

JAUHAR

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A Home for Jamia's Girls

Sonia Gandhi lays the foundation stone for a 400-room girls' hostel in Jamia; the hostel being built with a ₹26 crore Government grant

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Maulana Mohamed Ali 'Jauhar'
Founder, Jamia Millia Islamia

From the Vice-Chancellor

As the University gears up to commence its new academic session, it's time for me to write this message for *Jauhar*. And as I prepare myself to take up new responsibilities, my thoughts go back to the wonderful four years I have spent at this magnificent institution – with each day giving me a new sense of achievement and fulfillment.

I consider myself exceedingly fortunate to have been given the opportunity to head this University, which was founded with the blessings of none other than Mahatma Gandhi and Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar, and which has benefited from the guidance of such stalwarts as Dr Zakir Husain, Dr Abid Husain and M Mujeeb – each of them lending a unique character to the institution through their imagination, and through the tremendous sacrifices they made.

Maintaining a strong, secular character, the institution is playing a crucial role in educating our youth, including Muslim youth, from the most backward regions and from the poorest of families of India, instilling in them a sense of all-round development. I am happy and proud when I see young, inspired souls making very effective use of the educational opportunities that they receive here, and becoming responsible and productive citizens of society.

As I leave, there is a sense of satisfaction at the fact that our programmes, cutting across streams – from Engineering, Nanosciences and Astrophysics to Comparative Religion, Peace and Conflict Resolution, International Studies, Management, Law, History, Political Science, Media, Hindi, Urdu, Islamic Studies and many others – are receiving not just national, but international recognition.

We have had the honour of being blessed by His Highness The Dalai Lama, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon, Mrs Sonia Gandhi, and many leaders from various walks of life. Our seminars and lectures have seen participation by some of the best thought leaders of the country and, indeed, the world.

Of course, much of the success is due to the unique sense of ownership I have witnessed among the faculty. Faculty members and administrative staff would come up to me and suggest new ideas, saying "humko yeh karna hai" (we must do this).

And there was an equally strong urge among students to excel. Coming from often deprived backgrounds, they took it upon themselves to prove their mettle using the platform the University provided. Some of our students have gone on to other reputed universities and international institutions, conducting pathbreaking research in myriad topics.

I depart with memories of a vibrant, intellectually stimulating campus. I wish the students and faculty of Jamia all success in life.

Najeeb Jung
Vice-Chancellor

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Addressing young aspirations: UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi with Jamia Millia Islamia Vice-Chancellor Najeeb Jung on the Bhopal Grounds of the University on May 14

SONIA'S empowering act

UPA Chairperson Sonia Gandhi addresses Jamia fraternity on her maiden visit to the University; lays the foundation stone of a 400-room girls' hostel

Jamia has a long-standing commitment to the education of women, and Muslim women in particular... Now that you are declared a minority institution you have an even greater opportunity to serve the cause of the community and other underprivileged sections of society. This is a very big challenge and I have no doubt that you will take up this responsibility in right earnest."

Sonia Gandhi, Chairperson of the United Progressive Alliance (UPA), said this during her address to the Jamia fraternity on May 14. She was paying a visit to Jamia to lay the foundation stone

of a girls' hostel on campus. She addressed a mammoth gathering of Jamia's students, faculty and mediapersons gathered on the Bhopal Grounds – the sports complex of the University – and laid the foundation stone of the hostel amid loud cheers.

The University had recently received a grant of ₹26 crore under the General Development Scheme of the XIIth Plan for the purpose of building a girls' hostel on campus, which was made possible by Sonia Gandhi's active intervention. Once built, the hostel will accommodate 400 more girl students on campus. Besides triple-bedded rooms for students, the hostel will also have other facilities such as a sick

room, gymnasium, dining hall, reading area, washing area, multi-purpose function hall, recreational open spaces, lawns, etc.

The UPA Chairperson expressed optimism that the availability of the new hostel will lead to a feeling of security among girl students and, in turn, facilitate their empowerment. She expressed happiness at Jamia's role in educating women and said, "You are emancipating and empowering them, so that they can find a productive, secure and self-confident place in society."

Thanking Sonia Gandhi, Vice-Chancellor Najeeb Jung said, "The girls enabled by this hostel to live the University experience will grow into independent young women. Security is indispensable for unscarred maturity. Jamia's hostels will incubate confident young women, leaders in every walk of Indian life."

We bring to you excerpts from Sonia Gandhi's and Najeeb Jung's speeches on the occasion.

Sonia Gandhi's speech

Vice-Chancellor Najeeb Jung, heads of departments, ladies and gentlemen and my young friends, students of Jamia Millia Islamia, thank you for your warm welcome. I am delighted to be here in this magnificent University on this special day, to lay the foundation stone of a new girls' hostel.

I am also delighted because I don't often get the opportunity to spend a little while with students, and for another reason and that is I can bunk my class.

Your University has a rich tradition that will be soon a century long and is yet, in spirit, young enough to build confidently for the future... By creating, what I hope, will be an impressive new facility that will attract and benefit young women from all over the country, you are helping them in no small way to fulfil their dreams. You are emancipating and empowering them, so that they can find a productive, secure and self-confident place in society. Nothing can achieve this better than modern education. Today you have taken a big step forward swelling the ranks of women who aspire. You are enabling those who are privileged to be students and scholars here, to break through the barriers that society enforces on them, to soar to new heights and make their family and country proud.

This hostel is an important step and I hope that building on this initiative, the authorities will create more infrastructure that enables more and more young men and women to enter the portals of this renowned University.



When humour wins the day: Gandhi cracking a joke with students during her speech

A women's hostel will also create a greater sense of security for them. We all have been shocked by the violence that girls and women encounter on the streets and even in their homes. Of course this is not universal but it is very widespread and it pains me that as a society we have failed to counter it and create a secure environment where girls and women can live and flourish without being constantly in fear of abuse and molestation. While the Government, Parliament and institutions like the police have to fulfil their role, society at large also needs to change its mindset and we must all be proactive. There can be no better starting point for this change than within our families, our schools and our universities.

Jamia has a long-standing commitment to the education of women, and Muslim women in particular. You already have, I am told, four girls hostels, named after four remarkable women, who, in their own time, broke through equally stubborn barriers: Gerda Philipsborne, a German social worker; Aruna Asaf Ali, a freedom fighter; Begum Anis Kidwai, a social worker; and Bi Amma, the legendary mother of your founder, Mohammad Ali Jauhar. I hope very much that this fifth hostel will be ready in time for the academic session starting 2014.

Jamia was born in the crucible of the national movement and has kept up its great heritage of nationalism and staunch secularism that makes us all proud. No wonder that Jawaharlal Nehru once described this university as the "lusty child of the national movement".

You have of course also been pioneer in many



aspects of contemporary education... And many of your faculty are leaders in their field. Today we refer with pride to the AJK Mass Communication and Research Centre, the Centre for Nano-sciences, the Centre for Interdisciplinary Research in Basic Sciences, your departments of Urdu, Arabic and Persian, and your Law and Engineering and Technology Faculties, amongst many others...

Now that you are declared a minority institution you have an even greater opportunity to serve the cause of the community and other underprivileged sections of society. This is a very big challenge and I have no doubt that you will take up this responsibility in right earnest...

Finally I thank you for inviting me to Jamia. It is

“You are emancipating and empowering them, so that they can find a productive, secure and self-confident place in society.”

— **Sonia Gandhi**

an institution that had long ties with my family. My best wishes to all of you students and faculty and I hope you will flourish and rise to new heights of excellence in the years to come.

Thank you. Jai Hind.

Najeeb Jung's speech

There are moments in the history of institutions that are very special. I believe that today is one such rare and special occasion when we have in our midst a person who genuinely cares for the underprivileged and who, time and again, has shown exemplary empathy for the cause of Indian women.

And here I have a small story to recount. About eight months ago, I had the good fortune of meeting Madam Gandhi. During conversation I mentioned the difficulties our young girl students face in finding decent accommodation in the city. It did not take more than a second for her to respond and wonder if she could help us build new accommodation. It was just a chance conversation but she took it on herself to persuade the Government to sympathetically consider our case, and I can only believe that she persuaded them vigorously because here we are today at the foundation ceremony that will house 400 girls in a fine, modern facility.

Madam, over the past 92 years, this University has provided, with great pride and courage, the best sort of patriotic and secular education. The bulk of my students who sit here before you do not come from the sophisticated and rich upper classes of India. But we have the same ambition and nurture the same desire to be citizens that our great nation can be proud of. We seek out the same opportunities and we look forward to the same future as any young man or woman would do.

In this world when in the past 20 years, it has become accepted wisdom that the path to progress lies in free markets and the unfettered growth of the private sector, you are amongst the few world leaders who have remained steadfastly committed to providing a better quality of life to the poorest of the poor. The policies and programmes of the UPA and those of your party such as the provision of minimum days of labour to the landless under the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (MGNREGA), the push for reservations for the Other Backward Classes, the bill to ensure the fair representation of women in Parliament, the legislation to ensure food security for the poor, taken together indicate your deep commitment to the poorest in our country, a commitment that is often forgotten when we obsess about capital markets and the GDP...

Compared to the game-changing scale of MGNREGA, funding a girl's hostel might seem a small thing, but both interventions spring from exactly the same political principle: the duty of care, the need to weigh the scales in favour of the excluded so that they can move from the wings of history to its main stage. Women hold up half the world, we're told, but in India they do so in spite of their menfolk. A university education in a Central University is a mirage unless young ambitious women from every part of India can enrol knowing that they will be residentially secure. The girls enabled by this hostel to live the University experience, will grow into independent young women. Security is indispensable for unscarred maturity. Jamia's hostels will incubate confident young women, leaders in every walk of Indian life. And for this, Madam, we are indebted to you...

Our effort here is to go beyond giving degrees. Our ambition is that when they leave this University our students have the ability to rise above their religion, rise above their caste and their region and step forth as mature adults joining the effort to make a great India...

When Sonia came to Jamia



- 1. A fair move for the fair sex:** Sonia Gandhi lays the foundation stone for a new girls' hostel
- 2. A path well chosen:** Vice-Chancellor Najeeb Jung escorts Sonia Gandhi to the stage
- 3. For posterity:** Faculty members from Jamia at the photo opportunity
- 4. United for the cause:** Parliamentarian Sandeep Dikshit (second from right) with the authorities of Jamia
- 5. Grand designs:** The outcome of week-long preparations on the Bhopal Grounds of the University
- 6. Notes of optimism:** The music group of the University singing *Jamia Tarana*

'No sole ownership of Truth'

Dr Karan Singh urges people to be open to seeking wisdom from all faiths



Of human bonds: Dr Karan Singh (right) with Jamia faculty and members of the Fakir Mohan Foundation

Delving into diversity of religious beliefs, Dr Karan Singh, President, ICCR and Member, Rajya Sabha, called for a religion of "humanistic ideal". He was delivering the keynote address at a panel discussion on 'Manav Dharm', organised by Sarojini Naidu Centre for Women's Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia,

in collaboration with the Fakir Mohan Foundation, New Delhi, in the month of March.

With his remarkable knowledge, Dr Singh quoted from the *Upanishads*, *Quran* and other religions texts to highlight that no one religion can claim sole ownership of 'Truth'. 'Truth' is one, but we can call it by many names, he said. "The universe is so vast that the earth is just a tiny dust particle in comparison. We can't even fathom the whole universe. How then can we say with surety that our truth is the only truth?" he added.

The quotes that he picked up from various scriptures say the same thing: You close your mind and heart to other beliefs at your own loss, for wisdom demands that you pick up the wisdom where-ever, and in whatever form it's available.

Dr SY Quraishi, former Chief Election Commissioner of India, was the Guest of Honour. Speakers from various faiths discussed the definition of humanism, role of the youth in inter-faith dialogue, cultural and linguistic diversity in India and role of women in inculcating humanistic values.

On this occasion, a Kathak dance performance reiterated the essence of diversity of beliefs. 📌

Chief Justice at Jamia's Moot Court

Justice Altamas Kabir, Chief Justice of India, addressed the students of Faculty of Law, Jamia, on April 12. He was the chief guest at the inaugural programme of the 4th 'National Moot Court Competition', organised by the Faculty, from April 12 to 14.

He discussed several aspects of legal profession and justice, including society's expectations from legal fraternity, the role that judiciary plays in correcting certain norms and the concept of legal aid.

Reminding the young gathering of law students that they will be in seats of governance in the next 10 years, he told the aspiring advocates, "The day you become an advocate, you rise in the eyes of common man, as he has complete faith in advocates. We have to fulfil that faith and trust."

He also discussed the *lok adalats* and talked



Courting Gen Next: Justice Altamas Kabir at Jamia's Moot Court

how these act as safety valves of cookers. He gave examples of these alternative dispute resolution mechanisms. 📌

The making of Muslim identity

Chicago University professor and Jamia alumnus Muzaffar Alam speaks about contesting positions within Islamic tradition in India

Prof Muzaffar Alam, George V Bobrinsky Professor in South Asian Languages & Civilisations, Department of South Asian Languages & Civilisations, University of Chicago, talked about Muslim identity, and contesting positions even among followers of Islam in India down the centuries to a huge gathering of scholars and students at Jamia Millia Islamia on March 14. He was delivering the keynote address at the two-day international conference on 'The Making of Religious Identities: Historical and Contemporary Themes', organised by the Centre for the Study of Comparative Religions and Civilisations, Jamia.

Describing how the markers of Muslim identity underwent significant change, he delved into the various phases of evolution. He said that within the Muslim tradition, there never was unanimity as regards what was authentic. This was specifically true of the uneasy relationship that the growing Sufi movement always had with Sharia, and with those advocating adherence to jurisprudence.

He described at length Akbar's religious ideology and how, because of Sulh-i-Kul, the Mughal court had attracted diverse community to pray together. He said that the openness was not a concession to circumstances or a pragmatic position, but part of religious understanding — creating space for those



On a journey through Islam: Chicago University Professor Muzaffar Alam speaks at Jamia

who are not co-religionists. It was a matter of conviction. In the same category, he put the pluralistic values propagated by Maulana Azad in the early 20th Century.

The conference saw a large array of papers, on themes as diverse as 'Jainism and Presbyterian Missionaries in Colonial Gujarat'; 'New Media and the Icons of the Hindu Right'; 'Religion, Medicine and Identity Formation'; 'Ramlilas in Modern India'; and 'Language Issue in the Identity of Bihar Muslims', being presented. 📌

For a Sufi society

DR KR NARAYANAN Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, in collaboration with New Age Islam Foundation, organised a National Seminar titled 'Sufism in Contemporary India: An Inclusive Framework' on March 13-14.

Prof Iqtidar Husain Siddiqui, historian, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh, delivered the inaugural address. Prof Syed Liyaqat Hussain Moini, also from Aligarh Muslim University, delivered the keynote address. Syed Shahid Mahdi, former Vice-President, ICCR, was the Chief Guest.

The speakers felt that in today's times, when

exclusion has become a big concern, we can learn from Sufism to make the society inclusive.

Prof Siddiqui pointed out that Sufism emerged out of the speculative thought in Islam, just like in other religions. But the difference was that while Christian mystics cut off all relations with things mundane and Hindu *sanyasis* and Buddhist monks too retreated, Sufis did not retire into isolation, rather they actively engaged in service to mankind. Moini described how the local population bonded with the Sufi saints, and even celebrated Basant Panchami and Holi at the *dargahs*.



Prof SM Sajid, Officiating VC

Appointment comes following Najeeb Jung taking over as the Lt Governor of Delhi

Consequent upon assumption of the charge of the office of the Lieutenant Governor, NCT of Delhi by Shri Najeeb Jung, Prof SM Sajid, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia has been designated as Officiating Vice-Chancellor.

Prof Sajid, a Professor in the Department of Social Work, served as the Registrar of Jamia Millia Islamia from January 2010 to May 2013 and was appointed as the Pro-Vice-Chancellor of Jamia on June 1, 2013.

He has served the University in various additional capacities, such as Honorary Advisor to the Centres of Higher Learning; Honorary Director of the Academic Staff College etc. He has been instrumental in the establishment of Centre for Peace and Conflict Resolution at the University; and served as Founding Director of the Centre, besides being Officer on Special Duty at the AJK Mass Communication Research Centre.



Celebrating calligraphy

Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit inaugurates an exhibition on Urdu calligraphy at Jamia

An exhibition depicting the evolution of Urdu calligraphy — one of the most ornate alphabet writings — from the confines of fine print into a high art form was inaugurated at the Jamia Millia Islamia by Delhi Chief Minister Sheila Dikshit in the presence of the Ambassador of Saudi Arabia in India, Saud Mohammed Al-Sati, on March 11.

This exhibition, titled 'Siasat's Urdu Calligraphy and Art Exhibition,' was a collaboration between the Zakir Hussain Institute of Islamic Studies and the *Daily Siasat* of Hyderabad, a 65-year-old Urdu daily known for its fine calligraphy.

Chief Minister Dikshit urged that arrangements must be made to organise such exhibitions outside the Jamia campus too.

Explaining the importance of calligraphy in Urdu arts, Professor Akhtarul Wasey, the Director of the Zakir Husain Institute of Islamic Studies, Jamia, said "Urdu calligraphy flourished as (the) sole printed medium, painstakingly crafted by calligraphers before the arrival of the computer. The publishing industry depended on the services of the calligraphers to copy out books, documents and newspapers to print." But the arrival of computers and customised alphabets have elevated calligraphy to a fine art — kept alive by the traditional writer, he added.

Arabic calligraphers Mohammed Nayeem Saberi, Shaik Mohammed Abdul Lateef Faroque, Syed Nasiruddin Viqar and Abdul Naseer Sultan were present at the inauguration. Diplomats from Iran and Algeria also attended the event.

New Appointments

PROF SHAHID Ashraf, a Professor from the Department of Economics at Jamia, has taken over as the Registrar of Jamia with effect from June 1. He replaces Prof SM Sajid, who is now the Officiating Vice-Chancellor. Prof Ashraf was serving as the Finance Officer of the University till May.

The new Finance Officer of Jamia is Prof Shahid Ahmad, also from the Department of Economics at Jamia and presently the Director of the Centre for Jawaharlal Nehru Studies at Jamia.

TERI-Jamia green report

The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI), in association with Jamia Millia Islamia, launched a report titled 'Demonstration of Clean Technology for Landfill Gas Recovery from the Okhla Waste Disposal Site' on March 21. The objective of this pilot demonstration study is to capture and purify the landfill gas being emitted uncontrolled from the Okhla landfill site by using indigenously developed technology options. The captured landfill gas can be used as the source of energy, thereby reducing the risk of uncontrolled methane emissions from landfill, which is a potential Green House Gas (GHG).

The project is supported by the Ministry of Environment and Forests, Government of India.

In the pilot demonstration, an active landfill gas collection system was employed, which comprised of a series of vertical wells (very similar to water bore wells) to be used for extracting LFG, optimal well spacing was provided for maximum gas collection along with a piping network and blowers that will connect the methane produced by the landfill and treatment and conditioning system.

The study recommends that the Ministry of Urban Development can work with the state governments to build their capacity in order to implement LFG to energy recovery projects. The Ministries of Environment and Forests and New and Renewable Energy should also work closely to develop the incentives required to promote the use of LFG as renewable energy from landfills.

Mahindra IGNITER's Quotient

University Placement Cell and SAE Chapter, Jamia Millia Islamia, in association with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd., a leading auto and farm equipments major, organised a one-day programme, 'Mahindra IGNITER's Quotient', in the Faculty of Engineering & Technology, Jamia, on April 16.

The programme, uniquely conceived by the company, aimed at not just identifying the talent in the engineering colleges but also to engage them in the early years of study and give them a corporate experience.

This event was organised by the company across various locations in the country, besides Jamia. It consisted of various events such as: Technical Quotient, a Technical Paper Presentation Contest to test the student's technical knowledge with the help of live case studies provided by Mahindra AFS; Design Quotient, a design contest in which students had to assemble a vehicle using assembly kits; and General Quotient, a quiz contest for the students to test their knowledge of the myriad dimensions of automobiles/farm or agricultural products.

On this occasion, the company spread a message of saving environment through a Mahindra pavilion, which included a Mahindra Reva e2O (Electric Car) and Mahindra Arjun and a grand history wall, which took the students through the history of Mahindra automotive and farm equipment sectors.

ICICI for innovation

UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT Cell and Entrepreneurship Club of Jamia, in association with ICICI Bank, have launched ICICI Trinity Programme on Innovation and Entrepreneurship.

ICICI Trinity is a platform for young minds to innovate in the field of banking, financial services and insurance to leverage the innovation potential of the students in the University. The programme consists of three main stages — Ideate, Prototype and Be an Entrepreneur. ICICI has launched this programme at Jamia to foster the spirit of innovation and encourage entrepreneurship among students.

Teams which showcase successful prototypes shall be given a cash award of up to ₹25 lakh and will be invited to present to the bank's investor panel in the Entrepreneurship stage.

Tryst with Tagore

Seminar on 'Rabindranath Tagore in the Twenty First Century' at the Department of Urdu



In gratitude to Gurudev: Panelists at the national seminar on Rabindranath Tagore

The Tagore Research and Translation Scheme at the Department of Urdu, Faculty of Humanities and Languages, organised a three-day national seminar on 'Rabindranath Tagore in the Twenty First Century' on March 1-3, 2013, in which 37 research papers were presented. The seminar saw participation from 300 scholars and students.

The event was inaugurated by Dr Aziz Qureshi, Governor of Uttarakhand, and presided over by Najeeb Jung, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia. The keynote address was presented by Jawhar Sircar (IAS), CEO, Prasar Bharati. Eminent scholar Prof Gopi Chand Narang, a guest of honour, also addressed the audience.

The Department has received a grant of ₹96 lakh for research and translation of Rabindranath Tagore's selected writings in Urdu from the Ministry of Culture, Govt of India.

Multifaceted Motilal

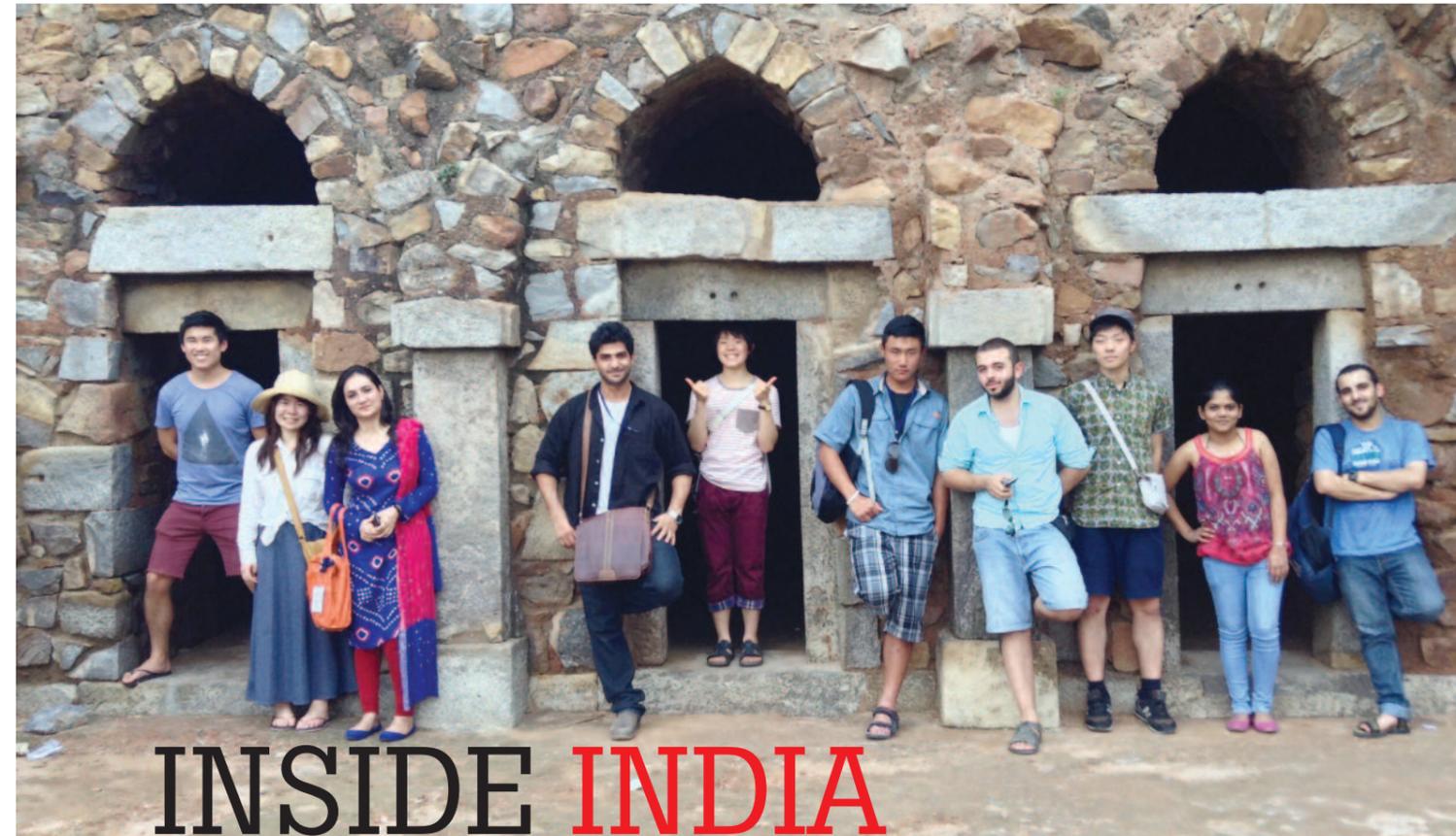
The Premchand Archives of Jamia Millia Islamia organised an exhibition on 'Motilal Nehru: The Man and His Contribution' from March 21 to April 10, on the occasion of his 150th birth anniversary. The sepia-toned exhibition provided a rare glimpse into the life of the Nehru family. It traced the family history of Motilal, showed his childhood and growing up days and described his role as a father, lawyer and a politician through photographs and well-written text panels.



The many moods of Motilal: Visitors at the exhibition at the Premchand Archives

Hindi Day

Jamia marked the Hindi Day in December 2012, with a series of events, including an extempore and an essay-writing competition. Seen here is the administration of Jamia which actively supported the event.



INSIDE INDIA

Jamia Millia Islamia launches its International Summer School to provide a deeper understanding about the country to international students. The presence of Indian students makes the programme a unique exercise

Intense heat, intense sight-seeing: The ISS students exploring Haуз Khas Village with their Indian friends

They have heard of India emerging as a superpower, they are vaguely aware about its contradictions, but never before have they had an opportunity to understand the country in depth, and observe it at such close quarters. A group of students from across the world's leading universities are now studying the dynamics of India in depth, as part of the University's International Summer School (ISS). This is the inaugural batch of the ISS, and 20 students are part of this exercise.

Thus, Oxford, Tokyo and Queensland were invited to send their student representatives. Two students were nominated by the Bhutanese Government and a few students applied in their individual capacities. The Foreign Correspondents Club of South Asia was also roped in to identify the right candidates. A rigorous two-stage procedure, including interview and Statement of Purpose, was used to select from among 500 applicants.

From Australia and South Africa to Bhutan close by, the programme is fairly representative of the global diversity. Amjad Ali Khan, Director of the ISS, says the effort was to invite the best universities from across the world to send their students.

Ryosuke Takaya, a Sociology student from Japan who has earlier studied at the University of Oxford, says the reason he decided to join the programme was his desire to understand better the complexities of this country. "I knew that India was a complicated country and as a Sociology student wanted to know about it more." David Francis McEnery, a History student from the University of Queensland, Australia, says, "I have always been interested in India. I was keen to know about the intricacies of economy and society, like the caste system."



Lessons in India: A classroom in progress at the Department of Political Science in Jamia, where the ISS is being organised, in June-July 2013

In order to help the students gain an all-encompassing understanding of 21st Century India, an intensive six-week academic programme was designed, which includes Indian Politics; Indian Economy; Indian Sociology; and Indian History. Prof Nisar-ul Haq, Professor at the Department of Political Science in Jamia and the Coordinator of

“The best part is Indian students. The programme would not be anywhere close to what it is, in their absence.”

— Jun Zhang, Australia

the School, says this programme is a result of over a year-long effort. It would acquaint the students with the intricacies of Indian polity, especially our democracy, economy, and the Indian social structure. Designing the curriculum, he says, the University thought it wise to include the problem areas too. “We were not afraid to include the problem areas. We thought that foreign students should un-

derstand these too,” says Prof Haq.

The best brains from across the globe and within Jamia were roped in as faculty. Among the faculty and guest lecturers are: PK Basant, Department of History and Culture, Jamia, talking about aspects of Indian history; Vasundhara Singh Sirnate from the University of California, Berkley, speaking about the Indian Constitution; Subrata Mitra, Head of the South Asia Institute at Heidelberg University, Germany, speaking about the contemporary Indian political system; and Urvashi Butalia, author and founder of Kali for Women, speaking about the women’s movement in India.

Each of the four subjects will have 15 lectures, each lasting 90 minutes. This amounts to 90 hours of in-class teaching time. The afternoons are reserved for interactions with eminent speakers as well as some Hindi classes, wherein international students are learning Hindi conversation.

Students say that what is adding tremendously to their learning is the presence of six Indian students in the class — all of them from Jamia. Jun Zhang from the University of Queensland, Australia, says, “The best part is Indian students. The programme would not be anywhere close to what it is, in their absence.”

Prof Nisar-ul Haq says the University took a deliberate decision to include Indian students in order to make the learning experience more interactive and it has proved a master move. Indian students are not only attending the classes, they are also staying with the international students, helping them both within and outside the classroom, adding to their ease. Thus Hiroki Nakazawa, a student of Information Technology from the University of Tokyo, admits that language is a problem area and it’s his Indian friends who are helping him grasp the content.

On their part, the Indian students have also greatly benefitted from this international experience on Indian soil. Khalid Jaleel, a PhD student from Jamia, who has had the opportunity to attend a few international events abroad, says, “Sitting in the class with these international students has opened up our eyes. When they ask questions we are able to see things from a different perspective, and makes us wonder why we didn’t think of it before.” Ishan Zahoor, a Law student at Jamia, says discussions about marriages and divorces are routine during evening hours and it’s amazing to know how differently people from various parts of the world think about these issues. Gowsia Saleem, who has just graduated in Political Science, says there could have been no better way to spend the summer holidays than participating in this great bonding exercise.

Of course, classroom learning aside, the biggest takeaway for all the students seems to be the bonds that have been forged. “The first thing that we did was to add each other on our friends list on Facebook,” says MA Public Administration student Shubhangi Mathur. The punishing heat of Delhi does not deter this group of youngsters from exploring the city with their Indian friends — travelling in buses, eating out at Karim’s in Old Delhi, visiting happening malls and exploring Hauz Khas Village — notwithstanding the Delhi belly that a few students have suffered. The daily photograph uploads on the ISS Facebook account is testimony to this bonding.

Quite naturally, there are surprises on both sides. Ishan says it’s inconceivable for international students that a society can be divided into castes the way ours is. And only Hiroki has been able to eat with his hands so far. Rino Miyazaki from Japan can’t fathom how anyone can sit in an open cycle rickshaw. And Jun is surprised at the number of people on Delhi’s roads and the lack of traffic rules,

INDIAN PANORAMA

Some themes included in the content

INDIAN POLITICS: Basic Features of Indian Constitution; Indian Federalism; Democracy; Tensions Between the Judicial, Executive and Legislative Branches; Women’s Movement; Human Rights Regime; Electoral Politics; Panchayati Raj System in India; and Instruments of Transformation — A Case Study of RTI

INDIAN ECONOMY: Planning Process and Development; New Economic Policy; Sectoral Trends in the Indian Economy; Poverty and Programmes for its Eradication; Regional Disparities in India; Liberalisation, Privatisation and Globalisation; Economic Cooperation in South Asia; and Migration

INDIAN SOCIOLOGY: Federalism, Reservation and Identity Politics; Caste, Class and Power and the Dynamics of Globalisation; Islam and Muslims in India/The Veil and Beyond — Indian Muslim Women’s Perspective; and Patterns of Family, Kinship and Marriage

INDIAN HISTORY: Harappan Civilisation and the Vedic Age; the Rise of Heterodox Religions; the Mauryan Empire, the Gupta Age; the Delhi Sultanate; the Mughal Empire; the British Rule; and Freedom Struggle

but Hasan Awwad, a Law student from Damascus University, Syria, says, “Nothing can scare me. I come from a war zone.” Hasan has applied for admission to Jamia, and was awaiting admission results at the time of interview.

The last leg of the six-week programme will be a two-week fieldwork experience in Rajasthan. ISS has tied up with Ritinjali, an NGO working in the field of education in Delhi and Rajasthan, to involve the participating students in its activities. The students will get an opportunity to volunteer with Ritinjali’s community development initiatives and this experience will count towards Fieldwork. At the end of the programme, students will be required to write a 1,500- to 2,000-word essay, based on research, in each of the subjects. Each essay will be given credit points.

Amjad Ali Khan says that the feedback from this year’s batch will be utilised to make changes for the future programmes. One change that the ISS is working on is to increase the batch size from next year onwards, with the possibility of classes running in two sections.



JAMIA'S Chak De hour

The cricket and football teams of the University go on a winning spree, emerging as forces to be reckoned with. What has caused this sea change?

In the first quarter of 2013, when Jamia Millia Islamia's football team lifted three trophies back to back, this hat trick signaled the entry of University's sports into a new orbit altogether. Jamia won the Zakir Husain Memorial Football Tournament, organised by Zakir Husain College, Delhi University, SA Rahim Memorial Football Tournament, organised by Jamia itself, and the football trophy at the Amity Spardha Sports Fest, a feat unprecedented for the University. Earlier, the team reached the semifinals of the Malwa Football Trophy Pratiyogita, organised by Malwa Krida Parishad, Sironj, MP.

At the same time, Jamia's cricket team achieved a new high when it reached the final of the Toyota T-20 University Cricket Championship, jointly organised by NDTV and the Ministry of Human Resource Development, in which the top eight teams of the country had participated. This event was telecast live on NDTV. Captain of the team Parveen Singh Yadav says, "The coverage and the fame that we got was beyond our imagination."

The cricket team also secured second place in the north zone in the inter-university tournament and third place at the all-India level.

What has turned the tide in Jamia is a new sports ethos in the last three years, with Vice-Chancellor Najeeb Jung, assisted by Physical Education Director Noor Mohammad, Joint Director (Sports) Weqar Ahmad Siddiqui and former Olympian and Consultant Syed Hakim, giving unstinted support to the cause of sports. Starting from a rigorous and transparent admission procedure to sports category students, to monitoring daily practice schedules, Jamia is going all out to make the University a welcoming place for sportsmen. While a major boost came in the form of the construction of a stadium at the time of the Commonwealth Games – Jamia was a practice venue for a few sports then – equipped with state-of-the-art facilities for sports-



Winning ways: The football team after winning the SA Rahim Memorial Trophy

men, accompanying these facilities is a shift in the attitude of the University itself. Members of the football and cricket team say that ample practice time is made available daily after classes, the best coaches are available, equipment and other needs are always provided on time, proper diet given during training camps in the run-up to tournaments and conveyance amounts promptly reimbursed, and kits, jackets and shoes – often more than a set – are provided to each sportsman of the team.

Incentives galore and the cricket team had a taste of it, when each member of the team got a laptop from the Vice-Chancellor after the T-20 event.

Besides these material aspects of sports infrastructure, what's making the teams perform is the changed internal dynamics. The new catchword is team spirit. It's interesting to know how a most di-

verse group of students, from as varied backgrounds and with as differing aims and goals as possible, are coming together, and working towards a common purpose.

Narender Singh Kadian, captain of the football team, is a student of Master of International Business. Before joining Jamia he was part of the football team of Zakir Husain College, University of Delhi, which beat Jamia in one tournament. Mohammad Anas Rafique, pursuing BA Social Work IIIrd year, is a Delhi boy who has done his schooling from Aurangabad in Maharashtra. He represented Maharashtra state in football, and excelled in athletics too. And Ehab Ashraf, a BBS Hons final-year student, is a basketball player from Sharjah, UAE, who came back to India for education.

Similarly in cricket, opener Amit Verma was the

captain of Delhi University's Kirorimal College, before he joined Jamia to pursue a Master's programme in Media Governance. Hindi Journalism student Mohammad Saquib hails from Bijnaur and is as fond of holding a pen as wielding a bat. Psychology Hons student Shivendra Pal hails from a family of cricketers – his father is a deputy sports officer in Ghaziabad, UP – and graduated from Guru Govind Sing Sports College, Lucknow, which has also produced RP Singh, Suresh Raina and Narender Hirwani. And there are students from Kendriya Vidyalayas – Mayank Vashisht from Chandigarh and Deepak Sharma from Delhi.

The biggest surprise springs from the language diversity. Take the case of the football team. If Riyazuddin, a final year Geography student from Rampur, is conversant in Urdu and Hindi, Gibran



Spotlight's on them: The cricket team during the Toyota T-20 Cup with Union Law Minister Kapil Sibal and cricketer Kapil Dev

Rahman, having done his schooling from Delhi Public School, RK Puram — of which he was the football captain — is most comfortable in English. And Ist-year Sociology student Mohammad Fazirul Haque from Manipur can hardly speak either of the languages and we had to conduct this interview through another player from Manipur, MA student Kamei Sunny. Yet language never acts as a barrier when they are on the ground, as, according to coach Paramjit Singh, football doesn't need a language. In fact, team members say that Fazirul was so effective on the field in the Sironj tournament that more experienced teams were unnerved by his power play.

Much of the effective play is due to improved bonding during the time the team spends together at the time of the camps and tournaments. Football captain Kadian says, "We discuss a whole lot of things during the camps."

Gibran says that the train journeys together have in particular helped him gel better with those who might not be conversant in English. In fact, Gibran recounts that after enjoying the captaincy of his school team, when he arrived in Jamia he had to adjust to the fact that he was among the junior players. And it was the senior team members, from backgrounds unknown to him, who helped him to adjust.

Similarly, cricket captain Parveen Singh Yadav says religion and language are no barriers in the team and the time that the team spends together in practising and during tournaments has resulted in

close bonding. Adds Amit Verma, "Everyone is getting accustomed to new customs and traditions and is appreciating it." Verma was the top scorer of the T-20 tournament, at 159 runs. Deepak Sharma says, "Since we are spending most of the time together, we understand each other very well. Individual scores don't cause anyone heartburn because we realise it's the team which is succeeding."

The pride at winning notwithstanding, the players must come to terms with the fact that this winning team must disperse. Those graduating will apply for Masters courses, but the Postgraduate students will be bidding adieu. Others too are realistic enough to realise that they will have to move on and are charting career paths.

At the time of interview, cricketer Mayank was applying to Postgraduate courses in the University. Deepak Sharma is keen on the railway service, while opener Verma is contemplating using his experience in cricket to become a sports journalist.

There's a touch of sadness in MA Human Resource Development student and football player Adil Mirza, when he says he will have to say goodbye to the sport which was "my first and last love." This sadness is not shared by Riyazuddin, who says, "I am realistic enough to realise that I will have to return to Rampur to look after agriculture after I have done my Postgraduation from Jamia."

Football captain Kadian too is being realistic when he says, "This is the last year in sports. I won't play after this, once I join the corporate sector. But it feels good to win in style before leaving." J

The real test

Wafia Kissa, who delivered the welcome speech to Sonia Gandhi on May 14, took on this challenge in the midst of her exams

Wafia Kissa, a student of English Honours IInd Year, was a star in her own right on the day Sonia Gandhi addressed Jamia students. The grace and poise with which she delivered the speech was appreciated by one and all, including senior faculty members from other Faculties and Centres.

But not everyone knows that this student was in the midst of her exams, and had written one paper that morning. In fact, on May 13, the day before her exam and Sonia Gandhi's address, she was rehearsing the speech and reading it out to the Vice-Chancellor. And on May 14, she left the examination hall 15 minutes earlier, because she did not want to be late for the final preparations.

Wafia says, "It was a big opportunity for me, to be able to welcome one of the most powerful women in the world, and speak in front of such a huge gathering. To be selected from among other worthy candidates is overwhelming and I consider it as my launch in Jamia."

This is not her first experience in public speaking though. Having studied at the International Indian School, Jeddah, she compered an event when Shashi Tharoor had visited Saudi Arabia. She is a member of Jamia's debating society and has won a



In the power club: Wafia Kissa (left) welcoming Sonia Gandhi as Vice-Chancellor Najeeb Jung looks on

few inter-department debates. She has also been selected for a debate among youth of the SAARC nations, to be held in Islamabad.

Wafia plans to apply for Jamia's AJK MCRC after Graduation and has set her sights on Journalism. But like other girl students of the University she is also looking forward to the construction of the new hostel, the foundation stone of which was laid by Sonia Gandhi. For, Wafia is living in a rented accommodation, and hopes that the new hostel will brighten her chances of a getting a room. J

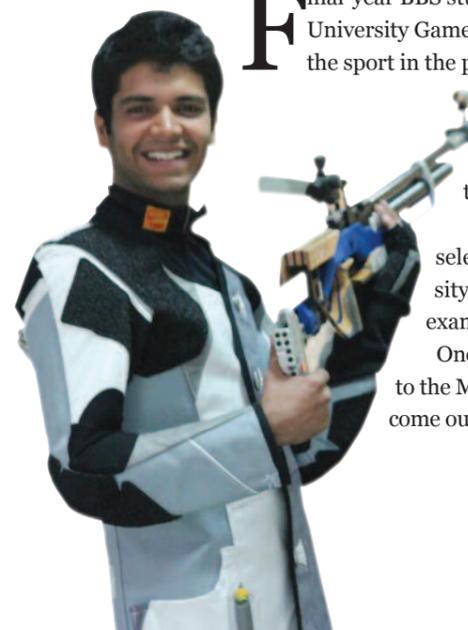
Bang on target

Final-year BBS student of Jamia, Aman Deep is representing the University in the World University Games in Russia from July 6 to 17. The shooting champ has done wonders in the sport in the past year. He won the individual national bronze in 2011 and team national silver in the National Championship in 2012.

He stood 6th in the Ninth Sardar Sajjan Singh Sethi Memorial Shooting Competition, 2012, for which participation was by invitation, and only top shooters were invited.

For the World University Games, only the top players and teams were selected for the trials, and he beat back stiff competition from the University of Delhi, despite the fact that the trials took place before his final exams and he had just four to five days for practice.

Once back from the Games, the immediate concern will be to seek admission to the MBA programme at Jamia. The final result of the Championship had not come out at the time of *Jauhar* going to print. J



A canvas of achievements

Jamia's alumna Anupama Kumari returns from a leading fine arts institution in Paris, with 'A's in all subjects

When we had met Anupama Kumari last year before her departure for Paris, the nervous excitement was palpable. She had won a Fellowship from the Embassy of France and the Krishnakriti Foundation to study at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure Des Beaux Arts, Paris, for a year and was learning French at Alliance Francaise, New Delhi, for her stay. Anupama had done Master of Fine Arts (Applied Arts) from the Faculty of Fine Arts, Jamia, where she had emerged top of the class.

Today, she oozes new confidence. Just back from France following a year of achievements, Anupama describes her stay there as a life-changing experience. The stay with a French family, the chance to see the best works of arts in the museums of Paris, and the exposure to new teaching-learning methods in an institution with which names like Monet, Degas and Amrita Shergill are associated, has opened up a new world to her.

The biggest surprise was the complete freedom to work at one's pace. "Nobody kept a tab on when

we were coming or going. All that was required was to finish the assignments in time."

She learned painting, etching, lino-cut, lithography, serigraphy and digital media, among other things.

She says, "I did a lot of black and white work, which showed my evolving feelings, from feeling suffocated to enjoying. This body of work was highly appreciated by them." Anupama exhibited this series of works in the group exhibition of students, titled 'Mental Jungle'.

Anupama returns with 'A's in all the subjects, and an open invitation from the institute to return whenever she wants to. A dream come true for a simple and focused girl from Sindri in Dhanbad. 



Success in civils

FOURTEEN STUDENTS, coached at the Residential Coaching Academy of the Centre for Coaching and Career Planning at Jamia Millia Islamia, have cleared the Civil Services (Main) Examinations, 2012.

The Centre for Coaching and Career Planning at Jamia provides free coaching to University's candidates belonging to the Minorities, Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and to women, who wish to appear in Civil Services (Preliminary and Mains exams) and has been achieving a high success rate.

Serving spirit

THE NSS volunteers of Jamia Millia Islamia took part in the 15th All India National Integration Camp, held this year in Jodhpur, Rajasthan. They actively participated in all the cultural activities and promoted the mes-



Solidarity in service: Jamia's NSS students during the camp in Jodhpur

sage of nationalism and brotherhood. Jamia emerged as the first position holder in the group folk dance competition. Students performed 'Taiyyam' dance of Kerala, which was highly appreciated. .

The adopted one

In the darkest hours of a partitioned India in 1947, Jamia took over the responsibility of Jatinder Anand, a young Hindu refugee boy, to show the benign face of Islam

The Partition of India and the resultant Hindu-Muslim violence on both sides of border saw Jamia Millia Islamia at the receiving end of communal hatred. In fact, then Vice-Chancellor Dr Zakir Husain himself narrowly escaped a murderous assault by a mob when he was travelling to Kashmir. Such was the threat perception that a large number of Jamiites contemplated migrating to Pakistan. In this vicious atmosphere, Dr Husain and his colleagues made it their mission to demonstrate to the Hindus, especially those who had been forced to leave their homes across the border, that Islam was not about violence, and to show the benign face of their faith.

As part of this mission, the Jamia fraternity became proactive in helping the families which had taken shelter in refugee camps at Old Fort and Kalkaji camp in Delhi. Another gesture was to take up the education and upbringing of a few Hindu boys who had migrated from that side of the border. One such Hindu boy was Jatinder Anand, now a septuagenarian residing in Toronto, Canada, who remains grateful to Jamia for its grand gesture.

Anand, born in 1936, belonged to NWFP and had migrated to Delhi with his family at the time of Partition. While the child was placed in the refugee camp at Kalkaji, for some reason the parents were placed in the Old Fort refugee camp. And Qaisar Naqvi, a "social worker" from Jamia, who was actively helping the refugees in these camps, brought him from the camp.

This episode has been described in detail in the book *Naqoosh-e-Jamia*, written by Ghulam Haider, Naqvi's younger brother and a former student of Jamia who became friends with Anand. Haider has cited the letter that Anand wrote to him a few years ago when Haider was planning to write this book. In the letter, Anand mentions that the social worker from Jamia, Naqvi, got him and a few other Hindu boys from the refugee camp and admitted them to a school in Bara Hindurao called Shafiq Memorial Senior Secondary School, where earlier a *madrasah* was functioning. The Shafiq Memorial School was established by individuals from Jamia, including Dr Zakir Husain, Shafiqur



Jamia's own son: Jatinder Anand (circled) with Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru at Jamia Millia Islamia

Rehman Kidwai, Begum Anis Kidwai, Shamsul Rehman Mohsini and Qaisar Naqvi, and where Hindu refugee children were placed along with Muslim children from Karol Bagh, Kasab Pura, Pul Bangash and other localities. The school continues to function today on the same secular foundation of educating Hindu and Muslim children together.

While Anand was placed in this school, he got shelter in the home of Shafiqur Rehman Kidwai. Later on, Anand was transferred to Jamia school when he was in class VII and started resid-



Inter-faith ambience: Anand with Pt Nehru and his friends and classmates from Jamia.

ing in Jamia hostel. Haider, in his book, states that Jamia had, in a way, “adopted” this group of refugee boys. And Anand also claims in the letter, “I am a son of Jamia and I am proud of it.”

It is interesting to note how not only Anand but also his parents accepted the world of Jamia as a family. In the letter, Anand says the people of Jamia were his “chachas” (uncles), “khalaein” (aunts) and “buzurg” (family elders).

Anand’s family later admitted their younger son, Tajinder Anand, also to Jamia. Ghulam Haider says, “We still remember his parents as *mataji* and *pitaji*. And he used to call my parents *amma* and

“It was natural for these boys, who had seen so much suffering, to feel bitter. But there was no trace of it in Anand.”

— Ghulam Haider

baba.” And when Anand’s mother fell ill, Jamia teachers and administration got her admitted to Holy Family Hospital, and Anand’s classmates and friends made it a point to be with her in the hospital.

Sugra Mehdi, who is a niece of Dr Zakir Husain’s close colleague in Jamia, Dr Abid Husain, and who earlier studied, and then taught, at Jamia, bonded well with Anand. She says, “He became a

family member in a few households. We would fight like other children do. Now that I think back, he never ever gave an impression of, or ever mentioned, the hardships or atrocities his family would have witnessed at the time of shifting to India during Partition.”

Haider agrees. “It was natural for these boys, who had seen so much suffering, to feel bitter. But there was no trace of it in Anand. In fact, a Sikh boy in our class, who had had his left arm chopped off in the violence during Partition, used to say, ‘*ya-haan aa ke pata hua ki insaan bhi rehte hain* (It’s when I came here that I realised there are human beings too)’.”

In his letter, Anand recounts that he became proactive on many fronts in Jamia. He was a member of *Anjuman-e-Ittehad* (Unity Association), as also editor of *Jauhar* magazine (launched initially in 1923).

He remembers having the opportunity to meet heads of states, and, on one occasion in 1948, attending a meeting in which Indira Gandhi sat on the floor with students and narrated a few incidents from her life. He also describes a few landmarks during his stay at Jamia, like Qaisar Naqvi’s home and a *beri-wala bagh*.

Jamia had taken upon itself the responsibility of educating Anand and a few other refugee boys despite all the monetary hardships that it had been facing and despite strict rationing of food.

The cost of their education and boarding would have been recorded in the administration, nevertheless. For, Anand mentions in the letter that when he was about to appear for his graduation exam, it turned out that a huge outstanding amount was due on him. It was then Vice-Chancellor M Mujeeb and Dr Abid Husain who prevailed upon the administration to declare this amount ‘*karz-e-husna*’ (a due which would not be taken back). Anand mentions that when, in 1966, he shifted to London and sent the due amount to Jamia, the University refused to take it and returned the sum to his mother.

Anand did his Graduation from Jamia and Post-graduation in Urdu from Aligarh Muslim University, before moving to the UK.

More than six decades after Jamia’s healing gesture, Anand remains indebted to the institution that shaped his personality. As he says in his letter, more than books what people like Qaisar Naqvi taught him was a lesson in humanity — how to treat every person as a human being. Ⓝ

The philosophy of language

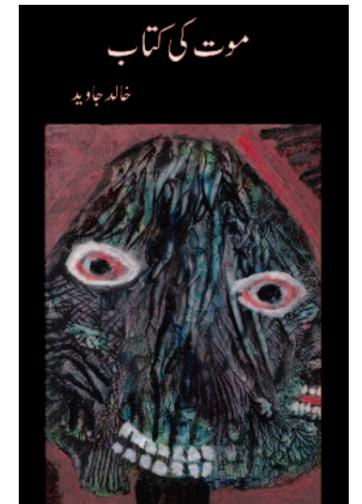
He teaches Urdu but what preoccupies Khalid Jawed is the thoughts of Milan Kundera

His stories are part of course content not only in Banaras Hindu University and Jadhavpur University, but also in the University of Cairo. He teaches Urdu at Jamia’s Urdu Department but is preoccupied with all things philosophical and his articles on Gabriel Garcia Marquez and Milan Kundera are published in mainstream newspapers. He was one of the two writers invited from India to the Karachi Literary Festival 2012, and his views were extensively covered in the *Dawn* and other publications of Pakistan. Meet Khalid Jawed, whose work *Maut Ki Kitab* is now widely acclaimed and is being translated into Hindi, Bangla and Marathi.

Born in a literary family, Khalid wrote his first story at the age of 7 and published at the age of 9 (the editor didn’t know his age and assumed him to be an elder person). He did a Master’s in Philosophy from Rohilkhand University and taught there



Scholar extraordinary: (Above) Jawed; (right) *Maut ki Kitab*’s cover



for five years before coming to Jamia for his PhD on the theme ‘Influence of Western Philosophy on Modern Urdu Literary Criticism’. This interdisciplinary approach has lent a new perspective to his writings and teaching. Ⓝ

NASA project

Dr Atiqur Rehman at the Department of Geography has been granted a three-year project on ‘Understanding Impacts of Desert Urbanization on Climate and Surrounding Environments to Foster Sustainable Cities Using Remote Sensing and Numerical Modeling’ by the National Aeronautic and Space Administration

(NASA) of the US. The project aims to better understand the impact of changing land cover spatial distribution, patterns and arrangements within and around desert cities in relation to climate change and to use this knowledge to support adaptive managements and foster sustainable desert cities. The total cost of this project is \$ 7,65,990. Ⓝ



Shadma Yasmeen, Instructor, Interior Decoration, at the Institute for Advanced Studies and Education, Jamia, conceptualised a mural on Mahatma Gandhi’s approach to education. Tile pieces were used for this art work. This mural is installed in the Faculty of Education at Jamia. Ⓝ

National Champ

DR AURANGZEB Khurram Hafiz, teaching at the Department of Physics, Jamia, has become the National Champion at the recently-concluded National Benchpress Powerlifting Championships, held at Jamshedpur, from February 22-26, 2013. Representing his home state West Bengal, he not only secured the gold medal in the 120 kg weight class but also became the highest lifter of the Championship with the final lift of 225 kg.

Faculty of Dentistry



The Faculty of Dentistry of Jamia Millia Islamia was designed by Romi Khosla Design Studios. The main design parameters of the building have followed a simple rectilinear plan form that encloses two large courtyards. A dental college is a very complex institution in which the users have to keep moving from one activity zone to another. Keeping in mind the special requirements of the students — including a canteen and a reference library — and the teaching staff, it was imperative to simplify the plan of the building to make it understandable to the constant stream of new first users. In order to reduce energy consumption, the treatment clinics have been provided with 80 percent north side glazing that allows ample daylight to flood the clinics. This greatly reduces the need to use artificial light during the day as well as provides ample light for teaching to continue in the event of power failures.



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