

THE QAWWALI PROJECT
UNDERSTANDING QAWWALI
A Symposium on the traditional Art-Form of Qawwali
7th Edition

(Conceived & Conceptualized by Manjari Chaturvedi)
Talks, Lectures, Presentations, Discussions by Experts and Scholars, Photo
Documentations, Films and Performances by Khanqahi Qawwals

Saturday, November 1st, 2025

India International Centre, New Delhi

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

Session I

10:30 am - 1:30 pm

Multipurpose Hall, Kamladevi Complex, India International Centre

10.30 am Inauguration of the Seminar & Welcome address

11:00 - 12:00 – Discussion 1

Aah Se Wah Tak - Khanqahi Qawwali to Commercial Qawwali - Understanding the journey of Qawwali

[Proposed Speakers](#)

Sufi Scholar Affan Yesvi + Author Suman Mishra + Prof Salil Mishra + Author Manjari Chaturvedi

12:00 - 01:00 - Discussion 2

Qawwali & Mystical Islam

[Proposed Speakers](#)

Prof Raziuddin Aquil + Prof Danish Iqbal + Qawwal Dhruv Sangari + Author Shri Wajahat Habibullah

1:00 - 1:15 – A talk on Dewa Sharif by Shri Wajahat Habibullah

1:15 - 1:30 - **Screening of Short Documentary Film "Rang Colours of Love"** by Manjari Chaturvedi

1:30 - 2:00 LUNCH BREAK (On payment Basis)

QAWWALI CAPSULES - Short one minute films of qawwali practitioners speaking about their art.

Session II

2:00pm - 5:30pm

Multipurpose Hall, Kamladevi Complex, India International Centre

2:00pm - 2:30pm - **Discussion 3**

The Qawwali Photo Project and the relevance of photo documentation as a tool for anthropological studies.

[Proposed Speakers](#)

Photographer Dinesh Khanna + Photographer Mustafa Quraishi + Scholar Rachna Atri Saxena + Prof Kumkum Srivastava

2.30pm-3.30pm – Discussion 4

Qawwali in Bombay Cinema – from sacred to profane

[Proposed Speakers](#)

Author Yousuf Saeed + Cinema Critic Shantanu Ray Chaudhuri

3:30pm - 4:00pm- Discussion 5

Bollywood and Qawwali –Shri Rakeysh Omprakash Mehra in conversation with Manjari Chaturvedi

4:00pm – 5:00pm Book discussion with publisher OM Books

Book: QAWWALI -The Call of Hearts in Love

Is Qawwali the middle path we need today?

[Proposed Speakers \(to be confirmed closer to date\)](#)

Shri Shyam Saran	Shri Pavan Varma	Shri Muzaffar Ali
Shri Amitabh Kant	Shri Ashis Nandy	Manjari Chaturvedi
Shri Ashok Vajpeyi	Shri Rakeysh Mehra	Shri Prahlad Kakar

Book Inauguration moderated by media anchor Pankaj Bhargava

5.30 pm Tea Break

Session III

6:30pm – 9.30pm

Fountain Lawns, India International Centre

Qawwali Mehfil Traditions & Experiments - A curated evening performance

[Proposed Performers](#)

PERFORMANCE 1 – 60 MINUTES

SAIYAN SAJILAY – Celebrating Basant & Krishna in Qawwali

By Qawwal Danish Hussain Badayuni from Badaun & Manjari Chaturvedi

PERFORMANCE 2 – 15 MINUTES

SAWAAL JAWAAB - Mian Samat Bin Ibrahim And Gopal Naik 13th Century

By Qawwal Sibtain Nizami & Qawwal Saqlain Nizami from Delhi

In memory of Qawwal Late Ustad Meraj Nizami of Qawwal Bachche Gharana

PERFORMANCE 3 – 75 MINUTES

QAUL - Khanqahi Qawwali

By Qawwals Hussaini Brothers from Hyderabad

Adil Hussain Khan Warsi

Fazil Hussain Khan Quadri

Kaamil Hussain Khan

In memory of Qawwal Ustad Ahsan Hussain Khan Bandanawazi

Moderated by Radio Jockey Sachin Sahani