

It has been a great honor for me that Iran Culture House New Delhi had given me an opportunity to visit Islamic Republic of Iran for research purpose.

My stay in IR Iran from 23 October 2012 to 13 November 2012 had been very fruitful for me in many respects. As you know that my doctoral research topic is on Velayat e Faqih, I benefited a lot by visiting Tehran national library, University of Tehran, Institute for publication of works of Imam Khomeini etc. It was a great experience visiting Tehran national Library. Many books in English language related to my topic were available there and with the scanning facility available I would not have to carry lofty bundles of photocopies of books, I just carried with me a CD of scanned books. People working in the library were very kind and cooperative. They helped me in searching of books, guiding me to various sections of library, etc



The visit to University of Tehran and meeting with Professors of Department of Political Science proved quite beneficial for my topic of research. I got almost satisfactory answer to each and every query which I put before them. I also interacted with some students of the university. The library of the university has a huge collection of books related to my topic and I got photocopied many books.

The visit to Institute for publication of works of Imam Khomeini near firdowsi square enable me to get access of study material related to Imam Khomeini, the founder of the Islamic Republic. Also the Staff there too was very cooperative particularly Dr Sadr, with his help I was able to get photocopies of the books.



In Tehran I visited several places interacted with number of people which enabled me get acquainted with the current situation in IR Iran. I was surprised to see that women there are in every walk of life be it in shops, restaurants, metro stations, libraries, universities and so on. I got the feeling that the Iranian women are enjoying complete freedom contrary to the western perception that Iranian women are subject to several restrictions imposed by the regime.

After my stay in Tehran I went to Qom on 4 October 2012, where I was received by Dr SM Hossaini and Mr. Salman Sulymani. They both were very hospitable towards me. On day one I visited the holy shrine of Masooma (AS) , the experience of visiting the holy shrine performing ziyarat could not me expressed in words and I also visited holy mosque of Jamkaran, it was a very touching experience that I was in a place blessed by Imam Al Mahdi (AJFS) .



The office of culture and Islamic relations in Qom introduced me to some scholars having specialization on my research topic; those scholars shared their vast knowledge on the subject matter with me with great enthusiasm and interest. I am also thankful to Mr Syed Hidayat Razavi, with his help I visited Majma e Ahlulbyat, which gave me more than 25 books free of cost and also interacted with some common people of Qom . I offered my special thanks to Dr SM Hossaini and Mr sulymani for their exemplary attitude during my stay in Qom particularly with their effort I got back my lost camera.I am also grateful to my guide Mr.Tanveer Hussain who acted a wonderful interpreter and also supported me a lot in my work.



I am grateful to Dr Hossaini in Tehran who had arranged my visit to holy city of Mashhad in spite of the fact that it was not included in my official schedule. Ziyarat of Imam Reza (AS) holy shrine was an unprecedented experience for me that cannot be expressed in words. I also visited library located at the holy shrine premises where I got some useful books related to my topic. There may be some large libraries in any other part of the world but certainly there will be no other library as beautiful as

the library of Imam Reza (AS) shrine. I am thankful to Mr. Ali Bhakhtiyari at the Mashhad office of culture and Islamic relations who helped me a lot. He provided me an Indian student Mr. Arshad Zaidi as a guide who too proved very helpful to me.

Last but not least I must give my note of thanks to my guide Mr. Ali Jamalipur, without him I would not have been able to interact with people whom I visited at different institutions across Tehran . I also extend my thanks to the in-charge of hostel at Farmaniya Mr. Golanreza Sheikhi, a very kind and generous person and in the end once again I wish to thanks Dr Hossaini of office of culture and Islamic relation, Tehran who coordinated my visit so well that I never faced any problem during my whole stay in IR Iran and I also indebted to him that his office paid my bills of scanning and photocopy of books.



I also extend my gratitude to Dr Ali Dehghai, director Iran Culture House who informed me about this fellowship. I hope that the office of culture and Islamic relations will invite me in future also to visit the great Iranian nation. I hope that the Office will send me a certificate about my visit very soon.

Thanking You

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