## ACADEMIC STAFF COLLEGE JAMIA MILLIA ISLAMIA NEW DELHI Course Content

# 8<sup>th</sup> Refresher Course in West Asian Studies (ID) (20<sup>th</sup> February to 14<sup>th</sup> March 2013)

### **Component of Course in West Asian Studies (Interdisciplinary)**

In order to achieve the objective of the Scheme, the curriculum for the 8th 3-Week Refresher's Course in West Asian Studies will have the following four components

Component A: West Asia As Region: It's Various Features and Characteristics

Component B: Understanding West Asia in the Global Context
Component C: Arab Spring in West Asia and its Global Implications
Component D: Awareness of Linkages between India and West Asia

The details of these Four Components are as follows:

#### Component A: West Asia as Region: It's Various Features and Characteristics

This component should aim at helping the teachers to be familiar with the various features and characters of the West Asian region in order to understand its significance in the global context. The topics to be covered in this section are:

- West Asia Past and Present
- The region and it identifies, its geographical definition,
- Intellectual Dynamics in West Asia,
- Understanding State Systems in West Asia, Arab Nationalism,
- West Asian Economies & and Gulf Energy Politics,
- Population and Social Demography & Arab Human Development Review
- Status of Women in Arab Society
- Agricultural Development, Food Security and Water Crisis in West Asia
- People, traditions, customs, repressions and legacies, literature, arts and movies

#### Component B: Meanings of West Asia in the Global Context

This component should aim at imparting the basic understanding of West Asian region in the context of international developments: The issues covered in this section may include:

- West Asia and the global civilizations, its three religions--Judaism, Christianity and Islam
- Democracy & Human Rights, Issues of democracy in Arab Society, role of Civil Societies in West Asia,
- Religion and Globalization; Navigating Political Islam-Religious Activism: Religion & sectarianism
- Zionism and the Creation of Israel
- Ethno National-Minorities in West Asia: Kurds, Palestinians, Conflict and Conflict Resolution Perspectives
- Muslim Brotherhood, Rise of HAMAS & Islamic Jihad, Various shades of Islamic Movements in the Arab world,
- 9/11 Attack and Islamism, terrorism and the role of Western Power
- Iraq War and its Consequences
- U.S Policy towards the West Asian Countries
- Iran as a Regional Power with a nuclear programme
- Saudi Arabia and the so-called 'Wahabi Islam'
- West Asia and China and the Arab World's 'Look East Policy'
- Social and Political Issues in Contemporary Arabic Literature
- Importance of Area Studies in the Age of Globalization,

# Component C: Current Up-rising (Arab Spring) in West Asia and its Global Implications

This component aims at helping the teachers to be aware of the process of the political, social and economic changes taking places in the region. This can be taken into account with the issues and challenges facing the Arab world behind the current uprising or the so-called 'Arab Spring'. Some of the illustrative topics that can be discussed are:

- Causes of Current Revolution in the Arab World
- The Current Uprising and Political Reforms in the Arab world
- Social Networking, New Media and Journalism on Arab spring
- Arab Spring and Islamic Resurgence
- Arab Spring and it's implication for Israel
- Arab Spring and Palestine Question
- Arab Spring and India

#### Component D Awareness of Linkages between India and West Asia

Under this component teachers should be familiarized with the West Asian countries linkages with India, along with the understanding of the past and contemporary issues especially with India's emerging role as a global power in the coming decades. The expounding topics in this regards may be:

- The Arabs and Their Neighbors; Indo-Arab Relation Historical Perspectives
- Sufism in India: The Impact of West Asia
- India-Arab Relations: From the Indian Policy Perspectives

- The Current Turmoil in the Arab and the Options for India
- India's Role in Election in Egypt
- India's Stand on Palestine Problems
- India West Asia Economic Relations in the Age of Globalization
- Global Oil politics and India's Growing Dependency on Gulf Energy
- The Indian Migration in the Arab Gulf
- Persian & Arabic Literature and its impact on India

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