Press Release

Guest Lecture on Untold Facts about Sir Syed Ahmad Khan by Prof M Shafey Kidwai, AMU

AMU Kishanganj Centre organised a Guest Lecture on “Untold Facts about Sir Syed Ahmad Khan” by Prof. M. Shafey Kidwai, Department of Journalism and Mass Communication, Aligarh Muslim University on November 18, 2016 at Academic Block, AMU Kishanganj Centre. While formally welcoming the guest on the occasion, Dr Raashid Nehal, Director, AMU Kishanganj Centre highlighted that Prof. M. Shafey Kidwai has undertaken an important challenge of writing on Sir Syed Ahmad Khan which has received a fresh and unique treatment. As part of the Bicentenary Celebrations on Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, Prof M. Shafey Kidwai’s book titled “Sir Syed- A Life Beyond Reconciliation” is to be published by Oxford University Press, London in 2017. Speaking on the occasion, Prof. Kidwai said that Sir Syed is credited with publishing Aligarh Institute Gazette which was the first multilingual journal of the country. Sir Syed is also considered as one of the pioneers in the field of purposive journalism that differentiated between facts and opinions to ensure a sense of belongingness. Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, being a prolific writer, published more than 400 articles. Prof Kidwai informed, as not many of us know, that Sir Syed was a member of the Public Service Commission and Viceroy Council. He said that Sir Syed’s works and biography assume a greater significance in light of pluralistic and diverse patriotic society like ours. Quoting the example of Che Guevara, he said that cross commercialism was the worst example of journalism and that Sir Syed stood for the fight against ignorance, that is, knowing the frontiers of ignorance. He said that Sir Syed always stood for purposive journalism and human values which assume a contemporary relevance so as to coexist with the majorities in a pluralistic society. The guest lecture was followed by an interactive session with the faculty members and students. The lecture ended with the vote of thanks proposed by Dr Asad Ullah, Course Coordinator, Department of Business Administration while the entire event was anchored by Mr Md Sarwar Alam, Assistant Professor, Department of Business Administration.

Md. Asadul Haque
Public Relations Officer

Dr. Raashid Nehal
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