



## The Sufi Alâwiyya International Association

Press release

For immediate release

The attack against Charlie Hebdo

### "Do not let ignorance justify the intolerable"

**Paris, January 7, 2015** - "Nothing can justify the heinous crime that was perpetrated against journalists of Charlie Hebdo in Paris today," said the spiritual leader of the Sufi path Alâwiyya, Sheikh Khaled Bentounes. "Islam is a religion of peace and non-violence. Do not let ignorance justify the intolerable. We shall never admit that acts of unspeakable barbarism are being committed in its name. The Islam experienced by the vast majority of Muslims in the world has nothing to do with these acts that are contrary to the fundamental values of this religion. »

AISA International NGO and all its members present their most sincere condolences to all the families of the victims and assure them of their own compassion. "We join all the voices in France and around the world to condemn these heinous acts and call to act together to defend the values of our society, because it is its essence that is targeted" indicated the President of AISA International NGO, Hamid Demmou.

Tonight, Sheikh Bentounes called on all citizens around the world for a moment of silence in memory of the victims of this massacre. "We gather together tonight for those victims who have dedicated their lives to freedom of expression. Remind the world that the desire for peace has never been greater and that together we must act to create a culture of peace " he said in proposing this prayer to God:

*"My God, I turn to You through every heart and every conscience contained in each one of Your creatures to deliver us from pride, sufficiency and the murderous folly that threatens us all. Grant that, this prayer comes to You as an offering to all those who hope in Thee in their trouble, but without faltering, and would, according to Your will, live and share in brotherhood and peace the sacred gift which You have lavished upon us: life. »*

«Present in several countries of the world, "AISA International NGO is a spiritual organization with «Special Consultative Status «on the Economic and Social Council of the UN. AISA contributes through spiritual and ethical issues to the promotion and consolidation of living together among civilizations and religions. It seeks to facilitate understanding of the principles of equality, non-discrimination, social and cultural progress of humanity, promoting a culture of peace and the fight against poverty. It promotes cultural cooperation, fraternity and mutual understanding of religions and human spirituality. It wants to be an obstacle to fundamentalism, to religious wars and to create a more just and caring world in the service of humanity.

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