

10th Anniversary Peace

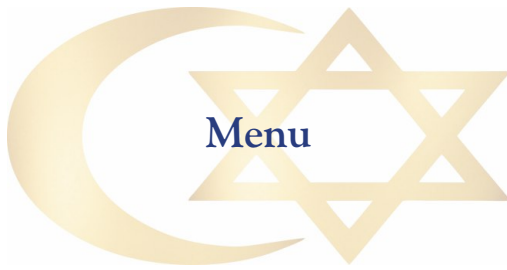


2005



2015

10TH ANNIVERSARY DINNER
SUNDAY 7TH JUNE 2015
MANCHESTER TOWN HALL



Assortment of Middle Eastern Salads and Dips

*accompanied with warm pitta bread
and falafel balls (tapas style)*



Two Tone Soup

(butternut squash and asparagus soup)



Duo of Salmon and Cod Loin

with jugs of Terryaki sauce and a curry sauce

served with:

Asian rice and stir fry vegetables

or alternatively

roasted Mediterranean vegetables

and diced roasted potatoes



Trio of Hungarian Apple Strudel, Chocolate Cup

filled with ice cream and a Mini Lemon Tart

with forest fruit coulis



Coffee or Tea

*Alternatives to the above will be provided
to those who have requested them in advance.*



10TH ANNIVERSARY

In August 2004, Cllr Afzal Khan, now CBE and MEP, then Deputy Lord Mayor of Manchester, and the late Henry Guterman MBE, former president of the Jewish Representative Council of Greater Manchester and Region invited a number of people to a public meeting at Manchester Town Hall. The purpose was to listen to two people from London, Rabbi Herschel Gluck and Ismail Amaan, tell us about their Muslim Jewish dialogue activities in North London. The event was well attended, with a memorable presentation from the speakers and many questions and answers.

In November 2004 the same two hosts invited a smaller number of people to Manchester Town Hall to ask if we should set up in Manchester a Muslim Jewish group similar to that in London, which we had heard about at the previous meeting. There was overwhelming support, and a small number of people volunteered to serve on a steering group.



As part of that steering group, barrister David Berkley QC and chartered accountant Mohammed Amin recommended incorporating a company limited by guarantee as the most appropriate way to constitute a group of the type envisaged. Accordingly the two of them prepared the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and The Muslim Jewish Forum of Greater Manchester was incorporated by Companies House on 14 June 2005 with the subscribers to the Memorandum being Afzal Khan and Henry Guterman. Copies of our legal documents are available on our website.

Our objectives reproduced below were carefully drafted to focus entirely on circumstances in Greater Manchester:

'The objects for which the Forum is established are to develop the cultural and social ties between the Muslim and Jewish Communities of Greater Manchester; to educate members of the Muslim and Jewish Communities in relation to their shared values and common Abrahamic tradition, heritage, history and culture; and to promote better understanding within the wider community of the interests and values that are common to the Muslim and Jewish Communities.'

Since incorporation, the Forum's activities have grown steadily, and our past events are listed in full on our website. Our goal in simple terms is to make it normal for Muslims and Jews to be friends and to do things together. Due to our press releases, radio and

TV appearances, use of social media and our website, our influence extends far beyond Greater Manchester. One example of our reach is that we were awarded the 'Spirit of Britain' award in the nationwide British Muslim Awards 2014.



Order of Proceedings

Mr Jonny Wineberg (Former Co-Chair) opens formal proceedings and introduces grace for each Abrahamic faith

Grace - The Chief Rabbi,
The Bishop of Manchester, Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra

Starter course

Welcome to Manchester and the Town Hall
from The Lord Mayor of Manchester

Mr Mohammed Amin, Co-Chair, welcomes all guests to the Dinner

Ms Heather Fletcher, Co-Chair, gives a brief overview of the Forum's first ten years and introduces Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra

Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra

Mr Mohammed Amin introduces The Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth Ephraim Mirvis

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis

Mr David Berkley QC, Executive member of the Forum, proposes the Loyal Toast

Mr Afzal Khan CBE MEP and Co-Founder of the Forum, proposes a toast to the Forum

Mrs Qaisra Shahraz, Executive member of the Forum, thanks the keynote speakers

Mr Jonny Wineberg closes the formal proceedings

Remaining courses of the dinner are served



The Forum's Co-Chairs



Mohammed Amin
MA FCA AMCT CTA(Fellow)



Heather D. Fletcher
LL.B (Hons)

Mohammed Amin has on several occasions been listed as one of the hundred most influential Muslims in the UK.

His parents were poor and illiterate, but believed in education. Amin went on to graduate in mathematics from Clare College, Cambridge and obtain a Post Graduate Certificate in Education from Leeds University. Professionally Amin is a chartered accountant, a chartered tax adviser and a qualified corporate treasurer.

Most of Amin's career was spent as a tax advisor. In 1990 he became the first Muslim to be admitted to the Price Waterhouse partnership in the UK. He specialised in international tax and the taxation of derivatives and foreign exchange, and also Islamic finance. From 2003 until he retired, Amin was an elected member of PwC's 15 person Supervisory Board.

Amin devotes his retirement to community service by informal mentoring, involvement in many organisations which are listed on his website www.mohammedamin.com and by writing, speaking and appearing in the media. His public service was recognised by his selection as the Clare College Alumnus of the Year 2014.

Heather Fletcher was born in Salford, Greater Manchester. She obtained a law degree from Birmingham University and qualified as a solicitor. After practising as a legal aid lawyer, specialising in family law, she went into another branch of the profession and became a law costs draftsman preparing bills of costs for solicitors. She has run her own business in this domain for fifteen years.

Heather initially became interested in interfaith work in 1992, when she worked in the culturally diverse area of Cheetham Hill. She thereafter attended the meeting at Manchester Town Hall in August 2004 which led to the formation of the Muslim Jewish Forum. Heather was Company Secretary for nine years and was elected as Co-Chair in January 2015.

Heather has given several presentations at the Adam Day multifaith event and been interviewed regularly on the 'Jewish Hour' radio programme promoting the Forum's events. She has had many letters printed in the local press. In 2013 she was filmed for a 'Thought for the Day' on the subject of faith and austerity which was shown nationwide on Channel 4 TV.

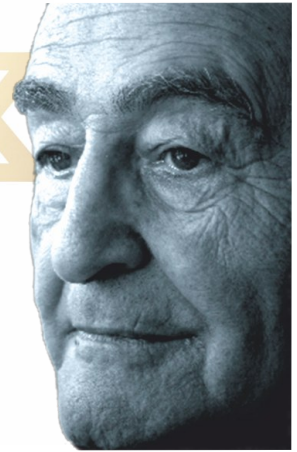
Heather's other interests are public speaking, writing poetry, politics, watching football and going on sightseeing holidays.



The Forum's Co-Founder

Henry Guterman MBE

The late Henry Guterman MBE was co-host (along with Afzal Khan CBE MEP, then Deputy Lord Mayor of Manchester) of the open meeting in Manchester Town Hall where Rabbi Herschel Gluck OBE and Ismail Amaan spoke about their Muslim Jewish dialogue in London. That meeting led to the setting up of the Muslim Jewish Forum of Greater Manchester, and Henry served as its Jewish Co-Chair until his death in May 2007.



Henry Guterman was born in 1926 in Germany. His father Berthold was a soap manufacturer in Berlin and a great admirer of Britain. After Kristallnacht in 1938 when Henry was 12, the Guterman family were able to emigrate from Germany to Manchester, thereby escaping the Holocaust.

Henry became a great servant of the Jewish community. He served as Manchester Jewish Representative Council President and for over 40 years was a member of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. Henry was also extremely active in many other Jewish organisations, some of which are listed at the bottom of the page.

Throughout his life Henry was at the helm of most of Manchester's interfaith groups, some of which are included in the list below. His funeral was attended by bishops side by side with Hindus and Muslims wearing yarmulkes.



A partial list of organisations:

Bury Inter-Faith, Collyhurst Police Community Action Group, Commonwealth Games Advisory Committee, Disabled Living, Greater Manchester Criminal Justice Board Diversity IAG, Heathlands, Indian Jewish Association, Manchester City Council Housing Committee Black and Ethnic Committee, Manchester Council for Community Relations, Manchester Council of Christians and Jews, Manchester Inter-Faith Forum, Morris Feinmann Homes, National League of Hospital Friends, North Manchester Crime Prevention Council, North Manchester Hospital Black & Ethnic Committee, North Manchester Jewish Youth Project, Outreach, South East Lancashire Housing Association, South Manchester Health Authority Fair Access Group, South Manchester Synagogue, Tameside Area Health Authority, The Black Jewish Forum, The Three Faiths Forum, Trafford Partnership Board Diverse Communities Forum, Trafford SACRE, Trafford Safer Partnership, Zionist Central Council.



10TH ANNIVERSARY



The Keynote Speakers

Chief Rabbi Ephraim Mirvis

Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra



Ephraim Mirvis is Chief Rabbi of the United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth. Only the 11th Chief Rabbi since the office was introduced in 1704, he was installed on 1 September 2013 in an historic ceremony attended by HRH The Prince of Wales; the first time a Royal Family member has attended the installation of a Chief Rabbi.

Born and raised in South Africa, Ephraim Mirvis proceeded to study in religious seminaries in Israel. He was Chief Rabbi of Ireland (1984 - 92), and Rabbi of Western Marble Arch Synagogue in London and Senior Rabbi at Finchley United Synagogue before becoming Chief Rabbi in 2013.

Rabbi Mirvis served as President of the Irish Council of Christians and Jews (CCJ) from 1985 to 1992. He has participated in dialogue with UK Church leaders at Windsor Castle and Lambeth Palace. In 2005 he addressed a CCJ meeting at the Synod of the Church of England and in 2014 he addressed the General Assembly of Church of Scotland.

He was the first United Synagogue Rabbi to host in his synagogue an address by an Imam, Dr Mohammed Essam El-Din Fahim. He also led a delegation of members of his community to the Finchley Mosque.

Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra serves as an imam and scholar in Leicester. He was born in Malawi into a family of Indian origin and migrated to the UK at the age of 18 to study and settle.

He has been trained in classical theology and the traditional sciences of Islam. He holds religious credentials from Darul-Ulum, Holcombe as well as advanced theological qualifications from the world famous Al-Azhar University in Cairo. In addition, Shaykh Mogra has undertaken a postgraduate degree at the School of Oriental and African Studies in London. He is the founder and Principal of Khazinat ul-Ilm, Madaris of Arabic and Muslim Life Studies, in Leicester.

He has served as an Assistant Secretary General of the Muslim Council of Britain since 2008. As a local community activist in Leicester and a national leader in the MCB, Shaykh Mogra has been at the forefront in deepening interfaith relations in the UK and around the world.

He is chair of Religions for Peace UK, and a member of the Congress of Imams and Rabbis for Peace and the Christian Muslim Forum. He regularly appears in the media.





Official Guests

The Chief Rabbi of the
United Hebrew Congregations of the Commonwealth
Ephraim Mirvis

Shaykh Ibrahim Mogra

The Lord Lieutenant of Greater Manchester
Mr Warren Smith JP

The Lord Mayor of Manchester
Cllr Paul Murphy OBE & The Lady Mayoress Mrs Murphy

The Bishop of Manchester
Rt Revd David Walker & Mrs Walker

The Chief Fire Officer of Greater Manchester
Mr Peter O'Reilly & Mrs O'Reilly

The City Mayor of Salford
Mr Ian Stewart & Mrs Stewart

The Deputy Mayor of Bury
Cllr Michelle Wiseman & Deputy Mayoress Ms Wiseman

The Deputy Mayor of Stockport
Cllr June Somekh & Deputy Mayoress Ms Moulds



10TH ANNIVERSARY

Members of the Forum's Executive Committee



Mohammed Amin
(Co-Chair)



Heather Fletcher
(Co-Chair)



Tahara Amin
(Secretary)



David Lewis JP
(Treasurer)



Cllr Rabnawaz Akbar



David Berkley QC



Jackie Harrison



Dr. Jackie Lewis



Cllr Afzal Khan
CBE MEP



Shahid Adam Saleem



Qaisra Shahraz



Jonny Wineberg



Some Inspiring Words

*“Peace in every home, every street, every village, every country-
this is my dream. Education for every boy and every girl in the world.
To sit down on a chair and read my books with all my friends at my school
is my right. To see each and every human being with a
smile of happiness is my wish.”*

Malala Yousafzai

“Peace cannot be kept by force it can only be achieved by understanding.”

Albert Einstein

*“When all your desires are distilled, you will cast just two votes.
To Love more and to be Happy.”*

Rumi

*“God did not create woman from man’s head that he should command her,
Nor from his feet that she should be his slave,
But rather from his side, that she should be near his heart.”*

The Talmud

“We must live together as brothers or perish as fools.”

Martin Luther King

*“I can do things you cannot, you can do things that I cannot.
Together we can do great things.”*

Mother Theresa


“Be the change that you wish to see in the world.”

Mahatma Gandhi


*“The purpose of all the major religious traditions is not to construct big temples
on the outside but to create temples of goodness and compassion
inside our hearts.” - Dalai Lama*







New officers chosen in 2015
 To start 2015 we elected new officers,
 Co-Chairs, Mohammed Amin &
 Heather Fletcher, Secretary Tahara Amin
 and Treasurer David Lewis JP.





Forum Picnic in Platt Fields Park
 The annual picnic where people bring
 their own food and share is often
 blessed with good weather!




Lord Mayor's Special Commendation
 The Lord Mayor of Manchester, Cllr
 Naem Ul Hassan JP gave the
 Forum his Certificate of Special
 Commendation for Services
 to the Community.




Paris Jewish Museum
 Members of the Forum and our
 sister organisation Shalom Paix Salam!
 spending the weekend together and
 visiting this inspiring museum.




Spirit of Britain Award 2014
 Afzal Khan CBE and Heather Fletcher
 at the British Muslim Awards accepting
 this national award on behalf
 of the Forum.



Manchester Central Mosque
The Forum facilitated twinning
between Manchester's main mosque in
Victoria Park and Manchester Reform
Synagogue on Jackson's Row.



Shalom Paix Salam! visit Manchester
The Forum hosted a visit by its
Paris sister organisation, including
a visit to the British Muslim
Heritage Centre.



International Women's Day
Muslim and Jewish women show off
their artwork created at this event
which was funded by Manchester
City Council.



Business Networking Event
Muslims and Jews absorbed in
conversation and food at an event
for people to promote their
businesses to each other.



Interfaith Iftar
Afzal Khan explaining to the
diverse audience the Islamic rules about
fasting during Ramadan. The Iftar
is the meal at the end of the fast.





Reflecting Religion

Religion is something which can not easily be defined
As it has a different connotation in everybody's mind.

Many are unsure about their beliefs and are in a constant search
While others feel contentment praying in their Synagogue, Mosque or Church.

Religions are very diverse, that is how it always seems
But studying all faiths it appears there are similar themes.

They teach the virtues of selflessness, humility and compassion
Though these seem at variance with modern day living and fashion.

To some the teachings of religion seem out-dated and easy to deride
And others question how can there be an Almighty who sanctions
earthquakes and mass genocide.

But the beauty of cascading waterfalls, ocean sunsets and the power of true love
Must surely owe their existence to the Supreme Divine Being from above.

In this fast-paced life it is comforting to embrace religion and belief
To be your companion in days of happiness, success, despair and grief.

Heather D. Fletcher





Social Action at Tesco Cheetham Hill
The Forum has organised several supermarket collections for food banks.









Interfaith Football Tournament
60 boys played in mixed teams at the Henry Guterman Sports Centre in Heald Green, named after our co-founder.







Annual 'Loose Lawyers' panel event
Always very well attended, this panel included the Chief Crown Prosecutor for the North West, Nazir Afzal OBE.







The Forum visits Princes Road Synagogue in Liverpool
This splendid synagogue is a testament to the wealth of the 19th century Liverpool Jewish community.







Evening News journalists address Business Networking event
The News's business editor Kevin Feddy and his colleague Shelina Begum spoke at this event hosted by Greater Manchester Fire Service.







Chief Constable addresses the Forum
We had an evening with Mr Peter Fahy, now Sir Peter, at Manchester Town Hall, to cover his life, community cohesion and hate crime.



Literary evening at Manchester Jewish Museum
Authors Qaisra Shahraz, Sherry Ashworth and Zahid Hussain read illuminating extracts from their books and talked about the art of their profession.



5th Anniversary Celebrations
The Forum celebrated its 5th anniversary in slightly less imposing environs than its 10th this evening! We have come a long way.



Deliberations at Annual General Meeting
The Forum takes proper governance seriously, holding an Annual General Meeting to approve the accounts and elect a new Executive Committee.



The Forum visits Granada
Forum members visited a disused synagogue and the Mezquita in Cordoba, also visiting The Alhambra Palace, seen here in the background.



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Wishing

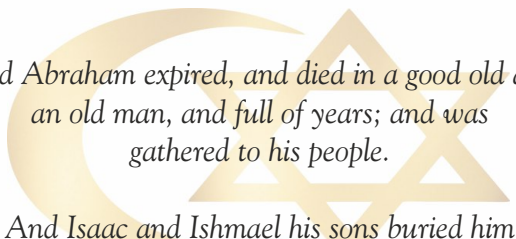
THE MUSLIM JEWISH FORUM

all the best and continued success

from

Mark & Josie Davies

And Family



*And Abraham expired, and died in a good old age,
an old man, and full of years; and was
gathered to his people.*

*And Isaac and Ishmael his sons buried him
in the cave of Machpelah...*

Genesis 25:8-9

Congratulating the Muslim Jewish Forum of Greater
Manchester upon ten years of promoting better
understanding and fraternity between two
great faith communities.

Best wishes from

**David Berkley QC
and family**



ST JOHNS
BUILDINGS
BARRISTERS CHAMBERS

24a - 28 St John Street
Manchester M3 4DJ
Telephone: 0161 214 1500

Congratulations

Muslim Jewish Forum

Here's to the next decade
and beyond.

Janice & Charles Bloom



Mazel Tov to the

Muslim Jewish Forum

on 10 years of building bridges
between communities.

It was a privilege to be part
of the Executive.

Sarah Kemp



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Islamic Cultural Centre

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Islamic teachings of love,
understanding and
engagement with the
wider community.**

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THE
LOOKING AFTER EACH OTHER
FED

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ANONYMOUS



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