

Serendib

Serving the Community since 1972
The oldest Sri Lankan Association in the UK

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SLIA Vision

*To connect our members
with their Sri Lankan
heritage*

Assalamu Alaikum Wa Rahmatullahi Wa Barakatuh

My Dear Brothers and Sisters

All praise to Almighty (SWT), the AGM of our prestigious Association was held last month and by the grace of the Almighty, we had a large attendance and filled in the vacant Office bearer positions and Executive Committee members. Inshallah we have a good team in place who are very enthusiastic and already very active to achieve our goals.

The team comprises of myself as President, Rafat Hashim as Vice President and our new Secretary Manjula Ossman and new Treasurer Imtiaz Muhseen along with Ikraam Fareed the Assistant Treasurer and Tariq Salih our Assistant Secretary. The other members of our team are Ghanzanfar Hameed, Imran Harris, Khalid Malhar, Mohamed Saleem and Abdul Hilmy. The Charity Sub-Committee has been extremely busy arranging the distribution of rations to our chosen projects in Sri Lanka before the Fasting begins.

We are very sad of the events which took place in our motherland on Easter Sunday and it is paramount to extend our support financially to the devastated families in Sri Lanka. I was invited by the Sri Lanka High Commission in London to sign the book of condolence along with other dignitaries, which I did on behalf of the Sri Lanka Islamic Association. I attended by invitation the Memorial Mass on behalf of our Association at St Michaels Church in Hounslow, with the High Commissioner, the Mayor, MPs and religious dignitaries, including the Imam of the Hounslow Mosque, who spoke of the tragic events and condemned these acts. I was interviewed by Kerana Radio and Television and I said we were saddened by the events which took place and although it will not be easy, we must work towards building relationships with the communities. May Allah help us to secure peace in our motherland.

The month of Ramadan is upon us and the SLIA have organised various Iftar events for our members and families and we would welcome all to this and to our Eid lunch, which is being held at the Novotel Heathrow on Sunday 16 June 2019.

Was Salaam

Ahamed Hussain Wahab, President of SLIA



Secretary's Report

Assalamu alaikum wa rahmatullahi wa baraka tuhu

The beginning of the new ExCo year was marred by tragedy as our first meeting coincided with a shattering and incomprehensible terrorist attack by Sri Lankan Muslim extremists against civilians in Sri Lanka.

The suicide bombers targeted locals and foreigners on Easter Sunday, a day that was chosen to inflict maximum damage to the Christian community. Their victims were ordinary people, the majority of whom were peacefully engaged in acts of remembrance of God, or simply trying to earn a living to support their families, or relaxing in the tranquillity of a church or a hotel. Many of the dead and injured and their families came from the poorest sections of Sri Lankan society. Their daily lives were already punctuated by hardship and financial difficulty, but in a split second it all became infinitely, impossibly harder.

A significant proportion of the victims are children who, having only experienced the fragile post-civil war peace, had little comprehension of bombs and shrapnel. Many have been left severely traumatised by those seduced by a twisted interpretation of 'martyrdom'. It was jarring that one of my first official tasks as SLIA Secretary was to send a message of condolence from the SLIA to Her Excellency, Ms Manisha Gunasekera, High Commissioner of Sri Lanka for the UK; and in an effort to build inter-faith links, another to Cardinal Vincent Nichols, the Catholic Archbishop of Westminster, who invited us to visit. Members of the ExCo and their children participated in the multi-ethnic, multi-faith gathering outside the Sri Lankan High Commission on Saturday 27th April and signed the condolence book.

Many SLIA members have mentioned the deeply touching and inspirational leadership of New Zealand PM, Jacinda Ardern, following the Christchurch mosque massacres. It seems apparent from the wording of the resolution at the AGM, seeking to amend the purpose of the SLIA as stated in the SLIA constitution, that many members wish to take our Islamic Association in a direction that Insha'Allah includes building ties with other communities and giving charity to poor and needy non-Muslims as well as Muslims. Many of you have expressed a wish for the SLIA to support the non-Muslim victims of this latest terrorist attack in Sri Lanka. Our SLIA Ramadan Appeal this year therefore reflects this intention.

We hope that you will continue to support the core SLIA activities, which the ExCo works hard to deliver to our members each year. It is through your selfless hard work and generosity that SLIA events coalesce into a unique expression of Muslim Sri Lankan British identity, that may hopefully provide a sense of community, inspiration and security for the next generation.

Wa alaikum Salaam

Manjula Ossman, Secretary



To receive an online version of the Serendib Newsletter, please e-mail: membership@slia.org.uk
This will assist us in our endeavour to cut costs and provide valuable contributions towards protecting our environment.

Upcoming Events

Ramadan Iftars:

Iftar 1 - Nakshabandhi Zikr

Saturday 11th May 2019

St Vincent De Paul Church,
2 Witham Road, Isleworth,
Middlesex, TW7 4AJ

Iftar 2 – Shazulia Halara

Saturday 18th May 2019

Claremont School Kenton,
Harrow, HA3 0UH

Iftar 3 – Hizb and Katham Thamam

Saturday 25th May 2019

Claremont School Kenton,
Harrow, HA3 0UH

Iftar 4 - Guest Speaker

Saturday 1st June 2019

Claremont School Kenton,
Harrow, HA3 0UH

Eid-ul-Fitr Lunch

See flyer below

Eid-ul-Adha Celebrations 2019

Details TBA

Meelad-un-Nabi

November, Details TBA

Donations for Iftar are most welcome. Please contact our President, Secretary or Treasurer to discuss, pledge or notify in advance.



The Prophet Muhammed (Peace and blessings be upon him) said: "What actions are most excellent? To gladden the heart of human beings, to feed the hungry, to help the afflicted, to lighten the sorrow of the sorrowful and to remove the sufferings of the injured"

(From Sahih Bukhari)

SLIA Ramadan Appeal 2019

All praise to the Almighty Allah, the Beneficent, the Merciful.

“Those who spend their wealth [in Allah's way] by night and by day, secretly and publicly - they will have their reward with their Lord. And no fear will there be concerning them, nor will they grieve.”
[Surah Al-Baqarah 2:274]

This year, as a result of the terrorist attack in our homeland of Sri Lanka, we are appealing for donations towards helping the families of the victims who have been hit the hardest financially. As we are united by a common humanity, we will Insha'Allah help our fellow Sri Lankans from all communities.



Ramadan food distribution programme 2019

1. **Hambantota – Suchi Village:** The feeding of 150 families with dry food rations at RS 6,395 per family with a view to Insha Allah help our Muslim brothers and sisters to be in a position to participate in Ramadan along with us all. *This project with associated packaging costs is estimated at £4,309 at an exchange rate of RS 225.*
2. **Hambantota – Tsunami Village:** The feeding of 170 families with dry rations at RS 6,395 per family and also provision of Khanji for 10 days estimated at RS 7,500 per day. *This project with associated packaging and transport costs is estimated at £5,280 at an exchange rate of RS 225.*
3. **Mullaithivu – Hijrapuram & Neeravipitty Village:** The feeding of 200 families with dry rations at RS 7,410 per family. This project with associated packaging, printing and distribution costs is estimated at £6,697 at an exchange rate of RS 225.

Charitable Donations

Your generous support can help the SLIA make a difference.

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Other _____ Forename _____

Surname _____

Address _____

Post code _____ Cheque No. _____

Zakat £ _____ Ramadan Food Parcels £ _____

Sadaqah £ _____ April 2019 Sri Lanka Bomb Victims £ _____

Gift Aid Please tick if you are a UK taxpayer and your donation is eligible for Gift Aid

Please make cheques payable to Sri Lanka Islamic (UK) Association and return to:
The Treasurer, SLIA (UK), 7 Broadway Buildings, Boston Road, London W7 3TT.

Direct/Electronic payments to the Lloyds Bank Account:

Sri Lanka Islamic (UK) Association Account Number **21061860** Sort Code **30-99-08**

SLIA Membership Subscriptions 2019

Please can all members pay the 2019 subscriptions which was **due on 1st January 2019**. In addition to paying any previous outstanding subscriptions could you also ensure we have your current contact details. If not already in place, please also consider paying your subscriptions by standing order.

Should you wish to action any of the above, contact one of the following:

Imtiaz Muhseen treasurer@slia.org.uk
Ikraam Fareed asst.treasurer@slia.org.uk

If you are aware of new members who wish to join the SLIA please request them to contact any member of the Committee for Membership Application and Standing Order mandate.

Bank Account Lloyds, Walthamstow
Sort Code 30-99-08
Account No. 01663411

Membership Type	Price
Life Membership (Single)	£250
Family Membership (Husband, wife & children under 18)	£30
Family Membership (Husband & wife over 60)	£15
Individual Membership	£15
Individual Membership (Over 60)	£7.50
Student Membership	£4

NOTICE OF SPECIAL GENERAL MEETING AT 9.30PM (AFTER IFTAR AND BEFORE HIZB) ON SATURDAY 25 MAY 2019 AT CLAREMONT SCHOOL. KENTON, HARROW HA3 0UH

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Islam, Assalamu Alaikum.

At the AGM of the Sri Lanka Islamic [UK] Association (hereafter referred to as 'SLIA'), held on 28 March 2004, the membership passed a resolution to amend Article 11 of the constitution of the SLIA to reduce the Executive Committee from nine office bearers and five committee members to six office bearers and five committee members.

At a Special General Meeting on 19 June 2004 the membership passed a resolution to amend Article 12 of the constitution of the SLIA to reduce the quorum of the Executive Committee from nine members to seven members. This was due to the difficulty in establishing a quorum of nine members at every Executive Committee meeting, and in order to not delay important and time-constrained decisions.

The current Executive Committee (ExCo) was informed by the Charity Commission that both the March and June 2004 resolutions to amend the constitution, and any subsequent resolutions to reduce the quorum to seven in the constitution, do not appear to have been filed with the Charity Commission and have not received Charity Commission approval. The SLIA constitution forwarded to us by the Charity Commission shows an Executive Committee of nine office bearers and five committee members, and a quorum of nine.

It is a legal requirement that a registered Charity operates according to its constitution and any resolutions to amend the Charity's constitution, together with the amended constitution, must be lodged with and approved by the Charity Commission. A failure to do so potentially exposes past and present SLIA trustees and the SLIA to a risk of sanctions. The ExCo has not been able to locate the minutes of the 2004 Meetings or the two signed 2004 resolutions to amend the constitution in order to forward to the Charity Commission.

In addition, at the AGM of the SLIA held on 7 April 2019, the members voted to pass a resolution to amend Article 2 - the Objects clause of the constitution. The Charity Commission has now given its consent to the amendment but has slightly altered the wording of the resolution passed at the AGM. A new resolution with this wording will therefore need to be passed at a General Meeting.

It was resolved at ExCo meetings on 21 April and 3 May 2019, to hold a **Special General Meeting (SGM) on 25th May 2019 at 9.30pm at Claremont School, Kenton, Harrow HA3 0UH**, in accordance with Article 10 of the SLIA constitution, to:

- (1) propose a resolution ratifying the two previous resolutions passed in March and June 2004 to amend the SLIA constitution.; and
- (2) to vote on a resolution to amend the Objects of the constitution in line with the wording suggested by the Charity Commission.

Details of the proposed resolutions can be found on the next page (Page 7).

Formalities on Voting

The voting rights of members are determined by Article 4 - Membership, within the SLIA (UK) constitution as amended in March 2006.

1. Ordinary Members - have full voting rights but must be resident in the UK and over 18 years of age. There are 6 categories of Ordinary membership:
 - a) Single Membership – one vote per member
 - b) Family Membership - voting is restricted to one vote for each of the husband and wife. (Family is defined as husband, wife & children under 18 years of age)
 - c) Life Membership - voting is restricted to a single vote
 - d) Student Membership - voting is restricted to a single vote (Student members are over 18 years of age and in full time education)
 - e) Retired Membership – one vote per member
 - f) Widow/Widower Membership – one vote per member
2. Associate Members – do NOT qualify for ordinary membership and are NOT Eligible to vote but can attend meetings. There are 2 categories of Associate Membership: (a) Family Membership and (b) Single Membership.
3. **Voting will be by a show of hands for or against passing each resolution.**
4. Under Article 18 section (b) of the SLIA constitution –an amendment of the constitution by a General Meeting is determined by a two-thirds majority of members entitled to vote and present at such meeting. If you require further details please contact Sis. Manjula Ossman on secretary@slia.org.uk

Resolution of Sri Lanka Islamic (UK) Association (Charity No.: 1098114)

That the membership ratifies the following two resolutions:

- 1) The resolution passed at the 28th March 2004 AGM to amend Article 11 of the constitution of the Sri Lanka Islamic [UK] Association to reduce the Executive Committee from nine office bearers and five committee members to six office bearers and five committee members
- 2) The resolution passed at the Special General Meeting on 19th June 2004 to reduce the quorum of the Executive Committee of the Sri Lanka Islamic [UK] Association from nine to seven executive committee members.

Resolution of Sri Lanka Islamic (UK) Association (Charity No.: 1098114)

That Article 2 - the Objects – be amended as follows:

By adding subsection (d) namely:

(d) To prevent or relieve poverty of suffering communities worldwide by facilitating humanitarian activities, and supporting welfare projects for the social upliftment of poor communities in Sri Lanka.

Ramadan Timetable 2019

The following timetable has been provided by **Salah Times** for Greater London and the prayer times listed are **start times** and the **jamaat times** may vary dependant on local mosque.

Date	Day	Suhur Fajr	Sunrise	Zuhr	Asr	Iftar Maghrib	Isha
6 May	Mon	3:23	5:24	12:57	6:09	8:31	10:33
7	Tue	3:20	5:22	12:57	6:10	8:33	10:36
8	Wed	3:17	5:20	12:57	6:11	8:34	10:39
9	Thu	3:14	5:19	12:57	6:12	8:36	10:42
10	Fri	3:11	5:17	12:57	6:13	8:38	10:44
11	Sat	3:08	5:15	12:57	6:14	8:39	10:47
12	Sun	3:05	5:14	12:57	6:15	8:41	10:49
13	Mon	3:05	5:12	12:57	6:15	8:42	10:50
14	Tue	3:04	5:11	12:57	6:16	8:44	10:50
15	Wed	3:03	5:09	12:57	6:17	8:45	10:51
16	Thu	3:02	5:08	12:57	6:18	8:47	10:52
17	Fri	3:02	5:06	12:57	6:19	8:48	10:53
18	Sat	3:01	5:05	12:57	6:20	8:50	10:53
19	Sun	3:00	5:03	12:57	6:21	8:51	10:54
20	Mon	3:00	5:02	12:57	6:22	8:53	10:55
21	Tue	2:59	5:01	12:57	6:22	8:54	10:56
22	Wed	2:58	4:59	12:57	6:23	8:55	10:56
23	Thu	2:58	4:58	12:57	6:24	8:57	10:57
24	Fri	2:57	4:57	12:57	6:25	8:58	10:58
25	Sat	2:57	4:56	12:57	6:26	8:59	10:59
26	Sun	2:56	4:55	12:57	6:26	9:01	10:59
27	Mon	2:56	4:54	12:58	6:27	9:02	11:00
28	Tue	2:55	4:53	12:58	6:28	9:03	11:01
29	Wed	2:55	4:52	12:58	6:29	9:04	11:01
30	Thu	2:55	4:51	12:58	6:29	9:06	11:02
31	Fri	2:54	4:50	12:58	6:30	9:07	11:03
1 June	Sat	2:54	4:49	12:58	6:31	9:08	11:03
2	Sun	2:53	4:48	12:58	6:31	9:09	11:04
3	Mon	2:53	4:48	12:59	6:32	9:10	11:04
4	Tue	2:53	4:47	12:59	6:33	9:11	11:05
5	Wed	2:53	4:46	12:59	6:33	9:12	11:05