



Boris urges greater understanding between communities

Friday 4th September 2009

Boris Johnson, Mayor of London today visited the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre to commemorate the month of Ramadan.

Mayor Johnson went on a tour of the mosque and centre meeting staff members and users of the mosque. He also visited the building site of the mosque's new £8 million centre for women which will deliver much needed services and projects for the women in London.

Addressing religious and community leaders along with the press Mr Johnson said, "I don't think people understand how one faith owes to the other. I see representatives here from the Christian faith here today and leaders from the Church and I think how few people in this city understand the origins of the Abrahamic faiths. I think it's my job as Mayor to help to break down [those] barriers."

Chairman of the East London Mosque Dr Muhammad Abdul Bari, welcoming the Mayor commented, "We are delighted that the Mayor has decided to visit the East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre, especially in the Islamic month of Ramadan. We have always had an excellent relationship with the Mayor's office and we look to continue this and work together to make London a cohesive and vibrant global city."

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Notes for Editors

The East London Mosque and London Muslim Centre was founded in 1910.

Ramadan is the month where Muslims fast between dawn and sunset and abstain from food, drink, smoking and sexual relations.

The photo attached was taken by Rehan Jamil. Boris Johnson is visiting the Main Prayer Hall of the East London Mosque with members of the Mosque's Management Committee and local Conservative Councillors.

For more information please contact Mohammad Shakir on 020 7650 3006 or email mshakir@londonmuslimcentre.org.uk

