

**A discussion of the document by Pope Francis (Head of the Catholic Church) and Shaykh Ahmed el-Tayeb (the Grand Imam of Al Azhar)**

**'Reflections on meeting between Grand Ayatullah Seestani and Pope Francis'**  
(Iraq, March 2021)

**"People of Faith Working Together for a Better World"**  
2nd CORONA VIRTUAL INTERFAITH RAMADAN IFTAR EVENT

**"Human Fraternity for World Peace and Living Together"**  
A BLUEPRINT FOR 21st CENTURY LIVING? - AN INTERFAITH DISCUSSION



South London interfaith group held its annual iftar on zoom this year on May 9<sup>th</sup>. The subject was "Human fraternity for world peace and living together" a discussion of the document signed by Pope Francis and Sheykh Ahmed el-Tayeb the Grand Imam of Al-Ahzar. There were also reflections on the historic meeting between Grand Ayutullah Seestani and Pope Francis March 2021.

Julie Siddiqui MBE of Together we thrive spoke powerfully about the role of women and the need for the document to be better known in Muslim and Catholic circles. She welcomed the opportunity to work with other women of faith and none.

Cardinal Michael Fitzgerald outlined the content of the document and spoke about the impact of the meetings and Shaykh Dr Mohamed Ali Shomali gave a Muslim perspective. The cardinal and the Shaykh have in face held 19 dialogues about the document. Archbishop Emeritus Kevin McDonald put the discussion into a secular context. Questions included the name of the document; the inclusion of women and human family was suggested as an alternative to human fraternity. The dialogue will definitely continue!

Prayers and charity appeals followed, and we joined Hyderi mosque, Streatham live for the breaking of the fast.

The recordings can be found on the [website](#) and the group's Facebook page. Seventy-seven people took part, and we look forward to returning to the mosque next year for the iftar.

The group celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year so the founders and former members have been interviewed, the archives are to be digitised and we plan to plant 40 trees in South London in November.

***John Woodhouse Chair South London interfaith group and Laudato Si' animator.***