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Minorities in the Media A united solution

A Ground-Breaking interactive Conference Chaired by Henry Bonsu and Mishal Husain

Key Speakers across two day event

Keynote Closing Address by Lord John Taylor

London, 7th May 2008: On 28th and 29th May the first annual Media Conference 'Minorities in the Media: A United Solution' will open the discussion on the hottest issues affecting minority communities in the UK today and the love/hate relationship they have with the mainstream media.

From established Muslim communities still trying to live down 9/11 and 7/7 to fledgling Eastern European groups blamed, inter alia for 'swan abuse', the ground-breaking media conference will explore the issues in an open forum of discussion and debate and ask, What does modern multi ethnic Britain and its media make of the constant struggle to understand immigration, multi-culturism and Britishness?"

Shy Rabbani and Younes El-Ghazi, the brains behind the initiative, have used their professional experience and contacts to put together a high-profile event which will bring together a combination of renowned broadcasters and politicians as well as high-level speakers and panellists representing communities across Britain. Shy says, "The conference is the outcome of hard work by small organisations and individuals believing in the power of debate and exchange of ideas to contribute to the future of multicultural Britain and to be set as a model for further development by our European partners."

Over two discussion-filled days, the media itself will have the opportunity to argue their case against such topics as the lack of minorities in the media profession to the impact of discriminatory articles appearing in our newspapers and whether they, the media, do accurately reflect our diverse society. Thought provoking discussions that will debate: Does the media shape public perception of minorities or do they shape the coverage of themselves?

Professor Noam Chomsky, author of *Media Control – The Spectacular Achievements of Propaganda* and, more recently, *Failed States*, has put his full support behind this vital debate for positive change while The European Multicultural Foundation (EMF) will be sponsoring the event.



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A pre conference online debate has already begun and is drawing comments from around the world. Join the discussion here: <http://www.assetsworld.com/assetsblog/?p=543>

- Ends -

The Minorities in the Media conference will take place at London's Business Design Centre, in the borough of Islington on Wednesday 28th and Thursday 29th May 2008.

Visit the Conference website www.media-conference.co.uk for details about registration and costs.

Editor's Note

1. Media interested in developing '*media*' partnerships' should contact Zarina McCulloch on 020 8203 5011 – zarina@media-conference.co.uk / zarina_mcculloch@yahoo.com or Shy Rabbani on 020 8316 0601 - shy.rabbani@media-conference.co.uk
2. Shy Rabbani, Director of the Media Conference, is available for interviews – please contact as above and on +44 (0)7921 132066
3. A Full Programme of the two day Conference is available to download online from www.media-conference.com
4. Please contact us immediately for press passes

For further information and for media interested in covering the event, please contact either Zarina McCulloch or Shy Rabbani as follows:

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