



The undersigned organizations issue this open letter in response to the alarming rise in targeted attacks against South Asian communities in a climate shaped by dangerous and irresponsible government actions and rhetoric that stokes hate and attempts to legitimize discrimination. In light of the tragic and indefensible [murder](#) of 18-year-old Henry Nowak in the United Kingdom, leading voices in the Trump Administration—including [Vice President Vance](#), [the State Department](#), and media like [Tucker Carlson](#), and [Nick Fuentes](#)—have cynically and viciously seized the moment to further push their xenophobic agenda by stoking fear against Sikhs and other immigrants in the United States. This messaging emboldens white Christian nationalist hate against communities of different faiths, races, and nationalities, reflecting increasingly deliberate and calculated acts of hate rather than mere ignorance or lack of awareness.

This escalation reflects a troubling new phase of anti-immigrant hate in the United States. The lessons of the post-9/11 era remain urgent today: when Islamophobia and xenophobia are normalized against one community, hate rarely stays confined there, instead expanding outward to threaten other racial, immigrant, and religious minorities. Today, we are increasingly seeing South Asian communities and immigrants singled out more explicitly. Preliminary [analysis](#) by Advancing Justice | AAJC shows that hate crime statistics for 2025 put Anti-Sikh, Anti-Hindu, and anti-Buddhist hate crimes on a trajectory to be among the worst years ever recorded by the FBI. Compounding these trends, the Trump Administration has moved to roll back key safeguards against domestic violent extremism, eroding prevention frameworks and accountability mechanisms at a moment of rising hate. Across the country, South Asian communities have been subjected to conspiratorial rhetoric portraying them as demographic or cultural “invaders.”

Sikh communities have experienced disproportionate targeting by the Trump Administration's attempts to undermine [commercial driver licensing](#) and other equal employment opportunities. Hindu mandirs have faced [hate-based harassment and intimidation](#). South Asian residents and faith communities in places such as Frisco, Texas, have also reported hate directly named and harassed at [city council hearings](#), [public forums](#), and a [white supremacist rally](#). At the same time, Muslim communities continue to face rampant Islamophobia, including coordinated campaigns to block mosque construction and stigmatize their presence in communities across the country. Additionally, government-driven immigration enforcement actions are impacting South Asian communities, creating a climate of fear, destabilizing families, and reinforcing racialized suspicion of immigrants based on who they are. These interconnected actions are part of a broader rise in exclusionary politics and related violence.

Anti-immigrant hate rhetoric has deadly consequences. History has repeatedly shown that xenophobic and dehumanizing narratives radicalize individuals, normalize hate, and can contribute to acts of mass violence, including attacks against immigrant and religious communities, such as the recent May 18, 2026, shooting at a San Diego Mosque where three victims lost their lives to hate.

South Asian communities have long been part of the civic, economic, cultural, and democratic fabric of this country despite repeatedly being demonized during periods of heightened xenophobia. They are an

integral community making up the multiracial, multifaith democracy of the United States, and have been for more than 125 years. In this latest moment of fear and anxiety, we stand in solidarity with South Asian, Muslim, Sikh, Hindu, Jain, Buddhist, and all immigrant communities to reject all efforts to scapegoat, dehumanize, or divide our neighbors. We call on our government officials, media figures, and community leaders to reject the politics of fear and racialized scapegoating, and to stop weaponizing both hateful rhetoric and government power to intimidate immigrant and religious communities and destabilize our nation's safety.

Signatories,
Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC
The Sikh Coalition
Hindus for Human Rights
Muslim Public Affairs Council

AndHumanity
Apna Ghar, Inc.
ASATA Power
Asian American Legal Defense and Education Fund
Asian Pacific American Bar Association of Maryland
Asian Refugees United
Asian Texans for Justice
Asian/Pacific Islander Domestic Violence Resource Project
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action
Decolonize Sudan
Indo-American Center
Jahajee: Indo-Caribbeans for Gender Justice
Japanese American Citizens League Philadelphia Chapter
Jewish Council for Public Affairs
National Council of Jewish Women
Pennsylvania Immigration Coalition
Reframe Health and Justice
Right To Be
Sakhi for South Asian Survivors
Shoulder to Shoulder Campaign
South Asian American Justice Collaborative (SAAJCO)
South Asian American Policy & Research Institute (SAAPRI)
South Asian Legal Defense Fund
South Asian Network
South Asian Public Health Association
South Asian SOAR
Stop AAPI Hate
TRII/Dignidad
Tsuru for Solidarity
United Religions Initiative- North America (URI-NA)
UNITED SIKHS
Virginia Muslim Civic League