

July 14, 2019

Press Release

Jamia Professor delivers keynote address at the Islamic University of North Sumatra

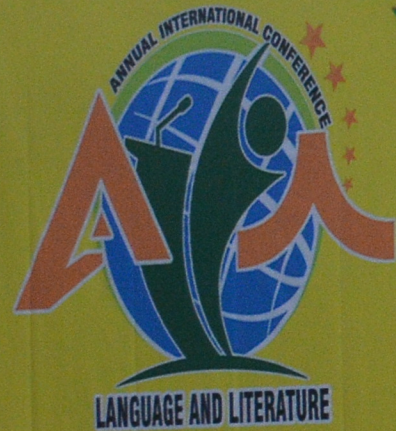
Dr Mohd Asaduddin, Professor of English and Advisor to the Vice Chancellor (Academic & Research) delivered the keynote address at the second two-day international conference organised by the Faculty of Literature of the Islamic University of North Sumatra, Medan, on July 3, 2019. The topic of the conference was: "Research Paradigms in Language, Literature & Language Teaching in the Industrial Revolution.

The inaugural session of the conference was held in the Ball Room, Madani Hotel, Medan, and was attended by delegates from 8 countries including China, Thailand, Iran, Tunisia, Algeria and Australia. Professor Asaduddin, in his keynote, spoke about the shifting paradigms of teaching and research in English Studies in Asia. After charting a historical mapping of the area, he discussed how English Studies in Asia, in its quest for relevance, adapted itself to the changing global needs by expanding the canon of English Studies from its traditional emphasis on the British and American literature and embracing new areas like comparative literature, world literature, translation studies, gender studies, trauma and memory studies and so on. He pointed how these paradigm shifts occurred depending on the country's colonial encounter, if there was any, the spread and depth of academic literacy among people and whether the country is monolingual or multilingual. He pointed out how educational administrators in recent times are emphasizing more and more on the instrumentalist use of English and skill-based courses, divorced from the language's relationship with its culture and literature. This does not augur well for the discipline which will need an altogether new orientation. He also dealt with the latest debates in the field and the future possibilities of the discipline.

The Rector, Dr H Yenhar Jamaluddin and the Vice Rector of the university welcomed Professor Mohd Asaduddin and took the opportunity to discuss possibilities of future collaborations with Jamia. Several faculty members of the university are alumni of either AMU or Jamia and they expressed their keenness to strengthen this relationship through mutual exchange programmes of students and faculty members. The rector and the Vice rector also conveyed their greetings to Professor Najma Akhtar, Honourable Vice Chancellor of Jamia, through Professor Asaduddin.

Ahmad Azeem
PRO-Media Coordinator





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ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LANGUAGE AND LITERATURE

"Research and Media on Language, Literature and Language in the Era of Industrial Revolution 4.0"

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