



Christian Conference of Asia

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Christian Conference of Asia's Statement on the Escalation of Attacks on Religious Minorities in Bangladesh

On behalf of the Christian Conference of Asia (CCA) and its member churches and councils across Asia, from Iran in the west to Japan in the east, and from Nepal in the north to New Zealand in the south, we express our profound concern over the recent escalation of violence against religious minorities in Bangladesh, particularly the recent attacks against Hindu, Christian, and Buddhist communities. We are deeply troubled by the attacks on individuals from these communities, their homes, and places of worship. These reported incidents have caused immense distress and raised concerns about the fragility of pluralism, harmony, and equality in Bangladesh today.

While these violent acts are perpetrated by individuals, their implications disrupt peaceful coexistence within both majority and minority communities. In any country where one religious community constitutes the overwhelming majority, there is both a moral and political imperative for the majority to protect minority groups.

CCA calls on the interim government of Bangladesh to take immediate and transparent action to safeguard the rights and security of all Bangladeshis, regardless of their religious beliefs and ethnic identities. We urge the government to implement strengthened security measures to prevent further attacks and to ensure swift investigations that hold perpetrators accountable for their harmful actions.

Furthermore, CCA stresses the importance of promoting interfaith dialogue and reconciliation to heal the wounds inflicted, rebuild trust, and foster unity and respect for Bangladesh's rich cultural and religious diversity. We trust that the government will take the necessary steps to ensure the safety and rights of all communities, allowing Bangladesh to remain a land of peace, unity, and freedom of religion.

CCA also considers that the inviolability of diplomatic missions is a cornerstone of international diplomacy—a principle enshrined in both international law and the constitutions of sovereign states. These missions, whether diplomatic or consular, are essential for fostering peaceful relations, dialogue, and mutual respect between nations. The attack on the Bangladesh Assistant High Commission in Agartala, India, raises serious concerns about the safety and protection of diplomatic missions. It is our considered opinion that ensuring the protection of diplomatic missions is the host state's responsibility, and any breach of this trust will jeopardise the integrity of diplomatic relations while undermining the mutual trust essential for peace and security.

CCA stands in solidarity with all people in Bangladesh, irrespective of their religious or ethnic affiliations, during these difficult times. We appeal to the country's leadership to address these concerns urgently and to act in a way that reflects the values of justice, peace, communal harmony, and inclusivity—a long-nurtured tradition for which Bangladesh is known. We remain hopeful that the Bangladesh government will continue to ensure that the country remains a place where people of all faiths can live together in harmony and security.

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General Secretary, CCA