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MEDIA RELEASE

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From the Ashes of a Melbourne Synagogue to Parliament House

A powerful reminder of the devastating impact of antisemitism now has a permanent place in my Parliament House office.

This week, Melbourne artist Nina Sanadze visited Parliament House to unveil artwork I purchased following the firebombing of the Adass Israel Synagogue in December 2024. Several of my parliamentary colleagues joined us for the unveiling.

I visited the synagogue following the attack and saw firsthand the shocking destruction. It was a stark reminder that antisemitism is not just happening in distant parts of the world. It is happening right here in Australia.

Nina's exhibition, *Election Day: No Hate*, transformed the fire-ravaged synagogue into a powerful statement against antisemitism, reminding us of our responsibility to stand against hatred.

The works now displayed in my office include a photograph taken inside the damaged synagogue and two burnt chairs salvaged from the destruction.

I hope these works also serve as a powerful reminder to the university vice-chancellors and education leaders who visit my office of the real-world consequences of antisemitism and their responsibility to confront it on their campuses.

These are more than artworks. They are a tangible reminder of an appalling act of hatred against Australia's Jewish community and why we must never be silent in the face of antisemitism.

Thank you, Nina, for your courage and determination to ensure what happened at Adass Israel is never forgotten.

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