Press Release

## Lecture at JMI by Prof. Geoffrey Pleyers "Highlights the Transformative Impact of Social Movements on Societies and Democracies."

The Department of Sociology, Jamia Millia Islamia (JMI), organised an insightful lecture titled "For a Global Sociology of Social Movements" on December 20, 2024. The event featured renowned sociologists and academic leaders who shared their perspectives on the pivotal role of social movements in shaping society and democracy globally. The keynote address was delivered by Prof. Geoffrey Pleyers, the President of International Sociological Association. Prof. Md Mahtab Alam Rizvi, Registrar of JMI was the Chief Guest of the event.

The event commenced with an introduction by Prof. Azra Abidi, Head of the Department of Sociology, who warmly welcomed the guests and the audience. Prof. Abidi emphasised the importance of critically examining the dynamics of social movements in contemporary times. Her opening remarks set the tone for the enriching discussions that followed, highlighting the department's commitment to fostering academic excellence.

The keynote speaker, Prof. Geoffrey Pleyers, delivered an engaging address, emphasising the need for ethical research practices and innovative methodologies in the study of social movements. Highlighting the transformative impact of social movements on societies and democratic frameworks, Prof. Pleyers called for a global perspective in sociological research to better understand the dynamics of change.

Prof. Arvinder A. Ansari, an eminent figure in the field of sociology, elaborated on the contributions of the Indian Sociological Association and the foundational principles of sociology in India. Her address provided an overview of how Indian sociologists have significantly shaped the discipline's trajectory both nationally and internationally.

The Guest of Honour, Professor Rajesh Mishra, shared insights into the contributions of Indian sociologists to the global sociological discourse. His reflections underscored the importance of India's intellectual legacy in enriching the worldwide understanding of social structures and movements including the role of Indian Sociology since 1921.

Prof. Md Mahtab Alam Rizvi, spoke on the intricate relationship between society and democracy. Highlighting global social movements, the Chief Guest reflected on their profound influence in reshaping societies and fostering democratic ideals. He also emphasised the role of social movements in the context of West Asian countries and focused on the need for a democratic social alliance.

Prof. Mohd. Muslim Khan, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, JMI, shed light on the historical and contemporary dimensions of social movements, offering valuable perspectives on their evolving nature and impact. His remarks on the research gaps prevalent in the social sciences added value to the discussion.

The lecture was hosted by Prof. Shafique Ahmed, who skilfully facilitated the discussions, ensuring a seamless flow of ideas and dialogue among the speakers and attendees. The event was attended by students, faculty members, and researchers from diverse fields.

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