



MUSLIM Institute



Ministry of Religious Affairs
& Interfaith Harmony



Mevlana Allama
Rumi & Iqbal

SEMINAR

ORGANISED BY

MUSLIM Institute

FRIDAY, 18th FEBRUARY 2022

MUSLIM Institute organized a seminar titled "**Mevlana Rumi & Allama Iqbal**" on Friday, 18th February 2022 at Lahore. Chief Guest of the event was H.E. Dr. Ali Erbaş (President of the Presidency of Religious Affairs, Turkey). Welcoming Remarks were delivered by H.E. Sahibzada Sultan Ahmed Ali (Dewan of Junagadh State & Chairman MUSLIM Institute) & guest of honour was Pir Noor-Ul-Haq Qadri (Federal Minister, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Pakistan). Other speakers included Prof. Dr. Asghar Zaidi (Vice Chancellor, GC University, Lahore) & Prof. Dr. Saleem Mazhar (Vice Chancellor, University of Sargodha). Mr. M. Hamza Iftikhar (Research Associate MUSLIM Institute) moderated the proceedings of the seminar.

Along with Turkish delegation parliamentarians, researchers, scholars, students, university professors, lawyers, journalists, social activists and people from different walks of life participated in the conference.



Remarks by the Speakers

Brief summary of remarks shared by speakers is as following:



Opening Remarks
Sahibzada Sultan
Ahmed Ali

Dewan of Junagadh State &
Chairman MUSLIM Institute

It is indeed a matter of immense pleasure that the prayer in historic mosque of Lahore was led by His Excellency Dr. Ali Erbas. After the creation of Pakistan, Istanbul was the first city to be declared as a sister city of Lahore. A few years back, Mevlana Rumi's city Konya established "Allama Iqbal Park" adjacent to Rumi's mausoleum. Allama Muhammad Iqbal, the dreamer and spiritual father of Pakistan, was admittedly inspired by Mevlana Jalal Uddin Rumi. Iqbal's relation with Rumi was established in his childhood when he learnt Persian, and later studied from Molvi Mir Hasan. His father had spiritual affection and often shaykhs and Sufis used to visit their home to conduct sessions on the books of Sufis. Therefore, Rumi was not a stranger to Iqbal from spiritual as well as literary standpoint. Iqbal benefited and presented the teachings of Rumi as a panacea to the contemporary ailments and challenges faced by the Muslims in general and the Muslims of the sub-continent in specific. In a rubai, Iqbal says,

Like Rumi in the Harem I called the people to piety. From him I learnt the secrets of life. In olden days when trouble

arose he was there. To meet trouble in present times I am here.

Iqbal argues that revelation is superior to intellect and it is the basic principle of religion. He asserted that he is raising his voice in favour of this principle just like his mentor Rumi. Philosophically as well as practically, Iqbal presented the ideas that the spirit is superior to physical body and revelation is superior to intellect.



Chief Guest
H.E. Dr. Ali Erbaş

President of the Presidency of
Religious Affairs, Turkey

Allama Muhammad Iqbal and Mevlana Rumi nurtured the hearts of people from Anatolia to Pakistan with pearls of love and nurtured unity, solidarity and brotherhood with their wise counsels and enlightened our paths with knowledge and wisdom. Allama Iqbal is the Rumi of present time. Iqbal says as long as he has soul in his body he is a follower of Holy Quran and he is the dust of the footsteps of Holy Prophet (ﷺ). Sufism is not laziness and monasticism but the name of work, constant struggle and generosity.

If the servants of Allah (ﷻ) do not love Allah (ﷻ), they become captivated by love of precious metals like gold and silver. According to Mevlana Rumi and Iqbal, the way to elevate oneself morally is to see one's faults and try to correct them.

Furthermore, good manners and goodness should be taught to young generation. Mevlana and Iqbal teach not

to complain about the hardships of time. A person who does not go through difficulties does not become a complete human being. When the water of a river hits a rock, it becomes sweet and delicious. Teachings of both revolve around this purpose and they follow the principle that a Muslim is one who likes for others what he likes for oneself.



Guest of Honour
Pir Noor-Ul-Haq Qadri

Federal Minister, Ministry of Religious Affairs and Interfaith Harmony, Pakistan

Mevlana Rumi is like a spiritual teacher and a guide for Allama Iqbal and Iqbal admits that

پیر رومی خاک را د کسیر کرد
از غبارم جلوہ با تعمیر کرد

“I was a dirt of road and it was Rumi’s perfection to build this dirt.”

When this thought reaches a certain point, it seems that in this meeting of

thoughts, in this spiritual relationship, both (Iqbal and Rumi) are sitting face to face and are negotiating with each other. And their teachings were based on a relationship of moderation in society. As long as Mevlana Rumi’s books were being taught in Madrassas, the system of Madrassas was very good. Not long ago, Mevlana Rumi and Sa’dī used to be part of the syllabus of religious schools in the late 1960’s and early 1970’s. Then we forgot both Rumi and Saadi.

Iqbal’s dream of Pakistan was based on Mevlana Rumi’s vision, thought and philosophy of humanity. There is also an imaginary tomb with the shrine of Mevlana Rumi named after Iqbal in Konya. And this tomb was built in the 1960’s. We should strive to build Pakistan as per Iqbal’s Vision.



Guest of Honour
Prof. Dr. Asghar Zaidi

Vice Chancellor, Government College University, Lahore

Mevlana Rumi & Allama Iqbal are not only poets but representatives of Muslim thought and civilization. It is a matter of great honor and pride for the people of Pakistan, Turkey and for the Muslim world to have such great personalities. Both personalities lived in the era of turmoil yet provided hope and comfort to the bewildered humanity. What Rumi achieved in the 13th century, Iqbal, seeking inspiration from him, accomplished in the 20th century. Rumi's teachings are based upon the dignity of man and transcendence of God. Iqbal's concept of Khudi (Self-actualization) was inspired from Rumi. He, like Rumi, believes in the philosophy of change and evolution in the universe as a continuous act of God.

The true face of Islam is what the Muslim societies have practiced for centuries intellectually and spiritually led by Sufis and poets like Rumi and Iqbal. We need to highlight this soft image of Islam and counter the phobias and negative propagandas being rapidly spread around the world. The best possible way is to focus our foundations laid in the pre-colonial era and teaching our youth about those values, traditions and ideas. Thoughts of Rumi and Iqbal are very important for the creation of peaceful and harmonious society. These thoughts encourage interfaith and interfaith harmony, provide a sense of dignity to humanity, provide bonding threads for human relations based on love and also provide a base for human equality.





Key note Speech
Prof. Dr. Saleem
Mazhar

Vice Chancellor, University of Sargodha

Allama Muhammad Iqbal and Mevlana Rumi are still fulfilling the need of this society. Allama Iqbal considered Mevlana Rumi as his mentor and teacher in his prose and poetry whether it is in Urdu or Persian. The great spiritual revolution in the life of Mevlana Rumi came when he got acquainted with his mentor Shams Tabriz. In the early 40 years of his life, he has been seen as a Jurist and scholar. Whether it is Masnavi or Ghazal of Mevlana Rumi, wherever sun, light, day, moon or any similar thing is mentioned, Mevlana Rumi mentions the name of his murshid Shams Tabriz. The same is the condition of Allama Iqbal, Rumi's spiritual disciple. Allama Iqbal got the colour of 'Iqbaliyaat' when he submitted his PhD thesis "The development of metaphysics in Persia" to Munich University and received his PhD degree on the same thesis.

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تا در طلب گوهر کانی کانی"
تا در هوس لقمه نانی نانی
این نکته رمز اگر بدان دانی
هر چیزی که در جستجی آنی آنی

O man, if you are in search of a pearl, that pearl is you. If you are in search of a piece of bread, then your status is no more than just a piece of bread. If you know this point of wisdom and understanding, you will get it. What you are looking for and what you are focusing on is inwardly the same thing.



At the end of the seminar cultural turban of Pakistan was also presented to the H.E. Dr. Ali Erbaş by H.E Sahibzada Sultan Ahmed Ali.



MUSLIM Institute
Mission of Unity, Stability &
Leadership In Muslims

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