

# Woman Targets Mosques; Tears Up Qur'an

MISSISSAUGA: Peel Police are investigating alleged hate crimes at three Mississauga mosques on March 22 after a video has surfaced of a woman ripping pages of a Qur'an and placing them on windshields of parked cars at one of the mosques.

In the 10-minute video, a woman who calls herself Sandra Solomon, is seen in front of Dar Al-Tawheed Islamic Centre, located near Kennedy Rd. and Matheson Blvd. E. She says in the video that she has been visiting mosques for more than a year to educate people about the "true face of Islam" and that "Imams need to be targeted."

No charges have been laid so far and Peel Police Const. Bally Saini said they are investigating the reports from three separate mosques Saini said police are looking to speak with any witnesses and to review any video



surveillance of the alleged incidents.

Calling the Qur'an a 'satanic, evil book', Solomon tears out pages from a Qur'an. She then walks into the building asking to speak to an Imam. Solomon can be seen inside the lobby of the Islamic centre.

Somebody (unseen) tells her to leave but she replies with: "What

God do you worship? You worship Satan, that's who Muslims worship," and then leaves the mosque. She wants the Qur'an to be classified as 'hate literature' and indicates she is ready to argue the matter in court.

Solomon, who says she is a former Muslim and now a proud Christian is also seen encouraging people to rip pages out of

Qur'ans —which she calls a "stupid book" — and to "sponsor her campaign".

A man can be heard telling Solomon that she was trespassing on private property and that the visit was "very disrespectful". Solomon replies: "I'm going to expose Islam to the world and I'm not afraid, I'm not a coward, like your Imam — he's a coward."

Rabia Khedr, executive director of the Muslim Council of Peel, said: "This woman is a known anti-Muslim activist. She promotes hatred of Muslims and tries to profit off it. This is just a stunt to get attention. Our community is not going to be fazed by someone like her who is simply trying to promote her personal agenda of hate."

"The Muslim Council of Peel and affiliated mosques are working with the police and have asked for this to be investigated as a hate incident," she said.

Khedr said that the MCP and the affected mosques have received support from the community.

"Our friends and allies of faith and non-faith affiliations are standing with us against such hatred. We want to make sure this hatred is removed from our communities." Pic: youtube

## Bains 'Shocked'; Defends Freedom Of Religion

Navdeep Bains, Minister of Innovation, Science and Economic Development, and who represents the Mississauga—Malton constituency, issued a statement when he heard about the incident.

"As a Canadian citizen and Member of Parliament for Mississauga-Malton, I am shocked by the news of this aggressive intrusion in a peaceful place of worship, the Dar Al-Tawheed Islamic Centre, which is located in my constituency of Mississauga-Malton.

"On behalf of the Government of Canada, I strongly denounce the actions that took place at the Islamic Centre and condemn all forms of Islamophobia and religious discrimination.

"In Canada, freedom of religion is a constitutional right, guaranteed by the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms, which explicitly allows believers the freedom to assemble and worship without interference.

"This regrettable incident reminds us all of the importance to uphold the core values of the Canadian society: freedom, equality, openness and inclusion.

"These principles unite us and make us stronger as a country. I am proud to represent the people of Mississauga-Malton and I will always stand up for the rights of my constituents and all Canadians."



**Dr. Shafiq Qaadri, MPP**  
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