



Religion in the Media

An Interfaith Perspective!

"May you live in interesting times", goes the Chinese saying. In 21st century modern Britain, as a popular culture driven by an unprecedented no holds barred secularisation flourishes, inevitably those espousing overt religious sensibilities are finding the times interesting indeed. Consequently, the most influential tool leading the irreligious charge - The Media - was put under the spotlight at an interfaith gathering of Christians, Jews, and Muslims hosted by The [Lewisham Islamic Centre](#). Giving credence to this media charge was our esteemed guest speaker Reverend Richard "Communards" Coles, regular host of BBC Radio 4's Saturday Live programme.

Frank discussions followed, ranging from media disparaging and caricaturing of religion and religious personalities, to Stephen Fry and his "god delusion", Charlie Hebdo, the grossly biased UK PREVENT counter terrorism legislation, and societal Islamophobia. Yet, the overarching call for the different faiths to stand united, forbear and persevere in the face of such divisive politics and policies resonated loudest and engendered an optimism to take away. After all, with faith must follow positive action and the promise of untold treasures in a life yet unknown, on a wholly different plane. God willing.



Lewisham Islamic Centre would like to extend our gratitude to Reverend Richard "Communards" Coles for taking time out of his busy schedule to visit our mosque and grace our humble gathering with his august presence. We certainly hope to see much more of him very soon.

We would equally like to thank our Interfaith community - Reverend Charles Pickstone and St Laurence Church in Catford, Reverend Alan Race and St Margaret's Church in Lee, and Rabbi David Rome of The Catford and Bromley Synagogue, though he was unable to attend this time around. All of these institutions continue to offer invaluable advice and support to The Lewisham Islamic Centre and the Muslim community in the London Borough of Lewisham. May Almighty God bless you all.

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