

# The Islamophobia Awards 2005

**Islamic  
Human Rights  
Commission**



A fundraising dinner  
and comedy event in aid of the  
Islamic Human Rights Commission

# Programme Mission statement

- 6.30 Introduction & Quran
- 6.45 Dinner
- 7.45 Tawashi
- 7.55 Awards
- 8.15 Comedian,  
Ahmed-Ahmed
- 8.35 Auction
- 9.10 Ahmed-Ahmed
- 9.30 Tawashi
- 9.40 Awards
- 10.00 A surprise  
performance...
- 10.15 Awards Conclude
- 10.35 Chairman's Speech:  
Recognising those  
who struggle against  
prejudice
- 10.55 Close

## THE ISLAMIC HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION: WHO WE ARE, WHAT WE DO AND WHAT WE HAVE DONE

**In the Name of Allah,  
the Most Merciful,  
the Most Compassionate**

### OUR MISSION

The Islamic Human Rights Commission (IHRC) aims to strive for a peaceful world without compromising on principles of justice and equity.

### OUR INSPIRATION

**“And what reason have you that you should not fight in the way of Allah and of the weak among the men and the women and the children, (of) those who say: Our Lord! Cause us to go forth from this town whose people are oppressors, and give us from Thee a guardian and give us from Thee a helper.”**

The Holy Qur'an:  
Chapter 4, Verse 75

### OUR BEGINNINGS

IHRC was set up in 1997 with the aim of defending the oppressed regardless of who they were and whoever oppressed them. We were also determined to counter the negativity surrounding Islam by proclaiming our faith as the basis of our work. Whether in the UK or abroad, IHRC has never shied away from controversy in its quest for long term solutions to global injustices.

### OUR WORK

■ **Campaigning for political prisoners and prisoners of faith.** This year saw the release of Nureddin Sirin after 7 years of campaigning, and many other prisoners imprisoned for their Islamic ideas and beliefs. Prisoners released in the past come from as far afield as Sudan and Nigeria. Other prisoners held for political reasons or simply because they were Muslim have also been released after concerted effort by IHRC's campaigners.

■ **Opposing unjust laws** – from Hijab bans to anti-terror laws in many countries e.g. Australia, France, Tajikistan, Turkey, South Africa and the UK. IHRC produces briefings and campaigns to protest and help those who care, protest these laws that deny the most basic rights.

■ **Researching and Articulating Muslim Expectations.** Through its in-depth research programmes and contact with grassroots communities IHRC is able to articulate communities' aspirations and expectations to those in power.

■ **Taking on Cases.** IHRC has helped to take cases to the European Court of Human Rights, has intervened in landmark cases in the UK and is set on tackling injustice through the court process.

■ **Dealing with the Backlash.** Post 9/11, 7/7, and other world events, it is Muslims who have borne the brunt of societal and political violence and venom. IHRC has been at the forefront of challenging those who would justify or perpetrate such

attacks – be they the media, politicians or others. We do this through briefings, research and training. Above all we have been at the forefront of cataloguing the incidents that have taken place in the UK and helping the victims of these crimes.

■ **Training the Community.** Our expertise and experience means we are able to run 'Know Your Rights' workshops for both Muslims and non-Muslims, as well as produce literature that helps people understand how to combat the injustices that they face by knowing their rights.

■ **Promoting International Justice and Peace.**

Our campaign against world-wide oppression means that we are well-known and respected amongst those who strive for justice and peace. We have advocated for those imprisoned for their beliefs but also those affected by conflict and disasters. An example of this is shown in the wake of the tragic tsunami this year, IHRC helped raised awareness of human rights abuses by the Indonesian army and the Sri Lankan authorities, which included denying aid to the neediest victims of the disaster as part of programmes of religious and racial hatred.

■ **Checking Demonisation.** IHRC's media monitoring expertise means that we can provide astute analysis of why programmes, films, fictional literature, news coverage etc. are problematic. We also run a media monitoring and response workshop. Our work means that we are readily consulted by the media and are able to participate wherever possible in changing the views of society and countering the prejudice that is portraying Muslims in a way that dehumanises them and breeds violence and hatred.

■ **Our experience.** As a faith based organisation, IHRC has withstood vitriolic attacks by



**Massoud Shadjareh**  
IHRC Chairman

Islamophobes of all backgrounds. We have been accused of extremism, fundamentalism and every other 'ism' used to undermine us and our work – we understand exactly the process of demonisation that so many Muslims around the world suffer.

■ **Our message.** We also know through our experience, that not compromising on what we believe in and who we are is not only the best way to work but the only way, if we are really to work towards a better future for all humanity.

At a time when Muslims are under much pressure to 'conform' and everyone, regardless of faith, is accused of disloyalty or worse if they dare to dissent, IHRC urges all people of conscience to stand up for the rights of the oppressed, whoever they are and whomsoever oppresses them.

**JOIN THE STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE,  
JOIN IHRC.**

## Sponsors

IHRC wishes to thank this year's sponsors for the Islamophobia Awards - may Allah swt bless their good work. Ameen.

**ISLAM  
CHANNEL**



Branding  
Print  
New Media

Newsmagazine of the Islamic movement

**Crescent**  
INTERNATIONAL

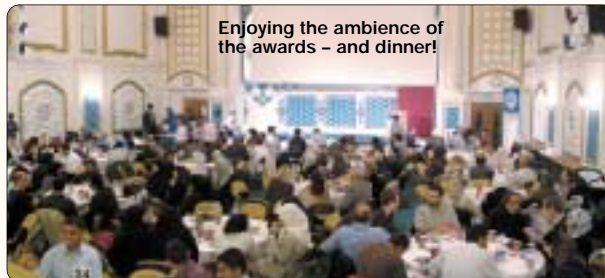
**Innovative Minds**  
www.inminds.com

**The Muslim**  
weekly

# Last Year's Awards



Nazim and Romana return for more humour and subversion



Enjoying the ambience of the awards – and dinner!



Shock & Awe's singing 'We will bomb you'



Khaleel Muhammed

## "And the Winner is...."

**THE PURPOSE** of the Islamophobia Awards is to not only expose Islamophobia but to subvert it using humour and satire. Whilst Islamophobia prevails and many lives and indeed whole communities are crushed by it, this event aims to remind the powerful voices of Islamophobia that its victims are better than they are, and their response is far more sophisticated.

After some fine food and a surprise appearance of friends 'Shock & Awe' aka Tony & George, the main business of the evening took off under the watchful and amusing eyes of com-

peres Nazim Ali and Romana Majid.

In front of a packed audience of supporters, well-wishers, politicians, artists, activists and members of the press, the 2004 awards for worst Islamophobes were announced as follows:

### Most Islamophobic British Politician

Stunned by his joint award with David Blunkett in 2003, Nick Griffin of the British National Party, spent the following year proving that he was by far the worst Islamophobe in British politics, beating the erstwhile Home Secretary into oblivion. Griffin welcomed the award (sadly, this is true).



Nourul-Mustafa's sublime tawashi



Mecca2Medina taking centre stage



'What's all this then?'  
Giving the Metropolitan  
Police Service the  
respect they deserve

Pinocchio  
collects the  
award on  
behalf of  
The Daily  
Telegraph

### The Most Islamophobic Media Personality

This was the most hotly contested category, but the winner again was the outstanding candidate: Polly Toynbee of the Guardian for maligning Islam and all things Muslim. She has since claimed that she has received hate mail as a result of this award – if true this is very sad. If this claim is true then sadly Ms. Toynbee has received a small taste of what it is like to be a Muslim in the UK.

Other award winners were Jacques Chirac and Ariel Sharon (joint winners) in the category for Most Islamophobic International Politician,

and The Daily Telegraph for the Most Islamophobic Media.

Last, but by no means least, was the Islamophobe of the Year award, won again by the inimitable Dubya, proving once more that, when it comes to prejudice, hatred, hostility and violence, George W. Bush is simply the best. The question remains – can he make it a hat trick?

On a more serious note, IHRC and RAHMA (Racial Attacks and Harassment Monitoring Association) both got together to recognise the prolific contribution made by human rights solicitor Mudassar Arani in combating Islamophobia

and its effects.

Sukeina Panjwani of Innovative Minds was our guest speaker – talking about the rise and effects of Islamophobia on women world-wide.

The evening was interspersed with high calibre entertainment from HipHop band Mecca to Medina, Muslim soul artist Khaleel Muhammad and of course, the sublime tavashih performers Nourul-Mustafa.

The evening served as a timely reminder that although Islamophobia is rife, that there are many from all walks of life and all communities who are ready to fight it and support those affected by it.



Joining in with Khaleel Muhammed



The struggle  
for Hijab  
presented  
by Sukeina  
Panjwani of  
Innovative  
Minds



'Allo, 'allo, 'allo:  
The police win a  
special award

# Why donate to IHRC?

**THERE ARE** many, many truly good and great causes to donate to. This year especially has seen disasters of epic scale that have awoken us once more to the need to give generously to the victims of the South Asian earthquake and Indian Ocean Tsunami. When people are so desperately in need of emergency aid, and when after the emergency has gone so many remain impoverished world-wide, it is difficult to ask for funding for the running of a human rights organisation, based in London, UK.

The following gives a few small examples of how and why you should consider supporting IHRC in any way you can, and what your support means in real terms.

## KNOW YOUR RIGHTS

### Workshops

Our workshops are run by trained volunteers and involve little in terms of cost – however they do cost. To train a volunteer and arrange their expenses to workshops around the country sees the cost of running workshops (including printing material) vary from £150 to (exceptionally, where locations are difficult to access and travel expenses high) £500.

To run several of these in a year, means we need a set budget which means dedicated support from donors over a period of time. Whether it's by sponsoring one or a set number of workshops, donors can ensure that this type of service will not be denied to those asking for it, simply because of lack of funds.

### Leaflets

Likewise a print run of 50,000 leaflets advising people on their rights, combined with the costs of distribution runs into £5000. Our 'Know Your Rights' leaflets have been distributed in numbers close to 500,000 or more in the UK. Again it is an indispensable service

but one which can only be maintained with dedicated support.

The result of both workshops and leaflets is not only education and confused and often fearful public (and this includes both Muslims and those of other faiths and none), but creates confident communities, equipped to tackle abuse of power and institutionalised prejudice.

### Former Prisoner of Faith, released 2004

"In all the years I was imprisoned, I never felt alone. Others were depressed, but I knew that I had your [IHRC and its campaigners'] support."

### Victim helped by IHRC

"Many thanks for all the effort and the support you gave me and the most important thing you believed in me, May Allah grant you all the success in this world and hereafter. Amen."

### Observer Missions

A £1000 can help us send an observer mission to an area of crisis – either to help prisoners or report on country situations. Many prisoners have been released as a result of such missions.

### Briefings and Reports

Our briefings are an invaluable tool for activists, journalists, academics and those who simply want to know more. Commissioning briefings and reports can cost as little as £50 – a reflection of the value that researchers and specialists put in the work of IHRC that they are willing to contribute their time for so little. As a tool on the web, or briefings and reports are well used.

Posting out copies to MPs, or overseas organisations and public figures is of utmost importance. This can start at £500 for mailing a briefing to British MPs. The effect however is immeasurable, as often policymakers simply lack reliable information to make informed decisions.

### Case work support

IHRC provides casework support to those victims of hate that no-one else is willing or able to help. As the caseload grows and there are fewer organisations ready to take on these challenges, so does the need for sustained funding to employ caseworkers and support victims.

### Supporting Victims of Human Rights Abuses

Many victims of human rights abuses and their families need financial assistance. Often prisoners need to buy their own food, sometimes their families are destitute. In these cases, often even £50 makes a difference and larger donations make an immeasurable difference. Back in 1998, when Mallama Zeena the wife of a prisoner faith in Nigeria was imprisoned with her five children, emergency donations sent through IHRC helped her buy not only food for herself and her family but basic medicine that helped save her toddler's life, as he was denied any medical treatment when he fell ill.

This is just an idea of some of the costs incurred – as we said before there are many good and exceptional causes, but please do remember IHRC. Even a small monthly contribution helps us plan our work in the medium and long term more effectively. A one-off donation can help in any of the ways above or more.

**May Allah s.w.t. reward all your efforts. Ameen.**

# WE NEED YOUR REGULAR DONATION



If you want to donate for all of IHRC's work, please fill out the form on page 9.  
If you want to donate to IHRC's work that is considered charitable, please use this form.

Please fill in this form and return to us at PO Box 598, Wembley, HA9 7XH.

You can also download donation form from our web site. [www.ihrc.org.uk/file/IHRCfor2005.pdf](http://www.ihrc.org.uk/file/IHRCfor2005.pdf)

Standing Order Form – Islamic Human Rights Commission Trust

## STANDING ORDER BANKERS ORDER FORM

Name(s) of account holder(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Account number: \_\_\_\_\_

Sort Code: \_\_\_\_\_

To: The Manager (name of your bank) \_\_\_\_\_

Address (of your bank): \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay (tick choice)

£5 / month       £10 / month       £15 / month

£25 / month       £50 / month

Other (please specify) £ \_\_\_\_\_ / month

Please state amount in words

\_\_\_\_\_

to the credit of 'Islamic Human Rights Commission Trust', a/c no:  
0477881 Sort Code [30-93-88] at: Lloyds TSB Bank plc, Harlesden  
Branch, 58 High Street Harlesden, London, UK, NW10 4LP, upon  
receipt of this order and subsequently the same amount on the first  
day of each month until further notice, debit my / our account.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

Tel: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Islamic Human Rights Commission Trust

Charity No. 1106120

## GIFT AID DECLARATION

If you wish to donate money that will be used for purely charitable purposes as defined by the Charity Commission you can send donations to the Islamic Human Rights Commission Trust. UK tax payers are able to utilise Gift Aid when donating to Islamic Human Rights Commission Trust, by completing the form below.<sup>1</sup> This means for every £1 you donate IHRCT will be able to reclaim a further 28p.

Islamic Human Rights Commission Trust

**I want the charity to treat all donations I make from the date of this declaration until I notify you otherwise as Gift Aid donations.**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

If in the future your circumstances change and you no longer pay tax on your income and capital gains equal to the tax that the charity reclaims, you can cancel your declaration.

If you pay tax at the higher rate you can claim further tax relief in your Self- Assessment tax return.

Please notify the charity if you change your name or address.  
Please note the charity cannot fund any political work or lobbying for a change in existing law (please use the other form if you are interested in donating to all of IHRC's work including its non-charitable work).



# Messages of support



**Ibrahim Hewitt,**  
Chair, Interpal

**In the name of Allah, The Most Merciful, The Most Kind**

The pen, it is said, is mightier than the sword and, on the basis that a verbal agreement isn't worth the paper it's written on, to stretch the metaphor further, humorous people can often be said to have a rapier-like wit. Clearly, humour can devastate as well as amuse; it can be used to put across very serious issues in an audience-friendly manner, as a glance at the work of good political cartoonists will attest.

And so it is that the IHRC's "Islamophobia Awards" fits neatly into the

British tradition of satire, lampooning those who believe it is cool to have a go at Islam and Muslims in a way that is totally unacceptable – and rightly so – towards visible minorities, Sikhs and Jews. This year, the awards have a particular edge, given the opposition to legislation covering incitement to religious hatred: ironically, opponents to such legislation include comedians – well, someone must think they're funny – so that's all right then.

I believe that the IHRC Islamophobia Awards demonstrate that Muslims do have a sense of humour, contrary to the popular myth. Critics should appreciate the ceremony for what it is - an attempt to highlight a very serious issue in a light-hearted way - rather than grouse about "Muslim intolerance" and so on. Maybe they're only jealous that they weren't nominated.

I wish the programme every success, insha'Allah, and commend the IHRC for its work. May Allah, subhanahu wa ta'ala, take it from strength to strength. Ameen.

## Phil Bloomer

Director, Campaigns & Policy  
Oxfam

On behalf of Oxfam I send warm greetings to the Islamic Human Rights Commission in appreciation of your important work over the last year. I hope your awards ceremony will be as hard-hitting and humorous as last year.



**Sr Yvonne Ridley**  
Journalist

Muslims are under fire in Britain and elsewhere around the world today. Sadly there are very few

community leaders or groups I would rely on in a tight corner, but I know I could turn to the IHRC. While some are too busy tugging their forlocks to the Islamophobic Establishment, the IHRC brothers and sisters act fearlessly and without favour.



**Rev. Nims Obunge,**

Chief  
Executive,  
London Peace  
Alliance

I believe that only in an unjust and irresponsible society is prejudice against faith acceptable. We must be united in our cause not to allow our beliefs, values and morals to be ridiculed at the behest of the ignorance of a few. It is proper to celebrate and thank those who sincerely put themselves on the firing line to protect the true values and rights of humanity. I welcome this humorous initiative of the Islamic Human Rights Commission.

**Vanessa Redgarve**  
Actress and  
Human Rights  
Campaigner



Warmest greetings to the Islamic Human Rights Commission for the Islamophobia Awards. I'm hoping very much that health will permit me to join you on 17th December.

# Support Justice, Help IHRC

IHRC has grown and developed through the generous donations of its supporters without whom, we could not have survived. Please remember us this year with your du'a and your financial assistance.

Please help us in whatever way you can – a small monthly contribution (see supporters' form below) is as valuable as a generous one-off donation. If you wish to donate solely to IHRC's charitable work, please complete the form on page 7. Otherwise please fill in the appropriate form on this page.

There are many worthy causes, and we request that you remember IHRC's work when donating, in the best way that you can.

**May Allah s.w.t. reward all your efforts in this world and the next. Ameen.**

## EID CARDS QUR'AN SET 1



## EID CARDS QUR'AN SET 2



## EID CARDS ARCHITECTURE



## Become an IHRC supporter

Supporters of IHRC get free copies of IHRC reports (those paying concessionary rates get a selection) and reduced rates on other items. Concessionary supporters are encouraged to donate £5 a month. Without this type of regular support – however small, IHRC would not be able to operate.

Title: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Post Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Contacting you by e-mail or fax may save IHRC money. If you would prefer not to be contacted this way please tick here

### STANDING ORDER BANKERS FORM

Name(s) of the account holder(s)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Account number: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

To: The Manager (name and address of your bank)

Sort Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Please pay (tick choice):

£5 / month (students/ unwaged)

£10 / month

£15 / month

£25 / month

£50 / month

Other (please specify) £ \_\_\_\_\_

Please state amount in words \_\_\_\_\_

To the credit of  
**Islamic Human Rights  
Commission**  
a/c no: **06759807**  
Sort Code **12-24-81**

Upon receipt of this order and subsequently the same amount on this first day of each month until further notice, debit my / our account.

Signature(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please return this form to us at:  
Islamic Human Rights Commission  
PO Box 598, Wembley, HA9 7XH,  
United Kingdom.**

Islamic Human Rights Commission  
is a not for profit company.

### EID CARD ORDER FORM

Amount of packs required

QUR'AN SET 1 @ £4 / pack \_\_\_\_\_

QUR'AN SET 2 @ £4 / pack \_\_\_\_\_

ARCHITECTURE @ £4 / pack \_\_\_\_\_

Total Payment enclosed: £ \_\_\_\_\_

### VOLUNTEER INFORMATION FORM

- I would like more information on how to volunteer  
 I would like a Media Monitoring Response pack

### ONE OFF DONATION FORM

Please find enclosed a donation of £ \_\_\_\_\_

Zakat  Sadaqah I would like a receipt

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please make all cheques payable to  
Islamic Human Rights Commission**

# The 2005 Auction

**PLEASE** remember to bring your wallet and cheque book to the auction on the day!

The Islamophobia Awards 2005 will be held on Saturday 17th December 2005. As part of this year's event we're holding another auction of items generously donated by supporters to raise funds for IHRC.

If you are interested in securing an item before the day, please email [awards@ihrc.org](mailto:awards@ihrc.org) with the lot number, your bid, name, address and daytime telephone number, and we'll be in touch.

May Allah swt reward your generosity with His bounty.



**LOT 6:**  
18ct gold earrings  
Estimate: £50



**LOT 13:**  
22ct gold necklace  
Estimate: £350



**LOT 3:**  
Firoza (Turquoise) Pendant  
Estimate: £30



**LOT 5:**  
Firoza (Turquoise) Earrings and matching pendant, with silver backing and glass stones' surround  
Estimate: £40



**LOT 4:**  
Firoza (Turquoise) and Silver Ladies' Bracelet  
Estimate: £40



**LOT 14:**  
Water based print on canvas by Ali Omar Ermes donated by the artist Alif Kesra (1997)  
Reserve £500  
H 77cm W 51 cm  
Part of the poem by Muaan Ibn Aws describing the poet's stand for moral purity and honour, rejecting and condemning corruption and social decay.



**LOT 10:**  
Handpainted plate with Ayatul Kursi  
Estimate: £120





**LOT 9:**  
Gucci  
Handbag with

Gucci packing  
SIZE : W. 9.5"  
Estimate: £100



**Lot 1:**  
Surah Ikhlas engraved on gold coloured plate  
in blue velvet presentation box. Estimate: £25



**Lot 2:**  
Surah Fateha and Beginning of Surah  
Baqarah engraved as first two pages of  
Qur'an on metal plate in blue velvet case.  
Estimate £25



**LOT 11:**  
Firoza (Turquoise)  
Allah, on black  
velvet back-  
ground and  
framed in black  
Size: W. 12" L.  
18"  
Estimate £150



**LOT 8:**  
Wooden wall clock with Ayatul Kursi carved in  
frame. SIZE: L 23" W 17" D 2"  
Estimate: £80



**LOT 12:**  
Traditional Persian frame of 'Ayatul Kursi'.  
Frame consists of Khatam style wood inlay.  
SIZE: L 25" W 19" Estimate £200



**LOT 7:**  
Wooden wall  
carving, 99 names  
of Allah  
SIZE: 18" diameter  
Estimate: £70



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T: 020 8904 4222  
F: 020 8904 5183  
E: [info@ihrc.org](mailto:info@ihrc.org)  
W: [www.ihrc.org.uk](http://www.ihrc.org.uk)

**JOIN THE STRUGGLE FOR JUSTICE,  
JOIN IHRC.**