



Friday 2nd June, 2006

Press Release

The past year has witnessed FAIR successfully involved in a number of important projects ranging from media monitoring and lobbying on various discrimination cases as well as providing advisory support to the AMSS and British Council's recently launched landmark publication, *British Muslims: Media Guide*.

Unfortunately the year also witnessed the loss of one of FAIR's most senior founders and Chair, the late Dr. Shaikh Zaki Badawi, a man of great vision and dedication who laboured hard to steer FAIR towards a focused and dynamic approach in achieving its constitutional goals. His will be a legacy hard to match. During his last FAIR Trustee meeting Dr. Badawi had expressed his extreme keenness to re-direct FAIR in line with the requirements of current Islamophobic trends as well as to engage in more active dialogue and projects working alongside both Muslim and non-Muslim organisations and individuals to challenge all forms of Islamophobia, discrimination and racism and prevent extremism.

At a meeting of FAIR Trustees in March 2006 Dr. Anas S. al Shaikh Ali was unanimously elected as the new Chair for FAIR, with Dr. Mohammed Siddique Seddon and Lady Maryam Badawi subsequently accepting to become members of the Board of Trustees. Dr. Al Shaikh Ali reiterated Dr. Badawi's vision and stressed the importance of realising and implementing the goals set in motion.

Since March FAIR has attended and contributed to a number of major conferences and events on both a UK and European level. Among these are: *European Imams and Religious Advisors Conference*, Vienna, April 06; *Challenging Stereotypes in Europe and the Islamic World*, Wilton Park, London, May 06; *Racism, Xenophobia and the Media*, Vienna, May 06; *Roundtable Meeting on Representation of Muslims in Public Discourse*, Warsaw, May 06.

FAIR's future strategy will also focus on the importance of education in developing critical awareness of the issues of Islamophobia and racism with a view to developing the ethos of a multicultural society based on equality, respect and trust for all citizens. Developing the idea of the British Council and AMSS *British Muslims: Media Guide* further, FAIR has begun work on a major project to produce educational material in partnership with a European organisation to provide material for use in primary and secondary schools.

Kindly find the new contact details for FAIR below:

FAIR, PO BOX 784, RICHMOND, SURREY TW9 2WH

TEL: 020 8940 0100 EMAIL: FAIR@FAIRUK.ORG WEBSITE: WWW.FAIRUK.ORG

REGISTERED CHARITY NO: 1100985

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FAIR FUNDING APPEAL

FAIR is an independent charitable organisation established for the purpose of raising awareness of and combating Islamophobia and racism, monitoring specific incidents of Islamophobia and racism, working towards eliminating religious and racial discrimination, and campaigning and lobbying on issues relevant to Muslims and other multi-ethnic, multi-faith communities in Britain.

We have several projects to address each of these areas.

1. Faith & Positive Images
2. Equality Casework Monitoring
3. Media & Popular Culture Watch
4. Policy Research & Lobbying

Further details on each of these projects are available on our website, <http://www.fairuk.org/>

FAIR is always in need of charitable donations in order to continue our work. Donations of any size are always valued and much appreciated. At the end of every year we will be able to give you a breakdown of exactly where the money you have donated is spent.

To make a donation, please visit our website at <http://www.fairuk.org/howtohelp.htm> or contact us on the details below

FAIR
PO BOX 784
RICHMOND
TW9 2WH

t: 020 8940 0100

e: fair@fairuk.org

w: <http://www.fairuk.org/>

Registered Charity No. 1100985

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