



28th of August 2026

Statement by the Faith Communities Council of Victoria

The Faith Communities Council of Victoria expresses its profound sorrow at the devastating loss of life and the unfolding humanitarian tragedy following the catastrophic flash floods in the Nepal–Tibet border region.

Our hearts are especially with the families and communities who are enduring the anguish of waiting for news of loved ones. Among those affected are people from many nations, including Australia, some of whom were travelling through the region as pilgrims, seeking spiritual renewal at one of the world's most sacred mountain landscapes.

Mount Kailash and Lake Manasarovar, located in Tibet, hold deep significance for Hindu, Buddhist, Jain and Bön communities. That a place of such profound spiritual meaning has become the setting of such immense grief reminds us of our shared human vulnerability and our shared capacity for compassion.

We stand in solidarity with the people of Nepal and with Nepalese, Tibetan and other impacted communities in Victoria, and with all those whose lives have been touched by this disaster. We give thanks for the courage of rescue workers, local communities and emergency personnel who continue the difficult work of searching for survivors and caring for those in need.

In this time of sorrow, we invite people of every faith and of goodwill to hold the victims, the missing, their families and all those affected in prayer, meditation and compassionate action.

May those who mourn be surrounded by comfort, and may hope sustain all who wait.

Faith Communities Council of Victoria is comprised of the following peak bodies: Baha'i Community of Victoria, Brahma Kumaris Australia, Buddhist Council of Victoria, Hindu Council of Australia (Vic), Islamic Council of Victoria, Jain Council of Victoria, Jewish Community Council of Victoria, Sikh Interfaith Council of Victoria and the Victorian Council of Churches.

Promoting a Harmonious Multifaith Victoria

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