

Da'wa in New Zealand

Were we in an acknowledged war, what Brenton Tarrant has done, murdering indiscriminately including small children, would be a war crime. As it is it's the crime of mass murder and once convicted after a fair trial he must be punished properly according to the law of New Zealand.

But while the relatives of the murdered worshippers grieve it is obvious that the wider Muslim community, in this most liberal of English speaking Commonwealth countries, are seizing the opportunity to reach out with some subtle and not so subtle dawā or proselytization.

Towards women we have tomorrow's effort: Stand with Muslim women: Wear a headscarf as an offering of support.

From [A top Auckland girls' school](#) says the hijab is not allowed under their uniform code, but will support students who want to wear one for the 'Scarves in Solidarity' event on Friday. Diocesan School for Girls is an Anglican school based in Epsom, Auckland, which costs upwards of \$19,000 per year in school fees for each student.

Diocesan school Principal Heather McRae said in a statement that "any girl or person who wants to show their respect for Muslim families affected in Christchurch by wearing a hijab to school on this day is most welcome to do so."

At Timaru Hospital the initiative is being organised by a doctor. It is called [Muslim brothers and sisters](#) for however long they need us," Fatu told the New Zealand news outlet Stuff.

The president of the Waikato Muslim Association, Asad Mohsin, told NZME, "Some people from the Mongrel Mob had been visiting the mosque during the week, and said they

wanted to come on Friday, show their support and solidarity.”

Although the Muslim community did not feel scared, Mohsin said, the support was appreciated.

But instead of asking the bikers to protect the Muslims from outside the mosque, he invited them inside. “They don’t have to stand outside the mosque. They can come inside, right behind where the sermon is given,” he said. “We would love everybody to come, but we don’t want anybody to show they are scared. We are not scared. You don’t have to stand outside the mosque, we want you to be inside, with us.”

[Jihadist Mark Taylor](#) who is currently in a Kurdish prison after his escapades with ISIS is from Hamilton and ‘embraced Islam’ there. I have no information as to where he was radicalised.

[New Zealand Herald](#)

The announcement by Prime Minister Jacinda Ardern successfully balances the tension between making New Zealand safer, and the legitimate concerns of the rural community. By instantly changing the Arms Act to reclassify any semi-automatic with a calibre greater than .22 as MSSA firearms, weapons such as the AR-15 now require E-category licences.

These licence endorsements are much more difficult to obtain.

Semi-automatic shotguns capable of using detachable magazines with more than five cartridges also fall into this category.

The instant classification means there can be no stockpiling of AR-15s, or similar, before all MSSAs are

totally banned in a few weeks' time.

This is a sensible move.

Nearly all of my friends and family I've spoken to this week had no idea of the incredible firepower easily available over the counter in our country.

None will be worried about a ban. All asked why it's taken so long.

Also there will be public worship. A two minute's silence is what we do in Western culture. And if this was an invitation to the wider public to participate in, say, Hindu worship I wouldn't have a qualm. I would think, diversity; we are all brothers and sisters. But of this, I am wary. [From TVNZ](#)

Helpful tips if you're not Muslim and want to pay
respects,
offer support after Christchurch attack

Samir Harith from Waikato University has provided some helpful tips if you're not Muslim and want to pay respects and offer support to those affected by the Christchurch terror attacks.

He told TVNZ1's Breakfast it's important to learn about the types of prayers and the food Muslim people can eat for people wanting to provide meals.

He said if non-Muslims want to join the prayers it's better to wait for the invitation from the mosque to the public rather than show up unannounced. "Most non-Muslims will be participating in the dhuhr."

Mr Harith also said Muslims will only take and consume halal food. Mr Harith said if you're going to donate food seafood and vegetables are halal and most desserts are fine.

“Especially pavlova, everyone loves pavlova.”

He said he doesn't think there's any real danger of offending anyone.

“Most Muslims that live here are quite open minded and quite understanding of other cultures, but that being said knowing a little bit more about our sensitivities does go a long way in extending that support.”

I have always had a lot of respect for New Zealanders and Australians. There was a time when they were indistinguishable to the English eye, both our cousins, they sounded similar and were not Canadians. But in recent years the difference is more pronounced. New Zealanders are very liberal. Australians, perhaps because they have had Islamic terrorism in their streets, or a more up front militancy among their Muslims, seem more aware, less inclined to accept the soft soap.

I know the Kiwis are so well-meaning. They breed sheep, delicious sheep, which I can no longer purchase in the UK as it is all slaughtered halal compliant for their middle eastern/Malaysian market. I don't like to see them walking like sheep into a halal dawa fest, with their good nature and friendly outreach being taken advantage of.