Your Guide for Ramadan 2021

What’s Happening at AQS?

Make This Your Best Ramadan Ever

Ramadan Do’s & Don’ts

Healthy Eating Plan

AQS Ramadan Timetable

Donate a Tile for the Expansion of England’s First Masjid
COVID SECURITY
AQS is Covid Safe. Please comply with the regulations that are in place to keep us all safe.

- Wear a mask in the Masjid
- Maintain a social distance
- Bring your own prayer mat & shoe bag
- Use the sanitiser stations
- Please make Wudhu at home
- If you have Covid-19 symptoms please pray at home

£500,000 TARGET
Please support the Abdullah Quilliam Mosque expansion project. Donate a tile on the Al Qalam Donor Wall!

OUTER TILE £250
CENTRE TILE £500

SEE PAGES 37-43 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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FOLLOW US ONLINE THROUGHOUT RAMADAN!

THANK YOU
AQS would like to thank supporters and the following charities and foundations for their generous funding, food, health and well-being support to the vulnerable and needy during the COVID 19 pandemic crisis:

- The Steve Morgan Coronavirus Emergency Fund
- Sports England Community Emergency Fund
- The National Lottery Community Fund
- Community Foundation For Merseyside
- P.H.Holt Foundation

JOIN US AT SKY 781 ON THE 15TH OF RAMADAN FOR A LIVE AQS APPEAL

165 generous individuals needed to raise or donate £3000 each to secure the purchase and expansion of England’s first Mosque, Insha’Allah.
CONSULTANT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR’S FOREWARD

Imam Ajmal Mastroor

B rothers, Sisters

Insha’Allah [May the Peace & Blessings of God Be Upon You]

Ramadan greetings to you all, on behalf of AQS I would like to wish you a serene and eventful month of worship and compassion. I hope you find this small literary gift, in the form of a magazine beneficial, Insha’Allah.

Did you know that this first registered mosque in the United Kingdom was established by a native Liverpudlian by the name of William Henry Quilliam in 1887. He embraced Islam in Morocco in 1887 and quickly became a renowned advocate of Islam in the UK. He was even given the title ‘Sheikhul Islam in the UK. He was even registered mosque in the United Kingdom was established by a native Liverpudlian by the name of William Henry Quilliam in 1887. He embraced Islam in Morocco in 1887 and quickly became a renowned advocate of Islam in the UK. He was even given the title ‘Sheikhul Islam in the UK. He was even
dons, 30 days of forgiveness, and 720 hours of enlightenment. This year marks our seventh Ramadan in England’s First Mosque since the re-opening in 2014. It is the second Ramadan affected by the Covid-19 pandemic, though there will be tight regulations, we are hoping to pray the Taraweeh and Qiyam ul-Layl together this year, Insha’Allah.

This is a challenging time for everyone, particularly the Muslim community during Ramadan, as it is testing our Iman (faith). Islam encourages us to reflect upon tribulations as “signs” from Allah (swt).

The pandemic continues to challenge humanity’s technological, industrial, and economic advancement; but Muslims are rising to this challenge. A Turkish Muslim scientist has led the way to develop vaccines for treatment. This shows that, as a community, by turning to Allah (swt) in recognition of our vulnerability, He offers openings to help us overcome crisis.

Although the coronavirus emergency has understandably dominated our present focus, we continue to support the vulnerable and needy within the Muslim and wider communities during these times.

Our fundraising and legal steps to acquire the freehold ownership of 1-10 Brougham Terrace, though delayed, Insha’Allah will happen soon.

Last year we received strong support from the community during the lockdown restrictions as people longed to remain connected and concerned for the mosque. We are very grateful for this and earnestly hope we can count on your support this Ramadan, which we need more than ever.

Please donate a tile on the Al Qalam Donor wall, this will enable us to complete the purchase of 1-7 Brougham Terrace, and kickstart several new services for the local Muslim communities in 2021 such as: creation of additional prayer capacity; children and young people’s madrasah; women’s & family centre including health and well-being services and an inspirational Islamic educational and heritage experience.

May Allah (swt) continue to guide us all throughout Ramadan and endow us with courage that will help us triumph over the adversities of life. This was a theme which concerned Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam a lot, about which he wrote many poems. I invite you to engage with our digital Ramadan programme via social media and visit our website for updates on our activities. Wishing you all a happy and peaceful Ramadan.

Your Brother in Islam,

Imam Ajmal Mastroor
Brothers, Sisters & Friends, your Centre has a busy schedule for Ramadan, here is a quick overview of the services we will be providing and how you can get involved Insha’Allah! Please visit me and the team in the Masjid office for further details. Mumin Khan AQS CEO

**WHAT’S HAPPENING at AQM this Ramadan 2021?**

**IFTAR MEALS**

Iftar meals will be handed out at AQM every day. Delivery of meals will also be made every day to locals. Make your donations towards an iftar meal and benefit from the reward of the fasting person (£4 per meal). Join us, donate dry food or money at AQS.

**LIVE ONLINE BROADCASTS**

Follow AQM’s YouTube and Facebook page and subscribe now to watch live prayers, lectures and live interactive shows and much more.

**FOOD PACK DISTRIBUTIONS**

Food packs containing essential food items will be distributed to those who are vulnerable in our community.

**TARAWEEH**

See Ramadan Timetable

Daily Taraweeh prayer and live online broadcasts will be lead by renowned Qari & winner of the UK National Qirat Competition - Sheikh Sadek Kassim.

**ZAKAT UL-FITR (FITRANA)**

A charitable donation that must be given before the Eid prayer, ideally before the end of the month of Ramadan. Fitrana must be given by every self-supporting adult Muslim who has means in excess of their needs, on behalf of themselves and their dependants. This equates to approximately £5 per person. Donate yours now.

Ibn ‘Abbas (may Allah be pleased with him) reported: “The Messenger of Allah ordained Zakat ul Fitr [Fitrana] to purify the fasting person from indecent words or actions, and to provide food for the needy. It is accepted as Zakat for the person who gives it before the Eid prayer, but it is a mere Sadaqah for the one who gives it after the prayer.”

Donate and collect a meal for the needy after Asr prayers.

**QUR’AN CLASSES**

The Imam of AQM will be available every day after Asr prayers with Qur’an classes for you to learn / recite the Qur’an to him. Set yourself a challenge to improve your reading and finish the Qur’an this Ramadan. A sister will also be available for ladies.

In case of further Covid restrictions, online Zoom classes will be available, please register your interest now by emailing the office.

**EID PRAYERS**

Restrictions permitting, there will be 3 Eid Jama’ah at Abdullah Quilliam Mosque:

1st Jama’ah: 8:00am
2nd Jama’ah: 9:00am
3rd Jama’ah: 10:00am

Please check local Covid-19 Guidelines in case this schedule changes.

**CHILDREN**

Professional provisions will be made for children in the mosque to enable you to concentrate during prayers.

Please contact Br Mumin Khan for any further details on: 0151 260 3986 / 07949 921692.

**LETTURES**

Lectures will be held on different topics throughout Ramadan, Every Friday, Saturday and Sunday After Asr Salah.

A Special 3 day Seerah Symposium (Biography of the Prophet) will also be held on the 3rd weekend of Ramadan. Be sure not to miss out on this.

Live broadcast of these will also be available.

**AQSO LIVE ONLINE RAMADAN BROADCASTS: DON’T MISS THEM!**

**DONATE and collect a meal for the needy after Asr prayers.**

Donate and collect a meal for the needy after Asr prayers.
**MAKE THIS YOUR BEST RAMADAN EVER!**

**MESSAGES OF HOPE FROM THE IMAMS OF AQM**

**Shaykh Waddah Saleh**

The great month of worship has finally arrived. Allah, Most High, in His infinite wisdom and mercy has blessed us all with another chance to experience Him in this month.

Since last Ramadan much has passed. For almost all, this has been perhaps the most difficult year we could ever imagine. But whatever has happened since we last met Ramadan we are all back standing at the door of Ramadan. ‘Marhaban Ya Ramadān’ [Welcome O Ramadan] ‘Marhaban Shahr ‘l-‘ibāda’ [Welcome O Month of Worship]

I ask you all, how did you feel last year when the month left. Did you actually think you would see it again? Ramadan came laden with gifts from its Lord. Praying the prayers had a new meaning to it; reading Qur’an became enjoyable, standing for over an hour in Tarawih became normal, giving in charity was no longer a burden and we beseeched the Lord as He deserves. And what did we get as gifts: mercy, forgiveness, sins wiped away, guarantees of freedom from Hell-fire. And now the same thing again. Ramadan has come again asking us to do the same and more in exchange for the same and more from its Lord. May Allah (swt) accept all that we do in this blessed month.

Shaykh Haroon Hanif

**EAT SUHOOR!**

The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: “The Suhoor is a meal of blessings, so do not leave it, even if one of you just takes a sip of water, since Allah (swt) sends mercy and His angels seek forgiveness for those who take Suhoor.” (Ahmad)

**PRAY TWO RAKA’AH SUNNAH OF SALAAT UL-FAJR**

Just after the adhan, and before the fard prayer, the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said of this prayer: “It is more superior than the world and everything within it.” (Muslim)

**STAY UP AFTER SALAAT UL-FAJR TO MAKE DU’A AND DHIKR UNTIL SUNRISE**

The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: “He who performs the Fajr prayer in congregation and remains seated in the same place while engaging in dhikr until after sunrise and thereafter performs 2 raka’ah (units) voluntary prayer, he will obtain the rewards of one Hajj and one Umrah.” (Tirmidhi)

**PRAY SALAAT AT-TAHAJJUD**

The Prophet (pbuh) said: “The best prayer after the obligatory prayers is the prayer which is performed in the last part of the night.” (Muslim)

**MAKE DU’A IN THE LAST THIRD OF THE NIGHT**

The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: “As it is in that time that Allah (swt) looks for those who are seeking His help and forgiveness.” (Bukhari)

**GIVE AS MUCH AS YOU CAN IN CHARITY**

“The Prophet (pbuh) was the most generous of people, and he was most generous during Ramadan,” (Bukhari)

**READ QUR’AN**

This is the month where the Prophet (pbuh) would study the Qur’ān with ‘Angel Jibril (as).

**PRAY SALAAT AD-DUHA**

The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: “Whoever regularly prays the two raka’ah of Duha, his sins are forgiven even if they are as numerous as the foam of the sea.” (Tirmidhi) The time for Salaat ad-Duha begins approximately 15-20 minutes after sunrise. Two raka’ah (units) are the agreed upon minimum number to be offered, the maximum number differs.

**‘The month of Ramadan in which was revealed the Qur’an, a guidance for mankind, and clear proofs of the guidance, and the criterion (of right & wrong). And whosoever of you is present, let him fast the month, and whosoever of you is sick or on a journey, let him fast the same number of other days’.

AL QUR’AN 2:18
**DO**

**RECITE THE HOLY QUR’AN AT EVERY OPPORTUNITY**

Since the Holy Qur’an was first revealed to Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) in Ramadan, now is the perfect time to read it, understand its meanings, and memorise its verses. Remember, the Holy Qur’an is a mercy, guide, blessing, and gift from the Creator.

**MAKE A DU’A BEFORE BREAKING YOUR FAST**

Don’t sit and just stare at your food awaiting the blessed delights of that sweet date, remember to make a supplication, to ask Allah (swt) for what you desire: Paradise, forgiveness, pardon, health, and wealth.

In the authentic Hadith, Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said, “There are three whose Du’a is never rejected: the fasting person when he breaks his fast, the just ruler, and the one who is oppressed.” (Al-Tirmidhi)

**GIVE FROM WHAT ALLAH HAS GIVEN YOU!**

Ramadan is the month for giving. Give to those in need and the many good causes you will be invited to support this month! One thing you should always remember as a Muslim is that Allah (swt) gave you that wealth to be shared with others. Be beneficent, let us not hoard.

**FORGIVE, FORGIVE AND FORGIVE AGAIN**

Ramadan is about forgiveness. During the month of Ramadan, forgive anyone and everyone who has wronged you. If the Almighty can forgive us of the sins we have committed throughout the entire year, then why not you? Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said: ‘It (Ramadan) is the month, whose beginning is mercy, its middle forgiveness, and its end is emancipation from the fire (of hell).’

**ALWAYS REFRAIN FROM GOSSIP & SLANDER**

The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said, “The true fast is not to merely abstain from food and drink; rather the true fast is to abstain from futile activities and obscene talk.” It’s very common to bad mouth about other people’s problems and lives.

Watch your mouth against gossiping and backbiting. There is actually no need for you to go hungry the whole day in the name of fasting when you can’t refrain from such toxic behaviour. It’s said in the Hadith that: “Whoever does not give up false speech and acting upon it, Allah has no need of him giving up his food and drink.” (Bukhari)

**DON’T**

**WASTE PRECIOUS TIME**

Avoid wasting your precious Ramadan time on worldly gain and activities. Instead, dedicate this time to worshipping Allah (swt) and asking for forgiveness. Use this valuable time to repent and pray to Allah in order to attain Taqwa, closeness to Allah (swt).

The days and nights of Ramadan are too valuable to be wasted away on social media, watching TV, going on shopping sprees, oversleeping and cooking or consuming extravagant feasts.

**CONTROL YOURSELF**

Self-control is one of the main goals of fasting. It improves our resilience and we are then better equipped to deal with stress. Fasting should make us humble, kind, and compassionate. Ramadan should teach us patience and tolerance when we are insulted or provoked. It is not an excuse for argumentation or aggression.
About Fasting

Misconceptions

Common

Myth Busting by

Imam Ajmal Masroor

1 EATING JUNK FOOD IS BALANCED BY FASTING

Some increase their intake of fried, fatty, high sugar and salt containing food and beverages in the month of Ramadan. Fasting is a great opportunity to detox your body of the entire year’s excess. It is an ideal time to switch to healthy food, especially foods that heal and not harm. Allah (swt) says, ‘Eat from this earth that is Halal (permissible) and Tayyib (beneficial).’ (Qur’an 7:31)

2 FOOD WASTAGE IS NORMAL IN RAMADAN

We spend too much money on buying all sorts of luxurious items of food, often feeding our eyes. Ramadan is the month of abstinence and self-control; your food should also reflect the simplicity and humility of a true Muslim. Allah (swt) says, ‘Eat and drink and do not be extravagant.’ (Qur’an 2:31)

3 BINGE EAT FROM IFTAR TO SUHUR

Staying awake the whole night only to devour food and drink, adds extra weight to our bodies and fuels an unhealthy desire for more food. This is how people gain weight, clog up their arteries and destroy their health while fasting. The Prophet (pbuh) said: ‘A human being fills no worse vessel than his stomach. It is sufficient for a human being to eat a few mouthfuls so keep his spine straight. But if he must fill it, then one third for food, one third for drink and one third for air.’ (Sahih Bukhari)

4 IT IS OKAY TO DELAY IFTAR AND HASTEN SUHUR

People delay iftar by waiting a few extra minutes after Maghrib prayer has begun and hasten suhoor by eating early because they are being extra cautious. This is against the teachings of the blessed Prophet (pbuh). It was narrated by Abu ‘Azyrus, ‘I said to ‘Ushail (RA): ‘Among us there are two men, one of whom hastens iftar and delays suhoor, and the other delays iftar and hastens suhoor.’ She said, ‘Which of them is the one who hastens iftar and delays suhoor?’ I said: ‘Abdulrahman bin Masud.’ She said, ‘This is what the Messenger of Allah used to do.’ (Sunan an-Nasa’i)

5 YOU CAN FAST WITHOUT INTENTION

The majority of the scholars say that the intention to fast the night before every fast of Ramadan is an obligation and without it the fast is invalid. They cite the following saying of the Prophet (pbuh) who said: ‘He who does not make the intention for fasting before dawn, there is no fast for him.’ (Abu Dawood). Your intention is something in the heart and does not need to be verbal.

6 TARAWEEH PRAYER IS AN OBLIGATION

Taraweeh prayer in the month of Ramadan is not an obligation and has no bearing on the validity of your fast. It is however encouraged and has become part of a collective tradition in the Muslim community. You can pray as many rakah as you want, either at home or at the mosque, without doubt praying in congregation at the mosque if possible is more rewarding.

7 IF YOU ACCIDENTALLY EAT WHILE Fasting YOUR FAST IS INVALID

Eating or drinking accidentally, does not invalidate or break your fast. If you do this mistakenly then you continue fasting and do not need to make up for the day. Abu Hurayra (RA) relates that the Prophet (pbuh) said: ‘Whoever forgets he is fasting and eats or drinks, let him complete his fast for it is Allah who has fed him and given him to drink.’ (Bukhari)

8 IT IS PROHIBITED TO BRUSH YOUR TEETH WHILE FASTING

A person is permitted to brush their teeth and use toothpaste as long as they do not swallow it. Do not go overboard in the use of the toothpaste or gargling. Your fasting breath is sweeter to Allah (swt) than the smell of musk but sadly this may not be the case for your fellow human-beings! Amir b. Rah’s (RA) said, ‘I saw the Prophet (pbuh) brushing his teeth while fasting.’ (Abu Dawood)

9 AS A COOK YOU CANNOT TASTE FOOD WHEN FASTING

A person may taste the food to see if it has the right spices or flavours while fasting, as long as the person does not swallow. Ibn Abbas (RA) said, ‘Isn’t ok for the fasting person to taste the food if there is need as long as he or she does not swallow it.’ (Al-Bayhaqi in Al-Sunan Al-Kubra)

10 YOU SHOULD SPT IF FASTING TO AVOID SWALLOWING YOUR SALIVA

Saliva is a natural secretion inside your mouth to help it stay lubricated. Allah (swt) does wish ease for you and not difficulty. (Qur’an 2:185). Swallowing your saliva does not break your fast. Spitting out your saliva is extremely unhygienic and has the potential to spread germs.

11 WHILE FASTING, WEARING PERFUME IS NOT ALLOWED

You are permitted to use perfume, the blessed Prophet (pbuh) wore perfume while fasting.

12 KISSING YOUR SPOUSE WHILE FASTING WILL BREAK YOUR FAST

It is believed that kissing, hugging or touching one’s spouse while fasting can break it. This is false. It is narrated that Ayeshah (RA) narrated her own experience with the Prophet (pbuh): ‘The Prophet used to kiss and caress me when fasting, and he was the most able of you to control his desire.’ (Bukhari 1927). It is important to note that if you cannot control yourself, then do not become intimate.

13 YOU CANNOT HAVE MARITAL RELATIONS DURING RAMADAN

A person cannot have sexual relations while fasting but between Maghrib and Fajr you are free to do so.
A WET DREAM BREAKS YOUR FAST

Some incorrectly believe a wet dream or involuntary ejaculation while you are fasting, breaks it. You would need to have a ghusl (ritual bath or shower) before you stand for your next prayer but it does not break your fast.

YOU CANNOT FAST WITHOUT PERFORMING THE OBLIGATORY GHUSL

(BATH/SHOWER) AFTER YOUR MENSTRUATION

Some women believe that if their period has ended before Fajr and they did not make ghusl they cannot fast. This is incorrect. If a woman has not made ghusl, her fast has ended before Fajr and they did not stand for your next prayer but it does not break your fast.

WHILE FASTING, YOU DO NOT NEED TO CONTROL YOUR TEMPER AND TONGUE

This is false, the Prophet (pbuh) said, ‘Fasting is a shield (or a screen) So the person observing fasting should avoid sexual relations with his wife and should not behave foolishly and impudently, and if somebody fights with him or abuses him, he should tell him twice, ‘I am fasting.’ (Bukhari)

YOU SHOULD FORCE YOUR CHILDREN TO FAST

We should not force our children to fast. In Islam fasting becomes an obligation from the age of puberty. You can allow them or encourage them to fast to fast if it is physically and emotionally safe for them. Developing a healthy relationship with food starts at an early age and fasting is a great way to introduce a balanced approach to eating and drinking moderately and healthily.

WHILE FASTING, YOU CANNOT FAST WITHOUT PERFORMING THE OBLIGATORY GHUSL AFTER SEX

A person can fast without having performed the ritual bath or ghusl, however it is preferred for them to do so.

MAKING DUA’A AT IFITAR IS NOT IMPORTANT

Many fail to take advantage of making Du’a at Ifitar time. They forget that this is one of the three most acceptable moments to offer Du’a. The blessed Prophet (pbuh) said, ‘Three of those whose invocation is never rejected are: a fasting person breaking their fast, the just ruler and the one who is oppressed.’ (Tirmidhi)

TIME IS EASILY WASTED WHILE FASTING

Many waste their time during Ramadan watching television, gaming, scrolling through social media, WhatsApp and browsing the internet. They should take advantage of the blessed month of Ramadan, spend more time in reading, reflecting, praying and doing good and beneficial work.

YOUR FAST IS BROKEN IF YOU BLEED

Non deliberate bleeding from any part of your body does not break your fast unless it is menstrual blood or unless the quantity is significant, in which case a person can become weak or unwell, and is allowed to break their fast.

TAKING AN INJECTION IS NOT ALLOWED WHILE FASTING

A medicinal injection into a muscle or a vein does not break one’s fasting because the medical substance does not enter the body directly. Rather it seeps into the body through the skin and this does not invalidate the fast. However, if the injection is nourishing, i.e. it substitutes eating and drinking, then it breaks the fast.

HAVING A BLOOD TEST WOULD NULLIFY YOUR FAST

You are allowed to have a blood test if it is safe for you while fasting. The condition is as long as it does not weaken you.

VOMITING WHILE FASTING WILL BREAK YOUR FAST

This is not true, unless however, you induce vomiting deliberately your fast will break and you will need to make up for the missed fast. The Prophet (pbuh) said: “If one has a sudden attack of vomiting while one is fasting, no make-up is required of them, but if they vomit intentionally they must make it up.” (Abu Dawood)

YOU SHOULD NOT FAST DURING PREGNANCY

There are different opinions, ultimately the decision to fast or not to fast depends on your health, the state and stage of your pregnancy and the health of the unborn baby. It is best to speak to a medical doctor who also understands and is sensitive to your faith principles. Remember - from fasting Allah (swt) wishes ease for you and not hardship.

I MUST FAST NO MATTER WHAT

Some people believe one must fast even if one is on their deathbed, this is untrue. Fasting is an obligation for all Muslim adults except those who are sick, travelling and women who are on their menstrual cycle.

I DO NOT REALLY NEED TO MAKE UP FOR THE MISSED FAST

If you have missed the fast of Ramadan because of one of the valid reasons outlined in the Qur’an such as being unwell or travelling or a woman in your period, you should simply make up for the same number as missed, preferably before the next Ramadan. However, if you deliberately fail to fast, your compensation is that for each fast missed you should free a slave, or fast for sixty days consecutively or feed sixty poor people.

FASTING IS BAD FOR YOU

Some people believe fasting is bad for you and they often say science opposes fasting, a completely false assertion. Fasting is a practice that has been associated with a wide array of potential health benefits, including weight loss, improved blood sugar control, heart health, brain function and cancer prevention.
Days of Ramadan
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Days of Ramadan

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PLAN YOUR NIGHT OF POWER

TAKE A BREAK FOR THE SAKE OF ALLAH!

We take leave for almost everything in life from our jobs. This time use your leave to focus on worshiping and thanking our Creator. Especially during this pandemic, with less distractions, put your full focus on pleasing Allah (swt) and gain all the benefits. This sort of chance probably won’t come again in our lifetimes! Try and take a few days off if you can. This can make it easier to stay awake and do extra worship.

MAKE THIS SPECIAL DUA’

Aisha (RA), may Allah (swt) be pleased with her, said: I asked the Prophet (pbuh) ‘O Messenger of Allah, if I know what night is the night of Qadr, what should I say during it?’ He said: ‘Say: O Allah, You are pardoning and You love to pardon, so pardon me.’ “(Tirmidhi) The transliteration of this Dua is “Allahumma innaka `afuwwun Kareemun tuhibbul `afwa fa`fu `annee”

REFLECT ON THE MEANING OF THE QUR’AN

Read the translation and Tafseer of the surahs you’ve heard in Taraweeh. Understand the deep meaning of these surahs and try to connect yourself personally to these surahs and think about how it affects you and your life.

WIPE AWAY YOUR SINS

Pray using those longer surahs you know! Don’t just stick to the shorter surahs you always read. Make your prayers longer, more meaningful and heartfelt during these last few days. Abu Hurayrah (RA) relates that the Prophet (pbuh) said: “Whoever stands for voluntary night prayer in Ramadan, out of faith and in the hope of reward, their previous sins will be forgiven.” (Muslim).

MAKE A PERSONAL DUA’ LIST

What do you really want from Allah (swt)? Make a list of each and every permissible thing, no matter how small or how big it is, whether it deals with this world or not. Allah (swt) loves to hear from us. Talk to Allah. Once this list is ready:

- Ask Allah (swt) to give you those things
- Think about what actions you have taken to get those things
- Develop a working plan to get those things in the future

MAKE LONG, SINCERE AND DEEP DUA’AS

One of the best times to do this is during the last part of the night. Abu Hurayrah (RA) related that the Prophet (pbuh) said: When the last one-third of the night remains, our Lord, the Glorious One descends towards the heavens of the earth and proclaims: Who is that who supplicates for Me, and I grant his supplication? Who is that who begs Me for anything and I grant it to him? And who is that who seeks My forgiveness, and I forgive him? (Bukhari, Muslim).

MEMORISE A DIFFERENT DUA’ EVERY NIGHT

Use an authentic Dua’s book such as Fortress of a Muslim and memorise the small supplications. Even just one line each night. And try to understand the general meaning of these Du’as. You can put them on index cards or keep them with you during the day, glancing at them during work, while driving, waiting in line etc. Then practice them at night by reciting in prayer.

DONATE ANY AMOUNT EVERY NIGHT FOR THE LAST 10 DAYS

This will guarantee your donation falls on Laylatul Qadr. Any good act such as charity during Laylatul Qadr is rewarded like you have done it for over 83 years. Multiply your good deeds easily.
A RAMADAN HEALTHY EATING PLAN

By Dr Abdul Hamid
AQSA TRUSTEE

WHAT TO EAT AND DRINK DURING IFTAR
When breaking the fast go for plenty of fluid-rich, low fat foods containing natural sugars for energy.

DATES - Traditionally eaten since the time of Prophet Muhammad (pbuh), they are high in several nutrients, fiber and antioxidants, all of which provide health benefits ranging from improved digestion to a reduced risk of disease. Dates are a great source of slow-release energy. The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said that Ajwah dates, grown in the Madinah region of Saudi Arabia are from paradise.

FRUITS - Apples, bananas and exotic fruits such as mango are a good source of fibre and watermelons are great for rehydration. You can also incorporate green vegetables to provide vital vitamins and nutrients. Fruits like grape, date, fig, olive and pomegranate are gifts and heavenly fruits of Allah (swt). Pomegranates are thought to have been the prophet's favorite fruit, and modern research has proven pomegranates to be one of the healthiest foods on the planet.

DRINKS - Drink plenty of water which provides hydration without any extra calories added. Milk, fruit juices or smoothies are also good options. Avoid fried and processed foods high in fat or sugar.

WHAT TO EAT AND DRINK FOR SAHOOR
Drink plenty of fluids (water) between Iftar and Suhoor to make sure you are well hydrated for the day ahead. Avoid caffeinated drinks such as cola, tea and coffee, because caffeine can make some people urinate more often, which may lead to dehydration.

In the early morning the Prophet (pbuh) would eat seven dates with some milk each day. This amazing blend of dates and milk produces energy for the mind and body whilst removing toxins. This is a quick and simple Sahoor. Soak the dates the night before, add banana, some oats and honey to the milk and whiz for a delicious Sahoor smoothie.

Try to eat complex carbohydrates such as starchy foods for energy. This includes oats, brown rice, couscous, lentils, beans and fruit & vegetables. This will provide you with long-lasting source of energy throughout the day. Try to include healthy fats such as olives, avocado, nuts and seeds.

Yogurt is also a fantastic provision during Sahoor, as it provides nutrients like protein, calcium, iodine and B vitamins. It can also be combined with fruit and cereal.

AVOID
SALTY FOODS - salt stimulates thirst so it’s a good idea to steer clear or reduce the consumptions of foods that are high in salt. Its hard I know, but avoid fried foods like samosa, pakora and other deep-fried oily snacks, which if eaten daily could lead to weight gain and can leave you feeling sluggish and over-full. Also, it can contribute to chronic diseases such as cardiovascular (heart disease), diabetes and obesity.

Allah (swt) reminds us: “With it He produces for you corn, olives, date palms, grapes, and every kind of fruit: Verily in this is a Sign for those who give thought” (Qur’an 16:11)

STAY ACTIVE
Physical activity helps to release endorphins, which can help reduce stress and anxiety. A light cardio exercise such a walking could be beneficial during fasting hours and can be followed up with a light weight-based exercise after Iftar. Make this part of your Ramadan routine!

EATING HEATHY THIS RAMADAN WILL OPTIMISE YOUR ENERGY AND HEALTH IN ORDER TO MAXIMIZE YOUR WORSHIP. HERE ARE A FEW HINTS AND TIPS

HEALTHY WAYS TO COPE WITH STRESS DURING THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC

- Try to eat healthy, well balanced meals
- Get plenty of sleep
- Take deep breaths, stretch or meditate
- Connect with others, speak with your loved ones daily
- Connect with the Mosque- we will be here to help and guide you during these unprecedented times (Covid-19)
- Connect with your Lord- by reading the Qur’an, helping our needy brothers and sisters and surround yourself with people that remind you of Allah (swt). This will inevitably lift your spirits and calm your being.

INGREDIENTS
1 Banana
7 Dates of choice pitted
1 Large glass of milk
5 Tablespoons of oats
1 Teaspoon honey

INSTRUCTIONS
Simply leave the dates to soak in the milk after Iftar.
At Sahoor add all ingredients to a blender, whiz until smooth and creamy!

Sahoor Delux Smoothie
This amazing recipe is packed with energy and is super filling. It’s important to nourish your body with slow energy release, wholesome and nutritious foods in Ramadan, so give it a go for sahoor!
Zakat is an obligatory act of worship that requires Muslims who possess wealth at or above a certain threshold, called the Nisab in Arabic to donate a share of that wealth, normally 2.5%, to those who are entitled.

From an Islamic perspective, it is a right that the needy have over those blessed with wealth. The Nisab was set by the Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) at a rate equivalent to 87.48 grams of gold and 612.36 grams of silver. Grammatically the word Zakat is associated with purification and growth. The third of the five pillars in Islam, its significance is such that in the Qur’an it is mentioned 28 times alongside establishment of the Salat, the daily prayer.

Assets to include in your zakat calculation are cash in hand and in bank accounts, shares, pensions, gold, silver, business goods, crops and cattle. You do not need to count personal items such as your home, furniture, cars, food, clothing, which are not used for business purposes. Zakat is also due on property that is owned for investment.

Your Zakat year starts on the date your wealth first equalled or exceeded the Nisab. Zakat should then be calculated and paid after one year has passed and every year thereafter on that specific date. If you cannot remember the date you first became owner of the Nisab, then the date should be estimated. If this is not possible, then a specific Islamic date should be selected randomly and adhered to annually.

Paying Zakat in Ramadan is not necessary, although the virtue of giving charity in this blessed month guarantees greater rewards. Zakat should be dispensed as soon as possible once it becomes due. At the very latest, Zakat should be dispensed one Islamic year after the due date as it is a sin to delay disbursement without a valid reason.

Allah (swt) reminds us: “Take from their wealth a charity by which you purify them and cause them increase and invoke Allah’s blessings upon them. Indeed, your invocations are reassurance for them. And Allah is Hearing and Knowing.” (QUR’AN 9:103)

Working in the Community

With your assistance the Abdullah Quilliam Society has been delivering various community support programmes throughout the Covid pandemic.

Our teams have been visiting neighbours, arranging food parcels and medicine drop-offs. These acts have been faith and compassion inspired, as the Prophet (pbuh) reminded us: “The best of you are those who are most beneficial to the people.”

Please support the Abdullah Quilliam Mosque expansion project. Donate a tile on the Al Qalam Donor Wall!

Please help us serve the vulnerable and homeless in Liverpool this Ramadan.

To sponsor a food pack or to arrange a cooked meal, please contact the office or call Br Mumin Khan on 07949 921692
They had proved successful at gaining converts. However, let us leave this room, exit back into the long corridor, and ascend the stairs on the next left and reach to the first floor. Enter the room on the right that overlooks the street and used to house a fledgling collection of objects from the Muslim world and designated a museum. Overlooking the street is a small balcony, from which, Arthur Hasim Radford, the muezzin of Liverpool, would make the call to prayer. During the major festivals of Islam, the community would drape the balcony with the flags of the Muslim world to show their solidarity with Muslims across the globe. One of the flags declared “There is only one God and Muhammad is his Prophet”. The flags would be hung during Ramadan, the two Eids and the occasion of the Prophet’s birthday. In May 1898, on the celebration of Eid al-Adha or Kurban Bayrami as it was known in the Turkish-speaking parts of the Ottoman Empire, Abdullah Quilliam and some of the members of the Liverpool Muslim Institute were gathered on the balcony looking down in the street.

They had been distracted from the Eid feast by a procession of exotic circus performers arriving in the city. A crowd had gathered below to watch the procession. The circus was the well-known Barnum and Bailey’s and their summer visit to Liverpool would have received with great excitement by the local residents and their children.

Amongst the performers were a group of Arab and Egyptian camel riders dressed in their local costumes. The riders looked up to the balcony to see white middle-aged Englishmen and their wives standing amidst these overt symbols of an Islamic establishment in Liverpool. Some of the men wore the Turkish fez. The British Muslims waved at their compatriots from the Middle East.

Abdullah Quilliam said to his companions, “Doubtless some of these circus performers will find their way to prayers in the coming weeks!” He was right. The Crescent, the community’s weekly newspaper, was able to report the following week that two Muslims from abroad.

Entering 8 Brougham Terrace, the first building owned by the fledgling Muslim community from 1893, the first door of the corridor on the left-hand side led to the room used for lectures on a Sunday, a regular feature of the activities of the Liverpool Muslim Institute. These lectures were given by Abdullah Quilliam, the founder and inspiration for the members, and other prominent figures amongst the converts or visiting Muslims from abroad.

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**A GLIMPSE OF EID & RAMADAN IN LIVERPOOL 1898**

By Professor Ron Geaves

Author of Islam in Victorian Britain: The Life and Times of Abdullah Quilliam, Kube Press

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Above: Memorial plaque on the site of England’s first Mosque.
Top Left: A 19th century map of Liverpool docks. Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam with members of the Liverpool Muslim Institute, ca. 1894. His mother Khadija who converted to Islam in 1893 is to his right.
Top Right: Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam leading prayers at Brougham Terrace.
The parade also showed off the newly formed Ottoman Regiment, a type of Muslim Boys’ Brigade who formed a bodyguard for the Lord Mayor.

The Crescent’s account of Eid al-Fitr is probably the first historical evidence of Eid being celebrated formally in a British mosque. As the community was made up of predominantly British Muslims there was no dispute over the timing of the muezzin. The muezzin looked for the moon – a personal friend and a colleague of the Mayor, but even so, he was aware of the historic significance of a formal civic visit from the Lord Mayor and first magistrate of the city, someone who was well-known to the Muslims as a reputable citizen, and the founder of Liverpool.

Abdullah Quilliam arrived with the Lord Mayor around 7.30pm and gave speeches from the stage. The police were also present under the command of Superintendent Churchhill and Chief Inspector Bryson to control the crowds and the street. The inside of the Mosque was proudly lit with gas lights. The building was decorated with flags and banners. These also flew from the roof of the building. The inside of the Mosque had been embellished for the occasion. The Crescent states that the walls of the mosque were decorated with flags. The crescent walls were decorated with white and gold patterns. The windows were decorated with green and gold patterns. The ceiling of the Mosque was decorated with gold and red patterns.

Abdullah Quilliam stated that the occasion was a “red letter day” for the Liverpool Muslim Institute and an historic event in the history of Liverpool. He hoped that future Lord Mayors would have the courage to make it an annual feature to join these Muslim festivities in the city. The Mayor, in turn, noted that the Muslims were reputable citizens, well-ordered and obedient to the State and admired for their devotion to their faith. He noted there would be bigger numbers who would object to his visit.

That night fireworks were displayed over Liverpool and the celebrations continued until midnight. The next day, The Liverpool Mercury and The Evening Express provided considerable coverage of the event, the attendance of the Mayor and the presence of a Mosque in Liverpool.

The number in attendance was estimated by the newspapers to be around one hundred. Today the presence of a city mayor at a mosque in Britain celebrating the end of Ramadan would be considered too normal for press coverage, but in the circumstances of the time, the Sheikh’s words spoken in the Mosque on February 22nd 1898 could be regarded as prophetic.

To achieve your goals, pray extra. May Allah (swt) reward you with a home in Jannah.

Please visit the office or donate online at abdullahquilliam.org

If you can, please Gift Aid your donation online so the Masjid receives 25% extra. May Allah (swt) reward you with a House in Jannah.

If you’re interested in donating please contact us at

Please help us expand the Masjid and purchase the building next door, donate £3000.

CENTRE TILE £500
OUTER TILE £250

MY PERSONAL STUDYING EXPERIENCE IN LOCKDOWN

I prefer online learning. It’s simpler and easier to apply knowledge and contribute in class virtually with the assistance of online and text resources and if I don’t understand a topic I can simply Google it. Online learning provides a chance for everyone to contribute in learning whereas in reality some people are uncomfortable with contributing in lessons at school. However, it does have its downsides.

The enormous amount of tasks set online require equipment such as laptops and many students don’t have these facilities, so it can be difficult for them to keep up with other students and can affect their productivity.

STUDYING AND RAMADAN

Whilst Ramadan is a spiritually and mentally beneficial month, it can take a toll on students. The late night Taraweeh and fasts during mornings can lead to less energy due to lack of sleep and hydration/fuel for the mind which decreases productivity/demotivates students.

TIPS FOR STUDENTS DURING RAMADAN

- EXERCISE - Yes, we are tired and have no energy but exercising can help to freshen the mind plus keep us active as we can maintain our fitness and burn off extra calories.
- REFLECTION - Spending a couple of minutes daily just reflecting and being mindful, can stimulate creative thoughts for studying.
- DU’AS - What better time to make Du’as for good results and increased productivity?
- BREAKS - Study hard and smart but don’t overwork yourself, especially during this month where your body may feel weak.
- READING - Increase the scope of your reading and literature, many people find memorising and knowledge retention easier in this blessed month. Additional reading will assist you in your studies and exams.
- TIPS ON MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING DURING RAMADAN

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MENTAL HEALTH & ISLAM
By Br Farhad Ahmed
AQS Trustee

There is no health without mental health. Mental health is our emotional, psychological, and social well-being. Mental health does not only affect the way we think, feel, and act but also how we handle stress, relate to others, and make choices.

Unfortunately, mental illness faces a persistent social taboo, particularly in Muslim communities, which is a consequence of Islamic teachings. Islam values the importance of good mental health and emotional wellbeing.

Islam offers a spiritual sanctuary for Muslims to live a peaceful life by using their inner strengths and having a trusting relationship with the ultimate power, Allah, being optimistic, justifying their feelings, and not waiting for outside events to improve. Islam acknowledges the importance of spiritual status as an interior power that can be exercised to have a calm mind, healthy consciousness, and positive thoughts. Islam does not permit us to be superhuman. If one experiences negative feelings, he is encouraged to resist them with positive thoughts and actions if possible or to seek professional help if the case is clinical. People feel depressed or sad when this harmonious equilibrium is disturbed, in which case Islam steps in, not to condone the feeling but to offer a solution for regaining psychological and mental balance.

Someone who feels completely lost and alone in the face of the world would probably feel helpless and depressed. But someone who feels supported by a compassionate God into generously cares, who listens to desperate plea, and who grants generous help, has a better chance of getting back on track much faster because there is a strong helping hand to reach by while dealing with life’s troubles.

And for those who fear Allah, He always prepares a way out, and He provides for him from sources he never could imagine. And if anyone puts his trust in Allah, sufficient is Allah for him. Far Allah will surely accomplish. He appreciates the service for all whom has Allah appointed a true proportion." (Qur'an, 67: 2-3)

Ramadan is a spiritual month, and a time for rejuvenating the mind, body and soul for those who believe Allah’s Last.

No doubt you’ll be aware of the positive effects fasting can have on your mental wellbeing and spiritual focus, but the brain-boasting powers of Ramadan are even more significant than you might think.

A study carried out by scientists in the USA found that the mental focus achieved during Ramadan increases the level of brain-derived neurotrophic factor, which causes the body to produce more brain cells, thus improving brain function. Likewise, a distinct reduction in the amount of the hormone cortisol, produced by the adrenal gland, means that working-class activities, and stress levels are greatly reduced both during and after Ramadan.

Ramadan is a natural therapy for those who believe Allah’s Last.

In 1873, Jeffery met the young William Quilliam, who had joined the Association, and may have acted as a political mentor to the young lawyer and journalist. From 1870, Jeffery was initiated into the Ancient Order of Freemasons and was made Knight of Constantinople. In 1874 he was initiated into Quilliam’s own fringe Freemasonry order, the Ancient Order of the Zuzim, becoming in 1884 the order’s “Most Worshipful Grand Treasurer.”

Strongly attached to the Evangelist Low Church, Jeffery maintained an interest in Quilliam’s conversion to Islam and missionary efforts, but “simply attended the meetings out of sympathy”. In 1889, however, Jeffery witnessed Christian violence against the converts at the Liverpool Muslim Institute, and he joined forces with the converts to expel the ruffians. The Islamic World reported that “Brother Jeffery, who was present, seized the ringleader of the mob, and perform the funeral prayer near, Jeffery put in writing that he wanted printed notes of his last lecture on “Idolatry in Christianity” by his side.

His family did not honour his request and so he was buried in 1905 in the Anglican section of Anfield Cemetery. Nevertheless, Quilliam performed the funeral prayer over him in the company of fellow convert members of the Institute and of the Zuzim-Order.


Like many of his fellow convert members at the Liverpool Muslim Institute, Jeffery was a well-to-do working man, employing up to twenty men in his plumbing and decorating business. He was a member of the Orange Lodge Protestant order and was appointed a Grand Lodge Officer at the age of twenty-four.

Early Converts: A Profile of James Bartholomew (1830–1905)

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We are very grateful to the Abdullah Quilliam Mosque for fully supporting the NHS administering the vaccination for the Muslim community and for offering use of the Mosque as a vaccination centre.

The Covid-19 vaccines are all safe, effective and suitable for Muslims to have. The vaccines do not contain animal products or alcohol, and vaccine use has been fully endorsed by the British Islamic Medical Association. Ramadan is approaching, and we want to reassure you that taking the Covid-19 vaccination does not invalidate the fast, according to Islamic scholars. This means that individuals should not delay having their vaccination on account of Ramadan. Most people feel well, or have only very mild flu-like symptoms for a short time after having the vaccine, which means they can continue their fast. However, it is important to drink plenty when you can, and to rest during the day. More information can be found about this at: www.britishima.org

Many local Muslim community leaders have already been working alongside us, at the forefront of the vaccination efforts in Liverpool. For example, Mr Mumim Khan has been personally volunteering some of his time to help out at a vaccination clinic at Liverpool Football Club on behalf of the mosque, which we are extremely grateful for.

I understand that some people may have concerns about getting the vaccine because it is still so new and there are various rumours circulating online, particularly on social media, but I would strongly urge people to check the facts with official NHS sources in order to avoid any misinformation.

As a local GP, I also want to personally reassure you that the vaccine is completely safe to have – it met strict standards of safety, quality and effectiveness set out by the independent Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) before it was approved for use by the NHS.

I really want to encourage everyone in the local Muslim community here in Liverpool to have a COVID-19 vaccination when invited to by the NHS. This is the very best way to protect yourself and your loved ones against coronavirus, and help us all to start getting life back to normal again.

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I understand that some people may have concerns about getting the vaccine because it is still so new and there are various rumours circulating online, particularly on social media, but I would strongly urge people to check the facts with official NHS sources in order to avoid any misinformation.

As a local GP, I also want to personally reassure you that the vaccine is completely safe to have – it met strict standards of safety, quality and effectiveness set out by the independent Medicines and Healthcare products Regulatory Agency (MHRA) before it was approved for use by the NHS.

I really want to encourage everyone in the local Muslim community here in Liverpool to have a COVID-19 vaccination when invited to by the NHS. This is the very best way to protect yourself and your loved ones against coronavirus, and help us all to start getting life back to normal again.

We are very grateful to the Abdullah Quilliam Mosque for fully supporting the NHS administering the vaccination for the Muslim community and for offering use of the Mosque as a vaccination centre.

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Primary school children are not expected to fast, however parents may decide that they want their children to be part of this in some way, for example by allowing their children to fast or fast part of the day to help them practice. Children will be expected to participate in daily school learning and watch their peers eat, drink and get on with their normal lives.

They will also be expected to maintain full concentration and to be safe, and this is often the difficulty for younger children. Schools know that hydration is a key component to concentration and acquisition of and application of learning, not drinking all day is a concern in this regard, more than the not eating.

Upon returning home they will do their homework and wait until around 10pm before they can eat and drink. No doubt this can take a toll not only on adults but children too.

Nevertheless, many Muslims regard the month of Ramadan as a divine character-building program, bringing them closer to Allah (swt). Self-restraint, commitment, and faith is displayed through giving, embracing positive thoughts and demonstrating positive behaviour, ideal for young minds to engender.

**FAMILY FUN**

**A GOOD DEED A DAY**

The 30 days of Ramadan are a time for family, learning, giving and sharing. Try and do one of these actions everyday!

1. Help prepare Iftar
2. Make a charity box & donate daily
3. Read a story from the Seerah Together
4. Recite Qur’an with meaning, as a family for 30 minutes
5. Pray all Salah in the Masjid
6. Help with two household chores
7. Say a Tasbeeh like ‘Subhanallah Wabi Hamdi’ 100 times
8. Say Salam to as many people as possible
9. Make a thank you card for your parents
10. Call a loved one for a chat
11. Make a special Dua’ for the Ummah
12. Read a story from Islamic history together
13. Thank your loved ones
14. Share food with your neighbours
15. Pray Taraweeh
16. Surprise someone special
17. Teach your friends or siblings something new
18. Write a short article on why your faith is important
19. Make or sponsor an Eid gift for an orphan
20. Decorate your house for Eid
21. Clean the dinner table after Iftar
22. Learn a Sunnah of the Prophet (pbuh)
23. Memorise Ayatul Qursi with its meaning
24. Read Surah Al-Rehman with its meaning
25. Design an Eid card for sharing
26. Make an Eid cake together for your loved ones
27. Try to smile the whole day
28. Buy your family or a special person an Eid gift
29. Pray to Nawwaf with a long Sejadah and Dua’s
30. Learn a new Dua’

**TEACHING & LEARNING DURING RAMADAN**

*With Sr Nazma Begum (Primary Practitioner)*

As the sanctified month of Ramadan arrives, for most adults it is easy to adapt to the changes the holy month brings. However, we need to be mindful of how this may impact children who want to try to fulfil their religious obligation to fast and also go to school.

Monitor your children’s health carefully.
- Make sure they get sufficient sleep, exercise and nourishment.
- Schools are supportive and understanding institutions who care for the well-being of children, be open to their advice.
- Engage with schools to ensure they are informed and receiving support.
- Smaller children should be encouraged to fast on weekends only.
- Stay in touch with your children’s school.
- Create a routine for learning and relaxation at home.
- Spend time together, get children involved in cooking, cleaning, gardening etc.
- Go for walks together, exercise and get lots of fresh air.
- Read aloud and read to each other. Enjoying books and talking about books.
- Practice mental arithmetic and play educational games like scrabble.
- Talk to your children as much as you can, no subject should be out of bounds.
- Encourage lots of writing – short, long, fiction, non-fiction, poetry!
- Expressive writing - this supports children’s mental health and well-being.
- Always have a dictionary at hand to explain the meanings of new words.
- A Thesaurus will increase your children’s language and vocabulary.
- Celebrate the learning completed with positive praise and encouragement.
- Never let them give up, instil courage, excellence in all things and resilience.
- Learning is a continuous process that goes beyond the classroom and we all have a role to play.
Da’u To Begin Fast

Ramadan begins in chains.

We break it!

Du’as for the New Year

May Allah (swt) forgive your past sins. ‘O Allah (swt) it is for you that I observed the fast and it is with your blessings that I break it’

Du’a to End Fast

May Allah (swt) reward you with a House in Jannah.

AQS Bank Transfer Details

Account Name: Abdullah Quilliam Mosque
Sort Code: 40-29-28
Account: 01158945

Details

AQS Bank Transfer

I break it!

Join Us On TV One

For a live AQS Appeal on the 15th of Ramadan 8pm

The Prophet Muhammad (pbuh) said, ‘Whoever fasts in the month of Ramadan with Iman and seeking reward (from Allah) his past sins will be forgiven.’

Quran 2:281

Du’a to Begin Fast

Ramadan Best Wishes From Civic Leadership

On behalf of the city of Liverpool, I’d like to wish all our Muslim brothers and sisters a very happy and holy month of Ramadan. As we look back on the past year, we remember how 2020 presented us with a very different Ramadan. The mosques were closed during times for prayer and we were not able to share special times of ritual and celebration with our families. We had all hoped this year would be different.

Ramadan is a time for reflection, renewal and spiritual devotion. As we think about all those who risked their own lives to keep our families safe, it’s an opportunity to give thanks for the sacrifices they made. It is also a time to remember those who may have been struggling or lonely in our communities.

We have much to be grateful for during these strange times, as well as much to reflect on. But as we move further into 2021, I am confident that brighter days are ahead, and much to reflect on. But as we move further into 2021, I am confident that brighter days are ahead, and much to reflect on. But as we move further into 2021, I am confident that brighter days are ahead, and much to reflect on. But as we move further into 2021, I am confident that brighter days are ahead.

It continues to be an honour to serve the Muslim community come to the fore. My staff have told me of the many initiatives being run from Mosques and other venues, including food deliveries across Merseyside to those in need. I am sincerely grateful for your co-operation in abiding by the rules to keep people safe, it’s an opportunity to give thanks for the sacrifices they made.

As Ramadan begins, I hope you and your loved ones are well and that it will be a time of blessings and peace for you all.

Ibn Byrne MP

MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, WEST DERBY, LIVERPOOL

At the start of the holy month of Ramadan I wish to send you my personal good wishes and those of my constituency of West Derby.

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For the past six years or so, I have been extremely privileged to lead the Community Engagement Unit at Merseyside Police; it has been a truly amazing experience which I will not forget. I have attended Mosques, eaten with friends, joining others to break iftar and supported our Muslim community with delivery of food to vulnerable people across Merseyside. I have made so many friendships - friends for life.

I have championed equality and community cohesion through personal and professional commitments and enjoyed every moment. In recent years I visited Bosnia and Herzegovina where I saw first-hand the evidence of genocide that was directed toward the Muslim population. The communities of Merseyside are far away from anything that I saw in Sarajevo. Together we are strong sharing a common goal to enhance community cohesion.

It is this coming together and the strength this gives, which will always overpower the negatives; those that hate and seek to divide. Merseyside Police listens to the voice of our community. We put our community first in everything that we do. However, we want more. We want a truly diverse Police force. As we seek to recruit I implore you to consider a future career with Merseyside Police. May I wish you, your families and the communities observing Ramadan my warmest wishes and peace to you all. I hope, COVID permitting, that we can come together once again as we have done so many times before during Ramadan, In sha Allah.

Inspector John Sacker
MERSEYSIDE POLICE

At the start of the holy month of Ramadan, I wanted to send my best wishes to our Muslim friends and family across the Liverpool City Region.

Our diversity is one the great strengths of our region and, over the past year, we have seen that despite all of our differences, we all belong to one big city region family. People from all over our region, especially from our mosques and places of worship, have stepped up to protect, defend and support their neighbours through this crisis.

As Ramadan begins, we are starting to see some hope that things will soon return to normal again – and for that, we can all be truly thankful. Please have a safe and peaceful Ramadan, and I hope we will all be able to come together soon to celebrate the triumph of our solidarity over adversity.

With Best Wishes,
Steve Rotheram
METRO MAYOR OF THE LIVERPOOL CITY REGION

This year Ramadan begins just as we start the next phase of lifting national restrictions. That sense of freedom which we feel as we resume our pre-pandemic lives will go hand-in-hand this year with the spiritual freedom which you will find in the discipline of Ramadan.

The last year has been tough for everyone, but people in all our faith communities have risen to the challenge as we have fed the hungry and reached out to the lonely, the sick and the bereaved.

I send you my blessings for Ramadan and although I shall not be able to join you as I have in the past as you break the fast in the evening, I hope that your faith may flourish in this special month.

I remain glad and proud that as people of faith we can stand together in our city and region, respecting one another and serving the common good.

The Rt Revd Paul Bayes
BISHOP OF LIVERPOOL

I would like to wish the Muslim community, Ramadan Mubarak. Ramadan, like last year, will look different however we must find the strength to keep the spirit of this blessed month alive.

I want to stress the importance of keeping safe during this period and following the latest government guidance. We may not be able to go to the Mosque for prayers or Tarawih, or have iftar with friends or family, but keeping ourselves and our loved ones safe is the top priority.

This is a month of fasting, charity and blessing, it’s an opportunity to make ourselves better, our family stronger and serve society. I pray that this Ramadan is a spiritually uplifting month for you and your family. I want to thank the British Muslim community for their immense contribution and help during this pandemic, your heroic acts of service have provided a real life line for many up and down the country.

Together, we can and will defeat this virus – with cooperation, solidarity, and faith in our common humanity.- Insh’Allah. Ramadan Kareem.

Afzal Khan MP
MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT, MANCHESTER, GORTON

Help Restore & Expand England’s First Ever Mosque
BUILDING A NATIONAL ISLAMIC HERITAGE & EDUCATION CENTRE

The Abdullah Quilliam Society
www.abdullahquilliam.org
Our vision is to purchase and restore the ornate red bricked building adjacent to the Mosque, which is owned by Liverpool City Council, to expand our inspirational heritage and educational centre into the largest in the region.

A former European Capital of Culture, Liverpool is one of the UK’s most popular destinations and our aim is to create a unique Victorian Islam visitor centre for Muslims and people of all backgrounds.

Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam was a principled and courageous pioneer who laid the foundations of the Islamic faith in the UK. Please join this incredible legacy by donating a tile and supporting this unique institution, The Abdullah Quilliam Mosque & National Heritage Centre, which will serve as a beacon for learning, faith and inspiration for generations to come. May Allah (swt) accept it from us all. Jazakallah Khair

The Trustees
Abdullah Quilliam Society

Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam
William Henry Quilliam, a Liverpool-based solicitor embraced Islam aged 31 in 1887, after returning from a visit to Morocco, & took the name Abdullah.

His reversion led to a remarkable growth of Islam in Victorian Britain. His life is a chronicle of devotion to Islam, fearless determination in adversity and self-sacrifice, with profound lessons for Muslims in Britain and around the world today.

Sheikh Abdullah began a campaign of Dawah, in a generally hostile environment, becoming an Imam and a passionate advocate of Islam in the Western world. In 1894 Sultan Abdul Hamid II, the last Ottoman Caliph, appointed him Sheikh-ul-Islam of the British Isles, other Muslim state leaderships also recognised his title. He became a prominent spokesman for Islam in the media and was recognised by Muslims around the world. He established the first English Mosque and Liverpool Muslim Institute at No. 8 Brougham Terrace, opening a boarding school and establishing the Medina House Orphanage. In 1893 the Institute published a weekly magazine: ‘The Crescent’, and later added the monthly ‘Islamic World’, printed on the Institute’s own press and distributed to over 20 countries. Hundreds of archive copies in the British Library offer a unique insight on this native Muslim community of around 500 people in Liverpool, and other parts of Britain.

He authored several books, including ‘The Faith of Islam” translated into 13 different languages. It was so popular that Queen Victoria ordered a copy and re-ordered copies for her children.

The Institute grew and Sheikh Abdullah’s Dawah led to around 600 people in the UK embracing Islam, many of them educated and prominent individuals in British society. He passed away in 1932 near Woking and was buried in Brookwood Cemetery, amongst other notable 20th century Muslim luminaries, Marmaduke Pickthall, Abdullah Yusuf Ali and Lord Headley.

Dear readers, we present to you a rare opportunity for the Muslim community to expand England’s first Mosque, established in 1887 at 8 Brougham Terrace, Liverpool by the distinguished Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam.

‘Britain’s first Mosque, established in 1887’

“our vision is to purchase and restore this historic building as we have done with the Mosque to create a fabulous heritage & educational complex”
Founded in 1997, the Abdullah Quilliam Society’s primary goal was to secure and renovate England’s first Mosque at 8-10 Brougham Terrace. Having raised and invested over £1.5 million, the old building continues to be sympathetically refurbished, to the former charm and glory of its original Victorian period. We now require your support in the third phase of this iconic development, to purchase the freehold of the building next door, 1-7 Brougham Terrace.

Who are we?

Sheikh Abdullah Quilliam was a professional, a scholar, a philanthropist, an activist and a teacher.

Our vision for the final phase of the development is to embody these exemplary attributes in all the facilities and services the new Abdullah Quilliam Mosque & National Heritage Centre will offer. The finished complex will provide a rich and evocative spiritual, cultural and historical experience for both Muslims and non-Muslims.

Fulfilling the Vision

8-10 Brougham Terrace

- Basement: A functioning Victorian kitchen and Victorian printing press
- Ground Floor: The AQS Islamic Art Gallery and Victorian tearooms
- First Floor: AQS Islamic Museum with artefacts from around the world
- Second Floor: AQS Research Centre, Library & Community Archive

1-7 Brougham Terrace

- Ground Floor: The AQS Legacy Centre, Heritage Shop, restaurant with glass roof apex and community gardens
- First Floor: Extension of prayer facilities to accommodate over 2000 congregants
- Second Floor: AQS Education, Training & Community Centre with conference and banqueting facility
**The Al Qalam Donors Exhibit**

Aptly named after the 68th Chapter of the Glorious Qur’an The Al Qalam (The Pen) Donors Exhibit will be a permanent feature spread across the ground floors of both buildings in Brougham Terrace.

Exquisitely crafted with ceramic tiles manufactured in Spain, the tiles will embellish the name or family name and city location of generous donors.

We require £500,000 to complete this amazing project, the outer tiles are just £250, the inner tile is £500 and a complete fourteen tile segment is £3000.

So whether it is in the name of your family, business or deceased loved one please make a donation today. We look forward to welcoming you in the future.

---

**Ways to Donate**

**Online & Phone**
- Visit: abdullahquilliam.org/donations/
- Or call: 0151 260 3986

**By Cheque**
- Make cheques payable to: Abdullah Quilliam Society
- And post with details on reverse to: AQS
  8-10 Brougham Terrace, Liverpool L6 1AE

**Via Bank Transfer**
- Account Name: Abdullah Quilliam Society
- Sort Code: 40-29-28
- Account No: 01158945
- IBAN: GB96HBUK40292801158945
- Swift Code: HBUKGB4B

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**Standing Order Mandate**

To make regular donations

**UK Taxpayers** - make your donation go further.

If you pay tax in the UK, please ensure that you complete this Gift Aid declaration. This will allow us to reclaim an additional 25p in tax for every £1 you donate.

An extra 25% will be added to your donations at no cost to you.

An extra 25% will be added to your donations at no cost to you.

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**Be Part of a National Legacy Project**

**‘Whosoever builds a House for Allah (swt), whether it be small or large, Allah (swt) builds for them, a house in Paradise’ [Tirmidhi]**
Direct us Lord in the right way,
Nor ever let us go astray;
Graciously keep us in Thy path,
Preserve us from Thy holy wrath.

A POEM BY SHEIKH ABDULLAH QUILLIAM, 1892