

THE LATEST FROM MUSLIM HANDS

Al-Quds Special

The Prophet (saw) was asked, 'If one of us cannot visit it (Al-Aqsa), what should we do?' He (saw) said, **'Then he should make a gift of some oil to be lit therein [in its lamps]. For indeed the one who gifts this to it will be like the one who has prayed therein [worth 1,000 prayers]'**. [Ahmad]

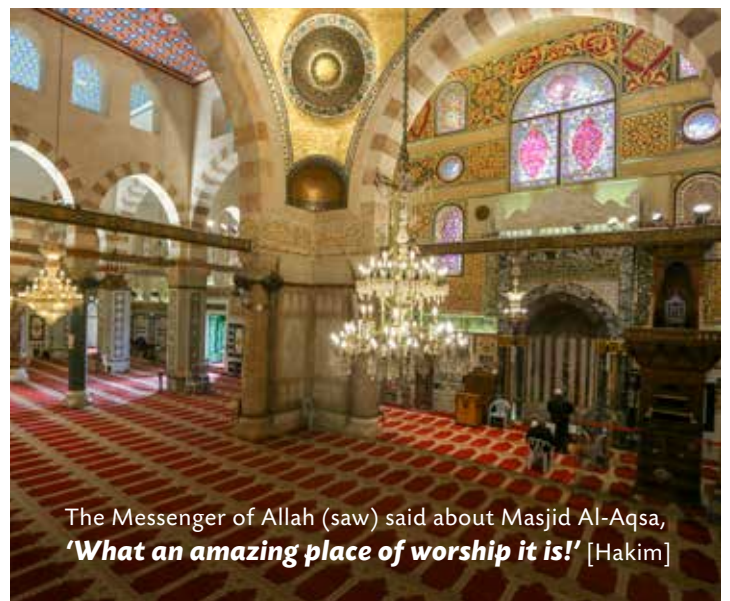
THANK YOU FOR ILLUMINATING THE QIBALI MASJID

In March 2019, we were honoured to offer you the opportunity to gain the reward of praying in Masjid Al-Aqsa.

The previous lighting system hadn't been replaced since 1986, and the old wiring meant there was a risk of fire. Your donations are helping us install a state-of-the-art lighting system in the Blessed Masjid, rewiring it completely so generations of worshippers can pray in safety and our history is preserved.

1,400 years ago, the Prophet Muhammad (saw) stood in this same place and led all the prophets (as) in prayer. It is a site so sacred that he (saw) advised his followers to visit it at least once. The reward of praying here is equivalent to a thousand prayers and, subhanAllah, also means all your sins will be forgiven!

Look inside to see all the other amazing ways you are supporting Masjid Al-Aqsa and its people.



The Messenger of Allah (saw) said about Masjid Al-Aqsa, **'What an amazing place of worship it is!'** [Hakim]

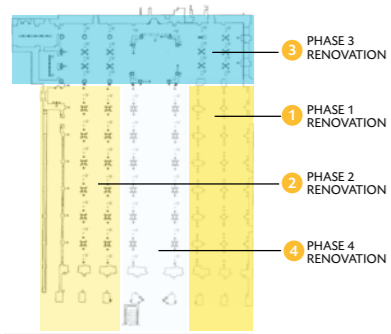
**JAZAKUM-ALLAHU
KHAIRAN!**

700 olive trees
sponsored

Over 1,000
orphans sponsored

Zakat for 12,900
families in Al-Quds

Phase 4 of the Qibali Masjid
Lighting Project nearly complete!



QIBALI MASJID Renovation Milestones

- March 2019:** In the sacred month of Rajab, we invite you to the opportunity of a lifetime: illuminating the Qibali Masjid! £2.5 million needs to be raised, in our biggest Sadaqah Jariyah project ever! We divide this project into four phases...
- October 2019:** Phase 1 is over! The women's area on the left side of the Masjid is now completely illuminated!
- March 2020:** It's sacred Rajab again! With fundraising for Phase 2 completed, you start giving towards the front rows. To mark this special milestone, we begin gifting olive oil to people who gift £250 to the lighting project – from the olive trees of Masjid Al-Aqsa!
- April 2020:** On the 7th night of Ramadan, we're joined by the Imams of Masjid Al-Aqsa live on Islam Channel. Our viewers give an unprecedented £350,000 to this noble project.
- July 2020:** Phase 2 is complete! The right side of the Masjid is now illuminated. We're halfway through the project, alhamdulillah!
- November 2020:** Phase 3 is complete. The front rows of the Masjid, where the Prophet (saw) himself prayed, are now illuminated.

Present: We are working on completing the fourth and final phase of the project. The work was temporarily delayed due to coronavirus restrictions, but alhamdulillah, we are back on track, and aiming to complete the project by Ramadan 2021, in sha' Allah. The entire Qibali Masjid Grand Prayer Hall will be rewired with a state-of-the-art lighting system, preserving it for generations to come, alhamdulillah!

BAB AL-ASBAT Wudu area now renovated!

Abdullah ibn Abbas (ra) said, *'The prophets built the Sacred House (Masjid Al-Aqsa) and the prophets lived therein. There is not a single handspan of space in it except that a prophet has prayed there or an angel has stood'.*

[Encouraging the Elite to the Virtues of Al-Masjid Al-Aqsa]

Every inch of the Masjid Al-Aqsa complex is a sacred space, and alhamdulillah, we are honoured to be a part of preserving its many different elements.

In 2019, we invited you to help us renovate its main wudu area. It is located at Bab al-Asbat, which is one of the main entrances to the Haram. Ma sha' Allah, you gave £340,000 in total to this project – completing fund-raising in August 2020!

Our team have now finished renovating this wudu area! Your donations are supplying 48 restrooms and 48 wudu stations, for both men and women. Up to 2,000 worshippers can use the facility per hour – *we pray you are reaping countless rewards with this Sadaqah Jariyah, ameen!*



BAB AR-RAHMAH CEMETERY Renovations underway

As the third holiest place in Islam, and the site of the miraculous Al-Isra' wal-Mi'raj, Masjid Al-Aqsa is undoubtedly a significant symbol of Allah. Alhamdulillah, in September 2020, we were given the opportunity to renovate its cemetery – Bab ar-Rahmah, or 'The Gateway of Mercy'.

Located at the eastern wall, it was built by Umar ibn al-Khattab (ra) over 1,400 years ago. It includes the grave of the first Islamic judge in Masjid Al-Aqsa, as well as 70 Sahabah (ra), martyrs and scholars. It is also the third most prominent cemetery in the Islamic world, after Jannat al-Baqi' in Madinah and Jannat al-Mu'allah in Makkah.



'And whoever honours the symbols of Allah – indeed, it is from the piety of hearts'.

[The Noble Qur'an, 22:32]

Alhamdulillah, so far, you have given more than £90,000 towards renovating Bab ar-Rahmah! This will go towards repairing graves, repaving pathways, maintenance and much more.

In total, this renovation project will cost £220,000, so we'll soon be at the halfway point, in sha' Allah! *Jazakum-Allahu khair for helping us preserve this Islamic landmark.*



Renovate Bab ar-Rahmah:
muslimhands.org.uk/aqsa



'If a Muslim plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird or a person or an animal eats from it, it is regarded as a Sadaqah for him'.
[Bukhari]

HARVESTING THE OLIVE TREES

In September 2020, we asked you to sponsor the olive trees of Masjid Al-Aqsa, to maintain their upkeep and harvest their olives. This is a particularly special Sadaqah Jariyah, because these are no ordinary trees. In fact, Allah swears by these olives in the Qur'an! [The Noble Qur'an, 95:1]

Ma sha' Allah, in just two weeks, you sponsored all 700 olive trees. In October 2020, the olives were harvested and pressed for oil, alhamdulillah! The oil is being gifted to the poor families who live in Jerusalem.

We pray that, with every annual harvest of these trees, you continue to reap Sadaqah Jariyah rewards, ameen!

ZAKAT FOR JERUSALEM Khalil's Story

'One day, my daughter saw another girl eating peaches and she asked me for some. I went to the shop, but I didn't have enough money, so I returned home without buying any peaches. My daughter started crying because she wanted to know the taste of peaches, like her classmates. I wish that my children could live happily like other children – in a good house, with beds to sleep in, and clean and new clothes'.

– Khalil, a father in Jerusalem

Khalil is 70 years old. He lives in the West Bank with his wife and five children. They are one of the families who desperately needed your Zakat in 2020.

Khalil lives in a dilapidated one-bedroom house, with rain leaking through the roof and broken windows. Khalil and his family are frequently ill because they have no protection from the severe cold of winter and no ventilation during the heat of summer.

Khalil has no money to repair the house – he can barely afford to put food on the table. As well as experiencing a stroke in his eyes, he also suffers from high blood



Give Zakat for Al-Quds:
muslimhands.org.uk/aqsa

pressure and stomach ulcers. With such poor health, he should be resting, but he is constantly stressed about providing for his family.

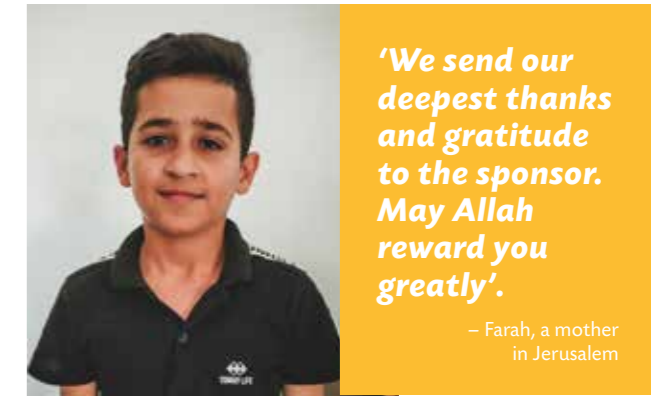
The ongoing pandemic has restricted travel, but families like Khalil's rely on people bringing their Zakat to Jerusalem. 80% of the Palestinians who live in Jerusalem struggle to afford food, medicine and other basic expenses.

Alhamdulillah, since early 2020, we have been delivering your Zakat to Jerusalem through our partner on the ground. Not only are we distributing food parcels to impoverished com-

munities, we are also providing cash to help people pay their bills and buy medicines and other essentials. We are even delivering your Zakat straight to people's doors if they are unable to leave the house, alhamdulillah!

So far, your generosity has reached around 12,900 people, including 5,000 children. We are prioritising widows and orphans, disabled people, impoverished families, and elderly people like Khalil who are no longer able to work.

May Allah reward you for providing for people like Khalil during this pandemic.



'We send our deepest thanks and gratitude to the sponsor. May Allah reward you greatly!'

– Farah, a mother in Jerusalem

MORE THAN 1,000 ORPHANS SPONSORED

Alhamdulillah, you are currently sponsoring more than 1,000 orphans in Jerusalem. Over 900 of these sponsorships were started in 2020 and 2021!

These sponsorships are making an immense difference to struggling families. 14-year-old Ali (pictured above) is one of the orphans you are sponsoring. His mother, Farah, used to be a teacher, but she is no longer working because of the ongoing pandemic. Her main concern is that she doesn't have a steady income, which is stressful because essentials like water are expensive in the West Bank.

The fact that a generous sponsor is taking care of Ali lifts a huge burden off Farah's shoulders. It enables her to educate Ali and buy him school supplies, and it helps her pay her bills!

Alhamdulillah, you are helping children like Ali build a better future for themselves.

RAISE
£500

There are **ONLY 5,000 SHARES** in the Dome of the Rock lighting project! **SECURE YOUR £500 SHARE** by doing a sponsored activity with your household.



THE DOME OF THE ROCK CHALLENGE

RACE TO GOODNESS

'SO RACE TOWARDS (ALL THAT IS) GOOD'. [The Noble Qur'an, 2:148]

YOUR LOVED ONES CAN HELP YOU **RACE TO GOODNESS** and reach your £500 target. Ask them to sponsor you as you walk, run or cycle 7 miles for the Dome of the Rock.

Allah encourages us to 'race towards (all that is) good', to gain His pleasure and the reward of His Jannah. Join this race to honour a symbol of Allah!

You can take on the challenge with your family or a group of friends, racing together to honour the Dome of the Rock. You can also fundraise in the name of a deceased loved one, so they can reap the rewards of this beautiful Sadaqah Jariyah as well.

So what are you waiting for?

It's time to plan your sponsorship challenge, set up a fundraising page, and join this 7-mile Race to Goodness!

SIGN UP TODAY

muslimhands.org.uk/events



SCAN ME

Donate securely at

muslimhands.org.uk | 0115 911 7222

Muslim Hands. All rights reserved. 148 Gregory Boulevard, Nottingham, NG7 5JE. Registered Charity No. 1105056 Registered Company No. 05080486 in England



Registered with
**FUNDRAISING
REGULATOR**



The Queen's Award
for Voluntary Service

