Office of PRO-Media Coordinator Jamia Millia Islamia

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Press Release

Festival of Films from China at JMI

The UGC China Studies Programme at the MMAJ Academy of International Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) organised a Festival of Films from China on the 20th February, 2020.

Two movies of contemporary significance and importance were screened, My People, My Country (2019) in the morning and Dying to Survive (2018) in the afternoon. The movies were followed by discussion.

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar from ICWA was invited as the discussant for the first movie, My People, My Country, where several issues like China's communist regime, the first nuclear test, China's striving for excellence in sports, the space mission and other issues were the main topics of discussion.

In this background Dr. Sanjeev also drew the attention to the fact that though from the outside China may seem to be a self sufficient dominant power in East Asia, there are several issues which still continue to grapple the Chinese society which is also a very serious concern for the Communist Party even after seventy years of the establishment of the People's Republic of China. My People, My Country, made to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Revolution, is an 'omnibus film', with several leading filmmakers, like Chen Kaige, have made short films to highlight important issues in China.

In the afternoon, the movie Dying to Survive was discussed by Dr. Hemant Adlakha from JNU. This movie focussed more on the aspect of the health sector in China and how the multinationals still focus on making money instead of producing medicines for saving people.

The movie drew a comparison to India where low costs of medicinal and life saving drugs have been maintained due to government policies. This is also one of the main reasons why the Indian health sector is a great attraction to many people from the foreign countries as well. The discussion session also dealt with issues how the movie was allowed to be screened in China inspite of it being critical of the Chinese government in matters of handling the health sector.

The movie screenings were attended by more than fifty students from AIS and other departments of JMI.

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