

**Professor Akhtarul Wasey**  
**Commissioner**  
**Linguistic Minorities in India**

**Professor Akhtarul Wasey (b 1951, Aligarh, UP)** has been appointed as **Commissioner for Linguistic Minorities** in India by the Hon'ble President of India. He has been **Head**, Department of Islamic Studies, **Dean**, Faculty of Humanities and Languages and the **Honorary Director**, Zakir Husain Institute of Islamic Studies at Jamia Millia Islamia (a Central University by an Act of Parliament), New Delhi. He has also been the **Editor** of four scholarly quarterly journals, *Islam and the Modern Age* (English), *Islam aur Asr-e-Jadeed* (Urdu), *Jamia* (Monthly) and *Islam Aur Adhunik Yug* (Hindi) published by Zakir Husain Institute of Islamic Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi.

Prof. Wasey was conferred **Padma Shree** by the Hon'ble President of India in 2013. First ever from the subject of Islamic Studies from India and also first from Jamia's academic fraternity. Prof. Wasey was selected for the Award of **Fulbright Fellowship** (Interfaith Community Action Program) in the year 2008. He was also **affiliated** to Temple University, Philadelphia, Xavier's University, Cincinnati, Denver University, and Catholic University, Washington D.C.

Prof. Wasey has delivered many lectures both in and outside India. The **prominent international engagements** include his addresses at The McGill Institute of Islamic Studies, Montreal, Loyola University, Chicago, Cincinnati University, Hofstra University in New York, Malang University, Indonesia, and Punjab University, Lahore.

He is a noted scholar of Islamic Studies. He has **thirty six books** on Islam, Muslims, mysticism and contemporary issues to his credit as author, editor and translator, apart from **five hundred articles** in Hindi, Urdu, and English. His writings are also translated into Arabic, Persian and French.

For a decade, he has also served as a **Member, Vice President and President** of the internationally famous Chishti Sufi Shrine of Hazrat Khwaja Moinuddin Chishti at Ajmer, the only Sufi shrine in the whole of South Asia which is governed by an Act of Indian Parliament. He has also been the **Member** of the Central Waqf Council and **Treasurer** of Maulana Azad Education Foundation. He has also held the position of **Vice Chairman**, Delhi Urdu Academy, **President** of a sub-committee for the promotion of Urdu language constituted by the Ministry of HRD. He continues to be a **Member** of the National Monitoring Committee for Minority Education and also its Standing Committee. Executive Board and Governing Council, National Council for Promotion of Urdu Language and Assessment and Monitoring Authority (AMA) appointed by the Union Cabinet.

He is one of the original signatories of **The Common Word Document** and was also part of the **Makkah Conference** organized at the initiative of King Abdullah of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on the need and role of Muslims in Interfaith Dialogue.

Professor Wasey also takes keen interest in a wide range of social and political issues. He has served as **General Secretary**, South Asia Inter-Religious Council on HIV/AIDS and at present is **President**, India Interfaith Coalition on HIV AIDS. He is actively involved in Interfaith Dialogue.

Professor Wasey has been invited to **seventy academic and semi-academic tours** abroad including programmes organized/sponsored by UNICEF, UNDP, UNAIDS, UNFP, UNHRC and Organization of Islamic Conference (OIC), Muslim World League Makkah, Nahdatul Ulema, and Muhammadiyah, Indonesia.