



NEWS RELEASE

6 January 2009

**Statement from Co-Chairs and Vice-Chairs
of the Inter Faith Network for the UK**

The Inter Faith Network exists to promote understanding between people of different faiths in the UK and works to help create good inter faith relations in this country. Violent events overseas of any nature can, inevitably, have repercussions here in Britain. As we have said in the past, at times of tension it is particularly important for the upholding and deepening of good inter faith relations that we seek ways to handle well the impact of overseas events of this kind and are able to talk together about them in ways which increase understanding rather than leading to suspicion and distrust or inter community tension. This seems very relevant to us at the present time of crisis in Gaza. While we – from different communities - pray for peace and work for justice, let us also hold firmly to the principle of maintaining bonds of trust between our communities even where these are strongly tested.

Rt Rev Dr Tom Butler (Co-Chair)
Dr Nawal K Prinja (Co-Chair)
Dr Manazir Ahsan MBE (Vice-Chair)
Mr Dorab Mistry (Vice-Chair)
Dr Indarjit Singh CBE (Vice-Chair)
Mr Vivian Wineman (Vice-Chair)

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Note for Editors:

The Inter Faith Network for the UK was founded in 1987. It links in membership national representative organisations of the Baha'i, Buddhist, Christian, Hindu, Jain, Jewish, Muslim, Sikh and Zoroastrian faiths in the UK; national, regional and local inter faith organisations; and educational and academic bodies with an interest in inter faith issues.

It works with its member bodies and other agencies to promote good relations between the faith communities in the UK; to combat inter religious prejudice and intolerance; and to help make the UK a country marked by mutual understanding and respect between religions where all can practise their faith with integrity.

For further information please see the Network's website at www.interfaith.org.uk or contact the office on 020 7931 7766.