

Office of the
Public Relations Officer-
Media Coordinator
Jamia Millia Islamia

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Press Release

**Three day International Conference on Art and Architectural Traditions of India and Iran:
Commonality and Diversity at JMI**

India-Arab Cultural Center, JMI in collaboration with Indira Gandhi National Center for the Arts (IGNCA) and the Iran Culture House, New Delhi, is organizing a three-day International conference '**Art and Architectural Traditions of India and Iran: Commonality and Diversity**' from 5-7 December, 2018. The conference aims to bring together scholars across the world on a common platform to discuss and exchange academic knowledge on the shared art and architectural traditions between India and Iran. The conference will be held over three days at three different venues at JMI and IGNCA.

The conference will begin with an inaugural session on the 5th of December, 2018, at the M.A Ansari Auditorium, JMI at 2:30 p.m. The Chief Guest, Mr. Arun Goel (IAS),

Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India will inaugurate the event and eminent art historian Prof. Catherine Asher from the University of Minnesota will deliver the keynote address. Dr. Ali Chegeni, Honorable Ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to India has also kindly agreed to grace the occasion with his presence. The session will be chaired by Mr. A.P Siddiqui (IPS), Registrar Jamia Millia Islamia and the welcome address will be delivered by Dr. Nasir Raza Khan, conference convener and officiating Director of IACC. Other dignitaries including Mr. Rajaneesh Kumar Shukla, Member Secretary ICHR, Dr. Ali Dehgahi, Cultural Counsellor, Iran Culture House and Dr. Ramesh Kumar Gaur, Head, Kala Nidhi Division, IGNCA will also grace the occasion with their presence.

According to Dr. Nasir Raza Khan, conference convener and officiating Director of IACC, JMI "*We have received an overwhelming response from scholars from disciplines such as history, geography, art studies and architectural studies from India, Iran, Turkey and Afghanistan. The conference has also attracted a very enthusiastic group of young researchers working on the artistic traditions of the two great civilizations of India and Iran*". The conference will feature presentations on a variety of themes ranging from ancient architectural traditions of India and Iran to the emergence of a shared cultural world between the two geographical zones in the medieval and early modern times and the extensive movement of goods, people and ideas across these dynamic cultural zones.

The Conference aims to bring into discussion the idea of connected histories of the pre-modern world which saw an extensive political, economic and cultural exchange across what we today identify as borders and frontiers. It also seeks to promote the co-operation between the two great nations of India and Iran by identifying the common threads that bind the two nations together historically and

culturally. The presence of scholars, historians, thinkers and policy makers on a common platform is sure to further the cause of international co-operation and cultural exchange beyond borders.

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