

ISLAMIC HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

2020 - 2021 ANNUAL REPORT

“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, (and of) those who say: ‘O 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’.”

Holy Qur'an: Chapter 4, Verse 75



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

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Chairman's Statement

Bismillahi-Rahmanir-Rahim

*Assalamu alaikum
warahmatullahi
wa barakatahu*

**My dear Friends,
Campaigners and Supporters,**

I am delighted to be able bring you to our Annual Report of 2021. It has been a very challenging year, not least because of the pandemic which sadly saw some of us losing our loved ones from our families and communities. Unfortunately, the several lockdowns we had to endure that isolated us from our friends and families in order to keep them and the community safe did not impact or reduce the level of Islamophobia and human rights abuses around the world. If anything, we witnessed an increase both locally and globally on the level of the environment of hate with escalating human rights abuses by the usual suspects. This created a particular challenge for the IHRC team both locally and globally to continue to rise to the challenge of this ever-increasing need of our community, while at the same time maintaining increased safety requirements. Alhamdulillah, with the dedication of the IHRC team we managed to address these issues, albeit with social distancing and the

use of tools to communicate remotely.

The global pressures on Muslims of China, Myanmar, Kashmir, Palestine, Nigeria and Yemen should give us a better appreciation of the importance of a united Ummah and its responsibilities. Unfortunately, these haven't been the only areas of injustice in the Ummah - we have also seen the environment of hate intensifying against Muslims in the West. We have seen the manifestation of this in places like Canada, France, Austria, Switzerland, USA and the UK and the West as a whole where Muslims are easy targets of hatred and discrimination.

I would like to invite you to read all our Annual Reports from previous years and review the fantastic work the IRHC Team have done under very difficult and challenging circumstances, in particular, the work of IHRC Advocacy and IHRC Legal. As you know, IHRC is the only Muslim NGO with an Advocacy and Legal department with in-house solicitors addressing injustices and discrimination. We have just launched a legal fund to support those who have found themselves in Britain and need to regularise and prove their right to remain. The fund will be supporting some of the most vulnerable members of our community, something that is only possible with your generous help.

In Britain and globally, there is a coordinated effort to demonise the Muslim com-

munity and demonise those who stand in support of Palestinian rights. We have joined Christians, Jews and people of all faiths and none in creating a structure to support those who are attacked. And no doubt you are well aware that we are raising humanitarian funds for victims of violence in Nigeria, Yemen and now Palestine.

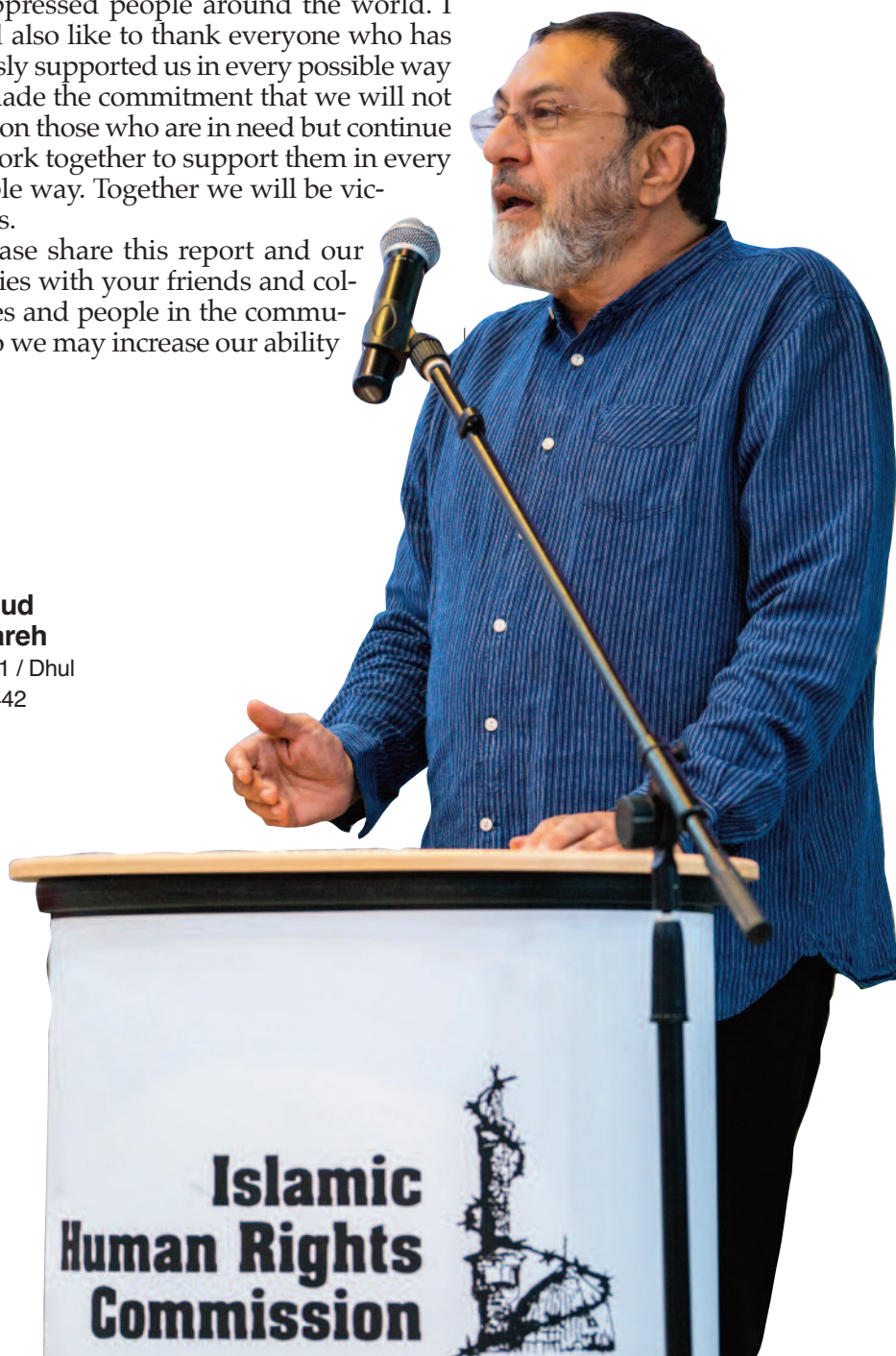
Most of all I am grateful to Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala who has given us the ability and the opportunity to stand up for all the oppressed people around the world. I would also like to thank everyone who has tirelessly supported us in every possible way and made the commitment that we will not abandon those who are in need but continue this work together to support them in every possible way. Together we will be victorious.

Please share this report and our activities with your friends and colleagues and people in the community so we may increase our ability

to address the task at hand. Please also encourage others to support IHRC by campaigning, supporting, or donating to the work of IHRC.

**MASSOUD
SHADJAREH**
Chair
Islamic Human
Rights Commission

**Massoud
Shadjareh**
July 2021 / Dhul
Hijjah 1442



Events and Projects

Al-Quds Day

This year's activities saw a massive ramp up with over a hundred organisations coming on board to support the first ever event to be taking place under conditions of Covid-19 lockdown.

The global online event was streamed live on YouTube, Facebook and IHRC's website, and featured short speeches and messages of support from prominent activists and academics covering the entire spectrum of society.

Normally, each year millions of people join rallies in cities around the world to voice their support for the Palestinians and repeat their call for an end to the Zionist regime's atrocities and occupation of Palestine. But as people grappled with the effects of the pandemic, IHRC was keen to make sure it was not at the expense of remembering the Pales-

tinians.

Despite the lockdowns prevailing around the world as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the annual event on 22nd May was as popular and boisterous as ever.

This year Al-Quds Day coincided with the anniversary of the Nakba or the "catastrophe", the name given to the forced expulsion of Palestinians in 1948 to make way for the creation of the Zionist state. This year the anniversary fell on 15th May.

Along with other organisations IHRC called for people to fly a Palestinian flag in their window or on their car for the last 10 days of Ramadan to show their support for the people of Palestine. The call saw supporters challenging each other to display them in the most daring places, with lots of pictures showing up on social media. IHRC also asked people to share art and poetry from Palestine using social media.





Uncovering Racism

As instances of US racism surged under the Trump presidency and the Black Lives Matter movement rose to prominence, IHRC in conjunction with 5Pillars and Ahlulbayt Mission (AIM) hosted an online discussion in June entitled Uncovering Systemic Racism: Understanding Colonialism, White Privilege and Black Rights in the USA.

The event featured scholars, Imam Dawud Walid, Professor Ramón Grosfoguel and Dr Mohammad Marandi.

Genocide Memorial Day, London

The annual GMD event took place online for the twelfth consecutive year on 17th January 2021. This year's theme was 'Starting Genocide: Demonisation', focusing mainly on the divisive politics that results in the demonisation of communities. Demonisation forms part of the dehumanisation process, the third of a series of eight stages of genocide famously expounded by Gregory Stanton.

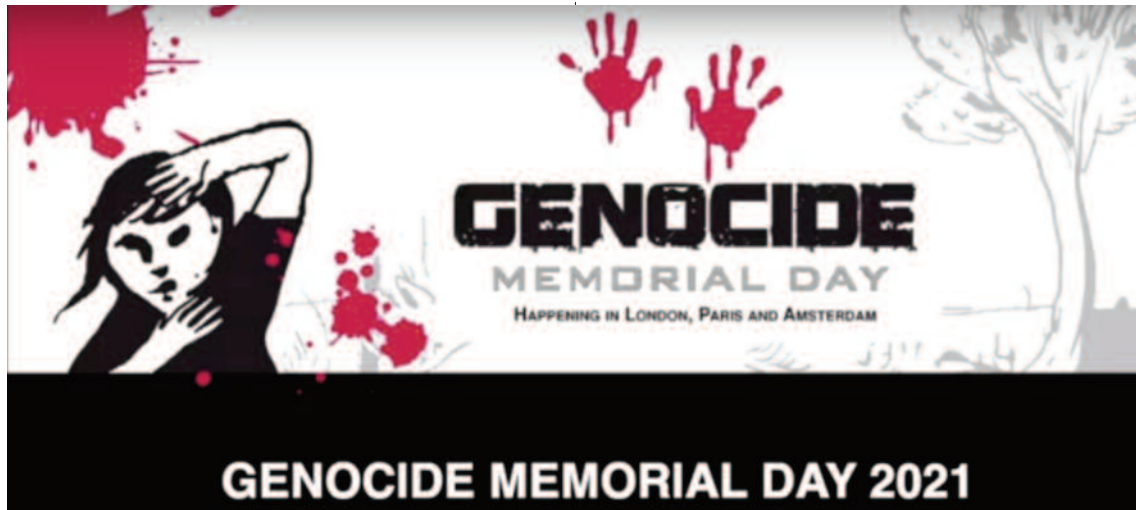
The event saw participation by a worldwide audience including academics, grass-roots organisations and civil society who are concerned about the normalisation of the politics of division and demonisation of eth-

nic, religious as well as other groups.

This year, Genocide Memorial Day consisted of a series of videos featuring a heavy-weight line-up of speakers discussing different themes, from the persecution of Rohingyas and the ethnic cleansing of Palestinians to the African Holocaust, the path that led to the genocide of Bosnians and the Nazi uses of science and medicine.

The speakers included:

- **Imam Dawud Walid**, researcher, lecturer and writer on the Islamic faith and a racial justice proponent
- **Professor Haim Bresheeth-Zabner**, filmmaker, photographer and a film studies scholar
- **Yakov M. Rabkin**, Professor Emeritus of history at the University of Montreal in Canada
- **Demir Mahmutcehajic**, Bosnian civil rights activist
- **Dr Maung Zarni**, Burmese scholar and Burmese coordinator of the Free Rohingya Coalition
- **Ilan Pappé**, Israeli historian and activist



Genocide Memorial Day event was also organised in the following countries:

Genocide Memorial Day, Brussels

GMD in Brussels took place on 16th January 2021. Bruxelles Panthères organised a conference on 'Criminalisation of Muslim political activism in Europe'. Speakers for the event were, Professor Hatem Bazian, professor of theology at Zaytuna University and professor of history at UC Berkeley, Houria Bouteldja and Youssef Boussoumah, decolonial political activists and members of the Decolonial International Network (DIN).

Genocide Memorial Day, Amsterdam

Decolonial International Network (DIN) and International Institute for Scientific Research in The Netherlands organised a webinar on 'The famines in India during colonialism' in the context of Genocide

Memorial Day. Speakers included Dr. Jaya Mehta, a senior economist who has been working since 2009 at the Joshi-Adhikari Institute of Social Studies and Sandew Hira, member of the board of DIN.

Genocide Memorial Day, Malaysia

Malaysian Consultative Council of Islamic Organisation (MAPIM) organized the Genocide Memorial Day event online on 16th January 2021. This event is held every year by MAPIM in order to raise public awareness especially amongst the youth.

School resources

Genocide Memorial Day school resources were designed to introduce the topic of genocide, the causes of genocide and genocide prevention in various subjects including history, politics and government, English literature, citizenship, civics, sociology, PSHE and religious education. The lesson plans are listed according to age groups, and some cut

across ages.

The resources have been of great use for teachers who often do not have the bandwidth to pull external resources together. Our resources have been praised by both teachers and parents alike, as they allow both teacher and student to interact with such a heavy topic in an engaging way.

The school resources have been successful in bringing light to genocides that have been forgotten or hard to do research on. Also, there are genocides that have been buried away, that often it does not get taught at schools. In pulling together the resources, we receive input from researchers, academics, teachers, activists and campaigners. As a result, the material is rich in content and also has a call to action on the back of the lessons.

Every month, IHRC sends out regular emails to schools including a collection of free school resources and activities. Moreover, we have designed a teaching syllabus for schools with audio-visual literature that has successfully helped students, educators and families to enrich and support their distance learning. During the pandemic with schools closed down at various periods, the resources have come as a welcome relief to all. Teachers and parents have utilised the material to keep students engaged during such a testing period.

In addition to the school resource, IHRC launched in December 2019 the Genocide Memorial Day Anthology. This anthology brings together all the entries from winners, runners-up and those highly commended from 2012 – 2019 Genocide Memorial Day poetry competition in one volume. This volume is engaging with the generations of tomorrow in an artistic way to realise the horrors of past genocides and more importantly understand the steps that lead to these crimes against humanity.

Islamophobia Conference

IHRC hosted the seventh annual Islamophobia Conference in December 2020, titled 'The Attacks on Civil, Human and Political Rights for Muslims in Europe', with Decolonial International Network (DIN) and Scotland Against Criminalising Communities (SACC), and supported by Decolonial

Live on **IHRC TV**
www.ihrc.tv

THE ATTACKS ON CIVIL, HUMAN AND POLITICAL RIGHTS FOR MUSLIMS IN EUROPE

DIN WEBINAR, SUNDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2020
18.00-20.15 PARIS TIME, 17.00-19.15 UK TIME

Hosts: **SANDEW HIRA** and **NARGESS MOBALLEGHI** - Speakers:

Hakimeh Saghaie-Biria • Mohammed Al-Asi • Abed Choudry • Massoud Shadjareh • Houria Bouteldja • Sheher Khan • Amanj Aziz • Ramon Grosfoguel

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Thought Community. It was fronted by Sandew Hira (member of the board of DIN) and Nargess Moballegghi (journalist and documentary filmmaker). The event was held online on IHRC.TV, YouTube and Facebook, with over 1,500 views combined worldwide.

Discussion about Islamophobia was divided into two blocs, the first being Islamophobia in the context of political Islam from a theoretical perspective, and the second being civil and human rights and fascism in Europe.

Speakers included the widely respected decolonial scholar Professor Ramón Grosfoguel, Hakimeh Saghaie-Biria, an assistant professor at the University of Tehran, Faculty of Islamic Knowledge and Thought, Algerian-French writer and political activist Houria Bouteldja, Sheher Khan, a representative from the Denk party in the Netherlands and Amanj Aziz, an anti-racism activist from Sweden.

Webinars:

The lockdown in the UK presented IHRC with the opportunity to arrange several webinars over the course of the year.



Normalisation – Israel's Strategy for Occupation

In September, IHRC held an online webinar, Normalisation: Israel's Strategy for Occupation, with a fantastic panel of experts to discuss the normalisation of ties between the UAE and Israel.

Speakers included Haim Bresheeth-Zabner, Reverend Stephen Sizer, Marwa Osman, Massoud Shadjareh and Mick Napier.

They discussed the history of Christian Zionism, tools used by Zionists to justify and spread the normalisation of Israeli colonisation, the creation of 'Muslim Zionists' presented by the Persian and Gulf Arab states and much more.

Uniting to End Occupation: One-state solution

This was swiftly followed by a live webinar on Sunday 1 Nov on the subject of a one-state solution for Palestine alongside supporting organisations Scottish PSC, In-minds Human Rights Group, Jewish Network for Palestine, BRICUP, Ahlulbayt Islamic Mission.

The failure of the two-state solution, due to the destructive actions by Israel, and con-

tinued building of illegal settlements on Palestinian land, has brought about renewed interest in the single, democratic state solution to the settler-colonial conflict in Palestine.

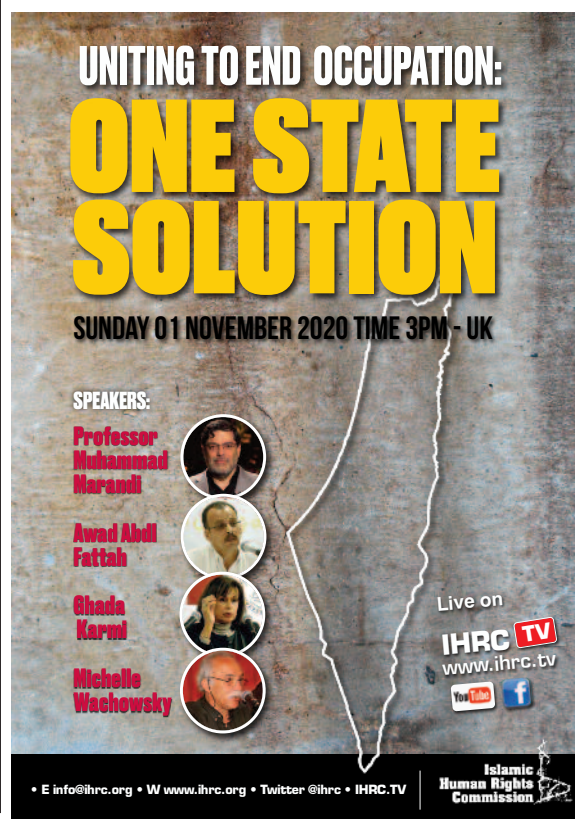
This solution was the official position of the PLO until 1988, and remains the only solution which offers equal rights for all in Palestine, and an end to the ravages of militarised Apartheid.

In this webinar four activists with a life-long commitment to a just and peaceful solution to the conflict exchanged views about the current situation, and the potential of the one-state solution which is greatly influenced by the defeat of South African Apartheid.

BDS: Challenges, Successes and The Way Forward

In December IHRC brought together an exciting line-up of speakers for a webinar on the BDS movement.

In 2005 numerous Palestinian civil society organisations launched the campaign for Boycott Divestment and Sanctions (BDS)



against Israel and companies complicit in Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian territories. The campaign aimed 'to pressure Israel to comply with international law and to end international support for Israel's regime of settler colonialism and apartheid' (<https://bdsmovement.net/call>).

That regime was clearly identified as the basic cause of the Israel-Palestine conflict and likewise complicity with the regime as a systemic obstacle to Palestinian rights.

The BDS campaign has a crucial role to deter such complicity, in both its material and ideological forms, as well as to strengthen public understanding of the Israeli regime as institutionally racist. There are opportunities to do so in several sectors, e.g. the arms trade, sports, academia, culture, etc. How can we make the BDS campaign more effective? How can we better link the various parts of the BDS campaign?

Speakers:

- **Huda Ammori**, Stop Elbit Campaign and Apartheid Off Campus
- **Mick Napier**, Scottish Palestine Solidarity Campaign (SPSC)
- **Zwivelile Mandela**, African National Congress (ANC) MP
- **Les Levidow**, Jewish Network for Palestine (JNP)
- **Supporting organisations:**
IHRC, Scottish PSC, Jewish Network for Palestine, BRICUP, AIM, Inminds Human Rights Group

State Sanctioned Murder: Targeted Assassinations and Drone Attacks

In January, Professor Richard Falk, professor emeritus of international law at Princeton University and former United Nations' Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in the Palestinian territories occupied since 1967, joined us to discuss the long history of US and US allies' carrying out targeted state sanctioned murder of individ-

The poster is for a live webinar titled "KNOW YOUR RIGHTS" with the subtitle "POLICE POWERS TO STOP, SEARCH, ACCOUNT AND ARREST". It features a background image of police officers in high-visibility vests. The text includes "LIVE WEBINAR" at the top, "Live on IHRC TV www.ihrctv" with social media icons, and the date "SUNDAY 24TH JANUARY 2021 AT 12.00 UK TIME". The speakers listed are "Massoud Shadjareh and Muddassar Arani". At the bottom, it provides contact information for IHRC and the Islamic Human Rights Commission, including email, website, and social media links.

uals around the world. Recent years have seen the assassination of high-profile government officials and scientists. Under the guise of fighting terrorism, the past 15 years have seen an unprecedented rise in the use of drones by the USA, whereby countless civilian lives have been lost. This loss of life has been normalised as collateral in war but there is another dangerous environment being created where illegal extrajudicial killings of senior members of various governments in locations and nations that the USA is not at war with, being normalised as a modus operandi for the USA.

Know Your Rights – Police powers to stop, search, account and arrest

This online webinar with IHRC chair Massoud Shadjareh and lawyer Muddassar Arani, chaired by Raza Kazim, looked at the large number of powers that the police and security services have to stop, search, account and arrest people. This has impacted minority communities significantly. Often people feel that they have got nothing to hide and they can just answer the questions and everything will be ok. There have been a number of cases where this attitude has re-

sulted in undesirable outcomes for the individuals concerned. This event addressed the issues that need to be understood and how the system views people who are put in that position. The event also featured a discussion around the attitude that we need to have as individuals and as a community in order to deal with and combat abuses by the police and security services.

Britons' Gap Year in the Killing Fields: Mahal in 1948 and Today

Many British Jews do a gap-year visit to Israel, hosted by the Masa programme. Some join Marva, an IDF programme which includes weapons training, exercises and education. Some even serve in the IDF, carrying weapons in the killing fields of the West Bank. One such British citizen was involved in killing a Palestinian youth in January 2021. Such actions warrant prosecution under UK law, such as its anti-terror laws, which apply to terrorist acts anywhere in the world. But

LIVE WEBINAR

MAHAL: A GAP YEAR IN THE KILLING FIELDS



Live on
IHRC TV
www.ihrctv.org

SUNDAY 28TH FEBRUARY 2021 AT 15.00 UK TIME



Many British Jews do a gap-year visit to Israel. Some even serve in the IDF, carrying weapons in the killing fields of the West Bank. What can be done in Britain to stop today's Mahal?

SPEAKERS



SUPPORTING ORGANISATIONS: Scottish PSC, Jewish Network for Palestine, BRICUP, CASMII, Innards Human Rights Group, AIM
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www.facebook.com/islamichumanrightscommission

Islamic Human Rights Commission

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of course, such laws have been designed and used instead to protect terrorist states allied with the UK. Britons' roles in the IDF today have analogies with the several thousand Jews who served as overseas volunteers (Mahal) in Zionist forces during the 1948 war. They contributed to the widespread ethnic cleansing. The webinar, which took place on 28 February, asked what can be done in Britain to stop today's Mahal. The speakers were: Haim Bresheeth, BRICUP, Tom Suarez, Author of 'State of terror' and Wafa Al Udaini, Journalist 16thOctober Group

LIVE WEBINAR
Live on **IHRC TV** www.ihrctv.org

BOYCOTT, DIVESTMENT, SANCTIONS (BDS):

CHALLENGES, SUCCESS AND THE WAY FORWARD

SATURDAY 19TH DECEMBER 2020 AT 17.00 UK TIME

Speakers: Les Levidow • Mick Napier • Huda Ammori • Zwellivelle Mandela

Supporting organisations:
Islamic Human Rights Commission, Scottish PSC, Jewish Network for Palestine, Ahlulbayt Islamic Mission (AIM), BRICUP, Innards Human Rights Group

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LIVE WEBINAR
Live on **IHRC TV** www.ihrctv.org

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS TO EXPRESS SOLIDARITY WITH PALESTINE

THURSDAY 27 MAY 2021 18.00 UK TIME

Speakers: Haim Bresheeth (Academic), Hassan Shalabi (IHR), Mutassar Arani (Solider) and Raza Kazim (Teacher)

www.ihrctv.org • www.youtube.com/user/IHRCtv
www.facebook.com/islamichumanrightscommission
W: www.ihrctv.org.uk • E: info@ihrctv.org.uk

Campaigns

Free Zakzaky Campaign

2020 marked the fifth year of the illegal internment of Sheikh Ibrahim el-Zakzaky and his wife Mallimah Zeenah by the Nigerian authorities.

Since their arrests, IHRC has campaigned relentlessly for the Nigerian authorities to free the couple, who in 2019 were charged of culpable homicide for their alleged part in the death of a member of the security forces during a massacre by armed forces of supporters of the Islamic Movement in 2015 in which over 1000 innocent people are believed to have been killed.

This year we continued to try to keep the issue in the international spotlight with webinars, alerts, press releases and official letters to government figures and international organisations.

The couple have now been detained for nearly five years despite the Nigerian federal high court ruling in 2016 that their detention was unlawful and unconstitutional and ordering the Nigerian government to release them by January 16, 2017, and pay compensation. That ruling has never enforced with

the state authorities in Kaduna deciding instead to prosecute the pair in 2018.

IHRC and other human rights groups have always maintained that the charges are politically motivated, part of a continuing campaign to persecute Sheikh Zakzaky and also deflect official responsibility for the planned and systematic 2015 massacre which is now the subject of a preliminary investigation by the International Criminal Court.

It is scandalous that despite the scale of the massacre and the existence of mass graves in which they were dumped, to date not a single Nigerian official has been held to account.

Instead, the Nigerian authorities have conducted a witch hunt against sheikh and his wife, and instead of applying justice the judicial system has been abused to keep them in prison in the hope that the ailing sheikh will die quietly, thus quietly removing the “problematic” figurehead of the Islamic Movement. A trip to India to receive urgently needed medical treatment was cut short after it became clear that the Indian authorities were obstructing that aim.





Later in 2019 the Nigerian authorities transferred the Zakzakys from what was effectively house detention to a federal prison where conditions would impact negatively on the Sheikh's already frail health. As Covid-19 swept through Nigeria's prison system and prisoners were released to ease overcrowding, IHRC appealed to the government to free the pair on the grounds that they have never been charged and that their frail health placed them at risk of death from the virus. Indeed, even though Mallimah Zeenah contracted the virus, our pleas fell on deaf ears. We also wrote again to the Commonwealth, the United Nations and the UK Foreign Office to apply pressure on the Nigerian government to release the pair.

On the ground, protests against the couples' detention continued through the year throughout Nigeria, on many occasions coming under attack from the security forces leading to fatalities and injuries of innocent demonstrators.

An IHRC fund set up to help the victims of state violence against supporters of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria is going from strength to strength. So far, IHRC has raised approximately £93,000 to look after Nigeria's neediest. However, many people are still waiting for urgent support, and IHRC is aiming to increase its fundraising target to £200,000 annually. The new funds will expand the existing programme to reach more families of unlawfully killed civilians in Nigeria. The list of documented unlawfully killed civilians stretches to at least 1,300 victims, with about 3,000-4,000 individual family members who desperately need support. A further 5,000 orphans belonging to 650 families also need urgent assistance.

The Zakzakys were brought to court several times over the course of the year only for

their hearings to be adjourned, reinforcing the view that the authorities are only interested in drawing out their incarceration in the hope that they will die quietly in custody.

Citizen India Campaign

India has been gripped over decades, by increasing anti-Muslim rhetoric, policies and violence. This culminated in the enactment of the Citizenship Act at the end of 2019. IHRC has published an online resource pack consisting of background reading material that explains:

- (i) Why the Citizenship Amendment Act creates unequal and second-class citizenship for Muslim;
- (ii) What forms of discrimination against Muslims and various communities is taking place in India;
- (iii) What are some of the causes of this;
- (iv) Some current and previous examples and case studies of atrocities committed against persecuted groups.

In January 2021 IHRC urged campaigners to write Mr Ahmed Shaheed, United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief, to investigate the implications of so-called "Love jihad" law aiming to stop inter-faith marriages in India.

In November 2020, India's most populous state, Uttar Pradesh, became the latest to introduce a law outlawing so-called "Love Jihad". India's Prohibition of Unlawful Religious Conversion Ordinance or "love jihad" laws are state-level statutes that have been enacted to target interfaith marriages between Muslims and those of Hindu background. The laws are in force in eight out of twenty-nine states. The law emerged from a conspiracy theory that Muslim men are attempting to shift India's demographic balance by converting Hindu women to Islam through marriage. Unsurprisingly the false Hindi Nationalist narrative has emerged since the election victory of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's Bharatiya Janata Party in 2014. Narendra Modi's anti-Muslim narra-

↓ View other IHRC Trust appeals & projects

Rohingya Appeal

The Rohingya are fleeing violence and persecution, and desperately need your support. IHRC Trust is raising funds to help deliver critical aid to Rohingya refugees who have fled to Bangladesh and Malaysia.

tive helped him achieve the win, and he has been further instigating and exploiting the nationalist and anti-Muslim sentiments for political gains.

The “Love Jihad” law requires couples from different faiths to provide two months’ notice to a district magistrate before getting married. The judicial official would have the discretion to decide if the conversion was through compulsion. The offending person could then be denied bail and sentenced to 10 years in prison.

Stephen Khan notes that “Notionally, this law applies with equal force to all interfaith marriages. However, this would affect Muslims for all practical purposes, as Islamic personal law requires a non-Muslim to convert to sanctify the marriage. So far, enforcement has targeted only Hindu-Muslim marriages. Since its passage last year, as many as 30 Muslim men arrested in Uttar Pradesh are facing possible prosecution.”

The law is anti-Islamic and breaches the UN international standards on freedom of religion or belief such as article 18 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief. The law disproportionately affects Hindu women as it implies that they cannot make the right choice for themselves; thus, the law also offends gender equality.

Rohingyas

Following our 2019 field visit to compile witness reports from Rohingya refugees in Cox’s Bazaar to submit as evidence in possible prosecution of the Myanmar government, IHRC has continued its campaign to pressure the international community to effect their return to Myanmar.

The persecution of Rohingyas has been going on for decades. However, since October 2016, there has been a large escalation of attacks. While some of the worst humanitarian catastrophes have already occurred, it is still continuing in parts of Myanmar. It is estimated that more than 20,000 people have been killed, with thousands of Rohingya internally displaced, accompanied by rapes, looting, torture and beatings.

Our website was updated with a dedicated resource page where people can find the latest actions, press releases and background resources and other ways they can join in the campaign for justice for the Rohingya. There are also details of how to donate to refugee support via IHRC Trust.

On Monday 22 March, a deadly fire tore through the refugee camp in Bangladesh, home to over a million Rohingya Muslims fleeing the genocide in Myanmar.

At least 15 people were confirmed dead after the blaze ripped through the sprawling camp razing tents to the ground and leaving behind a desolate, charred landscape more redolent of the aftermath of a volcanic erup-

tion. More than 10,000 homes have been destroyed and 80,000 people are displaced. Thousands of children and elderly are missing. Already destitute, tens of thousands residents have now lost what little they had left.

IHRC launched an urgent appeal to raise funds to help the refugees. Working with local partners in Bangladesh, we will be providing them with emergency food aid. Donors are encouraged to contribute towards food packs that will feed whole families. The cost per pack is £20 and will feed a family of 3-6 people for between 7-10 days. The food packs will also ease the burden on relatives and friends who themselves lack resources but are sheltering the homeless.

Xinjiang

With increasing evidence emerging from China about the mass persecution of the Uighur community from Xinjiang province, IHRC sent researchers to Turkey last year to assess the veracity of refugees' reports. This year we published the findings in a report containing first-hand testimonies of Uighur refugees. In envisioning a way forward this report calls on China to adopt a policy of equality and integration based on acknowledging cultural and religious diversity.

The report followed a letter a letter writing campaign last year directed at leaders of Muslim countries, the Organisation of the Islamic Conference and the African Union, urging them to apply pressure on the Chinese government.

There has been a long history of mistreatment and persecution of the Uighurs, including the eradication of culture and heritage, religious persecution,

mass transfers of populations in and out of Xinjiang and political suppression. This has intensified in the last three years with the mass round-up of Uighurs and their internment in so-called re-education camps to erase their sense of cultural and religious identity.

Also this year, IHRC called on campaigners to write to Turkey's Speaker of the Grand National Assembly and representatives of Turkish political parties to oppose adopting a proposed extradition treaty between Turkey and China.

There is growing concern about the well-being of over 50,000 Uighur refugees in Turkey due to increasing political and economic influence of the Chinese government over Turkey. Both countries have claimed that the treaty would be used for counter-terrorism purposes. Yet human rights groups believe that it would be used to intimidate and suppress many Uighur refugees who continuously live in a state of fear. They fear that the treaty is a part of a larger Chinese effort to have the Uighur diaspora returned to Xinjiang so that they can be kept under control.

The treaty requires both countries to extradite "suspects" and "convicts" of trial in absentia in a fast-tracked process. This gives China an unchecked opportunity to issue false charges to Chinese citizen Uighur activists residing in Turkey to have them extradited or force them to live in a constant state of fear of extradition. The IHRC report titled "Grief Observed: Uighur Testimonies" have already documented the harrowing sufferings of Uighur refugees in Turkey.

While China's National People's Congress has ratified the treaty, Turkey's Grand National Assembly is still to vote on the treaty's ratification.





YEMEN

Emergency Appeal

Yemen is witnessing the largest humanitarian crisis in the world.

- 24 million people are in need of critical humanitarian assistance, this includes more than 12 million children.
- COVID-19 in Yemen is seeing four times the deaths from the disease than the global average.
- The cost of feeding a family for an entire month is only £60.
- The cost of feeding a family for a week is only £15.

Please donate NOW to save lives and help the needy.

You can donate by visiting our website
<https://donations.ihrc.org.uk/Yemen>

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Yemen

In 2020 IHRC Trust launched a fundraising campaign to help Yemenis affected by the worsening humanitarian crisis in the country.

IHRC has been campaigning on behalf of the people of Yemen since 2015 when the political and military crisis there escalated.

According to United Nations estimates, more than 24 million people, around 80% of the population, are in need of critical humanitarian assistance. This includes more than 12 million children who are malnourished and on the brink of starvation.

The global Covid-19 pandemic that has wreaked havoc in some of the most industrialised and wealthiest nations is ravaging an already devastated country. Yemen is seeing four times more deaths from the disease than the global average. From the very start we have been highlighting the plight of the people who are caught in the crossfire of this tragic war.

In 2016 we wrote to the then UK prime minister Theresa May in the aftermath of a report by the cross-party Committee on

Arms Exports Control, which said it was likely British weapons supplied to Saudi Arabia had been used to violate international law in Yemen. The strongly worded letter protested the government's continuing insistence on supplying arms to Saudi Arabia despite an increasing acceptance that those weapons are being used to commit human rights abuses in the kingdom's military campaign in Yemen.

As an organisation that enjoys special consultative status with the Economic and Social Council of the UN, in 2017 we raised the Yemen crisis at the 36th session of the UN Human Rights Council in Switzerland and followed it up with a briefing setting out the case under international law for prosecuting Saudi Arabia under war crimes legislation on the grounds that Riyadh was guilty of atrocities and human rights abuses in Yemen.

The following year we protested the state visit of Saudi Prince Mohammad bin Salman to the UK, by projecting images reminding people of Saudi atrocities and British complicity onto the Houses of Parliament.

Over the years we have also put out press releases and appeared on international media outlets to highlight the issue.

Boycott Israeli Dates

Israeli settlements built on stolen Palestinian land have been ruled illegal by the International Court of Justice. 60% of Israel's dates are grown in these settlements, it's their most profitable crop contributing significantly to their economic viability. 80% of settlement dates are exported, the UK being Israel's second largest market. If you oppose the settlements, target their dates.

Israeli settlers bring in low paid Palestinian labourers to do this back breaking work. During the pruning season, workers are dropped on the date palm trees by a hoisting crane at Sin the morning, left perched on palms that soar to heights of 12 metres – a 4 storey building, left there swaying in the wind for up to eight hours without even a toilet break, with no means to come down until the crane returns at the end of the day, the workers cling to the tree with one arm and work with the other to meet their quota. If they fall behind they risk losing



their jobs.

The Israelis prefer to employ children — even issuing official work permits, as they can climb trees faster, work for less and it's easier to cheat and humiliate them. Out of desperate poverty Palestinian families are forced to take their children out of school and hand them over to the settlers to work for a pittance.

In 2005 Palestinian civil society initiated a call for people of conscience around the world to Boycott, Divest and Sanction Israel until it complies with international law and Palestinian rights. The call was endorsed by over 170 Palestinian organisations representing all sections of society including farmers.

Activists visiting the Palestinian village of Fasayl in the Jordan Valley discovered that villagers are slowly being forced off their land by the Israeli army for settlement expansion. The only livelihood left open to them is to work for Israeli plantations. These villagers, forced to work for illegal plantations (including 2 children under the age of 12) to feed their families — had a message for the activists, a plea for anyone who would listen — take action against the companies that support Israeli apartheid.

Ramadan Prisoner Packs

In line with the Quranic command “And feed with food the needy, the orphan and the prisoner, for love of Him,” (Qur’an 76:8)

IHRC continued its annual Ramadan campaign, this year for juvenile prisoners.

Muslim prisoners have a difficult time practising their faith in prison. Not getting access to halal food, lack of prayer facilities, inadequate facilitation of fasting during Ramadan as well as discrimination from other prisoners are just some of the issues faced by Muslim prisoners. This is made worse by the sense of isolation from the Muslim community they feel. As one prisoner described it: “First of all, prison isn’t easy as everyone makes it out to be... Once you’re behind the door you think everyone’s forgotten about you. Your friends, everyone forgets about you until you get out.”

For juvenile prisoners there are added hardships: many are estranged from their families, face prolonged separation from parents and siblings and the prospect of returning to a community that may judge them.

In 2019 we supported our fellow Muslims in prison with a Ramadan starter pack, provided with funds raised by the general Muslim public. Each pack contained items to help prisoners make the most of Ramadan:

- 1x Quran
- 1x The Prophet’s Ramadhan: How the Prophet Observed the Month of Ramadan
- 1x Knowing The Quran 1x Prayer beads
- 1x Perfume Jamid (perfume blocks) used to fragrance the room
- 1x headscarf (for females)

Publications

Nigeria – UPDATE OF THE 2016 IHRC ‘COMMUNICATION TO THE ICC PROSECUTOR’

May 2020

This report was a response to the Report on Preliminary Examination Activities 2019 by the Prosecution Office of the International Criminal Court (ICC) into the massacre of over 1000 supporters of the Islamic Movement of Nigeria in 2015. Five years on after the massacre IHRC is of the view that little has been demanded from the Nigerian government by the ICC and other leading international organisations. In respect of their role at the forefront of the fight for the protection of human rights, the international community should apply more pressure on the Nigerian authorities and remind the country of its obligations to uphold fundamental human rights. IHRC believes that the Nigerian authorities have been operating outside legal norms on the basis of examination of a number of incidents, within the context of a strategy which aims on one hand at destroying and concealing all evidence incriminating the soldiers responsible for the killings of December 2015, and on the other hand to cripple the Islamic Movement of Nigeria (Islamic Movement). The report made a number of recommendations to the ICC which are necessary in order to allow the ICC to

bring successful prosecution.

Grief Observed: Uighur Testimonies

This report published in June 2020 overviews first-hand testimonies of Uighur refugees. In envisioning a way forward this report calls on China to adopt a policy of equality and integration based on acknowledging cultural and religious diversity.

China has chosen to treat its Uighur population as a threat, whose ethnic and religious identity is out of sync with the majority Han Chinese identity. As each repressive policy fails to disabuse the Uighurs of their cultural and religious heritage, China responds with newer and more repressive measures. The “re-education” camps in Xinjiang are a sign of desperation: having failed to scare Uighurs into adopting a Han identity through arrests, torture, surveillance and murder, China is now resorting to forcefully brainwashing the Uighur community in order to teach it how to be more Chinese and less Uighur.

The Chinese authorities should know that repressing an entire population will not work – from Palestine to Kashmir, Chechnya or the Rohingya of Myanmar, the modern world is replete with examples of states failing to break the will of oppressed minorities,

UPDATE OF THE 2016 IHRC
‘COMMUNICATION TO THE ICC PROSECUTOR’
PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 15 OF THE ROME
STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL
COURT TO OPEN A PRELIMINARY INQUIRY INTO
THE ATTACK AGAINST THE ISLAMIC MOVEMENT
OF NIGERIA ON 12-14 DECEMBER 2015
IN ZARIA

Author: Caterina Aliano

Grief Observed: UIGHUR TESTIMONIES

Authors:
Abed Choudhury and
Maesoud Shadjareh

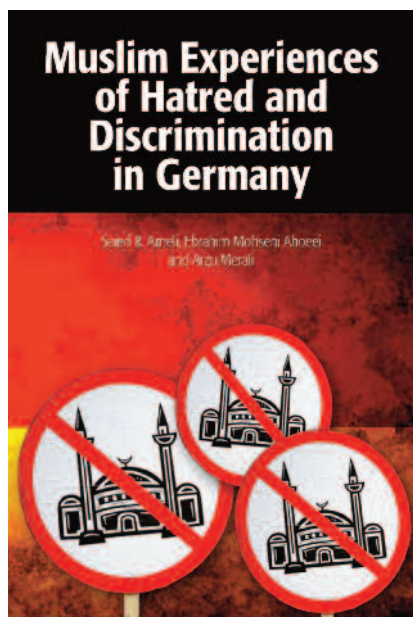


What's Going on Here?

US experiences of Islamophobia
between Obama and Trump

Saeed R. Arneil and Saeed A. Khan





irrespective of how monstrous and barbaric their assaults on those peoples.

If China hopes to resolve its Uighur question, it needs to start viewing them as equal citizens of China. It needs to protect their ethnic and cultural identity and allow them to worship freely. A free, prosperous Uighur population will be an asset to China. Failure to turn away from its current course will only cause instability in Xinjiang as the Uighurs seek to free themselves from the repressive policies of Beijing.

What's Going on Here? US Experiences of Islamophobia between Obama and Trump

IHRC's follow up research on the experiences of Muslims in the USA was published in June 2020.

Muslim Americans recognize the pervasive and threatening nature of Islamophobia in the United States. However, while quantifying anti-Muslim hate crime is important, it is also necessary to understand the negative impact it has on victims and this can be done by classifying it according to perceived severity.

In the five categories of hate crimes classified by the report, the experience of Islamophobia among Muslims in America is most intensely felt in terms of 'hate policy', that is, policies adopted by the government targeting Muslim populations.

Some three-quarters of all respondents ranked 'hate policy' as the most powerful experience of Islamophobia, followed closely

by 'hate representation' (69.9%) and 'hate ideology' (68.3%).

The recommendations that flow from this analysis must contend with the daunting realisation that Islamophobia is a manifestation of the entrenched structural racism in the United States. Whether or not the social unrest occasioned by the killing by police of George Floyd proves to be an inflection point in US politics, the climate is clearly ripe for challenging the country's racist underbelly.

First they came for Muslim women... The latest EU attacks

March 2021

In this briefing, IHRC responds to the implications of the Advocate General's Opinion in Joined Cases C-804/18 – IX v WABE e.V and C-341/19 MH Müller Handels GmbH v MJ in which a magistrate for the European Union's high court held that employers can ban Islamic headscarves on neutrality grounds.

In a nonbinding legal opinion for the European Court of Justice, Advocate General Athanasios Rantos said that the drugstore chain Müller and day care provider WABE can ban its employees from wearing visible displays of their religious beliefs.

IHRC believes that the opinion of the Advocate General of Court of Justice of the European Union on these joined cases is yet another example of how anti-discrimination law is being subverted to serve a runaway right-wing narrative of Muslim exclusion.

Following on from and consistent with

the Achbita judgment in 2017, it rides a cart and horses through the fundamental protections afforded under the ECHR's freedom of religion statute and in doing so seeks to entrench in law the subordinate status of the Muslim community and their faith throughout the Union.

Muslim Experiences of Hatred and Discrimination in Germany

March 2021

This latest contribution to the Domination Hate Model of Intercultural Relations series looks at the rise in Islamophobia in Germany, based on survey work recording Muslim experiences. The research overviews the history of Muslims in Germany, the nexus of contemporary

issues they and other minoritized communities face.

The purpose of this study was to quantify the severity of hate experiences felt by Muslims in Germany. These experiences were classified into the five categories of hate practice, hate ideology, hate as discrimination, cultural schema in the meaning of hate representation in media, and hate policy.

In a general comparison, participants expressed hate policy as more intensely experienced over any other types of hate crimes. They also consider personalised hatred in social communication as much less intensive than ideological hatred or hatred reproduced in media representation. This shows that the experiences of hatred through media, social policy and ideology, which in turn supports, legitimises and reinforces the experiences of hatred in everyday life are powerful in Germany.

Making a series of bold recommendations, this report is aimed at policymakers and those interested in tackling social inequality and injustice.

The Long View

Despite the pandemic, we continued publishing our quarterly magazine, The Long View. As the name suggests, the essays commissioned for this journal aim to look in depth and look forward. The Long View attempts to provide a space for thinkers to analyse in the long term and (kick)start or continue conversations on the same. Essays this year covered the latest conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia and how that has taken on a notably Shia flavour; the impact of the UK government's Prevent programme on how Muslims think about themselves and each other; the breakdown of centrist politics in the USA and the role of white supremacy and policing as a foundational part of what the USA.



Legal and Advocacy

Advocacy - Annual Report 2021

Since 1997, IHRC has been at the forefront of tackling anti-Muslim discrimination and prejudice. From the very outset of our operations, we have helped many people. Over the years we have expanded the support we provide.

The IHRC Advocacy department has been operating since 1997 and the small team supports people who have been the victims of racial or religious discrimination. The types of cases IHRC Advocacy deal with are:

- Anti-terror – Prevent and Schedule 7
- Discrimination by government and public bodies / organisations
- Islamophobia / racism including physical / verbal attacks
- Education
- Housing
- Discrimination in the provision of goods and services

IHRC Advocacy has also recently dealt with:

- Police complaints to the Independent Office of Police Complaints (IOPC) and
- Victims' Right of Reviews against police decisions to close a case

Service users, past and present, have commented they would not have had the confidence, emotional stamina, time and ability to pursue their matters against established institutions and organisations without the experience and assistance of the IHRC Advocacy team. The IHRC Advocacy department provides a dedicated service, ensuring service users are supported during the entire process of their case.

It should be noted that the IHRC Advocacy department does not provide legal advice or assistance. We support individuals to identify relevant issues / who to complain to and then collaborate with them to draft letters, a more substantive complaint and/or provide written representations, where this is necessary.

Some of our success include:

- IHRC Advocacy assisted a hockey club with their claim for indirect discrimination and victimisation against a regional umpiring association. The hockey team's claim was initially upheld but the umpiring association appealed and won on a technicality. Nevertheless, it was reported in The Hockey Paper 2020 that the discrimination complaint levelled against a regional umpires' association led to "significant changes" in governance and how disputes are handled.
- IHRC Advocacy assisted a teenager to successfully challenge a referral by her school and social services to the Prevent deradicalisation process, Channel, despite a police decision not to pursue a case against her.
- IHRC Advocacy successfully assisted a Teaching Assistant in her fight to keep her job against a work investigation launched by



Are you an EU, EEA or Swiss citizen living in the UK?

Do you need professional advice or support with your application for settled or pre-settled status?

Please contact the IHRC Legal team: legal@ihrc.org

We can provide simple advice or take on complex cases.

202 Preston Road,
Wembley HA9 8PA, UK
T: 020 8904 4222
E: legal@ihrc.org

www.ihrclegal.org.uk

Open Monday to Friday, 10am to 6pm

IHRC
Legal



**If you have been
TARGETED for your
pro-Palestinian
Activism
at SCHOOL,
UNIVERSITY or
WORKPLACE**

**Contact IHRC
advocacy@ihrc.org**

We have over 20 years of experience
and an expert advocacy and legal team

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Islamic
Human Rights
Commission

her school into the allegation that she had acted in a manner outside of working hours which was incompatible with her job role. This was due to the fact the teaching assistant was married to a man convicted of terrorist offences, of which the school had become aware several years after she was employed. On the basis of our representations and arguments, the investigator concluded the evidence did not substantiate the need for further formal proceedings against the Teaching Assistant.

- IHRC Advocacy successfully assisted a family of seven to be re-housed in permanent accommodation. The family had been forced to move as a result of an ongoing campaign of harassment and anti-social behaviour that resulted in the family being attacked by a group of boys. The residence was initially and erroneously deemed to breach overcrowding regulations. However, after representations by IHRC Advocacy, the housing association re-considered its decision and apologised for its misunderstanding surrounding overcrowding and agreed to re-house the family.

IHRC Advocacy has dealt with email and telephone enquiries relating to family law matters, debt, mental health, Prevent, social services, school bullying, harassment from neighbours, religious discrimination in a landlord and tenant matter and religious discrimination in higher education. Where assistance could not be given, people are provided relevant information and/or sign-posted to organisations that are better placed

to assist.

The services provided by IHRC Advocacy are completely free of charge and considered a part of IHRC's service to the community.



If you're suffering discrimination, unfair treatment or harassment at work, we're here to support you and help you to seek justice. You may also be entitled to financial compensation.

Contact us for affordable expert legal advice and assistance. For more information, including other funding options, or to speak to our team please contact us.

IHRC Legal

202 Preston Road,
Wembley HA9 8PA, United Kingdom
T: 020 8904 4222 - E: legal@ihrc.org

www.ihrc.org.uk

Open Monday to Friday, 10am to 6pm

Gallery and Bookshop

Owing to the national lockdown our usual repertoire of events was restricted to an online presence with fewer offerings.

July 2020

Tales of Mini Maryam – Activity Event and Competition

The Children's Islamic Library held a storytelling and craft activity to celebrate the publication of Tales of Mini Maryam.

Whether playing make believe or running around in the park, whether eating, sneezing or talking to Abu on the phone, Maryam has something unique to say and also something special to learn. Join her on her adventures and learn alongside her the short du'as and invocations of everyday Muslim life.

Kosser Abdul Aziz's debut is a collection of six lively short stories capturing the world of three-year-old mini Maryam. Reminding

children of all ages to make du'a, be wonderful, stay amazed at the world and always seek to understand each day. With fantastic and engaging illustrations by Taha Abdalla.

This was followed up with an exclusive children's book launch in October 2020 with author Kosser Abdul Aziz.

Sept 2020

IHRC hosted an online author evening on Oct 1 with Haim Bresheeth-Zabner to discuss his latest book 'An Army Like No Other: How the Israel Defense Force Made a Nation'.

The Israeli army, officially named the Israel Defence Forces (IDF), was established in 1948 by David Ben-Gurion, Israel's first prime minister, who believed that "the whole nation is the army." It was the instrument that might transform a diverse population into a new people. Since the foundation of Israel, therefore, the IDF has been the largest, richest and most influential institution in Israel's Jewish society and the nursery of its social, economic and political ruling class. Bresheeth-Zabner argues that the army is embedded in all aspects of daily life and identity. The book charts the evolution of the IDF from the Nakba to wars in Egypt, Lebanon, Iraq and the continued assaults upon Gaza, and shows that the state of Israel has been formed out of its wars. The author also discussed his own experiences as a young conscript during the 1967 war.

Professor Haim is a teacher at the School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) in London and an ex-Israeli Jew and ardent anti-Zionist.

November 2020

IHRC had the pleasure of hosting Fazlun Khalid, founder of the Islamic Foundation for Ecology and Environmental Sciences (IFEES), to discuss his book Signs on the Earth: Islam, Modernity and the Climate Crisis.

In the book Fazlun Khalid looks unflinchingly at how modernity imposes itself on the world, throwing traditional societies

An Online Book Launch




Tales of Mini Maryam
A collection of six lively short stories capturing the world of three year old **Mini Maryam**.
by **Kosser Abdul Aziz**.

Join us for this family-friendly event for a book reading, exclusive interview with the author and a fun-filled activity for children aged 3+

Wednesday, 28th October 2020
2-3pm

Live on
IHRC TV
www.ihrc.tv

Islamic Human Rights Commission
www.ihrc.org.uk
E: events@ihrc.org

**Islamic
Human Rights
Commission**
www.ihr.org.uk

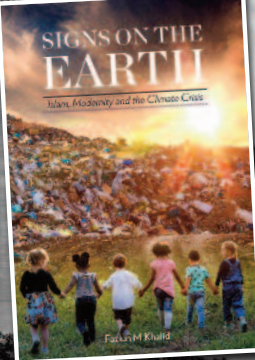
AUTHOR EVENING

with **Fazlun Khalid**

Wednesday,
11 November 2020,
6PM (GMT)

Live on **IHRC TV**
www.ihrc.tv

YouTube Facebook



Signs on the Earth
Islam, Modernity and the Climate Crisis
Fazlun Khalid

Islamic Human Rights Commission

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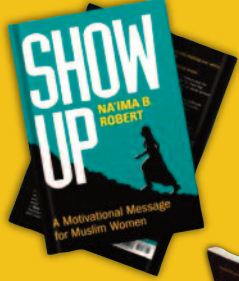
AUTHOR EVENING

with **Na'ima B. Robert**

Monday,
8 March, 2021
6PM GMT

Live on **IHRC TV**
www.ihrc.tv

YouTube Facebook



SHOW UP
NA'IMA B. ROBERT
A Motivational Message for Muslim Women

Purchase **SHOW UP**:
A MOTIVATIONAL
MESSAGE FOR
MUSLIM WOMEN
from shop.ihrc.org

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www.facebook.com/islamichumanrightscommission
W: www.ihrc.org.uk • E: events@ihrc.org

Islamic Human Rights Commission

RAMADAN READINGS

Join IHRC for live children's storytelling sessions during the holy month of Ramadan every **Monday, Friday and Sunday** at 11am BST (GMT+1).

Live on **IHRC TV**
www.ihrc.tv

YouTube Facebook

Books can be purchased from shop.ihrc.org

1- Sunday 18 April
2- Monday 19 April
3- Friday 23 April
4- Sunday 25 April
5- Monday 26 April
6- Friday 30 April
7- Sunday 2 May
8- Monday 3 May
9- Friday 7 May
10- Sunday 9 May

www.ihrc.tv • www.youtube.com/IHRCtv
www.facebook.com/islamichumanrightscommission
W: www.ihrc.org.uk • E: events@ihrc.org

Islamic Human Rights Commission

and contemporary thinkers like Seth Godin, Brené Brown and others, as well as action points and space for the reader to reflect and apply the principles.

Also, in March IHRC was delighted to host an exclusive children's book launch with author Mariam Hakim for her new book *Jamal the Giant and the Largest Lesson*.

Jamal the giant has been badly behaved for years. The forest creatures and villagers who live nearby are fed up with his antics and are planning something that will rid them of this problem forever. But Jamal doesn't like their new idea. Can Jamal make a change for the better just in time? Or is it too late for him to learn the ancient wisdom that good deeds cancel out bad deeds?

An uplifting, sweet story for young hearts about the importance of making amends and improving behaviour through good deeds, which 'erase' bad deeds. Through *Jamal the giant*, children explore the power of positive behaviour, the impact of our individual actions, and caring for our near neighbours.

Social Media and Productions

IHRC took an early and pre-emptive approach to Covid-19, with a proactive understanding that its social media and online strategy would need to quickly adapt and expand to fill the gap of an office and bookshop that would be closed for a prolonged period of time.

WEEKLY VIDEOS FROM IHRC CHAIRMAN

We continued with our regular online content, including weekly video messages from IHRC Chairman Massoud Shajareh, providing unique insights on a range of topical and important issues such as:

UK Police Bill ¹
Switzerland's ban on Muslim face veil ²
Rohingya refugee crisis ³
Home Office report on grooming gangs ⁴
Consequence of Normalising ties with Israel ⁵
Austria Islamophobia ⁶
US election results ⁷
Islamophobia in France ⁸
Sheikh Zakzaky ⁹
Sectarianism in Pakistan ¹⁰
Sabra and Shatila ¹¹
Uighurs ¹²
BBC Islamophobia ¹³
Srebrenica ¹⁴
Human Rights in islam ¹⁵
Citizen India Campaign ¹⁶
Systemic and Community racism ¹⁷
Kashmir ¹⁸

FUNDRAISING

We continued to create videos and use online platforms to fundraise including for the Rohingya Fire camp ¹⁹ and an incredibly successful Yemen Appeal ²⁰ that raised £60,000.

GENOCIDE MEMORIAL DAY (GMD):

IHRC had to adapt important events in the calendar such as GMD, to be online only due to Covid-19. Rather than a live event online, GMD launched on 17/01/2021, as a series of on-demand videos, with over 4,960 views across YouTube and Facebook. This allowed on-demand videos from around the world, including from:

Imam Dawud Walid: The Maafa (African Holocaust) in America ²¹
Dr. Haim Bresheeth: Marking the Other as Enemy ²²
Demir Mahmutcehajic: Bosnia and the Path to Genocide ²³
Prof. Yakov M Rabkin: Nazi Uses of Science and Medicine ²⁴
Maung Zarni: Why is Myanmar Committing Slow Genocide Against Rohingya People? ²⁵
Prof. Ilan Pappé: The Genocide of Gaza Revisited ²⁶

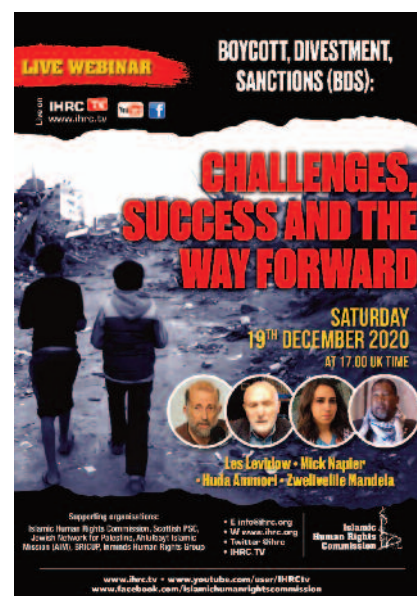
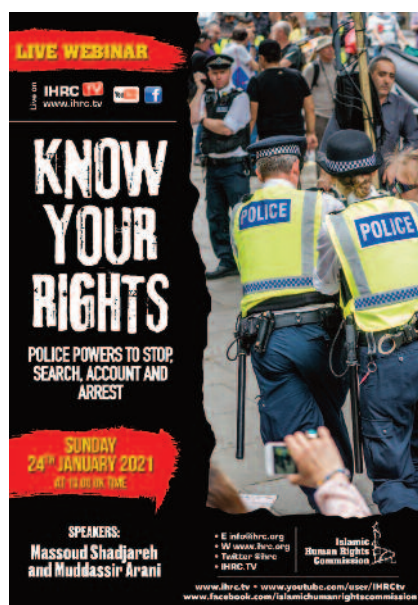
ISLAMOPHOBIA CONFERENCE:

Another annual event that was held online due to Covid-19 was the Islamophobia Conference. With over 1,500 viewers on Facebook ²⁷ and Youtube

AL QUDS DAY/FLYTHEFLAG:

Plans for an alternative Al Quds Day utilising social media and online spaces began very early in the pandemic. The Al Quds Day rally would be replaced with a global #FlyTheFlag campaign ²⁸ running through the 10 days leading up to Al Quds Day. The campaign asked people to "stay home, but #FlyTheFlag" for Palestine" and upload a picture on to their social media. It culminated in a live event on the 22 May ²⁹ on Al Quds Day which was watched by 7,000 viewers.

The campaign was highly successful with thousands of pictures posted across the world for the #FlyTheFlag campaign ³⁰. The hashtag was trending in India, Pakistan and the UK.



IHRC created over 40 videos for the campaign that were shared with supporting organisations. These videos had over 52,200 views on IHRC's FaceBook and YouTube alone.

Some of the key videos includes:

- Faith Leaders United for Palestine ³¹
- Solidarity from Nigeria Video ³²
- A message from the daughter of Imam Khomeini ³³
- Interview with Rabbi Weiss ³⁴

AUTHOR EVENINGS

Despite the lockdown and bookshop closure, we utilised online technology to maintain our author evenings and expanded our childrens' book launches at a time parents needed additional online activities for their children. These were all available on Facebook, YouTube and IHRCTV via our website. We had over 10 children book launches and author evenings as follows:

- 15/03/2021 Children's Book Launch: Jamal the Giant ³⁵
- 13/03/2021 Author Evening with Na'ima B Robert: Show Up ³⁶
- 18/01/2021 Author Evening with Aaron Winter & Aurelien Mondon: Reactionary Democracy ³⁷

- 11/11/2020 Author Evening with Fa-lun Khalid: Signs of the Earth ³⁸

- 29/10/2020 Children's Book Lunch: Tales of Mini Maryam ³⁹

- 11/10/2020 Author Evening with Saeed A Khan: What's Going on Here ⁴⁰

- 01/10/2020 Author Evening with Haim Bresheeth: An Army Like No Other ⁴¹

- 22/07/2020 Author Evening with Kosser Abdul Aziz: Tales of Mini Maryam ⁴²

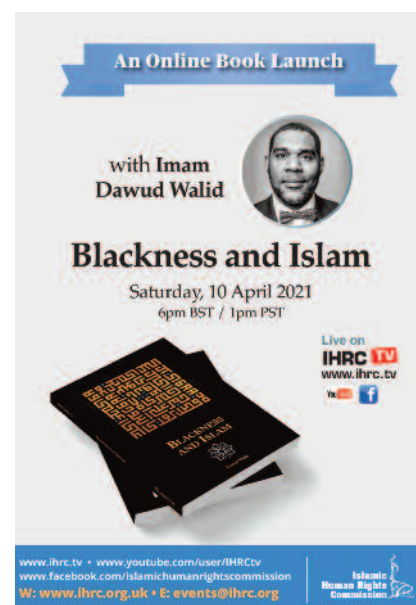
- 15/07/2020 Author Evening with Katy Sian: Navigating Institutional Racism in British Universities ⁴³

EVENTS:

We also continued events online throughout this pandemic, with nine additional events, including educational talks on Knowing Your Rights and also systemic racism as Black Lives Matter protests erupted around the world.

Here is a list of our online events:

- 28/02/2021 Mahal: A Gap Year in the Killing Fields ⁴⁴
- 24/01/2021 Know Your Rights – police powers to stop, search, account and arrest ⁴⁵



- 10/01/2021 State Sanctioned Murder: Targeted assassinations and drone attacks with professor Richard Falk ⁴⁶
- 19/12/2020 BDS: Challenges, Successes and the way forward ⁴⁷
- 01/11/2020 Uniting to End Occupation: One State Solution ⁴⁸
- 12/09/2020 Normalisation: Israel's Strategy for Occupation ⁴⁹
- 17/08/2020 What's happening to the Uighurs ⁵⁰
- 28/06/2020 #FreeZakzaky The Struggle Continues ⁵¹
- 06/06/2020 Uncovering systemic racism ⁵²

¹ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P-kjt4Q7FaE&t=22s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

² https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gk-luwfDoaYA&t=1s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

³ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Os-vIuzkMhrw&t=83s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

⁴ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqjtZt0qM40&ab_channel=IHRCTv

⁵ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fy_RH5YgKr0&ab_channel=IHRCTv

6

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VI-iQQAveGsw&ab_channel=IHRCTv

7

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GVuxnXQyQHm&ab_channel=IHRCTv

8

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4FbjNkBrSYs&ab_channel=IHRCTv

9

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bT-WAvd8oz4&ab_channel=IHRCTv

10

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C-SMw-vOcmI&ab_channel=IHRCTv

11

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=djNWKmZLn7U&ab_channel=IHRCTv

12

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tZGb3LFxHnc&ab_channel=IHRCTv

13

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dxp5Gk9fjng&ab_channel=IHRCTv

14

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=w59Wh7231Fw&ab_channel=IHRCTv

15

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j9wX9zftcw8&ab_channel=IHRCTv

¹⁶ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=a-JvgAlsqs&ab_channel=IHRCTv

17

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q1eroehG4eg&ab_channel=IHRCTv

18

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwXpvx9aC8c>

19



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qqyo2NG5DLk&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MyIL7SbUvtM&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5gqtmBGa24&t=21s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YB0j8qFh5WQ&t=9s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=on40ZyD9S3U&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=F0TpIj4VHeg&t=47s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VuPNV-N3vGI&t=9s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e9dtiGnyIvc&t=114s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

<https://www.facebook.com/109724959498/videos/905201286900877>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VtIl02MAlkc&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZE-jImLBlykc&ab_channel=IHRCTv

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wT-SJesugaAI&t=3s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=233558084610523>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=565486214080021>

<https://www.facebook.com/watch/?v=6>

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ZqSlQOyg7E&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ydmc9pkW804&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oiZ7yyWryGs&t=1879s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nj_1GUuryws&t=153s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P83qjG0oqM8&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EwNAVyY3hQ8&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OAIgmW8Km_0&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SnOfYhTyQV0&t=266s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3FqXxsSsHcM&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hKkqGhRbkQ0&ab_channel=IHRCTv

44

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ThX4aVAe2Qk&t=829s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

45

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kS>



**Palestine:
we will never
give up fighting
for you**





[my1DICQqk&ab_channel=IHRCTv](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=my1DICQqk&ab_channel=IHRCTv)

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4HMibf8uYbE&t=3878s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qx7HCMVMXgo&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uxWf_TMaWLM&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0KT2gabao-s&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6yfsKvFg9vs&ab_channel=IHRCTv

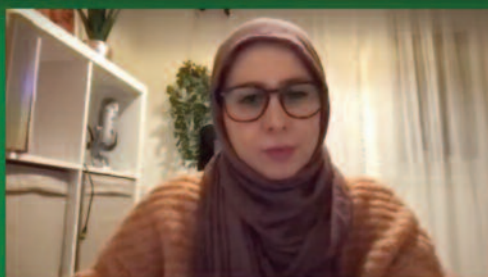
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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uWZNuTgw-YY&ab_channel=IHRCTv

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https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Up-IcKFO3b_E&ab_channel=IHRCTv

Author Evening with Aaron Winter & Aurelien Mondon: Reactionary Democracy



**Author Evening with Aaron Winter & Aurelien Mondon:
Reactionary Democracy**

IHRC in the Media

IHRC representatives routinely take part in interviews for news, radio and TV discussion programmes. Articles written by our staff are published in newspapers and journals. Our work is also covered by many media outlets. Below are a selection of this year's highlights.

27 March 2021

<https://www.theguardian.com/education/2021/mar/27/religious-leaders-and-politicians-call-for-calm-in-batley-cartoon-row>

Religious leaders and politicians call for calm in Batley cartoon row

The Islamic Human Rights Commission, a London-based advocacy group, asked Williamson to retract his statements, saying that he “effectively accuses concerned parents of violence against the school and making threats”.

“Neither of these claims seems substantiated by video footage of the parents’ protest outside the school,” the IHRC said. “These claims firstly distract from the core issue – what appears to be a deliberate racist and humiliating provocation by a teacher against Muslim pupils. Secondly, they demonise Muslim parents, students and the community in general.”

1 February 2021

<https://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2021/02/01/644306/Bangladesh-sends-Rohingya-Muslim-refugees-to-deserted-islands->

Bangladesh sends Rohingya Muslim refugees to deserted islands

“They are not really stateless; in reality they have a right to be citizens of Myanmar. They’ve been denied that basic, fundamental right is not the fact that, you know, by, you know, by history they are stateless their citizenship has been denied and that is the heart of the problem. And it will not be resolved unless the international community forces, the Myanmar government to rise up and ac-

cept their responsibility for looking after their own citizens.”

Massoud Shadjareh, Islamic Human Rights Commission, London

9 February 2021

<https://www.thecanary.co/letters/2021/02/09/the-guardian-declines-to-publish-a-letter-by-anti-apartheid-campaigners/>

The Guardian declines to publish a letter by anti-apartheid campaigners.

On 17 January, the Guardian published an editorial entitled The Guardian view on Israel and apartheid: prophecy or description?

In response, over 300 people signed a letter, including former ANC MPs Ronnie Kasrils & Andrew Feinstein (both in government with Nelson Mandela), Jeff Halper of the Israeli Committee Against House Demolitions (ICAHD Jerusalem) and Linda Ramsden of ICAHD UK.

The Guardian declined to publish the letter.

(IHRC was one of the signatories).

8 January 2021

<https://www.middleeasteye.net/big-story/uk-london-muslims-police-spy-undercover-mosques>

‘An honorary Muslim’: The police spy who monitored London’s mosques in plain sight.

As undercover officers, Bob Lambert and his fellow detectives adopted the identities of dead children and had relationships with women they spied on. Then they turned their attention to British Muslims...

“The Muslim Contact Unit offered a valuable space for Muslims to interact with the police,” says Massoud Shadjareh, chair of the London-based Islamic Human Rights Commission. “And that space had shrunk.”



16 December 2020

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-9057877/Jeremy-Corbyns-peace-project-backed-supporter-controversial-hate-preacher-Abu-Hamza.html>

Jeremy Corbyn's peace project is backed by supporter of controversial hate preacher Abu Hamza.

Massoud Shadjareh, founder and chairman of the Islamic Human Rights Commission, appears in a publicity video for the ex-Labour leader's initiative, which launched this week.

As IHRC head, Mr Shadjareh condemned the 2006 conviction of hook-handed Hamza for inciting racial hatred, as well as his extradition to the US on terror charges, where he was jailed for life in 2015.

26 November 2020

<https://www.trtworld.com/magazine/jailed-saudi-activist-s-health-worsens-due-to-torture-and-hunger-strike-41833>

Jailed Saudi activist's health worsens due to torture and hunger strike.

Saudi Arabia seems to have learned nothing from the consequences of dissident Jamal Khashoggi's murder, as the country's infamous judicial system continues to dither on

a controversial case against an internationally-recognised women's rights activist, Lou-jain al Hathloul.....

There are nearly 30,000 political prisoners in the kingdom according to the Islamic Human Rights Commission.

8 November 2020

<https://www.jpost.com/diaspora/antisemitism/swc-and-cao-disappointed-zionism-slur-ruled-not-antisemitism-648435>

SWC and CAA 'disappointed' Zionism slur ruled 'not antisemitism'

Britain's Campaign Against Antisemitism and the Simon Wiesenthal Center have criticized a decision by Britain's General Pharmaceutical Council (GPhC), after it ruled that comments by a London-based chemist in which he accused Zionists of financially supporting the Conservative Party were "grossly offensive," but didn't constitute antisemitism. The chemist, Nazim Ali, made the remarks during a pro-Hezbollah "Al-Quds Day" rally in 2017....

Ali is also the director Islamic Human Rights Commission's (IHRC) London office.

20 July 2020

<https://www.dailymail.co.uk/debate/article-8542485/EDWARD-LUCAS-harrowing->



[evidence-Beijings-concentration-camps-aimed-educating-Muslims.html](https://www.thejc.com/news/uk/soas-professor-calls-israel-a-western-virus-1.507045)

‘A naked brutality worthy of the Nazis’: EDWARD LUCAS on the harrowing evidence of Beijing’s concentration camps dedicated to ‘re-educating’ a million or more Muslims

A report by the London-based Islamic Human Rights Commission, ‘A Grief Ob-



served’, contains a harrowing compilation of inmates’ experiences.

25 September 2020

<https://www.thejc.com/news/uk/soas-professor-calls-israel-a-western-virus-1.507045>

SOAS professor calls Israel a “Western virus”

An academic from London University’s School of Oriental and African Studies (SOAS) has labelled Israel a “Western virus”.

Dr Haim Bresheeth, Professorial Research Associate at SOAS’s Centre of Global Media and Communication, also claimed the Holocaust was the “clincher argument” in Israel’s “presumed right over Palestine”.

During a debate held earlier this month on the “normalisation” of Israel, Dr Marwa Osmā, a Lebanese commentator who has appeared on Iranian-backed Press TV, also called for support for “armed resistance” coupled with “international pressure” against what she said was “Zionist aggression.”

The two-hour long discussion was organised by the Islamic Human Rights Commission (IHRC) and included a contribution from the controversial charity’s chair Masoud Shadjareh.





“

I am grateful to Allah Subhanahu Wa Ta'ala who has given us the ability and the opportunity to stand up for all the oppressed people around the world. I would also like to thank everyone who has tirelessly supported us in every possible way and made the commitment that we will not abandon those who are in need but continue this work together to support them in every possible way. Together we will be victorious. Please share this report and our activities with your friends and colleagues and people in the community so we may increase our ability to address the task at hand. Please also encourage others to support IHRC by campaigning, supporting, or donating to the work of IHRC.

”

Massoud Shadjareh

Chair, Islamic Human Rights Commission



- **IHRC TV:** <http://ihrc.org.uk/multimedia> or ihrc.tv
- **Twitter:** <https://twitter.com/ihrc> - <https://twitter.com/ihrcbookshop>
- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Islamic-Human-Rights-Commission/109724959498>
- **Youtube:** <https://www.youtube.com/user/IHRCtv>
- **Flickr:** <https://www.flickr.com/photos/ihrc>
- **Instagram:** <https://instagram.com/ihrcbookshop/>



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with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations.