Chapter-2
Profile of Arts and Social Science Faculty
Aligarh Muslim University

Aligarh Muslim University is a Residential Academic University of international repute, established in 1857 by an Act of India Parliament, and one of the first institutions established during the British Raj. Aligarh Muslim University is located in the city of Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh, and modeled on the University of Cambridge.

Initially, it was Mahamadan Anglo-Oriental, founded by Sir Syed Ahmed Khan, a great Muslim social reformer with a view to providing modern education to the people of India in general and Muslim people particularly. Later by an act of India parliament it was transformed into a central university and henceforth it was renamed as the Aligarh Muslim University.

The Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) is a residential academic institution, providing education start from school level to higher education level. Now the university offers around 280 courses in traditional and modern branch of education in its 12 faculties viz. Agricultural Sciences, Arts, Commerce, Engineering & Technology, Law, Life Sciences, Management Studies & Research, Medicine, Science, Theology, Unani Medicine and Social Science.

Currently the University has almost thirty thousand students, and over two thousand faculty members with over eighty departments of study. Aligarh Muslim University is one of the premier central universities in independent India.

The Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) draws students not only from different
corners of India but also from Africa, West Asia and South East Asia. There is reservation for students from SAARC and Commonwealth Countries

**Different Faculties of AMU**

- FACULTY OF AGRICULTURAL SCIENCES
- FACULTY OF ARTS
- FACULTY OF COMMERCE
- FACULTY OF ENGINEERING AND TECHNOLOGY
- FACULTY OF LAW
- FACULTY OF LIFE SCIENCES
- FACULTY OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES & RESEARCH
- FACULTY OF MEDICINE
- FACULTY OF SCIENCE
- FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
- FACULTY OF THEOLOGY
- FACULTY OF UNANI MEDICINE

**Faculty of Arts**

The faculty system was firstly introduced in Aligarh Muslim University in January 1944. The faculty of art also established in 1944 and the first Dean of this faculty was Dr. S. Zafar Hassan. It consists of the following department of studies-

- DEPARTMENT OF ARABIC
- DEPARTMENT OF COMP. STUDY AND INDIAN LANGUAGES
- DEPARTMENT OF ENGLISH
Department of Arabic

The Department of Arabic A.M.U., Aligarh has the honor of being associated with world renowned scholars and orient lists like Mohammad Akbar, Shibli Nomani, Prof. T. W. Arnold, Sheikh Abdul Haq of Baghdad (One of the disciples of Sheikh Mohammad Abduhu of Egypt) Prof. A.S. Tritton, Prof. Otto Spices, Prof. Fritz (Salim) Krenkow Prof. Abdul Aziz Maimani and Prof. Abdul Aleem etc.

Presently the department is running UG, PG., Certificate and Diploma courses.

In the syllabi designed for these courses, efforts have been made to cover a very wide range of different aspects of Arabic Language and Literature, and of different period Pre-Islamic, Early Islamic, Umayyad, Abbasid, Spanish to Modern, as well as Indo-Arab Literature.

In the realm of Higher Studies and Research, steps were taken to enhance its potential. The department successfully managed to give coverage to all the...
literary periods, areas, genres and issues as well as literary endeavors of orientalists and critical edition of old Arabic manuscripts.

The Department also had the distinction of being the only Arabic department in the whole country to be chosen by UGC for its SAP Programme in 1989. In recognition of our remarkable performance in SAP our department was inducted for ASIHSS Programme with effect from 01.04.2005.

After completion of three phases of the DSA, successfully on 31.03.2008, this department has been granted the status of C.A.S. w.e.f. 01.04.2008. With this the department has become the second department in the AMU, and the first among the Arabic department of the country to get the status of CAS.

During the last fifteen years, the department of Arabic, AMU, has proved its effective professional potentials of workability and teamwork spirit.

Facilities:

1. Seminar Library
2. Computerized Language Lab

Department of Centre for Comparative Study of Indian Language & Culture

India with its diverse history and rich cultural heritage is one of the few nations, which is multi-religious, multi-ethnic and multi-lingual. It is a land of cultural ethnic and linguistic assortment. The literary culture in India has developed over the centuries in contexts of cultural and linguistic contacts. It is, therefore, the Center for the Comparative study of Indian language and Culture (CILC) describes the linguistic and cultural aspect of Indian literature in terms
of shared underlying features of two or more literatures within a rigorous
descriptive methodology. Foremost, this focus has centered on tracing major
canons of cultural, linguistic and literary traditions that contributed, to "the real
integration of India into one single entity. In spite of some basic and
fundamental racial, linguistic and cultural diversities."

In sharp contrast to the language departments CILC offers courses in
comparative and translation studies to delve into the amalgamation of India.
The course curriculum of the Center includes a wide variety of academic
programs that focus on the use of Indian languages in real-life situations. The
history of India and its environs provide rich cultural material on which much
of the CILC's course materials are based. The curriculum also includes
extensive Sclera studies material and introduces students to various linguistic
and cultural aspects of life in India.

Department of English

Since its inception 125 years ago, the Department of English Aligarh Muslim
University, has been engaged in imparting quality education, in keeping with
the vision of the founder of this great seat of learning Realizing the importance
of English for modern education, Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, founder of the
Mohammedan Anglo Oriental College, had the Department of English
established as early as 1877. The Principal of the MAO College and a
significant number of teachers at that time were British. Those who taught
English included A. A. J. Nesbitt, L. Tipping, F. J. Moss, Dr. L. Chase, H.O.
Lee and M. Coffins In 1885, Walter Raleigh, who was to distinguish himself as
a literary critic in the years to come, and who went on to teach at Manchester, Liverpool and Glasgow before he became King Alfred Professor of English in Merton College Oxford and had a major role in organizing English Studies in the University of Oxford, was appointed the first Professor of English at the MAO College, Aligarh.

The Department has a Seminar Library with over 8000 books. The Department also has a Multimedia Language Lab equipped with 13 Computers, Multimedia projection facility and state-of-the-art software. The English Department brings out a journal entitled "The Aligarh Journal of English Studies", which is published twice a year. The University gives an annual grant for its printing.

Department of Fine Arts

The department of Fine Art of Aligarh Muslim University established under the Faculty of Arts vide letter no. F-3-42/87- Desk (U) dated ¼ - 1-1988 from the Minister of Human Resource Development (Dept. of Education), Government of India, New Delhi. The department was created under Statute 20(2) @ of the Statute of the University at S. No. (XVI). since its beginning the department is progressing consistently. Under Xth Five year Plan the department started Four years BFA professional course and two years MFA professional course for Bachelor Degree Course and Master Degree Course respectively. The department also offers Diploma in 'Applied Art' (A course affiliated with Centre of Professional Course, AMU). The department also patronizes BA (Hons.) Bachelor's Degree in Fine Art which is conducted in the Women's College of the university. Each programme is studio-based and students are
developed to independently pursue their work supplemented with tutorial and technical assistance according to their individual needs.

The syllabus comprises teaching of the Fine Art with emphasis on Traditional and Contemporary art and respective practices, History of art, Criticism and Aesthetics of art at national and international level. The department has competent and confident Faculty members and dynamic staff to achieve the targets. Faculty members are involved in pursuing and supervising standard works and producing substantial research works. The department also provides education to foreign students at UG, PG and Ph.D. level. To promote research work and scholarship the Department is offering Ph.D. degrees since 1992-93 sessions. So far 12 Ph.D. degrees are awarded and presently 14 research scholars are enrolled.

Department of Hindi

Post graduate teaching in Hindi started in 1948. Prof. G.N. Shukla was appointed as first Hindi lecturer in 1948. First Batch of M.A. passed out in 1950. Since 1952 under the stewardship of Prof. H.L. Sharma the department progressed and obtained an important place in India and abroad. The department is known for its achievements in the field of Medieval and Modern Hindi literature. For the last fifteen years the department is running a post graduate diploma in Hindi Translation. Ours is the only university in Northern India where such a professional course is running successfully.
Department of Linguistics

The inception of the Department of Linguistics in late 1968 provided an opportunity to advance teaching and research in linguistics with special reference to Urdu. As the role of Urdu increased in various walks of life, the department realized its responsibility to gear itself towards providing scientific description of the Urdu language and producing materials needed for the development of Urdu language. From the very beginning the department provided post graduate teaching and research facilities leading to M.Phil and PhD degrees in Linguistics. The Aligarh Muslim University is one of the few universities, which offer a full fledged under graduate course in Linguistics for both boys and girls separately. Ever since the under graduate teaching was made available in the department, the academic activities of the department have accelerated. The Department of Linguistics at AMU is a relatively small department with a focus on theoretical linguistics overseeing two undergraduate programs (for boys and girls separately), and four post-graduate programs. A new course PG Diploma in Language of Advertising, Media, and Market has been launched recently from the 2007-08 academic session. The department has a very articulated curriculum with course sequences of phonology, semantics, and syntax at both the undergraduate and the graduate levels. The faculty members in the department have research and teaching specializations in one of the core areas of theoretical linguistics (phonology, syntax, or semantics). The UGC recognized the department of linguistics at AMU as one of the leading post-graduate programs in India in scholarly
quality and in effectiveness of teaching Ph.D. candidates, and awarded SAP to the department of linguistics. The undergraduate program of the department has been evaluated as one of the best linguistic undergraduate programs in the country by past external reviews, and our graduates are routinely admitted to the most prestigious linguistic post-graduate programs in University of Delhi and JNU.

Facilities in the Department:

- Seminar Library facility with around five thousand books
- Language Lab with the facility of Video Conferencing

**Department of Modern Indian Languages**

Department of Modern Indian Languages established in 1984 is a multilingual Department consisting of six Indian languages namely Telugu, Tamil, Malayalam, Bengali, Marathi and Punjabi. The main object of this multilingual department is to make learners to understand and appreciate other languages, literature and culture that lead to understand cultures of different people to uphold the secular fabric of our nation that strengthens the bond of National Integration.

The Department has organized several National Seminars, special lecture programmes which is a general feature of this multilingual Department. The Department itself published several books apart from the individual teachers. Working on research projects, publishing books and papers on Literature, Language, comparative study and culture is the regular feature of this department. Special study on literature and comparative study in collaboration...
with other departments of the university and other universities as well is the special dimension of this Department.

**Department of Philosophy**

The Department of Philosophy and Psychology came into being along with the establishment of Aligarh Muslim University in 1920. Later on Department of Philosophy bifurcated in 1965 from Psychology. It has strived to conduct teaching and research, since its inception in extremely significant but generally neglected areas in philosophy. It has paid particular attention to Islamic philosophy without neglecting western and Indian Philosophies.

The department holds entrance test for granting admission in M.A. Philosophy and candidates are selected only on the basis of merit. All students admitted to the doctoral program through admission test are getting five years scholarship package from ICPR/UGC. Recently 14 Research Scholars have qualified NET (National Eligibility Test for Lecturer-ship). Eight scholars are awarded Ph.D. degree since 2005 and six candidates have already submitted their Ph.D. dissertation during 2008-09. The number of research scholars actively working now in the department is 31.

The faculty members of the department during the last ten years have published more than 30 books. The department is organizing regularly National and International Seminars. The departmental library consists of 4500 books.

The Department publishes biannual journal namely Aligarh Journal of Islamic Philosophy.
Department of Persian

The Department of Persian at A.M.U. in its spirit of academic enterprise besides the study of language, literature and literary styles has also throughout been making and will continue to make un-stinting efforts through interdisciplinary approach to enrich the study of Indo-Persian culture an important aspect of Ideology and our national legacy with the following aims and objective:

1. Study of Indian Religion.
3. Study of Mediaeval Indian culture as an age of innovation and renaissance.
4. Study of blend of Muslim and Hindu social traditions and elements.
7. Study of the contribution of India to Mediaeval Medical Science and astronomy.
8. Study of Indo-Persian literature and its impact on other regional languages and literature of India, such as Urdu, Punjabi, Bengali, Marathi etc.
9. Modern Persian language and literature to strengthen the Indo-Iran, cultural, political and commercial literature.

The Department also proposes to offer the following new courses of study aimed at augmenting Persian studies:-

a) PG Diploma in Modern Persian Translation and interpretation.
b) PG Diploma in Indo-Persian Cultural Studies.

c) PG Diploma in Modern Iranian Literature

Facilities:

i) The Department has Seminar Library having more than 15000 books and 500 journals which remains open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on all working days for the benefit of students/scholars/staff.

ii) Multimedia Language Lab. with fifteen booths.

Department of Sanskrit

The Sanskrit teaching was started with emancipation of MAO College Aligarh in 1857 at school and college level both. However regular teaching of Sanskrit began in 1980 with the appointment of Pt.Ganesh Chandra on 01.05.1880 at school level and Pandit Shiva Shankar Tripathi in May 1881 at college level.

In 1920 when MAO College got the shape of Aligarh Muslim University on 01.09.1920 Pt.Ramswaroop Shastri was appointed as lecturer head department of Sanskrit. From session 1922-23 MA in Sanskrit also was started consequently in 1924 the first M.A degree in Sanskrit was awarded to Mr.Raghunandan Prasad Sharma.

In 1947 48 Hindi also was introduced under the department of Sanskrit. In 1984 P.t Habibur Rehman Shastri and G.N. Shukla were appointed as lecturer grade 2. In 1950 Shiva Shankar Sharma also joined the department in same capacity. On January 07 1953 Dr. H.L Sharma joined the university as reader head of Sanskrit Hindi department.
The first Ph.D. degree in Sanskrit was awarded to Parmanand Shastri in 1985 on his thesis development of Sanskrit lyrics poetry written in Hindi. Dr. Raghunath Pandey was the first recipient of D.Litt. in Sanskrit in 1982. Dr. S.P. Singh and Dr. M.M. Agarwal also were awarded D.Litt. degrees. More than 100 Ph.D.s and 32 M.Phils degrees have been awarded to scholars.

Department published an annual research journal Prachya Prajna.

The department organized ALL India oriental conference in 1966 and other five National Seminars in different years.

At present there are two Professors, three readers, and two lecturers one vacant in the department. In women's college there are separate arrangements of Sanskrit teaching for Girls at UG level.

**Department of Urdu**

The department of Urdu is also one of the oldest and most prestigious Department of AMU. The department of Urdu traces its ties to the founder since Sir Syed Ahmad was surely Urdu's first great essayist. The department is said to be the largest unit in the world, undertaking teaching and research in Urdu. It has produced a line of critics and essayist who have done much to shape Urdu literature as it exists today. The department of linguistics is carrying out the research in Urdu dialects and applied and socio linguistics field with particular reference to Urdu.
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

- ACADEMIC STAFF COLLEGE
- DEPARTMENT OF WEST ASIAN STUDIES
- DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS
- DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
- DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY
- DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC STUDIES
- DEPARTMENT OF MASS COMMUNICATION
- DEPARTMENT OF LIBRARY AND INFORMATION SCIENCE
- DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHOLOGY
- DEPARTMENT PHYSICAL HEALTH & SPORTS EDUCATION
- DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL SCIENCE
- DEPARTMENT OF SOCIOLOGY AND SOCIAL WORK

Department of West Asian Studies

It is a multi-disciplinary Centre primarily focusing on contemporary problems and issues pertaining to South West Asia and Africa. Besides multi-disciplinary research, the Centre is involved in teaching, training and evaluation. Research activities of the Centre are performed by a reflexive awareness of the social role of the researchers and the nature of social science research. The Centre's faculty, though small in number, represents a variety of disciplines, such as Political Science, Economics, History, Geography, Sociology and Arabic. Besides, language teaching and training to the Area (Arabic and Persian) are an integral part of our research programmes.
Ever since its inception, the Centre has brought out a number of useful interdisciplinary research studies (both English and Arabic). The Centre also publishes a journal entitled "Journal of West Asian Studies" as well as a documented West Asia Bulletin. Numerous M.Phil. and Ph.D. degrees have been awarded to the researches working as research scholars in the Centre. The Centre has already expanded its activities and has introduced full-fledged teaching courses at the graduate and the post-graduate levels—offering MA in West Asian Studies. Besides, it also offers a Post-Graduate Diploma in West Asian Studies (DWAS).

It has a well-equipped research library which attracts scholars from all over the country. While the in-depth study of history, economy, polity and society of a given state or area is vital for our understanding, new factors related to economic diplomacy, trade, new regionalism, decline of UN, end of cold war, rising tide of ethnicity and religion and growing acts of terrorism across the region etc. have added several new dimensions to our study in the Centre.

**Department of Economics**

The Department of Economics (established: 1920) is one of the main constituent departments of the Faculty of Social Sciences. It offers courses on B.A. (Hons.), M.A., M.Phil. and Ph.D. in Economics. It attracts the largest number of students at the undergraduate and post-graduate levels. The students come both from within and outside the country. The Department has a long tradition of imparting education and promoting research. Many of its alumni have distinguished themselves in both academic and administrative spheres.
across the country and the world - a small testimony, perhaps, to the excellence of training that we have managed to give them.

The teaching programmes in the Department are focused on proper blending of 'quality' and relevance. This is sought to be achieved by periodic updating of syllabi in conformity with the advancement of the knowledge in the subject, balancing emphasis on theoretical analysis with that on applied economics, introducing new courses from time to time and making tutorials more effective by establishing close student - teacher contact. The research programmes give special attention to economic problems of the country and the state of Uttar Pradesh. The thrust areas, include the various fields of Development Economics, International Trade, Agriculture Economics, Pub Finance, Environment Economics, Monetary Economics, Industrial Development and Population Studies.

**Department of Education**

The Department of Education is one of the oldest faculty of the University. It was established in August 1923 as "Teachers' Training College". In 1953 it took the name of Department of Education. It has been offering: i) B.A. (Education), ii) Diploma in Teaching, iii) B.Ed., iv) M.Ed. and (v) Ph.D. (Education) Courses. This Department is a part of Faculty of Social Sciences. This Department has 3 laboratories i.e. Science Lab., Home Science Lab., and Computer Lab. to provide practical training to students. 21 teachers teach the student. Like other Departments, this Department also has Seminar library, where 24000 books are available for study. Further, 2500 journals of Education
are also available. Beside it, 856 research thesis works are available for research study.

Department of History

The main thrust of the department has been research. As far as the research work of the department is concerned, the UGC's visiting committee had observed appreciatively that a perusal of the list of books and papers published by the members of the centre amply indicates the extent of the progress that has been made in research in various areas. This department is recognized as a centre of advance study by the UGC, is perhaps one of the leading centers in the world for the training and research on Medieval Indian History.

Department of Islamic Studies

The Department of Islamic Studies is located in Zahoor Ward building which has great historical significance. It was built in 1896 by Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, the founder of this great Institution (A.M.U). The Zahoor Ward certainly deserves to be included in the Heritage Buildings of the University.

The Institute of Islamic Studies was established in 1954 principally as a research institute with the sole aim to promote the study of Islamic Culture and Civilization, the economic, social and cultural trends in the countries of West Asian and North Africa and Modern Arabic, Persian and Turkish languages and literature. It also functions as a teaching department since 1968. Since the last about 27 years, its permanent cadre consists of the one professor, five readers and eight lecturers.
Department/Institute Islamic Studies has maintained a high standard of scholarship. It published an annual Bulletin (now journal) of the Institute of Islamic Studies since 1957 and another half-yearly Majalla-i-Ullom-i-Islamiya since 1960. The former is in English and mainly devoted to research on the contemporary trends in Islam and the Muslim world and the latter is in Urdu dealing with studies in Islamic Culture and Civilization.

Department, besides imparting instructions in Islamic Studies at B.A. and M.A. levels, runs Certificate and Diploma Courses in Turkish Language. It also provides research facilities for awards of M.Phill and Ph.D. Degrees in different branches of Islamic Studies. The Department also organizes seminars and conferences at national international level every year.

**Department of Mass Communication**

The Department of Journalism & Mass Communication, Aligarh Muslim University, was established in November 1996 with the aim to develop it as a Centre of excellence in Mass Communication in the country. A two-year Master's Degree programme in Journalism & Mass Communication (MJMC) was introduced during the session 1998-99 to prepare a batch of professional communicators, media researchers and specialists imbued with the ideas and teaching of Sir Syed Ahmad Khan, the founder of this great Institution. As per the new curriculum suggested by the University Grants Commission, MJMC was renamed as M.A. (Mass Communication), a two-year Master's programme based on the semester pattern with provision for intake of 20 students, during the 2004-05 sessions. Two other postgraduate diploma programmes, namely
Postgraduate Diploma in Journalism, and Professional courses since 1975-76 and 1995-96 respectively, catering to the growing need for trained Media and Public Relations practitioners. To further streamline its practical training programmes, the department has established a modern state-of-the-art 3-camera television production studio with financial support from the UGC and the Government of India.

The department has been conducting research programmes leading to M.Phil and PhD in Mass Communication since 2005-06.

**Department of Library and Information Science**

Department of Library and Information Science of Aligarh Muslim University is a premier institution in the field of Library and Information Science in India with a history that reaches back about 60 years. The foundation of the Department was laid way back in 1950-51 with the introduction of a 'Certificate Course in Library Science', by the then University Librarian, Padma Shri Prof. S. Bashiruddin. Encouraged by the success of the certificate course, late Prof. S. Bashiruddin introduced 'Bachelor of Library Science' in 1958-59 with full time lecturers for the first time in the country. The Certificate course was discontinued in 1968-69. Subsequently, 'Master of Library Science' was introduced in 1970-71. Another pioneering step taken by the department in the year 1986-87 was the introduction of Library Science as a subsidiary subject at B.A level in the Faculties of Arts and Social Science. Realizing the need and importance of research in the subject, the Department started M.Phil/Ph.D programmes since 1990-91. The teaching faculty of the department includes
one Professor, four Associate Professors, two Assistant Professors, and two Guest Faculties. Using the modern ICT facilities in the department, the faculty members are engaged in active research on various aspects of LIS. At present, the department has two ongoing projects sponsored by ICSSR and Department of Science and Technology (DST) Govt. of India. In the past also few UGC sponsored projects have been successfully completed. The guilds of academic activities such as conferences, seminars, workshops and extramural lectures of eminent scholars have always been regular features of the department.

Department of Psychology
The department was established in 1961, a number of “research papers” have been contributed by the teachers of the department in seminars and journals on problems pertaining to fundamental and applied areas of Psychology such as death anxiety, cognitive behavior, interpersonal relationship, need and aspiration, supervising styles, carrier planning and vigilance, etc.

Department of Physical Health and Sports Education
The Department of Physical Health and Sports Education was established under the Faculty of Social Sciences in 1990 with the aim to produce word class in Research, Consultancy, Training and Education.

Recently, Physical Education has emerged as an important academic discipline imparting various courses of teacher education that include Bachelor of Physical Education (B.P.Ed.), research in Physical Education and Sports Sciences. All the above courses are being run in the Department to cater to the need of trained leadership in Physical Education and Sports.
The department has two Professors, four Readers and one Lecturer besides supporting non-teaching and technical staff. The faculty members are also actively engaged in guiding research and undertaking project works mainly assigned by the U.G.C. etc. Organizing Conferences, Seminars/ Workshops, Extramural Lectures of eminent scholars, Leadership Training Camp and Intramural Competitions becomes a regular feature of the Department. A good number of Books have been written by the faculty members besides contributing articles and research papers in reputed National and International Journals.

The Department of Physical Health and Sports Education facilities, equipments and staff are at the highest standard, and enable a multi-disciplinary team to deliver projects renowned for insight and innovation.

**Department of Political Science**

The Department of History and Politics of the Aligarh Muslim University was established in 1922. The present Department of Political Science became an independent entity in 1948.

Among the luminaries of the undivided department were the late Professors Muhammad Habib (Chairperson 1922-1962), K.M. Panikkar, Eddy Asirvatham, A. Avasthy, Chaudhury Muhammad Sultan and Professor S.A.H. Haqqi (Chairperson 1964-1982).

The distinguished alumni of the Department include Professors Matinuzzaman Zuberi, Zafar Imam, Zoya Hasan (all of the JNU), Dr. M. Hamid Ansari (Vice-President, Republic of India), Dr. S. Zafar Mahmood (IRS), Professor
Muhammed Ayoob (Distinguished Professor at Michigan State University), and Sardar Jaspal Singh (Vice-Chancellor, Panjabi University, Patiala).

The Department is renowned for its M.A., M. Phil and Ph.D. programmes in major branches of political science and the faculty is engaged in research and publication activities.

The Department of Political Science has published a quarterly research journal the Indian Journal of Politics [ISSN: 0303-9957] since 1967. It is published in March, June, September and December each year.

Department of Sociology and Social Work

The Department of Sociology was created in 1967 with undergraduate teaching program. Postgraduate teaching and research facilities were introduced in 1970. Sociology was a new discipline at Aligarh Muslim University, and attracted a large number of students. In the beginning it was taught only to male students, and the female students studying in Women’s College at the undergraduate level were deprived of this opportunity. The great demand for this subject by women students and their parents, and the desire to provide equal opportunity to girls, led to the introduction of Sociology at the Under Graduate level in the Women’s College in 1986.

Since the introduction of the New Educational Policy in 1986, and the subsequent recommendations of the Punnaya Committee, the need for Professional and Vocational education has grown. The UGC also desired the introduction of professional courses in order to meet market requirements and provide better employment opportunities to youth for rapid national
development in the global market economy. The former Prime Minister has also opined that in the development of our country, professional training plays a pivotal role.

Keeping this background in mind, the Department of Sociology at AMU introduced the two-year duration Master of Social Work (MSW) course in 1994-95. Admissions to this course had to be made on the basis of an all-India written test and GD/Aptitude and personality test. Seat strength of 25 was sanctioned for the MSW course.

Since the inception of MSW course, to date, eleven batches of students have graduated with MSW degrees, and almost all these students have been able to procure jobs in various governmental and non-governmental organizations. There is almost cent percent absorption of these students in the market.

The Social Work Program has become so popular that it attracted attention of the Indo-Canadian Exchange Programme.

Keeping in mind the market position of this course, it is proposed to strengthen it further by providing various specializations such as Family & Child Welfare, Old Age Care, and Medical & Psychiatric Social Work etc. Besides, there is no Under Graduate teaching in social work, but there is a great demand for it. It is proposed to introduce this course at the undergraduate level.
References-

1. www.amu.ac.in/department.jsp (accessed on 7 September, 2012)

2. http://www.upeducation.net/universities/Aligarh_Muslim_University/
   (accessed on 7 September, 2012)