



Indian Diaspora Council

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Shared heritage, aspirations and interests

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Press Statement

IDC Condemns Killing of Sadia Sukhraj in South Africa

The **Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC)** joins in solidarity with its South Africa chapter and with other organizations, agencies, groups, institutions and individuals in South Africa and other countries in expressing strong and unequivocal condemnation of the killing of 4th grade student Sadia Sukhraj on May 29, 2018 during a carjacking by criminals. IDC considers this brutal and despicable act as inhuman, senseless, unforgivable and unjustified criminal action against a child, creating widespread fear among innocent citizens in Durban, South Africa and elsewhere.

Mahendra Lillkan, chairperson of the local Crime Forum, is quoted as saying there had been a spike in crime in the area despite community patrols at night. "It seems that the criminals have now resorted to striking at soft targets, such as parents taking their children to school, as we have seen with this tragic incident", he stated.

IDC commends law enforcement in Durban, South Africa, with prompt and diligent efforts to capture and apprehend the criminals responsible for this criminal act. We fully support all measures taken to bring security, calm and confidence to the people of Durban and other places in South Africa and urge all efforts to prevent similar attacks in the future. We share in the belief that such callous and uncivilized crimes perpetrated against innocent people, in particular children, cannot diminish the desire and courage to co-exist and live peacefully with dignity and assurances of safety after many decades of struggles and hard won freedoms.

IDC expresses deep concern for the families of this tragedy and other criminal acts which cause tremendous distress, fear and concern. We are confident that the affected people will endure this criminal act while expressing their outrage and condemnation, seeking more protection and assurances against such attacks in the future. We urge others to join in solidarity in voicing their outrage.

“Sadia could have been anybody’s child, grandchild or sister, and the killing of Sadia is an attack on all children. The youngest and most defenseless in our society deserve the best protection by all so that our children and their families do not live in fear” - *Farook Khan (IDC Coordinator, South Africa)*.

For information, please contact Mr. Farook Khan (IDC Coordinator, South Africa) @ farook@mweb.co.za

Indian Diaspora Council International (IDC), established in 1997, is an international non-profit organization with global affiliates and membership in 21 countries with the objective to embrace, engage, and enhance the shared heritage, aspirations, and interests of persons of Indian origin with optimum inclusivity.