

Lewisham Islamic Centre

Quds Policy

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Policy owner: Lewisham Islamic Centre

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Revision history

Version	Date	Description of Revision	Version	Date	Description of Revision

The latest version of this policy will always be on the intranet.

363 - 365 Lewisham High Street, Lewisham, London. SE13 6NZ |

www.lewishamislamiccentre.com

Tel: 0208 690 5090 | Registered Charity Number: 1187279 | Fax: +44(0)203 137 5202

Email: info@lewishamislamiccentre.com

Policy Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to outline LIC's position and actions regarding any international issues where Muslims face persecution and prejudice. There are a number of such examples including (this is not an exhaustive list): The Rohingya in Burma/Myanmar, Kashmir, India, Uyghur, Central African Republic, France, Syria, and Palestine (from where this policy takes its name).

1. Basis for acting

1.1 The LIC's charitable objects describe and identifies the purpose of our activities as being the entire world, particularly the London Borough of Lewisham. The following Objects are relevant for the purposes of this policy:

- The advancement of the faith and religious practices of Islam;
- The advancement of education concerning the teaching of Islam and general education;
- Relief of poverty and suffering;
- Advancement of religious and racial harmony;
- Working towards the elimination of discrimination on the grounds of religion and race;

2. Principles & Vision

2.1 In Islam, the Muslim community is identified globally by reference to "**Ummah**" – a community without borders.

2.2 Though separated by distance and often constrained by borders, the Muslim Ummah is one which should be united.

2.3 What an Ummah is and how it should operate is best encapsulated for us in the Glorious Qur'an and Hadith of Prophet Muhammad (saw):

- *"And verily this Ummah of yours is one Ummah and I am your Lord and Cherisher, therefore fear Me and no other."* (Qur'an 23:52)
- *"The example of the believers in their love, mercy and sympathy for one another can be compared to one body; when any part of the body aches, the whole body responds with sleeplessness and fever"* (Muslim).

2.4 Our response to local and international issues should be based on the above principles of showing co-operation and solidarity with the Ummah.

- 2.5 To assist/support those where there is an attempt to eradicate indigenous peoples either by massacre/genocide, or through other ethnic cleansing policies, including colonial settlement projects and coerced displacement.
- 2.6 To support rights of Muslim who are seeking self-determination – their human rights.
- 2.7 To support the right of return of people to their land which has been usurped by illegal occupying forces/states.
- 2.8 To support communities impacted by apartheid and racist, discriminatory laws and practices.
- 2.9 Work to challenge discriminatory laws, practices and decisions.
- 2.10 To support individuals and communities to claim their rights to end impunity;
- 2.11 To support for genuine efforts towards a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace that is consistent with international and Islamic law;

3. What LIC will do

- 3.1 Strengthen the resilience of individuals, communities, and institutions so they can react appropriately when faced with threats to their lives, land and livelihoods.
- 3.2 Raise awareness of the plight of the communities impacted through holding events, lectures, Friday sermons, articles, through social media and supporting other such campaigns.
- 3.3 Raising funds - a humanitarian response to strengthen local capacity.
- 3.4 Put pressure on authorities to hold those oppressing and discriminating against others to account by writing letters to MPs, signing petitions, attending demonstrations and marches.
- 3.5 Hold special prayers services in support of those being oppressed and discriminated against.
- 3.6 Where relevant, arrange sightseeing/factfinding/religious tours to countries.
- 3.7 The above is not an exhaustive list.