

Balsall Heath Street Iftar 2018 - Get Together



Muslim Interfaith

A grand Balsall Heath Street Iftar 2018 was all set this year during the glorious month of Ramadhan in Birmingham as part of the month-long Muslim tradition of Ramadan. This mammoth event had taken months of preparation by our Interfaith (CMI) team of like-minded individuals and dedicated volunteers from various Muslim Charities all working laboriously hand in hand to harness unity and prayers by putting up a colourful Iftar.

On the day, just few hours before the Splendid Street Iftar event, and as team of volunteers were setting the marquee and making sure everything was in place, Birmingham braced torrential rains and a massive flood had taken place within minutes.

Heads of Street Iftar had to call off this Street Iftar due to this atrocious change of weather.

This did not stop here. All the party foods including sumptuous savouries, sweets and main course of meal was packed in plastic containers and food bags and our team of volunteers worked selflessly in providing these Iftar bags to the homeless and a number of Islamic centres. To mention but a few, we donated 1300 food parcels to:

- ♦ Muslim Student House
- ♦ Central Mosque
- ♦ Al-Husseiniya Mosque
- ♦ Ghamkol Sharif Mosque
- ♦ Clifton Road Mosque
- ♦ Amana Mosque
- ♦ Syrian refugees
- ♦ Iraqi families
- ♦ Homeless Shelters
- ♦ Women's Refuges
- ♦ Families and neighbours we know would benefit

The Godly aim behind this Street Iftar event was to promote peace, unity, solidarity, and create a beautiful community in Balsall Heath, Birmingham. Working with so many people from different mosques showed unity and cohesion in its best form.

A huge thanks and kuddos to the team of amazing young people who worked round the clock to pack the Iftar food bags and drop to various centres despite the heavy downpour of rain.

A big thank to our secretary general for allowing us to use the space at the Syeda Zainab building at an hour's notice to prepare packs for distribution - all 1300 meals!

May Allah swt give us the opportunity to work with our Sunni brethren to strengthen our bond with them.

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Comments from a volunteer:

'Yesterday was amazing even though we had to cancel. I believe the food was destined for others. The volunteers and team spirit in dealing with the aftermath was great to see. Insha'Allah next year will be much better and bigger.'

Message from Dr Noha Nasser – Director of Mela Social Enterprise & Project Manager of the Balsall Heath Street Iftar:

'I have recovered from last night, I hope you are rested too.

Thank you for your beautiful prayers and words. I feel very appreciated.

We are mirrors of each other.

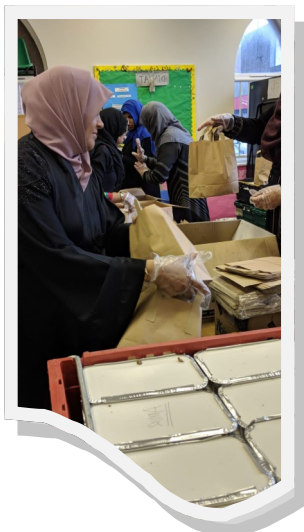
My goodness is your goodness and your goodness is my goodness.

I love working with you on the Street Iftar. Every year something magical happens and we go on an adventure. You are truly my brothers and sisters. The unity is remarkable.

I can't wait to start planning next year's InshaAllah and to see what magic happens then!

More to come soon as we wind this year up.

All my best wishes to you all.'



Volunteers from KSIMC Birmingham & CMI team-working tremendously hard in packing food items into bags.



Dr Noha Nasser of Mela Social Enterprise & Project Manager of Street Iftar putting together the Food boxes ready for distribution.



Many amazing team members such as Brother Arfan of Muslim Student 's House collected the packed food boxes to distribute.