

Kashmiri translation of Qur'an by Late Mirza Arif Beg released

It'll certainly touch the souls of people: Prof Punjabi

Srinagar, May 24: The Kashmir University vice-chancellor, Prof Riyaz Punjabi, on Monday released the Kashmiri translation of Qur'an by noted scholar and poet, Late Mirza Ghulam Hassan Arif Beg.

The translation named 'Irfan-e-Qur'an' has been brought out in four editions on 40000 pages.

"Keeping in view our University motto, from darkness to light, we are proud to release this great work in the University," said Prof Punjabi, who presided over the function at University's Gandhi Bhawan.



Prof Punjabi stressed on understanding and comprehending the Holy Qur'an. "Apart from reading Qur'an, it is important that we comprehend and understand it. This is the only way we can be able to understand the message of Islam and Qur'an," he told a gathering of academics, students and members of civil society.

The VC said it was only by understanding Qur'an that its message can touch the souls of people. "Since this commendable work by Late Mirza Arif Beg is in Kashmiri language, it will certainly touch the souls of the people," said Prof Punjabi, who chaired the dais with noted scholars like Syed Jalal-ud-Din Aijaz, Prof Kaleem-ullah Khan, Dr Abdur Rehman War.

The function was organized by the Adult Qur'anic Education Programme, Institute of Arabic Centre, Srinagar and KU's Iqbal Institute of Philosophy and Culture.

Late Mirza Ghulam Hassan Arif Beg, according to speakers, worked on the translation for 30 years. After his death, the remaining work was carried out by Dr Abdur Rehman War. "Late Mirza Ghulam Hassan Arif Beg, who had brought out the first edition of translation, was

criticized by many for translating Qur'an in poetry. But he had not done that. He had just put its central idea in the poetry. I just found a couple of places where I had to make certain improvements in the work," said Dr War.

Parliament Member, Dr Mehboob Beg, described Late Mirza Ghulam Hassan Arif Beg as a multi-dimensional personality. "He had a very strong hold on the Arabic and Kashmiri languages," he said, adding, "Though he was a science student, yet he undertook the challenge to translate the Holy Qur'an in Kashmiri for the benefit of the society."

Scholar, Prof Margoob Banihali, presented a review of Late Mirza Ghulam Hassan Arif Beg's translation on the occasion. Prof B A Nehvi director Iqbal institute of philosophy and culture conducted the proceedings of the event .

Others who spoke on the occasion included Prof Kaleem-ullah, Dr Bashir Ahmad Nehvi. The function was attended by noted scholars like Prof Hamidi Kashmiri, Margoob Banihali besides senior KU officials including the Registrar, Prof S Fayyaz Ahmad.