

MEDIA RELEASE

Media Release by Sikh Youth Australia. Sydney.

|

Sikhs in Australia Pray for those killed Wisconsin Sikh Temple.

Sydney, Aug 8, 2012. –

Sikhs in Australia were shocked to learn that a lone gunman had attacked innocent Sikhs in a Sikh Gurdwara (temple) in Oak Creek Wisconsin killing 6 Sikh men and women. Three others were critically injured.

Sikh Youth Australia (SYA) joins Sikhs all over the world in condemning this deplorable shooting of innocents gathering to pray in a place of worship. SYA also applauds the actions of the US policeman who shot and killed the attacker despite being seriously hurt as he tried to help a victim.

Sikhs have a proud history over many years of contributing extensively to the country to which they have migrated. The US is no different. Sikhs in the US serve proudly in its defence forces as well as in its police force. They are respected for their honesty and work ethic and well liked wherever they have gone.

The fact that post 9/11 Sikhs have been mistaken in the US and in Australia as being Islamic terrorists because of their outward appearance and dress, points seriously to a need for education worldwide as well as in the US on who and what Sikhs are as a community.

SYA urges all Sikhs to be rational in their reaction to this shooting and to join hands globally to raise awareness of the Sikh religion and Sikh culture in countries all over the world.

In the next few days SYA will join Sikhs all over Australia in prayers for the departed and those who have been hurt. Our condolences go to all those who have suffered as a result of this tragedy. May the Almighty give all the strength to move forward from this sad event.

Satwant Singh Calais
SYA President