



AKHIL BHARATIYA VIDYARTHI PARISHAD

Central Office: 3, Marble Arch, Senapati Bapat Marg, Matunga Road (W.R.) Stn. Mahim, Mumbai - 16.

Tel.: (022) 2430632 / 2437886 Fax: 24313938 E-mail: abvpkendra@gmail.com

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-: Press Release: -

Attack on Sikh minority in Kabul condemnable: ABVP

ABVP unequivocally condemns the dastardly attacks on the minority Sikh community's place of worship in Kabul, the capital of India's neighbour Afghanistan. The murderous attack on members of the Sikh minority took place in the early hours of the day, when they had congregated for the customary morning prayers.

Of late, a steep rise in hateful attacks on religious minorities by fundamentalist and extremist forces in India's neighbouring countries has been a major cause of concern. It would be apposite for responsible members within the comity of nations to close ranks and hold all such states to account for failing to protect the beleaguered minorities, whose rights, life and property continue to remain under the fear of assault by extremist forces present therein, and which often enjoy the protection and patronage of the respective state machineries. While the responsible members of the international community are busy fighting, shoulder to shoulder, the global pandemic COVID-19, this butcherly attack is another manifestation of the religious fundamentalists' hatred and contempt for humankind. It is only because of such recurring, highly visible, and incontrovertible hate crimes against the religious minorities in the neighbouring Islamic countries, that the Parliament of India enacted the Citizenship (Amendment) Act, giving succour to those besieged and heavily persecuted minorities.

Nidhi Tripathi, National General Secretary, ABVP, said, "India has been amongst the largest aid donors to Afghanistan, wishing peace and prosperity upon the war-ravaged nation. This cowardly and craven attack on the Sikh community is extremely saddening, barbaric and inhumane. ABVP pays its tributes to those killed and expresses sympathies for their kin in this hour of crisis. At the same time, ABVP reiterates its demand that concrete action should be taken by the global community against those countries wherein fundamentalist and extremist forces continue to enjoy the state's patronage in the oppression and terrorization of minorities."

(This Press Release has been issued from ABVP Central Office, Mumbai by Central Office Secretary Neeraj Choudharkar.)