

# Islam Awareness Week

*This year, Islam Awareness Week took place from 23-29 May 2016. This is an annual national event which was established by the Islamic Society of Britain in 1994.*

*It is a week when there is heightened media and public interest in Islam and therefore provides an excellent opportunity for Ahmadi Muslims to promote a better understanding of the peaceful teachings of Islam and to create a positive interest in Islam. Lajna were encouraged to hold exhibitions, school talks, seminars, and study circles as many establishments are more receptive to hearing from us and displaying posters and/or literature during this time. This was combined with Lajna's on-going commitment to serve their communities and highlight the service of humanity as an essential tenet of Islam.*

*The following is a snapshot of Lajna's initiatives across the UK during this week.*



### Mini Packs of Sweets and Information sheets

For Islam Awareness Week, **Manchester South** Lajna put together small packages of sweets and a mini information sheet. The information sheet included messages of peace, sayings from the Holy Prophet (peace be upon him), translations of Urdu Poem "*Islam se na bhago*", as well as information sent by the local Nasirat secretary and an article from the local Tarbiyyat secretary. These sheets were put into little packets of sweets and more than 90 packs were distributed to Tabligh contacts.



### Exhibition

A two-day exhibition on Peace and Humanity First was held between Monday 23 May and Wednesday 25 May at St. John's Centre in Old Trafford. The exhibition provided a great opportunity for Tabligh with several guests enquiring about Ahmadiyyat and others sympathising with the persecution of Ahmadis worldwide.





On Thursday 25 May 2016, **Blackburn Lajna** held a library exhibition on Islam Awareness. It was a successful event- 30 Holy Qurans were on display in different languages. All visitors were very inspired by the Exhibition. When a guest named Gail read the verses of the Holy Quran she began crying. Another guest commented that she was happy to see a peaceful message. The library staff were so impressed that they have offered Blackburn Lajna several other opportunities for organising exhibitions.





About 50 people took interest in the exhibition and were given leaflets and literature.

## COMMENTS FROM GUESTS

*'It is an excellent exhibition spreading the word of Peace'*

*'Everything is so lovely and meeting you lovely people made my day'*

*'We could feel your Peace'*







**Kate Green MP**

Working for you in Stretford and Urmston



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As part of Islam Awareness Week, ladies from The Ahmadiyya Muslim Women's Association North West have generously donated a number of hampers to the Stretford food bank. Pictured are local women Rubina Ahmedi and Mariam Mir presenting the hampers to Paul Guest, food bank Chair, in the presence of local MP Kate Green.

The ladies help at the food bank as volunteers and on collection days, when volunteers at local Tesco stores collect donations for the food bank from shoppers. Hampers have also been given to care homes and hospitals in the region. Last month women donated 30 hampers to women's shelters across the North West. The ladies are very active and devote a lot of time helping other organisations and serving humanity.

At a peace symposium in November they raised £2,000 for Macmillan and featured on BBC Radio Manchester, BBC Radio Lancashire, ALL FM and Radio Salford.

"The aim of Islam Awareness Week (which ran from 23rd May to 29th May 2016) is to increase awareness of the peaceful teaching of the faith. As part of the week, an exhibition took place at St John's centre in Old Trafford, while girls aged 7-14 have written poems for a blog about Why I Love My Faith. The community's motto is Love for all, hatred for none, and the ladies hope that the week will help to address the negative stories about Islam that are too often portrayed in the media with positive ones."





# Ilford Recorder

## Poems and art at Barkingside library to explain Qu'ran during Islam Awareness Week

11:48 26 May 2016 | Chloe Farand

Islam Awareness Week



Hannah Ahmad, 10, with her artwork

Islam Awareness Week



Suhle Hayat age 11 with her artwork

During Islam Awareness Week, which runs this week until Sunday, a Muslim charity arranged a display to explain the teaching of the Qu'ran. The Ahmadiyya Muslim Women's Association, based in Redbridge, organised the event at Fullwell Cross library, High Street, Barkingside. The younger members of the group wrote poems and drew pictures to illustrate the teaching of Islam.

The association also collected £80 and six bags of food for women; they will donate to women's refuge centres for victims of domestic violence in the area.

Samina Siddiqi, vice president of the north Redbridge branch of the association, which has the slogan "Love for All, Hatred for None", said: "We want to spread a message that people should love and care for each other and respect one another."

The Islam Awareness Week is organised by the Islamic Society of Britain to promote better understanding of Islam in Britain.

[http://www.ilfordrecorder.co.uk/news/poems\\_and\\_art\\_at\\_barkingside\\_library\\_to\\_e](http://www.ilfordrecorder.co.uk/news/poems_and_art_at_barkingside_library_to_e)

Islam Awareness Week



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## Muslims show respect through gifts to elderly in Dagenham

🕒 13:00 29 May 2016 | Sebastian Murphy-Bates



*Roy Edwards and Frank Halverson receive gifts from the Ahmadiyya muslim community*

Ahmadiyya Muslims from Barking brought gifts to the elderly in a bid to spread their message of "love for all, hatred for none".

Bringing hampers of fruit, bunches of flowers and tins of biscuits, the Barking branch of the minority Muslim organisation hoped to honour what it believes to be a central principle of Islam – charity.

Saimah Ahmed, 37, said looking out for the elderly is a key part of her faith after she and four other women dropped off their donations at Chestnut Care Home in Frizlands Lane, Dagenham.

"The elderly in Islam are given a lot of respect because of their age and experience," she said. "The residents were really happy with our donations and we enjoyed the visit.

Saimah said the donations on Tuesday last week were given as part of Islamic Awareness Week, which she believes gives Muslims everywhere an opportunity to showcase the finest parts of their faith.

"Islamic awareness week is a good time to raise awareness about real Islamic teachings," she said. "The key thing is about peace and caring for people in the community – this is what Islam is about."

Saimah said the ladies' group that visited the home will continue to support the elderly in Barking and Dagenham and hopes to donate to the home again soon.






# Key Social Media Activity



 **rubina ahmedi** @rubinaahmedi · May 31  
Ahmadi women on London peace walk #IAW2016 raising money for charities

 **Jamil** @mwanjejamal  
#hijab #Ahmadiyya Muslim women on streets of #London raising funds for UK charities @LajnaUK @LBC @SkyNews @kingstonnews

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 Ahmadiyya UK Retweeted

 **Lajna Ima'illah UK** @LajnaUK · May 27  
#IAW2016 MT @rubinaahmedi Today at food bank with MP Kate Green, her nominated charity. fb doing a great job ! 🍷



38 24

**Tweet**  

 **Kate Green**   
@KateGreenSU



Well done to Ahmadiyya Muslim Women's Assoc NW marking Islam Awareness Week w donation of hampers to @stretfordfb