APPENDIX - I

GLOSSARY
Of Islamic terminology

Adab: Manners, proper behaviour.

Al-Adl: Equilibrium (Quranic concept).

Al-Ahsan: Compassion (Quranic concept).

Bida: Innovation.

Caliph: From Khalifat, successor, Ruler of Islam.

Din: Religion, life of piety- see Dunya.

Dunya: World, life of the world; the here and now- see Din.

Falah: Well-being attained by the satisfaction of both the material and spiritual needs of the human personality.

Fana: Annihilation, Sufi concept, merger with God.

Fasad: Mischief; opposite of Salah.

Hadith: Sayings- and doings-of the Prophet, his traditions.

Haj: The annual pilgrimage; it is obligatory for every Muslim once in a lifetime.

Halal: Anything permitted by Shariah.

Haram: Anything prohibited by the Shariah.

Hijra: Departure, emigration; from the Prophet's hijra to Madinah.

Ijma: Consensus.

Ijtihad: Independent judgement.

Ilm: Knowledge. Hence alim, scholar, ulema, scholars.
Jahiliyya: Age of Ignorance; time before coming of Islam.

Jihad: Striving spiritually or physically against evil; colloquial: religious war.

Kanz: The treasure

Khalifah: Vicegerent.

Nasab: Ancestry, lineage.

Qiyas: Analogical reasoning.

Rahman, Rahim: Beneficent, Merciful- names of Allah.

Sadaqat: Refers to all kinds of charitable spending by individuals from lawful income.


Salat: Prayer.

Shariah: Law based on the Quran and sunna; literally: the path to be followed.

Al-Shura: Consultation; colloquial: consultative body.

Sulh-i-Kul: Peace with all; Sufi saying and motto.

Sunna: Custom, of the Prophet; hence ahle-sunna or followers of the sunna and Sunnis.

Surah: A chapter of the Quran. There are 114 surahs of varying lengths in the Quran. In all references to the Quran in the text (e.g., 30:41), the first number refers to the surah and the second to the ayah or verse.

Tauhid: Unity of God.

Ulama: Religious scholars. In its wider connotation, it also includes all highly educated persons and professionals.

Ummah: Islamic community, brotherhood.
Waqf: Assets entrusted to an individual or organisation for a specified charitable purpose.

Zakat: The amount payable by a Muslim on his net worth as a part of his religious obligations, mainly for the benefit of the poor and the needy.

Zulum: A comprehensive Islamic term used to refer to all forms of inequity, injustice, exploitation, oppression and wrongdoing, whereby a person either deprives others of their right or does not fulfil his obligations towards them.

Sources: