



**CHARITY COMMISSION**  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

## **Trustees' Annual Report for the period**

**From: 1st January, 2020 - period start date**

**To: 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020 - period end date**

**Charity name: Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi Society CIO**

**Charity registration number: 1179324**

## **Objectives and Activities**

	SORP reference	
Summary of the purposes of the charity as set out in its governing document	Para 1.17	<b>The advancement of education for the public benefit by promoting, sustaining and increasing individual and collective knowledge of the works and ideals of Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi (1165-1240 CE), and those people who have perpetuated them, by such means as the trustees think fit, but including study, research, publication, translation and communication of his written works.</b>
Summary of the main activities in relation to those purposes for the public benefit, in particular, the activities, projects or services identified in the accounts.	Para 1.17 and 1.19	<b>The Society's 2-day symposium, planned for May 2020 in London, had to be cancelled due to the pandemic.</b> <b>The society launched a series of online talks entitled 'Ibn Arabi and the Geometry of Reality. These were held fortnightly from May to December, 2020.</b> <b>The Society appointed an Educational Director to specifically develop this aspect of the Society's activities.</b> <b>The Society launched an education programme. The 2020 programme, commencing in May, comprised 2 courses of 10 weeks duration and 1 course of 7 weeks.</b> <b>The Society's Senior Research Fellows took part in a number of radio interviews with a view to promoting knowledge of Ibn Arabi. They also gave presentations to online events hosted in Australia and for the Spanish-speaking world (Spain, Italy, Portugal and South America).</b> <b>The Society appointed a Public Relations and Outreach coordinator to develop relations, cultivate contacts and promote dialogue about Ibn Arabi in</b>

		<p>existing and new environments.</p> <p>The Society continued to help fund the on- going work of translating Ibn Arabi's <i>Futuh al- Makkiyyah</i>.</p> <p>Organised the sale of publications (books and sets of journals).</p> <p>Completed a major re-design of the Society's website making it more user-friendly.</p> <p>The period saw the publication of Volumes 67 and 68 of the Society's journal.</p> <p>2 trustees completed training organised by the National Council for Voluntary Organisations (NCVO) covering the following:  <b>Session 1: Role and responsibilities of trustees</b>  <b>Session 2: Achieving good governance</b></p>
Statement confirming whether the trustees have had regard to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission on public benefit	Para 1.18	<p><b>The Society has considered the Commission's guidance on public benefit, specifically that concerning the advancement of education.</b></p>

#### **Additional information (optional)**

**You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:**

	SORP reference	
Policy on grant making	Para 1.38	
Policy on social investment including program related investment	Para 1.38	
Contribution made by volunteers	Para 1.38	
Other		

## Achievements and Performance

	SORP reference	
Summary of the main achievements of the charity, identifying the difference the charity's work has made to the circumstances of its beneficiaries and any wider benefits to society as a whole.	Para 1.20	<p><b>During the 2020 pandemic the Society's series of online talks reached a world-wide audience. This online presence enabled us to involve an audience far larger than in the past, particularly during the 'questions and answers' which followed each talk.</b></p> <p><b>Feedback indicates that this series made a significant and positive difference to our supporters during a challenging year.</b></p> <p><b>The Society's education programme has sought to introduce Ibn Arabi to those less familiar with his work and ideas. Under the guidance of our newly appointed Director of Education, the courses have developed new ways of studying Ibn Arabi, such as through hermeneutics and creative participation. The courses have provided a forum for in-depth discussion and the exchange of ideas whereby students are able to develop their understanding of Ibn Arabi in a supportive and guided environment.</b></p> <p><b>Videos and podcasts have continued to play an important part in the Society's outreach. All the online talks were recorded and posted on the Society's YouTube channel, where they have been viewed by large numbers, thus extending the audience for the talks even further.</b></p> <p><b>The period has seen a significant increase in membership.</b></p> <p><b>The Society's journal became peer-reviewed, with the intention of extending its reach among contributors, academic institutions and the public in general.</b></p>

**Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Achievements against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Performance of fundraising activities against objectives set	Para 1.41	
Investment performance against objectives	Para 1.41	
Other		

**Financial Review**

Review of the charity's financial position at the end of the period	Para 1.21	<p><b>Total receipts in 2020 amounted to £42,900. Of this, £23,302 consisted of donations received for specific purposes (called Restricted funds), which may only be spent for those purposes. Its general (Unrestricted) income was £19,599 and total expenditure was £19,139 so its Unrestricted funds were £460 greater at the end of 2020 than they had been at the end of 2019.</b></p> <p><b>The Society had no financial debt. Its main financial commitments, such as production of the Journal for subscribers, do not extend beyond one year, and are covered by its Unrestricted funds.</b></p> <p><b>Its accounts for the 12 months of 2020 represent the second accounting period for the Society as a CIO. The first accounting period covered nearly 18 months, and included the one-off transfer of funds from the unincorporated Society. These two factors mean that comparisons between the two periods are not straightforward.</b></p>
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		But overall its income and expenditure in 2020 (apart from donations) was in line with 2019, although there was some adaptation of its activities in response to the Covid-19 pandemic, such as the replacement of the planned symposium in London with a series of online events.
Statement explaining the policy for holding reserves stating why they are held	Para 1.22	The Society's cash assets are divided into Unrestricted funds of £26,735 (which can be spent on the Society's general activities, such as producing the Journal and running events) and Restricted funds of £51,980 (donated for specific purposes, such as the Manuscript Archive project, which may only be spent for those purposes).
Amount of reserves held	Para 1.22	At the end of 2020 the Society had total cash assets of £78,715 and no debt. Its total assets increased by £16,568 over the year.
Reasons for holding zero reserves	Para 1.22	Not applicable.
Details of fund materially in deficit	Para 1.24	No fund is in deficit.
Explanation of any uncertainties about the charity continuing as a going concern	Para 1.23	Not applicable.

#### **Additional information (optional)**

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

The charity's principal sources of funds (including any fundraising)	Para 1.47	<p>The Society's principal sources of funds were Membership subscriptions (£7,307) and the sale of Journals (£4,797) and Books (£3,355), Online events and courses (£3,163) and general Donations (£938).</p> <p>In 2020 the Society received donations of £23,302 given for specific purposes (called Restricted funds). Money is transferred to Unrestricted funds when payments on projects covered by the Restricted funds are required, and becomes part of the Society's regular expenditure. The total spent from Restricted funds in 2020 was £7,194. The income from donations is unpredictable.</p>
Investment policy and objectives including any social investment policy adopted	Para 1.46	The Society's cash assets are all held in Bank accounts and at this level are covered against failure of the bank by the current Financial Services Compensation Scheme (up to £85,000).
A description of the principal	Para 1.46	This is a time of potentially unstable economic conditions in the United Kingdom and beyond. This could impact

risks facing the charity		<b>the Society's income from Membership and sale of Journals.</b>
Other		

## Structure, Governance and Management

Description of charity's trusts:		
Type of governing document (trust deed, royal charter)	Para 1.25	<b>Constitution</b>
How is the charity constituted? (e.g unincorporated association, CIO)	Para 1.25	<b>CIO – Foundation formed on 25 July 2018</b>
Trustee selection methods including details of any constitutional provisions e.g. election to post or name of any person or body entitled to appoint one or more trustees	Para 1.25	<b>Election of trustees is by a resolution passed at a properly convened meeting of the charity trustees, as detailed in the Society's Constitution, clauses: 9; 10; 12 and 13.</b>

### Additional information (optional)

You may choose to include further statements where relevant about:

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees	Para 1.51	<b>The following policies, which comply with Gov.UK guidance for charities, have been written and ratified by the Board: Finance, Complaints, Conflict of Interest, Risk Management, GDPR, Safeguarding and Volunteers.</b>
The charity's organisational structure and any wider network with which the charity works	Para 1.51	
Relationship with any related parties	Para 1.51	
Other		

## Reference and Administrative details

Charity name	<b>Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi Society CIO</b>
Other name the charity uses	
Registered charity number	<b>1179324</b>
Charity's principal address	<b>P O Box 892 Oxford OX2 7XL</b>

**Names of the charity trustees who manage the charity**

	Trustee name	Office (if any)	Dates acted if not for whole year	Name of person (or body) entitled to act as trustee (if any)
1	L D Barratt		Appointed 25 July 2018	
2	J Carroll		25 July 2018 – 28 <sup>th</sup> October 2020	
3	M E Cass		Appointed 25 July 2018	
4	G Collins		Appointed 25 July 2018	
5	M Notcutt		Appointed 25 July 2018	
6	C Twinch		Appointed 25 July 2018	
7	R W Twinch		Appointed 25 July 2018	
8				
9				
10				
11				
12				
13				
14				
15				
16				
17				
18				
19				
20				

**Corporate trustees – names of the directors at the date the report was approved**

Director name		

**Name of trustees holding title to property belonging to the charity**

Trustee name	Dates acted if not for whole year	

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## Funds held as custodian trustees on behalf of others

Description of the assets held in this capacity	
Name and objects of the charity on whose behalf the assets are held and how this falls within the custodian charity's objects	
Details of arrangements for safe custody and segregation of such assets from the charity's own assets	

### Additional information (optional)

#### Names and addresses of advisers (Optional information)

Type of adviser	Name	Address

#### Name of chief executive or names of senior staff members (Optional information)

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### Exemptions from disclosure

#### Reason for non-disclosure of key personnel details

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#### Other optional information

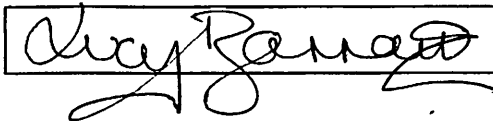
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## Declarations

The trustees declare that they have approved the trustees' report above.

Signed on behalf of the charity's trustees

Signature(s)



Full name(s)

Lucy Diana Barratt

Position (eg Secretary, Chair, etc)

Trustee

Date

14.04.2021



Section A

Independent Examiner's Report

Report to the trustees/  
members of

Muhyiddin Ibn Arabi Society CIO

On accounts for the  
period

Year ended 31 December 2020

Charity no

1179324

Set out on pages

Attached Receipts and Payments accounts

Responsibilities and  
basis of report

I report to the trustees on my examination of the accounts of the above charity ("the Trust") for the year ended 31/12/2020.

As the charity's trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the requirements of the Charities Act 2011 ("the Act").

I report in respect of my examination of the Trust's accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Act and in carrying out my examination, I have followed all the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)(b) of the Act.

Independent  
examiner's statement

I am qualified to undertake the examination by being a qualified member of ICAEW.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in accordance with section 130 of the Charities Act; or
- the accounts did not accord with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of accounts set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a 'true and fair' view which is not a matter considered as part of an independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed:

Date:

14/06/2021

Name:

B K Silva,

Relevant professional  
qualification(s) or body

ACA (Chartered Accountant)

Address:

MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Abbey Place, 24-28 Easton Street, High Wycombe, HP11 1NT



CHARITY COMMISSION  
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Muhylddin Ibn Arabi Society CIO

No (if any)  
No . 1179324

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## Receipts and payments accounts

For the period from	Period start date 01/01/20	To	Period end date 31/12/20
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### Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year (18 months) to the nearest £
<b>A1 Receipts</b>					
Donated from unincorporated Society	-	-	-	-	29,843
Donations	938	23,302	-	24,240	42,553
Subscriptions	7,307	-	-	7,307	6,843
Journal	4,797	-	-	4,797	4,844
Books	3,355	-	-	3,355	3,091
Interest	39	-	-	39	82
Symposium	-	-	-	-	4,751
Online events	1,783	-	-	1,783	-
Courses	1,380	-	-	1,380	-
<b>Sub total (Gross income for AR)</b>	<b>19,599</b>	<b>23,302</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>92,007</b>
<b>A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Total receipts</b>	<b>19,599</b>	<b>23,302</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>42,900</b>	<b>92,007</b>
<b>A3 Payments</b>					
Symposium	435	-	-	435	5,818
Journal	9,229	-	-	9,229	7,289
Online events	702	-	-	702	-
Courses	968	-	-	968	-
Archive Project	-	820	-	820	4,326
Junior Research Fellowship Fund	-	-	-	-	210
Scholarly Grants	1,050	1,302	-	2,352	2,264
Website	100	4,827	-	4,927	2,922
Books	2,107	-	-	2,107	1,996
Library	16	-	-	16	197
Accounting & Insurance	2,161	-	-	2,161	1,358
Bank charges	519	245	-	765	715
Recoverable payment	89	-	-	89	-
Office, postage, internet	1,762	-	-	1,762	2,765
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>19,139</b>	<b>7,194</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,333</b>	<b>29,860</b>
<b>A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)</b>					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Sub total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Total payments</b>	<b>19,139</b>	<b>7,194</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>26,333</b>	<b>29,860</b>
<b>Net of receipts/(payments)</b>	<b>460</b>	<b>16,108</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>16,568</b>	<b>62,147</b>
<b>A5 Transfers between funds</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>A6 Cash funds last year end</b>	<b>26,275</b>	<b>35,872</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>62,147</b>	<b>0</b>
<b>Cash funds this year end</b>	<b>26,735</b>	<b>51,980</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>78,715</b>	<b>62,147</b>

## Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds	Cash at bank	26,694	51,980	0.00
	Petty cash	41	-	0.00
			-	0.00
	<b>Total cash funds</b>	<b>26,735</b>	<b>51,980</b>	<b>0.00</b>

(agree balances with receipts and payments account(s))

OK

OK

OK

	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B2 Other monetary assets	Stock of printed copies Journal	700	-	0.00
	Stock of other Society publications	150	-	0.00
	Books for sale online	-	-	0.00
	Postage stamps	488	-	0.00
	Recoverable payment	89	-	0.00
		-	-	0.00

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B3 Investment assets			-	0.00
			-	0.00
			-	0.00
			-	0.00
			-	0.00

	Details	Fund to which asset belongs	Cost (optional)	Current value (optional)
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use	Library of printed books	Unrestricted funds	-	0.00
	Digital image copies of manuscripts	Unrestricted funds	-	0.00
	Software catalogue of manuscripts	Unrestricted funds	-	0.00
			-	0.00
			-	0.00
			-	0.00
			-	0.00
			-	0.00
			-	0.00

	Details	Fund to which liability relates	Amount due (optional)	When due (optional)
B5 Liabilities			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	
			-	

Signed by one or two trustees on behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
Martin Notcutt	MARTIN NOTCUTT	14/04/2021