

Media Coordinator's Office Jamia Millia Islamia

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Press Release

Hon'ble MoS HRD Shri M.N. Pandey congratulates JMI on its illustrious history at the Annual Convocation 2016

At an impressive Annual Convocation function of Jamia Millia Islamia today, a total of 4627 degrees and diplomas were awarded to students from different Faculties, Departments and Centres who successfully completed M.Phil., Post-graduation, Graduation and Diploma courses in 2015. Hon'ble Union Minister of State for HRD (Higher Education) Shri Mahendra Nath Pandey was the Chief Guest on the occasion.

Gold medals were also presented to 169 toppers by the Hon'ble Minister along with AIIMS Director who was the Guest of Honour and Chancellor of the University, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) M. A. Zaki. 263 Ph. D. degrees were awarded to those research scholars whose results were notified up to October, 2016,

Addressing the gathering, Hon'ble Minister Shri Pandey expressed his happiness that the Convocation coincided with the 'National Education Day' celebrations commemorating the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna and first Education Minister of Independent India, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, a founding member of Jamia Millia Islamia.

Alluding to the rich history of Jamia he lauded the contribution of Mahatma Gandhi, Mohammad Ali Jauhar, Janab Hakim Ajmal Khan and Maulana Azad in establishing the university in 1920.

Drawing a distinction between institutions set up before and after the country's Independence he said that the early institutions like JMI and Kashi Vidyapeeth were set up to carry forward the Indian culture as well as imbibe modern education and inculcate a spirit of participation among the youth in the Independence struggle.

The Minister added that Maulana Azad along with Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and Dr. S. Radhakrishnan laid the foundation of the education system in India and were instrumental in

the formation of UGC and IITs. "Abul Kalam Azad's contributions will be remembered for all times to come", Shri Pandey said.

The Minister said that Islam encourages education for both boys and girls and even emphasizes on travelling to far off lands to acquire an education.

He congratulated Jamia's nine faculties and the impressive progress registered by them in the last few years through research in critical and contemporary subjects. Calling JMI "the finest example in the country of an institution where tradition meets modernity" he hailed the University for establishing more than 30 research centres and for starting a Department of Sanskrit and Climate Change and Disaster Management. Taking about Jamia completing 100 years, the Minister assured the university of all possible assistance from his Ministry.

Referring to the recent demonetization of Rs 500 and Rs 1000/- currency notes, the Minister said that the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's decision would help the young generation in fulfilling their aspirations like those of housing as this step will help in driving out black money from the market.

Prof. M.C. Misra asked students to adapt a lifestyle that is in tune with Indian culture and not to blindly follow the West. Enumerating that the incidence of Cancers and other life threatening diseases have been much lower in India than in the western countries, he said that we must follow a lifestyle that includes exercises and yoga to remain healthy. He recommended that a campaign on the lines of Swachch Bharat to minimise the use of antibiotics was much needed.

Prof. Misra called upon the students to develop leadership qualities and be professionally competent.

Prof. Talat Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia delivering the Vice-Chancellor's Address enlisted the achievements of the university in the last one year and said that Jamia was "on the threshold of a new innings as it was nearing its centenary year in 2020." He asked the HRD and the UGC for all help to the university as it completes 100 years.

The function was also attended by the University's Chancellor, Lt. Gen. (Retd.) M. A. Zaki, , Pro Vice-Chancellor, Prof Shahid Ashraf, Registrar, Mr. A. P. Siddiqui, I.P.S. , Deans, Heads of Departments and Directors of Centres, faculty members and students. Former Vice Chancellor, Shri Shahid Mahdi, members of the diplomatic core were among the dignitaries who were present at the Convocation.

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