

COMPREHENSIVE DOSSIER: THE MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD AND UK LINKS

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Framework: DCM Framework v1.0

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1. ORIGINS, FOUNDATION, AND EVOLUTION

Founding: Founded in March 1928 in the Egyptian city of Ismailia by primary founder Hassan al-Banna (1906–1949), an Egyptian schoolteacher and Islamic scholar, alongside six local workers employed by the Suez Canal Company.

Original Ideology: Established during heavy British colonial rule and rapid Westernization. Al-Banna's premise held that contemporary Islamic societies declined due to straying from traditional Sharia values under foreign influence. Started as a grassroots moral and social reform movement before expanding into a political force aiming to eliminate foreign domination and institute Islamic governance.

2. GLOBAL MANAGEMENT AND STRUCTURE TODAY

The global network is not managed by a single central authority, having fragmented significantly following decades of crackdowns and the 2013 ousting of Egyptian President Mohamed Morsi.

- **Decentralized Chapters:** Operates through autonomous or semi-autonomous regional chapters and affiliate political parties in countries like Jordan, Tunisia, Kuwait, and Turkey.
- **Hierarchical Model:** Historic structure follows a secretive, disciplined pyramidal hierarchy led by a Supreme Guide (General Guide), Shura Council, and local grassroots cells ("families" or *usar*) designed for absolute loyalty. The UK Government's 2015 review noted the movement is "deliberately opaque, and habitually secretive."
- **Leadership Crisis:** Central leadership faces severe succession fractures between an "old guard" favoring clandestine survival and younger factions seeking new political paths.

3. STATUS AND OPERATIONS IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

Not Proscribed: Unlike Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and the UAE, the Muslim Brotherhood is not designated as a terrorist organization or banned in the UK. It has long served as a base of operations for political exiles and dissidents fleeing Arab nation crackdowns.

The 2015 Government Review: Commissioned by then-Prime Minister David Cameron, it remains the most authoritative official statement on the Brotherhood, noting that while it opposes al-Qaeda, it has "never credibly denounced" Sayyid Qutb's work, and that Brotherhood-associated groups have had "significant influence" on community bodies. The review concluded that association with the Brotherhood should be treated as a "possible indicator of extremism."

4. AFFILIATED AND ASSOCIATED ORGANIZATIONS

- **Muslim Association of Britain (MAB):** Described by the 2015 review as "dominated by the Muslim Brotherhood" and cited by former Communities Secretary Michael Gove as the UK affiliate. Founded in the late 1990s by British-Arab exiles.
- **Think Tanks & Foundations:** Includes The Cordoba Foundation (founded in 2005) and the Muslim Charities Forum, an umbrella organization identified as a key European Brotherhood entity linked to entities from US-sanctioned networks.
- **Campus Networks:** Historic overlap investigated between the Federation of Student Islamic Societies (FOSIS) and the Brotherhood. Notable academic ties included Tariq Ramadan holding an Oxford professorship until 2017.

5. ACTIVITIES, POLITICAL LINKS, AND KEY FIGURES

Activities & Lobbying: Footprint focuses on soft power via London-based media hubs for the Arabic diaspora, legal and human rights campaigning, interfaith participation, and All-Party Parliamentary Group (APPG) engagement. There is no institutional alliance with the Labour Party, though individual lobbying occurs.

Anas Altikriti & The Cordoba Foundation: Altikriti is a British-Iraqi activist and former MAB president, son of Osama al-Tikriti (former Iraqi Islamic Party leader). In May 2026, Altikriti was denied entry to Canada and deported from Montreal airport following reports of undisclosed US visa denials and Hamas connections, alongside MEMRI documentation defending the October 7, 2023 attacks.

Charity Sector Scrutiny: Entities like Human Appeal (receiving ~\$110 million in 2024 donations) face rigorous monitoring by the Charity Commission and research reports alleging fund transfers to entities linked to Hamas.

6. DCM AUDIT SUMMARY

Axis	Score	Rationale
D1 Temporal	3/3	Spans decades from post-war exile to the 2015 review and 2026 Altikriti deportation.
D2 Epistemic	2/3	Official 2015 review anchors analysis, but opacity requires cross-verifying advocacy data.
D3 Skepticism	2/3	Balanced skepticism applied toward official claims and external geopolitical agendas.
D4 Correlation	3/3	Convergence across UK Parliament, US advocacy groups, and regional monitoring sources.