

Report of the Jabalpur Interreligious Forum [JIRF]

Session 2016-17

The basic theme of JIRF is to bond people of different religious backgrounds but with common belief together with the feeling of love, brotherhood and mankind. The ethics behind celebrating five major festivals of India has been to promote the common interreligious motives and to emphasize on serenity and universal brotherhood through interfaith dialogues, guest lectures and cultural activities. The student members of JIRF actively participate in the cultural activities and scripture readings to promote communal harmony and peace in the world. With an aim to promote harmony and peace among believers of different communities, JIRF of St. Aloysius College (Autonomous), Jabalpur had celebrated four major festivals in the session 2016-17 till date. With an aim to promote harmony and peace among believers of different communities, Jabalpur Interreligious Forum [JIRF] of St. Aloysius College (Autonomous), Jabalpur has been celebrating five major festivals of India since 1994.

Society Incharges for the Session 2016-17

1. Dr Parnashree Mukherjee
2. Dr Preeti Jain
3. Dr Deepti Deshpande
4. Dr Rupesh Thakur
5. Dr Tapsi Nagraj

Office Bearers for the Session 2016-17-

- President: Ms Meghali
- Vice President: Ms Meenal Raikwar
- Secretary: Ms Ruchi Mishra

Major Events of the society-

Following major festivals were celebrated during the session 2016-17. The details of the functions are as follows:

1. ID-UL –FITAR

JIRF of St. Aloysius College (Autonomous), Jabalpur celebrated Id-ul-Fitar at St. Thomas Higher Secondary School, Civil lines, Jabalpur on 19/07/2016 to mark the end of the month of Ramzan. Mr Gulshan Bamra, Commissioner of Jabalpur division, Madhya Pradesh was the chief guest and Moulana Hamid Ahmed Siddiqui was the special guest of the function. All the eminent speakers focused on universal brotherhood and communal harmony. Other highlights of the events included scripture readings and kawwaali by the students of college. The contribution of the event incharges Ms Khudsiya Raza and others were noteworthy.

2. DEEPAWALI-

JIRF held the Deepawali meet at St G.S. College of Commerce and Economics ,Jabalpur on 05/11/2016 to bring together people of different religious background and humanistic beliefs. Prof. Kapil Deo Mishra ,Hon'ble,ViceChancellor,RDVV,Jabalpur was the chief guest of the function who focused on cooperative, constructive and positive communication between people of different religious traditions. The major highlights of the function included scripture readings and cultural events by the students of college.The input of the Deepawali function team under the supervision of Dr Rita Chouhan was notable

3. GURUNANAK JAYANTI -

Gurunanak Jayanti was celebrated at Mata Gujri College ,Marhatal on 26/11/2016 by the JIRF of the College to build candid coexistence and sustainable peace, through joint community interfaith dialogues at grassroots level. SardarKartar Singh Bhatija,Management committee member ,Khalsa School ,Jabalpur was the chief guest and S. Harjeet Singh Kang , Motivational Speaker of the function was the Special guest who focused on interfaith peace and harmony .The major highlights of the function included scripture readings , speech and skit by various students. The contributions of the GurunanakJayanti committee under the supervision of Dr. Tarvinder Kaur Ghai was remarkable.

4. CHRISTMAS-

JIRF of St. Aloysius College (Autonomous), Jabalpur celebrated Christmas at St. Aloysius Institute of Technology JBP on 21/12/2016 to spread the message of love, joy and peace. Shri K.P. Rahi(IAS),Additional Commissioner (Revenue), Jabalpur was the chief guest of the function who focused on the fact that spiritual diversity does not persist as a source of conflict, but can instead emerge as potent source of hope for universal brotherhood and peace . Shri Ashok Rohani (MLA, Cantt.) and Mrs. L.B.Lobo (Nominated MLA) were the Guest of Honour. Most Rev.Gerald Almeda ,Bishop of Jabalpur Diocese also presided over the function . The major highlights of the function included scripture readings ,coral singing and skit by the students of college.The involvement of the Christmas committee members under the directions of Dr Manju Maria Solomon was noteworthy.

Dr P. Mukherjee

Incharge -JIRF society