

17th February 2024

Statement on the attack on Shaykh Dr Umar Al-Qadri.

It is with great concern and sadness that we confirm the deliberate attack on Shaykh Dr Umar Al-Qadri, Chairperson of the Irish Muslim Peace & Integration Council and Chief Imam of Islamic Centre Ireland, which occurred last Thursday night. We are thankful to report that Shaykh Al-Qadri is safe and currently recovering from the attack. The Gardai are actively investigating this matter to ensure justice is served.

Following the attack, Shaykh Dr Umar Al-Qadri underwent a CT scan at Connolly Hospital, which thankfully revealed no brain injury or broken jaw. However, he has sustained swelling on the left side of his face, particularly in the jaw area, rendering him unable to speak at this time. We pray for his swift and complete recovery and express our deep concern for the safety and wellbeing of all Imams, religious leaders, and the Muslim community, especially in light of the current climate of racism and anti-Muslim sentiments.

Additionally, Shaykh Al-Qadri has expressed his intention to meet with his attackers once they are apprehended by the Gardai. Despite the trauma he has endured, he holds a strong belief in the power of forgiveness and reconciliation. His willingness to forgive demonstrates a remarkable spirit of compassion and resilience, reflecting the teachings of Islam in promoting forgiveness and peace.

We sincerely appreciate the outpouring of prayers and support for our beloved Shaykh during this difficult time. May Allah grant him healing and protection, and may Ireland continue to stand united against all forms of hatred and violence.

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