

Weiner Honors Mumbai Victims



Congressman Anthony Weiner (D-Queens/Brooklyn) honored the victims of the Mumbai terrorist attacks at a prayer assembly on Sunday at Flushing's BAPS Shree Swaminarayan Mandir. Weiner agreed with President-elect Barack Obama that if other countries are unable to stop terrorism, the United States must do it for them.

Congressman Anthony Weiner (D-Queens/Brooklyn), who represents a district with more South Asians than nearly any other, honored the victims of the Mumbai, India terrorist attacks at a prayer assembly on Sunday at Flushing's BAPS Shree Swaminarayan Mandir.

"I am deeply saddened by the tragic deaths due to the terrorist attacks in Mumbai," Weiner said in a statement issued the same day. "My thoughts and prayers are with the families and friends of those injured and killed.

"My prayers also go to Rabbi Gavriel

Holtzberg and his wife, Rivka, who dedicated years of service to Mumbai's Jewish community, and to the people of India and the Indian-American community here at home.

"These series of tragedies in Mumbai are a stark reminder that no country is off limits to terrorists. The U.S. must remain vigilant in rooting out evil terrorist networks. I hope that all the perpetrators involved in these deplorable, heinous acts will soon be brought to justice.

"I stand with the people of Mumbai and our Indian-American community."

Local Leaders Pray For Victims Of Mumbai Terror Attacks

Queens community leaders, including Congressman Joseph Crowley, City Council Speaker Christine Quinn and Councilmember Helen Sears, met Monday night with the Jackson Heights Merchants Association to express their condolences and join in praying for the victims of the devastating three-day terrorist attack in Mumbai, India.

Close to 300 people were killed and scores more wounded in the surprise assault, many of them relatives and friends of the many Jackson Heights residents, of Indian descent.

"These attacks have deeply affected both the Indian city of Mumbai and the South Asian community right here in Queens," Crowley (D-Queens/The Bronx) stated. Crowley has represented Jackson Heights for many years. "During these difficult times, it is important for our community to join together in prayer and to send our condolences to those hurt by these attacks. We must work together to help India recover from these attacks, while continuing our work to combat the roots of terrorism across the globe."

Quinn, the top official in the 51-member council, declared, "We stand united today to speak out against the despicable acts of terrorism that occurred over the past few days in Mumbai. My thoughts and prayers are with those who have lost family and friends as a result of this horrendous act. As a city that has been attacked before, we understand what the people of Mumbai and India are going through and we are committed to helping the victims of this attack in any way possible."

Sears (D) declared, "These terrorist attacks are a monstrous instance of the violence and instability in the world, and are an affront to peace and democracy. My heart goes out with profound sorrow to all those [citizens of] India and Indian-Americans affected by this tragedy. The community of Jackson Heights and the rest of my district stand with the people of India in this time of heartbreak, and urge the United States to do all it can to aid the Indian government in assisting the victims and tracking down those responsible."

—John Toscano

On Monday, the only known survivor of the 10 attackers whose 60-hour-long assault on the city formerly known as Bombay left nearly 172 people dead and some 239 wounded told police that his group had trained for months in camps operated by a banned Pakistani militant group, learning close-combat techniques, explosives

training and other tactics for their three-day siege. That same day, India demanded that Pakistan take "strong action" against those behind the deadly Mumbai attacks, and Washington pressured the Pakistani government in Islamabad to cooperate with the investigation.

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