



## **Institutionalized racism, oppression, injustice and the need for systemic changes**

### **JUNE 4 2020**

In the Name of Allah, The Most Gracious, The Most Merciful

Muslim Society Inc (MSI) strongly condemns the brutal murder of George Floyd. This inhumane act of brutality by law enforcement officials is reprehensible and unacceptable at all levels. Sadly, this was yet another episode in a long series of institutionalized acts of oppression and injustice against people of color in general and members of the African American community in particular. The MSI board joins the entire community in our expression of grief and condolence to Mr Floyd's family. Our hope and prayer is that this tragic event serves as the necessary catalyst to impact lasting systemic changes in support of justice, liberty, and pursuit of happiness for all in this beloved nation of ours.

We are reminded in our traditions that we must assist not only the oppressed but also the oppressor. For too long we have only come to the assistance of the oppressed after the fact. The time has come for all Muslims in America to assist the oppressors as well. How do we do that? The answer is by preventing them from committing these acts of oppression. Racism, oppression, and miscarriage of justice has become institutionalized in our nation. We have to take tangible steps to educate ourselves about the oppression that is prevalent in our communities by starting dialog and discussion with people around us and joining forces with others that are working towards this common goal.

We pray to Allah (SWT) that He grants us the ability to review and remove our own biases and prejudices and allows us to become agents of peace. We pray that God Almighty allows us to heal our hearts and mend our bruises by bringing us together to work towards justice, liberty and the pursuit of collective happiness.

**- MSI Management**