

## REPORT ON

# “THE SOCIAL ACCOUNTABILITY OF POLITICAL CLASS”

With

**Dr. Mohammed Saleem**

Prominent Politician and  
Outstanding Parliamentarian

WEDNESDAY | SEPTEMBER 16TH, 2020





**Ms. Sheeba Aslam Fehmi, Journalist and India Head at indiatimes.live**

Ms Sheeba Aslam Fehmi started the session by giving a brief introduction of IMPAR followed by introducing Dr. Saleem Mohammad and his experiences and how he could enlighten us on the topic “The social accountability of the political class”, later she took a moment to introduce other panel members for the session; Major Mohammad Ali Shah, Ms Farhat Hasan, Mr. Musharraf Ali and Mr. Tanveer Inamdar and requested them to speak on the topic.



**Dr. M J Khan, President IMPAR**

Dr. MJ Khan welcomed Dr. Saleem Mohammad, the keynote speaker for the day. Dr. Khan also introduced Mr. Kishore Asthana, President Mensa Project and requested him to give in his views later on the topic and make it a diverse discussion.



**Ms. Farhat Hasan, IMPAR State Coordinator of Bihar**

Ms Farhat started with explaining what social accountability means, and why it is important for us to understand and who is responsible for this, Mrs. Hasan quoted an example of election and how we're responsible for the issue by electing our political leader on the basis of caste, religion rather than right skills and requirement. She emphasized on education and how quality education is the core of everything. She ended up expressing her gratitude towards IMPAR.



**Mr. Kishore Asthana, President at Mensa Project**

Mr. Kishore took the panel down to the memory lane of his life by briefing his life background and how being lived in several gulf countries has formed his opinion that nothing but education can make people change their mindsets and improve the social accountability of political class.



**Mr. Musharraf Ali, Author and Journalist, EC Member IMPAR**

Mr. Musharraf Ali expressed in his words that he is of the opinion that if one political party is creating differences in community and society then it becomes the responsibility of other political parties to take care of it.



**Major Mohammad Ali Shah, Veteran and Motivational Speaker**

Major Mohammad Ali Shah took over the session and explained how being a motivational speaker he has helped people in uplifting and one should always help their younger ones to educate, motivate them and together become strong. Major Shah stated how having the relevant skill is important rather than just having the certification. He shared with us his experience of what it is like being in Army, they are trained to internalize “country comes first” but when we see the current scenario of our country, it’s just the opposite. Any country is the responsibility of every citizen and each one of us should take care of it. He did some fun exercises which involved other panel members and gave us some wonderful perspectives of thinking. Major Shah gave an example of Rumi’s philosophy “what you’re seeking is seeking you”. He also exclaimed how IMPAR stands for “empower”!



**Dr. Saleem Mohammad, Member of Parliament**

Dr. Saleem started with a quote by RK Laxman “I stopped making cartoons of politicians after politicians became cartoons” to reflect the current political state of country and later driven his focus on the topic ‘social accountability’ and expressed that there should be an accountability of all the citizens. He gave his views about how questioning politicians will make us a traitor.

He also talked about what Ms Farhat Hasan said about electing people on basis of caste, religion etc. It is because we are driven by media or other people, and we let go of our social accountability.

Later Dr Saleem gave his insights on the changes in scenario after partition; there has been an attempt to erase the memory of the marginalized. He also mentions that Urdu has been an integral part of our country which could be seen in slogans of freedom movement but in the contemporary times, the language Urdu has been linked with terms like terrorism, conservative and anti- national. It is being done with the help of agents. Oppression still exists but there's an effort to erase it from our memory chip. The people in Ghaza, Palestine, Yemen, etc. are being oppressed but what is being promoted is U.S. - Israel relationship. He raised the question on the government if they do not have the database of the migrant workers but they won't release the data because it does not serve in the vested interests of the ruling party.

He presented his opinion about the steps taken by the government amid lockdown which turned out complete failure and where they went wrong and how if we question political parties, they'll be imposed with social stigma. The concrete situation is the democracy and constitution rights are endangered. He's of the opinion that politicians must be skilled in disciplines like geography, political science and economy and if one does not understand economy it bounds to fail, and the results are in front of us.

He ended up saying, when we choose our leader, we should be aware of his educational background, his history, experiences rather than other factors and at the same time politicians should deal with situations analytically.

### **Ms. Sheeba Aslam Fehmi, Journalist and India Head at [indiatimes.live](http://indiatimes.live)**

Ms. Sheeba acknowledged the speaker and praised him for his engaging and enlightening discussion and for illustrating insightful examples. She invited for open house questions. Dr. Saleem addressed the questions by stating that we need to change our thinking that if you're a Muslim you should not vote for BhartiyaJanta Party or vice versa and should not cast your vote driven by media or other sources but based on their educational background and past experiences.

He also stated that our deeds in both the worlds are important, we have to get involved in this world and make our actions better for the other world, we should focus on upliftment of society, should not forget our roots and there should be holistic approach in our actions.



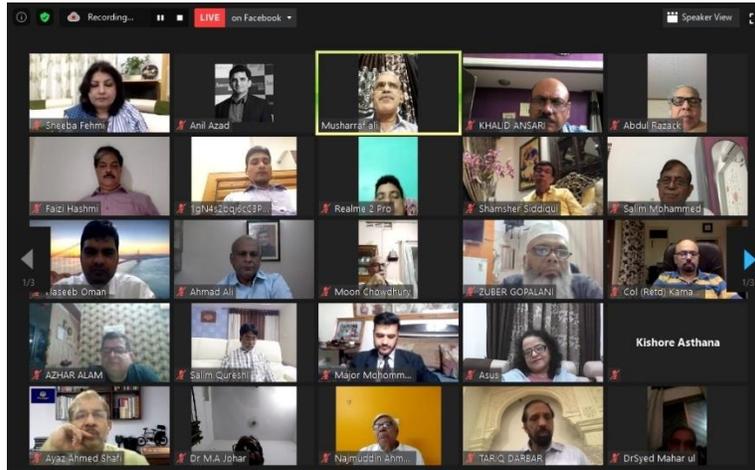
### **Mr. Khalid Ansari, ED, IMPAR**

Mr. Khalid Ansari proposed a vote of thanks. He thanked the hon'ablespeaker to share his experience and opinions. Mr. Ansari shared his views how one of his fellow mentor told him that we have to bring the change unless we do this, the situation will remain stagnate.

## Conclusion

It was a very well interactive and learned session, open to discussions and accepted different views and opinions and the hon'ble speaker addressed all the questions affirmatively. The program went live on Facebook and captivated huge audience.

## Glimpses



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