. This act is as severe and serious as the May 9 attack in Lahore, and should be dealt accordingly and in the same manner. The house of the Living God was desecrated and abused which is absolutely unacceptable ---- this is serious.

In the event of the incidence which sparked violence, arson and unrest damaging the trust of the community in each other The Christian Study Centre stands united in firmly condemning all acts of violence and disrespect to the religious values and sacred places of worship, besides burning and damaging the houses of poor Christians which is a very serious crime. The Christian Study Centre denounces regular attempts to exploit religious sentiments (by any religious community) for purposes of inciting violence, discrimination, hatred and forced conversion. We will try our best to support the poor families who have lost their belongings.

As an organization committed to Love, Respect, Acceptance of the Other and Inter-faith dialogue we call upon every citizen and leaders of the religious communities to join hands in upholding the principles of Peace. Simultaneously we strongly urge the Government and all those in authority in different forms, to see that the Religious Laws as introduced by our parliament some decades ago are not further misused or abused. The continuous misuse of the laws is the root cause of Pakistan's religious problems and now is the time to resolve the matter with boldness and justice.

Let us foster respect for the differences, contributing to safe and more inclusive Pakistan and our society. GOD BLESS AND PROTECT PAKISTAN.

Bishop Samuel Azariah  
Director  
Christian Study Centre