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## TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2009

The Trustees have pleasure in presenting their report and the audited financial statements for the year ended 31 December 2009.

### Structure, governance and management

The Charity is governed by its constitution and is constituted as a charitable trust.

The trustees of Wessex Shia Ithna Asheri Jamaat are the members of the executive committee. They are for the purposes of the constitution, officers of the charity.

The trustees are responsible for the overall management and control of the charity and meet regularly to manage its affairs.

### Objectives and Activities

- a) The object for which the Charity has been established is to promote and advance the Islamic Religion in accordance with the principles of the Shia Ithna-Asheri faith. The Charity through its Executive Committee shall have the power:
- b) To encourage the practice of the Islamic Religion as taught by Shia Ithna-Asheri laws
- c) To eradicate poverty
- d) To advance education amongst the community.
- e) To relieve of those in need by reason of youth, age, ill health, and disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage
- f) Promote good health and health living
- g) To do all such others things as shall further the above-mentioned object





## Development and achievements

The Trustees consider that the performance of the Charity has been satisfactory. The Charity has been successful in fulfilling its aim and objectives.

The charity has organised events, activities and programmes to fulfil its objectives and ensuring that it has used all mediums and its disposal to promote the services provided by the charity.

The charity has organised a number of activities including:

### 1) Interfaith activities and seminars.

- 'Bring a Friend Day' – This is organised by the youth during the holy month of Ramadhan. It the brain child of the youth of the community whereby all members are requested to invite their friends to Al Mahdi and break-fast together. This year we had over 150 people attending. The event was reported in the local media.
- Students in the Faculty of Religion and Education from the Chichester University were hosted in the madrasah. This was followed by a visit to the University whereby a group of young members of our Community discussed with the University students the experiences of living as a muslim in the UK.
- Dahwul Ardh / Earth Day – This was organized by the Madrasah. Community leaders from the Abrahamic Faiths were invited to celebrate the day when the earth was spread for the advantage of human beings. Madressah students heard presentation environmentalists and learn the value sustainability.
- Regular participation in various events and seminars organised by the South East England Faiths Forum (SEFFF), Three Faiths Forum, Hampshire Interfaith Network (HIN)
- As part of promoting cohesiveness in the community links with the Anglican and Catholic communities are strengthened.
- Celebration of birth of Prophet Isa (Jesus): Muslim /Christian evening jointly organised at the Portsmouth Cathedral.

### 2) Publish publications for interfaith activities and promote religion.

- Prepared the reading by Muslim Imam at the Annual Remembrance service at Guildhall, Portsmouth.
- Update of Diversity Resources handbook for the Queen Alexandra Hospital
- Forging better relationship with the muslim community of the mosques In Portsmouth and Southampton.
- At request of schools talks are delivered to students on Islam as part of the Religious Education Curriculum.
- The Minister of Religion published his annual report of activities undertaken during the year. The report is available upon request.

### 3) Publish religious materials for use by members.

- Weekly publications of the 'Friday Message - Risalatul Juma'. This is a synopsis of the message delivered during the Friday Jumah prayers. It is sent to all members of the





centre and others who have requested to receive it.

- 'Majlis Summary' – is a brief outline to sermon given by Shekh Fazle Abbas every Friday on historical events on the Islamic Calendar . This is sent to all members of the centre and others who have requested to receive it.
- Recommended Prayers on Islamic dates are broadcast to all members and laminated cards distributed.

4) Arrange seminars and events.

- Members and guests are invited to attend weekly Majlis, Friday Jumah prayers, Lectures on historical events on the Islamic Calendar and other educational activities organised by the Jamaat.
- Sessions of special supplications and prayers as per the dates on the Islamic Calendar are organised for members.
- Provision of care in the birth, marriage and funeral ceremonies.

5) Organise media training.

- Seven youths, members of the managing committee and the Minister of Religion – Sheikh Fazle Abbas, were partially sponsored to participate Media Training organised by Faith Associates and the Council of European Jamaats (CoEJ). The program was very successful and as a result the Jamaat have established a 'Media Team' which is run and managed by two youths. They publish events undertaken by Wessex Jamaat on community magazines such as the 'World Federation Newswire', 'InFocus', and other community focus magazines.

6) Seminars, events for women and senior citizens.

- The Jamaat actively participated in Needs Assessment for women and senior citizens undertaken by the Council of European Jamaats (CoEJ). Results of this will help shape the activities of our centre to be more gender sensitive and provide the needs of the elders of our community.

7) Annual conferences for religious scholars and students.

- This year we once again played a leading role in the annual conference for the religious scholars. This event helped bring to light issues facing the Minister of Religion of different regions. Catering for the youth, women's issues, interfaith and intra-faith were just some of the issues discussed, resolved and actions highlighted.

8) Summer camps for young girls and boys.

- Two youths from our community participated in the CoEJ youth boys and girls camp. This programme is very successful and is attended by over 50 youths from all over Europe. This programme helps foster new friends for the and helps in building networks within our European communities which otherwise would not be possible.

9) Annual sports tournaments for both ladies and gents.

- Wessex Jamaat participated in this competition representing team in Golf, Football and badminton. This is an annual event in which the entire CoEJ participates. This event started in 1996 and has got more successful over the years. Wessex Jamaat is committed to this event as it helps the members of our Jamaat, across all ages and





gender, to meet with members of other communities.

10) Fund raising activities for a number of relief and humanitarian projects.

- This year as in years past, Wessex Jamaat has supported other charities and humanitarian programs. This year the Jamaat was involved in raising funds for digging water wells in India and Africa, Supporting the homeless by providing food parcels. This year we raised over 5,000 cans which were equally divided between homeless in Portsmouth and Southampton.

11) Organised medical screenings for members.

- CoEJ (Council of European Jamaats), which we are a member of and who are our parent body, organised their annual medical screening checking for member of the community screening for diabetes, mental health, stress, dental, blood pressure, cholesterol and thalassemia. This program is one of the most success full programs ever undertaken. It has helped identify and flag silent conditions such as blood pressure, diabetes, cholesterol etc.

12) Organised medical updates though the website and emails targeted to members.

- As part of 'Healthy Living' we publish regular health updates to our membership. This year we promoted 'Healthy Eating' during the holy month of Ramadhan, promotion on regular exercise, dementia, Parkinson's and thalassemia.

13) Support of overseas Muslim students coming to study at the University of Southampton, University of Portsmouth, and University of Chichester.

- Pastoral and religious activities organised to help these students settle in the area.
- Students are allocated an adoptive family who provide a support network
- Students looking for accommodation are signposted to families who provide such facility.

14) Revamped and maximise the utilisation of the charity's website.

There has been continued growth of the Charity and we now have increased our volunteer base and the number of volunteers is creasing exponentially. Looking ahead to 2010, developments across all of main areas are likely to undergo even more dynamic change and the Charity will enhance its services to its members

#### Financial Statements

The financial statements comply with statutory requirements. The Charity's constitution and Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP) published in March 2005.

#### Risk Management

The managing trustees have assessed the major risk to which the charity is exposed, in particular those relating to meeting payments to suppliers and the use of restricted funds. The trustees are also satisfied that the systems are in place to mitigate our exposure to these risks and the processes implemented are designed to minimise any impact on the charity, should any of these risk are to materialise





## Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The Trustees are responsible for preparing the Annual Report in accordance with applicable law and regulations.

The Trustees are required to prepare financial statements for each financial year, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice (United Kingdom Accounting Standards and applicable law). The financial statements are required by law to give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charity and of its incoming resources and application of resources for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

Select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;

Make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;

State whether applicable UK accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statement.

Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charity will continue operating in the future.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping proper accounting records that disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Charity and to enable it to ensure that the financial statements comply with the applicable law. The Trustees are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the financial and other information included on the Charity's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions

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Roshan Gangji, President

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Abbas Rahim, Hon. Treasurer

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Redha Hooda, Hon. Treasurer

