



## **Muslims for Peace & Justice**

P.O. Box 28044 ~ Regina, Saskatchewan ~ S4N 7L1

Tel: 306.535.0155 ~ info@mpjsask.org ~ www.mpjsask.org

## **Press Release**

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 16, 2007

### **MUSLIM GROUP CONCERNED OVER HIJAB CONTROVERSY**

REGINA – Muslims for Peace & Justice (MPJ), a Saskatchewan-based Muslim advocacy organization, expressed its concerns today with the fixation of barring girls with hijab (Islamic headscarf) from sports. The new case involving the barring of participants from a Tae-Kwon-Do tournament due to their hijab demonstrates a rising trend in Islamophobia.

In a statement released today, MPJ stated:

"The idea of barring participants from sports due to the wearing of the headscarf is an unreasonable method of handling the issue of safety. Various styles of hijab to accommodate sport activities are available if this option is pursued.

"It is refreshing to see Canadian Muslim girls participating in sports. It is disheartening to see the lengths taken recently to encumber their confidence in the area of sportsmanship."

- ### -

**CONTACT:** Zeba Hashmi, MPJ Vice-President  
Tel: 306.535.0155