

‘Iqbal's Approach to Indian Philosophy of Harmony and Peace’: Philosophical attitude transcends religion, inspires deeper values of unity, peace: Expert



KU to soon introduce full-fledged PG programme in Philosophy

Srinagar, June 13: To explore and discuss the impact of Allama Iqbal's thoughts on the philosophy of harmony and peace in the Indian context, the Iqbal Institute of Culture and Philosophy (IICP), University of Kashmir (KU), Wednesday, organised a seminar here.

The daylong seminar titled, 'Iqbal's Approach to Indian Philosophy of Harmony and Peace', brought together scholars, students and intellectuals from varied social, academic and professional backgrounds.

On the occasion, KU Vice Chancellor, Nilofer Khan shared insights into the significance of Iqbal's philosophy in contemporary times while informing the audience about the varsity's plans to soon introduce a full-fledged postgraduate programme in Philosophy.

"The academia in general and youth in particular should study Iqbal and learn more about his philosophy and his concept of peace and communal harmony," Prof Khan said, adding that there's need to delve into Iqbal's philosophical contributions,

particularly his views on creating a harmonious society, which are immensely relevant in today's world.

In his keynote, Dr Promod Kumar Dash, President, Indian Philosophy, Odisha and Head Department of Philosophy, Utkal University, emphasised on the concept of 'unity in diversity' as envisaged in Iqbal's philosophy.

"Philosophical attitude transcends every religion, and Iqbal's works have inspired generations to contemplate deeper values of unity, peace and coexistence," Dr Promod said.

KU Registrar Prof Naseer Iqbal, said that Allama Iqbal is the most influential literary figure of the subcontinent and that all major religions share common ethical and spiritual goals.

"This belief is rooted in Iqbal's broader philosophical stance that all religions ultimately aim to connect humans with the divine and promote moral values," he said.

Executive Programme Coordinator, All India Radio, Srinagar, Dr Satish Vimal, said that a lot needs to be done in research for Iqbal and his works need to be understood in all possible dimensions to guide humanity.

"Allama Iqbal believed Indian society could find harmony by embracing modern science and rationality without abandoning its spiritual and cultural heritage that would lead to a balanced and progressive society," he said.

Prof Hamidullah Marazi, Former Director, International Spiritual Centre, IUST Awantipora, underlined the need to engage in fresh dialogue to remove misconceptions.

"We have to understand the sensitivities of other philosophical and religious thoughts with a focus on similarities not differences," he said.

Coordinator, IICP, Dr Mushtaq Ahmad Ganai, stressed upon the need to read Iqbal's poetry in the context of harmony and peace.

"We should be on an intellectual journey to explore and celebrate the timeless wisdom of Allama Iqbal and his vision for a harmonious and peaceful world," he said.

During the inaugural ceremony, UGC-Care listed Journal 'Iqbaliyat' - Volume 29 and other publications of the institute were unveiled. The recent publications of Dr Promod were also released.

Dr Fayaz Ahmad Wani, Faculty IICP, conducted the proceedings while as Dr Wasim Iqbal Nahvi, Faculty IICP, proposed the formal vote of thanks.