

Press Release

**Academic Exchange Programme of Department of Social Work, JMI, with University of Applied Sciences, Germany, concludes; the delegation returns following a successful academic exposure visit to Erfurt**

New Delhi, July 01, 2025

A delegation from the Department of Social Work, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), successfully completed its academic exposure visit to Erfurt, Germany, as a part of its Academic Exchange Programme held at the University of Applied Sciences (Fachhochschule), Erfurt, Germany, from June 15 to June 26, 2025. This immersive programme was conducted under the framework of a long-standing Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between the two universities.

A delegation of twelve students from the B.A. (Hons) Social Work and M.A. Social Work programmes, accompanied by two faculty members—Dr. Habeebul Rahiman VM and Dr. Asiya Nasreen—represented the Department of Social Work, JMI. Hosted by the Department of Social Work, University of Applied Social Sciences, Erfurt, the visit was thematically centered on Marginalisation, Exclusion and Social Work in a Changing Society.

The exchange included, among others, participation in the prestigious 11th Erfurt International Social Work Days Conference (ISWD), themed “Strengthening Intergenerational Solidarity for Enduring Wellbeing.” Students and faculty actively engaged in academic panels, thematic workshops, and experiential learning visits to NGOs, social institutions, and historical landmarks such as the Berlin Wall and Buchenwald concentration camp.

Indian students presented their academic research and field experiences in multiple pre-conference panels, fostering a critical cross-cultural dialogue on diverse topics including disability rights, shelter home dynamics, indigenous social work practices, and narratives of resilience. Notably, Dr. Habeebul Rahiman VM delivered a workshop titled “Probation and Beyond: Reformatory Pathways for Intergenerational Offenders in Developing Nations.” Dr. Asiya Nasreen led a well-received workshop on “Yoga: Ancient Indian Practice for Active Aging.”

Participants also took part in collaborative seminars, including “Participation and Social Work,” “Migration and Pedagogy,” and “Child Protection and CRC,” enriching their

understanding of comparative welfare systems. Informal exchanges through cultural events, community garden visits, and peer interactions added depth to the academic engagement.

The programme concluded with a joint review session, marking a meaningful milestone in the spirit of bilateral cooperation and academic diplomacy. This exchange embodies the mutual vision of Jamia Millia Islamia and the University of Applied Sciences, Erfurt, to nurture globally competent social work professionals with a commitment to equity, justice, and cultural sensitivity.

The university extends its heartfelt gratitude to Prof. Christine Rehklaue and the entire FH Erfurt team for their warm hospitality and academic stewardship.

Prof Saima Saeed  
Chief Public Relations Officer



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