

Muslim Association of Canada (MAC)

March 22th 2004 Press Release

Located in the Press Releases Section of the MAC Website
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MAC Press Release web page:

http://www.macnet.ca/press-releases/2004/press_release_-_2004-03-22.php

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the MAC website. The address bar shows the URL: http://www.macnet.ca/press-releases/2004/press_release_-_2004-03-22.php. The website header includes the MAC logo and navigation links: HOME, PRESS RELEASES, CHAPTERS, DEPARTMENTS, ABOUT MAC, LINKS, ABOUT ISLAM. A search bar is present with the text "search macnet". Below the navigation, a breadcrumb trail reads "You are here: Home > Press Releases > 2004". A "print version" link is also visible. The main content area features a vertical list of years from 2010 to 2001 on the left, with 2004 highlighted. The main text of the press release is titled "The Muslim Association of Canada condemned today the assassination of Shaikh Ahmad Yassin". The text begins with "For Immediate Release" and "The Muslim Association of Canada joins many international voices in condemning this illegal and horrific act. Mr Ahmad Qureh, the PM of the Palestinian Authority noted that Shaikh Yassin had a moderating influence within Hamas. British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said, 'Israel is not entitled to go for this type of unlawful killing, and we therefore condemn it. It is unacceptable, it is unjustified, and it is very unlikely to achieve its objective.'" The press release concludes with "Our heartfelt prayers and commiserations go out to the Palestinian people in their struggle to live in peace, dignity and freedom in their own homeland." and ends with "- END -". At the bottom, there is a link to download the press release as a PDF file.

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The Muslim Association of Canada condemned today the assassination of Shaikh Ahmad Yassin

For Immediate Release

(Ottawa, Canada – 22/3/2004) – The Muslim Association of Canada condemned today the assassination of Shaikh Ahmad Yassin. Shaikh Ahmad Yassin was killed in a missile strike by the Israeli Defense Forces shortly after leaving a local mosque following dawn prayers. Yassin was partially blind, quadriplegic and relied on a wheel chair for mobility.

Shaikh Yassin founded Hamas in 1987. Although emphasis has been placed on the organization's military operations, Hamas has carried out significant social and relief work in the Occupied Territories since its inception.

The Muslim Association of Canada joins many international voices in condemning this illegal and horrific act. Mr Ahmad Qureh, the PM of the Palestinian Authority noted that Shaikh Yassin had a moderating influence within Hamas. British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw said, "Israel is not entitled to go for this type of unlawful killing, and we therefore condemn it. It is unacceptable, it is unjustified, and it is very unlikely to achieve its objective."

The reaction throughout the Occupied Territories and around the Muslim world suggests that the assassination will precipitate more violence rather than limit it. The assassination is also likely to poison the environment in the Middle East for years to come.

The Muslim Association of Canada calls upon the Canadian government to condemn this illegal act. We point out that there is no excuse for this choice by the Israeli government to resort to extrajudicial killing rather than pursue whatever grievance it had in a civilized and legal manner. We appreciate that Canada's foreign minister Mr. Bill Graham joined the European Union and the UK in its condemnation of this murder and in reprimanding the Israeli government for yet again plunging the Middle East into violence. Canada has invested a lot to promote stability and progress in the Middle East. Equivocation and euphemisms would have completely discredited our country in the region for years to come.

Our heartfelt prayers and commiserations go out to the Palestinian people in their struggle to live in peace, dignity and freedom in their own homeland.

- END -

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