



## Racism Conference at LIC

### Remembering the Battle of Lewisham

**The Centre hosted the first of 3 Events in Lewisham**

On Friday the 11th of August 2017, Lewisham Islamic Centre (LIC) took part in remembering the 40th Year Anniversary of the 'Battle of Lewisham', with a series of commemorative talks.

After a welcoming address from Imam Shakeel Begg, the Conference commenced with two young girls - Rumaysa Said and Nasiba Muhammadi - from Lewisham Islamic Centre reading passages of the Qur'an.

Thereafter, various guest speakers spoke about the importance of Unity, and how communities must be united against Racism and other social ills.

Councillor Damien Egan (Cabinet Member for Housing), Councillor Paul Bell, Barrister Deshpal Panesar, Sister Rahimah Akinrinlode, Richard Abendorff and Amina Mangera - the latter two guests from Lewisham Anti-Racist Action Group - all took part in the Conference. Amina Mangera also highlighted the History of the 'Battle of Lewisham' that took place in 1977 and Barrister Deshpal Panesar also discussed aspects from the Race and Equality Act as well as mentioning struggles of the Sikh Community against Racism.



Islam has always played a major role against racism and, thus, we find inspiration in Malcolm X, the great Muslim Civil Rights Leader in America, who stated the following: "America needs to understand Islam, because this is the one religion that erases from its society the race problem."

In the Qur'an we find Allah (God) Almighty stating the following: "And of His signs is the creation of the heavens and the earth and the diversity of your languages and your colours. Indeed in that are signs for those of knowledge".

Lewisham Islamic Centre would like to extend its gratitude to the children who opened the Conference, all those who attended, and especially the guest speakers.





Thank you for reading! Don't forget to share as much as possible!

FOLLOW US ON SOCIAL MEDIA @LewishamMosque

