

Office of the Chief Public Relations Officer  
Jamia Millia Islamia

**The Purpose of Hussain Day Is to Make Ourselves Followers of Imam Hussain:  
Shaikh-ul-Jamia: Professor Mazhar Asif**

A Meaningful and Multidimensional Commemoration of Hussain Day at Jamia Millia Islamia: A Remarkable Example of Intellectual, Ideological, and Interfaith Harmony

New Delhi, February 2, 2026

On the occasion of *Hussain Day*, a dignified and impressive program was organized at the M. A. Ansari Auditorium, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. The event witnessed the participation of distinguished academic, social, political, and cultural personalities belonging to different religions and sects, along with a large number of teachers and students.

The program began with the recitation of the Holy Qur'an by Jamia student Syed Mohammad Hadi. Following this, Feroz Ahmad, a research scholar from the Department of Urdu, Jamia Millia Islamia, welcomed the guests and presented shawls, mementos, and bouquets to the dignitaries. The proceedings of the program were conducted by Prof. Nashir Naqvi.

In his presidential address, **Shaikh-ul-Jamia Professor Mazhar Asif**, in a highly eloquent and articulate manner, began with praise of Almighty Allah and salutations upon the Holy Prophet ﷺ and his family. Delivering a thoughtful address, he stated that Imam Hussain should be sought in the sighs of the oppressed, the pain of the afflicted, and in helping those who are helpless and abandoned. Advising students, he emphasized that there is no moral justification in calling oneself a follower of Imam Hussain (A.S.) while being disobedient to parents, severing ties with relatives, and showing indifference toward neighbors.

Highlighting knowledge and wisdom as the foundation of love for Hazrat Ali (A.S.), he said that if one possesses knowledge but does not share it with those deprived of it, then the claim of love for Ali remains incomplete. He urged students to stay away from jealousy, hatred, and hostility, stating that the greatest message of Hussain Day is that *"we should pledge that no part of our body will ever cause harm to any of God's creation."*

Member of Parliament from Ladakh, **Haji Hanifa Jan**, in his address, described Imam Hussain as a living conscience, a revolutionary thinker, and a benchmark of human values. He stated that Karbala is not merely a historical incident but a university of humanity. Declaring youth as the most valuable asset of the nation, he stressed character-building and social awareness.

The distinguished guest, **Dr. Fariduddin Farid Asr**, Cultural Counselor of Iran, congratulated Jamia Millia Islamia—especially Shaikh-ul-Jamia Professor Mazhar Asif—on organizing Hussain Day. He remarked that this program is a great intellectual and civilizational service to the Ahl-e-Bait, due to which the organizers will be remembered in history.

From the Department of Sunni Theology, Aligarh Muslim University, **Dr. Rehan Akhtar Qasmi** stated that it was a remarkable coincidence or spiritual connection that on the same day Ali Day was being celebrated at AMU while Hussain Day was being observed at Jamia Millia Islamia under the leadership of the Shaikh-ul-Jamia. He added that Allah has highlighted the greatness of the Ahl-e-Bait at various places in the Holy Qur'an. Imam Hussain is the great personality in whose ears the purest of all beings, Prophet Muhammad ﷺ, called the Adhan, and whose first nourishment was the blessed saliva of the Prophet ﷺ. He emphasized that every aspect of Imam Hussain's life is instructive and that Karbala is not merely a battlefield of martyrdom but a complete school of thought.

Islamic scholar **Maulana Syed Kalbe Rashid Rizvi** said that Karbala abolished all distinctions of color, race, master and slave, and Muslim and non-Muslim. He emphasized unity and brotherhood and, referring to India's composite culture.

**Sufi Raj Jain**, President of Sarv Dharma Khwaja Mandir, Hoshiarpur (Punjab), described devotion to the Panjatan as a crown of honor and dignity for humanity and stated that Imam Hussain's association with India is proof of the country's spiritual greatness.

Head of the Department of Sociology, Jamia Millia Islamia, **Prof. Azra Abidi**, congratulated the students on the successful organization of the program and quoted a Hadith of the Prophet ﷺ stating: *"The martyrdom of Imam Hussain will create a warmth in the hearts of the believers that will never fade."*

**Mr. Firasat Baqri**, Editor of *YM Times*, Hyderabad, spoke about Imam Hussain and described him as the finest example of unity among nations. He also presented a poetic tribute. Additionally, Mr. **Rizwan Amrohvi** and renowned poet Mr. **Bhanu Sharma Amrohvi** presented poetic offerings in devotion to Imam Hussain.

At the end of the program, the coordinator, Head of the Department of Persian, Jamia Millia Islamia, **Prof. Syed Kaleem Asghar**, expressed gratitude to Shaikh-ul-Jamia Prof. Mazhar Asif, Registrar Prof. Md. Mahtab Alam Rizvi, the honored guests, Jamia administration, Dean Students' Welfare, proctorial team, security advisor, horticulture department, faculty members, students, and all participants. The program concluded with the National Anthem. This event was organized under the auspices of the **Hussain Day Association, Jamia students**.

Prof. Saima Saeed  
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