

September 26, 2023

Press Release

### **JMI celebrates 'International Week of Deaf People' & 'International Day of Sign Languages'**

The "International Week of Deaf People" and "International Day of Sign Languages" was celebrated on 26<sup>th</sup> September, 2023 by the Department of Teacher Training & Non-Formal Education (IASE), Faculty of Education, Jamia Millia Islamia(JMI) in its campus. This celebration arises from the 2017 United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) Resolution, and this day is part of the 'International Week of Deaf People' which is celebrated every year during the last week of September. The theme for 2023 International Day of Sign languages is "A World Where Deaf People Everywhere Can Sign Anywhere!" The world will highlight the unity generated by sign languages.

The program started according to the tradition of JMI, with the recitation of the Qur'an. The host then extended a warm welcome to the Chief Guest of the event, Prof. Sara Begum (Dean, Faculty of Education), Prof. Jessy Abraham (HOD), all the esteemed faculty members, participants and students. Thereafter, Prof. Jessy Abraham was invited to give a welcome address and to share some valuable insights on the importance of Sign language and its role in furthering the era of inclusion.

This was followed by a brief note by Dr. Pettala Ramakrishna, Co-ordinator of the Programme and Assistant Professor of Special Education (Hearing Impairment). He highlighted the contribution of Sign Language in the lives of people with Hearing Impairment along with its universal significance as an alternative mode of communication.

Subsequently, the 'Necessity of Sign Language' and 'Misconception of Deaf people and Sign Language' were elaborated upon by Shiza, Iqra and Shazia respectively, students of B.Ed & M.Ed Special Education (1st Year). Two skits were then performed by the students to highlight the importance of Sign Languages in the public places. Thereafter, Numbers, Greetings words and Family relation words were enacted in ISL by the students. The program finally concluded with the performing of the National Anthem in Indian Sign Language by all.





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