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Terrorists attack Ahmadiyya Mosques in Lahore, Pakistan Statement by the Honourable Jim Karygiannis, Member of Parliament, Scarborough-Agincourt

My thoughts and prayers are with members of the Ahmadiyya Muslim community in Canada and throughout the world, and the family and friends of those who lost their lives today, in violent attacks on worshippers attending Friday prayers. I also pray for the speedy recovery of those who were injured.

While it is unclear, at this time, how many Ahmadis were killed or injured during the attacks on the Baitul Nur Mosque in Model Town and the Darul Zikr Mosque in Ghari Shahu – the mosques are covered in blood. An estimated 2,000 worshippers were attending Friday prayers when the attacks occurred.

I mourn, along with the worldwide Ahmadiyya Muslim community, this tragic loss of life. I know members of the community who have lost relatives and friends in this unprovoked, barbaric act.

The Ahmadiyya Muslim Jama'at is a minority sect in Pakistan. In 1974, Pakistan passed legislation that declared Ahmadis to be 'non-Muslim' and, in 1984, further legislation was passed in which the practice of the faith was outlawed.

Canada and the international community must condemn these unprovoked attacks on people, who were assembled in the practice of their faith. The people responsible for these grievous acts must be brought to justice. The extremists who perpetrated these terrible acts must not be allowed to win.