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The Shia Muslim Council of Australia

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Subject: Serious Concern regarding the Smear Campaign by Sky News

The Shia Muslim Council of Australia is deeply concerned by the smear campaign run by Sky News against the religious scholar and activist Sayyid Husain Makke, labelling him a “hate preacher”.

Sayyid Husain Makke is a respected public speaker who has travelled as a guest speaker to many countries around the world. He speaks on Islamic spirituality and social justice and is a vocal advocate against the genocide in Gaza and the attacks on civilians in Lebanon. He does not preach hate or violence in any way.

This is another example of Sky News unfairly targeting the Muslim community. Such campaigns undermine social cohesion in Australia and make Australian Muslims feel like second class citizens. It is important that media outlets are held responsible for their actions, especially when these actions undermine social cohesion and cause certain communities to be discriminated against or marginalised.

The government must ensure that media organisations report responsibly and do not contribute to societal division. Reforms should be considered to hold media outlets accountable when they engage in misleading or harmful narratives that threaten social harmony.

The Muslim community in Australia will continue to speak up for the oppressed and to stand for justice.

The Shia Muslim Council of Australia

The Shia Muslim Council of Australia is an umbrella organisation for Shia Muslim communities in Australia. It currently has 37 member organisations from across the 8 states and territories of Australia.