

7Th Semi Annual Convention New Jersey

MQM is For All and For Every Oppressed of The Country No Matter Where They Live; and MQM will Come for Their Salvation: Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui at the General Public Meeting at 7th Semi-Annual Convention of MQM USA at New Jersey.

Communication & Media Cell, MQM USA; Edison, New Jersey; November 21, 2009: MQM is for all and will raise voice for every oppressed wherever they are in the country. This was said by the former federal minister Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui at the public meeting on the last day of the 7th semi-annual convention of MQM USA at New Jersey last Saturday. Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui also said that MQM is determined to come to the salvation of all poor, down-trodden, and oppressed of the country that look at MQM as a ray of their hopes. The two-day 7th Semi-Annual Convention, MQM USA was held in a local hotel in Edison, New Jersey and was attended by the delegations of workers and supporters of MQM USA from all over USA. The public meeting of the convention was also attended by the people from all nationalities in Pakistan residing in USA including well-known businessmen, professors, engineers, doctors and people from all walks of life. Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui elaborated on the philosophy of MQM in his address and said that MQM is the only voice of middle –class, lower middle-class, poor, and oppressed of the country and MQM cannot leave them alone no matter where they live. He said that MQM will come up to their expectations and will come to their salvation. Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui said that MQM believes in the leadership of educated middle-class. He said that the elite class which has ruled Pakistan since its inception will never be able to solve the problem of common men as they have not passed through those. The former federal minister also said that the feudal system is in sheer antagonism with democracy and the democratic values can never thrive in the presence of such system. He said wishing for democracy to thrive in the presence of feudal system is a self-deception. Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui also said that MQM is not aiming at the election success in Punjab; however, MQM is going to Punjab to bring a change in the conventional politics and its ethics and a change in the mindset. MQM wants the people of Punjab to create leadership from within their own educated middle-class.

The well-known educationist of New York Prof Saqlain Malik who belongs to the province of Punjab also spoke to the congregation and said that MQM is the last ray of hope for the people of Pakistan as the people of Pakistan have already tried every politician and political party in the country. He said that MQM has already proved in the jurisdictions they were assigned by serving the people that they are the only legitimate representatives of the 98% of country. He also said that MQM should prepare itself for the oncoming flood of people of Pakistan who will revert to them and will request them for their salvation from the clutches of feudal system. The Patron and the Central Organizer of MQM USA also addressed the congregation and thanked the people who attended the convention. The Patron MQM USA Ibad Rehman said in his address that MQM will not leave any stone unturned in bringing a change in the life of the common man of the country and the people living abroad. He appealed to the Pakistani community abroad to help MQM in paving the way for the change. The Central Organizer kamal

Zafar said in his address that MQM has come into the Pakistani politics as an antidote to all the poison instilled in it in the last 62 years and we will definitely detoxify the prevailing feudalized political culture. The Central Organizer also said that MQM USA and its workers under the leadership of its leader Mr. Altaf Hussain are determined to eliminate the obsolete values from the society at all levels. The evening was conducted by the Joint Central Organizers of MQM USA Nadeem Siddiqui and Junaid Fahmi. The speakers also praised and appreciated the efforts of New Jersey Unit for holding such a magnificent event. The host Chapter MQM New Jersey was also awarded a shield of appreciation by the Patron-in-Chief Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui in the presence of the Patron Ibad Rehman, the Central Organizer Kamal Zafar, and the members of the Central Organizing Committee, MQM USA as well as the Incharge Political Action Committee MQM USA Ajaz Siddiqui. The evening ended at dinner followed by light musical evening arranged by the host chapter in which member Youth Wing New York Usman Khan entertained the attendees of the evening with music and songs.

In the meantime the two-day 7th Semi-Annual Convention of MQM USA was held successfully at New Jersey in a local hotel. The details of the convention are as follow:

Inaugural Session (Day 1, Friday, November 20, 2009)

The convention was formally inaugurated by the Patron-in-Chief of MQM North America Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui on the evening of Friday November 20, 2009. The Inaugural session was opened by Arshad Hussain, member, Central Organizing Committee, MQM USA. After the recitation of Holy Quran the Incharge host chapter Arif Khan welcomed the participants of the convention. In his address he said that the workers of MQM New Jersey are determined to propagate the philosophy of MQM and its leader Mr. Altaf Hussain. After the welcome address of the Incharge host chapter, Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui formally announced the inauguration of the 7th semi-annual convention of MQM USA at New Jersey. The inaugural session was attended by the delegations of workers and supporters of MQM USA from all over USA including the patron, the central organizer and the central organizing committee of MQM USA. The inaugural session was also attended by famous artist and former MQM advisor to the Government of Sindh Mr. Umer Sharif who said in his address that MQM is the name of the thoughts and philosophy of its leader Mr. Altaf Hussain who is a symbol of patience and fore-bearing. He said that the charisma in the personality of the leader of MQM Mr. Altaf Hussain is nothing but due to the truth he follows.

Day 2, Session 1 (Saturday, November 21, 2009):

The first session of the second day of the 7th semi-annual convention of MQM USA started with welcome notes by member Central Organizing Committee MQM USA Arshad Hussain. These welcome notes were followed by the welcome address and arrangements details about the convention by the Joint Chapter Incharge MQM New Jersey Mohammad Asim. The Central Organizer Kamal Zafar also welcomed the participants of the convention and said that although the conventions are traditional

events, however, the participants of the conventions always learn from each other and MQM USA holding these events punctually and will try to maintain the tradition. The welcome session was followed by the Chapters' Briefing Session. The session was opened by Joint Central Organizer Nadeem Siddiqui who invited the chapters to present their reports in a sequence.

Chapters' Briefing:

Atlanta, Houston, and Miami: Since no representative was present from Atlanta, Houston, and Miami, the Joint Central Organizer MQM USA Nadeem Siddiqui presented the reports of the said chapters as he is looking after these chapters.

Dallas: Mohammad Ibrahim from Dallas Chapter Committee submitted the report to the participants with further goals set by MQM Dallas.

Austin: Since no representative was present from Austin Chapter, the report was presented by member Central Organizing Committee MQM USA Asad Siddiqui who looks after Austin Chapter.

Los Angeles: Los Angeles Chapter report was furnished by Incharge Los Angeles Chapter Abdullah Jamil who apprised the participants of the previous performance and future goals of MQM LA.

Portland, Oregon: Though not an established Chapter, the future prospects were detailed by the representative from Portland Mr. Tariq (Tim) Siddiqui.

San Francisco & Las Vegas: Since no representative was present from San Francisco and Las Vegas, member Central Organizing Committee, MQM USA Wasim Zaidi presented the report of San Francisco and scope of work in Las Vegas.

Chicago: Chicago report was presented by the member Chapter Committee MQM Chicago Adnan Siddiqui with a very nice electronic presentation. While deliberating on the performance and the future goals of MQM Chicago Adnan Siddiqui also elaborated on how MQM Chicago is maintaining the only MQM office anywhere in MQM USA for the last one and a half decade.

New York: The MQM New York Chapter report was detailed by the Joint Chapter Incharge Khursheed-ul-Haque. He also briefed the participants about the wonderful corner meetings MQM New York is holding to pave the public opinion for the Punjab Convention.

New Jersey: The report of the host chapter was submitted by the Joint Chapter Incharge Mohammad Asim. He also explained how the workers are trying to get the New Jersey Chapter back to its previous stature.

Washington DC/Virginia: The report for MQM Washington DC/Virginia was presented by the Chapter Incharge Shahid Moin. This was one of the best presentations made in this session. The verbal presentation was substantiated by electronic presentation. The Chapter Incharge while apprising the participants of the convention of the performance of the chapter also briefed how MQM Washington DC/Virginia Chapter workers are trying to help the Political Action Committee in its endeavors and its programs.

Philadelphia: The Philadelphia Chapter report was presented by the Joint Incharge MQM Philadelphia Ammar farooqui. The report also mentioned how the workers of MQM Philadelphia are also keeping an interface with the community in different forums other than MQM to gain access to the community.

Detroit: Detroit report was submitted by the Joint Chapter Incharge MQM Detroit Aamir Qazi who also elaborated on the possibilities for MQM in Detroit.

St. Louis: No representative from MQM St. Louis was present at the convention. The report was submitted by the Joint Central Organizer MQM USA Junaid Fahmi who also said that a major shake-up and review of strategy is needed for MQM St. Louis to save the performance of the chapter from going down.

Boston & Connecticut: No contact committee or established chapter exists in Boston. Connecticut has a contact committee. No representative was present at the convention from Boston or Connecticut. Member Central Organizing Committee MQM USA Gul Mohammad submitted the report for Connecticut and elaborated on the possibilities in Boston.

Wings' Briefing:

After the Chapters' briefing session, the Wings were invited by the members of the Central Organizing Committee to present their reports.

Political Action Committee: The head of the Political Action Committee MQM USA was invited by Anwar Ahmed, member Central Organizing Committee to present the report. A very detailed and promising report was submitted by Ajaz Siddiqui about the past performance and the future strategies. He also insisted on all the chapters of MQM USA to have diplomatic relationships with the local political representatives.

Sun Charity/MQF USA: Incharge Sun Charity/MQF USA Arshad Hussain was invited by Khalida Shuja, member Central Organizing Committee to present the report. Arshad Hussain submitted detailed report of Sun Charity/MQM with all the relevant numbers and also submitted strategies for improving the working of Sun Charity/MQF USA.

Gahwarah-e-Adab USA: The Patron of Gahwarah-e-Adab USA and the Joint Central Organizer MQM USA Junaid Fahmi was invited by Mehfooz Hydari member Central Organizing Committee to present the report of Gahwrah-e-Adab USA as the Incharge

Gahwarah-e-Adab USA Rohail Khan was not present at the meeting. Junaid Fahmi submitted detailed report and the future plans for the expansion in the functions of Gahwarah-e-Adab USA. He also proposed the Annual Mushairah schedule for 2010. The Joint Central Organizer also announced the change in the top leadership of Gahwarah-e-Adab USA and announced the appointment of Prof Masroor Quraishy, the then Joint Incharge Gahwrah-e-Adab USA as the Incharge Gahwarah-e-Adab USA and Aslam Pervaiz, the then head of Gahwarah-e-Adab Atlanta, as Joint Incharge Gahwarah-e-Adab USA. He also paid great tributes to the services rendered by the outgoing incharge of Gahwrah-e-Adab USA Rohail Khan and said that the relentless efforts of Rohail Khan has given a big name to Gahwrah-e-Adab USA and now this literary forum has superseded all the contemporary literary forums in fame and functions. He also congratulated the newly appointed office-bearers of Gahwrah-e-Adab USA.

Communication & Media Cell, MQM USA: The Patron of Communication & Media Cell and member Central Organizing Committee Anwar Ahmed was invited by Wasim Zaidi member Central Organizing Committee to present the report of Communication & Media Cell (CMC) as the Incharge CMC Arsalan Siddiqui was not present at the meeting. Anwar Ahmed submitted a detailed report verbally and in print. Past performance and future strategies were also mentioned. The chapters and wings were advised of the procedures of the CMC. A tutorial to access the central emailing system was also given to the incharges of the chapters and wings. Past performance figures were also advised to the participants of the session. The names of those workers who are making the monthly newsletters published. Anwar Ahmed also mentioned the names of the workers Rehan Younus (Ghalib), Nasir Younus, and Zeeshan Mirza from Houston who make it happen for the newsletter to publish, emailed, news items sent, and the central emailing system work.

Youth Wing USA: The report of Youth Wing USA was presented by the Patron of Youth Wing USA and the Joint Central Organizer MQM USA Nadeem Siddiqui, as the Coordinator Youth Wing USA Maliha Khan was not present at the session. Nadeem Siddiqui mentioned of the past performance and future strategies to better the working of Youth Wing USA. He also insisted on the chapters to open units in their respective units. He also said that with the formation of local units the Youth Wing will be more productive.

Women Wing MQM USA: Khalida Shuja Incharge Women Wing & member Central Organizing Committee, and the member Central Helping Committee MQM USA Anjum Arif were invited by member Central Helping Committee MQM USA Kamran Haider to present the report for the Women Wing MQM USA. They presented the future strategies and plan to enhance the working of Women Wing.

University of Karachi Alumni Association/Radio Talk Show: Adnan Siddiqui of Chicago Chapter was invited by Aamir Qazi Incharge Detroit Chapter to do the presentation. The UKAA and radio Talk Show project was detailed with an electronic presentation.

Entertainment Wing: Member Central Organizing Committee and Incharge Entertainment Wing Mehfooz Hydari and was invited by Anwar Ahmed member Central Organizing Committee to present the report of Entertainment Wing. Mehfooz Hydari said that while no remarkable performance was shown by this wing in the past, they have great plans for futures and will try their best to establish this wing on solid grounds.

Patron's Address:

Soon After the Wings' Briefing Session the Patron MQM USA addressed the participants of the convention and put light on the cause and goals of MQM USA. While he endorsed the good work in the past he also said that the future has great challenges and all workers of MQM USA must be prepared ideologically to face those challenges. He also said that the conventions are just the fuel stations for the organizations where the workers of the organization take the fuel for their future endeavors and the workers of MQM has the prime duty of sticking to the discipline of MQM. He also said that MQM USA is like a family for all the workers of this setup and everyone must share the good and bad of the others. He also apprised of the planning at the central level of MQM USA for MQM USA in coming years.

This session was followed by **lunch and tea break**.

Political Viewpoint Session:

The lunch and tea break was followed by a discussion session over different contemporary hot political issues. The session was termed as "Political Viewpoint Session. The teams were made and the topics for the discussion were provided before the Wings' Briefing Session. The topics provided were "NRO", Provincial Autonomy", "Municipal System" and "MQM for All, but how to make the call".

The team headed by Tim Siddiqui from Portland Oregon won the contest.

Final Words:

The Political Viewpoint session was followed by the address of Patron-in-Chief of MQM North America Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui. The address of the Patron-in-Chief included detailed deliberation over the philosophy of MQM and the role of MQM workers from that perspective. He also insisted on the workers of MQM USA to be a role model for the general public and said that each and every worker of MQM is also an ambassador of MQM for the general public.

Detroit: The venue of the next Semi-Annual Convention:

At the end of the session 1 of Day 2 the Detroit was announced to be the venue for the 8th. Semi-Annual Convention of MQM USA.

Day 2 Session 2 (Public Gathering):

The session 2 of the Day 2, the final session on the evening of Saturday was the Public Gathering Session which was attended by the participants of the convention as well as people from all walks of life in the Pakistani community from New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Philadelphia, and other adjacent areas of northeast of USA. The session was opened and conducted by the two Joint Central Organizers of MQM USA Nadeem Siddiqui and Junaid Fahmi. The session started from recitation of Holy Quran. After the recitation the members of the Central Organizing Committee of MQM USA and the head of the Political Action Committee were called upon the stage to honor and endorse the efforts of the host unit in organizing the event. The host chapter was invited on the stage with the introduction of the team members and was awarded shield do appreciation. After the award and certification ceremony the Incharge Women Wing and member of the Central Organizing Committee MQM USA Khalida Shuja was invited for the address in which she elaborated on the role of women ion MQM and its struggle. After the Incharge Women Wing, Prof Saqlain Malik, a well-known educationist from New York addressed the participant. The Central Organizer MQM USA Kamal Zafar was the next to address the evening. After the Central Organizer, Patron MQM USA Ibad Rehman addressed the evening. The patron-in-Chief Dr. Khalid Maqbool Siddiqui was the last to address the congregation which was followed by dinner.

Musical Evening:

The dinner was followed by a light musical evening arranged by host chapter in which was anchored by the member Central Organizing Committee MQM USA Mehfooz Hydari whose jokes made the guests laugh non-stop for the rest of the evening. In the light music member Youth Wing MQM New York Usman Khan entertained the gathering with film songs with music. The evening ended close to midnight.