



A STATEMENT FROM WEDGEWOOD ON THE UNITED STATES' MILITARY STRIKE AGAINST IRAN

March 1, 2026

On February 28, 2026, the United States, alongside Israel, launched coordinated airstrikes against Iran. This action preceded Iran's current retaliatory attacks and has rapidly escalated instability across the region.

This is not defensive restraint. It is a deliberate military escalation with immense suffering and global consequences.

Among the verified reports from Iran is an attack on the Shajareh Tayyebah girls' elementary school in Minab. Children were attending class when the building was struck. Iranian authorities say over 100 schoolgirls and staff have been killed and many more injured in that strike. Families are searching through rubble for survivors. Parents are mourning children who will never come home.

There are no words for the horror of a school reduced to ruins. There are no policy briefs that can contain the grief of parents who sent their daughters to learn and who never came home.

Bombing schools does not make anyone safer.

The United States initiated this military escalation. When powerful nations choose bombardment over diplomacy, ordinary people pay the price.

Acknowledging this does not defend the Iranian government. Iran's record of repression and human rights abuses is well documented. We can reject authoritarianism and still condemn reckless military escalation. These truths are not in conflict.

War is not an abstract policy debate. It is families sheltering in fear. It is communities facing destruction. It is service members placed in harm's way. It is the normalization of violence as a first response.

As an interfaith community rooted in justice, liberation, and human dignity, we reject the lie that security is built through airstrikes. History shows that large scale military interventions often deepen instability rather than resolve it.

We call for:

- Immediate steps to halt further offensive strikes

- Protection of civilians as the highest moral and legal priority
- Full constitutional and congressional oversight of military action
- Urgent multilateral diplomacy to prevent regional war
- A serious commitment to breaking cycles of retaliation rather than expanding them

Our interfaith traditions teach that every human life carries sacred worth. The Quran teaches that saving one life is as if saving all humanity. Jewish tradition calls us to pursue peace. Jesus blesses the peacemakers. Across traditions, we are commanded to protect life, not endanger it.

If you hold citizenship or political power, use your voice. Demand accountability. Contact your representatives. Refuse to accept endless war as normal.

Silence enables escalation.

Wedgewood will continue to speak truth, organize with partners, and advocate for diplomacy over destruction. Our commitment is rooted in our faith and our mission.

We believe in liberation, dignity, and justice for all people.

And we believe that peace is built by those who refuse to look away.