

JAUHAR

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VISION OF TOMORROW

The new Vice-Chancellor lays down an ambitious roadmap to boost Jamia Millia Islamia to the next level, meeting students' needs, opening new avenues and leading a push on research

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Chief Patron: **Prof Talat Ahmed**
Vice-Chancellor,
Jamia Millia Islamia

Cover Photo:
Shashi Sahai

Editorial Board:
Mukesh Ranjan, Media Coordinator
Anita Rastogi, **Baran Farooqi**, **Badrul Alam**,
Manjula Batra, **SS Islam**, **Shafique A Ansari**,
Saranjit S Bhasin, **Smriti Khanna**, **Sanket
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Ph: +91-11-26981717,
EPABX: 1050/1051; +91-11-26980090
Fax: +91-11-26980090;
E-mail: mediajmi_outreach@yahoo.com

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Maulana Mohamed Ali 'Jauhar'
Founder, Jamia Millia Islamia

From the Vice-Chancellor

The education sector in India needs a revitalisation to realise our objective of becoming a developed country. An enhanced budgetary outlay from 4 percent to 6 percent of our Gross Domestic Product would not only raise the gross enrolment ratio to 25 per cent (comparable to China's) but would also lead to expansion of infrastructure in a big way.

We need to strengthen regulations and monitoring of professional institutions. Education needs to become accessible and affordable. A special focus should be put on skill development. English education should be made accessible to all to ensure employability and economic empowerment. This will help us to create a knowledge society drawing its strength from an educated skilled pool of workers required to meet the challenges of the 21st century.

Reputed business houses must be given incentives to invest in education. This should be accompanied by rigorous monitoring and regulation. A National Commission on Education should be set up to devise ways to reform and revive the sector to make India a knowledge hub.

Higher and professional education should be oriented not only to facilitate rapid development of society but also to improve the lot of the last man in line. Institutions of higher learning should enjoy an autonomy without sacrificing their accountability. Raising the standard of education and research and restoring the credibility of the regulatory bodies would ensure transparency and meritocracy.

It is important to transform some existing universities into 'islands of excellence' to generate intellectual capital and to develop others into comprehensive universities and specialised institutions that deliver economic and social value. More national and state universities are needed to cater to increasing demand of higher education across the country. This inevitable differentiation should not reinforce and perpetuate the structural inequalities already evident in our society but rather aim at dismantling them.

A robust education system would attract corporate investments, improve quality of higher education by accentuating on research and faculty development and invite not only investments in the existing institutions but also for setting up new institutions and develop new knowledge clusters.

I wish all students, teachers and readers of Jauhar the best in everything that they set out to achieve. Your valuable feedback and participation will help to make Jauhar more representative of our glorious institution and I welcome all comments and suggestions from our readers.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue.

Prof Talat Ahmad
Vice-Chancellor



Vision for the future

The new Vice-Chancellor lays down an ambitious roadmap to boost Jamia Millia Islamia to the next level, meeting students' needs, opening new avenues and leading a push on research

I have a vision to make this 94-year-old university the first choice of students in India. To realise this ambition, we plan to set up a medical college, a school of Earth, Atmosphere and Planetary Sciences and use cutting-edge research to transform teaching and learning in this historic institution.

With these ideas, Prof Talat Ahmad, the new Vice-Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia, has unveiled his roadmap to take Jamia Millia Islamia to a new zenith.

For Prof Ahmad, a renowned earth scientist who has led research projects of national importance, the time is ripe to give a new thrust to education and research at the university.

"My priority during the next five years will be to give fillip to research in academic programmes," stresses Ahmad who completed doctoral stints with the University of Cambridge and the University of Leicester in U.K. and Nagoya University, Japan.

A focus on research will boost the global ranking of the university and give students the latest techniques to enrich their education.

There are 93 research projects and 247 consultancy projects currently being undertaken by Jamia Millia Islamia and Prof Ahmad plans to increase the citations of research work published by faculty

in various peer review journals globally. The move will give a sure boost to Jamia's rankings in the Times Higher Education - World University Ranking, compiled by Thomson Reuters.

HEALTH IS A NECESSITY

The one measure that will benefit students as well as the immediate neighbourhood the most, is the plan to establish a medical college in Jamia Millia Islamia. There is already a full-fledged health centre that has cardiac, ENT (ear, nose and throat), dermatology and pathology departments for outpatients. Students on campus are provided medical attention for the duration of their stay, free of cost. There is also an advanced medical laboratory to carry out tests.

However, there is no government college-cum-hospital in the neighbourhood and a medical college at Jamia campus is almost a necessity.

Prof Ahmad sees an opportunity here and has already taken steps to develop the Dr MA Ansari Health Centre into a hospital with 100 beds. Jamia Millia Islamia already teaches the subjects of biochemistry, biotechnology, chemistry, physics and mathematics that are required by a medical college. The new Vice-Chancellor plans to approach the government to get the required sanctions within two years.

"I intend to take this up with the central government for adequate support and financial assistance. The Supreme Court has granted us 114 *bighas* and 11 *biswas* of prime land in Jamia's vicinity in a land case between the State of Uttar Pradesh v/s Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi," states Ahmad. Jamia has taken possession of the land and will use it for development projects.

On The Cards

- A Medical college with a 300-bed hospital.
- A school of Earth, Atmosphere and Planetary Sciences .
- New hostels for working women and S.T. students.
- New Polytechnic courses for girls.
- Centres for Nanoscience, Nanotechnology, Geo-Sciences.

TIME TO TAME NATURE

Natural calamities can put a roadblock in the country's progress in just days but tackling them requires a detailed and scientific approach and years of perseverance. The sensitive eco-system areas like the Indo-Gangetic plains and the Himalayas need research to develop a scientific expertise. These regions account for a large population in the country and an even greater number of people become affected due to natural calamities faced by these areas, as they account for a large proportion of the food and food related industries.

According to Prof Ahmad, "students and faculty of Jamia can lead in the study of environmental and earth sciences, Global Positioning Systems, Geographic Information Systems and climate change to become genuine partners in the development of the country."

"I call upon them to look into some of the scientific problems that the country has to contend with like aerosol study, the Uttarakhand disaster, glacial meltdown, and the recent floods in Jammu and Kashmir," he maintains.

AIMING AT GENDER PARITY

For the academic year 2014-15, Jamia received 1,25,406 applications (Male: 86,016 and Female: 39,030) for various academic programmes on offer.

The under-graduate programmes attracted the maximum number of applications and included applications for professional and non-professional courses. Over 32 percent of the applicants were female. One priority area for the university is to realize an equal male-female ratio on the campus.

"We are committed to promoting education amongst girls and we propose to reach out to our potential female students, particularly from the minority community, to motivate them to seek admission in Jamia," emphasises the new VC.

With targetted programmes and interventions, Jamia will 'walk the talk' in getting more women into education.

MAPPING FOREIGN SHORES

Jamia continues to attract foreign students and the intake of foreign students has risen steadily. In the academic year 2013-14, there were 232 foreign students from 38 countries enrolled. Countries like Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq, Nepal, the USA and Mauritius and Turkey were strongly represented. Many of the students come through the Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR) through self-financing



For Prof Ahmad, a renowned earth scientist who has led research projects of national importance, the time is ripe to give a new thrust to education and research at the University.

and supernumerary seats.

Jamia Millia Islamia has received requests for international collaboration from Indonesia, Maldives, Germany, France, Australia, Finland, Saudi Arabia, Morocco, Japan and the United States of America. The international division of the University is in the process of signing agreements for academic collaborations. International linkages will raise the educational standards of the university and provide a cutting-edge expertise.

Recently, Jamia Millia Islamia signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ecole Nationale Supérieure (ENS), Paris during the visit of the French Foreign Minister to India.

"The faculty and students can benefit from such exchange programmes and academic agreements. Finding placements for students graduating from Jamia is an area where improvements are needed," states the VC.

Research is the Key

“ONE OF my priority areas during the next five years would be to give fillip to research in the academic programmes. Jamia Millia Islamia will acquire a distinct identity following boosts in research and towards this goal my desire is to seek increase in citations of the research work published by Jamia faculty. Taking up projects from national and international agencies either individually or collaboratively will enable Jamia teachers to get adequate resources for their research and quality-benchmarking.”

INDUSTRY-LINKAGE NEXT

Towards this aim, Ahmad plans to strengthen linkages with the industry. The university has put in place an Innovation Centre to encourage students and faculty to come together to work on technological projects that lead to the creation of innovative user-friendly products with the help of the industry. “The Innovation Centre is in a state of infancy and one of my priority areas will be to make it a fully developed centre devoted to innovative products for the benefit of society at large,” explains the Vice Chancellor.

There is a vibrant University Placement Cell which actively engages in organizing activities related to campus placements and training of students from various courses. To strengthen institution-industry-linkages, Jamia aims to forge ties with major national and multi-national companies. This will ensure good placement opportunities for students not only in the professional courses but also in generalist courses. Over 120 companies approach Jamia every year to offer summer

For students who hail from under-privileged and marginalised sections of society, the university hopes to create a level playing field. Two special interventions, a Communicative English Programme and a Self-Enrichment Programme give new opportunities to these students

placements and employment to students. “We end up raising around 400 offers to the students of our university. My goal would be to augment this figure exponentially,” says Prof Ahmad.

Two new courses — an advanced Diploma in Pashto and a certificate course in Urdu — were introduced in 2014. Post-Graduate Diplomas in Development Communication and Graphic Animation were upgraded to Post-Graduate Programmes in the last academic year.

GETTING ACCREDITED

Jamia is looking for National Assessment and Accreditation Council (NAAC) Accreditation and a Letter of Intent to this effect has been accepted by the NAAC in November 2013. The Self Study Report, was sent to the NAAC in April 2014 and has already been accepted. The university has provided 50 core indicators as asked by the NAAC for the purposes of assessment. The Peer Committee visit is likely to happen in November 2014. “Besides NAAC Accreditation, Jamia is aiming at a global ranking for which we need to augment our H-Index which presently is 53+ and our research citation which as of now is 21,500, while consolidating the resources given to us,” says the Vice-Chancellor. A subscription to the international citation database Scopus will enable Jamia Millia Islamia to access and keep a track of global information on citations, authors and publications.

THE FUTURE IS BRIGHT

A chief requirement for the growth of the university is the availability of infrastructure. Under the 12th Five Year Plan, it is proposed to expand the existing infrastructure and construct new buildings to house teaching departments and centres, besides creating new accommodation for staff, extending the girls hostel and making a new wing for scheduled caste and tribe students. Extension of existing structures, building a new gymnasium for Jamia staff, construction of buildings to house the Departments of English and Fine Arts and repairing the schools are other projects on the anvil.

Jamia has a first-of-its-kind Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research in the University. The Centre has a focus on development, peace and conflict issues related to north-east India and its neighbourhood. Recently, the 12-member Bezbaruah delegation came to look into concerns of students hailing from the north-eastern states.

“To prevent the occurrence of any untoward in-

Giving Students more choice

TO HELP students develop well-rounded personalities and appreciate varied intellectual pursuits, the University plans to have in place a Choice-based Credit System. This will allow students to move across diverse disciplines as mandated by the University Grants Commission (UGC). Out of the total credits of 64, sixteen may be earned from outside the parent department.

cident, sensitisation programmes on the campus will be initiated. Jamia has a zero tolerance to any discrimination. There will also be a dedicated space on the Jamia website linked with the Delhi Police portal to highlight issues and concerns of students from the north-eastern states,” informs the VC.

Brand Jamia is being built and strengthened. There are plans to offer distance education through centres in various cities. “This will be a great service to the nation with Jamia being represented all over the country. We also plan to have centres for the admission test across the country,” he says.

There are two new positions that will be filled very soon. “A Dean, Research and Dean, Academic Affairs are two positions I have created to give a focus to these two important tasks and delegate work from the registrar,” adds VC Ahmad. His priorities for Jamia are clear.

ACCOMODATION COMES FIRST

Jamia has 1200 seats in the Hall of Boys Residence and 600 seats in the Hall of Girls’ Residence on offer. The hostels have all the facilities for comfort like furnished rooms, air-conditioned reading rooms, cyber cafe and wi-fi, water coolers and purifiers, canteen-cum-utility stores, laundry services, re-recreational open spaces, lawns and also guest rooms.

The administration is aware that a large number of students live in rented accommodation and have to eat outside as well. There is a proposal to set up a hostel for working women under new schemes of the Delhi government. “We are keen to add new hostels in future so that more students get accommodation to study in a congenial atmosphere,” explains VC Ahmad. To ease the burden on scheduled tribe (ST) candidates who mainly come from remote areas of the country, Jamia has



Prof Ahmad inspects the Dental Centre at Jamia.

After taking charge as Vice-Chancellor, one of the first steps Prof Ahmad took was to make key administrative changes by introducing new faces. “The objective is to give a fresh orientation to processes and rejuvenate the system. I will bring about more need based changes and develop a second line of leadership,” he states.

approached the Ministry of Social Justice for a grant for an ST hostel.

In a nutshell, the roadmap is ready and the vision is clear. It is time for action and VC Ahmad is on course to make a new place for the University under the sun. 🌞

Reaching out

TO MAKE the Outreach Programme effective, the university will offer solutions to the neighbourhood. The focus now, is to empower young women from ages 18-35 through skill development. Jamia partners with the Telecom Sector Skill Council to train young women at Dr. Zakir Husain Memorial Welfare Society, an NGO in Jamia Nagar. These women will then be able to land jobs in telecom retail outlets. The Outreach Programme will soon introduce other skills that cover all sections of the neighbourhood including young boys.



Jamia bonds with Taiwan

14 member team visits Jamia to forge partnership on Chinese language programmes



The Taiwanese delegation in talks with deans, faculty and officials from Jamia Millia Islamia.

To further strengthen the existing collaboration between Taiwan and Jamia Millia Islamia, the Ambassador of Taiwan Chung Kwang Tien visited the university with a 14-member team on July 15.

Prof. G. P. Sharma, Dean, Faculty of Humanities and Languages, welcomed the delegates and conveyed Jamia's resolve to take the Chinese Study Programme to a higher level.

The visiting delegation proposed to offer scholarships for Indian students to visit Taiwan to learn Mandarin Chinese. Chieh Ju Chen, the leader of the parliamentary group that comprised the delegation, communicated her country's desire to introduce Mandarin Chinese in all central universities in India and also to introduce the language at the secondary level in the school system. She offered all possible assistance through a bilateral arrangement for the popularisation of Mandarin Chinese. 

UNICEF workshop for radio professionals

As part of its efforts to build awareness on routine immunisation, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) organised a training workshop for radio professionals at the AJK Mass Communication Research Centre (MCRC) of Jamia Millia Islamia on June 6-7.

Over 40 radio jockeys and programming heads of private FM radio stations gathered in Jamia for the two-day workshop that UNICEF organised in partnership with AROI (Association of Radio Operators of India).

Participating in the workshop, renowned radio jockeys RJ Naved of Radio FM, RJ Rocky of Red FM and RJ Khanak of Big FM came up with impromptu programmes that were recorded in MCRC's studios.

Organised as a part of the World Immunisation Week, the workshop focused on using radio's unparalleled reach to highlight the importance of vaccination in saving children's lives.

"Radio has always been an effective platform to disseminate information on social causes," said Dr Obaid Siddiqui, Director, AJK-MCRC.

"People can listen to the radio anytime and anywhere they want. It is a free medium. At places where literacy rates are low, where people cannot afford a TV set, radio is the only medium that can


be relied on for information dissemination," Dr Siddiqui noted.

The radio sector in India has seen a boom, with 245 private FM radio stations operating in 91 cities besides All India Radio (AIR) which together reach 99.18 percent of the country's population.

Out of an estimated 27 million children born in India every year, 7.2 million remain unvaccinated. Most of them are from the marginalised sections of society, living in difficult-to-reach areas with lack of access to essential services.

Nearly 4,000 children die in India everyday and in most cases these deaths are due to vaccine-preventable diseases like pneumonia, diarrhoea, measles and new born complications like sepsis.


"As so many child deaths can be avoided everyday through routine immunisation, it is imperative for all stakeholders, especially the media in India to focus on achieving 100 percent immunisation," AROI's Secretary General Uday Chawla explained.

In the coming months, this national initiative will be expanded through a series of nine workshops across the states with lowest immunisation rates, namely Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand and Odisha. 

Jamia library goes digital

Digital Resource Centre at Jamia will help students to get information at their fingertips

Access to e-journals and in-house library resources like manuscripts, doctoral dissertations submitted by students and selected rare books is now just a click away at Jamia Millia Islamia with the launch of a Digital Resource Centre (DRC) at Dr Zakir Hussain Library. Vice-Chancellor Prof Talat Ahmad inaugurated the facility on July 15.

The DRC is a result of tireless work carried out by Dr Ghayas Makhdomi and his team with support of the university administration. 



Vice-Chancellor Prof Talat Ahmad inaugurates the Digital Resource Centre at Jamia.

12 crack civil services

TWELVE STUDENTS from the free Residential Coaching Academy of Jamia Millia Islamia have bagged the country's top jobs as they cleared the Civil Services Examination 2013 conducted by Union Public Service Commission.

Faiz Ahmed Mumtaz was the highest ranked student from the academy with an all-India position of 17 while Sana Akhtar ranked 90.

Tejaswani Gautam, Afaq Ahmad Giri, Raunaq Jamil Ansari, Mohammad Saim, Dayama Harish Kumar, Satendra Singh Mehra, Avais Patwegar, Jyoti Virdi, Bhanu Prabha and Balram Meena also made the cut.

While 12 have got an entry to the elite civil services, 51 others from the academy were selected for other services like Intelligence Bureau, Bank PO, Central Armed Paramilitary Forces and state administrative services.

The Academy was established in 2010 with a grant of ₹15 crore. It has state-of-the-art infrastructure, a 24-hour library and residential facility to provide free training to women and candidates belonging to Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes and minorities. "And the result is there for all to see," Honorary Director of the Academy Prof. Anisur Rahman said.

An elated Mumtaz said he would opt for the Indian Administrative Service, though he is eligible for the Foreign Service. "I want to work in the country and for the country. Through this service, I will get to know about my country and its people, and if I can do something good that will be my reward," he said.

"One will not get such an assembly of teachers anywhere other than Jamia. It made all the difference," said Avais Patwegar. He had taken admission in a private coaching centre and even spent ₹35,000 but dropped out after a month because he did not get quality coaching.

The academy now plans to increase its intake from 100 to 120 students annually. The aspirants are selected on the basis of an all-India written test followed by individual interviews. In 2012, there were 2,800 applicants and 11 states - Assam, Bihar, Delhi, Jammu & Kashmir, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland, Sikkim, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh - were represented.

A political space



Episteme, the annual magazine of the Political Science Department, offers students a platform to engage in political discourse.



Independence Day at Jamia


Vice-Chancellor Prof Ahmad asks students to pay back to society which invests in them



On the occasion of India's 68th Independence Day, Vice-Chancellor Prof Talat Ahmad urged the students, teachers and staff of Jamia Millia Islamia to commit themselves to the growth of the nation. Teachers have a great responsibility to fashion children into knowledgeable and skilled citizens of the country so that they could compete with the best in the world and pay back to society that invested in them, Prof Ahmad added.

The Vice-Chancellor observed that Jamia Millia Islamia was a unique institution that had both school and university systems existing together. He felt Jamia had a rich nationalist history and culture that was to be conserved and strengthened. Jamia, he desired, should be in the vanguard of national progress.



He emphasised that Jamia would not shy away from serving the neighbourhood by expanding their education and skills. He also expressed his desire to set up an Innovation Cell in Jamia School to encourage students to put their natural and acquired skills to innovate products for the betterment of society. 

Above: Children wave the tricolour at the Flag Hoisting Ceremony.
Left: The Vice-Chancellor unfurling the National Flag at Jamia School.

Geospatial training

THE DEPARTMENT of Geography, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) organised a three-week training programme on geospatial technologies from June 2-23.

Experts from the Indian Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun, Earth Resources Institute University, Department of Science & Technology, and other leading institutions addressed the participants during the training programme.


Addressing the students and researchers, Prof Ahmad observed that it was imperative to use all available technology to integrate research in earth sciences with findings to minimise the effects of the disasters that threaten humankind.

Dr. Bhoop Singh from the Natural Resources Data Management System, guest of honour for the inaugural event gave a presentation on the evolution of the field of geospatial technology.



JTA welcomes VC

ON TEACHERS DAY, 5th September, the Jamia Teachers Association (JTA) organised a function to formally greet Prof Talat Ahmad on his appointment as the Vice-Chancellor (VC) of Jamia Millia Islamia.

The JTA promised to support the VC in every way in his initiatives to strengthen the academic atmosphere of the university and realise the roadmap for Jamia that he has set out. 

Giving skills to the neighbourhood

Telecom training for women launched at Jamia Nagar



The young women pictured here will learn practical skills and gain in confidence to get employment in the telecom sector.

The Outreach Programme of Jamia Millia Islamia in collaboration with the Dr Zakir Husain Memorial Welfare Society and the Telecom Sector Skill Council (TSSC) has launched an all-women training programme to develop the skills of women aged between 18-35 years at Jamia Nagar. The training programme has telecom modules for in-store promoters that will allow trainees to become familiar with specifications, features and applications of mobile phones so that they can get employed as customer care executives, sales executives and field sales executives in different branded stores.

The Outreach Programme of Jamia is trying to reach out to its neighbourhood through skill-development programmes.

Senior functionaries of the TSSC, the Women International Network and World Health Initiative were present at the launch. The initiative aims to create economic opportunities for young women in the area. **J**

R&D projects now online

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

projects from various departments and faculties of Jamia Millia Islamia are now available for access online at the FTK-Centre for Information Technology.

The database is searchable by the name of Faculty/Department/Centre. The search facility also allows users to generate a list of all current projects being executed by the university at one go.

Message of peace from Sri Sri Ravi Shankar



Sri Sri Ravi Shankar at the MA Ansari Auditorium. Prof MP Sharma is also seen.

INDIVIDUAL PEACE is the key to world peace and global harmony, said Sri Sri Ravi Shankar, addressing students, faculty and staff at Jamia Millia Islamia on August 30. The spiritual leader said that whatever qualities and goodness we possess should be shared with the world at large to contribute to harmony.

“Education”, he felt, “is not about acquisition of information but development of the self through awareness. It is an instrument to transform human beings into humans.” Bemoaning conflicts around the world, particularly in Iraq, Syria and Gaza, he said they were happening because people refused to accept the diversity which the world offers. Global society is like a bouquet which has flowers of various hues and scents, he said, underlining the importance of accepting the diversity and plurality of the world.

Giving a few tips on meditation to students and staff, the spiritual leader observed that meditation helps to relieve stress and promotes oneness with our environment.



Indonesia comes calling

Indonesian university seeks to strengthen collaboration with Jamia on education, research

To explore the possibilities of academic collaboration in various fields of study, a nine-member team led by Indonesian Education Attaché Dr Son Kuswadi from University of Muhammadiyah Malang (UMM) visited Jamia Millia Islamia.

The delegation discussed with the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Talat Ahmad, steps to build an academic collaboration centred around student and faculty exchange, joint research and conferences. “Let us together identify funding sources to propel this collaboration forward,” the VC said.

India and Indonesia could engage in studies related to bio-diversity as both the countries had unique specific geographical locations, felt the Vice-Chancellor. Collaborations within Asia also did not involve a high cost of travel, and hence would be financially more viable. He expressed his desire to strengthen regional cooperation between the two countries by promoting more social, cultural and scientific exchanges.



The Indonesian team presents a memento to the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Talat Ahmad.

The delegation made up of faculty members from UMM, Indonesia sought short-term programmes, seminars and conferences where students and faculty both could develop upon their skills. The teams also agreed to allow individuals to pursue research programmes and make use of their respective library resources. J

Reaching out across the seas



The videoconference testing in progress at Jamia.

GLOBAL UNDERSTANDING Through Literature, a course taught by a joint team of the Department of English, Jamia Millia Islamia and the Winston Salem State University, will begin from the Spring Semester of 2015. Through video conferencing and Skype, the two universities will bridge the distance gap and offer students sitting both in Delhi and Winston Salem, USA a chance to exchange cultural information. In June 2014, a video conference to test the system was set up by the Centre of Information Technology, Jamia Millia Islamia.

Lessons from Kedarnath

Researchers and scientists with the National Resource Data Management Service and the Department of Science & Technology got together in Jamia Millia Islamia to discuss their findings on the Kedarnath flash flood disaster.

Prof Talat Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia is the Principal Investigator studying the Kedarnath disaster. The project mapped the disaster to understand it using Geographic Information Systems and Global Positioning Systems. The investigators will upload their findings and inferences as a detailed report on Bhuvan — Geo Portal of Indian Space Research Organisation. J

'Network of Lawyers' trained

Workshop to train lawyers to be sensitive to issues concerning women and children held at Jamia

A 'NETWORK of Lawyers' (NOL) training workshop organised by the Lawyers Collective Women's Rights Initiative (LCWRI) with support from the Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia took place at Jamia Millia Islamia from June 23-26.

The training programme started with a welcome note from Dr Manjula Batra, Dean, Faculty of Law, Jamia and Indira Jaising, Executive Director, LCWRI.

We need sensitivity, adequate knowledge, understanding of laws and legal remedies, particularly in situations of violence perpetrated against women and children. The Lawyers Collective is developing a National Network of 23 lawyers to develop their advocacy capacities to provide rights-based legal services to women and children survivors.

Some of the concerns which emerged from participating lawyers were:

- Implementation of orders (such as maintenance orders, residence orders under Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act) a problem;
- Judges are insensitive in cases involving violence against women
- Very often, the husband and in-laws do not appear in court in cases involving matrimonial disputes and domestic violence;
- Inability to find witnesses particularly in domestic violence cases and cases under section 498A IPC is a problem;

A total of 23 lawyers from all over India, primarily working in district courts, attended the training programme. Lawyers Collective intends to partner with the Faculty of Law, Jamia Millia Islamia, in the next few years for future training programmes aimed at the network of lawyers.

Safety of NE students: Jamia shows the way


To address all concerns of students hailing from the North Eastern states, Jamia Millia Islamia has elaborate arrangements in place, said Prof Talat Ahmad during an interaction with a 12-member visiting delegation led by MP Bezbaruah, Member, North Eastern Council.

A committee was constituted under the chairmanship of Bezbaruah in February, 2014 to look into the concerns of people hailing from the North Eastern states living in different parts of the country.

"The offices of the Chief Proctor, Dean of Students' Welfare and the Centre for North East Studies and Policy Research, Jamia Millia Islamia have made adequate arrangements to preclude any discrimination against students coming from the North Eastern region," the Vice-Chancellor added.

The Vice-Chancellor also announced his plans to initiate a sensitisation programmes on the campus to prevent the occurrence of any untoward incident.

The visiting delegation suggested a dedicated space on Jamia's website be linked with the Delhi Police portal to highlight various issues and concerns of students hailing from the North Eastern states. The committee sought suggestions from the university for proactive measures against acts of discrimination. Students interacted with the committee and gave feedback on issues and concerns that they had.

The university on its part will also organise structured modules for teachers at the Academic Staff College to pre-empt any discrimination. Teachers will plough their learnings back into educational programmes for students and continue the chain of learning. 

Everybody loves Turkish

THE FACULTY of Humanities and Languages received an unprecedented number of applications for B.A. (Hons.) in Turkish Language and Literature making it one of the most sought-after language programmes in the university.

A total of 1,527 applications were received for an intake of only 30 seats. Approximately 700 applications were received for admission to 40 seats in the Certificate Course in Turkish (Part-time).

This rush of applications is a result of the excellent placement record of the Turkish language and literature students in various multinational companies. Apart from placement opportunities, the Turkish programmes offer fellowships to students to pursue their higher studies in Turkey. Till date, 43 students have received fellowships.



Experiencing India

The six-week International Summer School curriculum from Jamia Millia Islamia offers students from across the world an incredible opportunity to explore India from close quarters



Volunteering at a school is a part of the curriculum.

They had heard of an Incredible India, but after six weeks at the International Summer School they also saw for themselves how vast and varied the country and how diverse its people are.

“An effort was made to invite the best students from reputed universities across the world,” said Amjad Ali Khan, Executive Director. The 22 students at the programme in 2014 came from universities in Bhutan, Turkey, Nepal, Fiji, Nigeria, Germany, Yemen, Japan, and Indonesia.

Jamia established the International Summer School in 2013 as part of the ‘Incredible India’ campaign of the Government of India.

Kenji Kurotobi from Tokyo University has studied in China and Korea before. “My area of interest is East Asian countries, and while I was studying in China and Korea, I got interested in South Asian countries. This gave me an opportunity to study India in a condensed time frame,” he says.

Marie Isabell Waarlo, a student of New Media from University of Applied Sciences in Cologne, Germany applied to the School because she wanted to learn and explore India, and Jamia seemed like the best place to do just that.

The six-week-long academic programme included sessions on Indian politics, economy,

sociology and history. With 90 hours of in-class teaching time, the afternoons were reserved for conversational classes, where international students learnt basic Hindi.

There was also a workshop on environmental sustainability by reviving faith in the traditional system of *Bhasha, Bhojan, Bhesh, Bhawan and Bhajan* (Dialect, Diet, Dress, Dwelling and Dance/Song) called *5waraj*. “We were not afraid to include the problem areas. We thought that foreign students should understand these too,” noted Prof Nisar-ul Haq, Coordinator of the School.

On some days, there were special interaction sessions with eminent figures of Indian society, including Justice Madan Lokur, judge, Supreme Court of India; Shashi Tharoor, Member of Parliament; Venu Rajamony, Press Secretary to the President of India and Suhasini Haidar, an eminent journalist.

Classroom learning aside, the biggest takeaway for all the students were the bonds that they forged amongst themselves. The sweltering heat of Delhi did not deter this group of youngsters from exploring the city with their Indian friends, travelling in buses, eating at Karim’s at Nizamuddin to riding cycle rickshaws and visiting monuments. The daily photograph uploads on the Facebook account testify to their experiences.

The last leg of the six-week programme was a two-week fieldwork experience in Rajasthan. Jamia tied up with Ritinjali, an NGO working in the field of education in Delhi and Rajasthan, to involve the participating students in its activities. The students got an opportunity to volunteer with Ritinjali’s community development initiatives and this experience counted towards fieldwork. “Feedback from last year’s batch made this year’s programme much better, and we hope next years will be even better,” summed up student Amjad Ali Khan. **J**

Fun and games were also a part of the experience.






Making his 'nano' mark

Jamia scholar bags award for his poster on biological application of nano particles

Abhijeet Mishra, a research scholar at the Department of Biosciences, Jamia Millia Islamia bagged the second best poster award at the International Conference on Electron Microscopy held in New Delhi July 9-11, 2014. The conference was jointly organised by University of Delhi, and the Electron Microscope Society of India.

Mishra's research interest is devoted to biological synthesis of metal (silver and gold) and magnetic nanoparticles and their applications. In the conference, he explained the use of magnetic nanoparticles for isolation of genomic DNA. Synthesised iron oxide magnetic nanoparticles are used to isolate the genomic DNA from human blood cells and *E. coli*. This process is rapid and fairly easy to perform. Abhijeet has published eight papers and one book chapter on the process. 

American dream

DAUD ARIF, a student of the BA Sociology Honours course has won a scholarship to study at the Wayne State University, in the US. The scholarship is sponsored by the US Department of State, and Daud is in the USA for one year studying towards a diploma in communications. "It gives me immense pleasure and a feeling of honour when I say I represent the world's largest democracy, one of the largest growing economies and the place where signs of ancient cultures can be traced — India" he says. Daud hopes to do his bit in ensuring that all children in India have access to quality primary education, when he comes back home. In the USA, he is learning and absorbing all he can while living his dream.



Daud Arif is thrilled to be a cultural ambassador for the world's largest democracy.

Jamia students get into IIMs and IITs

STUDENTS FROM the Department of Computer Engineering have brought laurels to Jamia Millia Islamia.

Ayush Sharma, a B Tech 2013 student has made it to IIM Ahmedabad for a post graduate diploma.

Lakshay Sahni, a B Tech 2014 student has secured a place in IIM Indore for a post graduate diploma.

Abhishek R Chauhan (B Tech 2014) secured 251st rank and **Sania Qamar** (B Tech 2013) secured the 261st rank in GATE 2014 while **Gaurav Kumar** (B Tech 2014) got selected in IIT Mumbai for an M Tech. He ranked among the top 10 students in the reserved category.



Toilet of beauty, a joy forever

Students design a sustainable public toilet aiming for a Swacch Bharat and win the first prize




Three students from the Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics-Iffat Usmani Eingeel Jafar Khan and Ankit Sati-have won the first prize in the FINISH Sanitation Design Contest. The prize carries a cash award of ₹1,00,000 that the team shared among themselves.

The competition brief had asked for a novel design for urinals, individual toilets and community toilets that were cost-effective, environmentally safe and backed up by a simple business plan.

The team designed a toilet for the

potters village in Sainik Enclave Delhi. They were inspired to make a system of public toilets that was adaptive to both user density and varied climate conditions. Locally available materials were used and customised to make the facility cost-effective and energy efficient.

The well designed toilet included a wall of earthen pots made by local craftsmen, which was functional and aesthetically pleasing. It gave the community a sense of inclusion. They effectively utilised waste from the toilet to produce bio gas which could then power firing kilns of the potters. 

Swacch Abhiyaan efforts applauded

DR HARPREET SINGH, Director, Ministry of Human Resource Development visited Jamia on Sep 25 and took stock of Swacch Bharat Abhiyan initiatives taken by Jamia. He appreciated the pro active measures that were taken by students and staff.

He suggested that Jamia could devise a garbage disposal mechanism to make the campus garbage-free. Jamia is in the process of putting systems in place to make the campus environment-friendly.

National Service Scheme volunteers and students from Jamia Millia Islamia organised a camp from Sep 22 till Oct 2.

The students visited some areas around Jamia not known to have a clean environment with uncleared garbage and littered streets. They organised cleanup drives in the localities and raised awareness.



From Left: Iffat Usmani, Eingeel J. Khan, Ankit Sati



Getting into the conflicted mind

A talented personality whose research takes her places

Sramana Majumdar is a multi-faceted PhD scholar at the Department of Psychology, Jamia Millia Islamia.


She is working to understand emotions, resistance, and reconciliation in the context of conflict, a field still in its infancy. Sramana has worked with youth in Kashmir.

A recipient of the Fulbright Nehru scholarship in 2013, she completed an academic year at the Frances L. Hiatt School of Psychology, Clark University, Massachusetts as a doctoral visiting research fellow.

She holds a gold medal awarded

by the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India for securing the first position in her post graduation at the National Institute of Criminology and Forensic Science.

Sramana was one of just 15 psychologists worldwide selected for an advanced training seminar in 2012 at the International Congress of Psychology held in South Africa where she presented her paper to a global audience.


A trained Bharatnatyam dancer, she has performed on stage in drama and dance productions in the past and also dabbles in jazz. 

Off to Italian shores

Five lucky students from the Centre for European and Latin American Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia have been granted scholarships to pursue higher studies in Italy by the Ministry of External Affairs.


Raghuveer Singh, Mohd. Shahid Khan, Devendra Kumar and Vaseem Ahmad, who are students of the Advanced Diploma in Italian and

Bhisham Pal Singh, studying for an M.Phil in European Studies have all been awarded the scholarships.

The five winners will study at the University for Foreigners in Perugia for 3 months. The university, founded in 1921, is the oldest university for foreign students of Italian language and culture. Perugia, a university town, is a well-known cultural and artistic centre of Italy. 

Of research on flora

Rita Bagheri, a PhD scholar in the Department of Biotechnology won the 2nd poster award for her presentation titled 'Proteomic investigations to study the role of sulfur in mitigating cadmium stress in Spinach.'

She won this prize at a National Seminar on Plant Biotechnology: Challenges and Opportunities in the 21st Century, organised at Jamia Hamdard on 3rd and 4th March 2014. 



Essaying his way to victory



ON THE OCCASION of Navroze, the Iranian new year on 21st March 2014, a program was organised where Ali Alami from the Iran Culture House was the chief guest. In an essay competition among the students **Bonyad Ali**, a student of MA Persian won the first prize.



Just the right ones in

The Admissions Committee completes another year of intake, and simplifies the process

The best dishes are made using top quality ingredients. With this in mind, the admissions committee at Jamia has been hard at work choosing the most deserving students from the flood of applications they have received.

In the academic year 2014, the committee tried to make things simpler and used technology to the benefit of applicants and the University. "We accepted online applications, took the application fees online and reduced the size of the prospectus, to make things easier for students," explains Prof Sharfuddin Ahmad, Chairperson of the Admissions committee.

It took the team a few months of putting their heads together to eliminate redundant information from the prospectus. Documents went back and forth between departments to keep just essential information in. From 167 pages thick in 2013, the prospectus was reduced to 67 pages in 2014.

The online form submission has been a success, 50,000 plus of the 1,24,548 forms were submitted online. The process ensured lesser errors, and all essential information was available.

As Dr Shane Kazim Naqvi, from the Centre of Information Technology, who led the digitisation process, elaborates, "Online forms capture all re-

quired data, and unless every box is checked and field filled in, you cannot submit the form." This helped students too, forms were not rejected for lack of data.

The University had other benefits from the online process. Three of the top gains were

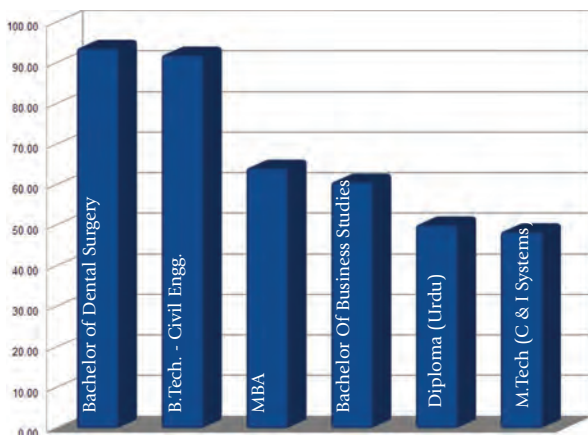
- The errors which crept in while manually entering data were greatly reduced,
- The manpower diverted to compile information was halved.
- Money was saved by automating the forms on the website.

Jamia pays its staff ₹5 for each form entered into the system, for 1,00,000 forms it costs ₹5,00,000 just to enter the data, plus other costs like electricity to power the offices. Cutting down on half this amount has encouraged the team to aim at 100 per cent automation next year.

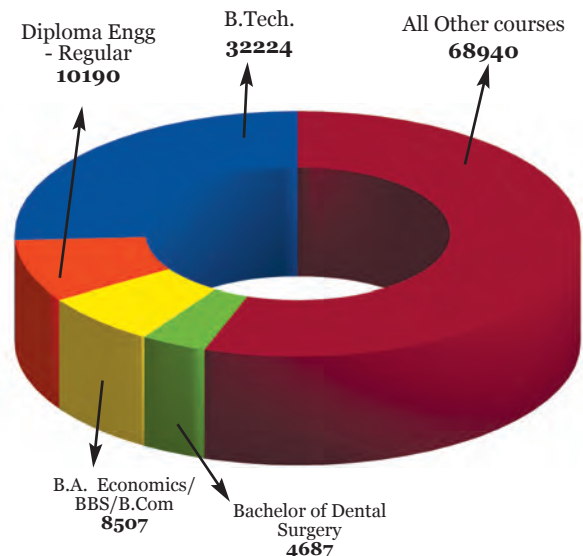
A dedicated email to answer the queries of applicants was set up and Asst Prof Mansaf Alam volunteered to answer queries. He replied to 4,000 people and the thank you emails he received are a testimony to his invaluable help.

With the hard work behind them, the team is not resting, there is still data to be analysed, things to improve and processes to make simpler. The admission cycle turns another wheel. J

Toughest competition based on applicants per seat



Most popular courses by number of applications received





A view of the murals on the walls of the Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics. (Photo: Abhishek Mukherjee)

Constructing the Future

The Faculty of Architecture is taking strides in crucial areas of design and habitation

From the entrance, the Department looks a little different from the other buildings in Jamia. There are murals painted along the path leading to the doorway and the metal gate is decorated with motifs inspired by stone jaali patterns on Indian monuments. The touches of students have made the building a showcase of their work.

Inside the building, the walls are covered with even bigger, colourful murals and floor plans of numerous projects, it looks like a permanent exhibition is on. The Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics which is housed here, complements Jamia's twin missions of Social Concern and Innovation, and trains students towards this vision. Its programmes are unique, socially relevant and in high demand as they are job-oriented.

The faculty have diverse specializations and give a wide exposure to students at both the undergraduate and post-graduate levels. The students are allowed to choose electives from languages, history and other relevant subjects to give them a broad perspective.

The department has emerged as an important destination serving foreign students from various countries like Iran, Iraq, Afghanistan, Congo, Palestine, Saudi Arabia among others and the course curriculum is of international relevance. To bridge the gap between academic and real world knowledge the post-graduate level programme is conducted in the evening when industry professionals are available to share their expertise with students.

"We share a great rapport with our teachers and seniors, as architects we cannot get all we need from books, a practical knowledge is needed," says Palak Agrawal, a 3rd year student of Bachelors in Architecture. "The teachers here force you to think, and we are asked to critically examine the best buildings, and along with their qualities, find faults in them," adds her classmate, Pavneet Kaur.

The department conducts educational tours every year to Hilly, Desert, Coastal and the North East regions of India, providing an exposure to students of the vernacular architecture and the habitation of these places. The students

On Offer

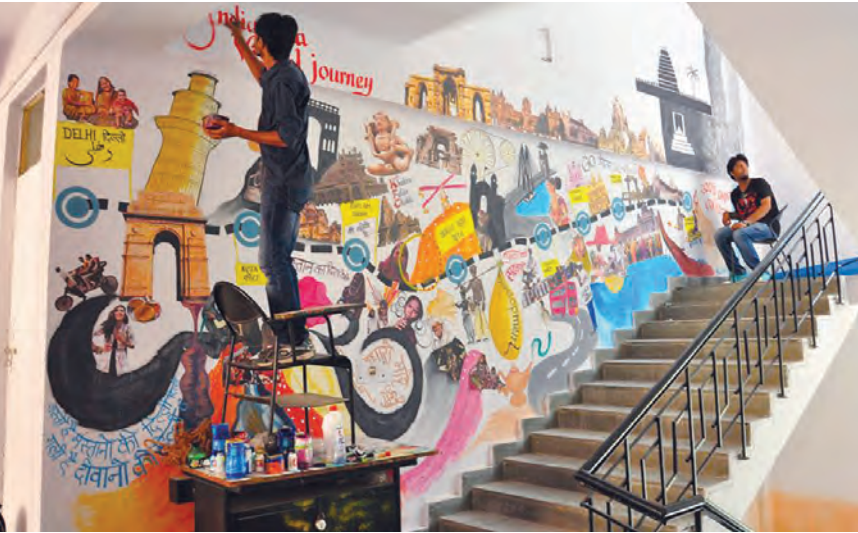
THE DEPARTMENT offers a Bachelors Degree in Architecture and signature Masters Programmes, **M.Arch In Ekistics** to help in growth and management of human settlements, as per needs and expectations of people.

M.Arch In Building Services to cater to parameters related to Building Design, Operation and Maintenance with implementation of the latest technologies available.

M.Arch In Medical Architecture to cater to the demand of the health care industry due to introduction of new medical practices.

M.Arch In Recreation Architecture to equip students to address the growing need for state of the art facilities and infrastructure for tourism and recreational activities.

M.Arch In Urban Regeneration aims at reviving urban settlements which are rendered inhabitable due to degenerated civic conditions and congestion, poor infrastructure and transportation.



Students making murals on the walls in the Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics. (Photo: Shamik Laskar)

get to see unique styles and climatic conditions.


The Consultancy Cell provides an opportunity for students and faculty alike to practice and work on live-projects as the field demands practical experi-

ence along with academic knowledge.

The teaching, learning and evaluation is strengthened by interactive sessions with practicing architects, academicians and former students using the latest developments in the field of architecture and the curriculum is devised accordingly.

The syllabus has been formalised by organising national level workshops with inputs from renowned academicians, practicing architects, and consultants from across India and even beyond.

The students learn through innovative, practical and field oriented exercises, and have at their disposal two state of the art computer labs equipped with the latest available software in the industry, along with model workshops and survey labs.

Despite being relatively new in the discipline, the Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics has won several awards and made its presence felt in National and International competitions, including the prestigious National Association for Students of Architecture awards. By the time students leave Jamia, the world is theirs to construct and design and they are confident of making their mark in it. 

Areas of Consultancy : Projects worked on by the Faculty of Architecture and Ekistics

- Conservation and Site Development of Six Heritage Monuments of Delhi: Tomb of Syed Yasin, Mosque at Arab Ki Serai, Tomb to the south of DPS, Gateway next to Oberoi Hotel, Tomb of Sheikh Ali, Jharna Garden.
- Local Area Plans for Three contiguous Wards of Shahdara Zone, East Delhi - Gharoli, Kondli and Khichripur.
- Preparation of Regulation Plan of Unauthorised Colonies under jurisdiction of East Delhi Municipal Corporation.
- Landscape Design of Lawns and Open Spaces, Jamia Millia Islamia
- Conservation of Jamia School Building
- Centre for Spanish and Latin Languages, Jamia Millia Islamia

Award	Date	Students	Year
International University of Westminster Design Competition	January 2014	Bhrigu Kalia	Vth Year
Griha Main Design Trophy	January 2014	Abhishek Mukherjee, Nihareeka Bhatti, Yusra Ansari, Nitesh Salwan, Shamik Laskar	IVth Year
International Jury Honourable Mention Rethinking the Future Project on the Revival of Dal Lake	2014 Landscape Design Concept	Sabika Zaidi Nadia Ali Reema Khan Atia Khursheed	IIIrd Year
Special Mention National Association for Students of Architecture Kaavad (a Vernacular Style of Painting from Rajasthan)		Deepesh Sangtani Humaira Kabir Sushmita Tripathi	IIInd Year
Indian Institute of Human Settlements Innokart, a Food Cart		Ahmed Faraz Saiza Famal Huma Parvez Nida Haque	IIInd Year



My memories of Jamia

Prof. Sadiqur Rahman Kidwai remembers his family's contributions to Jamia Millia Islamia

When I first came to Jamia in 1939 at the age of 7, the campus was based in Karol Bagh. I studied in the Jamia primary school from standard 2nd till 10th and stayed in the hostel. These were turbulent times in the country, there were a lot of communal troubles.

Jamia Millia Islamia, founded on Gandhian principles by nationalists, had its own course curriculum and linked itself to the freedom struggle. The British did not recognise the courses as we were taught from an anti imperialist viewpoint. Through books and speeches we learnt the objectives of *Swaraj*. Every morning in our school meeting we got to know what freedom fighters had done the previous day.

On 26 January 1930 the Congress declared *Purna Swaraj* on the banks of the river Ravi in Lahore and raised the Indian flag. Jamia celebrated this day every year as a symbolic event related to the struggle. We were also emotionally moulded to understand what happened in Jalianwala Bagh in 1919 by remembering 13th April each year.

The students of Jamia were lucky to have first hand contact with important personalities of the freedom struggle. In 1946 at the silver jubilee of Jamia, Maulana Azad, Pandit Nehru, MA Jinnah, C Rajagopalachari and Liaquat Ali were present. Mahatama Gandhi sent a message to be read out as he was in Calcutta where riots had broken out.

We were taught to always express ourselves freely. We had active members of the Communist Party, Congress and the Muslim League, it was a very vibrant and democratic culture, we spoke and debated but there were no tussles amongst us.

In 1938, my father Shafiqur Rahman Kidwai started the Adara-e-Taleem-o-Taraqqi, adult and community education centres for people in parts of Delhi who were not privileged to get an education. The first centres were started in old Delhi, Bara Hindu Rao, Beriwalla Bagh, Qassabpura, Gali Qasim Jan, Matia Mahal and Jama Masjid.

These centres catered to the educational and cultural needs of people of all ages.

The hard work done through these initiatives was recognised even by the United Nations Educa-



Prof Kidwai, noted Urdu scholar retired as a professor of Urdu from Jawaharlal Nehru University.

tional, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) and the staff was borrowed to emulate programmes in other developing countries.

In 1951 my mother Siddiqua Kidwai, started the Balak Mata Centres, to teach mothers and children under the same roof. The centres had play schools for children and free education and handicraft skills for their mothers. In old Delhi, at the time, people were poor and especially the women were out of touch with anything modern. When mothers came with their children to these centres, they saw the light of modern India. They were introduced to what was happening in the country and exposed to new attitudes that opened their eyes. The skills that they learnt here gave them financial independence, they earned money while working from their homes.

My father went to Indonesia as UNESCO Chief of Mission in 1952. After his untimely death in 1953, my mother totally devoted herself to the Balak Mata Centres. The centres are still a very important part of their communities. Young girls, women and children learn life changing skills here that they carry through their lives. J



Jamia School revamped

A heritage building conserved by two departments from Jamia Millia Islamia


The Jamia School building was built in 1929 by Austrian architect Carl Heinz, a close friend of Dr. Zakir Hussain. It was a challenge for the architect to make a building with a unique character, signifying a new beginning and a modernity associated with the progressive school of thought. The architect developed the 'Jamia style' of architecture.

The building has built-up spaces linked to each other through a courtyard serving multiple functions of a breather, connector, performance space, and social space for residents. The spaces of this building participate in the everyday life of the students and are not locked up. The visual connection and transition of spaces is done by means of a foyer with uniquely designed, innovative arches.

With exposed brickwork, finned arches, domes to break the skyline, bands to frame openings, highlight surface changes and connecting cozy courtyards, the whole and proportion of these elements make the building a poetic composition.

With time, changes happened to the building

fabric, from age and use. The bricks started chipping off and the floors, railings, wooden door frames and roof slabs deteriorated. One of the domes developed cracks after an earthquake, and was later removed from the building. There was a time when it was proposed to raze down the building and build a new structure in its place. The Faculty of Architecture offered to do the conservation and restoration work of the Jamia school building for the university. The structural work was done by the department of Civil Engineering.

The conservation work comprised of the Dome being rebuilt, the brickwork redone; post stressing technique for structural strength, deteriorated roof slabs replaced, wet areas (kitchens and bathrooms) removed from the building to separate blocks created outside. New electrical conduits and layouts, flooring, railings and wooden frames were laid as per the layout. The dining hall was completely refurbished. Every attempt was made to bring back the building to its original character successfully. And the results are there for all to see. 



A view of one side of the heritage Jamia School building from the central lawn.



Art for the Japanese

Moeen Fatma wows the Japanese with performance art and installations using bangles

Associate Prof Moeen Fatma from the Faculty of Fine Arts presented her art at the 20th Nippon International Performance Art Festival in Japan. On the first day, her performance in Tokyo involved colourful bangles worn by Indian women. “I invited a girl from the audience and dressed her in red like an Indian bride. I made her wear makeup, jewellery and then the bangles, which could cover her whole hand. A woman putting bangles on another woman’s hands is a deep rooted Indian tradition and reminds us of the cycle of life,” explains Prof Fatma.

The Japanese people have no tradition of wearing bangles so they were fascinated by the performance, and marvelled at the association of joy with the bangles. Prof Fatma distributed bangles among the audience also as a



Japanese girls getting Indian bridal makeup.

token of this joy to be experienced.

There was more in store on other days, performance art using tricoloured bangles and umbrellas. ↓

A powerlifting pro

Dr Aurangzeb Khurram Hafiz, an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Physics has won the gold medal in the senior National Powerlifting Championship 2014 held at Goa.

Dr Hafiz has many medals and records under his belt, including a gold and silver medal at the National Benchpress Powerlifting Championships 2014 and a national record, lifting 225 kg in the National Powerlifting Championship 2013.

Laser physics, nano science and quantum physics are also his forte, and Dr Hafiz has been a sportsman since his school days. In 1993, he won arm wrestling championships as a college student, and has not looked back. His 20 inch biceps and 52 inch chest, are a result of years of hard work. He believes in keeping it clean, and has never used any



banned substances to beef up. Dr Hafiz is currently busy preparing for the World Powerlifting Championships. “It is just a matter of a few months before I make my mark on the world stage,” the multiple medal winner said confidently. ↓

Comparing Cities

DR NAVED JAMAL, an Assistant Professor in the Faculty of Political Sciences travelled to Paris and Marseille to participate in a seminar titled ‘Cities are Back in Town.’ He also collected material for his project on Politics of Social Exclusion: A Comparative Study of Two Cities Mumbai and Marseille.



“Though my knowledge of French is limited, the staff and students of the Aix Marseille University were a big help and I was able to interact with people and survey Marseille for my ongoing research,” said Prof Jamal. He will next collect study material from Mumbai to complete his project.

Academy of International Studies



The Maulana Mohammad Ali Jauhar Academy of International Studies was established in 1988 on the initiative of the then Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The Academy shifted to the new building designed by architects Padma Shri Joseph Stein and Anuraag Chowfla in December 2005. The sandstone clad building has a very distinct identity with an elevated and shaded courtyard which is an informal meeting place. The beauty of simplicity is seen in the building just like its architects envisioned and it does not soar high, but gives a feeling of coming down to meet the earth. Inside, it houses various centres for region specific studies and the Abid Husain Library, which has 15,000 books including the works of many known figures of the nationalist movement.



Jamia Millia Islamia

Maulana Mohamed Ali Jauhar Marg, Jamia Nagar, New Delhi - 110025

EPABX: +91(11)26981717, 26988044, 26984075, 26985176

Website: www.jmi.ac.in