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This morning, grief-stricken news arrived from Christchurch, New Zealand. A man with extremist beliefs entered two mosques during Friday prayers, and live-streamed himself, while repeatedly bursting bullets, causing the loss of 49 lives and more than 20 seriously injured.

Every life is precious. The Noble Qur'an says, "...if anyone slew a human... it would be as if he slew the whole humanity: and if anyone saved a life, it would be as if he saved the whole humanity" [Al-Qur'an 5:32].

Approximately 50 lives were cut short today, and the whole world mourns. We are grateful for the outpouring of support from our brethren religious communities in Western New York. Like the last horrendous incident of Pittsburgh synagogue shooting in October, we highly appreciate all the sympathetic gestures, which not only strengthen the bonds between all peoples but also shows that we all are united against such appalling incidents.

We all must stand shoulder to shoulder against irrational violence and its hateful propagation. WNYMuslims denounces such heinous acts. We believe that these perpetrators are disconnected from humanity and its obligations. We strongly believe that misdeeds of a few members don't reflect their whole community. We request the community not to be judgmental and to be patient in this grave situation. "*O you who have believed, seek help through patience and prayer. Indeed, Allah is with the patient.*" (Qur'an, 2:153)

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by creating awareness, encouraging diversity, and providing service. We work to become a platform for both Muslims and non-Muslims alike, encouraging dialogue about important issues so that we may reach more peaceful solutions. We encourage the community to voice and connect by utilizing our website and social media outlets.

A dark grey rectangular box containing the WNYMuslims logo (a stylized flame and minaret) and the text 'wnymuslims Awareness | Diversity | Service'. Below the logo, it lists the mailing address (4011 Bailey Avenue, Amherst NY 14226) and phone number (716-923-4386). It also includes a copyright notice and a link to update email preferences.

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