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Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer
Jamia Millia Islamia

Press Release

Jamia's Premchand Archives & Literary Centre, JMI hosts the Xth Premchand Memorial Lecture

New Delhi, November 25, 2026

Jamia's Premchand Archives and Literary Centre, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi organized Xth Munshi Premchand Memorial Lecture on Thursday, 19th November 2026. The lecture was delivered by Prof. Abdul Bismillah, a renowned Hindi Fiction writer & Former Head, Department of Hindi, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi and Presided by Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Mazhar Asif, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

On this occasion, Prof. Shahzad Anjum, *Director of Archives* inaugurated the event by thanking Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Prof. Mazhar Asif for accepting his invitation to chair the session and for being generous enough to support & patronize such academic activities in Archives which enhance the debates and discussions among the scholars, students and faculties and enlighten the students with his expertise on Munshi Premchand, Iconic writer of Urdu /Hindi. He thanked the Registrar, Prof. Md. Mahatab Alam Rizvi for giving every support and help to archives.

On this occasion, Prof. Mazhar Asif, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi highlighted the literary contribution of Munshi Premchand in the field of literature and the relevance of his fiction and writings in the present scenario. He said that Premchand will be a torch bearer for the teachers, students and scholars in their research and reference. He told about Premchand's writings that are the valuable and priceless heritage of Indian literature. He gave suggestions to the students to read the stories of Premchand to make him & his time understand well. He appreciated the cultural and academic activities in archives and also assured every support to archives in his remark.

On this occasion, Prof. Mazhar Asif, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, JMI has released a book, titled, 'Premchand Ka Adab: Naye Tanazur Mein' edited by Shams Equbal & Shahzad Anjum and published by NCPUL, Govt. of India, Seminar Papers presented in the National Seminar at Jamia's Premchand Archives & Literary Centre, JMI.

Prof. Abdul Bismillah, former Head, Department of Hindi, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, an erudite writer, critic, fiction, novelist, placed Premchand as a pathfinder who transformed Urdu/Hindi literature by grounding it in the stark realities of rural Indian life. The lecture refers to the differences between Premchand's Hindi-Urdu writings,

(Novels & Short Stories). He talked about the uniformity in Urdu and Hindi at the same time in the writings as per the sensitivity of the time during those days in 20th Century. He also talked about Premchand's fiction which analyzed as a profound commitment to realism and social empathy.

Prof. Iqtidar Mohd. Khan, Dean, Faculty of Humanities & Languages, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi also spoke about Centre's academic activities for the last one year and appreciated the efforts made by the Directors of archives in organizing a number of events in archives. He advised that there is a need to collect all those book of different languages in archives for their easy reference of the scholars and students in one place.

The Programme was conducted by Prof. Rahman Musawwir, a well-known poet and Professor in the Department of Hindi, JMI. He spoke about Premchand and the theme of the memorial lecture. The event was concluded by a formal vote of thanks by Ms. Shradha Shankar, Asstt. Archivist, JPALC JMI who thanked all the guests and participants present in the event. Programme was attended by a robust and healthy gathering in the main hall of the Premchand Archives & Literary Centre, JMI.

Prof. Saima Saeed
Chief Public Relations Officer


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