



STUDENT CHRISTIAN MOVEMENT OF INDIA

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SCMI Stands with Christian Communities Facing Intimidation and Disruption of Christmas Celebrations

The Student Christian Movement of India expresses deep concern over the recent incidents of hostility, intimidation and disruption faced by Christian communities across different parts of the country during the Christmas season. What should be a time of joy, fellowship and celebration was, for many, marked by fear, harassment and restrictions.

Reports from several states indicate that Christmas gatherings, carol services, public celebrations, and even simple displays of Christmas symbols were met with verbal threats, vandalism, coercive actions and attempts to prevent people from freely practicing their faith. Students and young people in many places now express anxiety about whether they can participate openly in their own religious festivals without being targeted.

As a student movement committed to justice, peace and inclusivity, we see these incidents not as isolated events but as part of a growing climate of intolerance that affects minorities and pluralistic character of our nation. When fear replaces freedom in matters of conscience and belief, the foundations of democracy are weakened.

India's Constitution guarantees every citizen the freedom to practice, profess and propagate religion and the right to live with dignity and equality. Any attempt to silence people on the basis of faith violates these constitutional promises and damages mutual respect among communities.

SCMI stands in solidarity with all who have experienced discrimination, humiliation, or fear during this time. We hold them in our prayers and affirm their right to live and celebrate their faith without fear. We also remember in prayer those who continue to live in fear because of their religious identity.

We call upon:

- authorities to uphold the rule of law and ensure protection of all communities
- educational institutions and student bodies to promote dialogue and reject hate
- people of all faiths to stand together against intolerance and violence

As a national student movement with a long legacy of social engagement, we reaffirm our commitment to defending freedom of religion or belief for all, promoting peace and reconciliation, standing with marginalized communities, and building campuses and communities where everyone can live and practice their convictions without fear and with dignity.




Dakerlin Mukhim
General Secretary