



Nelson-Whakatu Muslim Association Inc.
226, Trafalgar Street, Nelson Ph 021 175 6477

25th February 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Kotahitanga (Togetherness)
in remembrance of the Christchurch Tragedy 15 March 2019**

Nelson-Whakatu Muslim Association (NWMA), in conjunction with Voice of Islam and IERA (Islamic Education and Research Academy, UK), with the support of Multicultural Nelson Tasman and Nelson City Council, will be hosting an exhibition and a series of short talks by visiting international speakers. This public event is part of an NZ-wide road tour which includes Auckland, Blenheim and Nelson and will conclude in Christchurch on 15 March 2020. In organising this event, NWMA once again wishes to acknowledge the wider Nelson community for their continuing support in the aftermath of the incidents in Christchurch. This exhibition and road tour serves to create an opportunity for promoting interfaith and intercultural understanding and for identifying our shared values. We hope to bring communities together through unity and healing and to eliminate hate and prejudice following the tragic events in Christchurch last year.

We would like to extend an invitation to your whanau/church /community group/organisation to attend the programme. The details are:

**Venue: Trafalgar Centre, Northern Extension
Paru Paru Road, Nelson**

Date: 10th March 2020

Time: 6:30-9:00pm

There will be a Q & A session after the talks. We look forward to seeing you there.

The contact number/email for RSVP, enquiries: 021 175 6477.

Email: nwmuslimassociation@gmail.com

Yours faithfully,

Aiyaz Ali Shah
President
Nelson-Whakatu Muslim Association



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Brief notes about the Speakers:

1. **John Fontain (UK)** – well-known speaker and Youtuber discussing current issues on Islam and Muslims. John has authored several books on Islam. He has visited over 45 countries to share his experiences and help set up support groups. He is also actively involved in the charity organisation called *Volunteer Sierra Leone* where he works with local schools to provide better education for over 14,000 students. He is currently working on a series of high quality Islamic history documentaries and educational videos.
2. **Fahad Tasleem (US)** – founder of the DC seminary. He has studied and researched diverse subjects including Qur’anic Studies, Behavioural Economics, Economic History, Arabic Linguistics and Islamic & Comparative Theology. Fahad holds a Bachelor’s degree in Economics from Michigan State University and a Masters in Business Taxation from the University of Southern California. He studied Arabic at Georgetown University and is currently pursuing a graduate programme in Middle Eastern studies at the University of Texas.