

MMAJ ACADEMY OF INTERNATIONAL STUDIES
JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA

BRICS AND THE MULTIPOLAR WORLD

WORKSHOP ON BRICS STUDIES

1 February 2017

Ho Chi Minh Conference Room, AIS, JMI

Over 85 students from the University of Delhi, JNU and Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI) participated in the one-day workshop on 'BRICS and the Multipolar World'.

Prof Talat Ahmad, Vice-Chancellor, JMI inaugurated the workshop and informed the participants that JMI had been chosen as the lead university in India as part of the International Thematic Group of BRICS Network University.

Prof Manoranjan Mohanty, well-known political scientist and eminent expert on China, delivered the inaugural lecture on 'BRICS' Vision of the Global Future'. He stated that what was important to examine, was a grouping that would be rebalancing power in the world order or restructuring it and whether it would be the elites or people driven.

Fourteen eminent academics and government officials, specialists on BRICS countries, spoke on a variety of topics related to BRICS, including:

- BRICS and other groupings such as the MERCOSUR, IBSA, SAARC, SCO, the Eurasian Economic Community
- The New Development Bank and AIIB set up by BRICS
- Whether BRICS was just a 'cushion for China's rise' or the inheritor of the agendas of Bandung and NAM
- Would BRICS actually contribute to an alternative world order or would BRICS just plateau off and decline as have so many other international groups
- BRICS and globalization
- BRICS and multilateralism
- The evolution of BRICS and
- Aid agencies and trade between BRICS countries

Mr Dimri, Joint Secretary, MEA, stated that BRICS was not just about Summits, but about the work that is done throughout the year. Referring to India's Chairmanship of BRICS last year, the high point of which was the Goa Summit, he stated that India had organized 126 events in 22 provinces, towns and cities across India.

The workshop ended with Ambassadors Virendra Gupta and Bhojwani speaking in detail on India and BRICS and the political and economic changes that had occurred globally over the last decade, which would affect relationships between the BRICS countries.