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## **Press Release**

### **UK-India share a diverse and assimilating multi-cultural society**

A two-day workshop to designate college level students as 'Ambassadors of Peace' and to train them on the concepts of Tolerance and Coexistence by various faith leaders was organized at Jamia Millia Islamia.

The workshop, which was inaugurated by JMI Vice Chancellor Prof Talat Ahmad, was organized by Prof Junaid Haris of Department of Islamic Studies in collaboration with British High Commission in New Delhi. Andrew Soper, Minister Counsellor (Press and Political), British High Commission was the Chief Guest.

In his speech, Prof Talat Ahmed said "Jamia has always advocated development of a tolerant and assimilating society. Through this effort we aim to train our future leaders on the concepts of building a cohesive and tolerant society and principles of multi-culturalism in a diverse society". This is the third workshop on the subject.

Mr Soper said "UK is a multicultural, diverse society like India and I am happy to note that efforts are being made to nurture young students on these concepts, and this effort will definitely help in teaching them the core concepts of tolerance and coexistence".

A book 'Interfaith: Co-Existence and Tolerance' edited by Junaid Haris was released on the occasion jointly by the Vice Chancellor and Mr Soper. Dr. Habeebul Rahman, Assistant Project Director presented the report of the progress of the project so far. A short film on the previous workshops was screened during the occasion.

Project Director Prof Haris said that so far JMI has organised these workshops at Aligarh Muslim University and JMI itself. The students' response at both the workshops has been very positive and participants have appreciated efforts to acquaint them on the basic fundamentals of every religion and their views on tolerance and coexistence.

Students feel motivated by being designated as 'Ambassadors of Peace' and have pledged to propagate these principles in the society as a whole and amongst their peer group.

Prof Junaid further said that Jamia would organize three more workshops at MDA Engineering College, Nuh, Mewat, Punjabi University, Patiala and M Azad Urdu University, Jodhpur, later this month.

On the occasion, Asad Mirza, Press & Communications Advisor at the High Commission said that BHC's links JMI are very old and in the past JMI faculty has delivered many successful projects and hoped that the current project will help in further strengthening the views of the student community on how to establish a tolerant, cohesive and a peaceful society.

**Office of the Media Coordinator**  
Jamia Millia Islamia

Attachment: Pictures of the event





