



Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc.

World Hindu Council

MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release

VHP Australia Condemns Cowardly Antisemitic Terrorist Attack on Jewish Families Celebrating Their Festival; Calls for Zero Tolerance of Antisemitic Violence

The Vishva Hindu Parishad (VHP) of Australia Inc. unequivocally condemns the vile and cowardly attack on innocent Australian citizens of Jewish heritage, including children and families, who had gathered peacefully to celebrate the first day of a sacred Jewish festival.

That families observing a religious occasion can be targeted with intimidation and violence is not only abhorrent, it represents a direct assault on Australia's values of freedom, safety, and multicultural coexistence.

This was not political protest.

This was antisemitic hatred expressed through violence and intimidation, directed as terrorist attack at people whose only "crime" was openly practising their faith with their children.

Enough Excuses. Violence Is Not Free Speech.

VHP Australia is deeply concerned by the growing tendency to downplay or rationalise antisemitic aggression under the guise of "free speech" or "political expression".

Let us be absolutely clear: Threats, intimidation, harassment, and attacks on Jewish people are not free speech. They are hate crimes.

When governments hesitate to name antisemitism clearly and decisively, it emboldens extremists and leaves targeted communities feeling abandoned and unsafe.

A Pattern That Cannot Be Ignored

This attack does not exist in isolation. Jewish communities worldwide and increasingly in Australia are facing:

- Targeted harassment at religious gatherings
- Threats against families and children
- Intimidation near places of worship
- Normalisation of antisemitic rhetoric in public discourse

Australia's largest Hindu organisation

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As Hindus, we understand the pain of religious communities being targeted, demonised, or asked to justify their right to safety. An attack on one faith community is an attack on all faith communities.

Solidarity With the Jewish Community

VHP Australia stands in full solidarity with the Jewish community.

We pray for peace for the souls of those who lost their lives and for strength, comfort, and healing for their families during this time of profound grief.

We express our heartfelt support to the families and children affected and affirm their absolute right to celebrate their faith openly and without fear.

We call on:

- All levels of government to adopt a zero-tolerance approach to antisemitism and religious violence
- Law enforcement agencies to act decisively and visibly
- Political leaders to stop equivocating and to clearly distinguish free speech from hate-fuelled intimidation.

Australia Must Draw a Clear Line

Australia's multicultural success depends on one non-negotiable principle:

Every community must feel safe, especially when practising their faith.

Failure to confront antisemitism decisively today will only invite further violence tomorrow.

VHP Australia urges Australians of all backgrounds to reject hate in all its forms and stand united in defence of peace, dignity, and religious freedom.

END

For media enquiries:

Rajendra Pandey

National Spokesperson

Vishva Hindu Parishad of Australia Inc.

Email: VHPMedia@vhp.org.au

Website: www.vhp.org.au

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