

**From Religious Tolerance
to
Peaceful Coexistence**

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Religious Tolerance & India

- India is a multi linguistic and multi cultural nation. It is the beauty as well as a great challenge for the country.
- Yet by virtue of its strong philosophical foundation and constitution this is one of the best examples for religious tolerance.

Religious Tolerance & India

- It gave birth to many great philosophers, spiritual leaders, political leaders, scientists, industrialists, peace makers like Gautama Buddha, Samrat Ashoka, Badshah Akbar, Swami Vivekananda, Mahatma Gandhi, BR Ambedkar, APJ Abdul Kalam, Rabindranath Tagore, JRD Tata and many more who set examples how people of diverse faith and culture can live together peacefully.

What Islam Says..

- **Peace is embedded in the name Islam. One of the attributes of Allah(SW) is As Salam (God of Peace).**
- **A Muslim is by default a peace maker – an ambassador of peace.**

What Islam Says..

- Islam is an inclusive religion. Allah(SW) says in The Holy Quran – O people of the book, come let us join together, lets work together, come lets work together in promoting virtues, and lets work together against –ve energy. (Ch.3, verse 64)

Medina Constitution

- Muhammad (pbuh) brings the Muslims, the Christians, the Jews and other traditional tribes of Medina together after his Hijra from Mecca to Medina and makes a constitution that they will protect each other from outsiders and follow a set of common rules for peaceful coexistence.
- They say : O Muhammad(pbuh), you please be our leader.

One Hadith

- Muhammad (pbuh) says - if a non-Muslim face injustice of any kind under a Muslim ruler I will stand as attorney in favour of the non-Muslim person against the Muslim ruler in the day of judgment.
- Islam does not close its heart - it is open to all diverse community for peaceful coexistence.

Guiding Principles

- Coexistence is possible through cocreation, i.e., taking part in building our great nation together with other citizens.
- We must respect diverse faith and culture of the country. And remember, respecting is not equal to accepting.

Guiding Principles

- Let the non-Muslims be made beneficiaries of social development schemes of Islam (charity, donation etc.).
- **Be the change, not to blame.** Allah(sw) does not change the condition of the persons until they intend to change what is in themselves.(sura ar ra'd)

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- Al-Ameen Mission started journey in 1986 with only 7 students at a remote village Khalatpur under the district Howrah of West Bengal.
- In 33 years it has spread over 5 states in eastern part of India (West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Assam and Tripura).
- Established 70 branches where 17000+ resident students are studying.



1st stepping stone of Al-Ameen Mission at Khalatpur



Present scene of the campus

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- **Our aim** was to add quality and dignity in the lives of underprivileged Muslims of the state through quality education.
- **Pre Al-Ameen Scenario** – % of Muslims in Govt. jobs and professional courses was only 2.5% or less though the population rate was 25%.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- We started with this **Mission** that we have to vanish this point between 2 & 5.
- **Mission Possible** - Alhamdulillah, in 2016 our students bagged 27.7% medical seats in general category in the state 1st time. And then it goes on even in All India Exams (NEET).

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- So far we have produced 3000+ doctors, around 3000 engineers and many more professors, teachers, civil servants, research scholars, officers, entrepreneurs etc.
- Al-Ameen now a big family comprising with 23 thousand alumni, 17 thousand present students, 3 thousand staffs and many more donors and well wishers.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- We strongly believe that we would not have done this work without the active support and help of the Hindu brothers of the locality.
- 92% of population of Khalatpur area is Hindu and rest 8% is Muslims.
- This place is not so far from the birth place of Sri Sri Ramakrishna and Raja Ram Mohan Roy.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- The then MLA Sri Nani Gopal Chowdhury is one of our best guardians. 40 thousand present students and alumni call him **Dadu** (Grand Father). There are many more teachers and experts who do not take any penny even for teaching our students.
- **Because** they respect this work even more than many Muslims. Many of them say this job we do here is like a worship.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- **Why they think so?** – Because, 25% of the total students are from BPL or labor class families, many of them are orphan who study here free of cost.
- Because, 40% more students give fees as per their financial condition.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- And till their establishment in career Al-Ameen stands by them with moral and monetary support when need.
- Because, irrespective of any background students get love and equal care in addition to quality education which help them to be groomed as good citizen and better human being.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- **Outreach Philanthropic Program** – Beside this 70 residential units we also run 26 **day schools** open for all where 5000 students presently studying in a very nominal fees.
- We organize free coaching for the local students belong to poor financial background.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- We also organize coaching for job oriented competitive exams like NEET-JEE, Civil Services Exams, SSC Exams, PSC Exams etc. Students from all communities study there and give fees as per their financial condition.
- Our alumni doctors give free services to local people irrespective of caste, creed and religion.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- **Outreach Academic Program** – Every year inter-school science model exhibition cum competition is organized where students from local area come, compete, share ideas and interact with our resident students.
- Also our students take part in different kind of district and national level competition, seminar, workshop that help them to construct knowledge and develop social-emotional skills.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- **Awareness Program** – We are connected to about 45 thousand families directly. We invite dignitaries of different field to make them aware regarding different issues through many program like parents meet, alumni reunion, annual function, seminar.
- Every year around 30 thousand new students sit for admission test. We get connected with those parents also.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

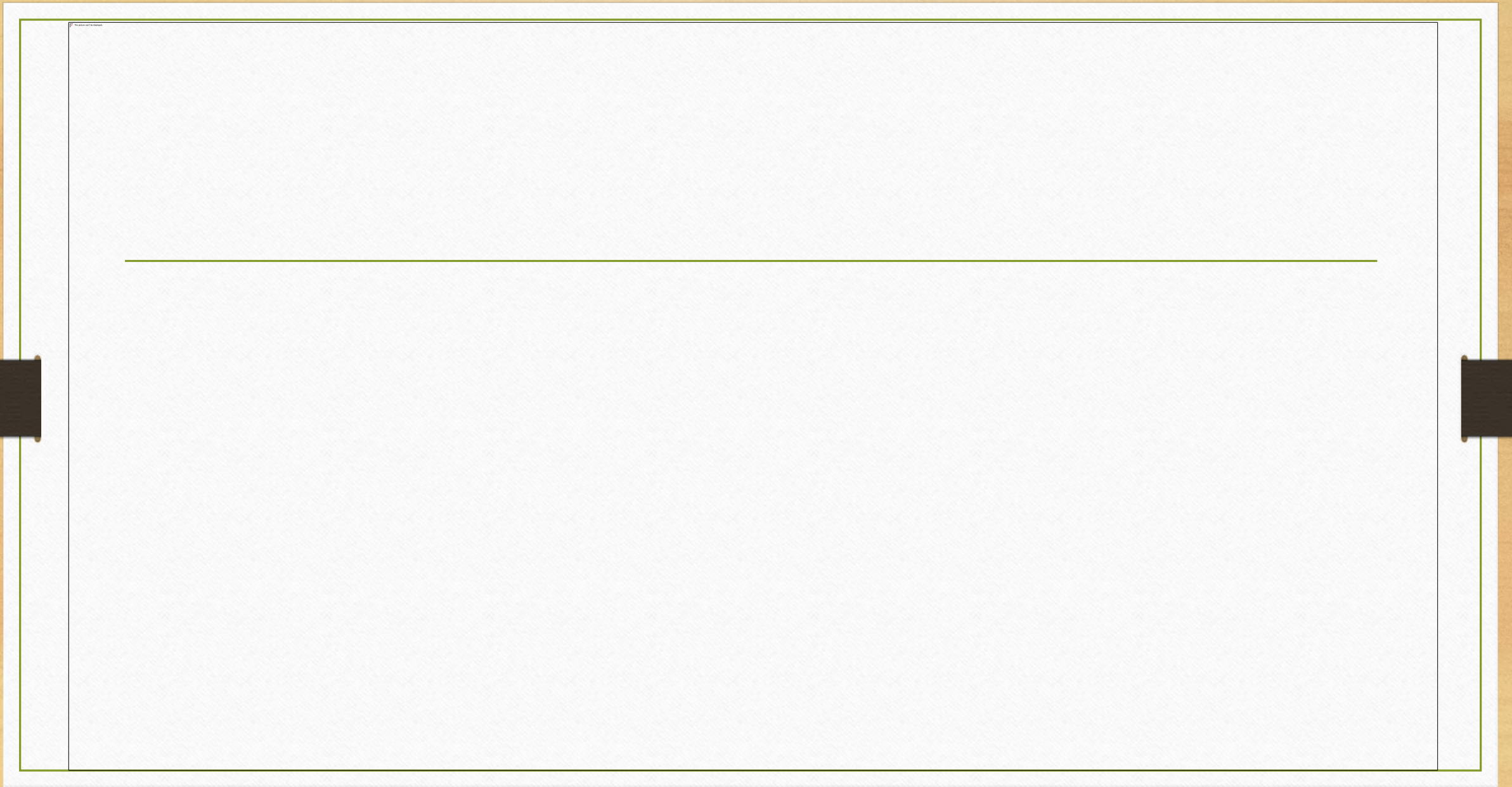
- We also publish Al-Ameen Barta magazine and Newsletter for public in regular.
- The Managing Trustees also take part in national and international seminars regularly. We are open to learn new things, generous to interact on any issue, brave to implement new theory keeping intact the base of Islamic Shariah.

Al-Ameen Mission Model

- Thus we have grown gradually through partnerships, invigorated initiatives, action-oriented research and diverse community of committed change makers.
- And it takes a form of social movement in West Bengal aptly called “the Mission Movement”.



**Proposed campus at New Town, Kolkata of Al-Ameen Mission Institute
for Education Research & Training**



Conclusion

- We must thrive for quality education because, only education can build resilience, education can give dignity, education can give freedom, education can alleviate poverty.
- Being a social leader our works, our thoughts, our talks must be for the benefits of others irrespective of caste, creed and religion.

Jazak Allah

Thank You