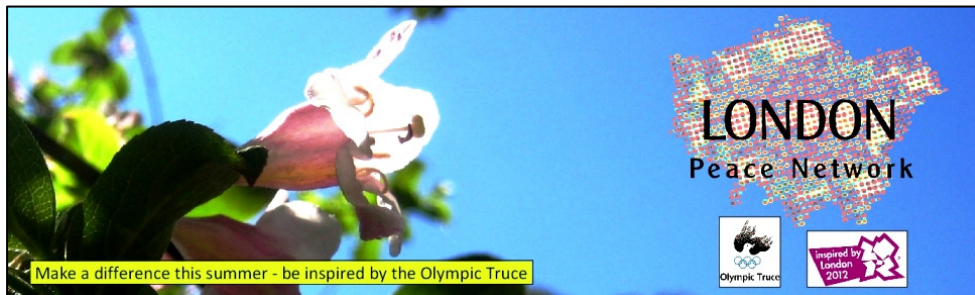




FCO OLYMPIC TRUCE MEETING 5th February 2013 : HIGHLIGHTS & LEGACY



1. Creation of the **London Peace Network**, December 2011, bringing together religious, multifait and community groups to get involved in the Olympic Truce.
 - a. **Truce Inspire Mark** awarded to the London Peace Network by London 2012.
 - b. **Dedicated website** launched, promoting peace-building activities, encouraging participation and carrying news of a wide range of events and resources.



2. **Imperial War Museum**, 6th June – key faith leaders across London watched the IWM's film *Build the Truce*, followed by a round table discussion with IWM curators and the FCO on international conflicts which have an impact on local communities in London. Speakers included Lord Michael Bates, Conrad Bailey, Geetha Maheshwaran, Mohammed Abdul Bari, Nick Lowles, Sonoo Malkani, Julian Bond and Sayed Ali Abbas Razawi.

3. **Ringling bells for the Olympic Truce** and the Millennium Development Goals on the Millennium Bridge, 27th July.
 - a. Over 100 people from many different communities across London rang bells together for three minutes.
 - b. Speakers included Willi Lemke, UN Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace and Toaha Qureshi MBE, with a message from Dr Filis, International Olympic Truce Centre, Greece.
 - c. One of the bells was presented later that day to the UN Secretary General, Ban Ki-Moon.



LONDON BOROUGHES FAITHS NETWORK

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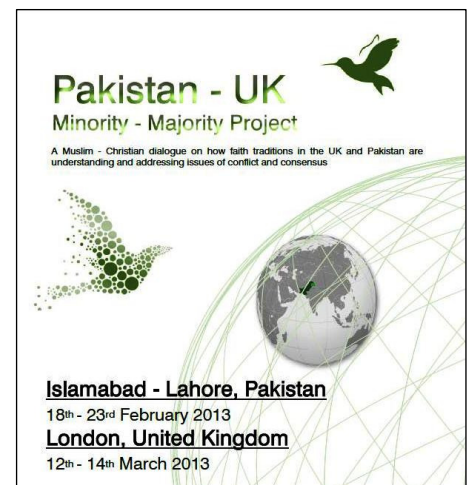
The **International Day of Peace**, falling on a Friday, provided a good opportunity for mosques worldwide to take a lead in marking the Day.

- a. Major Islamic Centres and organisations in the UK from different traditions came together to plan and publicise the day through their networks.
- b. Mosques and madressas in the UK and overseas were invited to mark the Day by inviting in visitors to exchange messages of peace.
- c. A flyer was circulated with messages of peace from nine religious traditions. The salaam 'bird of peace' was designed and used widely.
- d. An accompanying booklet was published by The Cordoba Foundation and distributed with contributions from the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Grand Mufti of Bosnia.

- e. **A launch event was hosted by Lord Michael Bates** at the Houses of Parliament, with speeches by **Baroness Uddin** and senior Muslim leaders on 21st September.
- f. Partnership with **Peace One Day** and **FCO** to publicise events.
- g. **Overwhelming participation:**
 - i. **Over 320 UK mosques**, including very well attended events at the East London Mosque, London Central Mosque and the Al-Khoei Islamic Centre.
 - ii. **Over 500 Islamic Centres** and madressas in at least **25 countries** overseas, including Ghana, Iraq, Pakistan, Sweden and Bosnia.
 - iii. It is estimated that at least **one million people** participated worldwide.



4. **'Twinned' peace-building activities:** possibilities in Sri Lanka, Jamaica, Ghana and Pakistan were explored and the last was chosen. The FCO is supporting a **Pakistan-UK Minority-Majority** project linking communities in Pakistan with diaspora groups and others in London during February and March 2013, with Wandsworth Community Empowerment Network and Stockwell Green Community Services. **Lord Michael Bates** has kindly agreed to become the **first patron of the London Peace Network**.



LEGACY



As a result of the Olympic Truce, LBFN was able to bring religious and community organisations together under the umbrella of The London Peace Network. New relationships have been forged, trust has been built and new ways of working with public agencies and the UN have been developed. Thousands of volunteers have contributed their time and talents to building peace.

This is something of real, practical value to pass on to Sochi 2014 and Rio 2016. LBFN looks forward to building on the achievements of 2012 and to participating in forthcoming meetings with Russia, Brazil and the IOC.

Catriona Robertson, 5th February 2013.

Video, picture gallery and downloads available at www.londonpeacenetwork.wordpress.com