



THE ALIG

AMU Alumni Association Newsletter

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Sir Syed Speaks to you

"All the creatures of God have equal rights. No man is entitled to allow one particular race of men to obtain the good things of this world, and to bar the rest from participating in them, and it is the duty of the government to observe this divine law in all its integrity."

- **Sir Syed**

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Greetings!

Ever since "The Alig" was launched four months ago steady progress has been made toward fulfilling the goal of filling the communication gap.

We have engaged many constituencies, particularly alumni, to enhance their understanding of how they can strengthen AMU and alumni associations and contribute to the educational revitalization of the university. We are fortunate to have broad support of alumni and friends.

Month of June begins the annual season of celebrations on many university campuses, and AMU is no exception. Annual convocation is planned for June 18th; a number of high profile dignitaries, including former president of India Dr. Kalam will be honored with honorary degrees.

On August 8-10, many AMU alumni and well wishers will gather in Cleveland for the annual convention of the federation of Aligarh alumni associations to deliberate on the affairs of our alumni associations, our signature event to honor the achievements of the 2008 high school graduates in academics and sports as well as community service awards. The federation has invited Vice Chancellor of AMU, Prof. P.K. Abdul Azis to be the chief guest and keynote speaker on this occasion.

If you have not attended the convention before, we encourage you to make plans to do so this year, you're sure to be impressed.

Next is the World alumni summit at Aligarh on October 18-19.

Your participation in AEEF has already started showing results. e.g. :

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- People have already started donating to AEEF through automatic monthly deductions (ACH), the Dollar a day donation program. So what are you waiting for. Join us in this noble cause. We made donating to AEEF easy for you. Call us today for details. Tel: (650) 969-AEEF or (650) 212-ALIG
- Web search through **GoodSearch** started generating very modest but steady funds for AEEF.
- We have been informed by some alumni that for their next online shopping they will go through GoodSearch. So we hope to see some funds coming as a result of online shopping at over 250 stores through **GoodSearch**.

We are thankful to you all for becoming an active participant in our efforts.

Editorial Team

AMU NEWS

DEPARTMENT OF ANESTHESIOLOGY ORGANIZED CAMP

ALIGARH, April 29: The Department of Anaesthesiology has organized a free camp for management of spasticity in children of cerebral palsy at Pain OPD of J.N. Medical College hospital AMU Aligarh. Prof. G P Dureja, Director, Delhi Pain Management Centre and institute of spasticity and Dr. Mansoor Alam child neuro developmental expert and chief consultant institute of child development. New Delhi have managed about 80 such children in this camp.

The camp has been organized under the guidance of Prof. Usha Singhal, Chief Medical Superintendent J.N. Medical College Hospital, Prof. MMH Siddiqi, Chairman Department of Anaesthesiology, Prof. S. Bano and all the faculty members of the department of Anaesthesiology. Dr. Hammad Usmani, lecturer department of Anaesthesiology and Mr. Amir Atiq, physiotherapist at J N Medical College Hospital have also managed children along with Prof. G P Dureja and Dr Mansoor Alam in the camp.

Dr. G P Dureja also delivered a guest lecture on "innovative approach in the management of spasticity in cerebral palsy" on this occasion.

UK SCIENTISTS VISIT DEPARTMENT OF ZOOLOGY

ALIGARH, April 29: Parasitic infections of veterinary and human importance are responsible for serious health problems and huge economic losses, therefore have a potential to affect ultimately the health and economy of the country. The concern was raised by the visiting scientists from Northern Ireland, U.K. to the Zoology Department in A.M.U. Professor R.E.B. Hanna, Veterinary Science Division, Agri-Food and Biosciences Institute, Northern Ireland, U.K.; and Dr Gerard P. Brennan, Division of Molecular Parasitology, School of Biological Sciences, The Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland, U.K. visited the Zoology Department, Faculty of Life Sciences, A.M.U. Aligarh to explore the possibilities of future collaborative research link between the Queen's University and the Section of Parasitology, Dept. of Zoology, A.M.U. in the area of veterinary Parasitology. A.M.U. is well recognized for the studies on helminth biochemistry, physiology, immunology and ultrastructural aspects of the flukes.

The Vice Chancellor Prof. P. K. Abdul Azis, who is keen to improve the research and teaching standards of the university to bring it on an international map, approved to initiate the process for collaborative research activities so that an MOU can be signed between the two universities. Prof. Absar M. Khan, Chairman, department of Zoology and Dean, Faculty of Life Sciences, welcomed the visiting scientists to interact with the staff members of the department in the areas of mutual research interest.

During their stay at A.M.U., Professor Hanna and Dr Brennan also delivered lectures on "An overview of Anthelmintic Resistance in Parasites of Veterinary Importance: Research challenges and opportunities"; and "Parasites, Drug Resistance and Recent Advances", respectively. They also successfully conducted a workshop on the "Molecular detection of pathogens in tissue sections using in situ hybridization", which was attended by more than 60 participants including both students and some staff members showing keen interest in the experiment and discussed the

possibilities of higher education and future collaborative research link with the Queen's University. Dr S.M.A. Abidi, Reader, Section of Parasitology, Department of Zoology, coordinated the above programme.

MASTER'S IN DENTAL SURGERY TO START FROM NEXT ACADEMIC SESSION

ALIGARH, May 1: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has allowed the Aligarh Muslim University to start Master's in Dental Surgery (MDS) from the next academic session.

According to Professor Mohammad Irfan, Controller of Examination and Admission, AMU, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India has permitted the University to start MDS Course in Conservative Dentistry, Periodontics and Orthodontics with the intake of two candidates in each specialty course. Recently Central Instruction Permission Team visited the Aligarh Muslim University and on its report the permission was granted.

The Aligarh Muslim University had been pursuing the matter since long and the efforts of the present Vice Chancellor, Professor P K Abdul Azis have borne fruit. The last date for submission of the admission forms is 12th May 2008 while the Test will held on 18th May 2008 at AMU Aligarh.

AMU ANNUAL CONVOCATION

ALIGARH, May 1: The Annual Convocation of the Aligarh Muslim University shall be held on Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 8.00 am at the Athletic Ground of the University.

The Executive Council of the University has unanimously decided to confer the honorary to Dr. A P J Abul Kalam, former President of India, Mr. Azim Premji of Wipro, noted Industrialist, Mr. Ratan Tata and Professor M S Swaminathan, an eminent Agricultural Scientist.

Dr Kalam and Mr Azim Premji have confirmed their

participation on the occasion.

EMERALD LITERATI NETWORK 2008 AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE

A research paper, entitled "Information Risks Management in Supply Chains: An Assessment and Mitigation Framework" published in Journal of Enterprise Information Management whose lead author is Dr. Mohd. Nishat Faisal, Senior Lecturer, Department of Business Administration, Aligarh Muslim University, has been conferred Emerald Literati Network 2008 Award for Excellence.

AMU PAPERS ACCEPTED IN VDAT

Following papers from AMU have been accepted in the VDAT 2008, Bangalore. VDAT is one of the top VLSI conferences in India.

Dynamic Threshold PMOS Switch for Power Gating

Naushad Alam, Abdul Kadir Kureshi, and Mohd. Hasan

Performance Comparison of CNFET and CMOS Based Full Adders at The 32nm Technology Node

Tarun Agrawal, Anurag Sawhney, Abdul Kadir Kureshi, and Mohd. Hasan

Performance Comparison of CNFET And CMOS based 8T SRAM Cell in Deep Submicron

Abdul Kadir Kureshi, Naushad Alam, and Mohd. Hasan

AMU TO HELP LINK MADRASSAS TO MAINSTREAM EDUCATION

In an attempt to open up mainstream higher education in India to madrasa students, the Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) has decided to accredit several Islamic seminaries across the country. "The move intends to provide better opportunities to madrasa students to pursue higher education," Rahat Abrar, an AMU spokesperson, told IANS on telephone from Aligarh. The effort will begin with Uttar

Pradesh, where AMU is located and which has over 1,900 madrassas recognised by the state Madrassa Education Board. Around 170,000 students study in these seminaries - the figure being highest among all Indian states. "For granting accreditation to madrassas, a committee has already been constituted. Our move will help raise the number of madrassa graduates considerably."

The committee will review the syllabi of madrassas and recommend changes in the education system. It has been directed to expedite its effort in Uttar Pradesh. At present, there are only about 42 AMU-accredited madrassas in different states, including Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Kerala and Tamil Nadu. "Students of accredited madrassas will get lateral entry into bachelor courses offered by AMU. Thereafter, these students can also pursue master's courses offered by the varsity," said Abrar. An AMU source said: "Initially, we will focus on reviewing the syllabi of madrassas in Uttar Pradesh, which have the highest number of madrassa students. Later, the same exercise will be adopted for seminaries in other parts of the country."

Initially, the committee will review and accredit the madrassas in Mau, Basti, Siddharthnagar and Azamgarh - all in Uttar Pradesh. The state Madrassa Education Board has welcomed the move by AMU, but said a separate university should be set up to for their students due to their high numbers. Board registrar Shoaib Ahmad told IANS, "Taking into account the number of students presently enrolled in different madrassas of the state, the government needs to set up a university to ensure higher education for such students."

He said a proposal to set up an independent university for madrassa education has already been submitted to the state government. Officials at the madrassa education board said that AMU's move will help madrassa students join mainstream education and many avenues would open up for them.

Source Link

SIR ZIAUDDIN HAJI | CFI FBRTFS ANNIJAI HAJI |

FUNCTION

Residents of Sir Ziauddin Hall celebrated their ANNUAL HALL FUNCTION on 6th May 2008 with great enthusiasm. Mr. Abdul Mannan Hon'ble Cabinet Minister of Science & Technology was the chief guest, while Dr. MKJ Siddiqui Director UP council of Science & Technology was the guest of Honor. Hon'ble Vice Chancellor Prof. P.K. Abdul Aziz presided over the function. Earlier in the day Minister and the Director were received at the railway station by the senior students of Sir Ziauddin Hall along with their wardens. The honored guests were lodged in the VIP guest house of the University. Lunch was hosted for the guests by Hon'ble VC in the VC's Lodge where VC formally received the guests and presented them with buckeye. The lunch was also attended by Controller of Exam, Finance Officer-In charge. OSD development, Registrar. Provost of Sir Ziauddin Hall and General Warden of Sir Ziauddin Hall. At 3 PM Vice Chancellor held an interactive session of Chairmen & Deans of Faculties of Science & Tech. At 7.30 PM the Annual function was started with the recitation of Holy Quran. Speeches by the honored guests, cultural program, presentation of prizes, mementos marked the function held in a very peaceful manner. Dinner was held for guests and the residents. The entire Hall was decorated in a marvelous fashion. The speech of the VC was heard with frequent applaud. Minister also addressed the gathering in true ALIGARIAN way and asked the students to perform well in every sphere of life. It was altogether a memorable function. Minister sahab gave a gift of a Computer lab for the residents through his Ministry. The Ministry of Science & Technology has sanctioned around 18 research projects amounting 88 lac rupees to the Faculty of AMU in the recent past. A center of Excellence in Nano Technology is being sanctioned to the ZH college of Engg (Applied Physics Dept) worth 11 crore rupees over a period of time. It was because of this reason that I conceived the idea of calling these dignitaries for the Hall function. There must be some reason while deciding the guest for these type of functions. By the grace of Almighty Allah the whole program held in a befitting manner. I am sure you all would appreciate the spirit behind such programs. Sir Ziauddin Hall has taken a lead others may follow.

Contributed by: Suhail Sabir, Ph.D.

AMUAAs NEWS & EVENTS

**LAUNCHING CEREMONY OF SILVER JUBILEE
NIIMFR OF THE MONTHLY URDU MAGAZINE**

"TEHZEEB"

KARACHI, May 3: Speakers have lamented the continuous decline in the habit of reading books and literary magazines among the masses at large.

They were speaking at the launching ceremony of silver jubilee number of the monthly Urdu magazine `Tehzeeb', organised by the Aligarh Muslim University Old Boys Association (AMUOBA) in its lawns on Friday and presided over by its President Z A Nizami.

However, he also expressed satisfaction that a small but dedicated minority of readers had kept the tradition of reading and the proof of this devotion was the silver jubilee year of the magazine.

Zakir Ali Khan, the editor of the magazine, reminded the audience that the present magazine was the offshoot of `Tehzeebul Akhlaq' that was edited by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan who wanted the Indian Muslims to acquire modern education and learn new languages while retaining their cultural and religious traditions.

"The current magazine was trying to do precisely the same."

Prof Naushaba Siddiqui, an Aligarian by birth not by studying in AMU, went through the 25 years of journey by the magazine that had its founder editor in 1983 in the grand literary figure of Dr Abul Lais Siddiqui who continued to edit till his death in 1996. The mantle of the editorship was taken over by the famous Aligarian Zakir Ali Khan who continues to edit it despite his advanced years.

Journalist and poet Sarwar Javed noted that the standard of the magazine had increased although there were concerns that the demise of Dr Abul Lais Siddiqui might prove the death toll for the magazine too.

All the credit, according to him, should be given to Zakir Ali Khan who had the literary prowess and iron will to nourish the magazine to its present literary grandeur.

Source: The News

HIGHER EDUCATION COMMISSION UPGRADED SIR SYED UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING

KARACHI, May 6: The Higher Education Commission (HEC)

has upgraded the category of Sir Syed University of Engineering and Technology from "B" to "A" after it received recommendations from an inspection committee.

The university has made tremendous progress in various fields and its financial strength has increased from a required Rs 200 million to Rs 1300.38 million. It includes a working capital of Rs 740.114 million against the required Rs 50 million, financial endowment of Rs 260 million against the standard Rs 50 million and tangible assets of Rs 560.266 million as against a normal of Rs 100 million.

The university has 244 full-time teachers and 15 professors and associate professors with PhD degrees. It subscribes to 38 journals and has 50,200 textbooks and 16,000 reference books from major international publishers in the relevant fields. It has 10 computer, 18 electronic, 15 bio-medical and 10 civil engineering laboratories. The university has a policy to provide scholarships to 10 percent of its students but, at present 41.3 percent students are receiving this benefit.

Editor's note: The University is fully managed by the AMU Old Boy's Association.

Source Link

ALUM NEWS

DR. HASAN KAMIL A DISTINGUISHED ALIGARIAN: AN INSPIRATIONAL COMBINATION OF ACADEMIC, BUSINESS AND POLITICS

Syed M. Naseem, Ph. D.

Washington DC



I personally know Hasan Kamil since Minto Circle days; he was bright, laborious, sober and disciplined student of our school. He was a very effectual debater and prolific writer. Dr. Hasan Kamil was elected President of Minto Circle Student's Union in 1957, a position Vice President of India, Mr. M. Hamid Ansari held in early 1950s. I was in his group as elected Judge of the

Boy's court of Minto Circle the same year. During Sir Syed Day celebration of Aligarh Muslim University, he represented our school (Minto Circle) in a debate competition at AMU student's union, and won a prize (probably a consolation award). He was awarded AMU gold medal for standing first in AMU High School Examination.

Dr. Hasan Kamil received his B.S. in Engineering from Aligarh Muslim University in 1967, M.S. from M.I.T (1969), and a Ph.D. in Engineering from University of California, Berkeley in 1973. After receiving his Ph.D., he returned to India and taught at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, and later at Stanford University as an Associate Professor of Engineering. He published more than 50 technical papers in various peer-reviewed journals. He also received several awards, including most prestigious John F. Lincoln Foundation award for outstanding achievement in Engineering, design.

Besides his academic career, he along with his wife Talat Hasan (An AMU and Oxford alumna) founded Hitek Venture, a telecommunications Engineering Software company in 1995. He has a portfolio of 35 companies and serves on the Board of five of these companies. He also established two Chairs at University of California, Santa Cruz, in Classical Indian Music to preserve Indian heritage in North America.

Dr. Hasan Kamil is also very interested and actively involved in U. S. National politics. He is a personal friend of President Bill and Hillary Clinton, Nancy Pelosi and Howard Dean, Speaker of U.S. House of Representative and Chairman, Democratic National Party respectively. Dr. Hasan Kamil was appointed as members-at-large of the Democratic Party in 2006, which empowered him to vote on all party resolutions, as super delegate. After a long time, I met him in Washington DC, when he came to attend a joint U. S. congressional reception of Dr. Manmohan Singh, Prime Minister of India; he was an honored guest of Speaker Nancy Pelosi.

AMU ALUMNUS PUBLISHES IN "CELL"

Dr. Jahangir Iqbal is the lead (First) author in the study published in the journal *Cell Metabolism*. Dr. Iqbal did his B.Sc., M.Sc. and Ph.D. in Biochemistry from AMU (1990-2000). Currently, Dr Iqbal is a research faculty in the department of Anatomy and Cell Biology at The State University of New York Downstate Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY 11203, USA.

Source

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF TEACHING OF PROF. MAHDI HASAN PROF EMERITUS

Prof. Mahdi Hasan an Intellectual giant, one of the greatest Teacher of Anatomy (joined AMU 1963-retired in 1998 from AMU Medical College), given the honour of Prof Emeritus at Lucknow Medical College after his retirement is celebrating his 50th anniversary of teaching.

It is proposed to bring out a commemoration Golden Jubilee volume comprising the teaching assessment of Prof. Hasan by former students (around 10,000) and highlights of their biodata with a photograph. For this purpose a website "<http://profmahdihasan.com>" has been launched. The Performa may be filled in and a photograph appended so that this volume may be completed by June 2008. Thereafter a get together will be organized.

DR. NAKADAR INSTITUTE OF KNOWLEDGE CONDUCTS TEACHER TRAINING PROGRAM

Dr. Nakadar Institute of Knowledge (Dr. NIK) recently conducted a teachers training program in its campus auditorium in Kadi (30 mins drive from Ahmedabad), Gujarat. Over 150 teachers representing fifty minority schools participated in the training program.

Prof. Shamim Ahmed (Professor of Agri-Economics and Business Management at Aligarh Muslim University), Dr. Ali Ahmed (Reader Dept of Education, AMU), Dr. Masroor Khan (Reader, Dept of Botany, AMU), Dr. Frahim Khan, (Lecturer, Dept of Geology), Dr. Hisamuddin , (Lecturer, Dept of Botany), and Mr. Hussain Ali of Mumbai were the resource persons who conducted the program while Mr. Abdullah Baig of Dr. NIK coordinated the program.

AEEF NEWS

The Aligarh Education Endowment Fund (AEEF) has been established for the enhancement and modernization of

education, and improvement of educational opportunities for the underprivileged sections of the Indian society. This should result, in the long run, in economically uplifting these groups and helping them to become productive members of the Indian society.

Over the last decade, India has undergone tremendous economic growth, fueled by the Information Technology revolution supported by its large pool of college graduates. Unfortunately, a large section of the Indian society has been left behind primarily because of lack of educational opportunities, especially in Science and Technology. The digital divide is continuing to widen for this section of the society. A glaring example of a component of this underprivileged section of the society is the Muslim community. The fact that Muslims are educationally the most backward community in India was acknowledged for the first time by the government in 1986, vide Program of Action - New Education Policy and again in 2006 through Sachar Committee (appointed by the Prime Minister of India) report. Unless major efforts are undertaken to boost the educational standards, the economic backwardness of this underprivileged group would become a drag on the economic growth of the country. Moreover, for its own prosperity as well as to play its positive role fully in this globalizing economy India needs to tap every ounce of its manpower talent.

The AEEF is being organized as a non-profit, secular, non-partisan, and non-political organization, under Section 501(c) (3) of IRS, to serve the educational needs of the underprivileged communities in India. The AEEF will fund a broad variety of educational projects, ranging from high school to post-graduate levels, including areas such as Information Technology, Biotechnology, Medicine, Management and Business Administration, Mass Communication, Basic Sciences, Social Sciences, and Law with emphasis on areas, which will accelerate the flow of the young generation into the economic mainstream.

Individuals, corporations, foundations, and organizations are requested to donate generously to this humanitarian, educational cause.

Visit us at : AEEF or call (650) 969-AEEF

Tax Exempt Status

Aligarh Education Endowment Fund (AEEF) was granted a tax-exempt status, 501(c) (3) designation, by the United States IRS in 2005, Tax ID # 20-1000034. Donations to AEEF are tax deductible in USA as allowed under the law.

Donations

Your support of AEEF is crucial to its efforts to serve the educational needs of the underprivileged communities in India. Make a pledge to donate today. Together we can make a difference.

How to Give?

There Are Many Ways You Can Help.

There are many quick and easy ways to make a gift to AEEF.

AEEF accepts gifts by checks, credit cards, stocks, and electronic fund transfers.

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Please make your check payable to "AEEF" and mail to:

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EDUCATION ENDOWMENT FUND (AEEF)
849 Independence Avenue, Suite A
Mountain View, CA 94043, USA
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Giving online using your credit card is fast, easy and secure. You can donate online using your credit card (one time or on ongoing basis) by clicking on the link below.



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Electronic Fund Transfers (EFTs)

EFT's offer a fast, convenient way to contribute to AEEF on an ongoing basis. With your permission, AEEF will automatically withdraw an amount you specify from your checking account around the 1st of each month.

Your monthly bank statement will provide you with a record of each transaction and, for tax purposes; you will also receive a receipt from the AEEF each January showing your entire year's contribution.

You may cancel or change your EFT authorization at any

time simply by contacting us.

To begin an EFT, please contact us:

Email: AEEFund@yahoo.com

Tel: (650) 969-AEEF

Gifts of Stocks

These gifts can be donated via registered mail or electronic transfer to AEEF. A letter of intent stating the purpose of your gift, the number of shares and the name of the stock are required.

Please contact us to receive a copy of letter of intent that you can fill and fax or mail to AEEF office.

Matching Gifts

Many employers in USA sponsor matching gift programs and will match any charitable contributions made by their employees. To find out if your company has a matching gift policy, please check with the HR department.

If your company is eligible, request a matching gift form from your employer, and send it completed and signed with your gift. We will do the rest. The impact of your gift to our school may be doubled or possibly tripled! Some companies match gifts made by retirees and/or spouses.

Thanks for your support.

SEE ALSO:

Giving Back: Aligarh Endowment (Silconeer)

- Aligs meet in US, launch Aligarh Education Endowment Fund

What if Aligarh Education Endowment Fund (AEEF) earned a penny every time you searched the Internet? Or how about if a percentage of every purchase you made online went to support our cause? Well, now it can!

www.GoodSearch.com is a new Yahoo-powered search engine

that donates half its advertising revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. Use it just as you would any search engine, get quality search results from Yahoo, and watch the donations add up!

GoodShop.com is a new online shopping mall which donates up to 37 percent of each purchase to your favorite cause! Hundreds of great stores including Target, Gap, Best Buy, ebay, Macy's and Barnes & Noble have teamed up with GoodShop and every time you place an order, you'll be supporting AEEF.

Just go to www.GoodSearch.com and be sure to enter [Aligarh Education Endowment Fund] as the charity you want to support. The more people who use this site, the more money will go to support educational projects. So please spread the word to your friends and family. Please download the Good Search Toolbar on your computer and encourage the family members use it if they would use any other search engine.

So start raising money for Aligarh Education Endowment Fund right now just by searching the Internet or shopping online with GoodSearch - powered by Yahoo! To search Click on the link below.

Goodsearch

Do not underestimate the power of numbers. Please click on the link above to see the revenues generated so far.

Here's an example of how much AEEF can earn:
5,000 People doing 4 searches/day for one year can raise \$73,000*. We already have over 5000 people who are receiving this Newsletter. The more people use GoodSearch, the more money will be directed towards AEEF. The sky is the limit!

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FEATURE ARTICLE

A BRIEF HISTORY OF NON- RESIDENT STUDENTS' CENTER

**Syed Ziaur Rahman, MD
President, NRSC
AMU, Aligarh**

Aligarh Muslim University is basically a residential University since its establishment but when the number of day-scholars (non-boarding) was raised substantially, a need was felt to start a separate club for them. Realizing that day-scholars have to cover a distance of at least 2-6 miles to attend classes and once back to their home, it is hardly possible to reach University campus to avail library and other recreational extra curricular activities. Thus, MAO College Day Scholars' Club was established in 1910 under the patronage of Nawab Viqarul Mulk (1841-1917). Nawab Viqarul Mulk was the secretary of MAO College from December 1907 to July 1912. The opening ceremony of the Day Scholar's Club was performed on August 6, 1911 somewhere in a rented building at Aatishbazan, Upper Fort (Bala-e Qila). Abdul Majid Khawaja (1885-1962) became its Founder-President. Later, the Club was shifted to another rented site of the University at Danpur Compound, Rasal Ganj, Aligarh.

"Intermediate Day Scholar' Union" of Muslim University Intermediate College came into existence in 1920. The Union might be a continuing succession of MAO College Day Scholars' Club when MAO College was upgraded to Muslim University. This exclusive Union had its own elected team of day-scholars. In 1932, the Intermediate College was abolished in accordance with the recommendation of the 'Rahmatullah Committee'. Hence the Intermediate Day Scholars' Union of Intermediate College was also dissolved. However, intermediate classes continued in the University. A separate society of those intermediate classes of Aligarh Muslim University namely "Intermediate Students' Society (ISS)" later on came into existence. This ISS had no relation with Day Scholars' Club. ISS was later on merged with AMU Students' Union in an around 1956. After 1932, Intermediate Day Scholars' Union was renamed as Muslim University Day Scholars' Union, which was again rechristened as Non-Resident Student' Center (NRSC 'B') in 1943. Students of this NRSC Attached Borders Club were enrolled in different residential halls like Sir Syed Hall, Aftab Hall, etc. An exclusive NRSC Provost Office came into existence at the end of 1956 under the Proctorship of Prof. Satish Chandra. This newly created office at Arnold House was given a status of a hall like any other residential Hall. Prof. Satish Chandra was thus the first provost of NRSC and remained both Procter and provost till 1958. Prof. S.M. Shafi of Commerce was Procter of AMU and Patron of Day Scholar's Club from 1931 to 1942 and then from 1948 to 1956.

'Non-Resident Students' Center has a club like atmosphere. It has been running two clubs one in the city area (NRSC 'B') and other in the civil lines area (NRSC A) for all non resident students. The very purpose of the Center is to train students

in building up and inculcating qualities of mind, soul and body. Both Club holds many sports activities including creative programmes under various sections such as literary, hobbies and cultural. Each program is celebrated with a great deal of enthusiasm and fanfare. Best students are awarded 'Color', 'Provost' and 'President' prizes in these various sections. With a view to maintain the desired standard of sociability and academic discipline, these Clubs are assisted by a provost and separate team of presidents, wardens and students' office bearers. The cumulative resourcefulness of all the wardens and presidents improve the general tone and administration of the clubs.

NRSC maintained two Clubs viz NRSC 'A' (officially started in July 14, 1944) and NRSC 'B' till 2004. Now NRSC has no distinctive clubs. It has one building opposite A.K. Tibbiya College Hospital with one president and one club secretary along with a provost, wardens and students office bearers. The office of the provost which is still at the original building "Arnold House" will soon be shifted to the current NRSC building.

It has a glowing history of past. May the NRSC thrive and progress as before.

Those who are interested to read the History of NRSC in detail may consult the book entitled "History of Non Resident Students' Center", Aligarh Muslim University (1910-2000) by this author.

OPINION

LEARN FROM OBAMA

A G Noorani

India has had three Muslim presidents. Is it vain to think of a Muslim prime minister? Perhaps not. No two situations are identical but Barack Obama's rise and his travails in the US presidential race hold lessons for all Indians committed to secularism, particularly Indian Muslims.

Obama's concern for African-Americans is genuine but it is part of his wider, equally genuine, concern for the entire nation.

As journalist Ginger Thompson noted: "Previous campaigns by African-Americans - by the Reverend Jesse Jackson and the Reverend Al Sharpton - had overwhelmingly relied on black support that wound up defining and confining their candidates. By contrast, from the moment Obama stepped onto the national political stage, he has paid much attention

to a far broader audience".

In India, separate electorates vanished in 1950 but Indian Muslims' politics did not reckon with the political logic of a joint electorates with detriment to the community's and the nation's interests.

Joint electorates have four healthy consequences - they enable the community to influence elections generally, compel candidates to reckon with the interest of all sections of society, compel the minorities to seek support for redress of genuine grievances from outside their community, and compel them to take interest in the affairs of the nation.

Isolation is the worst thing that can happen to a minority as Ambedkar had sagely remarked.

Such is the intellectual and moral bankruptcy of a significant section of the Muslims that it never reckoned with the consequences of communal mobilisation.

The Black Power movement in the US did so in good time. At a seminar at Princeton in December 1968, Roy Innis advocated "a social contract" between the blacks and the whites, drawing a withering response from Carl Kaysen.

If their programme succeeded, they would find "a much more mobilised and repressive white society, in which the power equation between, in your language - 'you and us' - would be more sharply drawn. Would you get a good bargain?" The Babri Masjid question was truly a national question.

The mosque was entitled to full protection under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Sites and Remains Act, 1958.

The Babri Masjid Action Committee played into the hands of the sangh parivar and alienated many by their shrill rhetoric.

There is, doubtless, a big difference between the two situations. In India, the sangh parivar is a powerful force. The greater, then, is the challenge to the statesmanship of Muslim leaders and also to the leaders of secular parties.

Sheikh Abdullah's advice to Indian Muslims on August 10, 1973 is relevant still. "The politics of Indian Muslims has not changed much after independence. As in British days, Muslims are divided between a group affiliated to the ruling party and other groups which work on communal lines in search of protection... The separate electorates which were the basis for communal parties and communal politics are gone.

But the political pattern of the Indian Muslims is not altered. There is the same politics of grievance and bargaining and recrimination".

Abdullah argued that far from improving the condition of the

Muslim community in India, it had led to its deterioration - economically, culturally and politically.

He believed that the legitimate grievances of the Muslims needed immediate redress and professed to be deeply conscious of the problems - denial of due representation in the public services, of fair opportunities in trade, commerce and industry, of adequate representation in the legislatures and in government, for instance.

But Abdullah also propounded a solution: Combat communalism with a secular approach. He was of the opinion that the Muslim community's separate grievances were as formidable as those common to the population of the entire country - poverty, illiteracy, disease, social injustice, backward customs, corruption and maladministration.

He appealed to Muslims to shake off their inhibitions, stir themselves to improve their own lot - educationally, economically and socially - and fight for the redress of their grievances but uniting at the same time with their fellow Indians to work on a national agenda.

It would serve Indian Muslims well to revisit his exhortations and also take a leaf out of Barack Obama's book.

Source Link

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Aligarh Alumni Association Events in USA

Host: AMUAA New England
What: Maulana Azad (A Solo Play in Urdu)
Where: Agassiz Theatre, 10 Garden St., Radcliffe Yard, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA
When: Saturday, May 17, 2008 at 7:00 PM
Phone: (973) 220-2713
Email

*

Host: AMU Alumni Association of Michigan
What: Ghazal Ki Ek Shaam- Mirza Ghalib ke Naam
When: Sunday, June 1, 2008 at 4.00 PM Sharp
Where: Kresge Auditorium-Madonna University 36600 Schoolcraft Road, Livonia, Michigan 48150
Phone: (248) 885-0767
Email

*

Host: Aligarh Alumni Association of New England
What: Summer Picnic
Where: Hopkinton State Park, 71 Cedar Street,
Hopkinton, MA 01748 US
When: Sunday, June 15, 9:00AM
Phone: (781) 223-5086, (781) 883-5311
Email

*

Annual Convocation of Aligarh Muslim University

Wednesday, June 18, 2008 at 8:00AM

**VII Annual Convention of the Federation of Aligarh
Alumni Associations**

August 8-10, 2008

Cleveland, Ohio, USA

[Click here for more details](#)

Sir Syed Day 2008 - Mushaira Schedule for USA

October 10 - November 28

**Please click on Federation's website below for
Mushaira details in your city.**

Mushaira Schedule 2008

World Summit of AMU Alumni at Aligarh

October 18 & 19, 2008

**Please save the Date and mark your calendar.
More details will follow.**

BOOK REVIEWS

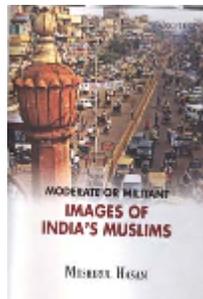
MODERATE OR MILITANT: IMAGES OF INDIA'S MUSLIMS

Author: Mushirul Hasan

Reviewed by: Himmat Singh Gill

Available at: Oxford University Press, Pages 252. Rs 495.

Review: Idea of Islam (Apr 20, 2008, The Tribune)



EVER since Independence, India's Muslims or the Muslim Indians, as some prefer to call them, have been the subject matter of many studies and government-appointed committees dealing with minority rights. Mushirul Hasan's book goes well beyond the oft-debated question of the standing of India's Muslims who decided to stay on in spite of the two-nation theory, and examines far-reaching issues of plurism, secularism, jihad, Partition, discrimination, education and much more concerning India's largest minority. As regards the future, Hasan feels that "India will remain quintessentially secular and pluralistic" as long as there is inter-community intermingling, and quotes Asghar Ali Engineer, "Given little more wisdom and pragmatic approach, Muslims can succeed in shaping their future in democratic India even if secularism is undulating". Could it also mean for them to reconcile with the mainstream, or perish?

Hasan is concerned that too little is known about Islam and its literature or culture in the globalised world of today, and leans towards the Indian brand of secularism based on free thought and democratic traditions where every religion is to be protected and where the state and religion are to be separate functionaries.

Understandably, he is no fan of Nirad Chaudhuri or V. S. Naipaul who have written about Islam and its followers in their own peculiar vein, situated well away from the centre of action in the sub-continent and the Arab world in far-off lands.

Nirad in his lifetime only seemed to see the ruins of the Hindu temples that the Muslim invaders had destroyed, and "the facts of history mattered little, if at all, to Nirad Chaudhuri", writes Hasan. Naipaul who considers himself to be an authority on Islam had even defended the destruction of the Babri Masjid and had called it "an act of historical balancing" in an interview to the Outlook magazine on October, 30, 2001, as Hasan very tellingly points out in the book. But then there were saner voices also like that of Dr Zakir Husain whose counsel Mahatama Gandhi took in 1938 after the Bombay Hindu-Muslim riots, and who in 1946 brought the Congress and the League together on the same platform in his peace efforts to keep India one and united.

Gandhi's role in helping control the rampaging mobs around Jamia Millia Islamia on September 8, 1947, "Gandhi came to the campus to inspire confidence: General Cariappa, the Commander-in-Chief, the Prime Minister and the Health Minister followed his visit" (the Madras Regiment, when moved to the campus, set matters right firmly), does beg the question as to why our later generation political leaders could not follow the same example in taking the Army's timely help when the rioting against the Muslims in Mumbai in recent times and against the Sikhs in 1984 took place.

Writing about Jinnah and the frequent attacks on him about his being a nationalist after the League's March 1940 resolution, Hasan reminds, "But his attempts not to wreck secular democracy were frustrated by the inability of the Congress to overcome the influence of the Hindu Mahasabha or a sizable section of its own communalised membership."

The fiasco of Partition is dealt in detail and the book quotes Pakistani writer Hasan Manzar's lament, "The 'Partition Plan' of June 2, 1947, was devised with haste and with utmost cynicism." One day, I am sure a fearless Indian writer will apportion the blame on the British and the Indian leaders of undivided India who acted in a haste resulting in millions dying and being uprooted. After 1947, when the Indian Muslim continues to be marginalised in public services and there is little improvement in his education and standard of living, one wonders whether the lines of Urdu poet Faiz that are quoted will ever ring true, "Gul huii jaati hai afsurda sulagti huii shaam/Dhul ke niklegi abhi chashma-e mehtaab se raat" (The fire of the sad smouldering evening is being extinguished/ In a moment the night will disappear washed by the stream of moonlight).

Whether the image of the Indian Muslim is that of a moderate or that of a militant is amply answered by the violent backlash that the community invites from time to time, but suffice it to say that every religious community has its deeply-rooted

secular and liberal content. Hasan, with due diligence and painstaking research, has written a powerful account of a powerful community that can no longer be ignored by any of the country's political leadership. Their place in the 21st century, fears and predicaments and endeavour for a place in India's post-colonial society have all been examined at length. Suffice it to say that India's Muslims are neither moderates nor radicals but plain Indians who are as secular or non-secular as anyone of us. A very readable account, where Hasan has thrown up fresh ideas and been more of an opinion maker than a mere academician.

Source Link

OBITUARY

CAPTAIN IFTIKHAR AHMAD KHAN



Another distinguished teacher, former proctor, and retired Professor Captain Iftikhar Ahmad Khan Sahib passed away on Sunday, May 4th in Aligarh after a massive first time heart attack. Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajioon.

MAIL BOX

It's really a wonderful thing that now Aligs will be having information about other Aligs working round the world through the news letter "THE ALIG". The topic how to donate to AEEF is really superb. Now everyone can donate at least a small amount to this organization resulting in upliftment of people. I will also try to promote the funds to AEEF through www.goodsearch.com

Sincerely Yours,
Vivek Singh Bhadouria
Agra, India

We invite readers to share their thoughts with us by expressing their opinion on newsworthy topics to "The Alig". We reserve the right to condense and/or edit them for clarity.

and space. We don't use anonymous letters. Because of the heavy volume of mail received at The Alig, we request writers to limit to one letter per issue. No attachments please.

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AMU Alumni Association
Tel: (650) 212-ALIG

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