

# DR K.R. NARAYANAN CENTRE FOR DALIT AND MINORITIES STUDIES

## B.R. AMBEDKAR MEMORIAL LECTURE SERIES

At the Confluence of History and Politics:  
Madrasas in Contemporary India

by

Dr Arshad Alam

Jamia Millia Islamia

Venue: Library Hall, Dr. K.R. Narayanan Centre for Dalit and Minorities Studies, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi

Time & Date: 2.30 PM, Thursday, 11 August 2011

The Topic: The talk will trace the development of madrasas in India. By taking Deoband as an example, I will argue that the colonial context transformed the aims, contents and methods of the madrasas. Without underlining this shift, I believe, it will be difficult to understand the politics of madrasas today. This politics will be explained as an attempt to redefine Muslim identity in India by positioning the madrasas as the guardian of the Muslim private sphere.

The Speaker: Arshad Alam is with the Centre for Jawaharlal Nehru Studies, JMI. He is the author of the recently published *Inside a Madrasa: Knowledge, Power and Islamic Identity in India* (Routledge: New Delhi).