



FAQs: Juz Amma – The Qur'an in Public

What is Juz Amma: The Qur'an in Public?

Juz Amma: The Qur'an in Public is a digital sound project created by the Inclusive Mosque Initiative in partnership with London arts venue Free Word as part of its '[All the Ways we Could Grow](#)' Season. With this project, the Inclusive Mosque Initiative invites Muslim women and Muslim non-binary people to recite verses from the last part of the Qur'an and share what it means to them. The final recordings will be available online and at [Free Word](#).

The Qur'an is split into 30 sections (Juz) and 114 chapters (Surah). The final section, Juz 30 or Juz Amma, contains 37 chapters. Prophet Muhammed (peace be upon him) shared these verses with his followers when he was living and preaching in Mecca while Muslims were a minority group being persecuted.

Who's funding this?

Free Word is providing support by covering the budget for staff, venue and installation expertise. You can [click here](#) to see a list of funders that contribute to Free Word. The resources that IMI is putting towards this comes from volunteers and donations. If you'd like to donate to support our work, you can [donate online](#).

Why is Juz Amma: The Qur'an in Public needed?

Every religious text is open to a variety of readings and for too long men have been the main voices heard in recitation and interpretation of many of these texts. With *Juz Amma: The Qur'an in Public* we want to encourage our audience to think about how often they hear the Qur'an or any discussion of it from non-male people. Whether you believe the Qur'an is a sacred text or not, we hope this sound installation will provoke questions about who gets to decide the relevance and meaning of religious texts.

How do I take part?

1. Please fill in this [Expression of Interest \(EOI\) form](#) and tell us the verses from Juz Amma that you would like to recite. Please fill this out as soon as you can.
2. We'll review the EOI forms as they come in and you should hear from us within a week. The final deadline is Sunday 7th April at 6pm but we would encourage you to send us your EOI as soon as possible. *
3. If we can include you in the project we'll get in touch and ask you to send us a recording of your chosen verses along with some commentary about what it means to you and a picture of yourself to be included with your recitation and interpretation.

Only scholars can interpret the Qur'an, why are you asking ordinary people to share their own interpretations?

None of the participants claim to be scholars and they are not making rulings about Islam. We value everyone's reflections. Reading the Qur'an is a personal experience and reciting the Qur'an out loud, or hearing it recited, can be a public experience. With this project we are exploring the relationship between personal meaning and public expression.

Women's voices are part of their awrah (intimate parts that should not be exposed), isn't this project encouraging immodesty?

We respect those who believe that a women's voice is part of her awrah but with this project we would like to make room for those who have different understandings of awrah.

You're asking for Muslim women and Muslim non-binary people to take part but what about Muslims who don't believe the Qur'an is the word of God or non-Muslims, can they participate?

Muslims who don't believe the Qur'an is the word of God: Yes, you can absolutely participate. Within the Inclusive Mosque Initiative you will find people with a variety of beliefs including Muslims who believe the Qur'an is without a doubt the word of God and those who believe it is not. We welcome these differences and provide a space where people who hold different views can be respectful towards each other. If you no longer identify as Muslim but you have a Muslim background, you are welcome to take part.

Non-Muslims: We would like to prioritise the voices of Muslim women and Muslim non-binary people in this project but do get in touch if you're interested in getting involved either in Juz Amma or in the Inclusive Mosque Initiative and we can have a chat. What we really need from non-Muslim allies is for you to share our work and to challenge reductive thinking about Muslims and Islam.

The options for contributions ask for recitation in Arabic, English or both languages, what if I can't speak either of these languages?

We are sorry we don't have capacity to include contributions in different languages. We are always looking at ways we can better include those who do not speak English and will continue to make our work as accessible as possible within what our resources allow.

Can transgender women take part?

Yes

I am not a woman or a non-binary person and I want to support this, what can I do?

If the women and non-binary people around you express an interest in this, support them. Support them with your words and your actions. Proactively let them know you want to help if they need you to. Share [this webpage](#) via social media and email so that it can reach more people who would like to add their voice to this.

*With regret, it is likely that we will not be able to include everyone that expresses an interest. We will aim to include as many people as possible and a diverse range of expression.