

London mosque hosts preacher who said Zionists run UK schools

This was behind the paywall of The Times this morning, but has been taken up by the [Jewish Chronicle](#) this evening.

The Lewisham Islamic Centre in London hosted an American preacher last month who said during his sermon that Zionists “run the schools and hospitals” in the UK and questioned the extent of Hamas’ violence on October 7.



Tom Facchine said during his sermon at Lewisham Islamic Centre last month that Zionists 'run' the schools and hospitals in the UK. (Youtube)

on the mosque’s YouTube channel, Muslim convert Tom Facchine told the Lewisham congregation on 19 April: “We are happy with being doctors and yet we work for the Zionists who run the hospital system. When are we going to run our own hospital systems? We’re happy with being the headmaster or headmistress of a school, and yet we work for the Zionist who runs the

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school system. Who's going to step up and make the school system for the Muslims?"

Facchine, who is the Research Director of Islam and Society at Yaqeen Institute for Islamic Research, was invited to speak at the mosque by head imam Shakeel Begg, who was found by a High Court judge in 2016 to be an "extremist preacher" for encouraging "religious violence".

It was also found that his role as an imam put him in a position to "plant the seed of Islamic extremism in a young mind."

Facchine said during his sermon at the mosque that while it was forbidden to kill civilians, some Muslim "soldiers" treated Israelis who were attacked in kibbutzes with "decency" and questioned whether there was "completely one side to blame" for the October 7 fatalities.

The Community Security Trust said: "It is utterly appalling that Lewisham Mosque invited a speaker who had expressed unequivocal support for 'the Palestinian resistance' just days after the October 7 massacre. He then came out with conspiratorial nonsense about 'Zionists' running our hospitals and schools. The Charity Commission ought to investigate how he was given a platform."

Facchine and the Lewisham Islamic Centre have been contacted for comment.