

**Media Coordinator's Office
Jamia Millia Islamia**

October 27, 2016

Press Release

96th Foundation Day Celebrations kick start at Jamia Millia Islamia with much fanfare

Jamia Millia Islamia today kick started its three-day cultural and literary extravaganza to mark its 96th Foundation Day with a call from the Chief Guest, UGC Chairman, Prof. Ved Prakash for “inclusive education, creativity and inspirational thinking.”

Inaugurating the Talimi Mela as part of the celebrations, Prof. Prakash said that 96 years ago when the foundation of Jamia Millia Islamia was laid, its founders would have aspired to create the best institution in the world. Today “it’s time to analyse where we want to see ourselves 10-15 years from now and strategise for mid-course corrections, if needed.”

Emphasizing that “universities and colleges are the most enduring institutions on which society pins its highest hopes especially when it is faced with a problem of any kind, a Talimi Mela like this, illustrates the power of *Taleem*.”

Prof. Prakash flagged the importance of introspection by institutions to know where they stood vis-a-vis other higher educational institutions in India and globally.

Addressing the students, he said that there were three essentials for attaining progress— ‘staying put as a life-long learner, dreaming inspiring dreams and that if dreams were not realised we should change our path not principles... we need to learn the act of transforming failures into success, learn from mistakes of others and need to play the curved ball.”

He observed that “we were increasingly becoming a reactionary society with little patience to listen to contrarian views and that it was important to treat every individual with dignity.”

He urged the students to emulate those in search of wisdom but cautioned them to be wary of those who claimed to know the truth which he likened to a “well-chiselled diamond”. He underscored the importance of ‘having a library at home instead of spending on clothes, cars and housing.

The Guest of Honour, Dr. S.Y. Quraishi, former Chief Election Commissioner, said that he was happy to participative in the *Talimi Mela* that he had been hearing of since his childhood but only now got an opportunity to attend it.

An alumnus of Jamia, Dr Quraishi asked the students to concentrate on education and learning. He said that Islam which was a pioneer in education and granted equal rights to women 1400 years ago had now strayed away from both. Islam was a religion that made it

mandatory for both boys and girls to attain an education but now girls were unable to pursue it.

Referring to the ongoing debate on Muslim Personal Law, Dr Quraishi said, “Personal law reform should come from within the community and not be imposed. At the same time the community must introspect and be open to change with time.” He also gave a power point presentation on the functioning of the Election Commission and conduct of elections in the world’s largest democracy which has been hailed as an outstanding model by countries across the world.

He presented copies of his book, *An Undocumented Wonder: The Making of the Great Indian Election*, to Prof Ved Prakash and Vice Chancellor, Prof. Talat Ahmad.

Prof Talat Ahmad, said that he was happy to inform that the university was fulfilling its mandate to make education accessible to children from marginalised and weaker sections of society. He cited the bridge course under which school and madarsa drop-outs were being given intensive one year teaching and training at JMI under the aegis of ‘Nai Manzil Scheme’.

He further said that as part of its social responsibility, the university has empowered 40 women from the community who are now successfully running a canteen on campus called ‘Dastarkhan’. Prof Ahmad said that “in another 4 years Jamia Millia Islamia will be celebrating its 100 years and he was hopeful that university will continue to get full support from the UGC and the government.”

Earlier, both Prof. Prakash and Dr Quraishi along with the Vice Chancellor, JMI were presented with a guard of honour following which the dignitaries inaugurated the three-day *Talimi Mela* in which students and faculty have set-up close to 50 stalls displaying their latest innovations and creativity.

Cultural programmes that included singing competitions, screening of films, *mushaira* were organised as part of the ongoing festivities.

Prof Saima Saeed

Hony. Deputy Media Coordinator



96th FOUNDATION DAY CELEBRATIONS
JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA, NEW DELHI
INAUGURAL FUNCTION



OCTOBER 27, 2016

CHIEF GUEST PROF. VED PRAKASH

CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION, NEW DELHI

GUEST OF HONOUR DR. S. Y. QURAISHI

FORMER CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION OF INDIA

Sasneem Meenai

A. P. Siddiqui

S. Y. Quraishi

Ved Prakash

Talat Ahmad

Shahid Ashraf

Sadre Alam





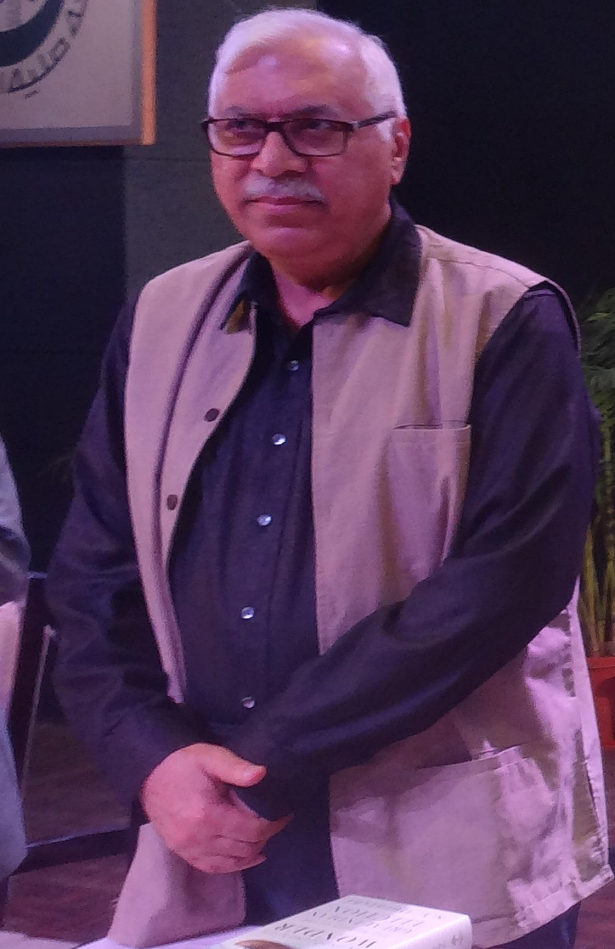
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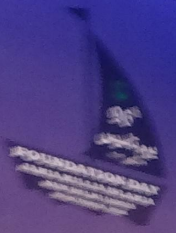
CHAIRMAN UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION, NEW DELHI

HONORARY DR. S. Y. QURA

FORMER DEPUTY COMMISSIONER OF INDIA



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S. Y. QURAISHI
COMMISSIONER OF INDIA



S. Y. Quraishi

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JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA, NEW DELHI
INAUGURAL FUNCTION

OCTOBER 27, 2016

CHIEF GUEST PROF. VED PRAKASH

CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION, NEW DELHI

GOVERNOR OF HONOUR DR. S. QUADRI

FORMER CHIEF ELECTION COMMISSIONER, INDIA



A. P. Siddiqui

PROCTOR'S OFFICE
JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA, NEW DELHI - 110025

 **TALIMI MELA 2016** 

96th یوم تاسیس
11 اکتوبر 1911

FOUNDATION DAY
JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA
NEW DELHI 110025
30 OCTOBER 2016

Decorated with orange marigold garlands and a floral wreath.



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