

Muslims respond to UK Floods



December 2015 has recently been dubbed as the wettest month ever recorded in the UK. It is no surprise that this was largely in the wake of Britain being hit by high tides, floods and strong winds, causing much damage and unrest, especially in the northern parts of England and Wales. [Page 2](#)

**Thank you
for my coat**



**Turning to
Allah**
Page 7

Announcements

>Shaykh Ahmad Ali

Saturday 6th Feb 2016, After Maghrib 5pm @Bury Park Masjid, 21 Bury Park Road, Luton

> Islamic Diploma (Sanatain)

Weekdays Course duration: 2 Years

Time: 7pm to 9.30pm (option two- 6.15pm to 8.45pm Subject to student demand)

Days: Mon & Tue (Other weekdays are possible subject to student demand)

Mawlana Thaqib 07921814758 Mawlana Rayhan 07769278661

> Tajweed Class

Every Wednesdays after Isha Salah @Baitul Abrar— 364 Leagrave Road, Luton

>Ilmul Haal Course – Islamic Essentials Course

1 year Islamic Studies Course covering all the basics of Islam

Tajweed, Quran & General Islamic studies - Sundays: 2pm to 3.30pm | Tuesdays: 7pm to 8.45pm

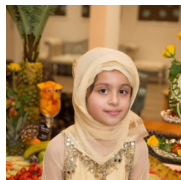
Contact: 07921814758

>Islamophobia workshop

Sunday 17th January 2016 (7.30pm) @ Hockwell Ring Masjid 13-17 Barley Lane, Luton Beds, LU4 8JL

**Council of
Islamic scholars**
reject the government
plans to regulate
Mosques and Makhtabs -
[Page 9](#)

Luton Celebrates a 7
year old Hafizah - p 8



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Muslims respond to UK Floods

On the 5th of December, Britain witnessed Storm Desmond devastate parts of Cumbria with more than a month's rain, leading to flooding in Carlisle and other areas. 7 days later, and over 70 flood warnings being issued, there was more heavy rain, and the river levels still remained high. December continued with more than 100 flood alerts and warnings issued across England and Wales, Storm Eva bringing more torrential rain, evacuations of residents in West Yorkshire and Lancashire, and floods hitting Leeds, Greater Manchester and York.

Alhamdulillah, during the course of these natural disasters, AKF's regional offices have been well situated and supplied in their ability to provide relief and emergency support to the flood victims in northern England. With the support of over a hundred volunteers, we have been on the ground establishing manual set ups and providing much-needed supplies. AKF was also able to help clean up the flood using vital equipment and supplies, and distributing food to flood victims in Bolton, Rochdale and Cumbria. Alhamdulillah we have helped over 500 families across Rochdale in the Boxing Day floods that swept through the streets. AKF's Chairman and Founder Imam Qasim has also been personally visiting flood affected areas in York and Lancaster.

Despite the continuing natural disasters devastating particular areas around the world, it is important for us to reflect and learn from these events. At Al-Khair Foundation, we believe that it is our duty to help all of our fellow brothers and sisters in humanity at home and around the world. We are all blessed with particular resources, skills and abilities, which we must be grateful for. In doing so, we must make full use of these gifts and collaborate with others in unity to provide help to those in need whenever disaster strikes.

Furthermore, the increase in natural disasters around the world is a truly a grave consequence of climate change. It is also our Islamic duty to protect and look after the earth that we have been trusted with. In order to provide sustainable and long lasting help to those in need, we must tackle the root cause of natural disasters that are likely to impact them. Therefore, we must also strive to tackle climate change, which underpins poverty, injustice and natural disasters, and work together to achieve this. Al-Khair Foundation therefore looks forward to attending the workshop on UN's Sustainable Development goals hosted by the Muslim Charities Forum and Islamic Relief, and looks forward to partaking in future action against climate change.

www.alkhair.org

Luton Muslim Journal

Luton Muslim Journal is a monthly journal which promotes Islam and Muslim contribution to the wider society. It has no affiliation with any political organisation. The journal covers various topics which effects the Muslims and the society.

Editor: Mawlana Muhammad Ahmadul-Haque Rayhan

Contributors: Mawlana Thaqib Mahmood, Salmaa Islam, Ustadh Abdul Gafoor, Mawlana Aminul Islam, Dr Mamnun Khan, Danyaal Saghir & Luton Council of Mosques (May Allah reward everyone for their contribution)

Disclaimer: Luton Muslim Journal does not take any responsibility of the contents and views of the contributors and the sponsors.

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Contact: For all enquires, feedback, sharing community news and any contribution please contact:

lutonmuslimjournal@gmail.com

Muslims respond to UK Floods

Mosques Mobilise to Help Those Affected by Floods in Northern England



Courtesy of www.ilmfeed.com

It is extraordinary to see Muslims responding to floods in the UK, helping out the fellow citizens regardless of faith and colour. This is a direct inspiration from the Quran and the Prophet's teachings. All readers are encouraged to take active role in all community projects, particularly those responding to a crisis.

Please share your good work with Luton Muslim Journal.

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Al-Khair Luton donation point: Hira Shop, Dane Road

Al-Kindi (801-873) – the philosopher of the Arabs

By Dr Mamnun Khan, Rabi' al-Thani, 1437

Abu Yusuf Yaqub ibn Ishaq al-Kindi, born in 801 in Kufah, Iraq, is known in the West as both “Alkindus” and as “the philosopher of the Arabs.” His father, Ishaq ibn al-Sabbath, was the governor of Kufah under different Abbasid rulers, including the famous Harun al-Rashid (763-809). Kufah was by then one of the leading centres of learning. Al-Kindi came from a wealthy and learned family and was taught Arabic grammar, theology, mathematics, astronomy and philosophy, in all of which he showed brilliance.

Under Harun al-Rashid’s son, the Caliph al-Ma’mun (786-833), al-Kindi was encouraged to take up research at the famous library and centre of learning, the Bait al-Hikmah (House of Knowledge), where he devoted his time to studying while earning a living as an official calligrapher in the court of Baghdad. Al-Ma’mun admired al-Kindi’s work and asked him to lead a team of researchers to translate Greek philosophical, mathematical and scientific works into Arabic for the very first time so that they could be made available to others. Whilst he excelled in learning a wide range of subjects, it was in optics, mathematics, music and philosophy that he made his most original contributions.

In optics, he was the first person to show that light travelled in straight lines, which he demonstrated experimentally using candle light, after which it became known as the “candle experiment.” At the time this was cutting edge knowledge and was seen as a remarkable discovery. The English scientist Roger Bacon (1214-1292) a few centuries later used al-Kindi’s work in his own studies. Al-Kindi also had great knowledge of mathematics which he used to calculate the critical days of a developing disease, as well as to calculate the right proportions of ingredients needed for a medicinal drug. Similarly, he developed a theoretical understanding of music delving into things like what gave music meaning for example. Whilst these were big contributions, he is most famous for his philosophical contributions, which is a field in which he is known to have written 22 books.

In his famous book known as “On First Philosophy” (“Fil Falsafah al-Ula”), he defined philosophy as “the knowledge of the nature of things in so far as this is possible for man.” The role of the philosopher, according to al-Kindi, was “to attain truth” and “to act truthfully.” He considered religious knowledge and philosophy to be compatible to each other. Together with al-Farabi, Ibn Sina (both of whom we have covered in previous issues), al-Kindi were the leading figures that helped spread Greek philosophy within Islamic scholarship. They were also key to preserving the works of ancient Greek philosophers like Aristotle and Plato in Arabic which were in later centuries, in Muslim Spain, translated from Arabic to Latin introducing them up to European philosophers and scientists.

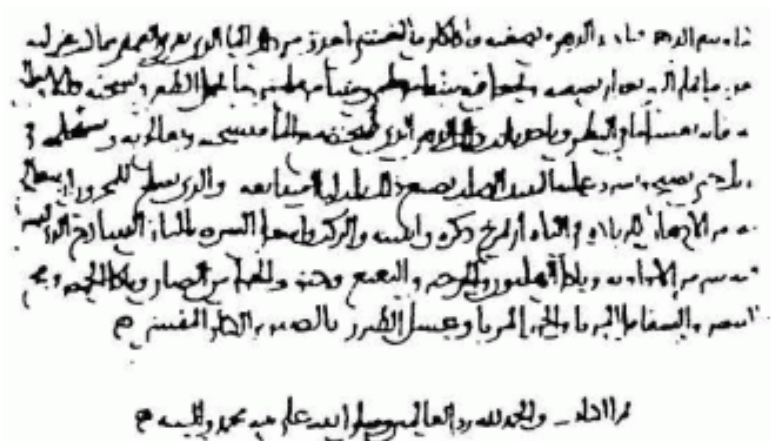
In suggesting a role for philosophy in seeking truth al-Kindi was at the time rebuked by scholars like Imam Ahmad Ibn Hanbal (778-855), and others. However, he continued to learn and champion Greek philosophy, which he did not think compromised faith (iman) at the slightest. One of the clever things he did was by avoiding using terms already used in the Quran, which allowed him to limit clashing with scholars of the Quran and hadith. He was however different to sects like the Mutazilites (who believed in only rational explanations). For example, his philosophy was that ultimately the universe is finite/limited and Allah cannot be comprehended by the intellect. Many of the so-called proofs of Allah’s existence such as the “principle of causation” were introduced and elaborated in Arabic by al-Kindi.

In any case, what we see with the early Islamic philosophers was part of a greater debate which has always existed within Muslim civilisation between the role of revelation and the role of rational argument to understand the world. Whilst the philosophical speculation is not accepted by the overwhelming majority of Islamic scholars, the debates are as relevant to us today as they were then. And for this reason it is important that we study the diverse thoughts within Muslim civilisation to gain a better understanding of different perspectives and history. After all, the word philosophy is derived from the

Greek word “philos” which means “friend” and “sophos” which means “wise,” suggests that philosophy is the preoccupation of “wise friends.” Al-Kindi was perhaps first of the great Muslim philosophers – the “wise friends” as it were, writing at least 240 books and short treatises on the different subjects of his day (though most of these have been lost). He died at the age of 71 in 873 and is buried in Baghdad.

Bibliography

- Muhammad Mojlum Khan, *The Muslim 100: The Life, Thought and Achievement of the Most Influential Muslims in History*, 2008, Kube Publishing, p111-114.
- *History of Islamic Philosophy*, 2001, edited by Seyyed Hossain Nasr and Oliver Leaman, Routledge, p165-177.
- Ahmed Fouad El-Ehwany, *A History of Muslim Philosophy*, 1963, trans. by Muhammad Sharif, p421-434..

[illegible]

The first page of al-Kindi's manuscript "On Deciphering Cryptographic Messages."



Public Announcement

Friday/01.01.2016

The following 4 areas were identified as priority areas for 2016 at the LCM meeting held on 26th December 2015.

- 1.Capacity building Madrasahs programme through teacher training and development, reviewing policies and procedures in line with national standards and developing a quality assurance framework.
- 2.Safeguarding children and families from radicalisation and criminalisation.
- 3.Develop awareness and resources to tackle Islamaphobia and Anti-Muslim hate crime.
4. Explore and implement ways of cascading positive stories to the media and wider community and create effective press office.

Action:

1. Incidents of Islamaphobia should be reported to the police as hate crime.
Crime reference number should be emailed to: lutonmosques@gmail.com
2. Families that have been contacted by Prevent in schools that need support can contact: lutonmosques@gmail.com
- 3.The next Islamaphobia workshop is on: Sunday 17th January 2016 (7.30pm)
@ Hockwell Ring Masjid 13-17 Barley Lane, Luton Beds, LU4 8JL

Poem– Turning to Allah

When things are down And you are out of your mind,
Remember just remember Allah is The Kind.
When your life is in darkness And nothing is right,
Remember just remember Through the darkness, Allah is The Light.
When nothing makes sense and your heading for demise,
Remember just remember It doesn't make sense, but Allah is The Wise.
When times are troubled And no one seems to care,
Remember just remember Allah won't hurt you, He is The Fair.
When your heart is breaking And your pain makes you fall,
Remember just remember Allah Sees it all.
When you are weak And the road seems long,
Remember just remember Seek strength from The Strong.
When life is a burden and everything is unstable,
Remember just remember Allah is The Able.
When the way is cloudy And there is no one by your side,
Remember just remember Allah is The Only Guide.
When no one wants to listen Or is willing to lend an ear,
Remember just remember Allah is always ready to hear.
When you are poor and penniless As if you're abandoned in a ditch,
Remember just remember Allah is The Rich.
When you are down in your misery And there is nowhere to run,
Remember just remember You can always run to The One.
When you are all alone And your heart is in fear,
Remember just remember Allah is always near.

By Mawlana Aminul Islam

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Luton Celebrates a 7 year old Hafizah

To memorise the Quran it is one of the most glorious bounties of Allah, simply because it is His words being memorised, and of course Allah rewards the memorisers by granting them the status of being the 'best people'. Keeping all the rewards in mind, a Lutonain mother decided to make her 5 year old daughter memorise the entire Quran.

It all began in summer 2013 when Maariyah Aslam took the challenge to memorise 'Surah Yaseen' for charity. She did it so well that it inspired her mother to take this hifz (memorisation) forward. She initially admitted her to Al-Araqam for Tajweed and memorisation and later to Zuhri Academy.

Maariyah and her parents changed their entire life style to an organised daily timetable, from school time to evening home tuition, in order to complete the entire Quran in just 2 years!

It was our pleasure to test Maariyah's progress during the 2 years and finally witness her amazing graduation ceremony in which her family members and community leaders came together.

Maariyah has been on numerous TV shows and international competitions surprising all the hosts with her extraordinary hifz talent and relentless efforts behind the success.

The child and her family have one message for the community 'Where there is a will - there is a way'!

By Mawlana Rayhan & Mawlana Thaqib



Maariyah receives her graduation gift from Zuhri Academy



Hafizah
Maariyah
Aslam



Special message on the Quran covers from her mother

Council of Islamic scholars (CIS) rejects the governmental plans to regulate Mosques and Maktabas

"If the government is going to monitor Mosques and Maktabas (out of school Quran classes) then there is an issue of religious freedom and individual liberty here. "The whole idea behind out of setting classes or Maktabas is to teach culture and faith. There is no evidence that these settings provide radical material which in turn create radicals to carry out attacks.

" It's a waste of time for faith based organisations and the government. The government should rather focus its resources on trying to curb online radicalisation. They should focus where the issue is." - CIS Management

Madrasah Al-Hikmah is now enrolling students for 2016/17 for the new School on Leagrave High street, Luton



We aim to create the first non elitist Muslim Grammar School in Luton.

- Suitable timing and Space for Boys and Girls.
- Spaces: 350 currently (can be expanded with an extension)
- Classrooms: 24 Big Class rooms capable of holding up to 30 students each.
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For further information and admission please contact:
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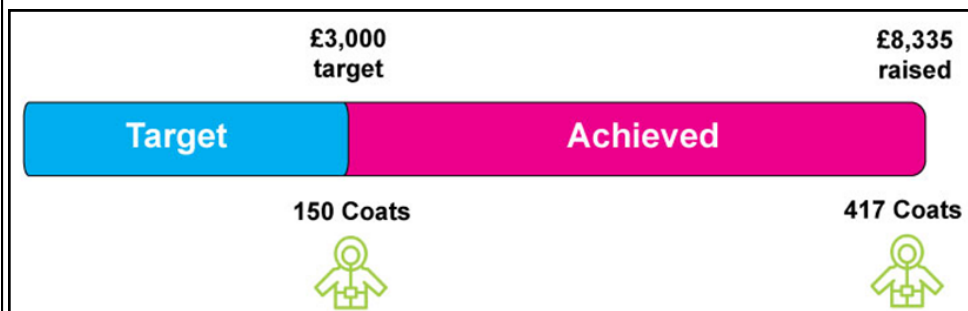
www.alhikmahschool.com
admin@alhikmahschool.com

School Mobile: 07435 786 493

Warm Coats Campaign Update

Through your generous and kind support we are pleased to announce that we have exceeded our target of a 150 new coats for children referred by schools in Luton.

We raised over £8,000 which means 417 children will have new coats that otherwise would probably not have been able to afford one.



Thank you

We would like to thank all our wonderful donors and volunteers who have given their time and money to support our campaign. It's only because of you that we are able to transform lives.

We would also like to give a BIG shout out to our partners in this campaign, [Level Trust](#) and [Inspire FM](#) for their support and great work.

Special Thanks to local community organisations including for helping us achieve our target

- Luton Sixth Form College
- Ryebribe Construction
- Community Interest Company Luton
- Bartham Group
- Al Hikmah School
- World Appeal
- Suffa Tul Islam
- Madinah Masjid
- Rabia Education Trust
- Rise and Shine

1 in 3 children in Luton live in relative poverty

Sadly we have come to know of many families who have been compelled to make the difficult choice between their weekly shopping or buying winter essentials for their dear children.

Despite all our efforts there will be many families that will still be battling to survive this winter. Let's keep this momentum going. You can help provide a coat for a child here in Luton for as little as £20.

Ways to Donate

You can purchase a coat by:

Visiting us at the Discover Islam centre, 37c Upper George Street, Luton, LU1 2RD between 10am and 5pm Monday – Saturday or

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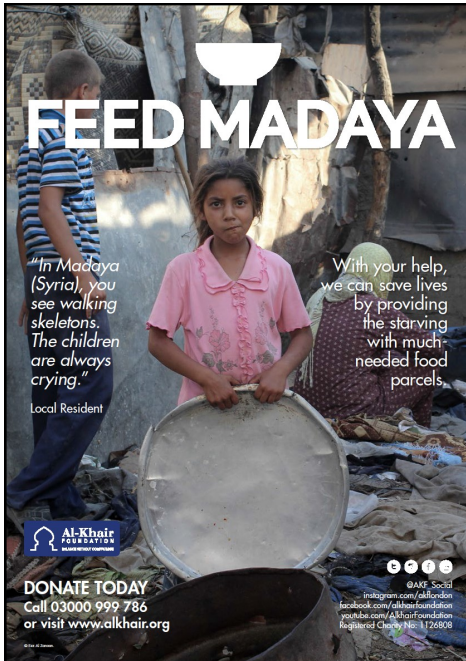
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- ▣ Selected Hadeeth
- ▣ Arabic Language - Basic grammar with spoken Arabic

Practicals;

Wudhu, Tayammum, Adhaan, Salah, Jum'ah, Janazah Salah, Eid Salah, Talks & Arabic Khutbah
Teacher training for maktab and Quran schools
(Sisters Practical will have a slight difference, with a female teacher)

Course requirement;

No formal qualification needed however 5 hours class time and 2 hours at home, weekly dedication is a precondition for enrollment.

Course outcome;

Insha'Allah, learner will gain more confidence in his Imaan and Islam by studying the Islamic sciences. Also be able to lead all types of Salah, deliver talks & reminders and teach Maktab.

"A great experience. Hugely benefitting, productive and thoroughly enjoying"
-Hafiz Luqman, Sanatain Graduate 2015

"Alhamdulillah, I'm very delighted to have been part of Sanatain. It opened my eyes and mind in many ways and made me more confident as a believer"
-Obaidullah Mohammad, Year 2 Student

"The first best structured Islamic course I have done in Luton. In depth study of Islam was achieved alongside practicals which boosts your confidence to deal with real life issues"
-Sister Shenaz, Year 2 Student

Time: Time: 7pm to 9.30pm
(option two- 6.15pm to 8.45pm
Subject to student demand)

Day: Days: Mon & Tue
(Other weekdays are possible
subject to student demand)

Age: 16+




Tutors: Mawlana Thaqib, Mawlana Rayhan, Mawlana Atif, Mawlana Fakhruz Zaman, Mawlana Umar

Open Day; Sunday 24th January 2pm
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