







SAYEEDA WARSI

Sector: Politics Lives: Wakefield

Studied: University of

Leeds

Sayeeda Warsi, Baroness Warsi (politics)

The first Muslim to serve in a British cabinet, Sayeeda Warsi is also a lawyer and businesswoman.

She served in David Cameron's Cabinet between 2010 to 2012, her roles including Minister of State for Faith and Communities. During this time she was voted one of the world's '500 most influential Muslims' by the Royal Islamic Strategic Studies Centre.

Prior to entering politics she worked as a solicitor with the Crown Prosecution Service, having studied law at the University of Leeds and Legal Practice Course at the College of Law, York.

She became a peer in 2007 - taking the title of Baroness Warsi, of Dewsbury in the County of West Yorkshire - and founded the Baroness Warsi Foundation to tackle social mobility, gender equality and freedom of religious belief.





ADIL RAY

Sector: Television / Radio

Lives: Birmingham

Studied: University of

Huddersfield

Adil Ray (media)

Adil Ray is best known for creating, co-writing and appearing in the BBC One comedy Citizen Khan.

He started his career as a radio host on a pirate station during his time at the University of Huddersfield, where he studied Marketing. He worked at a small Asian radio station in Birmingham during his placement year. He has since presented across numerous national stations, including Choice FM and BBC Asian Network

He has also worked as a television presenter, most notably on Desi DNA, and has hosted Tales From Europe.

In 2016 he was made an OBE for services to broadcasting. He has also been nominated for the Arts and Culture Awareness award at the 2013 British Muslim Awards.





NADIYA HUSSAIN

Sector: Television

Lives: Milton Keynes

Studied: Open

University

Nadiya Hussain (television)

The winner of 2015's Great British Bake Off, Nadiya Hussain has gone on to enjoy a successful career as a writer and presenter.

At the time she entered the competition she was studying Childhood and Youth Studies through the Open University.

She has published a number of cookbooks, including Nadiya's Kitchen, is a regular columnist for The Times, and has written a novel, The Secret Lives Of The Amir Sisters. She has also judged Junior Bake Off and fronted a two part documentary in Bangladesh, The Chronicles of Nadiya.

In 2017, she was named by Debrett's as one of the 500 most influential people in the UK. She is ambassador of WaterAid and Starlight Children's Foundation, which supports lives of seriously ill children.





MARIAH IDRISSI

Sector: Model

Lives: London

Studied: B.A English

Literature

Mariah Idrissi (model)

Mariah Idrissi became the first Muslim hijab-wearing model when she featured in a 2015 global campaign for H&M, the second largest global retailer.

She signed to Select modelling agency in 2016 and has gone on to become a leading figure on 'modest fashion' and an international public speaker promoting female empowerment. She is also an advocate for numerous humanitarian causes, taking part in an NHS social action campaign to drive young people to register and give blood.

The London born English Literature graduate was nominated for the 2016 Cultural Icon of the Year award by BEAM, which celebrates BAME culture across the UK.





AMJAD MAZHAR HUSSAIN

Sector: Forces

Lives: Middlesex

Studied: University of

Durham

Rear-Admiral Amjad Mazhar Hussain (forces)

Rear-Admiral Amjad Mazhar Hussain is the highest ranking member of the British Armed Forces from an ethnic minority.

Born in Pakistan, he moved to the UK when he was five years old. He joined the Royal Navy in 1976 as a Weapons Engineering Officer and won a scholarship to study Engineering and Business Studies at the University of Durham. He worked through the ranks and in 2009 was appointed Director (Precision Attack) and Controller of the Navy.

He was appointed Companion of the Order of the Bath in 2011, and was awarded the Civil Servant of the Year award at the British Muslim Awards in 2013. He is also included in the Muslim Power 100 List.





IMRAN KHAN

Sector: Legal

Lives: London

Studied: University of

East London

Imran Khan (legal)

One of the most high profile solicitors in Britain, Imran Khan is chiefly known for his representation of Stephen Lawrence's family during the public inquiry into his murder.

He studied law at University of East London and trained at B. M Birnberg & Co, a human rights law firm. In 2000 he founded his own practice and regularly works pro bono to represent victims of racism and other victims of injustice,

In 1999 The Lawyer Newspaper named him Legal Personality of the Year. He has received several Honorary Doctorates, including from Oxford Brookes University, and in 2018 was awarded the rank of Queens Counsel.





MO FARAH

Sector: Sport

Lives: London

Trained: St Mary's

University College

Mo Farah (sport)

Mohamed Muktar Jama 'Mo' Farah is the most successful British track athlete in modern Olympic Games history, having won gold in 2012 and 2016 in the 5000m and 10,000m.

Born in Somalia, he moved to the UK as a child and won the 5000m at the European Athletics Junior Championship in 2001. His early potential earned him a training scholarship at St Mary's University College, Twickenham.

He went on to win ten global titles and holds numerous records, including the European record holder for the 1500m and the current indoor world record for the two miles.

In 2011 and 2012 he was named the European Athlete of the Year. He was appointed Commander of the Order of the British Empire for services to athletics in 2013 and knighted in 2017.





WARSAN SHIRE

Sector: Poetry

Lives: London

Studied: London

Metropolitan

University

Warsan Shire (poetry)

Warsan Shire came to mainstream attention when Beyoncé recited her poetry between tracks on her 2016 album Lemonade.

The British-Somali poet writer, who has a BA in Creative Writing from London Metropolitan University, has published three collections of poetry. She was named the first Young Poet Laureate for London in 2013, and in the same year was awarded the inaugural Brunel University African Poetry Prize.

She regularly teaches poetry workshops, both globally and online, and is the poetry editor at SPOOK magazine. In 2014 she was chosen as poet-in-residence of Queensland, Australia, and in 2018 she was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature as part of its '40 Under 40' scheme.





YUSUF ISLAM

Sector: Music

Lives: London

Studied:

Hammersmith Art

College

Yusuf Islam (musician)

Yusuf Islam, formerly known as Cat Stevens, was inducted into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 2014.

The folk musician made his debut at a local bar in 1964 while attending Hammersmith Art College. The following year he signed a publishing deal and in 1970 released his debut album, Tea For The Tillerman. It was certified triple platinum in the US and in 2003 was included in Rolling Stone magazine's 500 Greatest Albums of All Time.

He took a hiatus from performing live and focused on educational and philanthropic projects between 1978 and 1995. He has since returned to the recording studio and in 2007 he received the Ivor Novello Award for Outstanding Song Collection from the British Academy of Songwriters, Composers and Authors.





Islamophobia Awareness Month #IAM2019

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