



**Conservative
Muslim Forum**

Building Bridges

An event was held by Building Bridges which is an organisation that is engaging with both Christian and Muslim communities in order to bring them together and highlight their many similarities and promoting interfaith dialogue.

CLr Raza Anjum (member of the Executive Committee) was presented with a Building Bridges Award at the event to recognise his considerable work in promoting peace, harmony and interfaith dialogue both in the United Kingdom and Pakistan. Lord Sheikh also attended and spoke at the meeting.

Barry celebrates Eid al-Adha

Muslims in the Vale of Glamorgan celebrated Eid al-Adha. As part of the day's celebrations Muslims attended the Mosque on Holton Road for morning prayers and were joined by the commander of the Vale police, Superintendent Jay Dave and Police Sergeant Bernard Sullivan from Barry police station.

Moawia Bin-Sufyan, Chairman of the Conservative Muslim Forum Wales and member of the South Wales Police Authority, who arranged the visit, said: "Eid al-Adha, the Feast of Sacrifice, is meant to commemorate Prophet Abraham's willingness to sacrifice his son on God's orders and takes place at the end of the Hajj (pilgrimage). The holiday is a time for family, friendship and goodwill, a time for forgiveness and making amends and coming together."

Dinner for orphanages and schools in Bangladesh at Witney



At the invitation of Yousef Miah (Member of the Executive Committee) Lord Sheikh attended a dinner organised by the NiinaMaria Foundation in order to raise funds for an orphanage and schools in Bangladesh. Yousef Miah was also involved in arranging the dinner which took place in Witney, Oxfordshire (David Cameron's constituency).

During his speech Lord Sheikh referred to the satisfaction people obtain by donating and undertaking charitable work particularly relating to orphans.

Presentation to Dolphin Children's Unit at Croydon University Hospital

Mike Mogul (member of the Executive Committee) organised a charity dinner held in the Houses of Parliament to raise funds in order to purchase items for Dolphin Children's Unit at Croydon University Hospital. In conjunction with the hospital, Mike Mogul acquired motorised toy vehicles, computers, TV screens and medical equipment.

The items were presented to the Dolphin Children's Unit by Lord & Lady Sheikh, Gavin Barwell (MP for Croydon Central) and Mike Mogul. The Chief Executive of the Hospital, Mr Nick Hulme, was also present.

Islamic Cultural Centre and London Central Mosque Exhibition Opening



Lord Sheikh was asked to attend the opening of "Muhammad - A Mercy to Mankind", a permanent exhibition at the Islamic Cultural Centre and the London Central Mosque. Lord Sheikh in fact cut the ribbon to officially open the exhibition with His Excellency Dr Abdullah bin Abdulmuhsin Al-Turki (Secretary General, Muslim World League) and His Excellency Mr Khaled Al Duwaisan (Ambassador to Kuwait).

Lord Sheikh is a supporter of the exhibition as it does convey the true message of Islam and has examples of the glorious history of Muslims over the centuries.

Havant Conservative Association

Lord Sheikh was the Guest Speaker at a dinner organised by the Havant Conservative Association. Lord Sheikh talked about his business and political activities and the role of the Conservative Muslim Forum. He also told several amusing stories and anecdotes which did entertain the audience.

Merton Muslim Interfaith Forum

Mr Mohammed Rana (former Member of the Executive Committee) organised the Inaugural Interfaith Conference for the Merton Muslim Interfaith Forum of which he is the Chairman. Lord Sheikh attended and spoke at the Conference. The event was also attended by religious leaders of the Jewish and Christian faiths, the Mayor of Merton and leaders of the Merton Council. In his speech Lord Sheikh mentioned that according to Islam, the Jews, Muslim and Christians are people of the Book and furthermore there are similarities between Islam and Sikhism.

Role of the Righteous Muslims



The Conservative Muslim Forum launched the book "The Role of the Righteous Muslims" in a Committee Room in the House of Lords. The book was edited by Fiyaz Mughal OBE and Esmond Rosen and is aimed at broadening knowledge and awareness of some Muslims who risked personal danger to save Jews during the Holocaust. The book shows that there are many stories of positive Muslim and Jewish interaction even at the darkest moments in history.

On the cover of the book there is a quotation from the Holy Quran "Whoever saves one life saves all of mankind" and also a quotation from the Talmud "If you save one life, it is as if you have saved the world."

The Conservative Muslim Forum is involved in building harmonious relationships between people of different racial and religious groups.

National Association of Muslim Police Awards

Lord Sheikh and Mohammed Amin were invited by the National Association of Muslim Police to attend their annual awards ceremony and Lord Sheikh was asked to present the Young Person's Award.

Lord Sheikh in his speech emphasised the point that it is important that the achievements of young Muslims are recognised. He said that in his speech in the House of Lords recently he referred to this point. He urged Muslims to be involved in every walk of life in the United Kingdom and also think about joining the police force and the army as there are many successful careers for them to follow.



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**PLEASE GET INVOLVED
JOIN THE CONSERVATIVE MUSLIM FORUM - EVERYONE CAN APPLY**



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About Us

The Conservative Muslim Forum was founded in 2005. It is an active organisation and is based at Conservative Campaign Headquarters and the Executive Secretary is Shaheen Mahmood. The Executive Committee meets regularly on a monthly basis. There is communication between the Executive Secretary, the Executive Committee, and Members and Supporters of the Forum. The Constitution of the Forum lists nine objectives which include the following:

- a) Engage with Muslims of all persuasions and encourage them to participate in political life at all levels, from grassroots to Parliament.
- b) Engage with Muslims and all other communities and encourage them to support and vote for the Conservative Party.
- c) Undertake campaigning for the Conservative Party at elections and other times.

In order to deal with the various issues, CMF has established the following groups: **CMF Women, CMF Health, CMF Youth, CMF Councillors, CMF Wales, CMF Northwest**

CMF Annual General Meeting - 28th January 2011

A number of CMF members attended the AGM which was held in Committee Room 4A of the House of Lords. In addition, two non-members, Mr Iqbal Asaria CBE and Mr Paul Riat OBE attended to act as scrutineers, supervising the issue of ballot papers and then counting the votes.

The Treasurer, Navshir Jaffer, presented the CMF's accounts to the meeting, and they were approved.

Under the CMF Constitution, the office bearers and members of the Executive are elected for three year terms.

The Chairman Lord Sheikh, the Vice Chairman Mohammed Amin and the Treasurer Navshir Jaffer were re-elected unopposed. The post of Secretary was contested and Cllr Arif Hussain was re-elected.

Sixteen individuals stood for the nine places on the Executive. Those elected were Lady Sheikh, Dr Farrukh Hussain, Cllr Raza Anjum, Cllr Mohammed Bhatti, Samir Thantrey, Ali Azeem, Karim Sacoor and Yousuf Miah.

CMF Health Event with Rt. Hon. Andrew Lansley CBE MP

The Conservative Muslim Forum held a meeting in the House of Lords which was attended by the Rt. Hon. Andrew Lansley CBE MP, Secretary of State for Health. The arrangements for the meeting on 24th May 2011 were made by Dr Farrukh Hussain, Chair of the Health Group of the CMF.

There was an initial speech by Lord Sheikh who commented that the NHS does require reforming and as a businessman he felt that the questions of bureaucracy, overmanning and utilisation of the funds in a proper manner needed to be addressed. There was also a short speech made by Dr Farrukh Hussain.

Andrew Lansley, in his speech, asserted that competition for services would not result in the privatisation of the NHS. He also said "We need to have a fair system for providers in a level playing field. We must make sure we develop the payment system and ensure it's payment for outcomes not payment for activities, through monitor for the sustainability of what they do, so we don't lose key services."

Following Andrew Lansley's speech there were a cross-section of questions put to Andrew Lansley and questions were asked by GPs, hospital doctors and non-medical attendees in rotation.



CMF Eid al-Adha Function



The Conservative Muslim Forum, arranged a function at Westminster House, 7 Millbank to celebrate the Muslim Festival of Eid al-Adha which is held to commemorate the willingness of Prophet Abraham to sacrifice his son for Allah.

The Chief Guest was the Rt. Hon. Andrew Mitchell MP (Secretary of State for International Development). The other VIP guests who attended and spoke were Baroness Sayeeda Warsi (Minister without Portfolio & Co-Chairman of the Conservative Party), Lord Tariq Ahmad, Dr Rami Ranger MBE, Syed Kamall MEP and Imam Asim Hafiz (Imam of the Armed Forces).

The Quranic recital was made by Imam Asim Hafiz who recited Surah Maryam (Chapter on Mary, mother of Jesus). The event was very well attended despite the inclement weather and student protests! The attendees included community leaders and members of various racial and religious groups.

Conservative Party Conference 2010



The Conservative Muslim Forum had a stand at the Conservative Party Conference 2010 in Birmingham. Several Parliamentarians visited the stand as well as many people who were interested in our work and discussions were held on a variety of subjects.

Visitors to our stand included Theresa May MP, Andrew Mitchell MP, Nick Gibb MP, Caroline Spelman MP, Eric Pickles MP, David Lidington MP, Sajid Javid MP, Angie Bray MP, Andrew Stephenson MP, George Eustice MP, Brian Binley MP, Lord Marland, Lord Andrew Feldman, Sajjad Karim MEP, Syed Kamall MEP and various other dignitaries.

Young Muslim Beacon Awards



Lord Sheikh hosted a reception and dinner on the terrace and Cholmondeley Room in the House of Lords. The occasion was to present awards to organisations for their outstanding contributions to young Muslims in the United Kingdom.

Lord Sheikh in his speech commented that it is appropriate that these awards were termed "beacon" awards as the winners would act as role models and be a light for others to emulate.

Campaigning by CMF

CMF is actively involved in campaign work and promotes the Conservative Party at all times.

Please let us know if we can help in any way.

CMF AV Debate



The Conservative Muslim Forum held a debate in the House of Lords Committee Room 4A on the subject of the Alternative Vote system ahead of the referendum on Thursday 5th May. The main speakers were Cllr Rene Kinzett (Conservative Leader of Swansea Council) speaking for AV and Kwasi Kwarteng MP for Spelthorne speaking against AV.

The debate was organised and very ably chaired by Cllr Imran Khan (Member of the Executive Committee). Both sides put forward their various points and that was followed by a Q & A session. Attendance at the meeting was good and a number of questions were asked. Lord Sheikh very briefly gave an overview towards the end of the debate.

CMF Youth hosts Nick Boles MP

The Conservative Muslim Forum Youth Wing, chaired by Cllr Raza Anjum, invited Nick Boles MP to come and speak to members of the CMF on the subject of "What the coalition is doing to build one nation", and the event was well attended.



Cllr. Raza Anjum initially welcomed everyone and said a few words. He was followed by Lord Sheikh who spoke briefly before handing over to Nick Boles MP who spoke and then held a question and answer session following his talk.

Armed Forces Muslim Association Eid Gathering



Lord Sheikh and Mohammed Amin attended the Eid Gathering organised by the Armed Forces Muslim Association. The event was held at the Officer's Mess at RAF Northolt. The principal guest at the event was General Sir David Richards KCB CBE DSO ADC Gen, Chief of the Defence Staff, Head of the British Armed Forces and Patron of the Armed Forces Muslim Association.

Lord Sheikh in his speech explained the significance of Eid in other major religions and encouraged ethnic minorities to join the Armed Forces and the police force and said that they need to get involved in every walk of life.

Lord Sheikh also acknowledged the sacrifices that Muslims and ethnic minorities have made in the World Wars and expressed his gratitude to Armed Forces personnel for the risks they bear.

Burton on Trent



A meeting was organised by the Conservative Party Association in Burton-on-Trent, Lord Sheikh and Mohammed Amin were asked to address the audience. The other speakers were Andrew Griffiths MP for Burton-on-Trent and Cllr Khadim Thathall.

Lord Sheikh spoke on his activities in the House of Lords, the AV Referendum, the Big Society, the economy and the education policies of the Conservative Party. Mohammed Amin spoke on the need for Muslims to get more involved in politics, both at local and national level. He also spoke on why Muslims should join the Conservative Party.