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JUI Constitution comes under discussion at consultation workshop

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AN important consultation workshop on the Constitution and Manifesto of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam (JUI) was held in Islamabad under the auspices of Aurat Foundation with the cooperation of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). Speaking at the workshop, JUI Deputy General Secretary and former Adviser to the Chief Minister and Secretary of the Educational Commission, Maulana Muhammad Rahim Haqqani, Provincial Information Secretary Abdul Jalil Jan, MNA Shahida Akhtar Ali and MNA Naeema Kishore discussed various aspects of the party's Constitution and Manifesto, particularly its democratic, constitutional and legal framework.

The speakers said that JUI currently holds a distinct position in the country's political landscape with regard to its Constitution and Manifesto. They said that supremacy of the Constitution, full implementation of the 1973 Constitution, a strong

Parliament, respect for the public mandate, rule of law and the establishment of a genuine democratic system are among the fundamental objectives of the party.

They further said that the complete elimination of interest by 2028 and adherence to the commitments made with JUI and Wifaq-ul-Madaris Al-Arabia regarding the procedure for registration of religious seminaries are also among the party's major priorities.

The speakers observed that JUI has incorporated provisions relating to all major segments of society into its Constitution through separate and clearly defined clauses. Regarding women, they said that the party's Constitution recognizes their status and rights in accordance with the dignity and position accorded to women by Islamic Shariah. Similarly, the Constitution provides for the rights and status of religious minorities in accordance with the principles and teachings of Islam.

The performance of JUI's women legislators in the assemblies, they added, is increasingly being appreci-

ated. Their attendance, their focused and relevant interventions on points of order, and their performance in the Public Accounts Committee and other parliamentary committees, including their leadership in key committee positions, were cited as evidence of the party's confidence in women with intellectual and leadership capabilities.

The speakers said that JUI sends women to the legislative assemblies on the basis of merit, enabling them to play an effective role in legislation and parliamentary affairs. Similarly, they said, JUI's minority legislators are providing exemplary services in the field of public welfare and are prepared to demonstrate their performance and contribution in comparison with other members of the assemblies.

The JUI leaders also appreciated the party's Constitution for embodying a strong democratic spirit. They said that the party has established a democratic organizational structure extending from the Union Council level to the tehsil, district, provincial and central levels, with elections pro-



viding a practical and transparent mechanism for the formation of the organization.

They maintained that JUI's policies are formulated through its Central General Council and that all organizational bodies remain accountable to the Council. Even amendments or repeal of provisions of the Constitution and Manifesto require adherence to the prescribed constitutional procedure, including the requirement of a two-thirds majority. The participants said that



this organizational and constitutional mechanism reflects the democratic character of the party and provides an institutional framework for consultation, accountability and decision-making.

The JUI leaders expressed their heartfelt gratitude to the organizers of the consultation workshop, arranged by Aurat Foundation with the cooperation of UNDP. They appreciated the initiative for providing an opportunity to discuss the party's Constitution and Manifesto and expressed their



commitment to continued cooperation, guidance and the pursuit of improvement.

Executive Director of Aurat Foundation, Naeem Mirza, thanked all the participants for their active participation and contribution to the consultation. He also announced Foundation membership for two JUI leaders - Maulana Muhammad Rahim Haqqani, Deputy General Secretary of Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, and MNA Ms Shahida Akhtar Ali.