



Prime University

Newsletter

Vol: 5, Issue: 1, Spring-2011

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Professor P.C. Sarker Joins as Vice Chancellor

Professor Profulla Chandra Sarker, Ph.D. joined as Vice Chancellor (designate) at Prime University on April 15, 2011. Dr. Sarker did his B.A. (Hons) and M.A. in Social Work in 1971 and 1972 respectively from



Professor P.C. Sarker
Vice Chancellor

the Department of Social Work and M Phil in Anthropology in 1977 from the Institute of Bangladesh Studies, University of Rajshahi. He obtained his Ph. D. degree in Anthropology, Center for Advance Study from Ranchi University in 1988. He was an ICSSR scholar, New Delhi. Professor Sarker started his professional career at Rajshahi University since 1974. He was Chairman of the Department of Social Work in 1991-93. He supervised 16 Ph. D and 5 M. Phil dissertations in the disciplines of Anthropology, Sociology, Social Work, Welfare Economics and Development Studies. He also examined Ph .D dissertations of different universities of Bangladesh, India and Canada. After 28 years of teaching in Rajshahi University, Professor Sarker joined as a Professor of Social Work and Social Administration in Hong Kong Baptist University-Beijing Normal University, United International College in China. He was Director of the Institute for Cross Culture Studies and Chairperson of Inter-faculty Research Committee. He was also the Dean of Faculty of Social Science and Humanities of the same university till 2009. After coming back home he joined as Senior Policy Advisor of National Food Security and Nutrition Surveillance Project funded by European Commission to Bangladesh and adjunct Professor of BRAC University in 2009.

Professor Sarker is the author and co-author of seven books published in Bangladesh, India, Singapore and Canada. He is editor of three journals

and member of the editorial boards of five international journals. He has more than one hundred articles published in different professional journals across the globe to his credit. In 1998, he served as a member of the Curriculum Board in the Regional Centre for Social Development, La Trobe

University in Melbourne, Australia. At the same time he was organiser of the 14th International Congress of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences in Virginia, USA. Dr. Sarker was a member of the International Scientific Committee of the seminar on Health, Mental Health and Social Work which was held in Melbourne, Australia in 1999 and Tempere, Finland in 2001. He was a member of International Scientific Committee of 3rd International Conference on Anthropology and the History of Health and Disease in 2002 at Genova, Italy. He visited 23 countries across the world at different times to perform his academic responsibilities.

Participation in International Conference

Dr. Profulla C. Sarker, Professor and Vice Chancellor, Prime University, Dhaka participated in the International conference on the Sundarbans Pavilion which was organized by WWF-India along with Institute for Science Education and Research, Kolkata on April 13-14, 2011. The main objective of this pavilion was to create opportunities for enhancement of sharing of information related to biodiversity, geomorphology, climate, freshwater flows and social dynamics that can inform sustainable development and conservation initiatives in the Sundarbans eco-region on both sides of Bangladesh and India.

Professor Sarker highlighted in his speech about the social dynamic

issues related to the effects of natural calamities and climate change at the Sundarban region. He expressed in his speech that the population migration from the Sundarbans to main land is a continuous process due to river bank erosion, cyclones, storms, salinity, droughts and so on. Consequently, the traditional joint family system is declining and the tendency to form nuclear family is increasing among the young generation due to migration and individualism. The migrated people, especially the young girls, are being victims of trafficking with false hope of employment and marriage without dowry and many of them are being involved in sex trade and as a result the probability of HIV/AIDS is increasing.

Professor Sarker has mentioned in his speech that the young children are being deprived of education and they become the child labor. The children of the Sundarbans have no scope of education and they help their parents' occupation to supplement the family income from their early childhood. Moreover, many of the children are working as hired labor in different shops, restaurants and hotels. Due to the alienation from kinship tie, the parents-child relationship is widening which is putting the parents and the children in different worlds. Sundarbans Pavilion is a platform to take appropriate policy and future plan of action for the protection of the Sundarbans and the inhabitants to make equilibrium of man-plant network relationship involving the experts of both sides of the international border.

Orientation of Spring Semester-2011

Prime University arranges orientation program in the beginning of every new semester with a view to introducing newly admitted students with the existing ones, faculty members, executives and staffs, that is, with the total atmosphere of the university. This programme opens a comfortable door for the new comer

students. On this day, they visit their own department, meet their teachers, get introduced with library and laboratory facilities and feel confident to achieve their goal. An orientation program for the newly admitted students of Spring Semester-2011 was held in the Prime University premises on 3rd February, 2011. The program was chaired by the then Vice Chancellor (In charge) of the University Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen. Honourable Chairman of the Prime Foundation and Board of Trustees, Prime University Mr. Sajjatz Jumma graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The Secretary General of Prime Foundation Mr. Mir Shahabuddin, Dean of the Faculty of Engineering and IT, Professor Dr.

Abdul Mannan Sardar, Registrar of the University Professor Mohammad Arshad Ali, Chairmen of all departments and respected teachers from Dhaka and Rajshahi Universities along with many distinguished personalities were present on the occasion. Almost one thousand students including seven hundred new comers were present in the occasion.

On this occasion certificates were distributed by the Chief Guest Mr. Sajjatz Jumma among the students who have successfully completed English Language Course from Language School of Prime University.



Mr. Sajjatz Jumma, Chairman, Board of Trustees and Chief Guest addressing the Freshers of 26th batch.

Prime University Qualifies in Quarter Final of Cambrian University Campus Parliament Debate 2011

Debate creates unique opportunity to make the students prepare themselves as future leaders of the nation. The students enrich themselves with knowledge of various fields and can present them nicely. The Prime University Debating Club is committed to prepare the students with these spirits and they are now achieving success.

Prime University Debate team started getting regular success in National Debate Competition. They have taken position among the best eight in Cambrian University Campus Parliament Debate 2011 organized by



The team receiving winning awards from Tazul Islam MP, Member, Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Finance

ATN Bangla, defeating Green University in the second round. They have shown their expertise and dominated the debate session on the topic "ক্ষুদ্রঋণ দারিদ্র বিমোচনের সমাধান নয়"। They represented the government side and finished their role with victory. The team is now looking forward to facing quarter final round.

Teachers' Training Certificate Awarded

Teacher education refers to the policies and procedures designed to equip prospective as well as working teachers with the knowledge, attitudes, behaviour and skills they require to perform their tasks effectively in the classroom.

Centre for Research, HRD and Publications of Prime University arranges Teachers' Training Program which aims to provide a pathway for teachers to enter their mainline teaching profession at the higher level. Recently a colourful program was arranged in the University campus to award certificates to the successful trainees of the 4th Teachers' Training Program. A number of twenty two lecturers were enlisted for training in this program



Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen giving certificate to a successful trainee teacher

among whom fifteen successfully completed it. The then Vice Chancellor (In-Charge) Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen handed over the certificates to successful trainees. Mr. Sazzad Hossain Zahid, Co-ordinator of the Program was presented a gift for his cordial contribution in the whole session. Professor Mohammad Arshad Ali, Registrar of the University and Professor Azizur Rahman Chowdhury, Chairman, Department of Law were also present to grace the occasion.

Language School Awards Certificates

Certificate bears a testimony of one's success. It also adds value to a person's academic and professional profile. Language School of Prime University provides certificates to the successful learners so that they get a recognition and can add to their credentials.

Language School of Prime University has been continuing its march with utmost sincerity and dedication, and it vows to continue in future ensuring excellence. The School awarded certificates to the successful learners of the 5th and 6th batches on the Freshers' Reception Day, 03-02-2011 with presence of Mr. Sajjatuz Jumma, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Mr. Mir Shahabuddin, Member Secretary, Board of Trustees, Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen, the then Vice Chancellor (In charge) and Professor Mohammad Arshad Ali, Chairman, Department of English as well as Registrar of Prime University. Students received certificates from

Mr. Sajjatuz Jumma, Chairman, Board of Trustees, Mr. Shahabuddin, Member Secretary and Professor Mohammad Arshad Ali, Registrar. The Co-ordinator played the role of anchor of this session of awarding certificates. Having received the certificates, the learners looked very motivated. The dignitaries on the stage opined that the knowledge and skills that they acquired from the language course would be helpful to face the challenges lying ahead.

The authority expressed their satisfaction at the effective running of the Language School.

Inauguration of a New Batch of Language School

Among the languages of the modern world, English receives maximum priority. In every domain of international affairs, English works like the heart. Lack of the skill of English limits one to his/her national territory, and even creates more boundaries in different sectors within the boundaries of his native land. Taking this into consideration Prime University runs English Language Course to the new batches of students through Language School.

Language School inaugurated the classes of the 9th batch of English Language Course. Now the classes of both the 8th and 9th batches are continuing very effectively. The inauguration ceremony was chaired by Professor Mohammad Arshad Ali, Chairman of the Department of English. The then Vice Chancellor (In charge) Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen adorned the chair of the chief guest with the presence of the Chairmen of all the departments, Deans and the instructors of the Language School. Students were given instructive advice by Professor Mohammad Arshad Ali and the chief guest Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen. The Deans and the instructors delivered their speech explaining the need of English in the current world perspective. The programme was anchored by Jean Sarker, a student of the 7th batch of Language School.



A view of the inaugural session of the 9th batch of Language School

Observance of Martyrs' Day and International Mother Language Day-2011

No other nation in the world sacrificed their lives for upholding the honour of the mother language. This history is a unique one for the Bangladeshi people. Their sacrifice against an autocratic government had far reaching effect. The 21st February became



Mr. Mir Shahabuddin and Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen along with others on way to the "Shahid Minar".

a symbol and attained mythic proportion. It contributed significantly to the flowering of Bangalee nationalism. It led to the dawning of the realization in the minds of the Bangalees that any struggle for rightful cause never goes in vain, giving them the impetus that continued to inspire in the days to come ultimately leading to the achievement of independence in 1971 after a colossal bloodbath. Thus the language movement of 1952 became the symbol of solidarity and sacrifice. It also became recognized internationally as the International Mother Language Day. In association with all other international communities, Prime

University also upholds the greatest sacrifice of the martyrs.

With utmost enthusiasm and deepest feeling the students, teachers and staff paid their homage to the language martyrs and placed floral wreaths at the Shahid Minar. Early in the morning they gathered at the university premises and started for the Shahid Minar under the leadership of the then Vice Chancellor (In-Charge) Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen and Member Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the University Mr. Mir Shahabuddin. They took the oath to uphold the honour of their mother tongue.

Paying Homage to the National Heroes



Dr. Profulla C. Sarker, Vice Chancellor along with others are seen placing floral wreath at Savar National Mausoleum.

Independence and National Day is the country's biggest festival. Ceremonies honoring Bangalees who died in the country's creation add a somber note. Prime University solemnly remembers those people who gave up their lives to shape our beloved Bangladesh. Every year on the 26th March Prime University arranges a colourful program to celebrate the day. This year as in any other year students, teachers, executives and staff of the University under the leadership of Vice

Chancellor (In-Charge) & Professor Dr. Profulla C. Sarker went to the Savar National Memorial and placed floral wreaths. They paid their homage to the martyrs and valiant fighters who are the heroes of our nation.

Eid-e-Miladunnabi Observed

The holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi is observed all over the Muslim world with religious fervour and due solemnity. As elsewhere in the Muslim world and the country, Prime University also observed the holy Eid-e-Miladunnabi marking the birth and demise of the Prophet Hazrat Muhammad (SM) with due reverence and religious fervour. On this day, the 12th of Rabiul Awal of the Hijri calendar, Prophet Muhammad (SM)

was born with divine blessings and messages of peace for mankind. He also passes away on the same day. In celebration of the holy day, a 'milad mahfil' was arranged in the University premises. The spiritual, political and socio economic aspects of the Prophet's life were highlighted in the 'mahfil'. Along with the others Mr. M. Moniruzzaman, Senior Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees, Mr. Md. Ashraf Ali, Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees, Mr. Mir Shahabuddin, Secretary General Board of Trustees, Professor Mohammad Arshad Ali, Registrar of the University were present in the milad mahfil.

At the end of the milad everybody sought divine blessings for peace in social and individual lives and in Muslim brotherhood. They also prayed for the progress of the country as well as the University.



A view of the Milad Mahfil.

PU Celebrates Saraswati Puja-2011

Hindus regard Vasant Panchami as the birthday of Goddess Saraswati. 'Vasant' comes from the word 'spring' as this festival heralds the beginning of springtime, and 'Panchami' from the 5th day of the bright fortnight of the lunar month of Magha, when it is observed.

Saraswati Puja Organizing Sub-Committee of Prime University organized Saraswati Puja on the ground floor, of the university premises on February 08, 2011. PU performs this Puja every year with great fervour.

It is a festival celebrated by the youth, particularly students who invoke the blessings of the goddess for success in learning. It was really a day of auspicious celebration.

Faculty members, officers, executives and students of all departments of PU were present on this occasion to grace a n c t i m o n i o u s celebration.

Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen, the then Vice-Chancellor (In-charge), Registrar, Deans of all faculties and Chairmen of all departments attended the function. Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen said Devi Saraswati is the symbol of light of knowledge, justice and truth and education. Above 500



Students are seen at the Puja mondop with Devi Saraswati

students participated, and got involved in various activities including Puja preparations, proshad (Bengali delicacies like Khichuri, Labra and Payesh) distributions, making sweet dishes as well as prolonged "adda".

Pitha Festival 2011 at Prime University

Pitha is part of life and culture of the Bengali people. The pitha season in Bangladesh starts in late Autumn, when farmers harvest paddy from the field. Many kinds of pithas are made in Bangladesh. These are not part of the daily menu. They are served on special occasion such as receiving

floor of the university premises on February 25, 2011. Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen, the then Vice Chancellor (In charge), Mr. M. Moniruzzaman, Sr. Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees, Mr. Md. Ashraf Ali, Vice Chairman, Board of Trustees, Mr. Mir Shahabuddin,

bridegrooms or brides, entertaining guests, and arranging special get together of family members, relatives or friends. Sometimes children or senior



Students are seen in a stall with various "Pithas"

members of the family especially ask for pithas and accordingly, mothers or grandmothers make them. In some cases, neighbouring families jointly make pithas and use the occasion for chatting and having lunch or dinner together. Now-a-days, however, cakes, pastry and other food items sold commercially are gradually replacing traditional homemade pithas, especially in urban areas. But pithas still continue to attract many, even in urban areas. Many specialized shops sell costly pithas and small vendors in street corners also make their living by selling cheap pithas.

Member Secretary, Board of Trustees, Registrar and Deans of all faculties and Chairmen of all departments were present at the opening ceremony at 10:00 am.

There were thirteen stalls participated in this festival who offered different kinds of traditional Bangladeshi pithas of at least one hundred varieties. Faculty members, officers, executives and students participated in this grand festival.

The artistic presentation and spontaneous participation of the students in this festival turned the whole arena into a rendezvous of vivacity and virtuosity. In this festival, among the thirteen stalls three best entries were awarded by a Panel of Judges.

Freshers' Reception and Pahela Falgun Observed

The significance of Pohela Falgun is very singular in our national life which represents unique Bengali culture and heritage. It represents our national solidarity. The way we celebrate Pohela Boishakh and Pohela Falgun in Bangladesh these days started to flourish after the arousal of Bengali Nationalism in 1950s and 1960s. The enthusiastic and spontaneous observance of this programme displays our strong nationalism. After the Language Movement the people of East Pakistan started to celebrate festivals which were related to the Bengali culture silently defying the anti-Bengali attitude of the then Pakistan Government.

The name Falgun came from the star Falguni. The reason behind the naming after stars is that in the Vedic Age (1500 BC) the Rishis (ancient Indian scholars) had an obsession with astrology and the stars. Though they used to follow the solar year the mention of Falguni (spring) full moon in Vedic Literature suggests that lunar months were also calculated. Probably the traditional inclination of the rishis to the moon and stars led to the naming of the Falgun. Prime University observes Pahela Boishakh to keep the tradition alive in student's mind.

The Department of English observed Freshers' reception of its 26th batch and Pahela Falgun in a grand and festive mood. The students and the teachers gathered on the spot with gorgeous attire like 'bashanti' coloured sari, ornaments and flowers. They received the freshers with flowers. In the discussion session the Chairman of the department Professor Mohammad Arshad Ali welcomed all to this great occasion. In their speech Mr. Sazzad Hossain Zahid, Assistant Professor, and Mr. Md. Tanvir Kaiser, Senior Lecturer thanked the participants and the volunteers.

The then Vice Chancellor (In charge) Professor Mesbah-us-Saleheen greeted the presence with his encouraging speech



Students seen in a festive mood on 'Pahela Falgun', the 1st day of Spring

The programme was followed by different songs, drama, dance and fashion show that represent Bengali culture and heritage in which the students were the participants. The whole department wore a festive look to celebrate the occasion.

Excursion 2011 of the Department of English

The activities of any educational institution are determined by its various functions and excursion is one of them. By it the



Every where cheers and festivity in the picnic, Department of English

institution is enabled to acquaint students with the various places thus making them intelligent. The excursion furnishes unsurpassed opportunities for initiative, cooperation and judging of relative values.

The annual one day excursion of the Department of English took place on 2nd April, 2011. As a part of their learning of Different community and culture, the Department of English selected Kaliakair Adventist Missionary Institution for their 2011 excursion. All the students and faculty members gracefully participated in the occasion.

The students were keen to gather the new knowledge that they were disseminated with. There were cricket, wandering, cultural programme, wit and courtesy of the students and teachers who made the excursion a success.

Picnic of the Department of Law

Every winter Prime University arranges pleasure trips for which everybody eagerly waits for the whole year. This year students and faculties of different departments separately organized picnics which were wonderfully enjoyable for everybody.

The Department of Law arranged the picnic on the 1st March, 2011 at Sonargaon, Narayanganj. In this trip faculty members, students, executives and staffs of the department enjoyed together the whole journey with the fascinating beauty of nature far from the maddening crowd. The students and teachers participated in various games, cultural program, lottery and many more. Prizes were distributed among the winners. They visited the museum of Sonargaon and enjoyed the beauty of Panam Nagar. They also enjoyed the delicious breakfast, grand lunch and evening snacks at the picnic together.

Everything was really exciting and interesting. This picnic builds the relationship among faculty members, students, executives and staff stronger and remains memorable for all.



Faculty Members & Students are seen enjoying at the picnic spot

RAG DAY of the 16th batch: Bubble at the Campus

It was the 10th May, 2011 a day of thrill, merry-making and great fiesta to the 16th batch students of BBA program of the Department of Business Administration of Prime University since the day was observed as the RAG DAY-2011. The celebration started at 8:00 am with fanfare, sporadic color throwing among the outgoing students.

At 10:30 am the students of the 16th batch with the teachers of the department brought out a colorful procession wearing T-shirts, holding festoons and banner that read, "Future Leaders are here to Usher in a New Beginning". They rallied from the campus to the Bangla College Gate, Mirpur-1 and back.

The vibrant procession was inaugurated by the Vice Chancellor, Professor Dr. P.C. Sarker of the university. The program of the day also incorporated a delicious luncheon, a charming cultural evening that entertained the students with dance, drama, fashion show and many more. The lively ceremony ended with a fantastic raffle draw at 8:00 PM. In a word, the whole campus was full of joy of spring on the occasion, RAG DAY-2011.



From right to left: Vice Chancellor Dr. Profulla C. Sarker addressing the students on Rag day, students brought out a procession led by the Chairman of the department and a girl dancing at the cultural program held on this occasion.