

STATEMENT OF PAX CHRISTI ASIA-PACIFIC ON THE TENSIONS BETWEEN INDIA AND PAKISTAN

Pax Christi Asia-Pacific calls for the immediate de-escalation of the military tensions between India and Pakistan that can escalate into a war between two nuclear armed states.

The longstanding conflict between India and Pakistan have caused much suffering to the peoples of both states and including those in the disputed territory of Kashmir. We do not wish this conflict to escalate any further because the possible use of nuclear weapons against each other will endanger not only India and Pakistan but the whole Asia-Pacific region as well. Even a limited nuclear exchange can bring catastrophic harm due to massive loss of lives and famine due to nuclear winter.

Hence, we call on the leaders of both countries to exercise maximum restraint, and appreciate efforts to use diplomacy and other peaceable ways towards the resolution of their current tensions. This will serve the common interest not only of the peoples of India and Pakistan but also of the peoples of Asia-Pacific and beyond.

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