

Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer
Jamia Millia Islamia
Press Release

Shamim Hanfi Seminar Hall inaugurated at Jamia Millia Islamia's Urdu Department

New Delhi, September 8, 2025

The evening of September 4, 2025, was a historic, emotional, and memorable moment for the Department of Urdu at Jamia Millia Islamia, when the Shamim Hanfi Seminar Hall was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor, JMI, Professor Mazhar Asif.

Expressing his happiness on the occasion, Professor Asif, said that dedicating this newly constructed and beautifully decorated seminar hall in the Department of Urdu to an era-defining writer and intellectual like Professor Shamim Hanfi is a tribute befitting his stature.

The Chief Guest for the function, Registrar JMI, Professor Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, expressed heartfelt joy at the inaugural ceremony, saying that remembering our esteemed predecessors strengthens our moral values and spiritual roots of the nation. Shamim Hanfi was a shining beacon of literature, culture, and knowledge, and Jamia Millia Islamia will always take pride in him, Prof Rizvi added.

The Head of the Department of Urdu, Professor Kausar Mazhari, who put in tireless efforts with sincerity, love, and true passion for the establishment of the Shamim Hanfi Seminar Hall, said that Prof Hanfi will always be remembered in the history of the Department of Urdu for this achievement. Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Languages, Professor Iqtedar Muhammad Khan, while remembering Professor Shamim Hanfi, said that although he is no longer physically among us, it feels as if the colors, light, and fragrance of his writings, speeches, and thoughts still keep the atmosphere of Jamia vibrant, illuminated, and fragrant, and the echo of his voice can still be felt in this space today. On this occasion, Professor Kausar Mazhari stated that Shamim Hanfi was not only the pride of the Department of Urdu but of the entire Jamia Millia Islamia. His enlightenment and extraordinary scholarly and cultural insights are an important part of Jamia Millia Islamia's golden traditions. The loving and sincere cooperation of Vice Chancellor Professor Mazhar Asif, Registrar Professor Mehtab Alam Rizvi, and Dean of the Faculty of Humanities and Languages Professor Iqtedar Muhammad Khan was instrumental in the reconstruction and decoration of this hall. The Department of Urdu can never forget this kindness.

Professor Kausar Mazhari welcomed the guests with a sapling and presented a warm and sincere letter of thanks to Professor Mazhar Asif, which was written in an ornate and rhythmic language, and the audience greatly appreciated this letter of thanks. While presiding over the inaugural ceremony, Professor Sarwarul Huda recalled the memories, conversations, and writings of Shamim Hanfi in a cultural and historical context, bringing

them to mind with freshness throughout the session. While offering words of thanks, Professor Shehzad Anjum congratulated the university administration and the Head of the Department on the establishment of the Shamim Hanfi Seminar Hall. The session began with the recitation by Dr. Shah Nawaz Fayaz. The presence of Professor Shamim Hanfi's wife, Saba Shamim, his daughter Ghazala Shamim Siddiqui, and son-in-law Surosh Sahib made this inaugural ceremony even more emotional and lively.

The session was attended by Head of the Department of Arabic Professor Naseem Akhtar, Head of the Department of Persian Professor Syed Kaleem Asghar, Professor Ahmad Mahfooz, Professor Imran Ahmad Andleeb, Dr. Shah Alam, Dr. Khalid Mubashshir, Dr. Musheer Ahmad, Dr. Syed Tanveer Hussain, and Dr. Muhammad Muqeem, along with guest teachers from the department, research scholars, and a large number of students.

Prof. Saima Saeed
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