

WE CAN CHOOSE TO DESPAIR OR WE CAN CHOOSE TO FIGHT BACK

READ ON AND FIND OUT HOW TO HELP NOW!

The Prophet saw said:
“Whosoever of you
sees an evil, let him
change it with his hand;
and if he is not able to do
so, then [let him change it]
with his tongue; and if he
is not able to do so, then
with his heart — and that
is the weakest of faith.”

This year has been
a devastating one and
anti-Muslim hatred has
risen dramatically. It
has been used to
ethnically cleanse e.g.
the Rohingya. It has
been internalised and
used against political
opposition e.g. in Nigeria.



**Join the struggle
for justice, join IHRC.**

IHRC has put a lot of emphasis this year on supporting both causes, trying to bring the attention of the International Criminal Court to what is going on. We have also been raising funds to support the victims of these injustices. We have prepared campaign materials that anyone anywhere can use to raise awareness and demand justice for these and other oppressed people worldwide. This is just a small sample of what we do. Please help us in whichever way you can. Find out more and raise awareness and resources for this work. Take part in whatever way you can. At the very least remember the oppressed in your prayers. Your courage is all that stands between the victory or defeat of those who do and would oppress. Stay strong inshaAllah and please donate generously.

If you want to read a full report on our year's work please visit our website www.ihr.org.uk and visit the publications page. There you can find our annual report which will give information on all our work across our campaigns, research and advocacy departments. If you would like us to send you a hard copy of this report please email us on info@ihr.org

THE COUNTER ISLAMOPHOBIA TOOLKIT

THIS September we will be launching the Counter Islamophobia Toolkit (CIK) at the European Parliament. CIK is a project led by the University of Leeds, partnering with IHRC as well as 5 European universities, looking at the narratives and counter-narratives to Islamophobia in the UK, France, Germany, Belgium, Portugal, Greece, Czech Republic and Hungary. Building on IHRC's existing work using the Domination Hate Model of Intercultural Relations, the project seeks to provide policymakers and activists with examples and analysis to challenge Islamophobia across Europe. You can read all the reports and blog posts of the project here: <http://cik.leeds.ac.uk>.

Keep posted on the launch activities organised by IHRC in Brussels, London and Berlin via our website: www.ihr.org.uk/events.

DOCUMENTARY WORK

IHRC have been working on a number of forthcoming documentaries over the past year. In summer 2017 our team travelled to Bosnia with the winner of the Genocide Memorial Day 2017 Poetry Competition to meet with Bosnian activist Demir Mahmutcehajic. The team toured the country and went to Srebrenica to commemorate the anniversary of the genocide there. Look out for the documentary that will be produced based on this enlightening experience. Two documentaries focused on Islamophobia are currently in post-production and are set to be released later this year. They focus respectively on discrimination in the education system and how hate attacks target mosques. IHRC is also currently in the early stages of production of a TV series discussing socio-political issues across the world that asks "How Did We End Up Here?" We have recently started a weekly social media series, called IHRC Weekly Message discussing various campaigning and action alerts, as well as topical issues in a timely manner. **Subscribe to the IHRCTV Youtube channel:** www.youtube.com/user/IHRctv

NIGERIA

THE IHRC Advocacy team has continued working on this extraordinary injustice whilst so many turn a blind eye. The Zaria massacres in December 2015 led to the deaths of over 1000 civilians and hundreds of people were left with severe injuries. Since then Shaykh Ibrahim Zakzaky, his wife Mallima Zeenah and hundreds of members of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria have been illegally detained in Nigeria without a trial.

Many of those arrested have severe injuries that have not been treated. Shaykh Zakzaky has lost the use of one eye and one arm and his wife has bullet shrapnel lodged in her body. Earlier this year Shaykh Zakzaky had a stroke which left him bedbound for a long period. The state refuses to release him and his supporters and is failing to take them to trial or present any evidence of supposed criminal activity.



IHRC has worked to bring this to the international community's attention. We have lodged a complaint with the International Criminal Court, detailing how the massacre is a crime against humanity. Earlier this year the court confirmed that they were looking into the matter and were demanding responses from the Nigerian government about what happened.

We have also written and spoken to people at the EU, UN, UK government and other bodies, to put pressure on the Nigerian authorities to release Shaykh Zakzaky and his supporters.

The attacks against the IMN did not cease after the December 2015 attack. There have been numerous attacks against them and their schools and mosques by the army and police since. 9-year-old Mustapha Hussain, whose father and 3 brothers were killed in the Zaria massacre of 2015, is the only surviving male member of his family. He was unfortunately shot in the

back during a protest march last Ramadan. After initial medical attention, it was determined that he could potentially lose the use of both his legs (the bullet had come so close to his spine). IHRC supported him to fly out of Nigeria to receive urgent medical treatment.

IHRC has supported and facilitated Mustapha and 20 other individuals to go overseas to get urgent medical treatment.

All our work has only been possible because of the generous support of our community.

How you can help:

- Donate to our Nigeria fund to help more people like Mustapha.
- Join our Nigeria Campaign mailing list (<http://eepurl.com/BML3c5>) to keep updated.
- Write letters and emails to politicians as part of the campaign to put pressure on the Nigerian government

ROHINGYA

IHRC have undertaken a 6-month study to assess the violence taking place in Myanmar against the Rohingya community. Part of the project has consisted of a field visit to Cox's Bazaar, Bangladesh to interview Rohingya refugees about their experiences. The purpose of the study is to make an initial assessment about whether or not the Myanmar State's persecution of the Rohingya constitutes genocide or a crime against humanity.

The team travelled to Cox's Bazaar from 25 to 30 September 2017 and conducted 21 interviews with refugees in the Kutupalong and Balukhali refugee camps and Sadar Hospital. They also spoke to NGO staff, local and international journalists; lawyers and business people. They aimed to document the genocidal persecution they had experienced or witnessed.

The primary purpose of the field visit was to assess the nature of the violence and the quality of the evidence the witnesses are able to provide. Women in the camps mostly stayed inside their tents for



security, but our researchers found that both men and women wanted to recount their experiences to the outside world.

An example of the different stories collected by the team on a single day in September:

An elderly Muslim man spoke of how his son – who was 32 years old – had been taken away by the Burmese army. He says that the army are taking away young men, dressing them up as jihadis and killing them. A couple mourned the

loss of their two children: a girl and a boy. The children had both been kidnapped by the Burmese army and are now presumed dead. The same couple witnessed rocket launchers being used to burn homes and villages. They themselves had to pay smugglers money in order to cross over to Bangladesh. Another Muslim woman described seeing her husband being chopped up. She spoke of how she lost her 7 year old son on her journey to Bangladesh. Now she travels alone with her other child who is just a baby.

How you can help:

- Donate to our Rohingya fund
- Join our Rohingya mailing list (<http://eepurl.com/cw9hHz>) to keep updated
- Write to the Embassy of Bangladesh / Bangladesh High Commission in your country demanding that they immediately allow the tens of thousands of refugees on the border into Bangladesh AND secure their safety.

For more campaign information visit our website: <http://www.ihr.org.uk/activities/campaigns/10705-myanmar-resources>





IHRC AT THE EU

LOCATED in Brussels since 2016, the EU Office coordinates IHRC advocacy activities with the EU institutions playing a leading role in shaping policies to fight Islamophobia. This includes the European External Action Services, European Parliament, EU Delegations and the EU Commission.

role in this third year of fighting against Islamophobia in Europe. The IHRC-EU team works to influence key decision and policy makers to ensure that EU policies have a far reaching, positive impact on the lives of those most affected. IHRC advocacy work in the EU currently focuses on:

- Following developments on issues related to anti-Muslim hatred, anti-discrimination law, counter-terrorism law and in numerous policy areas including employment, hate crime, hate speech,

institutional Islamophobia, Islamophobia in the media.

- Presenting IHRC policy to European stakeholders

Working at this level can be challenging. However it is important to make sure that these concerns are known and heard. Whether the institutions choose to listen is up to them. Please let us know what issues you think we should be raising at this level by emailing info@ihrc.org.

IHRC AT THE UN

IHRC continued holding events in Geneva and submitted reports to various committees invested in human rights and related policy work. Submissions were made to condemn the rise of Islamophobia in the Netherlands. Attention was also drawn to the sinister nature of the UK's PREVENT programme and the continued human rights violations in Bahrain were also highlighted. Visit the 'IHRC at the UN' page on the IHRC website for more information

UNIVERSAL JUSTICE NETWORK & DECOLONIAL INTERNATIONAL NETWORK

IHRC's work as one of the secretariats of the Universal Justice Network has continued. Progress is being made on collating resources related to the Penang Declaration of scholars from 2016. The Declaration sought to mark a call for a renewed and dynamic Islamic scholasticism and activism that is not shackled by prevailing Eurocentric norms. UJN has also continued to campaign through its network of members for justice in Nigeria and for the Rohingya. MAPIM,

one of the UJN network, has continued to provide relief and support to Rohingya. This has included sending flotillas of aid from Malaysia to Rohingya in Myanmar and Bangladesh. They, together with Citizens international (the other UJN secretariat) have also been instrumental in helping refugees in Malaysia as well as documenting crimes committed by people traffickers.

IHRC also continues its collaboration with Center of Study and Investigation for

Global Dialogues in Barcelona (Spain), Institute for Scientific Research (Holland) and the Parti des Indigènes de la République (PIR) (France) working together as the Decolonial International Network (DIN). You can find out more about DIN and its work on the website din.today. Also look out for details of the Bandung of the North meeting in Paris in May 2018. It promises to be an amazing meeting of decolonial activists and scholars.

Visit the IHRC Bookshop & Gallery In-store and on-line shop.ihrc.org



The IHRC Bookshop hosts an array of titles; from political exposes to fictional works for children. We pride ourselves on carrying books that are not easy to find and source. Our own publications can be found online and in-store. Do you want to be more informed on Islam – pick a biography or a translation of the Qu'ran – or perhaps you'd like to engage with some critical thinking and are interested in dissecting issues of race, civil rights and economics? We will have you covered!



Make the IHRC Bookshop your destination for tomes on current politics, decolonial theory and contemporary struggles – and know that we have a little bit of everything else too!



All profits from the sales go to IHRCT and help fund the work that we do.

If you live in or near London, UK you can always pop in to our store.

We are open from 10am – 6pm Monday to Saturday.

Our address is 202 Preston Road, Wembley, HA9 8PA (Nearest tube Preston Road, Metropolitan Line).

See you soon in-store or on-line, insha Allah.

DISCOUNT! 20% OFF ALL ITEMS! USE THE CODE READY4RAMADAN AT CHECKOUT

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 is as valuable as a generous one-off donation.

If you wish to donate solely to IHRC's charitable work, please complete the IHRC Trust form (opposite page). Otherwise please fill in this form.

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.

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.

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

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In the name of Allah, the Merciful, the Compassionate

The aims of the Islamic Human Rights Commission

- To champion the rights and duties revealed for human beings.
- To promote a new social and international order, based on truth, justice, righteousness and generosity, rather than self-interest.
- To demand virtue and oppose wrongdoing in the exercise of power (from whatever base that power derives - e.g. political, judicial, media, economic, military, personal, etc.).
- To gather information about, and to publicise, atrocities, oppression, discrimination, and other abuses of divinely-granted rights.
- To campaign for redress, and to support the victims of such crimes.
- To campaign to bring the perpetrators and their accomplices to justice.
- To cooperate with other groups and individuals where such cooperation is likely to further the achievement of these aims.

The Islamic Human Rights Commission is an NGO in Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations

IHRC Legal

IHRC Legal was set up to help people with employment discrimination and immigration matters.

Our legal team can help you with:

IMMIGRATION LAW

We advise on the full range of applications to the Home Office including:

- Human Rights applications
- Family migration
- Indefinite Leave to Remain
- EU nationals and their family members
- British Nationality
- Refusals and Appeals
- Preparation of and representation at Appeal hearings

The Immigration services we provide are regulated by the UK government regulator, Office of Immigration Services Commissioner (OISC). We are regulated at Level 3, which is the highest level possible.

EMPLOYMENT LAW

IHRC Legal can help you with:

- Discrimination
- Constructive/Unfair dismissal
- Bullying/Harassment at work
- Grievances / disciplinary proceedings
- Compromise/Settlement Agreements

As well as other employment issues that may arise.

For more information, including funding options, or to speak to our team please contact us legal@ihrc.org or 020 8904 4222.

IHRC Advocacy

Since 1997 IHRC has been at the forefront of tackling anti-Muslim discrimination and prejudice in the UK. We follow up cases of injustice on the international scene too with cases this year in relation to Nigeria and the Rohingya. Since 1997 we have helped many people and have expanded the support we provide.

The IHRC Advocacy team supports people who have been the victims of racial or religious discrimination. We can support people to identify relevant issues / who to complain to, draft the complaint itself, and representation, where this proves necessary.

Areas we focus on include:

- Complaints about the application of Prevent.
- Education: discrimination on the basis of race or faith (ie complaints to schools, Local Authorities, Department of Education, Ofsted etc).
- Police: Independent Police Complaints Commission.
- Complaints about racism and Islamophobia to government bodies (e.g. against social services / local councils etc).

For more information please speak to a member of our casework team by contacting us at info@ihrc.org or 020 8904 4222.

All information is treated in the strictest confidence and no information will be passed on to any third party without your consent.

VOLUNTEERING

WOULD you like to volunteer with IHRC? Regardless of your interest, IHRC has a number of exciting opportunities available. Previous volunteers have gone on to work in the civil service, media, courts of justice, the charity and NGO sectors and more. Through experience of what it is like in a busy NGO you will gain the skills and knowledge to hold you in excellent stead when applying for future roles.

Types of volunteering roles: research, fundraising, events, office admin, raising awareness.

Email nadia@ihrc.org for more information



**Islamic
Human Rights
Commission**

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