

# **JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA**

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Press Release

## **JMI pays rich tribute to its alumnus Danish Siddiqui at Condolence Meet**

Jamia Millia Islamia(JMI) organised a condolence meeting today for its alumnus Danish Siddiqui who lost his life in the line of duty while covering the clashes between the Afghan security forces and the Taliban on July 16, 2021. The meeting, presided over by the Vice Chancellor Prof. Najma Akhtar, was held at Dr. M.A. Ansari Auditorium and was attended by teachers, non-teaching staff, students and alumni of the university.

Describing Danish as a “real-life hero” and a “creator of iconic images” the Vice Chancellor said we must remember him always with a smile as tears must never be shed over martyrs.

“We will organise exhibition of his work and other activities so that students can take inspiration from it” she said.

Prof. Shohini Ghosh, Officiating Director, AJKMCRC, JMI said that the alumni of MCRC, including many who had never met him, had written to express their grief, solidarity and acute sense of kinship.

Perhaps because they saw in Danish, the courage, passion and moral fibre that the founders of MCRC wanted their students to have.”

Prof. Danish Iqbal, MCRC said that when a journalist reports from the war front, he does not only bear the news but paves the way for peace by conveying the futility and horrors of war. Thus the martyrdom of Danish Siddiqui makes us acutely aware of the importance of peace and non- violence.” He quoted Sahir Ludhianvi:

Is liye Aiy Shareef Insaano  
Jung Tal-tee Rahe to Behtar hai  
Aap ke Aur Hamaare Aangan mein  
Shamma Jaltee rahe to Behtar hai

Sonali Sharma, Assistant Professor, MCRC and a batch-mate of Danish Siddiqui spoke about their time at the Centre and provided interesting insights into the photojournalist as a young student.

To pay tribute to Danish Siddiqui two short films made by Sonali Sharma and Imran Alam, Assistant Professor, MCRC were screened during the meeting.

Sharma's film was created from photographs sent by Danish's batch mates across several countries while Alam's film was a lyrical tribute to photographs taken by Danish.

A two minute silence was also observed to pay tributes to Danish.

The meeting ended with the Registrar Dr. Nazim Husain Al-Jafri speaking about the importance of preserving the rich legacy of Danish Siddiqui.

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