



# NATIONAL CHARITY WALK FOR PEACE

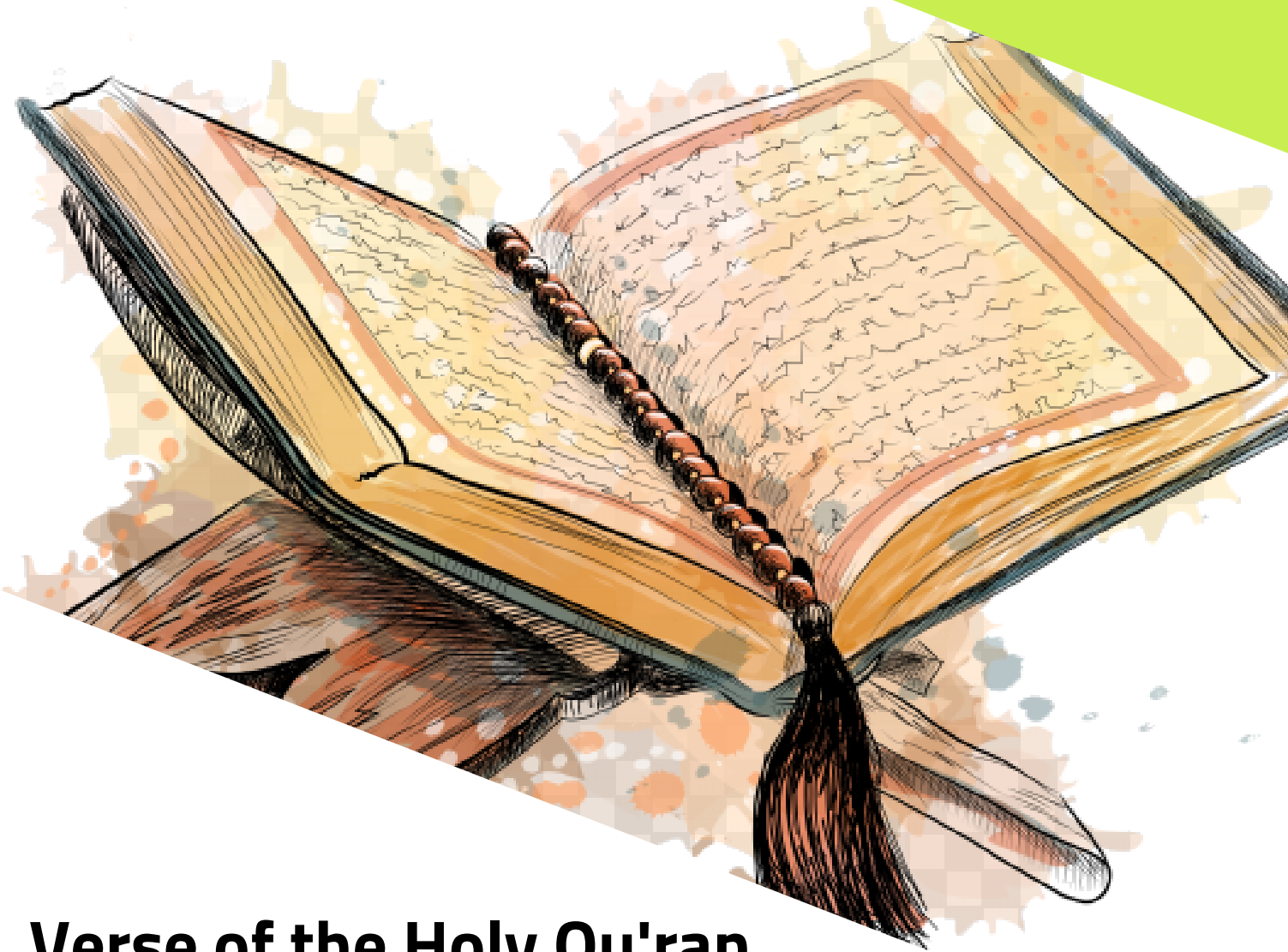
September 2021

Charity Walk for Peace hosted an historic day of national “all-regions” events on Sunday 19th September 2021 at various locations around the UK.

## COVID PRECAUTIONS

Due to the ongoing COVID-precautions, the attendance was carefully managed at all our events to limit the number of guests attending, however the social media platforms were actively used to create worldwide awareness. The event was chaired by the National Vice President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK, Mr Akram Ahmedi, and commenced with the recitation of the Holy Quran.

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## Verse of the Holy Qu'ran

يَسْأَلُونَكَ مَاذَا يُنْفِقُونَ ۗ قُلْ مَا أُنْفِقْتُمْ مِنْ خَيْرٍ

فَلِلْوَالِدَيْنِ وَالْأَقْرَبِينَ وَالْيَتَامَىٰ وَالْمَسْكِينِ وَ

ابْنِ السَّبِيلِ ۗ وَمَا تَفْعَلُوا مِنْ خَيْرٍ فَإِنَّ اللَّهَ بِهِ عَلِيمٌ ﴿٢١٦﴾

## Translation

They ask thee what they shall spend. Say: 'Whatever of good and abundant wealth you spend should be for parents and near relatives and orphans and the needy and the wayfarer. And whatever good you do, surely Allah knows it well.'

Holy Qu'ran: Chapter 2, verse 216



# Nationwide Events

A nationwide simultaneous effort was made by all regions of the UK to hold charity events.

The Scotland Region held a Cheque Presentation.

The following regions held Charity Walks

North-West

North-East x 2 walks

East Midlands

West Midlands

Hertfordshire

East

South

Muqami x 2 walks (Hampshire)

Nasir x 4 walks (Middlesex)

Wales & the Southwest

**A total of 15 walks**

The National Charity Walk for Peace was held in Morden, Surrey at the largest Mosque in Western Europe.

The regions who managed this event were Baitul Ehsan, Baitul Futuh, Bashir, Fazal, Masroor, Noor and Tahir.

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## The stars of the event

Our stars of the event were these two amazing students from Gordon's School.

The very experienced pipers marched the participants of the Charity Walk for Peace from the start of the walk to the exit gates of the Baitul Futuh Mosque whilst playing the pipes. Charity Walk for Peace thank the students and their senior Pipe Major, Mrs Iona Scotson.

A big thank you also to the standard bearer who marched with them - Mr Tom Dempsey - an Army veteran aged 84.

Our gratitude to Peter Wakeham from the RBL, a very dear friend who made all this possible.



## **The National Vice President, Mr Akram Ahmedi, National Vice President of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community UK, chaired the event.**

“The Charity Walk for Peace and its activities are very important and a dedicated spiritual work. The founder of the community, Hazrat Mirza Ghulam Ahmad, may peace be upon him, mentioned that there are 2 purposes in life. One is to serve God and worship Him, and the second is to look after His creation. So these charitable works are within the second part – looking after His creation. And its not only to look after mankind but to look after all His creation, including animals, and looking after our environment such as climate change.

It gives us great pleasure this year to sign the Armed Forces Covenant – that is also very important to us. May God continue to support the Royal British Legion and the wonderful work they have done for the last 100 years and we shall also support them in all the ways we can.



# Special Guests

THE RT HON DOMINIC RAAB, MP  
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, LORD  
CHANCELLOR, AND SECRETARY OF  
STATE FOR JUSTICE

Thank you so much for the invitation and thanks to the AMA for all that you do. Its an incredible and positive expression of peace and the wider sense of justice. I hadn't realised but the Walk for Peace has been going for I think 36 years now and you've raised millions upon millions of pounds for over 500 charities. But again I think particularly in this moment in time for the country to find you all coming together from such diverse backgrounds is a incredibly positive, fantastic expression of a community coming together and our communities coming together. I think there could never be a more important time for us to have that.

This year again my understanding is that the walk for peace will be in memory of all those who lost their lives to Covid and I guess as we think back over what has been a really gruelling 18 months I personally I think many people will find a source of solace that we're coming together that you're doing it is all for Peace and bring the community together and bring the country together and because it is that sense of community and national spirit that has seen us through the dark days of the pandemic so in many ways I think your optimising and galvanising a sense of community spirit in an absolutely fantastic way.



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# Special Guests

CLLR TRISH FIVEY - THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF SUTTON  
CLLR ANNIE MORAL – DEPUTY MAYOR OF SUTTON







## Special Guests

### MRS LYNN COOPER, HIGH SHERRIFF OF GREATER LONDON

"Thank you very much, it's a huge pleasure to be here. I was invited to a really wonderful dinner a month ago in Newham, where one of the first charity walk for peace receptions were held. I learned more about the fantastic work that is done in the name of peace in the broadest sense but peace in our communities bringing help to the suffering as we've heard but also providing much needed help that would have been undoubtedly extremely difficult time for virtually all of us but for some even more so. It's a great privilege indeed to be here to stand before you - I'm going to try and join in this walk to show how much we appreciate what you are doing and be a part of this. The money that has been raised over the years I think is truly phenomenal for all sorts of local charities and also national and international and I think never more is it necessary for us to join together to provide help and relief and succour and encouragement to us all. So I think it's fantastic even though perhaps is not the size that it would normally be in normal times but we are here out and about doing the work to support each other so the work that this charity does and work the community does is completely terrific.

Finally, if I may say. my mother when I first met her used to use words "noble work" and I'm not sure I quite understood that then but I do now and I think you do truly noble work and I'm delighted to be here to support and thank you all.

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CHARITY WALK  
for PEACE



## Special Guests

COUNCILLER MIKE BRUNT

HIS WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR OF MERTON

"It is an absolute pleasure to host the National Charity Walk for Peace in association with a community that does so much not only in Morden, but nationally in every corner of the UK.

Your work is exemplary, and we are proud to have the Mosque – the largest in Western Europe, here in our borough, where each and every worshipper is spreading the message of Love for All Hatred None.

# Special Guests

SALMAAN NASSER

THE FOREST OF MEMORIES  
FOUNDER AND CHIEF VISION OFFICER

"Our vision to celebrate the lives and achievements of those lost during the Covid-19 pandemic to inspire the next generation. We are planting forests up and down the UK with trees being dedicated to those that have been lost due to the pandemic. We have come with a unique way to remember these lost souls and their good deeds. We have created something called a memory tree. We plant trees for each loved one and link that physical tree to an online dedication or memorial. A place to learn, a place to heal and a place to remember.



# Special Guests

## GRAHAM FERRIS – ROYAL BRITISH LEGION

"Good morning everyone and thank you so much for inviting me to be part of the signing of the Armed Forces Covenant in this our 100 years British Legion celebration. It is so wonderful to be back amongst you - to be back amongst our friends at the Mosque. We have always been so welcome and you have supported us over many, many years. As it's just been mentioned that back in 2019 we launched the East Surrey Poppy Appeal from the Mosque and I believe it is the first time a bugler has played within a Mosque environment. I would like to take this opportunity to thank those in the community that support the Poppy Appeal. I've seen at least two Poppy Appeal Organisers here that go out in all weathers. They organise their volunteers; they support the Poppy Appeal; they raise hundreds of thousands of pounds every year. I would like to sincerely thank everyone here that that has done that and has stood on rainy street corners in November to support our Armed Forces community. The red poppy is a symbol of remembrance and unites us all across faiths, all cultures and all backgrounds. It is my honour and my privilege to be here today and wish everyone taking part today a safe and enjoyable event. Thank you very much everybody.



# Special Guests

PAUL SCULLY - MP

"It's so nice to be together. It's been many, many months since I have been with you at the Baitul Futuh Mosque. It is so lovely to see so many friends after building up our relationship over so many years.

I want to say thank you to you for the work you have done for your community – the Ahmadiyya Muslim community, and for all communities, reaching out supporting them through their hour and months of need.





## Special Guests

JONATHAN LORD - MP

"I bring warm greetings from Woking. It came as no surprise to me that when Covid struck that your community played a very important role in terms of supporting people in need.

I visited a hugely successful vaccine centre run entirely by your community. I am also here today to thank you for supporting our Royal British Legion.



## Special Guests

CLLR MARK ALLISON – LEADER OF MERTON COUNCIL

"I am delighted that we can have a Charity Walk for Peace today. It's a real honour for us in Merton as well that you are based here in Morden. In this - that largest Mosque in Western Europe. It's a terrific thing for our community that you are here. Contributing so richly to our wonderful community. And it's very touching and very kind of you that the cause for this year's Charity Walk for Peace is assisting people affected by the coronavirus.

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# Vice President

DR MANSOOR SAQI

"The religion of Islam teaches us to serve humanity and to promote peace, understanding and goodwill. The founder of the Ahmadiyya Muslim Community, the Promised Messiah, peace be on him, has written:

**Be kind and merciful to humanity for all are His creatures. Do not oppress them with your tongue, your hands, or in any other way. Always work for the good of mankind.**

And further the Promised Messiah (peace be on him) has written:

**Each day every person should analyse himself and see to what extent he is concerned for others and to what extent he shows love and compassion to his brothers. Compassion for others is a huge demand and responsibility that weighs heavy on mankind .**

The Charity Walk for Peace captures the spirit and brings people together for a common cause of helping those in need.



# Special Guests

STEPHEN HAMMOND - MP

We learnt things through the Covid crisis and its only right that today's event should be commemorating all those who died and the many who suffered. One of the things we learnt in Merton is the extraordinary spirit of the local community where people spontaneously went out either in small ways to help others, set up food banks, helped with food delivery, and that optimised two things. Firstly that there is a huge amount of good community spirit and goodwill for neighbours and that charity often begins at home and this is not something I have to tell anyone in this room. I have attended many of your events over the last 20 years, that your community realises that charity is at the heart of everything you do. And you also recognise is that home is not only where you live, or the country you live in or indeed continent, home is the whole world in which we live in and to look after one another.



# Special Guests

DURDANA ANSARI OBE, HONORARY CAPTAIN, ROYAL NAVY

"Everyone good afternoon I am delighted to be here today as the first Muslim woman to be serving in the Royal Navy representing the First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff at the signing of the Armed Forces Covenant by Charity Walk for Peace organised by the Ahmadiyya Muslim Elders Association.



# MESSAGE FROM THE FIRST SEA LORD AND CHIEF OF NAVAL STAFF

The First Sea Lord and Chief of Naval Staff has the following message:

Mr. President, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen,  
Asalamo Alaikum.

The signing of the covenant marks a recognition of the value of serving personnel both regular and reservists, our veterans, and importantly military families contribute to our community and our country.

I have always been a firm believer that Her Majesty's Armed Forces reflect the society that they represent.

In the past with major conflicts in the 20th century it was easy for people to understand the military. Many people served in uniform or had family members who had served. When the Royal British Legion was founded 100 years ago, after the First World War, those links were strong but as the time went on our society changed - the links between the services and the society were no longer as close.

This is for me personally a very special day as I have had my fellow honorary officers have been working with the Royal Navy for several years to help rebuild links between the services and the British public.

Thank you all for choosing to show your support and signing the Armed Forces Covenant today.

Thank you very much.

# Special Guests

## BRIGADIER PAUL EVANS OBE

"I would like, as President of Surrey Royal British Legion and on behalf of our chairman of all legion branches and members within Surrey to congratulate you on the commitments you have made within the Armed Forces Covenant. With your considerable help we within Surrey we have been able to make a significant contribution to the nations efforts to raise money and much needed funds. We have benefited so much so much from the support you have given to the legion over the years. The efforts of so many volunteers, many here today, to organise events and collect donations on our behalf. We have been really fortunate that the Royal British Legion boundaries place Morden within the Surrey Royal British Legion area. This has provided for us a unique opportunity to develop such a strong bond and effective relationship with the Mosque and with the Association. It is a genuine partnership of two organisations that have strong values and a deep commitment to support those who are less fortunate then ourselves.









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Save the Children

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Every day and in times of crisis. Transforming children's lives and the future we share.



Don't let me down.

Children Will you?

Save the Children

WE DO WHATEVER IT TAKES

Every day and in times of crisis. Transforming children's lives and the future we share.

Jalsa Salana  
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# Contact Us



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*Charity Walk for Peace is an initiative of the  
Ahmadiyya Muslim Elders Association UK*