

Pope Francis on Free Speech

By Josephine McKenna in <http://www.religionnews.com>

Pope Francis on free speech: **'You cannot insult the faith of others'**

Josephine McKenna | January 15, 2015

VATICAN CITY (RNS) Pope Francis on Thursday (Jan. 15) condemned last week's terrorist attack on the French satirical weekly Charlie Hebdo but warned **there were limits on freedom of expression**.

Speaking to journalists as he flew from Sri Lanka to the Philippines on a weeklong visit to Asia, the pope said freedom of expression was a "fundamental human right" and stressed that killing in the name of God was an unacceptable "aberration."

"You don't kill in God's name," Francis said.

However the pope, who has made a point of reaching out to Muslims, Jews and other faiths, said **there were limits to self-expression when it involved insulting or ridiculing people's faith**.

"You cannot provoke, you cannot insult the faith of others," he said. **"You cannot make fun of the faith of others."**

By way of example, the pope referred to Alberto Gasparri, who organizes the papal trips and was beside him on the plane.

He said if Gasparri cursed his mother, he could "expect a punch," and at that point he gestured with a fake punch towards him, saying: "It's normal. You cannot provoke. You cannot insult the faith of others. You cannot make fun of the faith of others."

Freedom of expression has remained a hotly contested issue since Islamist terrorists stormed the office of the weekly known for mocking Islam, Judaism and Christianity.

Several cartoonists were killed in the first of three days of terror attacks that rocked France and claimed the lives of 17 victims and three terrorists.

On January 8, 2015 four French imams on a visit to the Vatican issued a statement denouncing the violence and appealing to people whatever their faith to do more to promote a "culture of peace and hope."

YS/AMB END MCKENNA

We Muslims highly appreciate this Great Statement by Pope Francis on free speech on January 15, 2015, 'You cannot insult the faith of others', 'You cannot provoke, you cannot insult the faith of others', and 'You cannot make fun of the faith of others'. Freedom of Speech does not mean hurting the feelings of others and NO one should be allowed on bullying or insulting others including others faiths. There must be an International Laws to punish those who insult others faiths which ignites Global Terrorism.

Muslims are First Victims of Global Terrorism, Fanaticism, Fundamentalism, Intolerance, Discrimination and Racism. When others are victims, you hear on the main stream media round the clock **7** days a week, but when Muslims are victims they are hardly presented on the main stream media. When around **40** million Muslims were victims on false accusation of Weapons of Mass Destruction, main stream media hardly covered them except for only few times instead of **400** years, which is totally unjust with Muslim Community and it has become breeding grounds for Criminal Minds. No one is there to wipe off tears of **40** million Muslims and help them re-build. **For few centuries Muslims are being Holocaust, Genocide, Massacre & Ethnic Cleanse till the beginning of 21st century and no one know how long will it continue against them.**

No Muslim is a Muslim if he/she doesn't feel pain/hurt due to Blasphemy of any of the Prophets/Messengers of Allah including Ibrahim (Abraham), Musa (Moses), Isa (Jesus), Dawood (David) and Muhammad (Peace-Be-Upon-Them). **The Quraan suspends the punishment till the Day-of-Judgment by allowing time to repent before his/her deathbed.**

Read Al-Quraan, the Miracle of Miracles and free from contradictions and errors

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