



## **JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA**

January 27, 2017

Press Invite

### **JMI to conduct a week-long course on ‘Religious Minorities in Western Asia: A Historical Perspective’**

The Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations (CCRC), Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) is organizing MHRD-Global Initiative of Academic Network (GIAN) Course on ‘Religious Minorities in Western Asia: A Historical Perspective’ from January 30, 2017 to February 4, 2017.

The Inaugural programme of the GIAN course is scheduled to be held on January 30, 2017 at 10.00 a.m. at Tagore Hall, Dayar-I Mir Taqi Mir (Administrative Block), JMI.

Prof. Talat Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, JMI shall formally inaugurate the course.

Prof Dr. Herman G.B. Teule, Professor and Co-Founder of The Leuven Centre for the Study of Eastern and Oriental Christianity’ Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium is the Course Faculty of the GIAN course and shall grace the occasion.

Prof. Dr. Herman G.B. TEULE, studied Semitic Studies, Oriental Studies, Philosophy, Theology, and Religious Studies at the University of Amsterdam, and the KU Leuven. He is the former Head of the Institute of Eastern Christian Studies at Radboud University, Nijmegen (Netherlands), Emeritus Full Professor of ‘Christian Minorities in the Middle East’, Chair Eastern Christianity of the same University, and Emeritus Extraordinary Professor at the Faculty of Religious Studies, KU Leuven. He was Visiting Professor at the Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, India; St Tychon’s Theological Faculty, Moscow. In 2015, he co-founded The Leuven Centre for the Study of Eastern and Oriental Christianity (LOCEOC) at KU Leuven, Belgium.

The main objectives of the course are to-- understand and discern the complexities of the religious situation in Western Asia in the pre-Islamic period and to comprehend the Islamic attitude towards religious minorities both from juridical and intellectual perspectives as well as the responses given by the non-Islamic communities, especially the Nestorians and Jacobites.

Also, the course will endeavor to recognize – and to reflect on – the present-day situation of minorities in Western Asia with the help of the models of coexistence-dialogue-estrangement taught in the historical survey.

Dr Annie Kunnath, Centre for Comparative Religions and Civilizations, JMI is the Course Coordinator of the course.

You and your photographer are cordially invited to cover the event. You may contact Prof. Saima Saeed (9891227771 & 011-26980090) and Prof. Durga Prasad Gupt (9868255696)

for any assistance. All print/electronic/photo journalists are requested to reach the venue 30 minutes before the event to avoid last minute inconvenience.

**Prof. Saima Saeed**  
Hony. Deputy Media Coordinator