



Hon Prime Minister Ardern,

Assalamu Alaikum. Peace be unto you. No words can truly express the gratitude and appreciation we the community of Pearland Muslims in Texas, USA feel for you and the citizens of New Zealand at this moment. Today we were honored to witness from thousands of miles away the various acts of unbelievable kindness, sympathy, and support towards the Muslim victims and their families during the national memorial service in New Zealand. With your unparalleled courageous leadership, you showed rest of the world when someone violates the sacred trust in a civil society and take innocent lives; you do not accept it in silence. You find higher grounds, you lend your shoulder to the victims, and you let them know you care.

Your level of sincerity is unheard of among the world leaders in recent history. You represent the likeness of illuminating leaders such as prophet Muhammad (PBUH), Jesus (PBUH), Madam Teresa or Gandhi.

You are our true selfless hero - the prophet of peace and love for our beloved human family. I salute you for your kind and swift measures making the world a better place.

If any nation wants to learn how to treat a minority in times of need, I hope and pray that they use examples of your leadership.

Tears rolled down my cheek, when I heard Prime Minister Jacinda wore a hijab and personally visited the Muslim community on a daily basis to provide love, support & updates all while wearing a hijab. She hugged Muslims and genuinely cried with them.

Many citizens of New Zealand have opened their homes to provide free shelter, food and support to any Muslim making sure they feel welcomed and secured. They are sitting, talking and eating with them. Women are wearing hijab to show support and solidarity. The Kiwi people filled up parks and beaches with artwork, flowers, and candles to show they stand with the Muslim community shoulder to shoulder. We are extremely proud of you and the kind people of New Zealand for their generosity.

Thank you New Zealand, you have made a special place in the hearts of 1.8 billion people forever.
God bless you and New Zealand. You all will be in our prayers.

Dr. Abul Azad
Director, Community Outreach and Religious Affairs
Pearland Islamic Center



Thank you for your kind words.

The Prime Minister has been deeply moved by the support and compassion shown in the wake of the attack in Christchurch, and by the thousands of people who have taken the time to share their condolences.

She has asked me to pass on the following statement

My thoughts are with the families who have lost loved ones and who are now experiencing unimaginable pain and grief. While I can't take away this pain, I send the Muslim community my love, as so many New Zealanders have, and the reassurance that I will do all I can to support them. My focus is ensuring those who have been affected have the care and support they need - not just now, but in the coming months and years.

This is a tragic time, and all of New Zealand is feeling the impact. While we as a nation grapple with a form of grief and anger we have not experienced before, the compassion and kindness that has been expressed at community events, on social media, and by people right across the country show us who we are as a nation.

Going forward, I know those are the values we'll all work hard to protect.

Thanks again for getting in touch.

Kind regards

Dinah Okeby
Office of the Prime Minister