

CAMPUS WATCH

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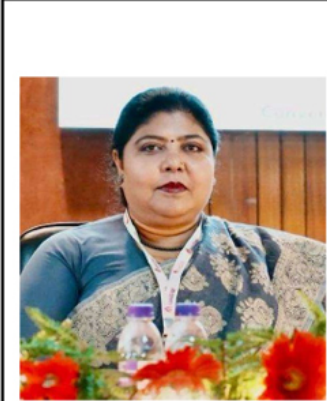
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THE HEALER OF HAMDARD

A stage performance honours **Hakeem Abdul Hameed**, founder of Jamia Hamdard

SYED HAYA HUSSAIN ■
JAMIA HAMDARD

The life and vision of Hakeem Abdul Hameed, founder of Jamia Hamdard, were vividly portrayed on stage, bringing them alive through a theatrical tribute titled “The Healer of Hamdard” during NERDZ’26.

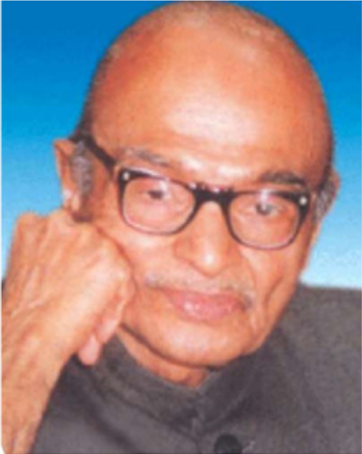
The play paid homage to the educationist and philanthropist whose ideals laid the foundation of the university and shaped its commitment to healthcare, education and social uplift.

Hakim Abdul Hameed was a well-known Unani physician, educationist and institution builder. He served as the founder Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard and was also a former Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University.

His ancestors migrated from Kashgar to the Indian subcontinent during the reign of the Mughal emperor Shah Alam. Born in September 1908, he dedicated his life to healthcare, education and public service until his death in July 1999 at the age of 90.

In recognition of his outstanding service to humanity, he was honoured with the Padma Bhushan. Hakeem Abdul Hameed was a visionary who believed service to humanity was the highest calling.

The Founder-Chancellor of Jamia Hamdard, Hakim Abdul Hameed, a renowned physician of the Unani system of medicine served the poorest of the poor and also had global dignitaries and personalities such as Prince Charles of England as his patient.



Hakeem Abdul Hameed Photo by JHU

The stage production traced his journey of compassion and perseverance, highlighting how his efforts led to the

establishment of an institution that continues to serve thousands of students.

“Through carefully crafted scenes and evocative dialogues, the students depicted the struggles and determination behind building an institution rooted in values. The stage became a bridge between past and present, reminding the audience that the university they walk through every day was born out of one man’s unwavering commitment to knowledge and service,” said Haroon Nizami, a student who attended the performance.

Staged by students of Epoch DramSoc and SEST, the play received appreciation from the audience. “In celebrating Hakeem Abdul Hameed’s life, the play reaffirmed the soul of Jamia Hamdard itself, an institution founded not just on academic excellence, but on

the principles of healing, humanity and hope. ‘The Healer of Hamdard’ was thus not just a performance; it was a reminder that true legacy lies in uplifting others, and that the founder’s vision continues to guide generations within the university’s walls,” said Sikandar.

Hakeem Abdul Hameed lived by the principles of austerity, simple living, and selfless service. He embodied these values throughout his life, combining humility with unwavering politeness, courtesy, and compassion in all his dealings. A deeply God-fearing man and a committed philanthropist, he leaves behind an enduring legacy and indelible footprints for others to follow. The February 6 event was part of the Annual Techno-Cultural Fest of the School of Engineering Sciences & Technology (SEST).

GRANDEUR AT DUSK



Golden hues wash over the Jamia Hamdard campus as the sun sets behind the academic block, casting calm across the green lawns Photo by JHU

Sameer’s hip-hop journey



NEW DELHI: In an exclusive conversation with **Hannan Hussain**, rap singer **Sameer Kasana**, a Jamia Hamdard student, opens up about his journey, creative blocks and his 12 unreleased songs. He dreams of following in the footsteps of his role models.

Besides hip-hop, Sameer also aspires to become a journalist so that he can be a trustworthy voice for the marginalised. It is this very dream that brought him to Jamia Hamdard, where he is pursuing journalism.

Detailed report on P4

Cheers, chants and championship dreams

For a week, the Hamdard campus buzzed with energy as students competed for laurels



Vice Chancellor Professor Dr M Afshar Alam cuts the ribbon to kickstart Sports Week 2026, along with other faculty members. Professor (Dr) Reshma Nasreen, Director (In-charge), CMMCS, is also seen Photo by JHU

MOHD ARMAN & VIVAAN TRIPATHI ■ JAMIA HAMDARD

Jamia Hamdard saw intense competition among students of various departments during Sports Week 2026 from February 9 to 15.

The event organisers said the success of the Sports Week was possible due to the guidance of Vice Chancellor Professor Dr M Afshar Alam and the efforts of the DSW office and others.

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■ Prof FB Khan,
Professor, CMMS

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Hamdard to lead manuscript heritage work MoU empowers varsity to coordinate national manuscript preservation efforts

ADITI RANA & FAIZA ATHAR ■ JAMIA HAMDARD

Jamia Hamdard has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Gyan Bharatam, a flagship programme of the Ministry of Culture, Government of India, aimed at strengthening national efforts for preservation, conservation, digitisation, translation, and research on India's manuscript heritage.

With the signing of this MoU, Jamia Hamdard has been officially designated as a Cluster Centre, entrusted with leading manuscript-related activities for its own collections as well as coordinating and supervising up to twenty (20) Cluster Partner Centres across the country.

The MoU was signed by Inderjeet Singh, Director, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, and Dr Sarfaraz Ahsan, Registrar (Officiating), Jamia Hamdard, in the presence of Dr Akhtar Parvez, University Librarian, Jamia Hamdard; Professor Anirban Dash, Project Director, and Bharat Kumar, Under Secretary, Gyan Bharatam, Ministry of Culture, Government of India.

On the occasion, Dr Akhtar Parvez, Dr Sarfaraz Ahsan, Professor MA Sikandar, Director, Centre for Distance & Online Education, Jamia Hamdard and Professor Riaz Umar, Member, Executive Council of Jamia Hamdard formally presented the duly signed MoU to Professor (Dr) M Afshar Alam, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard.

During an interaction with the senior officials of the university, Professor (Dr) M Afshar Alam, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard, said "this collaboration with the Ministry of Culture is a moment of great pride for Jamia Hamdard. Our selection as a Cluster Centre reflects the trust reposed in our institutional capabilities. We remain fully committed to preserving, digitising and promoting India's manuscript heritage, while creating world-class



(Top) During an interaction with senior officials of the university, Professor (Dr) M Afshar Alam, Vice-Chancellor, Jamia Hamdard, said "this collaboration with the Ministry of Culture is a moment of great pride for Jamia Hamdard; officials exchange MoU files (right)

Photo by JHU

scholarly resources that meaningfully connect our civilizational past with contemporary research needs."

Professor Alam conveyed his appreciation to Vivek Aggarwal, Secretary, Ministry of Culture, Government of India, for his gracious support and for the prompt action taken in designating Jamia Hamdard as a Cluster Centre for manuscript heritage.

Dr Akhtar Parvez underlined that, as a Cluster Centre under Gyan Bharatam, Jamia Hamdard will undertake the systematic survey and cataloguing of manuscripts; preventive and curative conservation; capacity-building workshops; digitisation of manuscripts and their integration with the National Digital Repository; transliteration, translation, and preparation of critical editions; as well as research, publications, exhibitions, and extensive outreach activities.



We remain fully committed to preserving, digitising and promoting India's manuscript heritage

— Professor (Dr) M Afshar Alam, Hamdard VC

This partnership positions the university at the forefront of manuscript studies, digital humanities, and cultural preservation. The establishment of the Cluster Centre will not only expand research and training opportunities for scholars and students but will also contribute to national and international access to rare and invaluable knowledge traditions.

From Page 1 Sports Week fever sweeps campus

"Their meticulous planning and coordination ensured that all events were carried out smoothly, safely, and in a timely manner. Heartiest congratulations to all the winners and participants for their outstanding performances," the organiser said. Buhan Khan, a first year student of the CMMS, Jamia Hamdard, told *Campus Watch* that although several sporting events were organised, the badminton matches were among the most widely attended. The competition brought together teams from the Faculty of Engineering Sciences & Technology (FEST), Faculty of Pharmacy, Faculty of Management & Business Studies, Faculty of Social Sciences & Humanities, and the School of Medicine & Health Sciences, said the organisers.

Dr Md Zishan, Assistant Professor, who mentored the department's cricket team, told the *Campus Watch* that once



Students participate in sports events Photo by JHU

of the most closely watched encounters was between the FEST team and the Faculty of Pharmacy team, with momentum shifting repeatedly before a decisive finish.

Azra Eram, a student who watched the high-intensity match, said long rallies, sharp smashes and well-placed net drops kept spectators engaged. The Pharmacy women's singles player displayed composure under pressure, while the FEST men's doubles pair stood out for their aggressive play and coordinated court movement.

Meet 4-legged Lucky, campus heartthrob

AYESHA RAFAQE ■
NEW DELHI

The Amul Canteen in Jamia Hamdard is a popular hangout where students gather to enjoy snacks and spend time with friends. Among the regular crowd is a special visitor who never carries money but rarely leaves hungry. The puppy, popularly known as Lucky, has become a familiar and daily presence on campus.

Unlike many strays, Lucky is not seen as a nuisance. When he wants food, he simply looks into the eyes of visitors, who often end up buying biscuits and treats for him. Over time, he has become part and parcel of students' lives at the university.

"You'd be eating, and suddenly, Lucky's paws are on your shoulder, sniffing out snacks. It's cute, but also kind of



Lucky Photo by Ayesha

scary. Lucky's not fussy about food as he'll sniff out anything from samosas to sandwiches. And if you don't give in, he'll just sit by your side, staring you down with those big, sad eyes. Most people cave eventually," said Rohan, a final-year student who has seen Lucky grow from a pup into an adult dog.

Though mischievous at times, Lucky is also affectionate and enjoys a cuddle or a pat on the head. He may interrupt lunch breaks, but few can resist his charm. Students, faculty and staff alike consider him part of the campus family.

"He's part of the Jamia Hamdard family," says Professor Aisha. "We tolerate his naughtiness because, honestly, he's just too cute."

For many at the canteen, Lucky is more than a stray, he is a small but heart-warming part of daily campus life.

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INTERVIEW OF THE WEEK

‘Preparing students to lead change in media industry’

In an interaction with Heba Wasim, CMMS Director Professor Reshma Nasreen says the department is focused on creating industry-ready professionals who become assets to every organisation. **Excerpts:**

Q: What is your vision for CMMS at Jamia Hamdard?

A: My vision is to prepare students to become skilled, ethical, and industry-ready media professionals who can lead change in any organisation they join. At CMMS, we try to stay ahead of industry demands. There are many traditional schools that are not evolving, but we ensure that our curriculum matches current needs. Whether in Bachelor's or Master's programmes, students should become assets to any organisation. I want them to grow ahead of their time and bring meaningful change wherever they go. We are designing our courses in such a way that they receive the best and most relevant knowledge.

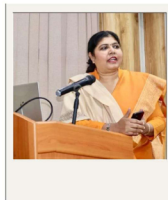
Q: Where do you see your students in the next five years?

A: I hope to see them as respected media personalities and valuable contributors in their organisations. Whether they choose freelancing or work in established institutions, they should be known for producing reliable and credible news.

Q: How do you view the evolving role of media today?

A: Media has broken traditional boundaries. It is no longer confined to students with a mass communication degree. Many individuals without a specific academic background in media are contributing significantly to the industry. The field has become highly perva-

GUIDING ACADEMIA, SHAPING FUTURES



Prof. (Dr) Reshma Nasreen, Director (In-charge), Centre for Media and Mass Communication Studies

Photo by JHU

sive and remains the fourth pillar of democracy. That is why involvement in media must always be guided by moral and ethical

responsibility.

Q: Tell us about your academic journey and

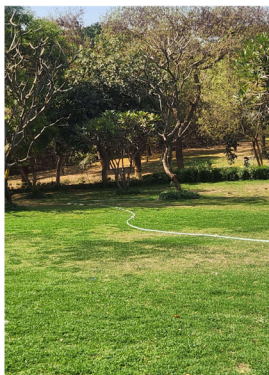
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The department is designing courses in such a way that students receive the best and most relevant knowledge

how it connects to media.

A: I come from a science background, having graduated in zoology. Later, I pursued a Master's in Business Administration from Aligarh Muslim University and completed my PhD in Marketing. Media and communication are now my second love. My background in management, branding, and advertising complements my leadership role at CMMS. I have been serving as Director of the department for the past four years.

NOTE: Every week, *Campus Watch* will feature an **Interview of the Week**, spotlighting outstanding individuals associated with Jamia Hamdard and their remarkable work. Have a story to share? Write to us.



A lush green campus

Photo by Nahida Shaikh

Studying amid nature's beauty

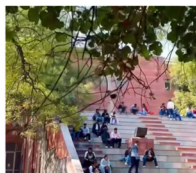
With over 70 per cent green cover and modern facilities, the 200-acre campus blends sustainability with academic excellence

NAHIDA SHAIKH ■ JAMIA HAMDARD

Jamia Hamdard is a peaceful and eco-friendly university located in Delhi, offering students a secure learning environment supported by strong academic infrastructure and extensive green cover.

Spread across nearly 200 acres next to the Jahanpanah Forest, the university combines natural beauty with modern facilities. More than 70 per cent of the campus is covered in greenery, including a six-acre medicinal plant garden.

The campus also houses modern academic blocks, a well-equipped library, sports facilities, and on-campus medical care. The university has implemented several sustainability initiatives, including



Students unwind on the amphitheatre steps, surrounded by thick green cover

Photo by JHU

solar energy systems, rainwater harvesting, and waste recycling, reflecting its commitment to environmental responsibility.

Students said the calm and inclusive atmosphere enhances their academic performance. "The greenery and calm surroundings really help me stay productive and less stressed," said Ayesha Khan, a second-year pharmacy student.

Engineering student Mohammad Arman described the campus as safe and welcoming. "It feels very safe and inclusive. Students from different backgrounds study together comfortably, which creates a positive vibe," he said.

Postgraduate biotechnology student Riya Sharma also praised the sustainability efforts. "You can actually see the sustainability initiatives working across campus. It makes you feel proud to study here," she said.

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FACT-CHECK: HAMDARD VIRAL CIRCULAR

Viral 'nikah' notice during Ramzan: Real or fake?

ANJALI MISHRA ■ JAMIA HAMDARD

What began as a sensational WhatsApp forward during Ramzan soon turned into a live classroom lesson on misinformation at Jamia Hamdard. A viral post claimed that if a "boy and a girl were seen standing together on campus during Ramzan", they would be forcibly married and made to bear the expenses of their own "walima". The message, packaged as an "official circular", spread rapidly across Instagram stories and messaging groups, triggering confusion, outrage and ridicule in equal measure.

But when journalism students took the claim to Professor Farhat Basir Khan for verification, the rumour began to collapse almost instantly. Professor Khan, a visionary mentor, communication and design innovator and a professional shaping discourse through both lens and word, said it is a fake circular.

"We are not just fighting misinformation," he told students. "We are living inside an infodemic." The term, popularised during the COVID-19 pandemic, refers to an epidemic of information where falsehood often travels faster, wider and deeper than verified truth. The so-called nikah circular followed that very pattern.

Before diving into digital tools, Professor Khan said the first rule of fact-checking is to pause and do not react emotionally. "Do not forward instantly. Ask a basic question: Who created this? Speed without verification is not journalism," he said. "It is rumour-mongering."

The students then analysed the nature of the falsehood.

"If shared unknowingly, it would qualify as

The first rule of fact-checking is to pause and do not react emotionally

— Professor Farhat Basir Khan



Fact-check reveals viral circular is fake

misinformation. If deliberately fabricated to damage the university's reputation, it would be disinformation. If it twisted real elements such as the timing during Ramzan to provoke outrage, it could fall under malinformation. Given the fake circular, altered logo and incorrect administrative details, the professor suggested the claim leaned strongly toward disinformation," said Sikandar, a student.



Professor Farhat Basir Khan

Photo by Zikra

To get to the root of the fake report, students traced the claim upstream rather than chasing its viral spread. "Who posted it first? Did it originate from an official university handle? Was there a primary source? The answer to all three was no. Without a traceable origin, credibility weakens immediately."

A closer look at the circular revealed obvious inconsistencies. The university emblem did not match the one displayed on the official website. The Registrar's name was incorrect. There was no corresponding notification, press release or announcement on any verified platform. In short, the document lacked the anchors that legitimate communication requires.

Professor Khan also spoke about professional verification tools such as Google Reverse Image Search, TinEye and the InVID/WeVerify plugin. "These tools help trace the first appear-

HOW TO BUST FAKE NEWS

■ **Check the source:** Is it from an official website or verified account? If the origin is unclear, don't trust it.

■ **Verify with primary evidence:** Look for press releases, official notifications, or direct statements. No proof = red flag.

■ **Use fact-checking tools:** Reverse image search, TinEye, or video verification tools can expose manipulated or recycled content.

■ **Pause before you share:** Don't forward emotionally. Ask: Who created this? What's the evidence?

ance of visuals, detect manipulation and identify recycled content. Reputable fact-checking organisations regularly rely on such methods to debunk viral claims," he said.

Yet the professor warned that technology alone is not enough. The human mind itself can amplify misinformation, he said.

Re-establishing human values in digital workplace



The participants

Photo by JHU

SIKANDAR ■ JAMIA HAMDARD

Rafaida College of Nursing, Jamia Hamdard organised one day conference on the theme "Re-establishing Human Values in Digital Workplace", in February.

The conference was attended by 150 nursing professionals from nursing education institutions and hospitals.

Hip-Hop is part of my life: Sameer

HANNAH HUSSAIN ■ JAMIA HAMDARD

Sameer Kasana is a first-year journalism student at Jamia Hamdard. His heart beats to hip-hop. He attends classes in the morning, learning the art of communication and sharpening his writing skills to high-level social and cultural issues. In his spare moments, he tirelessly works to hone his craft and make a name for himself in the world of hip-hop, just like his role models.

"My favourite singer is Dhandya Nydiwala. He was a budding artist when I first started listening to him as a fourth-grade student. Watching an artist from my own region, Haryana, carve a space in hip-hop made the dream feel real for me," said Sameer.

For the 21-year-old from Sonapat, Haryana, hip-hop is not just music; it is identity, expression and ambition. "Hip-hop is part of my life," he said. His world is shaped by rhythm, rhyme and reflection, and his sound is deeply personal, rooted in observation



Sameer Kasana

Photo by Hannah Hussain

and lived experience. Punjabi artists like Arjan Dhillon and Nawaz Sandhu have also influenced Sameer's musical taste and creative direction. Long before he considered recording tracks, Sameer wrote poetry. What began as scattered verses gradually evolved into structured songs paired with hip-hop beats. "The very first time I wrote a song, I was in the sixth or seventh grade. I wrote it with my sister; it was a pretty strange song, looking back!" he said. Till now,

he has written 12 songs, none officially released. His lyrics are drawn from real-life experiences and based on what he sees and feels. "It's what I see, what I hear, and mainly what I experience. I'm not a big talker; instead, I observe things closely and put those observations into my work," he said.

Some of his compositions reflect Haryana's culture, its language, temperament and rawness. "They are a reflection of my roots and personal experiences," he explains. In a genre often dominated by urban narratives, Sameer hopes to bring the flavour of his hometown into the mix.

Like every emerging artist, he faces creative roadblocks. Writing, he admits, is not always effortless. "The biggest challenges I face are rhyming and finding the right flow and internal rhymes; topic selection, deciding exactly what the song should be about; and structure bringing the song into a proper form so it feels like a story rather than just a bunch of random lines," he says.