



## Press Release

November 13, 2022

### International Conference on bicentenary completion of Urdu Journalism inaugurated at MANUU Hyderabad

**Hyderabad:** A three-day International Conference is being organised for celebrating the completion of 200 years of Urdu Journalism at the main campus of Maulana Azad National Urdu University (MANUU) in Hyderabad. The conference is being organised by the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of MANUU.

The Chief Guest While SH Awwad a journalist from Syria thanked the organisers for having him at the conference. He called Hyderabad a city of civilisation. He added that language plays a very important role in the prospering of culture and Indian culture through the Urdu language has crossed borders and reached various countries and had an impact on people. He said that he being a journalist had to learn the language of the land and came to realise that Urdu is the language of revolution. He further said that credibility is an important factor in Urdu journalism that can help in keeping the field strong. He said that journalism is about the truth and nothing but the truth.

Mr Hasan Kamal presented the keynote address at the conference and congratulated the organisers for the celebration. Speaking on the theme he said that the past of Urdu is inspiring the present is a bit down and the future is bright. He highlighted the decline in print media caused by online media and the internet. According to him, online media will reduce the costs of running a newspaper as printing is not needed anymore. He quoted prominent lyricist and writer Javed Akhtar and said that according to Javed Akhtar the growth of online media people would listen more and read less and on hearing the people shall realise that what they perceive to be Hindi is Urdu in reality. He also said that Urdu might be one of the most spoken languages in the world. He advised the students of Mass communication to take advantage of social media and shape the revival of Urdu Journalism.

Vice Chancellor of MANUU Prof Syed Ainul Hasan in his presidential address thanked the guests for their presence at the conference. He said that MANUU had 32 campuses and education is being provided in both regular and distance modes. He said that in one year the university has given 20,000 degrees in the distance mode to students from across the country. He said that 70 to 75 percent students at MANUU are first generation learners and yet have immense love for Urdu.

Highlighting the infrastructure of the university the Vice Chancellor spoke about the seven centres of learning at the university. He mentioned the appreciation given to the university by the visiting MPs who visited the university recently.

Mr. Swapan Das Gupta, renowned journalist and parliamentarian said that a language cannot be regulated. He said that society itself adapts to various languages. He further said that some Urdu newspapers are in decline in Kolkata where Urdu journalism started. According to him, the future of Urdu journalism lies in digital media as the media is independent of the script.

Prof. Sanjay Dwivedi the director of IIMC, New Delhi about the role of journalism in the freedom struggle and highlighted the role of the Urdu language in bringing the revolution that led to the freedom of India. He said that it was time for Going back to our languages and creating communicators who bring the revolutionising spirit back into the field of journalism.

Mr. Huzaifa Wastanvi agreed with Mr Hassan and said that the future of Urdu journalism is very bright. He said that the lovers and speakers of Urdu are from across faiths and regions. He also highlighted the role of the Urdu language in the freedom struggle. He stressed the need to make Urdu more visible online and said that MANUU has an important role in achieving this feat.

Dr Qadeer Ahmad the founder of the Shaheen Group of Institutions stressed the need of knowing one's mother language for completing the education of an individual.

Mrs. Kamna Prasad founder of Jashn e Bahar in her address started by identifying Deccan as the birthplace of Urdu poetry. Mr. Mirza Qamrul Hasan Beigh in his address spoke about the importance of Urdu Journalism and the role of Hyderabad in keeping the culture alive. Mr Shakeel Hassan Shamsi a prominent journalist in his address said that journalism is not just a profession but a soul-satisfying activity that needs passion and the spirit of human service.

Mr Shahid Lateef editor of Inquilab Mumbai in his speech highlighted the importance of the occasion by saying that two centuries is not a show period. He said that these two centuries have contributed to every aspect of living in India and are history in itself.

A special edition of the lab journal Izhaar from the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism of MANUU was released at the occasion. The journal is a tri-lingual.

This was followed by the release of the conference proceedings which had research papers in three languages. Mass Media aur Sahafat a book written by Shakeel Hassan Shamsi was also released in the session. Ik taraf Tamasha a book written by Prof. Shahid Hussain was also released on the occasion. Another book written by Mohammad Waliuddin titled Aligarh Muslim University and Corporate Media ek jaayiza written by Mr Ashraf Ali was also released.

Prof. Ehtesham Ahmad Khan, Dean Department of Mass Communication and Journalism gave the welcome address. Prof. Mohammad Fariyad HOD Department of Mass Communication and Journalism conduct the proceeings. Dr. Meraj Ahmad Mubarki, Asst. Professor proposed vote of thanks.

**(Prof. Mohammad Fariyad)**

*Public Relations Officer I/c*