

THE YOUNG MUSLIM LEADERSHIP PROGRAMME

The Young Muslim Leadership Programme 2023 took place from 7th July–16th July 2023. This annual residential Programme started as a joint initiative of the Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies and the then Prince's Charities. The Programme is designed with three aims in mind. Firstly, to provide participants with an informed understanding of British social and political institutions and values, and to encourage the participants to make a positive contribution to British public life. Secondly, to build a positive sense of identity among participants in being both British and Muslim. Thirdly, to nurture the Centre's network of YMLP alumni and to introduce the present cohort of participants to this network. Participants are British Muslims aged between 21-30 who have demonstrated leadership potential in various spheres, such as local or national government, commerce, the media, the voluntary sector and the Arts.

The Programme included speakers from academia, the law, medicine, civil service, public life, journalism, banking and corporate fields.

The following participants successfully completed the YMLP 2023:

Ms Sarah Abdelrahman, Ms Hajer Adrwish, Mr Nauman Akhlaq, Mr Atif Ali, Ms Sayeeda Ali, Ms Mashalle Asim, Ms Uzraa Bax, Mr Shehab Choudhury, Mr Nabeel Jabbar, Mr Afzal Khan, Ms Sehrish Mahmood, Ms Sabahat Mahmood, Ms Mona Murad, Ms Noreen Niazi, Ms Husnia Safari, Dr Mahmud Sajjad, Mr Abdullah Shah, Mr Omair Shah, Ms Bushra Shammout, Mr Irfan Suleman, Ms Nazia Sultana, Mr Fahad Syed, Mr Mohammad Ismail Usman, Mr Baris Varli and Mr Mohammed Zia.

Speakers on the Programme included: The Rt Hon Dominic Grieve KC; Mr Moazzam Malik CMG, Managing Director, World Resources Institute; Dr Ajmal Hussain, Department of Sociology, University of Warwick; Professor Khizar Humayun Ansari, PhD, OBE, Emeritus Professor, Royal Holloway University; Mr Rehman Chishti, MP for Gillingham; Dr Basil Mustafa, Senior Associate Member, Oxford Centre for Islamic Studies; Sir Tom Shebbeare KCVO, Chairman, Spring Films; Professor Shahid Jameel, Green Templeton College, Oxford; Ms Rushanara Ali, MP for Bethnal Green; Dr Nicholas Dickinson, Balliol College, Oxford; Sir Martin Donnelly, KCB, CMG; Dr Muhammad Meki, Oxford Department of International Development, University of Oxford; The Honourable Mr Justice Akhlaq Choudhury KC Justice of the High Court of England and Wales; Professor Helen Small, Merton Professor of English Language and Literature; Professor Robert Hillenbrand FBA, Honorary Fellow, Edinburgh University; Aleem Maqbool, BBC Religious Editor; Professor Avi Shlaim FBA, Emeritus Fellow of St Antony's College; Ms Anneliese Dodds, MP for Oxford East; Professor Bill Dutton, Founding Director of the Oxford Internet Institute; Dr Najib Rahman, Professor of Respiratory Medicine, Nuffield Department of Medicine; Professor Wes Williams, Director of TORCH, Professor of French Literature at the University of Oxford; Ms Layla Moran, MP for Oxford West and Abingdon; Mr Iqbal Khan, Chief Executive Officer of Fajr Capital; Ms Roohi Hasan, ITN News Editor; and Sir Stephen Timms, MP for East Ham.

On Saturday 21st October, the Centre hosted the 2023 YMLP Alumni Day. It was organized around sessions as varied as 'Challenges and Possibilities of Generative AI', 'Diversity of Law', 'Cultivating self-worth in the face of adversity', and 'Exploring the ups and downs of Start-ups'.