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Genuine practitioner of Islam must extend love to creation of Allah: Dalai Lama

BY TSEWANG RIGZIN

Leh: His Holiness, the Dalai Lama appreciated the Shia and Sunni communities of Ladakh for living harmoniously with each other for centuries. He said that according to Muslim scholars he has interacted with, a genuine practitioner of Islam must extend love to the creation of Allah. Any person who claims himself as Muslim and creates bloodshed should no longer be Islam practitioner. "There are some mischievous persons in all major religions, but generalising the tradition as something bad just because of the few mischievous persons is totally wrong", The Dalai Lama said this at a reception accorded in his honour by the Ladakh Muslim Coordination Committee Leh at The Grand Dragon Hotel on Wednesday. Referring the ongoing disturbances in some parts of the world between Shia and Sunni, apparently indicating the ongoing turmoil in Iraq, The Dalai Lama said Allah would never want Muslims killing each other. He advised Ladakhi Muslims, both Shia and Sunni, who are living in a cordial atmosphere, to take some initiative to bring peace as it would fulfil the desire of Allah. "You cannot remain indifferent while in some parts of the world Muslims are killing each other", he said suggesting that the Ladakhi Muslims should appeal to Muslim leaders in India to make some effort to bring peace within the two communities in the world. He appreciated the harmonious coexistence of different religions in India.

When some Burmese and Sri Lankan Buddhists harmed some Muslims, The Dalai Lama said he didn't keep quiet. "When I first heard it in Washington, I regretted and said that those Buddhists must think about the face of Buddha. If Buddha was there, definitely he would protect those Muslims", he regretted. Earlier, Sheikh Saif-Ud-Din, President Anjuman Mon-Ul-Islam praised The Dalai Lama for his advocacy of Inter-faith tolerance and projecting Islam in its true perspective. "Your dynamic leadership and dedication have kept alive hopes and aspirations of Tibetan inside and outside Tibet. Your commitment to middle way approach for resolution Tibet issue is strongly supported by the international Community. We have always shared our feelings and sentiments with them", he said while assuring that Muslims and Buddhists of Ladakh will continue cordial relations and unity in future also. Ashraf Ali Barcha, President Anjuman Immamia expressed gratitude to The Dalai Lama for having accepted their invitation and prayed that Ladakhis continue to get blessings and guidance of the Dalai Lama in future.

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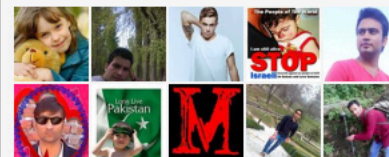


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