



Statement from SABA North America on Rising Islamophobia and Racist Attacks Against South Asian Politicians

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In recent weeks, we have witnessed a troubling rise in Islamophobic, xenophobic, and racially charged rhetoric directed at South Asian and Muslim public figures in the United States. These attacks are not grounded in substantive political disagreement — they are personal and prejudiced attempts to silence and discredit individuals based on their faith, ethnicity, and immigration background.

SABA North America unequivocally condemns these statements and stands firmly against all forms of hate.

Following his recent Democratic primary victory in New York City, mayoral candidate Zohran Mamdani was subjected to a surge of online abuse and threats. This rhetoric has been amplified by high-profile public and political figures with calls for denaturalization and deportation that are not only factually baseless — they are a direct attack on individuals' constitutional rights. To suggest that citizenship can be undone based on political or religious identity is an affront to the rule of law and to the foundational promise of equal protection under the Constitution.

Similarly, recent statements regarding Congresswoman Ilhan Omar are part of the same dangerous pattern. Such language peddles in racist and Islamophobic tropes that place Muslim and South Asian communities at risk and degrade the quality of public discourse.

As an organization committed to justice, inclusion, and equal representation under the law, SABA North America stands with public servants, who continue to lead in the face of fear and hate. We call on political leaders from all sides, to reject this dangerous rhetoric and affirm that citizenship and belonging in America are not conditional on one's race, religion, or country of origin.