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## Thought for the Month

Behold! In the creation  
Of the heavens and the earth;  
In the alternation  
Of the Night and the Day;  
In the sailing of the ships  
Through the Ocean  
For the profit of mankind;  
In the rain which Allah  
Sends down from the skies,  
And the life which He gives  
therewith  
To an earth that is dead;  
In the beasts of all kinds  
That He scatters  
Through the earth;  
In the change of the winds,  
And the clouds which they  
Trail like their slaves  
Between the sky and the earth;—  
(Here) indeed are Signs  
For a people that are wise.

Al-Quran- 2: 164

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## FOCUS

Muslims have been living in India for over a thousand years and have been an inseparable part of the mosaic of Indian civilization. They have shared, and continue to share, material traits, social and cultural spaces, languages and dialects, customs and festivals, local cuisine and dress patterns and regional identity, with the majority Hindu population. This shared existence and history has greatly contributed to India's plural, composite and syncretistic legacy. Unfortunately, some communal organizations have sought to disparage the contribution of Muslims to the enrichment and development of Indian civilization and have carried on a vicious campaign of vilification and demonization against them. This has led to a heightening of communal polarization and has created a virtual gulf of mistrust and misunderstanding between Hindus and Muslims. Several factors, such as lack of adequate knowledge about Islam and Muslims and misrepresentation by the regional media, are responsible for this sorry state of affairs.

Regrettably, the attitude and behaviour of Muslims some times tends to reinforce the prevailing stereotypes about Muslims. Muslims need to take the initiative in removing misunderstandings and misgivings about Islam and the community through informal conversation, brochures and pamphlets, rejoinders in the national and regional media, inter-community dialogues and, above all, through a projection of Islamic values and ideals in their attitudes, personality and behaviour. The Quran provides guidelines on such an engagement. It says: Goodness and evil can never be equal. Therefore, repel evil with goodness and (then you will find that) some body and you, between whom there was hatred and enmity, will become friendly and close. And such goodness will be granted only to those who exercise patience and self-restraint, to persons of the greatest good fortune (Quran 42:34).

An effective way of building bridges of understanding, goodwill and harmony across peoples and communities is to participate, jointly with Hindus, Sikhs, Christians and other communities, in social movements, voluntary action at the grass roots, human rights movements and civic and political processes. A joint, concerted engagement will not only pave the way for the restoration of mutual trust and harmony between Muslims and other communities but will also ensure the sympathetic understanding and cooperation of non-Muslims in the solution of their community-specific problems.

**From *The Empowerment of Muslims in India (Perspective, Context and Prerequisites)* by Prof. A.R. Momin, pp. 129-130**

**Activities of the IOS Headquarters**

**IOS organizes two-day national seminar on “Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi: Personality, Intellectual Legacy and Guiding Imprints”**

A two-day national seminar on ‘Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi: Personality, Intellectual Legacy and Guiding Imprints’ was organized by the Institute of Objective Studies (IOS), New Delhi at its conference hall on November 25 and 26, 2023.

**Inaugural Session**

The seminar began with the recitation of a verse from the Holy Qur’an by Maulana Adnan Ahmad Nadwi of the IOS. In his on-line inaugural speech, Director, Al-Nadwa Educational Islamic Centre, Canada, Maulana Dr. Saeed Faizee Nadwi, referred to his association with the Maulana spanning over several decades, and said that he benefited from him intellectually. The Maulana was very kind

to him and was ever willing to help him on matters arising out of Islamic theology. He held that a big gap had been created by the Maulana’s death which could be filled by Allah only. The services being rendered by the Maulana’s successor, Maulana Syed Bilal Abdul Hai Hasani Nadwi, were very convincing laudable, he observed.

In a message which was read out at the seminar, Maulana Shah Ayetullah Qadri, Sajjadah Nashin, Khaneqah Mujeebia, Phulwari Sharif, Patna, said that the instincts of his utterances and personality were influenced by the training and guidance of Maulana Syed Abul Hasan Ali Nadwi. In fact, he

represented Ali Miyan’s intellectual and spiritual life. He was the spiritual son and successor to him in true sense of the term. The influence of Ali Miyan was visibly reflected in his personality. That was the reason the circle of his intellectual and practical life was very wide. The Maulana was the Sheikh of his circle as also the chief of an institution, he added.

In his special address, Amir of Markazi Jamiat Ahle Hadees Hind, Maulana Asghar Ali Imam Mehdi Salafi referred to his association with Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi and said that the life of such great persons inspired the community to seek guidance from them. Their life and

member of the community that its dignity was in secure hands. These hands could never be compromised. He said that the Maulana was the custodian and reflection of the legacy of Syed Ahmad Shaheed and Maulana Ali Miyan. His successor, Maulana Syed Bilal Abdul Hai Hasani Nadwi, the present rector of Nadwa was following in his footsteps, he added.

Speaking as the guest of honour, Rector, Nadwatul Ulema, Lucknow, Maulana Syed Bilal Abdul Hai Hasani Nadwi shed light on the personality and the services of Maulana Rabey Hasani. He said that the important aspect of the Maulana’s life and his personality was his humility. He never

gave importance to himself and always kept himself away from high offices. But, Allah bestowed on him a great responsibility to head the All India Muslim Personal Law Board. Initially, he refused to be the president of AIMPLB, but the leaders of the Ummah unanimously elected him as chief of the board at its convention despite his absence at the meet. He was persuaded by the stakeholders of the board to take up its

stewardship. The same had happened when the question of the rectorship of Nadwa arose. He was unwilling to accept its rectorship. Instead, he suggested the name of Dr. Abdullah Abbas Nadwi for the post. But since Maulana Abdullah Abbas was elder to him, he virtually ordered him to take up the post of rector of Nadwa, Maulana Bilal, said.

Maulana Bilal Nadwi held that Maulana Rabey Hasani was the epitome of extraordinary quality. Besides being a perfect teacher, he commanded respect and popularity among his students. He began his



On the dais (L-R): Shah Ajmal Farooq Nadwi, Maulana Syed Bilal Abdul Hai Hasani Nadwi and Prof. Akhtarul Wasey

work also reminded the Muslims how seriously and responsibly they guided the community. He called upon the Muslims to learn from the life of the Maulana and translate it into their practical life. Another special invitee was the noted Islamic scholar and Professor Emeritus, Department of Islamic Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, Prof. Akhtarul Wasey, who paying his rich tributes to Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi’s qualities and his guiding instincts, observed that he worked on the lines of his mentor, Maulana Ali Miyan. He provided leadership to the Ummah till his last breath. It was a matter of satisfaction for every

career as a teacher in 1949 and continued to do so till his death without a break from the classes he took. His lectures on Qur'an used to be very effective. Mostly, he used to teach subjects like language and literature. During the last days of life, he concentrated his lectures on Bukhari Sharif and was deeply immersed into it. Referring to the Maulana's end, he said that on the last day of his life he offered the Zohar prayer without a problem and died before Asar. He said that Maulana Rabey rose after the death of Maulana Ali Miyan like rise of the moon after sunset.

In his presidential remarks, former union minister for minority affairs, K. Rahman Khan paid tribute to the services of Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi and the leadership he gave to the Muslim community. He said that the Maulana was the senior-most in age among all the Islamic scholars and the ulema. He discharged his responsibilities as the leader of the Millat with grit and courage. In his death, the Islamic world lost a great Islamic scholar and teacher, Rahman Khan concluded.

The occasion was marked by the release of the book, "*Mohaddis Azmi: Shakhshiyat, Kamaalat Aur Ilmi Futuahaat*", (written by Prof. Abdur Rahman Momin and) published by the IOS. This book is the collection of the papers presented in a seminar on Mohaddis Azmi Maulana Habib-ur-Rahman Azmi organized by the IOS.

In-charge of Urdu section, IOS, Maulana Shah Ajmal Farooq Nadwi, conducted the proceedings of the session.

#### **Technical Session-I**

The first technical session focused on Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi: His time, development and personality. The session was jointly chaired by Prof. Mohsin Usmani Nadwi, former Dean of English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, Prof. Shafique

Ahmad Khan Nadwi, Prof. Mohammad Fahim Akhtar Nadwi and Dr. Md. Arshad. Speaking as a special guest, noted Islamic scholar and researcher, Maulana Noorul Hasan Rashid Kandhalwi, referred to the traits of his personality, and said that it was difficult to reach anywhere near his mannerism and high character. In this respect, he was ahead of his mentor, Maulana Ali Miyan. Such people of high moral standard could not be easily found today. The life of the Maulana was a lighthouse which enlightened everyone who came into contact with him. His life was an example for others to emulate. Dr. Tabish Mehdi, Chairman, Adabiyat Aliya Academy, presented his paper on various aspects of multi-faceted personality of Maulana Nadwi.

Dr. Kamal Ashraf Qasmi, Assistant Professor, Aliya University, Kolkata spoke on the life and services of Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi in the modern context. Maulana Talha Nemat Nadwi of Khuda Bakhsh Library, Patna, focused on Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi's thoughts on literature. Mohsin Firoz Azmi, Department of Arabic, Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University, Lucknow, centered his paper on the guiding instincts of Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi.

In his presidential remarks, Prof. Mohsin Usmani Nadwi observed that the Maulana was farsighted. Owing to his vision, he played the longest innings as president of the AIMPLB. It was his humbleness that he refused to accept every offer which came his way. More often than not, he did not disclose his personal opinion in order to strengthen the unity of the board. He always maintained a low profile and preferred to take a back seat, Prof. Usmani added.

#### **Technical Session-II**

The second technical session, focused on Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi and Islamic Studies, was chaired by the former

Head of the Department of Islamic Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, Prof. Shafique Ahmad Khan Nadwi. Dr. Shakeel Ahmad, Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, devoted his paper to the services of Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi in the promotion of Islamic Studies. Prof. Masud Alam Falahi, Head of the Department of Arabic, Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti Language University, spoke on the services of Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi in the promotion and the dissemination of Islamic learning. Dr. Roohnuma Parveen, research scholar, Department of Islamic Studies, AMU, presented her paper on Syed Muhammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi: A Critical Evaluation on his historic contribution. Raghiba, a Ph.D. scholar at JMI, focused on the concept of equality and religious tolerance in the writings of Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi. She was followed by the research scholar in Islamic Studies, JMI, Md. Saqib. He spoke on Qur'an, the perfect guide to the human life: A critical analysis'. Md. Munawwar Kamal, research scholar at JMI, centered on 'Maulana Syed Rabey Hasani Nadwi and the Islamic Studies. Zain Hashmi Nadwi, research scholar, JMI, presented the paper on Maulana Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi as profile writer. Nadeem Ashraf, Assistant Professor, Department of Sunni Theology, AMU, spoke on Maulana's contribution to Islamic Studies.

In his presidential remarks, Prof. Shafique Ahmad Khan Nadwi recalled his past-memories and said that the Maulana was the embodiment of the high standard of decency. It was very difficult to reach that level of decency. Besides, he was a successful teacher and an accomplished planner and organizer. He was never heard of using a language that could have hurt others' sentiments. He stressed the need for a detailed discussion on the services rendered by him to Rabta-i-

Adab Islami. He drew attention of the Islamic scholar to his suggestion.

**Day-2: November 26, 2023**

**Technical Session-III**

The third technical session was devoted to Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi's educational and journalistic field'. Prof. Md. Fahim Akhtar Nadwi, from Department of Islamic Studies, MANUU, chaired the session. Prof. Syed Rashid Naseem from IFL University, Hyderabad, spoke on Maulana Rabey Hasani's guiding role in the training of society. Dr. Md. Arshad, Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, JMI, touched upon Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani's contemporary

contemporary sensitivity and the perception of world problems. Dr. Khalid Umri, Assistant Professor of Islamic Studies, JMI, spoke on the re-emergence of Samarqand and Bukhara: A Study. Md. Shamim Akhtar Qasmi, Assistant Professor, Department of Fiqh Islami, Aliya University, focused on 'Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani's book: *Do Maheenay America Mein: An analytical study*'.

Shaziya Tareen, research scholar, Department of Fiqh Sunni, AMU, spoke on 'Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi and education and training. Dr. Md. Nasir, Assistant Professor, Department of Sunni Theology, AMU, devoted his paper on Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi and his book on current affairs and Muslims. Alizah Bano, research scholar, JMI, spoke on Maulana Syed Rabey Hasani Nadwi's views on education and training.

Md. Hassan Khan from Department of Islamic Studies, JMI, focused on 'Words Woven: A Study of Syed

Mohammad Rabey's literary legacy'. Shafiq-ur-Rahman, research scholar, Islamic Studies, JMI, spoke on the Arab Island: A critical study. Dr. Ghayasul Islam Siddiqui, Department of Kulliyat (Unani medicine), A & U Tibbia College, threw light on Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi's journalistic foresight. Md. Ashfaq Alam Nadwi, research scholar, JMI, spoke on Maulana Syed Rabey Hasani Nadwi and education and training.

In his presidential remarks, Prof. Mohammed Fahim Akhtar Nadwi drew attention of the scholars to some important issues. Referring to Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi, he said that he

contemporary issues and guiding imprints. Dr. Mohammad Arshad was in the chair. The first speaker was Dr. Jamshed Ahmad Nadwi from Department of Arabic, Mumbai University. He presented his paper on Yaadon Ke Charagh: Introduction and analysis. He was followed by Dr. Obaid Iqbal Asim, AMU, who spoke on Current Situation and Muslims: A review. The third speaker was Dr. Nadeem Ashraf, who touched upon Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi's term of office as President: A review. He was followed by Saeed Ur Rahman, research scholar from Department of Arabic, Jamia Maulana Azad, Lucknow, who spoke on Maulana Rabey Hasani's ideological persuasion and the Muslim community. The fifth speaker was Dr. Md. Wiqaruddin Latifi, Office-Secretary, AIMPLB, New Delhi. He centred on the fourth President of All India Muslim Personal Law Board: Maulana Syed Rabey Hasani Nadwi's perceptible services. Saif Anwar, research scholar from Department of Islamic Studies, JMI was the sixth speaker, who concentrated on Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi and social reform. He was followed by Malik Mahmood, research scholar, JMI, who devoted his paper to Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi: Study of religion and the steps taken in action: An analytical study. The last speaker of the session was Md. Sirajul Huda Nadwi from Darul Uloom Sabil Ul Islam, Hyderabad. He spoke on contemporary awareness in Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi's writings and lectures.

Rabey Hasani Nadwi and social reform. He was followed by Malik Mahmood, research scholar, JMI, who devoted his paper to Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi: Study of religion and the steps taken in action: An analytical study. The last speaker of the session was Md. Sirajul Huda Nadwi from Darul Uloom Sabil Ul Islam, Hyderabad. He spoke on contemporary awareness in Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi's writings and lectures.

In his presidential remarks, Dr. Mohammad Arshad observed that the services rendered by Maulana Syed Rabey Hasani Nadwi as the President of AIMPLB, were full of wisdom. They should be used for the benefit of the community. They should also be



A view of the audience

was very fortunate to have been his student. He continued to enjoy patronage of the Maulana even after he passed out of Nadwa. Once in an answer to the question, he put to him, the Maulana held that the purpose of education was training. But today, education was linked to employment with the result that the very purpose of education was defeated. He had said that the training and employment were two different things. Both of them should be so planned that one did not overlap the other, he added.

**Technical Session-IV**

The fourth session was devoted to Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi: Understanding

made public in detail. He said the Maulana’s writings in Arabic were of high standard. Need for the revision of the Urdu translation of his writings in Arabic was strongly felt. He said that since Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi wrote lucid Arabic, his Urdu translation should also be as such.

**Valedictory Session**

In his valedictory speech, the Secretary of AIMPLB, Maulana Mohammad Umarain Mahfooz Rahmani, said that the life of Maulana Rabey Hasani Nadwi was like a shady tree for the Millat. He held a high position of spirituality and character which was rare. This position was a gift from Allah who gave it to the chosen few. One of his traits which differentiated him from others was his total immersion into the work he took up. Though this was very difficult, yet the Maulana made it a goal to achieve. That was the reason Allah put love for him into the hearts of the people. He was the epitome of planning and fortitude. In this connection, his statement regarding Babri Masjid was worth mentioning. He had said that if the Babri Masjid case verdict went against Muslims, it might be binding on the Muslims physically. But it would never be acceptable to their hearts, he added.

Presiding over the session, the Chairman of the IOS, Dr. M. Manzoor Alam said that the personality of Maulana Syed Mohammad Rabey Hasani Nadwi was dominated by moderation, equilibrium and prudence. He held that his attachment with the Maulana continued throughout his life. He always patronized him as well as the IOS. When the IOS decided to give Shah Wali Ullah Award to a scholar

whose contribution in the field of Islamic Studies was distinctive, consensus emerged on the name of Maulana Syed Rabey Hasani Nadwi. He was selected from a panel of names drawn from across the country. By consenting to accept the award, he only gave respectability to the IOS. He called upon the younger generation to learn from his life and work. The Millat needed to emulate him in their lives because he was distinct.

At the end of the seminar, a 4-point resolution was moved and unanimously passed by the participants. Among other things, the resolution stressed the need for emulating Maulana Rabey Hasani and

and Literature online on October 28, 2023.

The webinar commenced with the recitation of a Qur’anic verse by Maulana Asif Jamal Misbahi. The Convenor of the Mujaddid IOS Centre for Arts and Literature, Anjum Naim, welcomed the attendees and briefly highlighted its activities.

Assistant professor of Islamic Studies, Jamia Hamdard, Dr. Waris Mazhari, in his talk said that Mujaddid Alf-Sani’s contribution to Islamic philosophy should be examined in the context of his times and the conditions prevailing then. He set an example by working on both the fronts – spread of Islamic teachings and adherence to

Qur’an and Hadith with grit and exemplary courage. Besides, he was confronted with the ruling class in order to preserve religious practices conforming to the Shariah. Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi was an authority on Fiqh and Hadith. His knowledge was encyclopedic and he was endowed with critical insight into the matters of religion, Prof. Mazhari pointed out. Dr. Wahid Nazir observed that the shine and manifestation in the personality of Imam Rabbani

Mujaddid Alf-Sani abounded and their significance should be further explored because it was needed more today than ever before. They should be brought into the scholastic domain. He said that today, there was no dearth of scholarship and scholars, nor the lack of resources. But there were stores of knowledge and the affinity was missing. He held that Sheikh Mohaddis trained scholars and dispatched them to far off areas for the revival of true religious practices. He held that if today, someone wanted to work in that direction, whom he should



On the dais (L-R): Sheikh Hasan Saeed Safavi Azhari, Mr. Ahmad Javed, Prof. Talha Rizvi ‘Barq’, Dr. Wahid Nazir, Dr. Waris Mazhari and Dr. Mohammad Ali. On the podium: Mr. Anjum Naim highlighting the activities of the Centre

popularizing his ideas. The Convenor of the seminar, Maulana Shah Ajmal Farooq Nadwi, who conducted the proceedings, proposed a vote of thanks.

**Mujaddid IOS Centre organizes discussion on the relevance of Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi in contemporary world**

A discussion on Mujaddid Alf-Sani Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi Ki Asri Ma’anwiyat (Relevance of Mujaddid Alf-Sani Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi in the contemporary world), was organised by the Mujaddid IOS Centre for Arts

rely on because while *Khaneqahs* (hospices) were producing slaves and the madarsas were manufacturing sycophants. Jamias were reduced to a factory where students held the brief for their teachers, he added.

Sheikh Hasan Saeed Safavi Azhari, held that Mujaddid Alf-Sani had to contend with his own men and others similar to the hardships and opposition faced by the prophets and social reformers of the Ummah. But, he overcame all the hurdles and came out unscathed, Safavi Azhari said. Senior Urdu journalist and writer, Ahmad Javed observed that there were two ways to deal with the rulers who went astray. While one way was to resist the misdemeanors of the ruler, the other was to hold dialogues. The Sheikh preferred the latter and used all the available resources and engaged with the ulema, Sufis, rulers, etc. He saw eye to eye with the rulers and impressed upon the righteous path even at the peril of facing death. But he never shunned the path of righteousness and faced the rulers with courage. He said that the extra-ordinary situation that existed today could be compared to the situation that prevailed during the rule of Akbar and Jahangir. Thus the thoughts, philosophy and the ideas of Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi were more relevant today than ever before. In today's context when the democracy was in place in India, Muslims needed to learn from Sheikh Sirhindi's Islamic practices, Ahmad Javed concluded.

The occasion was marked by the release of Ahmad Javed's book, *Imam Rabbani Mujaddid Alf-Sani Sheikh Ahmad Sirhindi*, published by the Mujaddid IOS Centre for Arts and

Literature. Dr. Mohammad Ali briefly spoke on the contents of the book.

In his presidential remarks, Prof. Talha Rizvi 'Barq' said that the every century had a Mujaddid and Sheikh Ahmad Faruqi Sirhindi was the Mujaddid of his century. His message was that if the roots of a tree were strong, its branches would experience both autumn and spring. If the foundation of a building was strong, it could withstand the storm and stood firm. He held that the Holy Book and

Studies and the AIMC at the Institute's auditorium on November 30, 2023.

The condolence meet commenced with the recitation of a verse from the Holy Qur'an by Maulana Adnan Nadwi. In his opening remarks, noted Islamic scholar and Professor Emeritus, Islamic Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, Prof. Akhtarul Wasey said that Abdul Qayyum was actively involved in the affairs of the Millat and led the Muslim community at every level. Acknowledging his services to the community in various capacities,

he described him as a multi-faceted personality. He would be remembered for ever for his selfless services and dedication to the cause of Muslim community. He held that Abdul Qayyum was closely associated with the IOS and his closeness to its Chairman,

Dr. Mohammad Manzoor Alam brought him closer to the activities of the Institute. His work as General Secretary of Rajasthan unit of the AIMC had been acclaimed by the office-bearers of the body.

Besides, he actively participated in several social movements for the cause of the community.

General Secretary of the All India Muslim Personal Law Board, Maulana Fazalur Rahim Mujaddidi, observed that his association with Abdul Qayyum was very old and he knew him since 1955. He was also associated with his father. Assistant Secretary, AIMC, Shaikh Nizamuddin, held that Abdul Qayyum always evinced keen interest in all the projects of the Council. He was second to none in discharging his responsibilities and measured up to the expectations of the Council as its leader. His role in strengthening the Council in Rajasthan could be gauged from the fact that a



On the dais (L-R): Prof. Akhtarul Wasey, Prof. Z.M. Khan, Maulana Abdullah Tariq and Mr. Anjum Naim.

On the podium: Prof. (Ms.) Haseena Hashia conducting the meeting

Sunnah were the foundations of *Deen* (Islamic religion). Lauding the activities of the Centre, he underlined the need for regularly holding such discussions for the benefit of researchers and scholars.

While Syed Ali Rizvi conducted the proceedings, Anjum Naim extended a vote of thanks to the audience.

**IOS organizes condolence meeting on the demise of Abdul Qayyum Akhtar, Advocate**

A condolence meeting to mourn the death of Abdul Qayyum Akhtar, Advocate, founder member of the IOS and General Secretary, All India Milli Council, Rajasthan was jointly organized by the Institute of Objective

number of dedicated Muslims joined it and worked for its expansion. Convenor of the Mujaddid IOS Centre for Arts and Literature, Anjum Naim, said that his association with Abdul Qayyum Akhtar was 45-year old. Whenever he met him, Abdul Qayyum always discussed the issues of Muslims and appeared concerned over them. He served as Chairman of the Rajasthan Waqf Board and played a pivotal role in the setting up of Rajasthan Madarsa Board. He was also the founder-member of the IOS, Muslim Majlis-e-Mushawarat and the All India Milli Council. Anjum Naim said that he played an active role in the *Karwan-i-Azadi* (Caravan of freedom) launched by the Council.

In spite of keeping ill-health, the Chairman of the IOS, Dr. Mohammad Manzoor Alam attended the condolence meeting and paid his rich tributes to Abdul Qayyum Akhtar. He said that Abdul Qayyum Akhtar had much affection for him. He was a very close friend of him. He observed that for him, Abdul Qayyum Akhtar was *Saniya Ashra Mubashra* (like Companion), if not *Ashra Mubashra* (Companion). He expressed the hope that the team developed by him and worked with him, would devote its time and energy to the growth and longevity of the Tree. It was his fortune that he always came into contact with noble souls. These people extended all cooperation to him and helped the Institute grow step by step. He explained that the IOS was never found wanting in responding to the attacks on Islam. He expressed his gratitude to those who connected Abdul Qayyum to him on phone two days ago. Luckily, the conversation with him was long, he concluded.

Presiding over the condolence meet, the Secretary General of the Institute, Prof. Z.M. Khan pointed out that Abdul Qayyum Akhtar had a very intimate relationship with Dr.

Mohammad Manzoor Alam. He was very practical and attached much importance to ground work. He was very deeply associated with the IOS and his suggestions were very useful, Prof. Khan said.

National Vice-President of All India Milli Council, Maulana Anis-ur-Rahman Qasmi, veteran journalist, Maqbool Ahmed Siraj, Vice-Chairman of the IOS, Prof. M. Afzal Wani, Vice-President of the AIMC, Maulana Dr. Yasin Ali Usmani, Dr. Abdul Rasheed Agwan, Mujahid Ali Naqvi, advocate, Danish Akhtar, advocate and Sarvar Alam Atif also spoke on the occasion. While the Assistant Secretary General of the Institute, Prof. Haseena Hashia



A view of the programme

conducted the proceedings and thanked the attendees, Maulana Abdullah Tariq offered *dua* for Abdul Qayyum Akhtar's exalted place in *Jannah* at the end of the meet.

### Activities of the IOS Chapters

#### CHENNAI CHAPTER

#### **IOS Chennai Chapter's programme on "The State of Economy and Islamic Finance in India with Special Reference to Career Prospects"**

A seminar on "The State of Economy and Islamic Finance in India with Special Reference to Career Prospects" was organized jointly by the IOS Chennai Chapter, PG

Department of Commerce, The New College and Organisation of Muslim Educational Institutes and Associations of Tamil Nadu (OMEIAT) on Saturday, October 14, 2023 at 11.30 am at MIIT Auditorium, The New College, Chennai.

The programme started with the recitation of a verse from the Holy Qur'an. Dr. Syed Rafiq Ahmed, Head, Department of Commerce, The New College, welcomed the Chief Guest and the gathering.

Mohamed Haneef Katib, Coordinator, IOS Chennai Chapter introduced the Institute of Objective Studies (IOS). Copies of "A profile of achievements of IOS" were distributed among the audience. He then introduced the keynote speaker, Dr. J. Sadakkadullah,

The Chief Guest and other dignitaries including Janab H. Abdur Raqueeb Sahib, Indian Centre for Islamic Finance were honoured.

A brief video introducing the OMEIAT (Organisation of Muslim Educational Institutes and Associations of

Tamil Nadu) covering its vision, mission and the achievements so far was played on the screen.

Dr. J. Sadakkadullah delivered a lecture on the central theme of the seminar "The State of Economy and Islamic Finance in India with Special Reference to Career Prospects".

In his presentation, he explained in detail the real position of India's economy. According to the First Five-Year Plan document, 'An underdeveloped country is one characterised by the co-existence of first unutilised natural resources, second underutilised manpower'. So development is hindered due to inadequate capital resources, he observed.

While explaining the state of Islamic finance in India, he quoted the Qur’anic verse ‘*Wa ahallal laahul bai’a wa harramar ribaa* (Al Quran 2: 275). It says ‘Allah has permitted trade and has forbidden interest.’ He quoted the point in the RBI Annual Report (2016), which clearly advised the advantage of introducing Islamic Banking in India without using the word Islamic. The report says:

“Some sections of society have remained financially excluded, for religious reason that precludes them from using banking products with an element of interest. Towards mainstreaming these excluded sections, it is proposed to explore modalities of introducing interest free products in India, in consultation with GOI”.

He explained to the commerce students the opportunities waiting for them in the various sectors, such as: Chartered Accountancy, Company Secretaryship, MBA, Financial Engineering (including overseas), IT (TN Naan Mudhalvan Scheme), E-Commerce – Digital Marketing, Banking/Finance/ Insurance (BFI sector), Competitive exams etc.

Dr. J. Sadakkadullah stressed upon the important point that it was a must for all students to appear for competitive exams. He pointed out that by passing competitive exams only, students could achieve top positions such as IAS (UPSC), Dy. Collector TNPSC), Dy. Governor (RBI Services

Board), National Recruitment Board (SSC/IBPS/RRB), National Defense Academy/Services Selection Board etc.

To achieve these high ranking positions, students must have determination, dedication, clear goal, hard work and passion, he said.

He explained to the students different stages of clearing Civil Service Exams. The Three stages involved were Preliminary Examination – Qualifying in Nature, Main Examination – Merit and Interview – Merit.

He advised the students to take advantage of the services of Ikhlas IAS Academy, Chennai, of which he was presently the Director of the Academy, he informed.

Dr. J. Sadakkadullah concluded his speech with the recitation of Qur’anic verse from Surah-e-Asar, which specify every Muslim to have ‘Patience and Consistency’ to be successful. He prayed that may Allah bless all of us to have faith, do righteous/good deeds, engage in mutual teaching of truth and patience.

The programme was followed by a lively Question and Answer session.

The programme concluded with a vote of thanks by Dr. S. Thameem Sheriff, Head, Department of Commerce, Shift II, The New College. Dr. J. Sulaiman, Asst. Professor of Commerce discharged the duties of the Convener of the programme.

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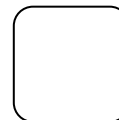
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