

November 7, 2019

Press Release

JMI organizes Annual Ravinder Kumar Memorial Lecture Series

Eminent scholars participated in the Annual Ravinder Kumar Memorial Lecture Series instituted after the well-known historian late Ravinder Kumar and organized by JMI's MMAJ-Academy of International Studies.

Prof Aditya Mukherjee, who had taught Contemporary Indian History at Jawaharlal Nehru University, spoke on 'The Challenges to the Social Sciences Today'. Prof. Mukherjee who has authored several books, is also Visiting Professor at prestigious institutes of learning abroad. Professor S.D. Muni, Professor Emeritus, JNU, chaired the lecture.

In his lecture, Prof Mukherjee stated that the main challenge to the Social Sciences today was Euro centrism. He pointed out that even progressive and great thinkers were not inoculated from Euro centrism. Most disciplines, as we know them today, emerged in the 19th and 20th centuries, during the period of Western hegemony over the world, he said.

He spoke of the challenge India had presented to the Eurocentric worldview. Early nationalist thinkers had offered a comprehensive economic critique of colonialism, he said adding this was followed after independence with the Nehruvian agenda of fighting for economic independence after the overthrow of political colonization along with the equally important battle of the decolonization of the mind.

Social Sciences were needed to understand how the mind can be colonized. Today Social Sciences were being neglected to favour science and technology, he said.

Previous lectures were delivered by eminent people including Prof Frances W Pritchett on 'Interpreting Ghalib', Prof Martha Nussbaum on 'Beyond the Textbook Controversy', Prof Mahesh Rangarajan on 'Of Nature and Nation: Ecology's Future in a Divided Planet' and Ms Syeda Hameed on 'Women in Islam: Inverting Reality and Myth' and Prof T K Oommen on 'State, Civilization and Nation: An Analysis in Their Interrelations'.

Ahmad Azeem

PRO-Media Coordinator

MMAJ ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA
cordially invites you to the
XI Ravinder Kumar Memorial Lecture
on
'The Challenges to the Social Sciences Today'
By
Prof Aditya Mukherjee
Chairperson
Prof S D Muni
(Professor Emeritus, SIS, JNU)
Date: 4 November 2019
Venue: Ho Chi Minh Conference Room, AI



Prof. Aditya Mukherjee

Prof. S.D. Muni

Prof. Sushant Deshpande

Prof. Aditya Mukherjee

Prof. S.D. Muni

Prof. Basant Desai



