

*And for women are rights over men similar to those of men over women.*

*(Al-Quran, Chapter 02; al-Baqarah:228)*

*Gender equality will only be reached if we are able to empower women.*

*Michelle Bachelet, Ex President of Chile*

*Women are the real architects of society.*

*Harriet Beecher Stowe, American Author*

### ***Impressions***



It is appreciable that the Foundation is doing excellent work for the welfare of the community through its multifarious activities

**Shri V P Singh**

April 29, 2000

*Former Prime Minister*



The Foundation is striving hard to ascertain healthy and peaceful societies through promotion of Health, Education and General Welfare

**Shri Sandeep Deekshit**

February 06, 2014 *Member of Parliament*



### **WOMEN EMPOWERMENT AND NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Women empowerment and national development go hand in hand and remarkably complement each other. If development is the sole criterion to bring about credible gender equality; then on the other hand women empowerment leads to national development. This a dual relationship between women empowerment and national development entails

improving a woman's ability to access the constituents of national development—especially health, education, livelihood, rights, and political participation. The pertinent question, however, that strikes the mind over and over again is: either to prioritise women empowerment to ensure a level playing field or national development, which in turn, guarantees women empowerment or a solid focus on holistic national development that facilitates women empowerment.

Emphasizing the key role the women empowerment plays in development former UN Director General Dr. Kofi Annan states, "There is no tool for development more effective than the empowerment of women". But for sure the goal of women empowerment remains unachievable if the rights of women go unrecognized. Founder and President of Women's Learning Partnership and women's rights activist of Iran Dr. Mehnaz Afkhami believes "Women's empowerment is intertwined with respect for human rights."

Despite the general agreement on the need and importance of women empowerment, there is exists a fundamental difference in the understanding of this concept between the western and Indian context. Hence, the essential distinction is situating women empowerment in national development. The western notion of women empowerment is ethnocentric, intrinsically psychologistic, structural and elitist, treats women as homogenous structure and undifferentiated mass. While, the Indian model is more inclusive in nature and empathizes family values. Thus, women empowerment entails a different approach in national development in the Indian context.

We at Alhikmah not only strongly believe but also are actively engaged in empowering women while underlining the integrity and supremacy of a closely knit family system. To us it appears to be the only and sure shot formula of development of our beloved nation.

**Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad**  
Chairman

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### BOOK RELEASE FUNCTION AT INTERNATIONAL BOOK FAIR



Chief Guest Former Union Minister Prof. Sanjay Paswan (Extreme left) releasing the *Religious Teachings on Social Issues*. Vice Chancellor of Lucknow University Prof. S.P. Singh is in the centre flanked by Mr. Sirajuddin Qureshi President, India Islamic Cultural Centre, New Delhi. Chairman of Alhikmah Foundation and Editor of the Book Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad is Second from Right. Behind him is the Co-Editor Dr. Dalip Kumar of National Council of Applied Economic Research to his right is Mr. Prashant Jain, Publisher of the Book. Finance Secretary of Alhikmah Foundation Mr. Saquib Yaseen is on extreme right.

Former Union Minister Prof. Sanjay Paswan released the book titled *Religious Teachings on Social Issues* on January 13, 2013 at the International Book Fair being held at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. Speaking on the occasion he said, “The context of the book is extremely important. What is the difference in all religions? The essence of all religions is same”. He termed Bhagwad Gita as a “fountainhead of knowledge”. According to him, “The person who strives in the pursuit of knowledge actually trades the Divine Path”. Hence he emphasized, “We must strive for excellence and leave rest at the Almighty”. In his views, “Writing a book is fundamentally a religious service”. He appealed to come together to save Planet Earth and make it a better place to live in.

The book is compiled by Alhikmah Foundation and it contains Foreword by Mr. Sirajuddin Qureshi, President India Islamic Cultural Centre and a total of 41 articles spread across eight sections. The contributors are the authentic voices of their respective religions who command respect in the society. Some of the important authors include Maulana Waheeduddin Khan, Father Dominic Emmanuel, Dr. Zafarul Islam Khan, Prof. Saud Alam Qasmi, Swami Shantananda.

The Book brings together commentaries from the authorities of Indic as well as Semitic religions. The Book, to all intents and purposes, offers solutions in the light of Holy Scriptures of the major religions to our daily social life issues such as *Knowledge, Interfaith Partnership, Coexistence and Tolerance, Communal Harmony, Peace, Cleanliness, Serving Humanity and Materialism*.

Speaking on the occasion Chairman of Alhikmah Foundation Dr. Ziauddin Nadwi shed a detailed light on the aims and objectives of Alhikmah Foundation. “It is perpetually engaged in selfless service to the nation since 1990. Our core areas include Health, Education and General Welfare”. Keeping these objectives in mind, “We basically cater to the weaker sections of the society by establishing Charitable Health Clinics, organizing free health camps, seminars, conferences, symposia and corner meetings. We also provide job assistance.”

Co-Editor of the Book Dr. Dalip Kumar introduced the book. The 21st century is the century of knowledge revolution. Knowledge science and education will have the power and strength to embrace the entire universe. Information can perhaps be useful as a support-stick and help you cross the way... but if you want to find your way in the darkness, only knowledge can forge that path for you. The principles of coexistence and tolerance are important as bases for building mutually acceptable relationships between highly diverse communities within a larger society. Tolerance, respect for fundamental human rights, freedom of religion, respect for the rule of law and kindness are among the factors that ensure peaceful coexistence in our homes, schools, institutions, communities and the nation as a whole.

One of the contributors of the book Prof. Anjani Kumar Jha stressed, “The essence of religions is non-violence. Religion is a liberating force that drives us out of ignorance, illiteracy, darkness and other such vices. Guest of Honour Mr. Sirajuddin Qureshi expressed his pleasure at the release of the book. The President of India Islamic Cultural Centre congratulated Alhikmah Foundation for bringing out this important book. “PM’s slogan *Sabka Sath Sabka Vikas* is deeply embedded in our religious traditions. Religion is a key to our national progress and development.” He disclosed, “The hon’ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modiji, during one of my meetings with him, emphasized the need to seek solutions to our social issues within religious framework. I shared this concern with Alhikmah Foundation and its Chairman Dr. Ziauddin Ahmad volunteered to realize this dream of our Prime Minister. I congratulate Dr. Zia for this wonderful achievement.



Dr. Dalip Kumar, introduces the book Co-Editor *Religious Teachings on Social Issues*.

Prof. (Dr.) S. P. Singh presided over the book release programme. In his presidential remarks the Vice Chancellor of Lucknow University said, “Indian education system considers Knowledge as *Guru* and knowledge seeker as pupil. He further suggested that solution to the social problems lies in perseverance. “Religion is a pathway to the ultimate destination. We traverse this path with patience and perseverance.” He made it clear that the “root cause of our problems is not ignorance rather it is our myopic vision that hampers us to see beyond the obvious”.

### REPUBLIC DAY CELEBRATIONS AT ALHIKMAH FOUNDATION

Alhikmah Foundation observed the Republic Day at its Headquarters with traditional fervor gaiety. Congratulating the nation on the occasion the Chairman of the Foundation Dr. Ziauddin AhmAd Nadwi noted, "It is a very important and valuable day for us. Our Constitution is an ideal one as it encompasses good features of various other Constitutions of world". Highlighting the other qualities of our Constitution the Chairmen said, "These qualities make it easy for everyone to live peacefully and practice his/ her religion fearlessly and thus 'Unity and Diversity' is displayed." According to him, "One of the most outstanding features of our Constitution is its Secular character". He took pledge to "Protect and defend our nation from anti-social elements and play a proactive role in the progress and development of our motherland"

Speaking on the occasion President of Rahat Foundation, Bijnor (UP) Dr. Masood Javed said, "The open air in which we breathe is in fact the fruit of innumerable sacrifices that our elders had put in to pull the nation out of clutches of foreign rule." Remebering the services of the Chairman of First Constitution Drafting Committee Baba Saheb Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar he said, " Baba Saheb has gifted us such a wonderful Constitution that guarantees Religious Freedom". Secretary of Rahat Foundation, Bijnor (UP) Ms. Rahat while lauding the efforts of Dr. Ambedkar said, "The Constitution drafted by Dr. Ambedkar is the guiding source for other Constitutions. The Preamble of our Constitions guarantees Justice, Liberty and Fraternity".

Secretary of the Foundation Mr. Syed Shoaib Ahmad said, "It is proud day for all of us since we got our Constitution which talks not only about our rights but also about our duties". According to Mr. Shoaib, "One the biggest responsibilities on our shoulders is that we should come forward and play a leading role in the development and progress of the Country as well as maintain peace and brotherhood in the society". Speaking about the process of Constitution drafting the Mr. Shoaib Ahmad disclosed, "Though we achieved independence in 1947 yet the Constitution Draft Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedker held 166 public sessions over the period of next three years. After such an elaborate and laboriuos exercise he gifted us with an impeccable Constitution". Finance Secretary of the Foundation Mr. Saquib Yaseen said, "Patriotism is not limited to achieving independence only rather it entails cordial behaviour with our fellow countrymen as well striving for the progress and development of the nation."



I measure the progress of a community by the degree of progress which women have achieved.

— B. R. Ambedkar —

## **ALHIKMAH FOUNDATION CELEBRATES INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY**

On the occasion of International Women's Day on March 08, 2019 Alhikmah Foundation organised a grand programme at its headquarters Alhikmah Education Point, Zakir Nagar, New Delhi. Speaking on the occasion Director of Gaytri Sahitya Sanstha Ms. Babli Sharma appealed the women to take proper care of their diet. She was of the view that it is better that women take control of the household rather than toiling in jobs. "I for one believe that the first and foremost the women must focus on the upbringing of their children especially daughters", said she.

Professor Ruqayya Khanam of Galgotia University emphasised the role of sisters in the family. "A sister is one of the biggest blessings of Almighty and any household bereft of sisters wears a deserted look". Professor Khanam appealed the parents to keep their children away from junk food. She further said, "The age in which children enter University is very critical as they are easily lured into vices. At this juncture not only teachers but parents have to play a very important role so as to avoid any mis-happening in future." Expressing her deep concern over the declining moral values she said, "It is very unfortunate that today our all out efforts are to educate our children whereas we tend to overlook the moral and ethical values. This is extremely dangerous phenomenon. Any education that is deprived of moral and ethical values is useless." Dr. Khanam said that it would be better if women too focus on skill development.



Ms. Rehana Ali, Convenor Ladies Wing of Alhikmah Foundation welcomes the guests

Renowned short story writer Ms. Chashma Faruqi presented a poem dedicated to her daughter. She stressed the need for moral and ethical training of daughters. The former Editor of *Khatoon-i-Mashriq* said, "The parents should not only try to give education to their daughters but at the same time must also inculcate moral values in their daughters as well. For the success in this world and in the Hereafter it is imperative girls should be trained in a proper Islamic environment." Director of ModiCare Ms. Renu Anand described in details the adverse impact of mobile tower radiations including a sharp decline in the sparrow population. "It is one of the biggest culprits of breast cancer in women. Not only young ladies but even the old women are also affected by breast cancer." She also suggested simple ways and methods to protect ourselves from the harmful mobile radiations.



Principal of UP School, Vaishali Ms. Shadab Qamar said that Islam had accorded a very important place to women. Chief Guest Ms. Shabana Malik underlined that as woman we must be keep our desire under check. "If we were to expand the sphere of our desires it harms us only", said she. Tracing the history of women empowerment Chief Editor of *Sadhbawna Today* said, "Women carved out a distinct identity for themselves during the Mughal era". She too laid great emphasis on religious education of the kids. Renowned social activist Ms. Azeeza Mirza proposed the formal vote of thanks. The driving force behind this programme and the Coordinator of the Foundation's Ladies Wing Ms. Rehana Ali conducted the programme with professional excellence.

**Women are the largest  
untapped reservoir of talent  
in the world.**

Hillary Clinton

### REPUBLIC DAY MUSHAIRA AT ALHIKMAH FOUNDATION

On the sidelines of Republic Day, Alhikmah Foundation organised a Mushaira on January 20, 2019 at its headquarters Alhikmah Education Point. Some of the well renowned poets participated in Mushaira. They presented beautiful poetry that invoked a sense of patriotism.



Republic Day is a celebration of  
Unity and it Urges Everyone  
to Spread the Harmony all over the County.  
No Caste, no Creed, rather it is the  
Joy of Humanity.



Alhikmah Library jam-packed with students



### **APPEAL**

*Being a totally charitable organization, Alhikmah Foundation solely depends on public funding.*

*Kind-hearted and generous citizens like YOU are requested to join hands with Alhikmah Foundation in an endeavour to promote Education, Health, Livelihood, Ethics & Peace and make the world a better place to live in.*

*Donations to Alhikmah Foundation are exempted from Income Tax u/s 80-G of IT Act.*

**ALHIKMAH**

Means

**WISDOM**

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