

TEXAS VOICES UNITED AGAINST HATE

As Asian American organizations in Texas and our allied partners, we firmly assert that the rise of anti-Muslim and antisemitic hate in our state is a matter of profound concern.

Divisive and inflammatory political rhetoric, media narratives and disinformation are fueling a rise in Islamophobia and antisemitism targeting Palestinian, Muslim, Arab, South Asian and Jewish communities here in Texas and across the United States. All of these communities – along with the many allies who stand with them today – have a history of marginalization and scapegoating that we must never forget.

We are hearing from community partners that are operating in rapid response mode that is reminiscent of the months and years after the tragic events of September 11th. During that time, Muslim, Arab, South Asian and Sikh community members experienced hate, violence, employment discrimination and school bullying, as well as profiling and surveillance by government agencies that continue to this day. We maintain a steadfast commitment to denouncing Islamophobia.

Sadly, we've already witnessed distressing instances of hate. Just last week, Dr. Talat Jehan Khan was brutally murdered in front of her neighbors and family at her apartment complex in Conroe, Texas, creating an atmosphere of fear in Muslim communities. A Palestinian American non-profit planning a conference in Houston reported that the hotel unilaterally canceled their contract. A few weeks ago in Chicago, Wadea Al-Fayoume, a 6-year-old Palestinian American child, was killed and his mother injured when their landlord, motivated by Muslim hate, targeted them in their own apartment. Jewish communities are also experiencing incidents of hate crimes and synagogues vandalized due to the prevailing climate and rhetoric, and we suspect there are more untold stories.

We are putting out a vital call for solidarity against hate of all forms. We must recognize that denouncing hate of one kind is not announcing support of hate of another kind. We must speak out against the minimizing, comparing, deflecting of any community's suffering, plea for protection and freedom.

We must separate the actions of governments abroad from the right to safety for individuals here.

**OUR ONLY PATH TO HEALING IS THROUGH
CENTERING THE HUMANITY OF ONE ANOTHER.
WE INVITE ALL TEXANS TO CONDEMN HATE AND
UNITE FOR PEACE FOR ALL — NOW AND IN THE FUTURE.**

