

# **3RD AMP NATIONAL CONVENTION 2020**

22-23 FEBRUARY 2020 | BENGALURU **ENGAGE • EDUCATE • EMPLOY • EMPOWER** 



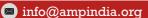
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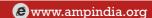
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### AMP All India 3rd National Convention:

Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP) will, Alhamdulillah, complete 12 years of inspiring young minds and uplifting the underprivileged sections of the society. It has been more than a decade of creating a revolution in the field of Education and Economic Empowerment. AMP is now one of the biggest volunteer driven NGO networks comprising of professionals and social leaders from across the country.

In last 12 years AMP has significantly grown by leaps and bounds with over 100 active chapters all over India and Abroad, a testimony of the progress AMP has made so far since 2007. This reflects the eagerness of our members, volunteers and associates, to serve the community and the country purely with the passion to make a difference to the lives of the underprivileged. AMP organizing its 3rd All India National Convention inviting visionaries and achievers to co-create and motivate AMP members to take the next BIG leap for AMP 2.0. A forum for members to brainstorm and share their experiences with fellow members on projects which can impact lives of underprivileged sections of the society.

### ABOUT AMP

Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP) is a Platform for all Muslim professionals and volunteers to share their knowledge, intellect, experience and skills for the overall development of not just the Muslim Community but also the society at large, and further empowering Muslims in the educational, social and economic front of their lives. AMP has pioneered the effective use of technology to roll out and scale up projects like conducting Skill Development lectures (SDL), Employability Training programs (ETP), organising Job Fairs and Job Drives and through AMP Zakat Fund (AZF) helping needy students with Higher Education scholarship, orphans with School Education assistance, and Self- Entrepreneurship programs for underprivileged sections of the society.

AMP is an intellectual organization spread out at a national level having more than 100 active Chapters across India & Abroad, with presence in 19 Indian States and chapters in UAE, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, USA & U.K. AMP is a registered society under Societies Registration Act 1860, Maharashtra, Mumbai (Reg. No. 2011 G. B. B. S. D 3001)



Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP) organised its 3rd national convention in Bengaluru commemorating its 12 years of eventful existence, with around 200 delegates in attendance from India as well as abroad. The theme of the Convention was AMP's Mission - Engage, Educate, Employ and Empower.

The Convention was held in Indian Social Institute, 24, Benson Rd, Byadarahalli, Benson Town, Bengaluru, Karnataka 560046.



The 1st Day saw some very important Guests & Speakers attending the Convention.

The inaugural session was hosted by *Mr. Syed Nashit*, organizing sec. AMP.

He further added that we AMPians need not be restricted in a circle of emotions with respect to Current events but rather focus on our long term vision and be dedicated towards our mission. He emphasized on having an inclusive approach propagating peace and striving for progress.



The programme started with Tilawat e Qur'an, followed by Welcome speech and brief introduction of AMP by *Dr. Zahida Khan,* State Head, Karnataka State.



This was followed by a presentation on the Achievement Report of 2019 and of the Last 12 Years by *Mr. Abdul Razak Shaikh*, Head, AMP Projects.



This was followed by *Mr. Aamir Edresy*, President - AMP, who in his speech said that the Convention was a moment of celebration of the work AMP has achieved in its journey from being a non-entity to having a global footprint with presence in over 100 chapters pan India and 13 countries overseas.

He further added that we AMPians need not be restricted in a circle of emotions with respect to Current events but rather focus on our long term vision and be dedicated towards our mission. He emphasized on having an inclusive approach propagating peace and striving for progress.



"I'm not only proud of AMP's 100 chapters worldwide and its big list of Achievements rather what I am more proud of is their identity. That, they are a group of Muslims Professionals who are coexisting for the benefit of the Society and helping in Nation Building"

Chief Guest Mr. E. T. Mohammed Basheer - M.P. from Kerala & Organizing Gen Secretary, IUML who applauded AMP's completion of its journey of 12 years.

Mr. Basheer emphasized on the strategic utilisation of well-to-do Muslims' mandatory charity, Zakat, which is a divine tool for poverty alleviation. He discussed the idea of AMP expanding its work in Northern India and assured all his support.



*Mr. Syed Naseer Ahmed,* M.P. Rajya Sabha from Karnataka, graced the event. He got quite enthused with the activities carried out by AMP and promised his full support in spreading AMP across the 30 districts of Karnataka.



Mr. Shabbir Ahmed Ansari, President of all India OBC who has been a pioneer of OBC movement across India, mentioned that any 'Tahreeq (Movement)' required lots of sacrifices and implored the AMP leaders present at the convention to not get dissuaded by difficulties in their path.



Padma Shri Prof. Jalees Khan Tareen gave enriching insights from his vast experience in tackling various challenges in the field of education and the current state of minority education in India. He presented facts and figures and the initiatives he has taken to overcome those challenges during his work. He emphasized the importance of pre-primary education in moulding the child in formative and its impact on later years.

The theme of session 2 was School Education: Role in shaping the Future - AMP Roadmap

School Education is the basic building block of any Society. Our children's values, knowledge and character are formed in these temples. It should be our endeavour that the Children get the right and relevant inputs so they become responsible individuals and upright citizens of our Country.

Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP) recognizes the importance of School Education but also understands that there are certain interventions also required to make that education more complete and fulfilling. Hence AMP has been conducting free 'Skill Development Lectures' or 'Student Development Lectures' in schools all over the Country for Higher Secondary Students, focusing on topics such as Career Guidance, Personality Development & Value Education. We also conduct Teacher Training Workshops, Parenting Workshops and Career Guidance Seminars, all intended to create the awareness of new techniques, technologies and upgradations in the field of Education & Career Development.

The National Convention gave AMP an opportunity to reflect on the goals set 2 years ago and what needs to be done further in the field of School Education. In future, what new technologies can we use for the furtherance our objectives, how do we reduce school dropout rates in the rural areas, how can we establish community schools in smaller towns and then form chain of these schools all over the Country.



"The need of the hour is to inspire the current education system to propel into Education 2.0" – *Mr.Mohammed Aaqil* (Ex-AMP Governing Council Member & Group Head, ABB India Ltd)



*Mr. Md. Parvez Khan,* spoke about how, pained with the low level of education in his native village, he decided to leave his City job and address the problem by starting a grass-root level community school with active involvement of the parents for supporting their children's education..



We need to move away from education being "getting a job for myself" attitude to it being a medium to "live a better life and to be useful to society". *Mr. Syed Sultan Ahmed, MD*, LXL Ideas



"Muslims should get out of the 'victims of circumstances' mind set and look up to leaders like and APJ Abdul Kalam, who have faced challenging circumstances but did not bow down."

Dr. Mushtaque Ahmed - Advisory Board Member, MFERD

For Session 3, the theme moved from foundational education to 'Employment & Skill Training of Youth – Vital need to Progress'

The End purpose of Education is to make an individual ready to earn his bread for himself and his family. Skill Training similarly is needed to help those who aren't educated to a high level so that even they can be made either employment ready or become entrepreneurs.

Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP) has recognized this importance and have been working for the past 7 years with helping youngsters get Corporate Jobs and Placements. We have been organising Job Fairs & Job Drives and have placed more than 25000 youngsters so far. We have skill trained 1000+ youngsters and have partnered with CSR and NSDC training partners.

We now need to think of innovative ways to help the Youth gain employment and training so that the Community can get self-reliant and join the mainstream. What kind of 'Affirmative Action' is needed so that the school and college dropouts don't just wander aimlessly but are trained to responsibly earn their livelihoods and support their families and the Communities. What skills can be imparted to the rural poor and uneducated section so they can rise from their BPL status and join the mainstream.



The session was started by *Mr. A. K. Mohammed Azad* (Sr. Director, Mirafar Technologies) who demonstrated with his day to day experiences on how skills are important in creating impact and why career guidance is crucial to channelize the youth in the right direction



"Along with Job-oriented skills training, youth need to be taught Leadership skills, which involve ability to tell stories and experiences in a relatable manner." – *Mr. Mohammed Farouq Khan* (Group Head-TCS, South India)



"We need to encourage young incubators and start-ups that are passionate about building technology to assist society as a whole. *Mr. Mohammed Hussain* (Co-founder, Collabu Technologies)



This session was concluded by *Mr. Aamir Edresy*, who highlighted AMP's work on skill development, employability programs and its focus on bridging the gap between *'Required Skills'* and *'Acquired Skills'*.



The next session was on Zakat, titled 'Prophet's Vision of Social Equality - New models of Collective Zakat'

**Zakat is one of the 5 pillars of Islam an**d one of the most defining characteristic. No other theological religion places such a great emphasis on social equity through voluntary contribution of Charity. In the Holy Qur'an the giving of Zakat is included along with the Worshipping of the Lord Almighty as the most desirable qualities of the faithful.

Association of Muslim Professionals (AMP) has recognized this importance and has been working for the past 7 years with the collection & disbursements of Zakat in the domains of Education & Employment Assistance. We thus give Higher Education Scholarships for Zakat deserving students, help Orphan's with Basic Education and poor & uneducated youth with Self Employment Assistance.

Going forward, we need to think of innovative ways of Zakat Collection & Disbursements. Effective use of technology can be leveraged for reaching out to the Donors as well as the deserving recipients and thus eliminating Poverty in Muslims. Crowd Funding platforms, online payment of Zakat with easy calculation etc are some ways to increase Zakat and its benefits.



"Muslims know much about the mandatory Salah (5 times prayers daily) & Saum (30 days fasting in a year), but according to a survey carried out by AMP, about 60% do not know about Zakat's mandatoriness and its significance."

*Mr. H. Abdul Raqeeb*, General Secretary - Indian Centre of Islamic Finance (ICIF)



Mr. Arshad Mirza, Director - ECW Consultants Pvt Ltd, encouraged the participants to study the various models of Zakat Collection and Distribution as practised in Islamic as well as non-Islamic countries like Malaysia, Indonesia etc. and see what can be utilized in the best manner.

There were 3 international speakers who joined in via video-conferencing, one from Malaysia - *Dr. Ziyaad Mahomed* - Dean & Professor, International Centre for Education in Islamic Finance and two from UK, *Mr. Jilu Miah* – Founder & CEO at MuslimGiving plus *Mufti Faraz Adam* - Managing Associate, National Zakat Foundation Worldwide. They presented their models of Zakat which are being followed in their respective countries and how we could learn from them.



The next one was of the most important sessions of the day 'Challenges to the Constitution – Role of Muslims'. The speaker for this sessions was noted writer and columnist Mr. Aakar Patel who has been an editor and worked with various Media houses including Amnesty International.

Mr. Patel offered a deep insight into the current scenario and spoke about the threats faced by constitution due to the present regime. He applauded the stance taken by Muslims and admired the efforts especially of Muslim women who have been diligently, peacefully and rightfully protesting. He appreciated the Professional Muslims of AMP, who had gathered together for the cause of Community Upliftment and National progress.



The next session titled 'Afraad-Saazi – Moulding the leadership thought process' was hosted by Mr. Syed Nashit and the Speaker was

**Dr. Taha Mateen** - Chairman & MD, Accura & HBS Hospital.

Dr. Taha Mateen gave an impactful speech on creating and developing leadership within the organization. He said that in order to become a good leader one has to first develop a good character, understand one's self first and understand the reason of one's existence in this world. He emphasized that good parenting played a key role in instilling good qualities and building great character which leads to developing a good leader.



The 2nd day's 1st session was on *AMP Global Leaders – Achievements & Aspirations*. Each of the participating Chapter of AMP presented their activities and achievements in the year 2019 and their projected plans ahead for the next 2 years.

Session 2 was dedicated to *Partnerships & Collaborations – Working together, Achieving Solutions.* 

#### 'Single Drops of Water make an Ocean!'

While a drop of water by itself is unable to achieve a lot, the Power of an Ocean can move Continents. Partnerships & Collaborations between individual Institutions similarly, can go onto become a forceful Movement. This Movement, with the force of 'Collectiveness' behind it, will be able to God-willing, move the mountains of Ignorance, Poverty, Govt. Apathy, Communal Hatred and Indifference. Each of the drop i.e. us individually or as an organisation, have our distinct expertise and strengths, which need to be synergized so it can create a bigger TOTAL than the sum of all individuals put together.

The urgent need of the time is to develop a Network/Alliance of all Institutions working for various aspects of Community Development. We need to share useful information, Partner and Collaborate on common issues and events to reach out to a larger section of the underprivileged and the underserved. This can be possible only through inter-organization co-operation and co-ordination for Capacity Building and Capability Enhancement. This can help us to connect and implement a Common Agenda for the Minorities & other marginalized Communities.



The first speaker for this session was Mr. Sheriff Kottapurath - Director, Rehbar Finance Consultants said "There are immense benefits of institutionalizing Finance for the benefit of the Community and the society. Our Organisation's finance model is based on the principles of Islamic Finance. I'am highly impressed by the AMP platform and urge everyone present to keep working for the benefit of all."



The second speaker was *Mr. K. Abdur Rahman* - Head (Training & Placement), United Welfare Organisation (UNWO) who spoke about how their Organization has been working to empower the lower strata of the society.



The next speaker was *Mr. Abdul Salaam U. M.* - Kerala Coordinator, LEAD Talent Search Exam who advised how AMP can work towards preparing Community students for various Competitive Exams.



The 4th speaker *Mr. Mohammad Ashfaq* – Founder & Director, Gravity Classes explained how they have come up and developed quality learning program which has brought good numbers of students qualifying in NEET, JEE etc.



The remaining speakers included *Mr. Nizam A. P.* – Director, Centre for Information and Guidance India – CIGI, *Mr. Syed Mohammed Beary* – MD Hugesquare LLP, *Mr. Shiraz Pasha* – Head, Javasa Developers and *Mr. Nazeer Ahmed* – CEO, Nexusinfo. All the speakers elaborated on their efforts for leveraging technology for the benefit of the Community.

## Session 3 was a very important one on **Sustainable Economic Development: Community's Agenda Ahead**

Economic Activity of Socio-Religious Communities (SRC) lies at the core of its socio-economic situation. It is important to note that Muslims form the second largest majority in India with 1 in 5 Indians being Muslims. It is known that Indian Muslims have the lowest monthly per capita expenditures among socio-religious groups. This is indicative of their low standards of living and also of their participation in growth of India. There is no doubt that Equal Participation of Indian Muslims in India's growth is an endeavour of national importance.

Muslims reside more in urban centres compared to rural. Muslims have a relatively high share of workers engaged in self-employment. The last 2 decades witnessed disruption of traditional artisan roles due to modern manufacturing and multiple families have lost livelihoods. There is an urgent need to evaluate the possible impact of such disruptions on the economic activity of Indian Muslims. It is also critical that Indian Muslims organize under a common Economic Agenda and create a Roadmap which can help them join the Mainstream and help in 'Financial Inclusion'.

AMP aims to create an Economic Development Plan (EDP) for the Muslim Community, which should become the agenda of the Community at large. They need not shy away from financial progress as that will give them the much needed base required for getting the less privileged ones be uplifted in socio-economic levels, helping in societal progress and nation building.



**Dr. Amirulllah Khan** — Director, MCR HRD Institute, Telangana said "As per my experience and the research done in Telengana on the Community, the 2 biggest areas of concern for Muslims are Housing & Lack of Credit apart from Education. I'am highly impressed with AMP for being able to gather so many professionals from all over the country under one roof and also with the objectives for which the organization is working on."



Other speakers included *Dr. Shariq Nisar* – Finance Professional & Professor, Rizvi Institute of Management Studies, Mumbai, *Mr. Ram N K* – Founder, Rang De P2P Financial Services Ltd. and *Mr. Akramul Hoque* – Managing Editor, The Policy Times. All the speakers spoke about the merit of micro-financing in changing the lives of people especially the poor and the deprived and how efforts have to be taken to support the most ignored section of the society.



The last session included the presentation of **AMP's National Awards for Excellence in Education** to those Teachers and Educationists from South of India, who have excelled in the Education profession.



The awards event culminated with the ceremony to honour all the best performers of AMP with **Chapter Performance Awards** in various chapters across India and abroad



Mr. Saeed Khan, special invitee and Founder – Rightway Foundation, Mumbai, took the audience through his experience and observation of the journey of AMP since its inception till date and how the selfless efforts of a few concerned individuals lead to the formation of this revolution called the Association of Muslim Professionals. He exhorted the participants that they had a responsibility to fulfill as the Community had large expectations from AMP and its member professionals.



The final and concluding speech was by *Mr. Aamir Edresy* – President, AMP. First of all, he elaborated on the theme of the convention, which was 'Engage, Educate, Employ and Empower'. To Engage meant, joint efforts were needed to connect more and more professionals with AMP, get them to experience AMP activities & projects and to ensure the new joinees/members' induction was done in a professional manner. This could be done preferably by inviting them to an AMP activity or event. Also, engaging members to contribute new and improve existing ideas within AMP's operative domains fell in this category.

He went on to define that to Educate meant AMP's efforts in School Development Lectures (SDLs) fell in this category, which included free lectures for Higher Secondary students, Teachers' training, Parental workshops, online Career Counselling and Career Guidance Seminars. According to him, this was AMP's focus area, and the chapters should perform in this category. According to him, Employ meant the various activities under AMP's Employment Cell (EAC). This included AMP Job Fairs (JF) & Job Drives (JDs), Employability Training Programmes (ETPs) for final year Graduate & Post-Graduate students and Mock Interview Workshops (MIWs), which helped community youth get gainfully employed and helped in Nation Building. He encouraged the Leaders to organise more of these in the chapters. He also informed the participants about the new initiative with Imams of Madrassas/Masjid's for mobilization of candidates for jobs available at the local area level.

To Empower, Mr. Edresy mentioned about AMP's initiative in Skill Training hundreds of youths through collaboration with CSR and NSDC partners all over the country. According to him, Skill training should become the no. 1 priority in the agenda of Muslim Community. He also mentioned the initiatives of AMP Zakat Fund in this regard which was empowering students with Higher Education Scholarships, orphans with Basic School Education and poor and unemployed youth with Self Employment Assistance. He went on to state about AMP's efforts to empower the underprivileged through its Economic Development Plan for the Community and said that in the next 10 years, AMP would ambitiously try to impact 1 crore Muslims who fall in the below the poverty line (BPL) category and bring them in the mainstream. With this he ended his talk and called upon all AMPians, in India and Abroad, to work for this new Mission with a renewed Vision.



The Convention ended with Dua by Moulana Mohammed Ainan Saleem Umri Nazeeri for Khair of all AMPians and the Ummah, after which all Participants sang National Anthem and wished Progress and Prosperity to AMP and the Nation!