## Day 2: Batley Grammar School closed as angry Muslims protest a second day

What more do they want (don't answer that)? The school is closed, the teacher is suspended and under police protection with his young family, the headmaster has issued a grovelling apology. But the victimhood of Islam will never be sated.

From the <u>Daily Mail.</u> It is, of course, Friday ~ day of rage, day of outrage.

Protesters demanded the sacking of the teacher yesterday and have, this morning, arrived outside the school gates for another protest. Batley Grammar School has confirmed that <u>Sajid Javed</u>, <u>tweeted</u>:

In this country we are free to peacefully follow, preach or query any religion or none. These are hard-won freedoms that must be upheld by all public institutions. Reports of intimidation in Batley set a deeply unsettling and potentially dangerous precedent.

Many agreed with him and condemed the school for grovelling and not standing by the teacher; however elsewhere on twitter Muslims condemed the MP and vowed to be heard. The police have powers to disperse a crowd. They dispersed young women holding a vigil for a murder victim last week (well before the vigil was hijacked by BLM and Antifa) so they know how to do it.

I will be watching this, mindful not just of Samuel Paty, but <u>Gary Smith.</u>

Update at lunchtime. The Huddersfield Examiner reports that the protest is winding down, eight men are left, but they vow

to gather everyday until the teacher is sacked.

Meanwhile according to the <u>The Times</u> has a report with the cheering information tha while the Imans call for sacking and punitive action, some of his pupils have set up a petition calling for their teacher to be reinstated.

A petition to reinstate the teacher, started by a pupil at the school, had received more than 600 supporters.

It said: "The religious studies teacher was trying to educate students about racism and blasphemy. He warned the students before showing the images and he had the intent to educate them. He does not deserve such large repercussions. He is not racist and did not support the Islamophobic cartoons in any manner. This has got out of hand and due to this students have missed out on lessons."

Robert Jenrick, the communities secretary, has criticised the Batley protests and said it was "very disturbing" that the teacher was now in hiding.

"I was disturbed to see scenes of people protesting outside the school — that is not right. We shouldn't have teachers, members of staff of schools feeling intimidated and the reports that a teacher may even be in hiding is very disturbing. "That is not a road we want to go down in this country so I would strongly urge people who are concerned about this issue not to do that. There has to be an appropriate balance — we have to ensure there is free speech, that teachers can teach uninhibited. . . in a respectful and tolerant way..."