



JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

JCRC Expresses Sorrow and Stands in Solidarity with the People of India

December 1, 2008

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) expressed horror at the November 26th terrorist attack in Mumbai, which injured hundreds and killed more than 150 innocent people, including six Americans and eight Israelis at a Jewish religious center that was seized by the attackers.

Lashkar e-Tayyiba is the terrorist organization currently reported to be responsible for the attacks. It is motivated by a radical Islamist ideology that targets Jews, Hindus, moderate Muslims, Americans and other Westerners. JCRC supports efforts to draw a clear distinction between Islam and moderate Islamic nations on the one hand, and terrorists and the regimes that harbor them on the other. Terrorists, not Islam, are the culprits of terrorism, whether they belong to Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, Al Qaeda, Islamic Jihad, Hamas, Hezbollah, or any other terrorist group that intentionally targets innocent civilians. There is never any justification for acts of terror that aim to kill innocent civilians; these acts are contrary to Jewish teachings and to universal values, and are immoral.

JCRC President Cheryl L. Feiner explained “The coordinated terrorist attacks in Mumbai, India, were a shock to the world and to the Jewish community. The deliberate murder of civilians is abhorrent and cannot be tolerated. We stand in solidarity with the Indian Jewish community and all in India, who have been terribly and forever affected by these cowardly and senseless acts of violence.”

JCRC Associate Director Abigail Michelson Porth stated “The Jewish community’s familiarity with terrorism only bolsters its commitment to pursue democracy, a just society, and its own security. Our thoughts and prayers are with the injured and with the families of the victims. We join the Jewish community around the globe in mourning the untimely death of Chabad emissaries Rabbi Gavriel Holtzberg, Rivkah Holtzberg and others who helped create rich Jewish life at Mumbai’s Chabad House. We extend our

condolences to the Holtzberg family and their orphaned son, and to all in the Jewish community and beyond in Mumbai.”

The community is strongly encouraged to participate in the solidarity gatherings and memorial services happening across the Bay Area. More information may be found at www.jcrc.org. Charitable donations may be made to the Joint Distribution Committee or to Chabad:

http://www.jdc.org/news_press_2008_India.html

<https://www.mychabad.org/templates/relief/donate.asp?site=chabad.org>.

The Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) is the central public affairs and community relations arm of the organized Jewish community. Representing more than 80 congregations and Jewish institutions throughout the Bay Area, JCRC promotes a just society and a secure Jewish future.

#