### MUSLIM RESOURCE FOR

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# SHOW THE LOVE 2020

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## The Earth is sweet and green and verily Allah (swt) has made you stewards of it

Prophet Muhammad (Peace Be Upon Him)

Adhere to the fitrah (original design) of Allah upon which He has created [all] people. There is no altering God's creation and this is the right din (way), though most people do not realize it

Surah Ar Rum (The Romans) 30:30

Allah (swt) has created the planet with a specific system for us to live in but the above verse is also warning us that we do not realise the damage that we are causing to that system. It provides us with the air we breathe, the water we drink, the food we eat and many other blessings. However, because our collective lifestyles we are causing damage to the planet. Our earth continues to warm, climate patterns change. Extreme and unpredictable weather is becoming more common across the world as climate patterns change, with some places being hotter, some places being wetter, and some places being drier. This is known as 'Climate Change' and these changes are having drastic impacts on all life on Earth including the UK.

Allah (swt) says in the Quran

"Corruption has appeared in both land and sea as a result of people's actions, the consequences of which they may taste, so that hopefully they will turn back"

Surah Ar Rum (The Romans) 30:30

The earth and everything in it belongs to Allah (swt), it is an 'amanah' (responsibility) to take care of it as His stewards on earth. We cannot be close to the Creator if we are not close to His creation.

The religion of Islam is inherently environmental and shows concern for everything around us. As Muslims we can have a huge responsibility to protect the environment. We should use the guidance from the Quran and Sunnah to live sustainably and justly on earth, and its teachings to stimulate individuals and communities into action.

### Do not walk arrogantly about the earth: you cannot break it open, nor match the mountains in height

Surah Al Isra (The Night Journey) 17:37

The Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) had a very low impact lifestyle. His way of everyday life is described by his wife Aisha (ra):

"He was the most generous of people, who never kept a dinar or a dirham with him overnight. If he had anything left over and he could not find someone to give it to before night came, he would not go home until he had donated it to someone who needed it. He did not take anything from that which Allah had bestowed upon him except one year's supply of the simplest provisions, dates and barley, giving all of that for the sake of Allah. He was never asked for anything but he gave it, then he would go back to his annual supplies and donate from them to those who needed it more, then he might run out before the year ended. He used to repair his own sandals and mend his own clothes."

The above hadith (Sahih Muslim) describes the 3Rs – Reduce, Reuse & Recycle. Prophet Muhammad (PBUH) led a sustainable lifestyle and his example shows us how we can live by sharing, caring and reducing the demands we on the land.

Islam puts a great deal of emphasis on protecting and preserving the earth and indeed the urgency in doing so can be established by the following hadith:

Anas (May Allah be pleased with him) reported that the Prophet (peace and blessings be upon him) said:

"If the Hour (the day of Resurrection) is about to be established and one of you was holding a palm shoot, let him take advantage of even one second before the Hour is established to plant it."

(Authenticated by Al-Albani)

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Planting trees is a renewable source of hasanat (reward) Anas also reported that the Prophet said:

"If a Muslim plants a tree or sows seeds, and then a bird, or a person or an animal eats from it, it is regarded as a charitable gift (sadaqah) for him."

(Bukhari)

The above hadith tells us that as Muslims not only must we protect the earth to fulfil our religious obligations as Muslims but that we must also do this as a matter of urgency and with particular regard to the reward Allah places upon it, not just in the afterlife but also at present. In order to inspire other Muslims and people around the world, we want you to show the world that you have love for Allah's creation and for the blessings that He has given you. You can do this in a number of ways:

1

2

Committing to pray for the protection of earth and all those whose lives are currently impacted by climate change

Making and sharing a green heart, or wearing a green heart sticker, to start conversations about climate change. What do you care about? What do you love that you want to protect from climate change? What lessons can we take from the Quran and Sunnah to preserve the natural environment?



4

Taking personal actions with a green heart pledge. For ideas, and a pledge activity, see the back of this pack.

Share your green heart pledge with your MP - and ask them to join you in taking climate action. This year, The Climate Coalition is asking us to encourage our newly elected MPs to #ShowTheLove for solutions to the climate crisis. If you craft a green heart, save one for your MP and send it along with the postcard included at the end of this guide.



Talk to your mosque and Imam and explore how they could get involved. Ask the Imam to speak about the environment during Friday prayers or get children from the madrassa involved in activities.

If you use social media, we would love for you to take pictures and share it online with the hashtags **#ShowTheLove** and **#LoveAllahsCreation**- this way Muslims can be part of the national campaign online, alongside people of other faiths and none, showing our love for Allah's creation.

Notes to organisers, mosque committee members and Imams:

You can order as many green heart stickers and postcards as you need by visiting www.theclimatecoalition.org/order. Please get your order in by 17th January so they can be posted out to you in good time!

Additional resources are also available from www.theclimatecoalition.org/resource if your mosque would like to get more involved in Show the Love, for example with craft or youth and children's activities.



Here are some things you can do to reduce your contribution to climate change. Choose one (or more) and write it on your postcard:



#### THINK ABOUT WHAT POWERS YOUR HOME

You could switch to a renewable energy provider, buy energy-efficient appliances when older ones need replacing, or insulate your home so it loses less heat.

#### THINK ABOUT HOW YOU GET AROUND

You could commit to walking or cycling more instead of driving, making your next car electric, or using public transport more.





#### THINK ABOUT WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE

You could commit to cooking at least one more plant-based meal every week, buying more seasonal, local fruit and veg or reducing the food you waste.

#### THINK ABOUT HOW YOU LOOK AFTER NATURE

You could commit to planting a tree or wildflower area in your garden to capture carbon, or buying only peat-free compost.





#### STEP 1

Pick a challenge a above or take a Show the Love challenge on our website



#### STEP 2

Fill in the left side of the heart on the postcard on next page



#### STEP 3

Cut along the cut line, attach a crafted green heart if you've made one - don't forget to add the name of your community group!



#### STEP 4

Send the card to your MP. Either pop it in an envelope and post it to House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA, addressed to your MP or why not deliver your crafted heart in person at their constituency surgery?



#### **STEP 4**

Keep an eye out for their response

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#### **...YA BVOJ HTIW BOAM SAW TAABH SIHT**

#### Dear ..... MP,

I'm joining The Climate Coalition's campaign to #ShowTheLove for everything I want to protect from climate change.

Make this heart whole by writing how you will champion climate solutions.

#ShowTheLove by wearing this heart and sharing a photo of this completed postcard on social media. Don't forget to use the hashtag! I'm doing my bit by committing to:

I......MP pledge to champion the solutions to climate change by:

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