



Lewisham Interfaith 'Peace Walk' 2015

A community organised event promoting peace!

The Messenger of Allah, Muhammad صلى الله عليه وسلم always worked to establish peace and justice which on many occasions included working with others. We witness the first ever instance of the Prophet's activism for cooperation when he became part of a campaign, an agreement called 'Hilful fudul', which has been translated as the 'League of the Virtuous' where he worked with others in acts of goodness and to undo excesses and injustice, in Makkah, when he was yet to be bestowed with prophet hood. He accorded so much importance to this effort that even after he was granted prophet hood, he time and again expressed his willingness to be part of any such movement, if invited to do so in working for the betterment of society.

On Sunday 31 May 2015 Lewisham Islamic Centre, forever proud to follow the path of the Prophet, joined hundreds of people from around the borough, for the 'Lewisham Interfaith Peace Walk'.



The day began at the Catford Synagogue, with various stopping-off points thereafter including stops to the Lewisham Methodist Church; the Civic Centre (Town Hall); the Lewisham Islamic Centre; Silvan Temple, Lewisham before concluding at the Police station.

The [Lewisham Islamic Centre](#) was particularly pleased to have had the honour of providing lunch to the hundreds of peaceful marchers who participated in the walk. Whilst at the Centre, a short presentation was given which included a reading from "Surah Al Rum" from the Glorious Qur'an, which coincidentally proved to be very apt as it was raining on the day. The verse was:

And among His Signs, He shows you the lightning, by way both of fear and of hope, and He sends down rain from the sky and with it gives life to the earth after it is dead: verily in that are Signs for those who are wise (Quran Chapter 30:24)

We were honoured to have joined hundreds of others in the walk for peace in a show of human solidarity and we are extremely proud of the Lewisham community's diversity on show. We were also pleased to have been joined by leaders of the community including Sir Steve Bullock, the Mayor of Lewisham, Kate Halpin, the Borough Commander, Heidi Alexander MP and many more.

We were however shocked to learn that this was the only walk of its kind in the UK. We had automatically assumed that this event would be one to be replicated all over the country, but sadly this wasn't the case, and only makes us feel even more proud to be part of such an inclusive community, a community which is leading the way in a time where many are questioning whether groups with differing values are able to coexist.