

**Media Coordinator's Office
Jamia Millia Islamia**

February 12, 2018

Press Release

**Exhibition to mark 150th birth anniversary of Hakim Mohammed Ajmal Khan, first
JMI Chancellor and founder opens today**

An academic robe and badge worn by Hakim Mohammed Ajmal Khan, founder and first Chancellor of Jamia Millia Islamia, at its first Convocation in 1921, texts of his speeches during the freedom struggle, and poems penned by him are among the exhibits on display at the university's Premchand Archives and Literary Centre to commemorate his 150th birth anniversary.

Vice Chancellor JMI, Prof Talat Ahmad along with Mr Masroor Ahmed Khan, the Hakim's eldest son's grandson, today inaugurated the fortnight-long exhibition. They were given a guided tour of the exhibition by the Centre's Director, Prof Sabiha A. Zaidi who has made a concerted effort to curate the archival material so that the current students of JMI are able to appreciate the great legacy of the Hakim.

A copy of his collection of Urdu poems: *Dewan-e- Shaida* published from Maktaba Jamia in 1926 is on display. Some poems from his dewan which have been enlarged and displayed were rendered aloud by students and faculty members. Apart from this, there are books by Hakim Saheb as well as books on him. There are also images of the newspaper *Akmal-ul Akhbaar* which was published by his family, Sharif Manzil, Delhi

A sculptor of Hakim Ajmal Khan in the Centre of the exhibition is the work of Prof. Gufran Kidwai, a former faculty of Fine Arts, JMI.

Speaking on the occasion, Prof Ahmad said that the university has been making several efforts to sustain and revive the legacy of one of its greatest founders and an extraordinary Hakim by introducing postgraduate and Ph D courses on Unani. He expressed hope that the exhibition will remind the students and teachers of the rich history of Jamia and its founders.

In recognition of his extraordinary service to the Unani tradition of medicine and to pay tribute to the legacy of its eminent founder, JMI has already launched PhD in Unani Medicine and Diploma programmes in Unani Pharmacy for which it is actively being supported by Central Council for Research in Unani Medicine (CCRUM), Ministry of Ayush, Government of India. The administrative block of the university that houses the Office of the Vice Chancellor and other top officials is named 'Khayaban-e-Ajmal', after its great founder.

Mr Masroor Ahmed Khan, President of Hakim Ajmal Khan Memorial Society penned in the visitor's diary, "may the legacy of Hakim Sahib live forever" and thanked JMI for hosting a well-organised exhibition on the heritage of 'Masih-ul-Mulk', Hakim Ajmal Khan.

The exhibits include a copy of the first convocation addresses of Jamia by him in 1921 and his Presidential Address at the 36th Indian National Congress Session, Ahmedabad in 1921.

A letter from Mahatma Gandhi dated March 12, 1922 commending him for his role towards Hindu-Muslim unity and the need for a united India to fight the British are a part of the exhibition along with many photographs with prominent national leaders of the time like Dr. M.A. Ansari, Motilal Nehru, Subhash Chandra Bose and Swami Shraddhanand.

A philanthropist, freedom fighter, famous Hakeem and a nationalist, Hakim Mohammed Ajmal Khan was born on February 11, 1868, in the illustrious Sharif Khani family of Delhi, that traces its lineage to a line of distinguished *Unani* doctors or Hakims, who first came to India in the 16th Century during the Mughal period.

Hakim Ajmal Khan started a *Hindustani Dawakhana* in this ancestral house and used it for service of the people of India. The Hindustani Dawakhana treated every patient who came to its door free of any charge, irrespective of his class, religion or region.

Hakim Ajmal Khan was actively associated with the Khilafat Movement as well as Gandhiji's call for Non-Cooperation. A natural outcome of this strive was the emergence of a national consciousness in education which resulted in the establishment of many institutions in India like Jamia Millia Islamia on 29 October 1920 as India's statement of self-reliance. Hakim Ajmal Khan, one of the founders was unanimously elected as its first Chancellor, a position which he held until his death in 1927.

(P.S. pictures attached)

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Media Coordinator
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خطبہ صدرات جلسہ تقسیم استدار
جامعہ

1921

حکیم اجمل خان

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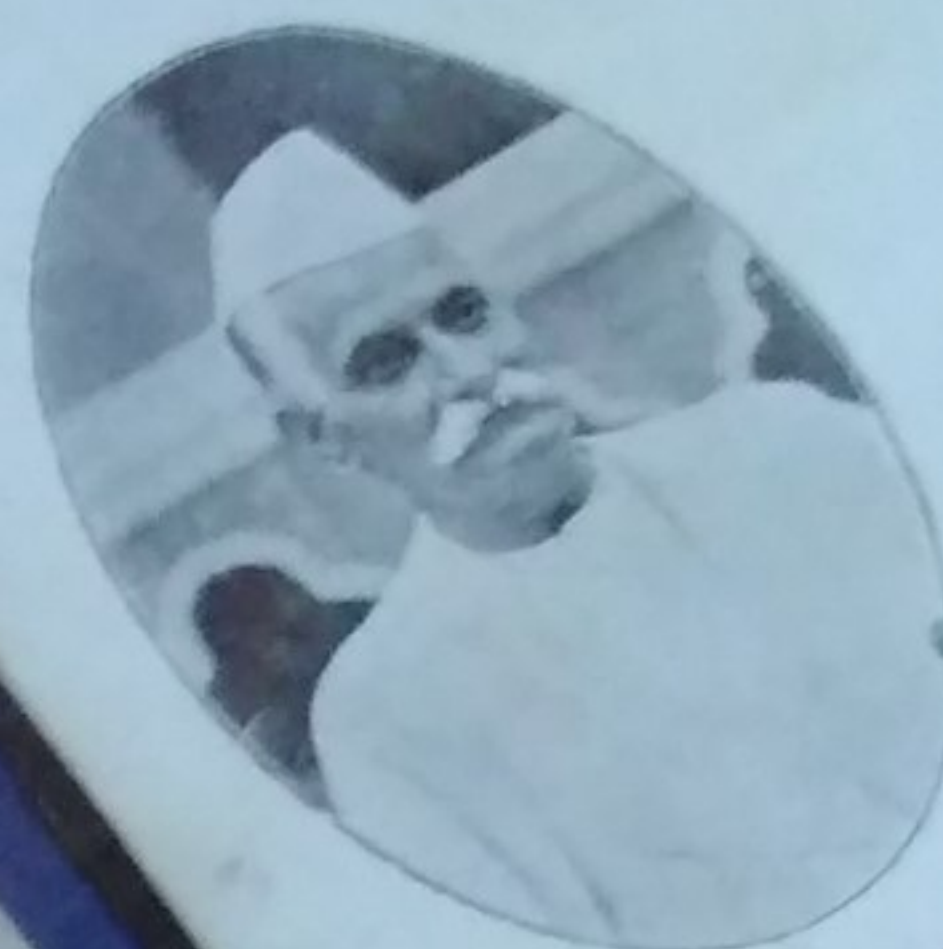
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خطبہ صدرات

مذہبِ اسلام کے تاجدار
آلِ اہل بیت علیہم السلام
کی شان و شوکت کا بیان
اور ان کے فضائل کا بیان
اور ان کے مناقب کا بیان

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- Addresses by Hakim Ajmal Khan
1. Khutba-i-Sadarat, (All India Muslim League), 1919
 2. Khutba-i-Sadarat, (Jalsa -i-Jameeat-ul-Ulema), 1920
 3. Khutba-i-Sadarat, (Jalsa-i-Taqqeem-i-Asnad), 1921
 4. Khutba-i-Sadarat, (Indian National Congress), 1921



Pandit Mohd. Nadeem
Congress General Secretary
(In Jail)

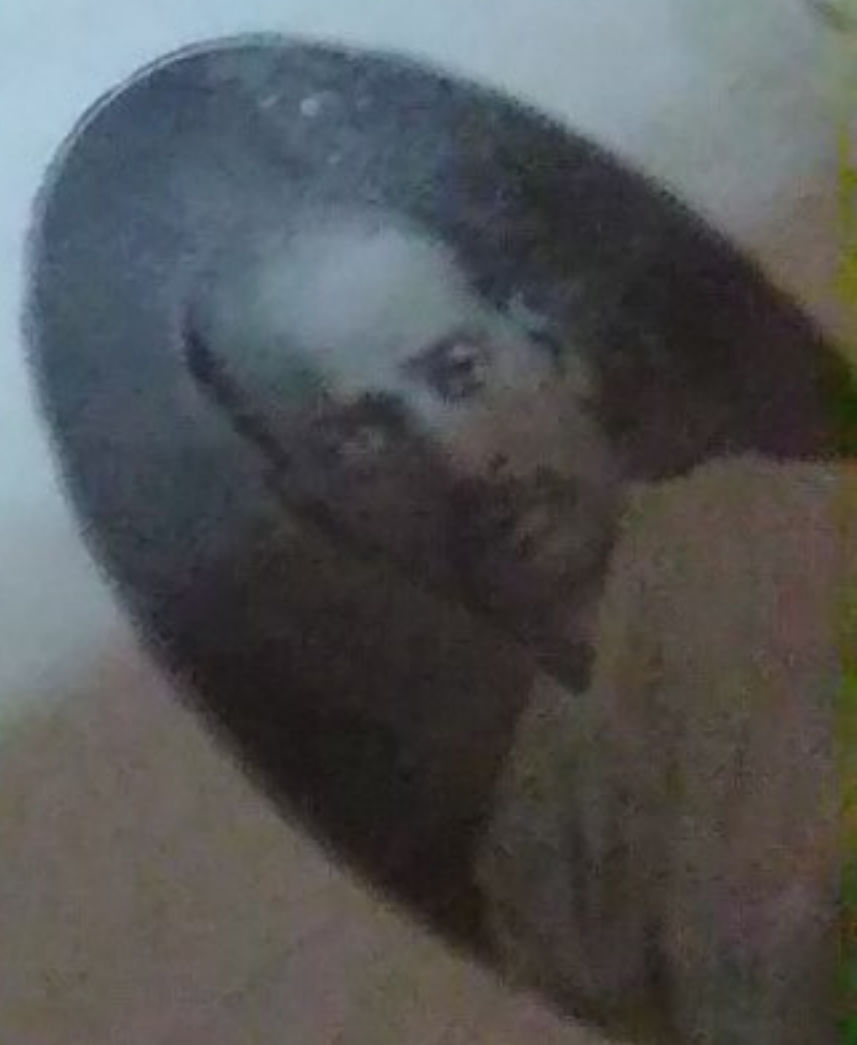


Sir C. Ramaprasad
Congress General Secretary
(In Jail)

AMMELBAD
1921



Dr. M. A. Anwar
Congress General Secretary



خطبہ صدرات
حکیم حافظ محمد جمال خان صاحب دہلی
مفتی اعظم
جمعیۃ العلماء
دہلی
مفتی اعظم
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ՀԱՅԱՍՏԱՆԻ ԿՈՆԳՐԵՍՍ

Academic Robe and Badge
worn by Hakim Ajmal Khan
at the first Convocation
of Jamia, Aligarh, 1921



