

JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA

4 April, 2020

An Appeal for Illuminations

Dear Students, Members of Teaching and Non-teaching Staff

‘God helps those who help themselves’. This time-tested saying implies ‘self-help’, the mandate of nature and pressing need of hour. ‘Self-help’ gives us unbeatable will-power, physical, moral and spiritual strength to brave challenges of life. We, the people of Jamia Millia Islamia, have already manifested our strength by practicing ‘self-help’ in consonance with the social distancing mandated by the Government through a countrywide lockdown for overcoming the unprecedented crisis.

Health is a rare blessing. The preservation of this blessing demands us to put up a bold front. We embody in ourselves the spirit and determination of the people of our nation. It is our noble duty to bring into play all our resources of creativity and innovation to come out of this crisis relatively unharmed.

The Honorable Prime Minister of India has urged us today to show solidarity with all agencies involved in waging war against the deadly corona virus by lighting candles, mobile flashlights, torches or diyas on Sunday, the 5th April, 2020 at 9:00 p.m. for 9 minutes after switching off the lights at homes. We, the people of Jamia Millia Islamia, have always responded to every call for the national unity with due sincerity.

I would, therefore, urge all of you to express solidarity with them, as also with other fellow-citizens by lighting candles, torches, mobile flashlights or diyas in your houses, balconies or doorways on Sunday, the 5th April, 2020 at 9:00 p.m. for 9 minutes after switching off the lights at homes.

The illuminations will not only remove monotony, dullness, despair and negative thoughts but also infuse us with joy, peace and positivity required for the harmony of mind, body and soul. Besides being beacon of hope and togetherness in troubled times, the illuminations will inspire courage and boost the morale and confidence of thousands of doctors, paramedical staff and other staff members, heralding health and happiness for the entire nation. We have always emerged victorious in our troubled times by virtue of our bravery, piety, patience and perseverance. Let us wish and pray together for our health and well-being and for normalcy to return soon!

(Prof. Najma Akhtar)
Vice-Chancellor