

A Justice Service with a twist!

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October marks the start of the legal year and it is incumbent on the High Sheriff to host a service to mark the start of that year and to give thanks for the work of all those involved in carrying out justice. The beauty of the role is that we can all individualise and personalise how we traverse our year, including the kind of service we want.

So, I took the opportunity of my Justice Service to share some of the teachings and prayers of Islam which relate to the theme of my year – Peace, Justice and Love for Humanity.

I want my year as High Sheriff to represent our shared connection as human beings and to work towards peace for the love of humanity. I believe we will not achieve true equilibrium in this life and the hereafter until we have peace; and peace can only come if we respect the rights of each other and learn to love and respect each other recognising the uniqueness of our differences and shared humanity.

Peace is undeniably one of the greatest human needs. Peace is also a fundamental aspect of Islam. In fact, the word Islam means peace and submission. Allah says in the Quran:

‘Seek the life to come by means of what God has granted you, but do not neglect your rightful share in this world. Do good to others as God has done good to you. Do



Sheikh Ridha Jichi reciting the opening passage of the Quran, Surah Fatiha



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With some of my readers, multi-faith drummers and multi-faith chaplains