

# The Edith M Ellis 1985 Charitable Trust

## Ansari Qadri Rifai Sufi Order of UK

#RYYV3WMYPH submitted on 14 May 2022

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### 1.1 Please summarise what you are seeking from us

Funding to support the delivery of weekly sufi zikr (guided meditation) along with a structured teaching programme workshops and resources aimed to increase harmony, tolerance, community cohesion and to tackle myths and stereotypes about Islam, open to people from all or no faith backgrounds with a focus on commonalities, fostering respect and interfaith dialogue. We are clear it is not our aim to proselytise or convert people

### 1.2 Tell us more about your project, the impact it will have on those it aims to help, and why you consider the proposed approach to be innovative

The increase in intolerance, disharmony and islamophobia in the UK is indicative of a lack of knowledge, mutual understanding and respect of the beliefs and practices of different religious faiths.

The British Social Attitudes Report by (NCSR) found evidence that the public are in general prepared to be tolerant of the faith of others.,but almost two-thirds (63%) believe religions bring more conflict than peace.Mis-understanding of Islam and stereotyping of Muslims has negative impacts

(1)[https://www.bsa.natcen.ac.uk/media/39293/1\\_bsa36\\_religion.pdf](https://www.bsa.natcen.ac.uk/media/39293/1_bsa36_religion.pdf),

2)<https://www.trtworld.com/life/un-declares-march-15-international-day-to-combat-islamophobia-55542>

We hold weekly Sufi Zikr (guided meditation sessions) which are open to people of any or no faith. Techniques include controlled breathing, physical movements, chanting and recitation of the Quran. The sessions promote a personal relationship with God through self knowledge and self-enquiry and help control our egos (Nafs); also promote balance and improve health and wellbeing. Our form of zikr is a centuries old ceremony and thus we preserve and teach to new generations.

We will develop and deliver a programme of weekly structured talks , contemplation sessions and discussion, preceding the Zikr to include topics such as the role and value of women, the real jihad, demystifying Islam, etc., Q&A sessions and follow up. The Zikr and Teaching programme will also be available online via Zoom and will target approximately 25 regular attendees . The teaching programme will complement the zikr and include. opportunities for 1-1 follow up.

Advertisement will be done via our mailing list, meetUp, links with organisations such as South London Interfaith Group, West London Synagogue, Essex Unitarian Church etc with whom we have regular interaction. We will increase our community activities to support the teaching programme and encourage partnership working and input from like minded organisations and individuals.

Also we plan to deliver two themed workshops in 2022/3 on interfaith dialogue, community cohesion, and current issues relating to tensions in the community. Target audience 50 people and zoom.

The delivery of the Teaching programme and workshops will be undertaken by members. W who have the appropriate experience and qualifications and by invited speakers from other Faith communities.

Also develop supporting resources- downloadable documents on our website and printed leaflets to promote understanding of Islamic culture and history, Sufi teachings and information relating to other faiths and our commonalities and different perspectives.

Our Trustees, volunteers and members come from a wide range of ethnic backgrounds, speak a number of relevant community languages and have a sound understanding of cultural and traditional issues. Professionally our skills include Teaching,Social work, Medicine and Finance.One Trustee has many years experience and qualifications in teaching comparative religious studies and others in

Islamic studies and Sufism.

**1.3 Which grant-giving categories does your project fulfil?**

C - Interfaith and ecumenical understanding

**1.3c Interfaith and ecumenical understanding**

Community engagement indicates creating a non judgemental space open to people of all or no faith supported by activities promoting harmony and awareness of shared values and commonalities rather than the differences makes a real difference in breaking down barriers and developing mutual understanding. We successfully engage with other Faith Communities in delivering joint work and interfaith dialogue

**1.4 Which country is the project based in?**

United Kingdom (GB)

**1.5 Will the project continue after initial funding has ended?**

Yes

**1.5b Please give details of how you plan to continue after initial funding has ended**

The zikrs will continue and hopefully the evaluation of the teaching programme will assist future funding applications. We will also fundraise within our membership

**1.6 How will the project be monitored and evaluated?**

A project plan to guide implementation with outputs, expected outcomes, milestones, project data to monitor any changes and progress made and an evaluation report on at the end of planned period. One Trustee will oversee and manage project and regular updates will come to the full Trustee Board Meetings. Learning from the project will be shared, with partners including emerging needs

**2.1 Expenditure**

EXPENDITURE ITEM	AMOUNT	NOTES
Room rental aprox 40 sessions	£6,000	
Light refreshments	£1,500	
Advertisement/project publicity (Meet-up, flyers) and outreach to other community organisations and individuals to recruit to Teaching programme Advertisement/project publicity (Meet-up, flyers) and outreach to other community organisations and individuals to recruit to Teaching programme Advertisement/project publicity (Meet-up, flyers) and outreach to other community organisations and individuals to recruit to Teaching programme Advertisement/project publicity (Meetup, flyers and outreach to community organisations to recruit to Teaching programme	£300	
Development,printing etc of supporting	£500	

resources including downloadable from website		
TOTALS	£8,300	

## 2.2 Income

INCOME SOURCE	TARGET AMOUNT	AMOUNT RAISED	NOTES
Regular donation/zakat (Islamic charitable almsgiving) from members	£1,500	£1,500	
Matched funding -specific fund raising	£2,360	£500	
TOTALS	£3,860	£2,000	

## 2.3 What is the total amount (in £ sterling) your organisation is requesting from The Edith M Ellis Trust?

£5,940

## 2.4 Has your organisation made an application to The Edith M Ellis Trust before?

No

## 2.5 Please state your organisation's annual turnover (in £ sterling)

£10,662

## 2.6 Do you wish to upload your audited accounts or financial statement?

No

## 2.7 Please tell us where payment should be made if your application is successful

Ansari Qadri Rifai Sufi Order of UK  
12780704  
400244

## 3.1 Your name

Sukainah Jauhar

## 3.2 Your contact telephone number

07783953636

## 3.3 Your position within the organisation

Secretary

## 3.4 Your email address

[sukainahj@gmail.com](mailto:sukainahj@gmail.com)

## 3.5 Organisation name

Ansari Qadri Rifai Sufi Order of UK

## 3.6 Please state the status of your organisation

UK Charity

## 3.7 Please summarise what your organisation does

The promotion of religious harmony by educating others about Islam and Sufism, develop mutual understanding and respect of the beliefs and practices of different religious faiths through the organisation, participation and support of interfaith events and partnership activities. The relief of those

in need, by reason of youth, age, ill-health, disability, financial hardship or other disadvantage

**3.8 UK correspondence address for organisation**

6 Sanderstead Close  
London SW12 0AQ

**3.9 UK telephone number**

07783953636

**3.10 UK charity number (if applicable)**

1172526

**3.11 Year established**

Started 2003 became registered Charity in 2017

**3.12 Website (if applicable)**

<https://ansariuk.org>

**3.13 Social media accounts (if applicable)**

N/A

**4.1 How did you hear about The Edith M Ellis Trust?**

Internet