

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

**January 28, 2021**

**Press Release**

**JMI hosts Online International Conference ‘A Decade since the Arab Spring: Perspectives on Turmoil and Stability in West Asia and North Africa’**

A three-day (January 27-29, 2021) online international conference on the theme ‘A Decade since the Arab Spring: Perspectives on Turmoil and Stability in West Asia and North Africa’, hosted by Centre for West Asian Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia(JMI), was inaugurated by Prof. Najma Akhtar, Vice Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia(JMI) yesterday.

In her opening remarks Prof. Akhtar emphasized the importance of the West Asian region to India. She spoke of India’s long-standing historical ties with the region, as well as our contemporary ties rooted in today’s economic, trade and security exchanges.

The VC also stressed that events in West Asia have a profound impact on us and, therefore, we need to better understand the region in order to make informed policy decisions.

Former diplomat Talmiz Ahmad who had served as India’s Ambassador to SA and UAE delivered a keynote speech at the conference in which he talked about the lasting impact of the Arab Spring in shaping the West Asian region’s politics, economics and societies.

Prof. Javed Ahmad Khan, Director of the Center for West Asian Studies, gave the audience a synoptic view of the achievement of the Centre and its future goals.

A total of 38 papers will be presented in 9 technical sessions at the conference. Approximately 10 participants from the United States, Turkey, Poland, the UAE, Lebanon and Iran are presenting their papers.

The conference has been convened by Dr. Sujata Ashwarya, Associate Professor, Centre for West Asian Studies, and Prof. Mujib Alam, Academy of International Studies, JMI. The theme of the Conference is part of their joint project on the Arab Spring, which was awarded by the ICSSR in 2018.

**Ahmad Azeem**  
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