

Press Release

**Department of Architecture, JMI, signs MOU with the Arcause Clubs, Ethos Foundation to emerge as a hub for socially responsible design education**

New Delhi, August 5, 2025

The Department of Architecture, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), today signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Arcause Clubs, a flagship initiative under the Arcause Responsible Design movement. Registrar of JMI, Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, and Ar. Gita Balakrishnan, Founder Trustee of Ethos and Arcause, representing the two sides, signed the MoU at the university's Yasser Arafat Hall. The function was also attended by Prof. Qamar Irshad, Dean, Faculty of Architecture & Ekistics; Prof. Taiyaba Munawer, Head, Dept of Architecture; student representatives; and the Ethos team.

The landmark collaboration is set to position the Department of Architecture at the forefront of a nationwide network of Arcause Clubs, reaffirming its commitment to nurturing socially aware, design-conscious architects of the future. Arcause Clubs are student-led, campus-based collectives under the "Architects for a Cause" movement. They serve as dynamic platforms for bridging design education with real-world impact, empowering students to leverage design thinking for addressing social, environmental, and community challenges.

As a result of this collaboration, students of the Department of Architecture will gain from the following --- Skill-Building & exposure (workshops, interactive sessions, and mentorship from industry leaders, practitioners, and social innovators); participation in national campaigns (engaging in intercollegiate initiatives that use design as a catalyst for awareness and action); and access to Arcause resources (toolkits, publications, and research material focusing on housing, heritage, environment, and community development). Students will also be presented with leadership opportunities (in leading and co-creating projects, addressing local and global challenges through empathy-driven design). Besides, the partnership will provide avenues for networking and collaboration—connecting with a pan-India network of Arcause Clubs for diverse learning and cultural exchange and additionally, by garnering visibility and recognition by showcasing student-led initiatives on the Arcause platform and allied national forums.

With the launch of the Arcause Club at JMI, the Department of Architecture will strengthen its role as a hub for socially responsible design education, fostering a generation of architects who will design with empathy, purpose, and civic responsibility. This MoU paves the way for a transformative journey where architectural education merges with social purpose, shaping change-makers for a better tomorrow.

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Chief Public Relations Officer





JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA (CENTRAL UNIVERSITY)  
NEW DELHI



Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi