

जामिया मिल्लिया इस्लामिया
(केन्द्रीय विश्वविद्यालय)

मौलाना मोहम्मद अली जौहर मार्ग, नई दिल्ली-११००२५

JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA
(Central University)

Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar Marg, New Delhi-110025

(ACCREDITED "A" GRADE BY NAAC)

جامعه مليه اسلاميه
(مرکزي يونيورسٹی)

مولانا محمد علی جوہر مارگ، نئی دہلی-۱۱۰۰۲۵

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پروفیسر نجمہ اختر
کولپتی

Professor Najma Akhtar
Vice Chancellor

پروفیسر نجمہ اختر
شیخ الجامعہ



12th May, 2021

Be Optimistic...Better days are on their way

Dear students and Members of Teaching and Non-teaching Staff,

On the occasion of Eidul Fitr I extend my greetings to you and your families. Let us pray together that this Eid fills us with unflinching optimism, positivity and resilience so that we can stand tall and persevere with our crusade to fight the Covid-19 crises looming large. The world is definitely a very good place because it has a lot of people who are born tough with qualities to unite emotionally and mentally for rendering their selfless services to the suffering masses, successfully enabling them to ride through the calamitous situations.

All of us are from among them. We have always manifested our strength by practicing self-help and self-reliance with our indomitable will-power, physical, moral and spiritual assets to brave challenges while creating a cohesive and optimistic world around us through our united efforts. We practice social distancing and promote emotional intelligence and psychological connect to effectively face the hardships brought in by the pandemic. We all know that feeling of intense joy marks the festival of Eidul Fitr. But today our country, combating the pandemic, demands this festival to be the celebration of boundless spirit of courage, confidence, generosity and profound compassion. Let us pray that we never have any festivals devoid of festivities and opportunities to share delicious dishes and briskly exchange greetings in person!

For more than a year we have been passing through unprecedented challenges. Anxiety and uncertainty have become the part of our daily life. Lockdowns, curfews and the obligation to maintain social distancing have adversely affected academic and personal lives. Faced with deadlier wave of Corona, we are in a state of profound shock due to the ravages wreaked by it. Its devastating effects have been deeply felt by Jamia fraternity in the loss of several precious lives.

We are heartbroken due sad and tragic passing away of several of our colleagues, Jamia alumni, students and their relatives. On the occasion of Eidul Fitr my heart and sincerest feelings go out to all the families, near and dear ones of those who left for their heavenly abode. Each one of them was an integral part of Jamia Biradri, and their irreparable loss can never be fully compensated. We will do everything at our disposal to keep the memories of the departed souls alive and provide all kinds of assistance to their family members. May God grant the departed souls eternal peace, forgiveness and exalted ranks and stations in heaven!

Policy-making becomes extremely difficult in uncertain times. In the teeth of crisis, the University drew up plans for classes and examinations keeping one single objective in mind – that no student should lose a precious semester or a year in her/his academic life. The University shifted to the new norm for technology-mediated transaction and interaction, devising new methods for assessment, examinations and evaluation, enabling the students to complete their courses and obtain their degrees in time. Amidst the crises, the University conducted several Ph. D viva voce and Teachers' Refresher Programs and organized hundreds of webinars on relevant themes.

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Jamia Millia Islamia organized a free 'Covid-19 Vaccination Camp' at Dr. Ansari Health Centre in collaboration with District Health Services where two hundred employees of Jamia got vaccinated. It also organized a free RT PCR Test Camp there in collaboration with District Health Services where about seven hundred employees availed themselves of the testing facility.

It is quite heartening to see that all of you not only firmly believe health to be a rare blessing of God but also put up a bold front with sound mental health and by bringing into play all the resources at your disposal. It is equally encouraging that all of you demonstrate Covid-appropriate behaviour while keeping calm and maintaining composure without giving into despair and negative thoughts. I feel extremely elated by your generous concern and constant assistance rendered to those in need.

As your profound interest in your classroom transaction, meticulous researches, diligent studies, professional efficiency and devotion helped Jamia Millia Islamia have the spectacular success in NIRF rankings, I am sure we will emerge victorious by virtue of staying in solidarity. It is so heartening to mention that the atmosphere in our university offices reflects unflinching enthusiasm even amid the pandemic crises.

Needless to say, we are passing through difficult times and painful experiences. Normalcy will return soon and we will meet again on the campus with our lofty aims and objectives. Let us equip ourselves with positivity required for the harmony of mind, body and soul and march ahead keeping abreast of time. I assure you all that the administration will do everything to mitigate the sufferings and facilitate academic pursuits.

It is only in consonance with devotional piety that you, along with the members of your family, get vaccinated as soon as possible. Those who show some Covid symptoms must go for the tests, consult doctors and strictly follow the prescriptions.

Our nation, or rather the entire world, needs total solidarity, empathy and compassion for each other to tide through this crisis. Let us all pray to God for the healing of all our brothers and sisters, the elderly and the children of our country who are inflicted with sufferings, and indeed for the healing of the entire humanity. We are all together in it, and we will come out of it through our united efforts.

May this Eidul Fitr turn to be the celebrations of ever-flowing life, relieving the monotony and dullness, and restoring normalcy!

Once again I wish you a happy Eid and health and happiness in the days ahead.

Najma Akhtar
(Prof Najma Akhtar)