

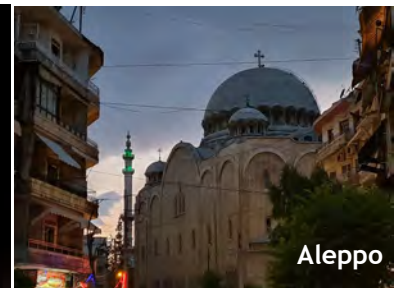


Awareness Foundation: building peace through education

[www.awareness-foundation.com](http://www.awareness-foundation.com)



*We believe in*  
**The Living Stones**



Aleppo



Damascus



Homs



Aleppo



Homs



Damascus

The Awareness Foundation is a registered charity in England & Wales (No 1099873)



## The Executive Director

### The Revd DR Nadim Nassar

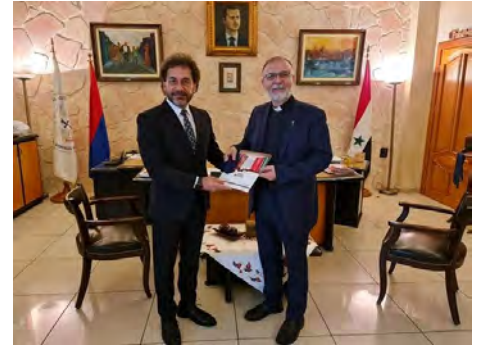
Syria is still in the eye of the storm even though it is absent from the eye of the media. My recent trip accompanied by the Middle East Director, Huda Nassar, and the Middle East Coordinator, Elza Nasra, to the four



major cities in Syria namely Damascus, Aleppo, Homs and Lattakia was heart breaking. We have touched the reality of people suffering the lack of the absolute basic necessities to live a dignified life that every human being deserves. During our visit, we had ten minutes of electricity in the morning and the same in the evening which made it extremely difficult to have water. The shortage of fuel and energy made life in the whole country extremely difficult and encouraged more corruption and monopoly. The result is more suffering and more despair for the vast majority of the population.



I am very grateful to my dear friend **The Revd Dr Haroutune Selimian**, the Head of the Armenian Protestant Church in Aleppo (*pictured on the right*) for his enormous help to open the doors for us in Aleppo and meet with the church leaders from all denominations and the young people group there.



We had the opportunities to meet with many of the heads of the churches in all four cities and we discussed with them the ways in which the ministry of the Awareness Foundation can serve the people of Syria especially young people and children. The Christian leaders were incredibly supportive and encouraged us to expand our programmes to include more cities in Syria.

## Save the children of Syria

During the visit of the Awareness Team to Syria, we were deeply shocked to see thousands of children begging throughout the cities that we visited using the same method which is selling red roses. We discovered during our visit that there are organised gangs that abuse those children and control their lives and the lives of their families. It was deeply sad and disturbing to see those children instead of going to school, they spend their days selling those flowers and try to meet the target that were given to them in the beginning of the day.



We felt more determined than ever to expand our **Little Heroes** programme to touch and transform the lives of many children as we can. Although the task is colossal, we believe that by the grace of God and by the help of our friends we are able to do much more.





## Ambassadors for Peace Aleppo, Syria



I had a great opportunity to meet more than a hundred men and women from all Christian denominations in Aleppo, and we had deeply moving session of heart to heart discussion about their situation and suffering. I shared with them my experience of living in a civil war when I was studying in Lebanon during the 80s. We also talked about the problems of migration , poverty and the lack of job opportunities in a devastated city like Aleppo.

I have promised those young people that the Foundation will be back to Aleppo in October 2022 to meet with them, train them and help them to face these challenges that they live in the eye of the storm of war and destruction. I assured them that our ministry is the ministry of hope and peacebuilding. We are determined to fulfil our promise to the young people in Aleppo and expand our **Ambassadors for Peace** programme to empower more of them to find better life.

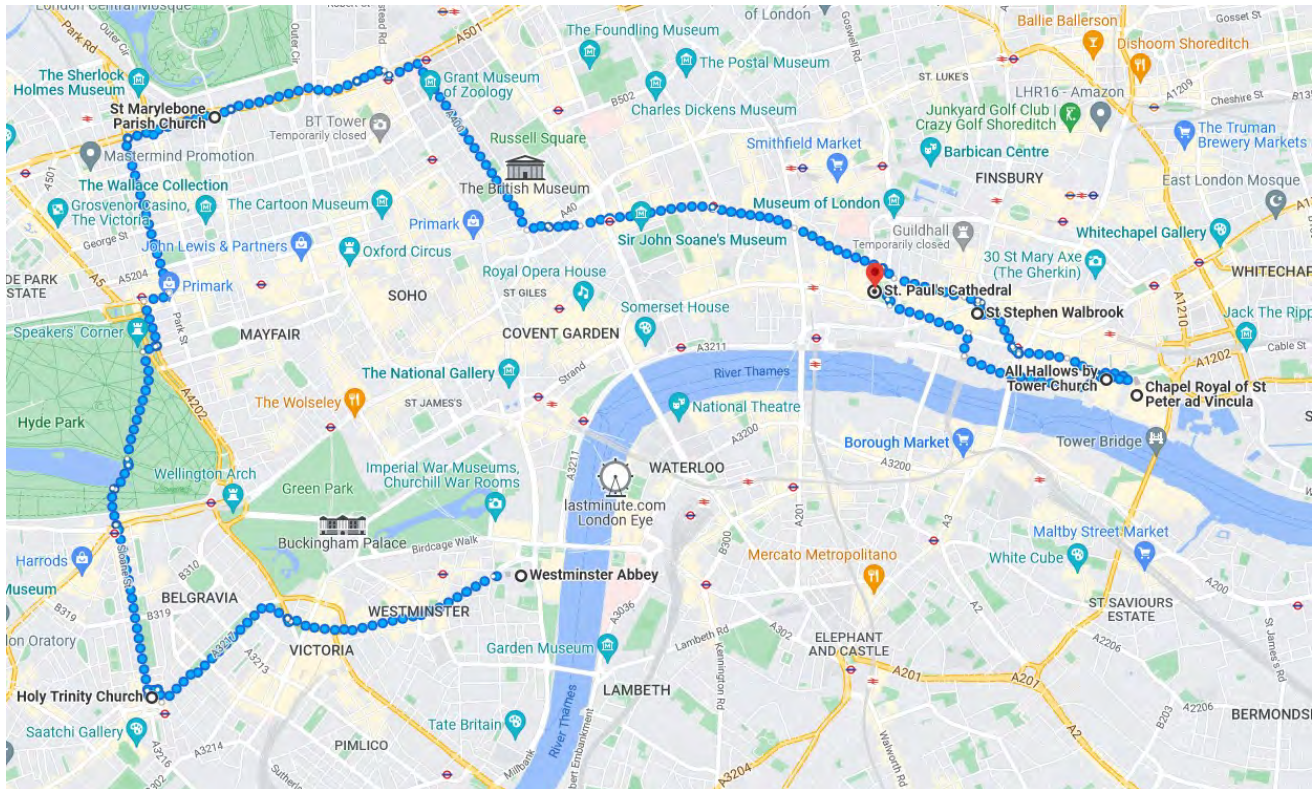




# Peace Walk

## Westminster Abbey to St Paul Cathedral

15 October 2022



**Peace Walk** is an initiative of the Awareness Foundation to support young people who live in war zones especially in Syria, Lebanon and Iraq. The programme has been supported strongly by our Royal Patron HRH The Countess of Wessex. This year, the walk will take place in London between Westminster Abbey and St. Paul cathedral on 15 October 2022 starting at 8:30am. We are going to visit different churches on our way and ask those churches to pray for peace in Syria, the Middle East and the World.

Please sponsor us generously and every pound will be used to help transforming young lives and help them to get over the consequences of war and violence. To sponsor us, please use either our JustGiving page:

<https://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/awarenessfoundation>

or our website: <https://www.awareness-foundation.com/donate>



## John Ager Story!

### The Camino Walk

Through shaded forests of spruce and oak, walking alongside ancient vineyards, or fields of golden buttercups and under the canopy of towering and scented eucalyptus trees. Up and down rocky mountainous hills and through small quiet Spanish villages and busy Cathedral towns.

- Just some of the “feast of a landscape”, that is the last 300kms along the “Camino Frances”

path, leading to the majestic Cathedral, in Santiago de Compostela in Galicia, North West of Spain.



**awareness**  
FOUNDATION

Leon to Santiago de Compostela – 300kms

John's original start  
FRANCE / FRANCE

Leon - John's start, May 2023

PORTUGAL

John is walking for the  
the youth in Syria

**300 KM**  
**2 weeks**

From Leon to Santiago,  
Sunday, 1st of May

To support John  
reach his goal,  
visit his page on:

[www.JustGiving.com](http://www.JustGiving.com)

John's walking the Camino

643 km

rural / lands etres

I had gone out on my own to do this walk, as I am more than happy to be immersed in everything the countryside has to offer and didn't feel alone with the bird song, distant noise of a tractor and the occasional greeting of other walkers saying “Buen Camino”. Much has been written on the benefits of walking; times to think, reflect and a temporary freedom from being overconnected, living in the digital age. The Camino is a very special place whether sharing it with nature or with people from a whole spectrum of life, nationalities, ages, all with a common simple goal of putting on your boots in the morning, following the arrows, being outdoors and getting to the next place at the end of the day.



Talking to people along the way, people came for many reasons, to reflect on, or recover from a relationship or job change, recovery from a health scare, contemplating a life change, but for many, for the sheer love of walking. excellent work being achieved by the Awareness Foundation. Through reading the testimonies and stories of those on the Ambassadors for Peace and Little Heroes programmes, I wanted to try to contribute in a way I could from here at home in London.

So, I felt doing my walk for the Charity might be a small contribution. I would personally like to thank all those kind donors to my sponsor page for your generous donations and words of support. I've been overwhelmed by the response in us all raising over £3,300, for the Awareness Foundation, surpassing my expectation, and your kind words certainly helped spur me on, in some of the harder sections of the walk.

**Thank you John wholeheartedly for your heartfelt story you wrote. John already inspired Alex Cox to cycle with her husband Ray the pilgrimage route the Via Francigena.**

**We do hope that you would get inspired and do your own fundraising activity and support our work to empower young people in Syria and Iraq or our Children's programme or support our brand new teenagers programme Pioneers in Syria.**



# Congratulations!

## Why we need your support:

Please play your part in supporting our young **Ambassadors for Peace** in Syria & Iraq to enable them to develop their own creative peace-building activities and initiatives so that they promote peace and reconciliation in their diverse and wounded communities.



You can also support our ground-breaking children's programme, **Little Heroes**, in Syria which builds the children's sense of well-being, self-esteem, resilience, and emotional health.



Please consider to support brand new programme **Pioneers**. The programme aims to care for teenagers to take them on a journey through building up their mental and physical wellbeing, self-confidence, resilience, competence, identity and human relationships.



We are infinitely grateful for those who have been already blessing us with their gifts of care and love to keep these two programmes running.

## Thank you

We are endlessly grateful to all our friends around the world, without whom we would never be able to carry out our mission and help thousands of young people and children in the Middle East. Your support and donations, large and small, help us to keep going so that we can continue the ministry that God entrusted to us. Please visit our website and make a donation to any programme you choose and let us together make a difference in the lives of the people who are under privileged.

## How to donate:

You can donate through our website: <https://www.awareness-foundation.com/donate>

Or send cheques, made payable to:

In UK: Awareness Foundation, 134C London Road, SM6 7HF.

In US: TFCC America, Amin Al-Laty, Secretary

3240 Dovecote Drive, Quakertown PA 18951

We are a registered charity in the UK, (No: 1099873), we have the 501(c3) status in the US, and we are partners with CAF Canada so we can give donors tax receipts in all those countries if they choose to have them.