

Condolence meet held at KU, rich tributes paid to former VC Prof Hamidi Kashmiri

Srinagar, Dec 28: A condolence meeting was held today at University of Kashmir (KU) during which rich tributes were paid to the former Vice Chancellor KU Late Prof Hamidi Kashmiri who passed away on Wednesday here at Srinagar.

The condolence meeting was chaired by Dean Academic Affairs (DAA) KU Prof Musadiq Amin Sahaf which was also attended by Dean Research KU Prof Zafar A Reishi, Dean College Development Council (DCDC) and Registrar KU Prof Neelofar Khan and several other senior faculty members of the University.

While offering *fateha* to the memory of Late Prof Hamidi Kashmiri the members prayed for peace to the departed soul and courage to the bereaved family to bear this irreparable loss.

Recalling the contribution of Prof Hamidi Kashmiri to the corporate life of University Dean Academic Affairs Prof Musadiq Amin Sahaf said "As an academician Prof Hamidi Kashmiri brought the Urdu Department of the University on the National map and steered University in the right direction during turbulent times while he was Vice Chancellor from 1990-1993."

"Even as Vice Chancellor he was a very humble person and educator par excellence. While attending the administrative affairs of the University he would also regularly attend his students and scholars and would never miss the class. Besides being a great literary figure he was undoubtedly a role model of our times," added Prof Sahaf.

While highlighting his crucial role in the reformation of higher education in the valley the members said that Prof Hamidi Kashmiri was one of the great scholars who lived a very simple life and his contribution in the field of literature, poetry and prose shall be remembered for times to come.

Known for his thought-provoking and deep writings in both Urdu and Kashmiri, Prof Hamidi Kashmiri was a recipient of the Ghalib Award and Sahitya Akademi Award (2005).

He was also honoured by Padma Shri in 2010.

In his literary career spanning over many decades, Hamidi Kashmiri wrote 50 books including *Iqtishafi Tanqeed Ki Sheryat*; *Ainame Ibraaq*; *Mahasir Tanqeed*; *Riyasati Jammu Aur Kashmir Urdu Adab*; *Jadeed Kashir Shayeri* and *Shiekh-ul-Aalam Aur Shayeri*.

Hamidi's demise has been mourned by a cross-section of the civil society, with people in literary circles terming it a void difficult to fill, especially in the subcontinent.