

LONDON SOCIETY OF JEWS AND CHRISTIANS

in association with the
LONDON DIOCESAN COUNCIL FOR CHRISTIAN – JEWISH UNDERSTANDING

Invites you to the annual

Lily Montagu Memorial Lecture

On Wednesday 5th December 2007

We are proud to announce that our lecturer this year will be

The Right Rev Michael Nazir-Ali

Bishop of Rochester

Who will speak on the subject:

“Religious Freedom in the Doctrinaire State”

In the Chair: Rabbi Mark L Solomon

Co-chairman of the London Society of Jews and Christians

Bishop Nazir-Ali will discuss the relationships between Jews, Christians and Muslims through the course of history, and in different cultural settings, so that their importance for us today is more clearly seen.

Preceded at 7.00 pm by the Annual General Meeting of the London Society of Jews and Christians

7.30 pm

Refreshments

8.00 pm

**Kindling of Chanukkah candles
followed by lecture**

Members of the Society, friends and visitors are all welcome to attend

At The Liberal Jewish Synagogue
28 St John's Wood Road, London NW8 7HA ☎ 020 7286 5181

Our Speaker

Bishop Michael J Nazir-Ali

Bishop Michael Nazir-Ali is the 106th Bishop of Rochester. Originally from Asia, he was appointed in 1994 and was the first non-white Diocesan Bishop in the Church of England. Before that he was General Secretary of the Church Missionary Society from 1989–1994. His family background is both Christian and Muslim and he holds both British and Pakistani citizenship. Since 1999 he has been a member of the House of Lords where he has been active in a number of areas of national and international concern.

He read economics, sociology and Islamic history at the University of Karachi, and theology at Fitzwilliam College and Ridley Hall, Cambridge. He has taught at colleges and universities in the United Kingdom and Pakistan, and has been a visiting lecturer in the UK, Canada, the USA and Australia. He is an Hon. Fellow of St. Edmund Hall, Oxford and Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge, and Visiting Professor of Theology and Religious Studies in the University of Greenwich.

In Pakistan, Bishop Nazir-Ali taught at Karachi Theological College, worked as a parish priest in a poor urban area, became Provost of Lahore Cathedral and was consecrated the first Bishop of Raiwind. In 1986 he joined the staff of the Archbishop of Canterbury in Britain to assist with the preparation of the 1988 Lambeth Conference. He was the editor of the Report and Pastoral Letters of the Conference.

Bishop Nazir-Ali has served as a director of the Oxford Centre for Mission Studies, was on the board of Christian Aid and was a trustee of Traidcraft. He was a member of the Human Fertilisation and Embryology Authority and Chair of its Ethics and Law Committee 1997–2003. He leads the dialogue with Al-Azhar University (Cairo), is a founder member of the Dialogue of Scholars and President of the Network for Inter-Faith Concerns in the Anglican Communion (NIFCON) as well as being a member of numerous other committees.

Bishop Nazir-Ali is the author of nine books, including *Conviction and Conflict: Islam, Christianity and World Order* (Continuum, 2006) and of numerous articles on mission, ecumenism, the Anglican Communion, and relations with people of other faiths, particularly Islam. In 2005, he was awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship by Rotary International.

Bishop Michael is married to Valerie, and they have two sons, Shamaoun and Ross. He writes poetry in English and Persian and has had his work periodically published since he was at school.

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