



Ramadan Tent Project's Flagship Open Iftar Goes Digital With a Series of New Virtual Events this Ramadan

- *Virtual Open Iftar 2021; the largest digital Ramadan event in the UK
- *Global Iftar returns for the second consecutive year
- *Virtual Open Iftar 2021 events to be hosted at iconic landmarks digitally
- *Virtual Ramadan series aims to connect more communities than ever before

Open Iftar, the UK's largest community and cultural event in Ramadan goes virtual with an aim to connect more communities than ever before. Teaming up with Islam Channel as this year's Media Partner and Islamic Relief UK as its Charity Partner, the Virtual Open Iftar is an opportunity for millions of people to share the Ramadan spirit with communities across the world, whilst observing from their homes. This year's Virtual Ramadan events include:

Virtual Open Iftar 2021

Virtual iftars will broadcast **every day** in Ramadan where people from across the world and from all faiths and none can join on zoom and watch live on Ramadan Tent Project and Islam Channel's YouTube and Facebook livestreams. Each Virtual Open Iftar evening will include a live call to prayer and an array of inspirational guest speakers, who will be exploring a range of topics and themes; some of last year's guest speakers included Lord Alf Dubs, Riz Ahmed, the Archbishop of Canterbury and Mishal Hussain. To name a few, confirmed speakers and partners for this year's 30-day Virtual Open Iftar programme include, Lambeth Palace, Dr Craig Considine, Dishoom, Asma Khan, Zara Mohammed (MCB), the British Library, V&A Museum, Arts Council England, The Football Association, Wembley Stadium and Westminster Abbey. Plus, a highly anticipated special virtual Ramadan lights show aiming to be the biggest in the world. More details to follow in Ramadan.

Ramadan Lates; a Spiritual Getaway

For the first 18 days of Ramadan, Ramadan Tent Project will be launching 'Ramadan Lates; a Spiritual Getaway', which will run every day on zoom at 10pm-11pm (UK time) with Dr Abdul Latif Finch.

Key questions will be explored during the 18-day course, including:

- Who are you?
- What is love? Who is most worthy of it?
- What is the relationship between who you are, love, and living your best life?
- How is Allah related to your best life?
- How can Ramadan help make the relationship between me and God more real?

Global Iftar

On Saturday 1st May – Sunday 2nd May 2021, the world's largest Global Iftar will commence. Ramadan Tent Project will be making history yet again by hosting the Global Iftar across all 5 continents during their respective local Iftar time-zones. The world's largest virtual Iftar will begin in London, UK then moving onto the Americas, across Canada the US and Mexico. Crossing over the Pacific Ocean, the Global Iftar will then move into Oceania, Asia, Middle East, Africa, Europe and then return to London within 24 hours. People can join from across the world and listen into the guest speakers and hosts.

Mohamed Harrath, CEO of Islam Channel said; "Islam Channel is delighted to partner with Ramadan Tent Project this Ramadan, to bring the spirit of Ramadan into homes across the UK and the world. We have huge respect for everything which Ramadan Tent Project has achieved and its work in spreading mutual respect and understanding. Our shared values bring people together at a time when we can't celebrate our traditions in the way we would like. As the world's leading Islamic media platform, we are looking forward to sharing Ramadan Tent Project's events and virtual Iftars with our audience on TV and online."

Omar Salha, Founder and CEO of Ramadan Tent Project said; "Despite not being able to deliver our flagship Open Iftar physical events for the second year, we are proud and honoured to still be at service to our community with a series of uplifting, engaging and amazing virtual events this Ramadan. Having connected over 70,000 people in Ramadan last year, we aim to continue connecting more communities than ever before and are incredibly excited to team up with some of the UK's leading cultural and British institutions to help reach our mission. Our series of virtual events will enable communities to share Ramadan experiences with each other, reflect on the blessings of the holy month, build bridges and achieve a sense of belonging and ultimately keeping the Ramadan spirit alive."

Zia Salik, Islamic Relief UK Interim Director said; "As Muslims, community and togetherness is an important part of who we are. This is especially true during Ramadan when, out of lockdown, we would normally meet for the communal breaking of the fast followed by evening prayers. The Virtual Iftar initiative put together by the hardworking team at Ramadan Tent Project will bring community and the spirit of Ramadan into thousands of living rooms, not only in the UK but all over the world through their Global Iftars. Islamic Relief UK is proud to be supporting this year's Virtual Iftars and our commitment to the initiative highlights just how important Ramadan Tent Project's work is within the community."

Sign up and join our virtual Ramadan events at www.ramadantentproject.com

Supporting Partners:



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Notes to editor:

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About Ramadan Tent Project

Ramadan Tent Project (RTP) is a non-profit organisation founded in 2013 with a mission of bringing communities together to better understand each other, and the organisers of the UK's largest community and cultural event in Ramadan, Open Iftar.