

1964

GUARDIAN 10-8-64

London home for Muslim orphans

A pioneer scheme for a "family home" for Muslim orphans has been planned by the Muslim Women's Association, which has its headquarters at the Islamic Cultural Centre, Park Road, London.

The secretary of the association, Mrs A. Ali, announced the scheme at a social at the centre on Saturday. Money is already being raised and the project has the backing of the Muslim community in London.

Group of six

Muslims in London feel that many children cut off from normal family life need to be brought up within their own religious community. A house belonging to the centre may be made available, but thousands of pounds will have to be raised before it can be opened as a home.

It is intended that a group of six children should live under the care of a Muslim married couple acting as house parents. An older person in the role of grandparent may join the group later. The idea of children's homes on these lines is being considered by other overseas groups.

New-style orphanage planned by Moslims

The Muslim Women's Association, whose headquarters are the Islamic Cultural Centre, Park Road, Marylebone, held their first tea-party for the children of members and friends on Saturday.

Mrs. A. Ali, welcoming the mothers and children, announced that money was being raised on a small scale towards a new-style Muslim orphanage which would have the backing of the entire Muslim community.

A house near the centre may be made available, but thousands of pounds will be required before it can be opened.

It is intended to give six children, under the care of a young Muslim couple, a life as close as possible to that of the ordinary family unit.

Instead of a dormitory, there will be small bedrooms shared by two children. Eventually, an older person, in the role of grandparent, may join the "family".

A programme of indoor games and singing was organised at the party, followed by the distribution of gifts.

MARYLEBONE MERCURY

14.8.64