



# Centre for Culture, Media & Governance

Jamia Millia Islamia

New Delhi

CCMG INVITES YOU TO THE THURSDAY LECTURE SERIES

## ‘Maulvi Mohammad Baqar – First Martyr Journalist of First War of Independence of India- 1857’

### About the Lecture

The first name among those journalists who did not hesitate in sacrificing their lives for their country's liberation by all means is that of Maulvi Muhammad Baqar, editor of *Delhi Urdu Akhbar*. Maulvi Muhammad Baqar came from a respectable and educated family of Delhi. After completion of his education he took up several jobs such as teaching at Delhi College, and as a Tehseeldar in the Revenue Department but that was not his final goal. In 1836 when the Government, after amendment in the Press Act, allowed publication of newspapers, he entered the field of journalism that became his art and identity. He joined the British administration under Charles Metcalfe. Later, his love for writing and journalism led him to buy a lithographic press in 1834. In January 1837 Maulvi Muhammad Baqar launched weekly *Delhi Akhbar*. After *Jam Jahan Numa* of Calcutta this was the second Urdu language newspaper in the Indian sub-continent and first in north India. This newspaper survived for about 21 years during which its name was changed twice. *Delhi Urdu Akhbar* is the pioneer of National Urdu journalism. Maulvi Muhammad Baqar used modern technology in the newspaper and shaped it to meet and fulfil contemporary demands. He focussed on newsworthiness in headlines and news writing. *Delhi Urdu Akhbar* was the proclaimer of the feelings of the nation. That was the period when there was no political party in the country and the newspaper played vital and leading role in creating political awakening in the masses and uniting them against the foreign rulers. It ignited the love of freedom and gave the courage and confidence to rally against the British Raj. In order to encourage freedom fighters Maulvi Baqar commended them and persuaded the masses to cooperate with them and participate in their struggle. Such stimulating writings may be seen in several issues of *Delhi Urdu Akhbar*.

**Prof. Hussain is authority on Maulvi Mohammad Baqar and will be delivering a lecture in remembrance of his martyrdom on 15<sup>th</sup> September. This session will be chaired by eminent advocate and activist Anil Naurya.**

### About

#### Prof. S.M. Azizuddin Husain

Prof Hussain, is a distinguished professor of History at Department of History, Jamia Millia Islamia. He was former Head, Department of History, at the institution and was also former Dean, Faculty of Humanities & Languages, JMI. He served as Director at *Dr. Zakir Husain and His Contemporaries Archives & Portrait Gallery*, JMI, *Jamia's Premchand Archives and Literary Centre*, Jamia Millia Islamia and at Rampur Raza Library, Government of India, Ministry of Culture.

#### Chair- Anil Naurya

Anil Nauriya studied Economics, qualified for the Bar and since the early eighties, has been counsel at the Supreme Court of India and the High Court of Delhi. He has written on contemporary history and politics in India and has contributed to various books and journals.

**Venue:** CCMG, Video Conference Lab

**Date:** Thursday, 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2017

**Time:** 2:30 pm

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