

## In the name of God, the Beneficent, the Merciful,

"And We have not sent you, [O Muhammad], except as a mercy to the worlds." [Quran, 21:107]

To our dear believers in North America,

In light of the heinous acts being perpetrated throughout the world and falsely projected by the offenders as being in the name of Islam, we wanted to openly reiterate that Islam's highest moral trait is the application of mercy to all of creation, big and small. These heinous acts, conducted by immoral extremists, neither represent Islam nor the more than 1.6 billion people who adhere to it.

In these trying times, we ask our dear believers to be patient when these terrorist acts are being used by some as an excuse to attack and falsely accuse our noble faith. We implore our beloved believers to respond to such attacks and accusations with mercy and righteous conduct as was the example of our noble Prophet (pbuh) and his Holy Progeny (pbut). We also call upon the decision makers throughout the world to put pressure on those who support such heinous acts with their extreme ideology, of any faith or creed, because this type of extremism is a fire that harms us all.

As members of our North American community we must do our part to build bridges to support and uplift the moral fabric of our humanity. Therefore, we ask our beloved believers to be proactive in the communities in which they live to explore ways to do good and help the needy, for "God loves the people who do good deeds." [Quran, 2:195]

We ask God Almighty to bless all of us in this endeavor and grant us the wisdom to be the good examples He wants us to be.

I.M.A.M.

