



Islamic Crescents Observation for the UK

المراقبة الإسلامية للأهلة في المملكة المتحدة

إحياء السنة النبوية في رؤية الهلال - Reviving the Sunnah of Moon Sighting



The ICOUK is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, authorised and regulated by the Charity Commission (Reg No. 1181887)

Prompt Hilal Testimony & Declaration

Press Release to: All UK Imams/Ulama; Mosque Committees; Moon Sighters.

Dated: January 2025/Rajab 1446

Respected Ulama, Brothers & Sisters in Islam.

Assalamu Alaykum wa-Rahmatullahi wa-Barakatuh. You may not be aware that the ICOUK is the UK's pioneer and leading moon sighting organization (Hilal Committee). It has been doing moon sighting and reporting since 2008 with the support of many UK ulama, Alhamdulillah.

About 10 years later (in 2018), we started a 2-day moon sighting practice as a parallel run with Morocco's 29th (and the next day) to help train our members when the moon was mostly visible on the UK horizon.

After a few years of 2-day/month data collection, we realized that a UK-only criterion fully meets the Shariah requirement (29 or 30 days/month), we started a Trial Testimony and Declaration process in 2021.

We also wrote to many Darul Ulooms (of all four Sunni *Maslak*) for permission to adopt Local Sightings, but we only received responses from Hanafi Darul Ulooms as compiled in our Fatawa Booklet (2022). [bit.ly/fatawaBooklet]

We have also consulted many UK ulama, including CMSC (Maulana Islam Ali Shah) and Wifaqul Ulama (Maulana Ayyub Surti), about their support for adopting local sightings. They have responded positively, as it is a communal obligation (*Fardh Al-Kifaya*) to carry out local sightings to establish a Hijri Calendar.

The ICOUK testimony and declaration procedure is compiled from the above Fatawa, and our Ulama Panel holds meetings on the UK 29th to ensure that the decisions are Shariah compliant. [bit.ly/TestimonyPolicy]

Therefore, we urge and appeal to all UK Ulama to support our ICOUK Ulama Panel with their participation and duas or at least urge all their congregations to send their moon sighting reports and testimonies, promptly.

If anyone sees the moon on the UK 29th, please ask them to report it to us via any means on the ICOUK **Contact Us** page without delays. [bit.ly/icoukContact]

Not providing a testimony promptly is sinful, as Allah says: "*And do not conceal testimony, for whoever conceals it, his heart is indeed sinful, and Allah knows of what you do.*" (Quran 2:283).

Zaid bin Khalid Al-Juhani (r.a.) narrated that the Messenger of Allah (ﷺ) said: "*The best of witnesses is the one who gives his testimony before being asked for it.*" [Tirmidhi:2297]

Wassalam,

Testimony Panel Members:

- Maulana Abdullah Ahmed,
- Maulana Yusuf Mota,
- Shaykh Suliman Gani,
- Imam Sabri Alabry,
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Ref: <https://moonsighting.org.uk/docs/icoukPromptTestimonyLetter.pdf> (uploaded: 20/1/2025)