



Centre for the
Study of Islam in the UK
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Astudio Islam yn y DG



Understanding British Imams

This information sheet invites provides important details about our research and how you can help us.

What is the study about?

Imams play a significant role in British Muslim communities, yet relatively little academic research has emerged about them. This project seeks to understand more about British imams and their day-to-day work. We are doing this by speaking to different imams across the country and to other people who work with them. As a result, we hope that wider society will gain a better appreciation of the role imams play in modern Britain.

Who are the researchers and who is funding the project?

The study is based at Cardiff University's Centre for the Study of Islam in the UK. It is entirely funded by the Jameel Research Programme, a philanthropic organisation set up to improve understanding about Muslims in Britain. There are three researchers working on this project: Dr Riyaz Timol, Professor Sophie Gilliat-Ray and Maulana Dr Haroon Sidat.

Why have I been chosen?

We feel you can help us because you are either an imam, part of a mosque management committee or sufficiently knowledgeable about your local mosque to provide us with the information we would like.

What do I have to do?

We would like to ask you some simple questions which should take no longer than 5 minutes:

- How many imams serve in your mosque?
- What are their ethnic origins?
- Where were they born?
- How old are they?
- Where did they acquire their knowledge?
- What language do they preach in?

How is information provided kept safe and secure?

We take confidentiality very seriously. All our data is anonymised and safely secured so any information you provide will never be traced back to you personally. The project has been approved by a 'Research Ethics Committee' at Cardiff University whose ethical standards we are committed to upholding. In addition, you do not need to provide us with any personal details such as name, address or date of birth.

Do I have to take part?

It is your choice whether or not you wish to participate. If you do, you can withdraw at any time without giving a reason. As a participant in the research, you can give as much or as little information as you wish. If you would like more information, please visit the [project website](#) or email us on britishimams@cardiff.ac.uk. We would be delighted to hear from you!

Thank you for reading this information sheet.