

# Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Honourable Adam Patel of Blackburn

(7<sup>th</sup> of June 1940 – 29<sup>th</sup> of May 2019)

Over the many years, I have had the privilege of referring to Lord Adam Patel as my Patron, Patron to the World Hajj and Umrah Convention, Patron of British Pilgrimage to Makkah and the British Hajj Delegation.

A champion for the Muslim community of Great Britain, he was a man that had always made me feel, exclusively special. Standing alongside the thousands of people who attended his last rights, at Pleasington Cemetery in his hometown of Blackburn, I came to realise that he was a man who was Patron to many people and to many good causes. Learning that he was the Patron of Schools and Education, Health and Hospitals, People and Humanity, Children and Elderly, Religion and Mosques, Community and Politics, Pilgrimage and Pilgrims, Charity and Giving. I shall no longer refer to him as my Patron, but as a Patron of Good, a selfless and charitable man without want, a man re-defining the term unconditional and humility for me.



Learning of his ill health whilst in the last 10 days of Ramadan in Makkah, Saudi Arabia, I hurried back to the UK, knowing it may be the last time I will be able to embrace my inspiration, mentor, the man who lent me his name and confidence to achieve my own dreams in serving the affairs of the Hajj and Umrah Pilgrimages here in the UK and across the World.

Lord Adam Patel was a champion of British Values, Community Values and Muslim Values. I draw attention to this because his method of contribution to our societies is an example and should be an inspiration to all Muslims in the United Kingdom and Muslims who live in countries where Muslims are a minority.

His pursuit of knowledge, His concern for community, His drive for business, His achievements following his arrival to England in the 1960's, His want of exemplifying excellence and empowerment of the working class people. He lived his life the way he wanted, a devout Muslim family man, whose service to public well being gained him recognition to the extent of being granted Peerage to the highest institution of British Government, Lord Adam Patel of Blackburn, Member of the House of Lords for 19 years, a servant of the realm.



Arriving to the U.K. in 1965, his values set him upon a provident course, becoming a leading Muslim Peer and a pillar of the community, relied upon for his influential advocacy at Parliament, at local and regional councils and to his passion of Pilgrimage, leveraging his influence with the Saudi Government and officials, imploring the plight of British, European, American and other Muslim minority countries, their needs of connecting with the holy cities, of Makkah and Madinah and want of increased opportunities for British citizens to perform Hajj, for salvation and desire of absolution.

Many shall refer to him, citing his professional career. To me, he was family. I write this tribute in the early morning hours of the 31<sup>st</sup> of May 2019 from Late Lord Adam Patel family estate in Blackburn. Having spent the night with his 8 survived children, wife and innumerable grandchildren, both grieving and celebrating the life of a man we all loved.

His daughters love him and miss him, his sons cherish him and hope they can build upon his legacy, his wife braving his absence and the grandchildren hadn't commented much but deeply appreciative of him and proud to call him grandfather.

Lord Adam Patel was an affectionate man, who used to refer to his wife as my "Beautiful Wife, My Rock". In these times it is rare to see such love and devotion from both immediate and extended family towards elderly family members. His children put their lives and careers on pause to personally and dedicatedly care for their father till his last.

Lord Adam Patel towards the latter stages of his life suffered from a rare degenerative illness which slowly took away his ability to speak and mobility, but never his smile, and the glowing warmth in his face and the glimmer in his eyes for a familiar face that visited him.

I ask all those that knew him and those who did not know him or now know of him to join me in prayer, as he leaves behind, the title of Lord and Honour for his contribution towards his Country, his family and friends, his wealth and works, his efforts and intentions; and to grant him honour and title, a lofty abode in Paradise a place near to the Majesty and owner of all honours and titles, our creator and maker, Allah Subhana Wa Ta'ala and the companionship of our beloved Prophet Muhammad, peace be upon him.

May he rest in peace and let our love be with him, my deepest condolences for all his friends and family grieving his passing, overlooking and forgiving any of his shortcomings as he is laid to rest. Our Patron of Good and to the Late Founding Patron of the World Hajj and Umrah Convention.

Mohsin Tutla  
Chairman of the World Hajj and Umrah Convention