

MUSLIMS COMMEMORATE NHS WORKERS ON EID AL ADHA 2020



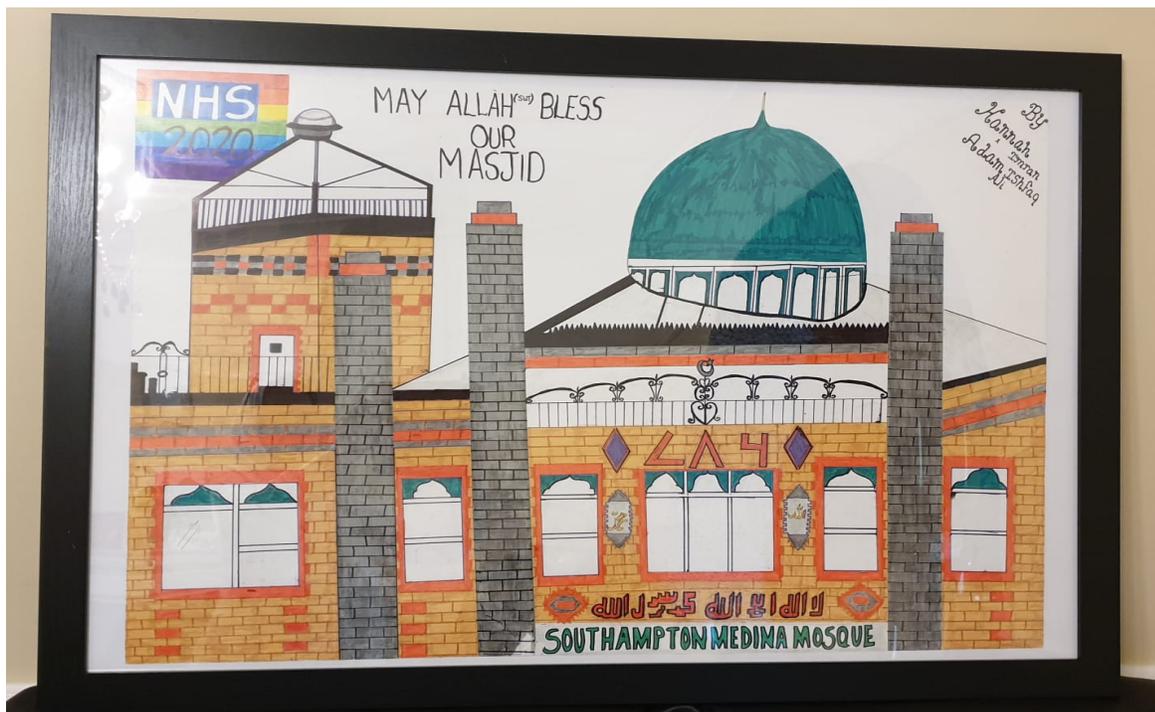
Eid al Adha: symbolising devotion and sacrifice

On Friday 31st July Muslims in the UK celebrated one of the holiest days of the Islamic calendar, Eid Al Adha, an occasion which symbolises devotion and sacrifice. Eid celebrations this year were sober, with socially distanced or virtual prayers and the last minute northern lockdown meant many were unable to celebrate as they had planned.

Remembering NHS Heroes

During the COVID-19 pandemic, **thousands of NHS workers have been on the frontline saving lives**. This Eid, we wanted to **remember and honour all the NHS workers who paid the ultimate price by protecting our own**. In a campaign to honour these NHS heroes, mosques around the country joined us to thank them and pray for them.

More than 300 NHS workers have died since the outbreak of COVID-19 in the UK. They have come from all backgrounds, religions, ages and orientations, working together in a spirit of unity and compassion to protect the public and save lives. The pandemic has also **reminded us that not all lives are equal**. Ethnic minority and Muslim NHS staff have been disproportionately impacted, with the first three doctors dying from COVID-19 being Muslim. We have set up an online memorial gallery to commemorate these heroes which can be viewed [here](#).



Children in Southampton create a portrait of their mosque commemorating the NHS

Remembering nationally

We were humbled that **20 mosques around the country, from Liverpool, Manchester, London, Birmingham, Southampton and several others, supported the campaign to honour our colleagues and remember their service, devotion and sacrifice.** Imams read moving tributes, prayers and poems of the “Army in Blue”. There were posters displaying the names of the 300+ NHS workers and “Thank you NHS” messages. It was a solemn reminder of the sanctity and value of life, especially during a deadly pandemic with local outbreaks rapidly emerging.



Remembering inequality

It was also a stark reminder that as a **society we must come together and protect each other, and in particular, the most vulnerable, the elderly, the disadvantaged and the poor.** **The Muslim community in the UK thanks NHS staff for their incredible work and sacrifice,** and prays that solidarity and resolve will bring people across the world together. It is **only in unity that we can withstand current and future waves of COVID-19.**

UK MUSLIMS HONOUR NHS HEROES

SHARE YOUR THANKS TO #NHSHEROES ON
 @TURNTOLOVEOFFICIAL

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ADIL EL TATAR
 PHARIE ZUZI
 MARIE CASBRY
 EMILY PERUGIA
 BARBARA WOODS
 JANICE DE VRIES
 SITIENDRA EATHROD
 LEBLANI DA KYRI
 ALICE LEE CHONG
 DONALD BUELO
 ELSIE SAZUKE
 RAYE AYACNE
 ABDUL MASUD CHOWDHURY
 EDMOND ADEDEJI
 MANDY SIDDIQI
 ABDU GELALEHIN
 JOANNA KINCZON
 LIZ SHALE
 ELBERT RICO
 PHIL RENNIE
 POORNIKA NAIR
 KARANAT ULLAN MIRZA
 PETER HART
 PETER DOUGH
 JIMM EDWARDS
 THAHAM HATAK
 NORMAN AUSTRIA
 ALANZED SMITH
 EVELYN NICOLAS
 CARLOS SIA
 IEMVA ESSON
 ALICE SARUPINDA
 MARGARET TAPLEY
 GRACE KUNWIMOWE
 KETH DUNNINGTON
 PATRICK MCMANUS
 CHRISTIE BRIDSON
 GERALD DAVIES
 MANJEET SINGH BHAT
 CRAIG WAKEHAM
 SADES ELKOWSH
 YUSUF PATEL
 GRANT MADANGA
 CHARLIE GOODWIN
 GRAHAM THORNE
 AMOK PADILLA GATIMAO
 GARETH ROBERTS
 SARA TROLOPE
 OSCAR KING JR.
 GILBERT BARNEDO

USIR KHAN
 JIMM BROWN
 SIZANNI LOYDES
 MOMODOU DIERA
 FOUAD EL SIDDIQUI
 SUKIA STANLEY
 GILL OBEKE
 PHILMUNA CHEBIAN
 CECILIA FASHANU
 ELMA CAVALIDA
 MARK PHOSOTT
 MARK WOOLCOCK
 RAY LEE
 JUN TERRE
 SAFAA ALAM
 REY MARLOR
 ELUTIRIO GIBELA
 SAAD AL DUBAISI
 LAILANE LOPEZ PERRAO
 MIMARAJITA HOHIDEH
 KIRSTY JONES
 JULIE PENFOLD
 DAWN MARSHALL
 FRANCIS OLANDEHAIKINIKO
 KATT DAVIS
 FELICITY STYCHTERA
 BRIGITTE ANJOMA STELI
 ANGE CUNNINGHAM
 BARAKAT AGROPO
 GEORGE NI AJESU AYIKU
 MELONIE MITCHELL
 TOMIA MARIA
 THOMAS DELMANN
 VISHA KASIA
 ANDY COSTA
 LAHNI ZUNIGA
 JANICE GLASSY
 NILOLA MARY ALANJANA
 ADRIENNE ENTIAN
 FIONA ANDERSON
 EILEN LANDESS
 KEN LAKATANI
 DONNA CAMPBELL
 LEBLANI MEDEL
 SOPHIE FAGAN
 VYVIE SHARMA
 KHULISANI NKALA
 MELISSA BALLESTERO
 BARBARA SAGE
 PETER TUN
 ANAKARATE DIAS
 STEPHEN PEARSON
 DAILEY CATALIA
 JANE MARY JONWWE
 GILBERT BARNEDO

ONYENACHI ORASI
 KAREN HUTTON
 JERMAIN WRIGHT
 JULIUS SANA
 LINNETTE CRUZ
 JULIET ALDER
 JOSON GAIT
 AMRIK BAMBOTRA
 BRIAN DARLINGTON
 JULIE OMAR
 LILLIAN MUZYVARE
 LIZ SPOONER
 ABDEL BABIKER
 CHARLES KWAME TANDOR
 MOHINDER SINGH DHATT
 PAUL KARASELE
 ANDREW KEVIN NWANIKWO
 JEANETTE MCKENNA
 JOSELITO HABAB
 AFUA FOHFI
 BARBHA BABU
 ROBERT BLACK
 VAN LANG HOANG
 IAN REYNOLDS
 ANN SHEPHERD
 SHARON BAMPFORD
 MEDHAT ATALLA
 LOUISE CAMPBELL
 JULIANE CADBY
 SAMSON MAJA
 JENNIE SARLATAN
 TARIQ SHAFI
 RUTENDO MUKOTSANJERA
 AUGUSTINE AGYEI-MENSAH
 RACHEL MAKOMBE CHIKANDA

JOAN GRIMSHAW
 TONY REUBEN ERIAMIATOE
 LAURA TANNER
 LYNSAY COVENTRY
 SAMI SHOUSHA
 AIMEE O'ROURKE
 JOHN ALGOS
 AMANDA FORDE
 LIZ GLANISTER
 ELVIRA BUCU
 PAUL NUTT
 NEIL RUCH
 AMOR PADILLA
 KRISHAN AERDA
 GORDON BALLARD
 ANDY STAMP
 KAMLESH KUMAR MASSON
 JANE HERRITY
 BARRY ENGLAND
 RAJESH KALRAIYA
 ESTHER AKISANYA
 ANDY COLLIER
 ATE WILMA BANAAO
 NICK JOSEPH
 MICHAEL ALLEU
 JINELYN CARTER
 GLADYS MUJAJATI
 BRIAN MUELLER
 SIMON GUEST

AUKUMAR KUTTIKOTTU PAVITHRAN
 JOSPHINE MATSKE MANINI PETER
 ANTON SERASTIAPILIA
 JERMAIN WRIGHT
 WILLIAM BRODIE
 KAREN HUTTON
 STEPHANIE WILCOCKS
 LINDA CLARKE
 AND DICKSON
 MARIA VICTORIA PRADO
 KHALID JAMIL
 ADI RAYMOND
 ANDREW TREBLE
 WILLIAM BRODIE
 AKEENA WALESTEN
 GLEN CORBIN
 SYD ZISHAN HAIDER
 REBECCA HACEK
 ANDY HOWE
 POOJA SHARMA
 AMOJ EL SHARAHNI
 THOMAS HARVEY
 ERWIN SPANNAGL
 JOHN BOYLE
 ALFA SAADU
 ERIC LARREA ACELEAM
 HANCA PACHERS
 CHEYL WILLIAMS
 KEVIN SMITH
 RAHIMA BBI SHANJAE
 MAUREN ELLINGTON

Remembering legacies

Eid is also a time for celebration. We know that the families of many of our Muslim colleagues who lost their lives on the front line are missing their loved ones. We want them to know that we are thinking of them, their legacy lives on and they continue to inspire us everyday.

Further links:

ITV: <https://www.itv.com/news/2020-07-31/in-pictures-eid-celebrated-around-the-world>

Birmingham Central Mosque: <https://youtu.be/qRcibKfd-8c>

MDA memorial gallery: <https://www.muslimdoctors.org/muslimnsheroes>

The NHS Army

By Matthew Kelly

Read by Imam Mohammed Asad, Lead Imam at Birmingham Central Mosque

*I'll tell you a tale, that's been recently written,
Of a powerful army, so Great it saved Britain,
They didn't have bombs and they didn't have planes,
They fought with their hearts and they fought with their brains,*

*They didn't have bullets, armed just with a mask,
We sent them to war, with one simple task,
To show us the way, to lead and inspire us,
To protect us from harm and fight off the virus,*

*It couldn't be stopped by our bulletproof vests,
An invisible enemy, invaded our chests,
So we called on our weapon, our soldiers in Blue,
"All Doctors, All Nurses, Your Country needs you"*

*We clapped on our streets, hearts bursting with pride,
As they went off to war, while we stayed inside,
They struggled at first, as they searched for supplies,
But they stared down the virus, in the whites of its eyes,*

*They leaped from the trenches and didn't think twice,
Some never came back, the ultimate price,
So tired, so weary, yet still they fought on,
As the virus was beaten and the battle was won,*

*The many of us, owe so much, to so few,
The brave and the bold, our heroes in Blue,
So let's line the streets and remember our debt,
We love you, our heroes, Lest we forget.*



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*We would like to thank our campaign partners **Turn To Love** for working with us to deliver this campaign and all the mosques and organisations that supported the campaign.*