21 Apr 2019

NCCS STATEMENT ON THE ATTACKS ON CHURCHES AND HOTELS IN SRI LANKA

The National Council of Churches of Singapore (NCCS) is shocked and deeply saddened to hear of the attacks on churches and hotels across Sri Lanka on Easter Sunday. We strongly condemn these cruel and unconscionable acts of terror that killed more than 200 people and injured hundreds more.

We pray for the nation of Sri Lanka during this difficult time, that peace, goodwill and solidarity will prevail in that land.

The Council especially laments the vicious targeting of Christians as they joyfully gathered in large numbers in their churches on this important day of celebration in the Christian calendar. We pray for all the victims of this tragedy and their loved ones. We pray for our brothers and sisters in the faith who are mourning on a day in which they should be rejoicing.

As this incident follows the recent Christchurch mosque attacks and other senseless acts of brutality against religious adherents, the NCCS would like to emphasise that we deplore all forms of violence committed against religious adherents, especially when they are engaged in their acts of worship.

At the same time, we wish to reiterate the importance of maintaining our vigilance against those who would use violence in their attempt to sow discord between the followers of the different faiths in Singapore. We recognise that the strong bonds of trust and friendship which exist amongst the religious communities in Singapore cannot be taken for granted. The NCCS will continue its efforts to maintain and strengthen these bonds.

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