



GBV CONTINUES TO PLAGUE SOUTH AFRICAN SOCIETY

The MJC (SA) is appalled at the news of the rape and attempted murder of a 14-year-old girl from Cape Town.

Gender-based violence continues to haunt South African society. The consistent rise of GBV cases in our country is of grave concern and the lack of adequate legislative suppression by all spheres of government, including the justice, policing and law enforcement, creates a poor cognitive mitigation environment. The perpetuation of these heinous crimes is an indictment on the lawmakers of our country.

Almighty Allah states in the Noble Quran: "...whosoever slays a soul, unless it be for manslaughter or for mischief in the land, it is as though he slew all men, and whoever keeps it alive, it is as though he kept all men alive..." Sūrah al-Ma'idah verse 32

The emphasis on the protection and preservation of life is a fundamental principal that is firmly embedded in the very fabric of the religion of Islam. Our beloved Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him had said: "Do not harm nor cause any harm."

This prophetic concept forms the foundation upon which a society can be built. One that respects, honours and values the sanctity of life.

We are indeed devastated by the ordeal this 14-year-old daughter of our community was victim to, and we are calling on our communities, politicians, religious leaders, activists and youth groups to work together to create an environment conducive to raising our children. We need to stand together, especially with the upcoming holiday season, to ensure the safety of our children.

Allāh mentions in Sūrah al-Nisā (The chapter of Women), verse 135:

"O you who believe, stand out firmly for justice, as a witness to Allāh, even though it be against yourselves, your parents, kin, the rich or poor."

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