

Report: REBORN

On Sunday 1st November 2015, the Birmingham Abbasi Youth Network (BAYN), in conjunction with the Tabligh Committee hosted their second event: Reborn. Both male and female speakers were contacted to share their story about how they had journeyed to the path of the Ahlulbayt (as).

The aim of this insight was to enable the attendees to empathise with someone who was/is new to the community and someone who may have only recently reverted to Islam. This then allowed people to reflect on what the community does well in giving support to reverts and what the community could improve on in both the short and long term.

A workshop enabled participants to reflect and put forward any thoughts, ideas and suggestions they had. We were then able to extract action points which will allow for evaluation of the support currently offered to reverts and how we can make positive developments.

Following the workshop, the event proceeded with additional speakers sharing their story in which the crowd connected well. Many or all of these speakers were people who hadn't yet shared their story publicly, and were grateful for the platform provided for them to speak publically.

On the whole, the event allowed good interaction to take place during the break, during the Q&A and after the event between the audience and the speakers. There was provision set in place for those who wanted to continue with the action points set out in the coming future by making contact with the Tabligh Committee (unity@ksmnet.org). The further work entails individuals/groups taking a lead on projects working with reverts and organising events for people to attend inter and intra-faith programmes.

To conclude, the event ended on a positive note – with people having contributed ideas to how to develop support given to the reverts within our community, make them an integrated part of our community and how to take projects forward.