

January 16, 2017

Press Release

UGC-HRDC, JMI holds special Programme on 'Kashmir and South Asia Studies'

A Special Interaction Programme, "Kashmir and South Asia Studies" was organised by the UGC-HRDC, Jamia Millia Islamia in collaboration with UNESCO Madanjeet Singh Institute of Kashmir Studies (UMIKS), University of Kashmir on January 12, 2017.

Prof Talat Ahmad, Vice Chancellor, JMI was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

The programme was attended by eminent panellists including **Madame France Marquet**, Principal Trustee, South Asia Foundation, **Prof. Veena Sikri**, Vice Chairperson South Asia Foundation & former Ambassador to Bangladesh; **Dr. Syeda Saiyidain Hameed**, Member South Asia Foundation & former Member, Planning Commission and **Mr. Prabhakaran Menon**, CEO, South Asia Foundation. Besides, several faculty members from JMI along with students participated in the programme.

Prof. Talat Ahmad presented a portrait of Madanjeet Singh to Madame Marquet, Principal Trustee, South Asia Foundation (SAF). SAF was established in 2000 by UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador Madanjeet Singh at the Kashmir University.

Prof. Talat Ahmad drew attention to the fact that the vision and mission of SAF was to promote peace, brotherhood and regional cooperation among the South Asian countries. He added that Madanjeet Singh was a votary of secularism and was committed to building peaceful relations among nations, SAF being an example of such thinking.

Madame France, Principal Trustee of the Foundation emphasized that students from South Asian Countries including Kashmir would be the brand ambassador for peace and brotherhood at individual and collective levels.

Prof. Anisur Rahman, Director, UGC-HRDC, JMI presented mementos to all the dignitaries, welcoming them to the programme.

Dr. Muslim Jan, Course Coordinator UMIKS, University of Kashmir presented a detailed report of the activities and extracurricular events undertaken in the 3rd Semester of the ongoing 'Kashmir and South Asia Studies' M. A. Programme.

In the past, the programme has been supplemented by special lectures by eminent scholars like by Dr. Henrik Chetan Aspengren, Centre for Colonial and Postcolonial Studies, Linnaeus University, Sweden who spoke on 'Social Science and the Question of Modernity in South Asia'; 'Gender and Society in South Asia' by Dr. Syeda Afshana, University of Kashmir, Srinagar, 'Good Governance and Human Development in South Asia' by Dr. Niharika Tiwari and 'Role of Media in South Asia' by Ms. Jyoti Malhotra, Freelance Journalist.

Dr Jan also outlined the activities organized on the occasion of SAARC Charter Day like Poster making and Debate Competition, Cultural Programmes and Panel Discussion on Governance, Media and Peace Building in South Asia.

The Programme ended with the vote of thanks.

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