

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

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Press Release

**Lecture on 'Mahatma Gandhi and Islam' organized in Jamia Millia Islamia**

A Lecture on 'Mahatma Gandhi and Islam' was organized in Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) today where it was said that Father of the Nation was of the view that permanent peace cannot prevail in the country until everybody respected each other's religion and exercise tolerance.

JMI's Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace & Conflict Resolution organized the Seventh Walter Sisulu Memorial Lecture which was delivered by Prof. Gita Dharampal – Frick of History Department of Germany's Heidelberg University.

She said that "Mahatma Gandhi felt that if Hindu thought that India is only for them, they were mistaken. India belongs to everybody Hindu, Muslim Sikh, Christian, Persian and all can live together".

Similarly, she said that Gandhiji used to tell Muslims also that Islam teaches brotherhood and they should have friendly relations with Hindus as per the teachings of Islam.

Prof. Frick referred to the contribution made by Mahatma Gandhi in the establishment of JMI and said that the university has given practical shape to the Education against British Education System. She said that Gandhiji's policy of *Ram Raj* was misunderstood by communal forces. What Mahatma Gandhi meant was peace and happiness for everybody.

She said that the concept of *Swaraj* was based on 4<sup>th</sup> principles -- 'Hindu-Muslim Unity, *Satyagrah*, removal of untouchability and encouragement to *swadeshi*.

Former Professor of Jawaharlal Nehru University, Prof. Anand Kumar said that Mahatma Gandhi had to sacrifice his life for Hindu-Muslim unity.

Dr. Syeda Saiyidain Hameed, former Member of then Planning Commission said that intense efforts were now required to encourage Hindu-Muslim unity as envisioned by the Father of the Nation.

The lecture was attended among others by Prof. Tasneem Meenai, Director, Nelson Mandela Centre for Peace & Conflict Resolution, JMI, senior faculty members and students.

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