

# Naima Khatoon, AMU's 1<sup>st</sup> Woman Vice Chancellor

## Why In News

- "Naima Khatoon, Principal, Women's College, has been appointed as the Vice Chancellor of AMU for a period of five years.



- The ECI has stated that the commission has no objection from the MCC angle to the **proposal related to the appointment** of the AMU VC subject to the condition that no political mileage be derived from it," a senior official said.
- **In September 2020, AMU completed 100 years** as a university, becoming one of the oldest universities in India. The university has had no woman vice chancellor so far.
- In 1920, **Begum Sultan Jahan** was appointed as the AMU chancellor. She continues to be the only woman to have held the post.



- **Khatoon's husband, Professor Mohammad Gulrez**, was appointed as the Acting Vice Chancellor of AMU last year after the then VC Tariq Mansoor resigned from the post following his nomination as a member of the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Council.
- Khatoon being among the shortlisted candidates for the top post had triggered a controversy in October last year with a section of university officials alleging conflict of interest.
- **On October 30, 2023, the 27-member Executive Council (EC)**, AMU's highest decision-making body, shortlisted five of the 20 eligible applicants. There were a total of 36 applicants for the post of VC.



- In a letter to President Murmu, Mujahid Beg, one of the 36 applicants whose name was not picked by the EC, had called for setting aside the panel and "re-initiate the process afresh".
- Apart from Khatoon, the other names recommended by the EC were legal scholar and former VC of NALSAR University Faizan Mustafa, biochemist and VC of Srinagar's Cluster University Qayyum Husain, noted cardiologist and AMU professor M U Rabbani, and Jamia Millia Islamia University professor Furqan Qamar.



Prof Muzaffar Uruj Rabbani

Prof Faizan Mustafa

Prof Naima Khatoon

## Naima Khatoon

- Khatoon, who completed her PhD in psychology from AMU, was appointed as a lecturer in the same department in 1988 before being elevated as professor in 2006. She continued there before being appointed as the principal of the Women's College in 2014.



- She taught at the **National University of Rwanda**, Central Africa, for an academic year. She has also served in various administrative roles at AMU – Deputy Director of the Residential Coaching Academy, Deputy Proctor, and Provost in both Indira Gandhi Hall and Abdullah Hall.

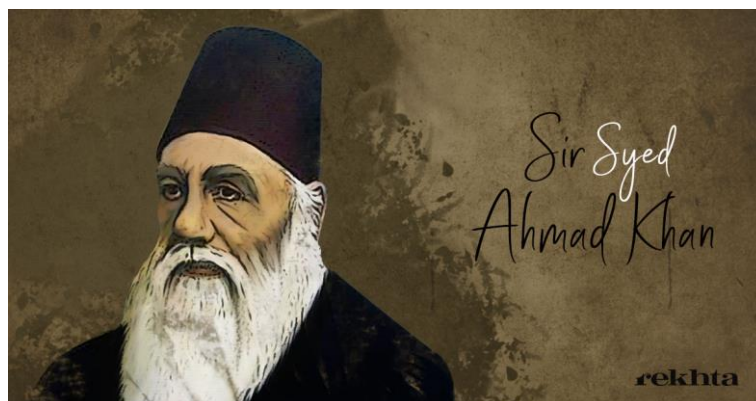


- Ms Khatoon is also a **writer and researcher**, having authored, co-authored, and edited six books and published various papers in several national and international journals. Her areas of expertise are clinical, health, applied social, and spiritual Psychology.
- Naima Khatoon was honoured with the **Papa Mian Padma Bhushan Best Girl Award** for all-round excellence.

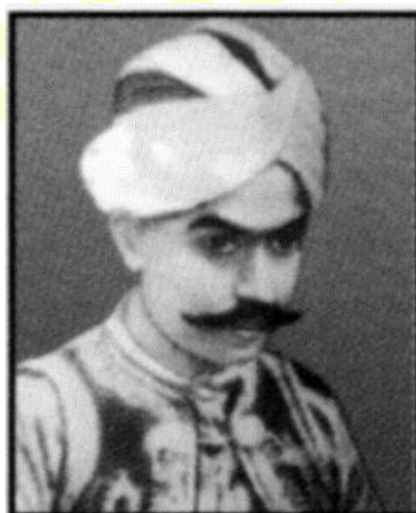


## Aligarh Muslim University

- It was originally established by social reformer **Sir Syed Ahmad Khan** as the **Mohammedan Anglo-Oriental College** in 1875.



- In the aftermath of the **1857 Indian War of Independence**, the College was built on Khan's conviction that it was important for Muslims to gain education and become involved in public life and government services in India.
- **Raja Jai Kishan** helped Sir Syed establish the college.



**RAJA JAI KISHAN  
DAS (1832-1905)**

- **Muhammadan Anglo-Oriental College** became AMU in 1920, following the Aligarh Muslim University Act. AMU is recognised by the University Grant Commission (UGC) and the Association of Indian Universities (AIU). It has three off-campus centres: AMU Malappuram Campus (Kerala), AMU Murshidabad Centre (West Bengal), and Kishanganj Centre (Bihar).