## GIC GOVERNING COMMITTEE



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE The Global Imams Council Condemns Quds March in Toronto

The Global Imams Council (GIC) strongly condemns the reprehensible scenes witnessed in the city of Toronto during today's Quds March. This gathering, marked by horrific displays of support, sympathy, and promotion of terrorism, is a stark reminder of the urgent need to confront extremist ideologies that seek to undermine our societies.

Among the most alarming aspects of the march was the presence of a large banner displaying the images of leaders from designated terrorist entities, namely the regime in Iran, IRGC, Hamas, and Hezbollah. Such acts are not only a glorification of terrorism but also a direct affront to the values of peace, justice, and human dignity that Islam upholds. Honouring entities responsible for the deaths of innocent civilians including Canadians who have been murdered, blown out of the sky, or taken hostage and killed, is deeply reprehensible. It insults the memory of the victims and stands in stark contrast to the principles cherished by Canada and all who are privileged to call this nation home. The public promotion of these groups on the streets of Toronto emboldens those who seek to divide communities and incite fear.

The Global Imams Council unequivocally rejects any form of terrorism and the manipulation of religious sentiments for political agendas. It is deeply troubling to see extremist actors hijack the sacred month of Ramadan — a time of fasting, reflection, and spiritual growth — to advance narratives of violence and division.

Furthermore, the presence of questionable clerics who claim to speak for our faith, yet lack both religious credibility and moral standing, is particularly disturbing. Many of these individuals struggle to recite the Holy Quran without error, yet they exploit the uniform of Islamic clergy to push dangerous political agendas. They prey upon vulnerable Muslims, distorting Islamic teachings for their own aspirations and spreading falsehoods under the guise of religious authority.

This march does not represent the millions of Muslims who live peacefully across Canada and around the world. The vast majority of Muslim-majority countries have banned events like the Quds March, recognizing their true nature as platforms for terrorist propaganda. Allied nations, which value peace and security, refuse to tolerate such open endorsements of extremism on their soil. It is time for Canada to follow suit and take decisive action.

## GIC GOVERNING COMMITTEE



The Global Imams Council calls on all relevant authorities, including municipal, provincial, and federal governments, to investigate and hold accountable those responsible for promoting and endorsing terrorism.

Additionally, we stand ready to collaborate with law enforcement, community organizations, and policymakers to counter the spread of extremist ideologies. Together, we can safeguard our communities and uphold the principles of peace, coexistence, and security.

Now, more than ever, it is crucial to reject hate and reaffirm our commitment to the values that unite us. The GIC remains steadfast in its dedication to protecting vulnerable communities, defending the true teachings of Islam, and promoting harmony in our society.

## **SIGNED:**

GIC GOVERNING COMMITTEE
SENIOR IMAMS COMMITTEE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

