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## **FOR IMMEDIATE PRESS RELEASE**

Wednesday, June 21th 2017

Our hearts pour out to the victims of Monday morning's assault on Muslims in London by Darren Osborne, 47, of Cardiff, Wales. WNY Muslims condemns this affliction to the Muslim faith. Osborne used a rental van to run down Muslim worshipers near the Finsbury Park Mosque around 12 AM, leaving one man dead and 11 others injured in his wake. After cashing his vehicle into bollards Osborne was grabbed by locals and pinned down until police arrived.

Imam Mohammed Mahmoud of Muslim Welfare House helped form a protective ring around the van driver before his arrest. He persuaded the mob to hand him over to the police and was hailed a hero.

Imam Mahmoud's example is a living embodiment of the famous words of Mahatma Gandhi, "You must be the change you want to see in the world." If the world you want is a bloodless one, then your actions to shape it must be non-violent ones. In the face of fear and hate, he displayed courage and compassion.

WNY Muslims was appalled by the murder of Jo Cox, Member of Parliament, last Friday but we will forever remember her message and engrave it in stone. We urge the United Kingdom and all countries facing terror and tyranny to fight hateful ideology against Muslims, just as much as it fights Islamic militancy.

It is our aspiration that London will continue on its legacy as one of the most diverse and tolerant cities in the world. Resist temptation for vengeance like Imam Mahmoud, and do not let in the ideals of those who exploit these tragedies for their own betterment. In the aftermath of any terrorist attacks we ask citizenry to go about their daily lives, keep calm and may Allah save the Queen. Our hearts and prayers go out to all those

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