



Australian Federation
of Islamic Councils

Our crimes in Afghanistan require justice

Media Statement

20 November 2020

The long-awaited investigation report into war crimes by SAS troops in Afghanistan has revealed amongst other serious concerns, as many as 39 callous murders of Afghan nationals.

AFIC has always held the position that Australian troops should never be deployed to fight someone else's war, that we, as Australians should have never become involved in the invasions of Afghanistan or Iraq or any other nation.

Unjust wars lead to greater injustices, the results of the war crimes investigation have revealed a horrifying culture of gross disregard for human life.

"We must make a solemn commitment to stop invading other nations and we must stop supporting invaders and occupiers of other nations. We must own up to our crimes and proceed with fair and just prosecutions against the perpetrators and those who ordered them to commit such atrocious murders." Said Dr. Rateb Jneid, president, Australian Federation of Islamic Councils.

Australia has made the right decision to investigate these crimes. The investigation is only the start of the process. Our good standing in the international community demands that we immediately enact laws and introduce policies to prevent the chance of any repeat criminal behaviour by our defence personnel. Defence and security institutions must train their personnel to above all be well disciplined, these establishments should never tolerate laissez faire conduct by any of their officers.

"We must also pay fair and just compensation to surviving families of victims on a scale that we would expect for our own citizens, should they, God forbid, find themselves victims to similar war crimes." Said Dr Jneid.

Authorised by:

Dr. Rateb Jneid

President