



The Muslim Council of Sri Lanka

5, Manthri Road, Colombo – 05, Sri Lanka **Tel:** +94 (11) 2589788 **E-mail:** muslimcouncilsl@gmail.com

28th April 2017

Mr Iraj Weeraratne,
Musician/Song Writer,
Edmonton Road,
Kirulapone,
Colombo.

Dear Mr. Iraj Weeraratne,

We wish to bring to your kind attention that the Muslim Council of Sri Lanka (MCSL) has received several complaints regarding your song "**Wassane Heene**" which has become very popular in your "**YouTube**" Channel. Most of the complainants feel that this song has a racist overtone as you have used the name of a Muslim doctor performing an illegal abortion.

While we agree that you are attempting to pass on an important social message through your song and video, we raise strong objection to the use of a Muslim name for the doctor who performs the illegal abortion. As you are aware, abortions are illegal in Sri Lanka unless a specialist doctor on medical grounds recommends it. Further, Islam strictly forbids abortion.

There has been a strong campaign by some extremist Buddhists accusing Muslims of promoting abortions and birth control among Buddhist girls. They have even been accused of giving free sweets that have contraceptives mixed to prevent pregnancy amongst Buddhist girls, thereby preventing the growth of the Buddhist population. These are baseless and unsubstantiated accusations, but a popular song like yours that includes an abortion by a Muslim doctor gives credence to this charge. We are fully aware that you have no racist feelings against any ethnic community.

We would be most grateful if you would kindly edit out the Muslim doctor's signboard as it would not have any significant impact on the contents of your message. Please ensure that the video with the Muslim doctors name board is withdrawn from YouTube and all other social media domains.

We thank you for your kind consideration and look forward to your positive action.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Yours sincerely,

N M Ameen

President