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IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Colorado Muslim community calls for the preservation of life in Gaza

The Colorado Muslim Leadership Council is devastated by the sheer violence claiming the lives of innocent Palestinian and Israeli civilians. Furthermore, Islam teaches us that all people, regardless of their race or religion, deserve to live with dignity and security.

These values, rooted in international law, have not been extended to the Palestinian people for decades. The violations of these laws have resulted in denial of self determination for (and the ongoing military occupation of) Palestinians.

Simply believing that these rights must be extended to the Palestinian people, has caused a sudden rise in dehumanizing Islamaphobic rhetoric against Muslims in the community, has manifested itself into racist attacks on Muslims and Arabs, including our children in their schools. This has ultimately led us to increase security at our mosques, Islamic schools, and community centers.

Our communities must remain safe where there is no place for hate against Jews or Muslims. This cannot be another post-9/11 hate wave pointed at marginalized communities of color. As we continue to denounce antisemitism, our neighbors and allies must denounce all forms of Islamophobia and anti-Arab rhetoric or actions.

We firmly believe that freedom and the struggle against hate, bigotry, racial injustice and oppression are interconnected on a global level. It is imperative that all parties uphold agreements set forth by the United Nations international law with the preservation of life being paramount.

We implore the U.S. Congress, and the President of the United States, to call for an immediate ceasefire, allow for humanitarian aid to enter Gaza, which has since been besieged, and refuse to accept the indiscriminate bombing and collective punishment of innocent civilians.

May Allah, the Most Compassionate, protect us from acts of violence and increase the number of islands of peace in which people embrace each other with respect all around the world.

Signatories below

Burmese Islamic Association of Colorado - Masjid Al-Ansar

Colorado Imam Council

Colorado Muslim Society - Masjid Abu Bakr

Colorado Muslim Speaker's Bureau

Colorado Muslim Connection

Colorado Oromo Muslim Community Center - Masjid Bilal

Denver Islamic Society - Masjid Al Nur

Downtown Denver Islamic Center - Masjid Al-Shuhadaa

Islamic Center of Aurora Colorado - Masjid ArRahmah

Islamic Center of Boulder

Islamic Circle of North America – Colorado

Metropolitan Denver North Islamic Center - Masjid Ikhlas

Muslim American Society - Colorado

Muslim Family Services of Colorado

Muslim Youth for Positive Impact

Northeast Denver Islamic Center

Southeast Aurora Islamic Center

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