

High Commission of India
(Abuja)

Press Release

Prime Minister's address at the World Sufi Conference, New Delhi -March 17-20, 2016

During the "World Sufi Conference" organized by the All India Ulama & Masaikh Board(AIUMB) at New Delhi from March 17-20, 2016, Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi made a seminal speech at the inauguration of the event on March 17, 2016.

In his speech, Prime Minister emphasized that the world must advance the message of Sufism that stands for the principles of Islam and the highest human values. He reiterated India's abiding belief in "*Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam*" which means –the World is one family. Of particular significance were his comments about Islam where he said that the Islamic civilizations stands on the solid bedrock of a great religion. Islam has historically engaged with diverse civilizations and as it enriched itself, it also enriched the world. He added that the 99 names of Allah denote compassion and mercy, encapsulating the spirit of Sufism and of Islam. He further said that the values Islam espouses of peace, diversity and equality of faith are the need of our times. The highest ideals of Islam have always rejected the forces of terrorism and extremism and he urged for the revival of this glorious heritage.

The full text of his speech is available at the following link:

<http://www.narendramodi.in/prime-minister-narendra-modi-addresses-world-sufi-forum-428437>

<http://www.narendramodi.in/pm-modi-at-the-world-islamic-sufi-conference-in-new-delhi-428276>

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