

GLMCC NEWSLETTER

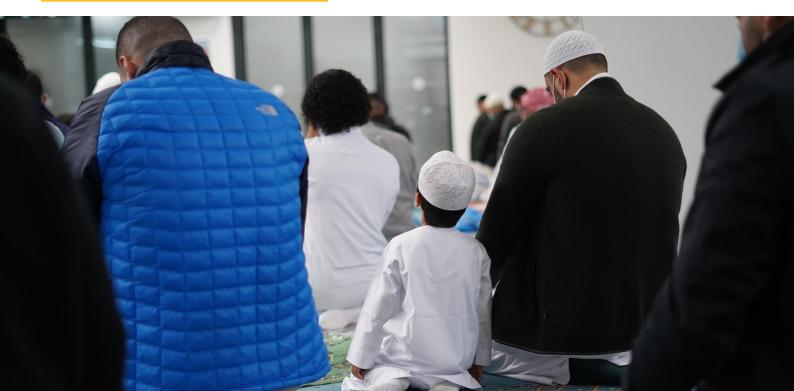
Jan – Jun 2021



Assalamu alaykum

(peace be upon you),

The first half of 2021 has just passed, and Alhamdulillah, we have been inundated with activities as always. It has been an interesting and eventful beginning to the year, and we look forward to sharing all of our recent work with you.



DAWAH

2021 opened with a surge of events for university students including weekly classes, Jumuah khutbas and interactive workshops. Alhamdulillah, this academic year we engaged with 22 Islamic societies and reached over 1000 students with our work. In February, we launched a new campaign called Ramadan Revolution.

The objective of this campaign was to help people strengthen their relationship with the Quran in preparation for Ramadan. Over Ramadan Sheikh Ahsan Hanif returned with his popular Tafseer class; this year reading through Tafseer As Sa'di. We also delivered workshops for the NHS and participated in a range of outreach activities including school visits, chaplaincy events and topical podcasts on current affairs.



Here are some key podcast episodes, educational videos and lectures that took place:

- Covid-19 and the vaccine
- The death of Sheikh Sanaullah Madni
- Journey with the Quran (Beyond the Mimbar podcast)
- Sahih Al Bukhari: The Book of Fasting a reading and commentary
- Iftar gone WRONG!
- My First Ramadan (Beyond the Mimbar podcast)
- He slept on LAYLATUL QADR!

- Al Aqsa & Palestine (khutbah)
- Tafseer As Sa'di (Ramadan series)
- Tazkiya Through the Quran (Ramadan series)
- Taraweeh prayers Ramadan 2021
- <u>Is Marriage Outdated? (Beyond the Mimbar podcast)</u>

WEEKLY CLASSES GLMCC



40 HADITHOn the call to Islam and the caller

Shaykh

Abu Usamah At-Thahabi

MONDAY AFTER MAGHRIB



SUNAN AT-TIRMIDHI

Shaykh
Abdul Hadi Al-Umari

SATURDAY 2.00PM

F S

RIYADH SALIHEEN

Shaykh **Zaka'ullah Saleem**TUESDAY AFTER MAGHRIB

AL-BAQARAH

Shaykh

TAFSEER OF SURAH

Mustafa Abu Rayyan

THURSDAY AFTER MAGHRIB



Shaykh **Abdul Hadi Al-Umari**

RIYADH SALIHEEN

SUNDAY 6.00PM



STORIES FROM THE QUR'AN (Urdu)

Shaykh **Hafeezullah Khan**

SUNDAY 2.00PM

Here are some of our highlights:

- We launched a major new campaign called Ramadan Revolution. <u>Click here</u> to watch our promotional video
- We produced videos and social media posts for Sha'ban, Valentine's day, April Fool's day, and Easter to offer Islamic guidance on these seasonal events
- Sheikh Mustafa Abu Rayyan delivered online workshops to the NHS on the important topics of Zakah and Ramadan
- We facilitated the daily distribution of iftar packs at the University of Birmingham
- Our outreach work this year has included visits from Cockshut Hill School and Connect Church
- Alhamdulillah, our regular lectures are all back onsite now and can be attended in a Covidsafe environment. Why not plan a visit, and attend one of our lectures during the week?

WELFARE







Faced with another challenging year, our welfare team have continued to work tirelessly over the last few months. We have recently welcomed a new domestic abuse worker to our team, and alhamdulillah she has been able to provide our staff with essential domestic violence training.

As a mosque, we consider it our priority to safeguard victims of domestic abuse and support families affected by this hidden crime. Furthermore, the need for these services is reflected in the 7% growth in police recorded domestic abuse crimes. Charities dealing with domestic abuse have also reported a surge in appeals for help since the start of the pandemic.

Here are some of our highlights:

- Hosting an Elders mental health webinar
- Hosting an approachable parenting webinar
- Being awarded a £5k grant by National Grid for our foodbank.
- Saleem Ahmed, Centre Manager at GLMCC was interviewed by Islam Channel on our welfare work
- We partnered with Islamic Relief in order to prepare over 500 parcels which were distributed to those most in need in Birmingham over the Winter. This had interview coverage by BBC Asia, BBC West Midlands, and Metro. (You can read our press statement here.)

COVID-19 Vaccination Centre

We opened our <u>Covid-19 Vaccination Centre</u> in partnership with NHS England and Masters Pharmacy group in March, to make it easier for those in our community who wish to take the vaccine. Notably, in June we recorded our busiest day – in which 700 vaccines were administered!



We have also been producing videos to provide guidance to the community surrounding Coronavirus Vaccines. GLM have been acutely aware of the high hesitancy rates amongst poorer and BAME communities, therefore our videos aim to dispel any conspiracy theories and myths surrounding the vaccines.

We have collaborated with doctors and Imams in order to provide correct, fact-based information on the vaccine in these videos - and ensure that members of the community are not making decisions based upon false information and highly fuelled emotions. You can read our press releases on <u>Vaccine Guidance</u> and <u>debates</u> using these links. You can also read more about our vaccination hub <u>here</u>.

)2

Page 03 —

Page 02







YOUTH

Alhamdulillah, our weekly 'Link Up' youth club has continued to provide young people with a safe, positive and Islamic environment, whereby they can relax and develop their character. Trained youth workers deliver sessions to promote personal growth and to help the youth discover their goals in life.

Here are some of our highlights:

- We held a webinar on Valentine's Day to guide youth on how to approach relationships with the opposite gender in a halal and appropriate manner
- During Ramadan we held a youth I'tikaf session with sheikh Mustafa Abu Rayyan
- Our weekly football club for children resumed
- Our canoeing sessions with former Olympian Andy Train also resumed Alhamdulillah

OPERATIONS

The operations team have remained vigilant to ensure the safety of all staff onsite, as well as our congregation members who attend daily prayers. Our team have regularly been attending weekly meetings with Public Health England to keep up to date with the latest guidance surrounding the virus.

Ramadan 2021

This year Alhamdulillah we were able to resume our nightly Taraweeh prayers for our community through two staggered congregations for brothers and sisters. For Eid Al Fitr, we once again had to cancel our popular Celebrate Eid event. Alhamdulillah, we were still able to hold Eid prayers onsite with 6 congregations to ensure that everyone had a chance to attend. We were joined by BBC Midlands Today, ITV News, Birmingham Mail amongst others, all of whom were keen to witness and share the celebration of Eid.

Here are some of our highlights:

- Our carpets were thoroughly cleaned on a regular basis as an added safety measure for our congregation
- The entire masjid was deep cleaned before Ramadan as we anticipated that each area would be heavily used on a daily basis
- We have been carrying out some building maintenance and construction work – such as repairing parts of our roof that have weakened over the years.
- A number of our offices have been completely refurbished
- We have continued to facilitate tens of funerals and offer our support to the bereaved in our community

FUNDRAISING

We recently purchased the land beside us as we are simply bursting at the seams.

Alhamdulillah, we have been able to raise a total of £350,000 for this extension!

This will allow for a future extension, which will be used to expand our key services, with a special focus on facilities for youth, sisters and overall prayer space. We also intend on running an extensive community consultation survey to ensure that the voice of the community is heard before we begin any construction work. For the time being, we will continue to receive rent from the existing tenants, until we have agreed on our future options inshaAllah.



Click here to support our land purchase project, and click here to hear Sheikh Abu Usamah's message to you from the roofs of GLMCC!

KICKSTART VACANCIES FOR 18-24

Are you a young person looking to work in a fast-paced, exciting but Islamic environment? If you are in receipt of Universal Credit and currently not in full time education or employment, this could be the perfect opportunity for you!

We have 7 fantastic new roles funded by the government's Kickstart scheme, which include:

- Admin assistant (Education)
- Admin assistant (Madrasah)
- Dawah online support
- Marketing officer

- Public speaker
- Quran teacher
- Services admin & operations assistant

TFGLM

During the peak of winter in January, the most vulnerable members of our local community were subject to brutal living conditions. Hunger, homelessness, and domestic abuse have unfortunately been exacerbated by the ongoing pandemic -as well as the displacement of asylum seekers and refugees. Therefore, GLMCC partnered with Islamic Relief to prepare over 500 food parcels which were distributed to those most in need in Birmingham.

GLMCC's humanitarian arm Task Force GLM (TFGLM) was more active than ever this Ramadan, raising nearly £1M through their fundraising activities! They worked closely with local charity partners like Islamic Relief and One Ummah and were able to oversee the distribution of aid at home and abroad. Notably, in our Ramadan Appeal with Islam Channel, over £100K was raised for GLM's bread factory project in Syria. You can read more about our Ramadan fundraising efforts in this Arab News article.



Ramadan 2021

In parallel, in the heart of Syria and Yemen, a special project was setup to feed chicken and rice meals to people who would normally never have access to meat. A total of 100K people were fed; 50K in Aleppo and Idlib in Syria and 50K in Sana, Yemen. A memorable Ramadan!

Following the shocking and disturbing attacks on Palestinian worshippers at Al Aqsa Mosque in the holy month of Ramadan, TFGLM also encouraged donations to provide emergency aid for our brothers and sisters who continue to be victims of ongoing persecution.

To donate to our projects and support our work, please <u>click here</u>.





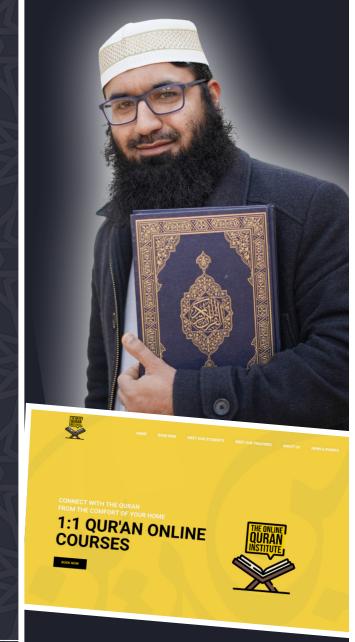
It was an eventful start to the year in the education department with the launch of module three of our Aqeedah, Fiqh and Hadith courses. Alhamdulillah, all of our education courses are delivered online for Muslims across the globe to benefit from. Following this was a busy exam period and the subsequent launch of module four of our courses.

Online Quran Institute

Alhamdulillah, the Education department launched a new major project called the Online Quran Institute, led by our very own Qari Zakaullah Saleem. Through this project, we hope to help Muslims across the world access highly qualified Quran teachers and build their connection with the Book of Allah. We offer a free 10-minute assessment, sponsored revert sessions, a 4-week tajweed course and 1:1 sessions. Here's your opportunity to transform you relationship with the Quran - click here for more information!

Here are some of our highlights:

- Alhamdulillah we continue with almost 400 children online for our weekly madrasah classes
- Urdu Bow Down started in February
- We launched a 6-week pre-Ramadan Tarbiyah course for sisters
- An exclusive Ramadan course was prepared for children
- Our Madrasah students took part in a Ramadan poster and poetry competition
- We released a 30-day Ramadan Dua challenge for children
- After Ramadan, all of our education classes and Madrasah restarted Alhamdulillah



Page 07 –

ISLAMWISE

There has been a flood of interest in Islam since the beginning of the pandemic last year. Since the beginning of 2021, we have witnessed 33 Shahadas – and this number increases weekly Alhamdulillah!



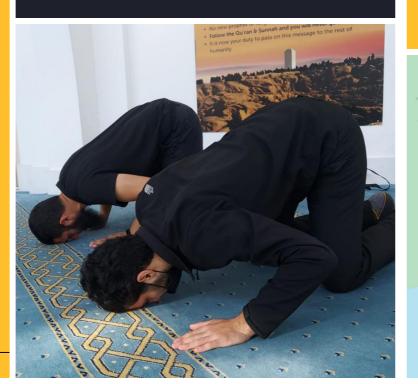
HIGHLIGHTS

Here are some of our highlights:

- Our monthly sisters' webinars have continued to serve as an important source of spiritual support for revert sisters.
- Hosted 4 online webinars including, Journey of the Soul with sheikh Mustafa Abu Rayyan, Ramadan the Best of Months with sheikh Abu Usamah, Overcoming Loneliness in Ramadan with sheikh Wasim Kempson and John Fontain.
- We published our 2020 Annual Report!
 Click here to access the full report.
- We published our Ramadan reflections blog, stories of reverts' most memorable Ramadan experiences, articles on selfimprovement and informative articles on days like International Women's day. <u>Click</u> here to access all of our articles and blogs.



- Launched a service in partnership with the Online Quran Academy to provide our revert brothers and sisters with <u>free Quran Lessons</u>; to date we have sponsored over 75 sessions alhamdulillah.
- For Eid this year we gave out over 75 gifts for reverts. Each gift contained a book, information on the sunnah actions to perform on Eid, a new scarf for the sisters, some perfume for the brothers and a sweet treat.
- We have distributed thousands of Qurans, dawah materials and books to dawah organisations, dawah tables and individuals across the world. Take a look at the range of services we have to offer on our website: www.islamwise.org/shop
- We hired a new operations and outreach assistant alhamdulillah, who will help us to increase our scope of support for new Muslims.
- We delivered 2 Arabic beginners courses for both brothers and sisters alhamdulillah.



JOIN OUR TEAM!

Text here maybe

Fundraising Support Officer

Marketing Officer

Welfare and Youth Services Manager

Macmillan Cancer and Community development officer

Brother's Office Administrator

Madrasah Deputy Head Teacher

1:1 Online Quran Teacher

Operations Manager (Exhibition Islam)

GLMCC ANNUAL REPORT AND ANNUAL VIDEO 2020

Alhamdulillah, we recently published our 2020 Annual Report. <u>Click here</u> to discover our key highlights, achievements and projects over the our most difficult year yet; the year of Covid-19.

<u>Click here</u> to watch our corresponding GLMCC Annual Video.



THE YEAR OF COVID

ANNUAL VIDEO 2020







GLMCC NEWSLETTER JAN - JUN 2021



- **■** info@**greenlanemasjid**.org
- ⊕ <u>www.greenlanemasjid.org</u>
- # 20 Green Lane, Small Heath, Birmingham, B9 5DB

Company Registration no. 06552666 | Charity Registration no. 1125833



