



Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan:
The Pioneer of Non-Government
Universities in Bangladesh _____

6th Death Anniversary

MEMORABILIA

ON LIFE AND CONTRIBUTION

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Dr M Alimullah Miyan

The Pioneer of Management Consultancy in Bangladesh

Prof Dr Abdur Rab
Vice-Chancellor, IUBAT

Having enough financial, physical and human resources is not a guarantee that an organization will be successful. Management system, managerial skill and leadership are sine-qua-non for success of an organization.

Before Bangladesh was liberated by the freedom fighters from the repressive colonial rule of Pakistan, most of the business firms in the East Pakistan were owned by the West Pakistani industrialists and businessmen. These were nationalized by the Government of Bangladesh in 1972. The absence of the owners created a vacuum of leadership and management, and whatever few business firms and industries Bangladeshis owned also lacked good management system and leadership. There were serious dearth of competent managers. These organizations to be profitable and viable, needed effective management system and training of their managerial manpower.

Unfortunately, there was no management consultants or management consulting firm at that time. Dr M Alimullah Miyan was working as a faculty member of Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Dhaka University. He realized that the organizations needed management consultants. So he took the initiative to set up a management consulting firm. He invited Mr Hafiz G. A. Siddiqui-his IBA colleague, Mr Habibullah Khan an industrialist and Mr Musharrof Hossain, a former employee

He realized that the organizations needed management consultants. So he took the initiative to set up a management consulting firm.



The author Dr. Rab with Dr. Miyan

of Karacli based management consultancy firm, and registered a private limited company under the name Bagboshapana Sangsad Limited (BSL). It set up its office in Hadi Mansion (besides Hotel Purbani) in Motijheel Commercial Area. He invited a few IBA faculty members and other professionals to work as consultants. Their involvement was on Project basis, so that they would be working part time in consultancy assignment for a company.

The concept of management consultancy was new to the business organizations and they would not realize the importance or value of consultancy services. So, they have to be educated and informed about the nature and importance of management consultancy. They have to be convinced in their need for professionals who would be showing better ways to improve performance of the organization by achieving efficiency and effectiveness. They would be told how a market survey can help them identify target customers and design marketing strategy to increase sales. They have to be explained how organization structuring can help reduce manpower need, make employees accountable and establish effective working relationship among the colleagues and subordinates and with the superior so that they are more productive. They would be told how cost control can reduce expenses and increase profit.

It would be shown how to train and develop, employees, so that they become more efficient and effective and provide better quality service.

So, Dr Miyan launched an information, education and motivation campaign among the business firms and industries. This helped many organization leaders to understand the importance of management consultancy. Gradually he started receiving consultancy projects on market survey, organization restructuring, cost control, training and development of

He hired university students or fresh graduates for data collection and processing, and trained them in these works.

employees and so on. He hired university students or fresh graduates for data collection and processing, and trained them in these works. The training and work experience helped them to find jobs later on. He also recruited university teachers and trained them in consultancy. Thus,

he contributed immensely to the development of manpower for management consultancy and promoted the profession or management consulting. The business firms which received consultancy services benefitted immensely in terms of more effective management, cost cutting and higher profit. Today there are a number of management consultancy firms in Bangladesh and many of which are led by IBA students of Dr Miyan. There is also an Institute of Management Consultants of Bangladesh (IMCB) which is recognized by International Institute of Management Consultants. Dr Miyan and Bangladesh Services Ltd (BSL) showed the pathway to management consultancy as a profession and business in Bangladesh. This is why Dr M. Alimullah Miyan remains the Pioneer.

Dr. Alimuyllah Miyan – his legacy lives on

Alex Berland

On my initial visit to Bangladesh in February 2004, my first impression is from the plane – where is Dhaka? The pollution is so thick that nothing is visible! On the drive from the airport to Dr. Miyan’s house, I learn quickly that the horn is more important than the brake. We seem to pass more pedestrians in this one short trip than live in all Vancouver.

Over the following week, Dr Miyan and I have many serious conversations. He tells me about his original decision to create a private university: “I decided that I had to change the framework, the values, by showing another way to do things. It is like a drama at the theatre where you change the scenery.” After several years of his lobbying, government approved legislation for creation of private universities. Although IUBAT was the first to receive its charter, today there are many institutes, just as he imagined. The timing of my visit is fortunate: the Bangladesh Nursing Council has just approved the IUBAT baccalaureate program in nursing. There is a big audience for my lecture on “Trends in Canadian Nursing” at IUBAT’s Dhanmondi campus.

I also learn about the hartal. On this day, instead of going to the university, we walk around Uttara. Dr. Miyan shows me the mosque that his neighbourhood association is building.



Later we discuss the strategy for building the BScN program. He is determined to make the program a model for an open society – accessible to men and women of all backgrounds – so he proposes an education bank to help finance students from poor families. He wants to change physician attitudes and create greater respect for the status of nursing because the only way to build the profession is by attracting stronger candidates.

We discuss his concept for improving health services. He has already partnered with Rotary International to develop a Primary Health Care project in nearby Gazipur. A Community Health Worker has been hired, public latrines built, and a water system is under development. We talk about ways to develop

His belief in independent models for public services had inspired me and I decided that I wanted to help this development

this service. How can we link to other health promoting initiatives in the district? Should the next focus be on school-based health programs? How could we measure the impact on health outcomes?

Later in the week, we visit Dhaka University School of Nursing. The nursing students are packed into a lecture hall to meet this alien from Canada. I make a short speech congratulating them on their hard work, suggesting that they must always be learning about the latest scientific developments, reminding them that patients must always come first. Alimullah is especially impressed that I urge them to consider their patients as if they were members of their own family, their grandparents or young siblings – “I have never heard anyone say anything like

that. If only they actually followed your advice, this would revolutionize our hospitals.”

I left Bangladesh after this short visit, determined to return. My final thoughts were that I had seen many hard-working people and received such an open, positive welcome – I felt motivated to help address the obvious problems. There had been much discussion about the barriers to progress, the many challenges. I realized that the silver lining of this dark cloud is the passionate commitment of individuals like Dr. Alimullah Miyan, determined to make the country better. His belief in independent models for public services had inspired me and I decided that I wanted to help this development. That was 2004. In March 2022 I watched online as an IUBAT BScN alumna in Iowa USA defended her thesis to become a Doctor of Nursing Practice. The Miyan legacy lives on.



PROF DR M. ALIMULLAH MIYAN - MESMERIZING AURA

Prof. Dr. Srilekha Saha & Prof. Dr. Soumendra Saha



The name Alimullah as far as we could know, resembles the conception of an individual endlessly dedicated and tirelessly committed to becoming Omniscient. Prof. Dr M. Alimullah Miyan, our respected treasure, was known to us for his commendable enthusiasm and passion for comprehending information from diverse spheres of knowledge.

We met him for the first time in July 2001, while he was addressing a heterogeneous congregation of academicians and people from business communities regarding the concept of “Service Above Self” (The Immortal Motto of Rotary International). Since then, we kept on meeting him almost every weekend, and we used to miss him on the weekdays. That’s why, we started to recognize him as Multidimensionally personified man of immense knowledge, sense of humour, astuteness and yet passionate and very romantic individual.

In October 2001, he with his friends and colleagues visited our equipped laboratory in the Dept. of Sport Psychology and Psychobiology. While observing a wide range of most updated equipment and gazettes, he got astonished and urged to get himself evaluated on each of the parameters, which were specific for elite-level athletes and sports performers. His keen interest to know about each of the parameters and his

utmost desire to know his limitations was fascinating. He kept on trying relentlessly to improve his score, but he continued to miss the targets. He continued to comment on his failures in uncountable ways, which were hilarious (every moment used some Dhakai Kutty remarks, using his memorable voice modulations). Once, he planned on having a competition between himself and our Respected Selina Madam (Respected Treasurer and Director Admin. IUBAT) on the ability to regulate autonomic indices of stress and anxiety (judged by Skin Conductance and Heart-Rate Biofeedback monitoring systems). Finally, while with repeated attempts, Selina Madam could not beat Prof. Dr Miyan, he passed one witty comment “HRIDAY-HINAAA....”.

We have countless moments of enjoyment to cherish and keep on talking about those. But his interest in music, particularly of old Bengali songs, was amazing. We frequently used to meet and used to spend hours of musical evenings. He continuously encouraged us to sing some of the songs from the Golden Era of Bengali songs, and he used to clap in joy. Those were the childish flavours of enjoyment. As he did not have competence in musical tunes and rhythms, often, his clapping used to be mismatching, and we used to stop him forcibly. Sometimes he used to behave like the most obedient child and used to stop clapping. But he mostly used to play naughty games with us, and intermittently he used to disturb and distract us hilariously from singing.

He used to take care of us, like most favoured and lovable brothers and sisters, and he used to cook foods and served us those on his own. We cannot stop talking about him, but behind his authoritarian and tough administrative personality, he used to keep his Deep Sense of Romanticism, carefully hidden. One



Professor Dr M Alimullah Miyan A Multifaceted Dimensional Man

Professor Md. Lutfar Rahman
Registrar, IUBAT

Rotary Club of Greater Dhaka distributed Eid gifts to slum children at a ceremony at IUBAT on the last day of Ramadan. Hundreds of slum children thronged IUBAT to collect the gifts from Prof Dr. Abdur Rab, ViceChancellor in presence of members of the Rotary Club of Greater Dhaka and retired high officials including former diplomats who were associated with Professor Dr Miyan. This practice of the distribution of new attire to slum children on the eve of Eid -ul-Fitr was continued since Dr Miyan was alive at the premises of his own IUBAT campus. He used to distribute clothes to the children with his own hands most religiously every year during this time. He took the utmost care of every child wearing cloth with proper measurement. The distribution of Eid gifts over, speakers at today's ceremony spoke very high about Professor Dr Miyan about his multifaceted, extraordinary, and astounding contribution to the society apart from his establishing IUBAT—a non-government university for the first time in Bangladesh. The speakers observed that there was hardly any sector left in the country where there was no evidence of the contribution of innovativeness of Dr Miyan. When the undersigned was his student at IBA in the early seventies, that time in a marketing class he informed us that he would do research on the effective marketing of mangoes of Chapai Nawabganj being the

This practice of the distribution of new attire to slum children on the eve of Eid -ul-Fitr was continued since Dr Miyan was alive at the premises of his own IUBAT campus.

of his most preferred songs was “Mayurkanthi Rater Niley, Akashe Tarader Oi Michhiley”. No matter whatever we sang, this song used to be one Chorus performance. Once I asked, why do you like this song so much. With an eternal sense of romance, he replied, “Monero Alo-i Chine Nebo Path, Tumi Bharosha Diley”.

Our known Prof. Dr Alimullah Miyan was like this. Always passionate about learning. We met him last time in 2015. He was always keen on transforming his students, whom he used to protect and took infinite care. He asked us, about ways to develop them as bright, brilliant, knowledgeable, professional, yet determined, confident, physically well-built and culturally well-versed, eloquently personified individuals. Who would change the entire scenario in Bangladesh. The outcome of that last discussion that we had with him, is the Modern Living (ART - 204) Course. We know we have his guidance and inspiration with us by the side. Together we are Serving Above the Self, and we pledge to continue like that.

product was highly perishable. When I joined IUBAT in 2008 as a Faculty of Business, during the interview, I came to know from him that he worked for the Pakistan Tea Board to enhance the marketing of our tea globally. Being a tea professional in the Bangladesh regime for more than 30 years, I felt all my knowledge about the tea industry was very little in comparison to Dr Miyan in regard to tea. After joining IUBAT as a Business Faculty, I was assigned for 2/3 years to write Expression of Interest (EOI) and Request for Proposals (RFP) in response to advertisements from various public, private, government, USAID and UN agencies and to submit those proposals in time. The submission of EOI, RFP ranges from work on beautification of Airport Road, marketing products of Ciba Geigy, supply of equipment to Power Plants, training and development of government employees and officers, a baseline survey of tribes at Hill districts, women empowerment and various other matters. Apart from those he used to encourage and stimulate our faculty members to attend seminars at home and abroad granting necessary leave to attend. I myself attended seminars in New Delhi and Nepal at his inspiration on two occasions and found Dr Miyan was a widely respected scholar everywhere whether it was in Delhi or Kathmandu. Delegates from Sri Lanka, Pakistan and other SAARC countries equally knew him as a stalwart of AMDISA and asked about his well beings. A teacher of international repute at the Institute of Business Administration (IBA) Dr Miyan hold the position of Director, IBA which he could continue for many years. But he opted to leave the Dhaka University professorship and started the movement of establishing a private university in order to introduce BBA there to educate businesses more intensively.

The dilly-dallies attitude of the government allowing the establishment of private universities could not deter him to abandon his movement for a private university. Rather he was successful in his mission to establish the first private university in Bangladesh with the government's permission. The introduction of BATHM course at IUBAT registers first of its kind in Bangladesh just to be followed introduction of the same course at Dhaka University. One of the best skills he possessed is his ability to read reports and news columns at whatever size or pages within a remarkably very short time.

“Dr Miyan, The Proponent”

Saiyeda Asea Asha
Lecturer of Psychology, IUBAT

The path was never easy,
The dream was larger than a mountain,
He was never lazy,
His vision derived like a fountain.

A man, the pioneer of novelty,
We heard, that he was a man of dignity.
Dr Miyan was a person full of virtue,
His belief in progression was very true,

The lane he traveled,
Had ever been followed,
The conviction he made,
Had never been swallowed.

He will be here- among us; for the hope he gave,
He will be in our hearts- forever; with the dream, he spread.

Professor Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan The Name of a Remarkable Educationist

Dr. Md. Momtazur Rahman

Department of Languages, College of Arts and Sciences, IUBAT

I like to pen Prof Dr Miyan's quality and talent in the following prose-poetic rhyming lines:

Prof. Dr Miyan was a person of strong personality and disciplines;

It is very difficult for me to characterize him in some lines.

He was the vanguard to establish non-government universities;

He too contributed to welfare and charities.

He wanted to produce one graduate from each village;

It was the brainchild based on his knowledge.

He envisioned his dream;

He wanted to materialize it in a sunbeam.

He loved to work hard with passion;

He tried to solve all troubles with caution.

To begin with, I would like to pinpoint his oratory capability. To me he was the real public speaker. His reasoning and logical explanation on any subject matter could captivate the audiences in any small discussions/meetings or any informal discussions. Public speaking skill is an art that characterizes a person to the audience. As an observer and audience member at IUBAT, I learned about his ability to improvise a summary of any topic presented at Seminars and conferences. In any meeting, he used to speak on any topic for hours. Naturally, he possessed the fascinating ability to speak at any university program. It's true that not every speaker has the ability to captivate audiences. He used to enjoy speaking. He never hesitated to speak on any topic. In fact, he had an incredible capability to use contemporary words.

In addition to his public speaking skills, he was versed in writing any texts (short/long texts). He shared an experience in a meeting. He was the General Secretary of the Association of Private Universities. In a meeting organized the association, there was a discussion of a resolution. The members would request him to write the draft. He stated that nobody wanted to write up drafts. All the writing responsibilities only went to Dr Miyan and he accomplished to write up all drafts as he asserted. I noticed him writing down notes from any discussions.

Prof. Dr. Miyan was a well-known academic and an apt researcher from a scholarly standpoint. Since 1968, he had been a professor of marketing at Dhaka University's Institute of Business Administration (IBA). He was a pioneer in introducing the concept of Social Marketing and a course on it to Bangladesh, and he was involved in the formation of the Social Marketing Corporation (SMC). He wrote widely on a variety of topics, including marketing and other business and management topics, statistics, climate change, sustainability, disaster management, family planning, and education. He was a lead author of the IPCC's Special Report on Extreme Events and Climate Change, published in Geneva, Switzerland. Last but not the least; I would like to conclude up that he had to experience numerous hurdles to ladder the success. He was born in Comilla in 1942 and breathed his last on May, 10, 2017. We lost such an improvising and stupendous academic. I pray to the Almighty Allah to grant him in the Paradise.

He never hesitated to speak on any topic. In fact, he had an incredible capability to use contemporary words.

The Pioneer of Non-Government Universities in South Asia – Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan

Mozaffar A Chowdhury
Assoc. Professor, CBA, IUBAT

I would like to add a few words to this 5th death anniversary of Founder Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan Sir with great respect and admiration. I first met him in an interview, and it was in 2007. At the first meeting, I felt like he was motivational, respectful, and caring to peers, and colleagues. Later, I experienced he was far more than I thought.

He had a great feeling about the development of private universities for higher education. He used to express it in many of his speeches like the first concept paper he developed for a non-government university in Bangladesh in 1989. Later he applied for permission from the Ministry of Education and got the approval. IUBAT is a proud name as the first

I worked on a textbook project titled 'Introduction to Business' where Dr. Miyan was the lead author

non-government university in the country which came because of him, not only that but there are also currently over 100 private universities in Bangladesh that accommodate 400,000 students for higher education. This has been

realized practically because of his pioneering idea. So, he is the pioneer of a non-government university in Bangladesh.

I did work with Dr. Miyan Sir for almost 8 years and had many memories and experiences that may take hours to share. I would like to recall an experience that I had with him. I worked on a textbook project titled 'Introduction to Business' where Dr. Miyan was the lead author, I was a co-author and Prof. Eric Frank was the Editor who is from the University of Bath, England. For the project purpose, I used to have

meetings with Dr. Miyan Sir mostly in the evening at his office, and sometimes it continued till 9 pm. We worked together for 5 years on the textbook project which he completed in 2015. Those 5 years were hectic days for me with many activities and excitements. It was a great opportunity for me to work with such a noble, gentle, always generous, and global educationist.

Dr. Miyan was a global educationist, a leader in higher education, and a great academician/teacher, what he did will apparently open our eyes, make us think differently, and inspire us a lot. What I believe is, that a leader can transform the community for the betterment of society and Dr. Miyan Sir is far more than that because his contribution to higher education in the non-government university transformed the whole nation.

May Allah grant him Jannat-Ul Ferdous. Ameen.

স্বপ্ন পথিক

মোঃ আতাউর রহমান

অধ্যাপক, কলেজ অব অ্যাগ্রিকালচারাল সায়েন্সেস, আইইউবিএটি

ফাগুনের ঐ পয়লা প্রহরে
ফুটেছিল লাল টুকটুকে পলাশ
কৈলাইনের এক গৃহ ভরে।

সবাইতো আসে কাঁদিতে কাঁদিতে
তুমি এসেছিলে হাসিতে হাসিতে
কী যে মধুর হাসি আপুত বদনে।

কে জানত তোমার মহিমায়
কত শত জন পাবে আলোর সন্ধান
শত শত নয় হাজারে হাজার।

ছড়িয়ে রয়েছ ভূবন জুড়ে
মানুষ তুমি স্বপ্ন ছাড়িয়ে
তোমার আশা পুরাতে অযুত বাকী।

The Indelible Memory with Dr Miyan

Mohammad Abu Horaira

Associate Professor, Tourism and Hospitality Management, IUBAT

It is quite easy for me to proclaim that every person who ever had Prof. Dr. Miyan as a teacher or as a colleague will tell that he was the absolute best and most well-liked academician there ever was in Bangladesh.

He was absolutely smart, sharp, and tough. I found I could reach out to him to talk through almost any subject. Prof. Dr. Miyan was a person of wisdom and creativity. He had a lateral and nuanced approach to problem-solving, was full of enthusiasm, and had superb communication skills.

I am fortunate to have many wonderful memories with Prof. Dr. Miyan but I will focus on just one, which is my most vivid memory of this wonderful human being and scholar was the last email he wrote to me:

These words have had more than a strong resonance in my life to this day.

I celebrate his life and the difference he made in mine. He has left an indelible stamp on who I am.

A man so noble, a man who has left his deep imprint on each and every student of his, a man who worked incessantly for the improvement of the education system of Bangladesh, is no more with us, today. But he will remain in our hearts, guiding us from his abode up in the highest Heaven.

Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan The Shepherd of Floating Dreams into Reality

Sheikh Saifullah Ahmed

Lecturer, Department of English and Modern Languages, IUBAT

When the peacock flower blooms, its flames can be seen from far away. It's believed that the Creator created the glimpse of light in the darkness. That light guides humanity to come out from the dark age. Dr Miyan is like a flame in the darkness, one of the most enlightened personalities of his time whose selfless contributions to society were multi-dimensional; but this article aims to evoke and acknowledge his contributions to higher education.

Born in 1942, Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan (1942-2017) was the founder and first Vice-Chancellor of International University of Business Agriculture and Technology. A renowned academician, educator and social reformer, a reputed philanthropist, a famed Rotarian and the only pioneering figure, Dr Miyan brought a renaissance in

He introduced the revolutionary project Knowledge Based Area Development (KBAD) intending to establish the first non-government university in Bangladesh.

education initiating and helping the government of Bangladesh to formulate the first non-government university act in 1992.

Fascinated with the peacock flower, he believed that graduates from IUBAT would be flaming in the darkness at their respective underprivileged villages. So, he introduced the revolutionary project Knowledge Based Area Development (KBAD) intending to establish the first non-government university in Bangladesh. The way Tagore's philosophy and cultural sense gave birth to the concrete embodiment of



Mohammad Abu Horaira <horaira@iubat.edu>

Thank You

Dr. M Alimullah Miyan <mian@iubat.edu> Thu, Mar 31, 2016 at 1:22 AM
To: Mohammad Abu Horaira <horaira@iubat.edu>
Cc: "Md. Rabiul Islam" <rabiul@iubat.edu>, Sanchay K Barua <sanchay@iubat.edu>

Never mind, you are blooming. No one can be sure of the exact point at which intellect attracts any one, it came to me quite late in educational career but no with a bang. I wish i could have the environment in which you are flourishing. I have the product of cynicism but had to grow for livelihood, almost being pushed to wall. So I have great faith in people although I may sound as hyper critic which is the process to a desirable output. If you really wants to grow work with me as a I want to share my expertise with the younger groups who should be more engaged.

It has been not only a great pleasure but of great learning visit to BAU. I have picked up couple of good ideas and know how to get to the rest. The VC is a perceptive man and got on very well. Gather as much information as you can on the Foundation Training that you can, we want to establish a superior institution of similar nature at IUBAT University for training our teachers and also extending faculty to all others in the country.

Have a safe journey and on your return ensure full implementation thereof concept.

[Quoted text hidden]

Dr M Alimullah Miyan

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Shantiniketan, In the same approach, Dr. Miyan philosophy brings into focus the concrete embodiment of IUBAT. He was like a goldsmith; whatever he touched with his touchstone became pure gold. The paper that he formulated for fostering the opportunity of education, irrespective of race, region, and gender serves unquestionably a landmark on the way to secure education for all and paves the way to unearth their earthed qualities. Via his relentless scuffle, he continues to labor to execute the development-oriented knowledge so that his students undergone this procedure can be benefited and can innately navigate the conduit of professionalism.

Dr. Miyan undoubtedly took a nobler attempt to minimize the geographical gap by providing candidates from each village/ward/district an opportunity to be enrolled in higher education and obtain a degree in marketable knowledge and skills. His Nationwide Association for Integrated Development (NAID) for the orphan welfare and the most outstanding scheme to

He was like a goldsmith; whatever he touched with his touchstone became pure gold.

launch Education Bank (Shikkha Bank) under the umbrella of KBAD are fairly promising. In this regard, the underprivileged students become accessible to pursue their degrees so that they can generate their underlying aptitude as the principal driving force of socio-economic evolution.

A remarkable and noble policy adopted by Dr. Miyan that I must address is the students' capability of receiving deferred payment facilities. After securing an expected profession or a business position, following the accomplishment of their

academic degrees, they can repay the borrowed money on an easier installment basis. Expounding on his philosophy of education, he believed that education's main objective should be creating enlightened and resourceful human beings. He also put great emphasis on women's education providing extra

waivers and scholarships to female students.

Due to the formulation of the above-mentioned initiatives by Dr. Miyan, the students of all categories become fit to receive

the expected degrees breaking their huge financial restraints, taking part in the 4th industrial revolution and effortlessly entering into the affluence of a modern technology-based era.

He became an institution in himself. The name of this vast, prodigious personality, who lived long enough to drench himself in the sunlight of an entire millennium, will be remembered again and again for generations. Although his life and activities are now a part of history, this nation and its people will continue to be indebted to him in many ways. His work continues to shine like a timeless gem in the archives of tertiary education in Bangladesh.

We may not be always able to fathom the depth of his philosophy. Today, IUBAT has truly lived up to his long-held dream as the institutional frontier for millions.

This philanthropist breathed his last on the 10th of May, 2017. May 10, 2022 was the 5th death anniversary of him. We mourn the sad and sudden demise of this great soul.

His work continues to shine like a timeless gem in the archives of tertiary education in Bangladesh.

My Cherished Memories with Professor Dr M Alimullah Miyan

Mohammad A. H. Badsha, PhD

Assistant Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, IUBAT

In the spring semester of 2007, I received the Academic Excellence Award — and for the first time, I had the opportunity to shake hands with Professor M Alimullah Miyan, founder and former Vice-Chancellor of IUBAT. Later, under the



banner of IUBAT Jaguars, one of the cultural clubs, I organized my solo painting exhibition in 2008. Where Dr Miyan was invited to inaugurate the ceremony and through that ceremony, I became quite familiar with him. After organizing this event, Prof Dr Md Monirul Islam, Chair of the Department of Civil Engineering, was very impressed and proud of me. Because, since I was a student in his department. So, he asked me to apply for the post of Teaching Assistant, in the Civil Department. This golden opportunity brought me closer to the university administration as well as Dr Miyan. This is how I was hired as a program assistant in the Commonwealth-funded, disaster management training program at IUBAT. Then, shortly after I graduated, I had the opportunity to join IUBAT as a teacher in the Department of Civil. Since then, I have developed an academic friendship with Dr. Miyan.

Dr Miyan was a visionary who dreamed of establishing a non-government university in Bangladesh. I was very lucky to have the opportunity to work closely with him. I still remember, in

early 2016, when IUBAT was preparing for the celebration of Silver Jubilee, Dr. Miyan gave me many responsibilities. I started working day and night under his close supervision. It was at this point in my life that I discovered a new self in me. Of course, I worked hard, but I seldom got tired. Because Dr Miyan knew that magic trick — how to inspire the people around him. He probably applied that technique to me, which is why I was slowly becoming more dynamic and active.

Without the direct intervention of Dr Miyan in my educational life, I would not be able to stand at such a height today. He gave his best for me. First, I am the first person in my family to get a bachelor's degree from a university, it has been possible because of IUBAT. Without a 100% tuition fee waiver at the time of admission, for someone like me from a grassroots family, getting a university degree might have been a dream. Later, when I needed some money to start a postgraduate degree at the Asian Institute of Technology in Thailand, IUBAT offered me a loan for higher education. It was a rare and unique opportunity — given to me for the first time in the history of IUBAT.



Moreover, when none of my closest colleagues were willing to sign my admission offer letter as a guarantor, Dr Miyan did it for me voluntarily



and without any hesitation. Can you imagine, the love and generosity of Dr Miyan towards me!

I am much indebted to IUBAT, and to Dr Miyan in particular, for his generosity — without which I would not be the ‘Dr Badsha’ as I am today. Neither I couldn’t have been a brand ambassador nor one of the iconic alumni of IUBAT. Dr Miyan’s dream of producing at least one technical graduate from every village in Bangladesh — I am a prime example of that. Not only did I graduate but I created opportunities for some of the poorest students in my village, including my cousins and nieces and nephews. All of them completed their bachelor’s



degrees from IUBAT, under the KBAD — Knowledge-Based Area Development program. Without education loans of IUBAT, such a golden opportunity would never have been offered to these destitute students. At present, all

those students in my village are working under the reputed non-governmental organizations of the country and are directly contributing to the overall economic development of Bangladesh.

The last memory that I have of Dr Miyan is the one which reminds him now and then — in the conference room of the Hotel Seagull in Cox’s Bazar, during cake cutting session for the 25th anniversary of IUBAT, he said, “When IUBAT will celebrate its Golden Jubilee, I or many like me may not survive that day, but young people like Badsha and Anika will take the lead to bring forward the university”. Everyone was surprised including me to hear that announcement from Dr Miyan. He invited the two of us, as representatives of the younger generation, to cut the cake beside him.

On the 5th death anniversary of Dr Miyan, I pray to the Almighty God for the salvation of his departed soul. Even today, I just think, if I had a second chance to get training from Dr Miyan for a few more years. Working under the leadership of such a great leader is always inspiring. Because he was a man with a very positive mindset, dynamic and well-disciplined. If you are around him, you can’t be unproductive at all.

The Memorable Interview

Syed Far Abid Hossain
Coordinator, MBA Program, CBA, IUBAT

One day I read the story of non-government university movement in Bangladesh by Prof. Dr M Alimullah Miyan. I had no idea that an academician from Dhaka University established a non-government university in Bangladesh. After I learned about his contribution, I was inspired to learn more about him and decided to visit IUBAT. In the meantime, I decided to be a University teacher. I was lucky to be finally called for an interview by Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan Sir. My interview was like easy go with questions and answers. I shared about KBAD-A Model developed by Dr. Miyan Sir and movement for establishing non-government University in

He was impressed but I did not realize that it was for IUBAT branding and contributing to IUBAT vision but not for students.

Bangladesh. He appreciated much and I was lucky enough to talk about KBAD and Non-Government university movement in Bangladesh that has a great contribution in creating knowledge-based society in Bangladesh. He asked me how shall

I contribute to the society in terms of higher educational development?. My reply was positive, to be honest, which was like take IUBAT name outside, let people know of it in my network, community and even my small village. I would be really happy and felt proud if at least one student would come at IUBAT and become a graduate. He was impressed but I did not realize that it was for IUBAT branding and contributing to IUBAT vision but not for students. Today, I remember him with pride and respect.

He shared about English language practice at IUBAT which

is a medium of instruction and first language within the IUBAT premises. He also shared that PhD holder has been rejected just because of poor English but he did not critic about the candidate rather he said, IUBAT not only recruits with recognized University degrees but also with a good proficiency level in English. I realized the seriousness of Dr Miyan Sir about English language at IUBAT.

I noticed that Dr Miyan Sir was looking at my profile: all the papers, certificates, transcripts, testimonials, and work experience. As I was a working professional at a corporate house, he asked me like why do you want to come for teaching? There are more you can make at corporates but less in teaching. I said that I am not coming here to earn more money. I want to be a small part of noble work for the society.

From, Dr Miyan Sir, I learnt few things later on during my teaching role. First, if you make a promise, then make it as a strong promise, not just for the sake of satisfying someone. Second, people should do such work that they adore and admire. People should not just do something for the sake of money only. Finally, I learnt how a visionary leader can motivate someone. Dr Miyan Sir had extreme motivational power. In the Panoramic canteen, he loved to share his food with others. My interview with Dr. Miyan Sir will always be a sweet memory in my life. May Allah make him alive everywhere in the country for his extraordinary contribution to the community.

The Memorable

Anwar Ali

Founder & Chief Executive of NAID

I had known Prof Dr Alimullah Miyan since 1992 and started a working relationship in 1998. In 2001, NAID and IUBAT were able to create the BATHM – Bachelor in Tourism and Hospitality Management degree, the first of its kind in Bangladesh.

Prof Dr Miyan over his long and illustrious career has achieved many impactful and beneficial changing aspects in the Bangladesh private higher education sector. He had also contributed significantly to the social and economic development in Bangladesh.

I would like to highly praise Prof Dr Miyan's legacy for establishing the KBAD – Knowledge Based Area Development program that has sought out to produce greater availability of higher education for disadvantaged students across Bangladesh. The KBAD has been able to produce many successful IUBAT alumni.

I hope that IUBAT will continue flourishing with success, furthermore I would like to congratulate the graduating students, the faculty, the staff, Prof Dr Miyan's diligent family, and I would like to posthumously congratulate Prof Dr Miyan in producing the first private university in Bangladesh which has achieved great success. I pray to God that Prof Dr Miyan is granted Jannahtul Firdaus.

Ameen.

The Memorable

Dr. Jo-Ann Elizabeth Leavey NP, EdD, C.Psych
Registered Psychologist & Nurse Practitioner

In memory of Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan I send this note of gratitude. I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked closely with Dr. Miyan on planning and establishing the university hospital for the most vulnerable at IUBAT. Dr. Miyan was a man of great vision and political talent. He taught me a great deal about vision and political acumen. He was passionate, compassionate, and unrelenting when advocating for his students and the people in the community in which he and they served. He was generous, kind, and had a great sense of humour. My fondest memories are when we had 3pm tea every day in his office; we had much fun planning and dreaming the future. Always an optimist and never considered what couldn't be done, rather always dreamed how to make the impossible, possible. What a fabulous mind and heart to be held in one man. Will always miss him, and always hold him close when working on my current visioning and planning projects aimed at making the future brighter for the most vulnerable ...for this, he remains one of my best guides. Thank you Dr. Miyan for being my teacher and mentor in Bangladesh and beyond.

Note on life and contribution of Prof. Dr. Md. Alimullah Miyan

Sigfried Janzing

Director Freedom Museum, Gouda (The Netherlands)

2022 is my 12th year of commitment to Bangladesh. My first visit was in January 2011 with the objective to spread awareness on Archives and Records Management and Right to Information in Bangladesh government and private institutions. A lot of visits and training activities were undertaken during this decade. One of the institutions which helped me and our organization Bangladesh Archives & Records Management Society (BARMS) in this mission was the International University of Business, Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) founded in 1991 by Prof. Dr. Md. Alimullah Miyan. Professor Miyan was a great friend and supporter for me during my work and activities. He was the driving force in organizing the daylong international conference on “Archives and Records Management in Bangladesh” on 31 January 2015. The objective of the conference was to spread the idea of the urgent need to improve records and archives management in public and private organizations in Bangladesh for better governance to the people including right to access information and accountability. Prof. Miyan was a front runner in this respect and we are grateful to him until today.

Two years have passed between my last visit and this year due to the Covid Pandemic. No visits to Bangladesh were possible. In this closed and “digital” epoch I prepared for my next mission to Bangladesh. In June I will start a Phd on “documenting daily life by young Rohingya in the Kutapalung and Nayapara refygee camps as a way to improve self-representation”(-)”. For this reason I will visit Bangladesh again in October or November

this year. I cannot imagine how to keep alive my commitment without the image of Prof. Miyan in front of me. His energy, his inspiration, is my example to proceed. The research will be done in memory of my friend Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan.

The Memorable

Councillor Dilwar Ali

Director and General Secretary of NAID

In 2001, NAID and IUBAT were able to introduce a programme, the first of its kind in Bangladesh, known as the BATHM – Bachelor in Tourism and Hospitality Management.

Prof Dr Miyan has achieved positive changes in the private higher education sector of Bangladesh. He had also taken part in the social and economic development in Bangladesh.

I remember when Prof Dr Miyan visited Wales, one of his favourite foods was traditional fish and chips wrapped up in a newspaper whilst enjoying the open environment.

I hope that IUBAT will continue to encourage students and research. I pray to Allah that Prof Dr Miyan is granted Jannah. Ameen.

Remembering Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan and His Office Memo on my Joining IUBAT in 2008

Prof Dr. Md. Lutfar Rahman
Registrar, IUBAT

Today, on the sixth death anniversary of Professor Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan, a renowned academician and pioneer of non-government universities in Bangladesh, the founder and first Vice Chancellor of IUBAT, I express deep respect for the memory of this great scholar who will be immortal for his contributions to the private university movement and his concept of Knowledge-Based Area Development (KBAD). These two groundbreaking ideas and their subsequent implementation have brought great recognition to Prof. Dr. Miyan, as the country has benefited from the contributions of private universities in providing market-oriented education that aligns with job opportunities, resulting in improved lifestyles for millions of families across 88,000 villages in Bangladesh.

Today, my purpose in writing about Prof. Dr. Alimullah Miyan is not to focus on the aforementioned matters, but to highlight something truly special to me, which I have cherished as a treasure since I joined IUBAT. This special thing is an office memo written by Prof. Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan, introducing me online to other faculty members of IUBAT at the time of my joining as a faculty member back in 2008. The contents of the memo added significant value to my career, which was unexpected coming from a new employer, let alone reaching out to an immediate preceding employer under whom I had worked for many years. Since the online memo seemed very promising for my career, I immediately printed it out and went to VC Sir to get his signature, as I considered it a certificate that held more value than academic certificates. Without any hesitation, he signed it and asked, “Did you like it?”

The Humanist and Social Reformer: Dr. Alimullah Miyan

Dr. Ferdoushi Begum
Professor, IUBAT

The fundamental philosophy is related to the philosophy of life. Philosophy explains ideas, feelings, and truth in the light of free thinking. The flow of philosophical thought runs towards the ultimate reality which finds its culmination in human welfare which is related to human rights. Philosophers think about the good or bad of the human race. This sort of person is liberal in thought and logical in nature. As they are in quest of truth, no communalism or narrowness touches them. Their revolt was against the illiteracy, ignorance, and superstition of the society. They also revolt to change the trend of society. Through their deep insight and reason, they looked into the heart of humanity and probed into it. Professor Alimullah Miyan (1929-2017) is such an example of the present age. Professor Alimullah Miyan’s argument on human rights should be considered in respect of this contemporary social reality.

In society, a few liberal thinkers are also born whose sees superstition from the social norm differently. In the subcontinent, Raja Ram Mohan Roy (1774-1830) pointed out such superstition and suggested reformation. Six hundred years B.C. Vogoban Buddho also suggested changes in the prevailing social value system. One such person I consider to be Professor Alimullah Miya was born in Comilla and is the Founder and the Vice-Chancellor of the IUBAT- International University of Business Agriculture and Technology in Dhaka present norm of the society and established a new norm and value system in the different sector of student and also women’s educational

rights.

He thinks that education and skill development are the root of creating human capital and development. His thinking was very much deep for the poor people so he started knowledge-based area development, a step towards community self reliance. His thinking is that “under the KBAD young-men/ women from each village/ward would be given opportunity to go for higher education and acquire a degree/diploma/ post-higher secondary certificate in marketable (within and outside the country) Knowledge and skills. “ (KBAD p-4)

He is a man of an iconic who lived through the twentieth century and the beginning of the millennium. His vision, mission, and passion have shaped the IUBATIAN family, and glimpses of his virtues shine through the members of his next generation. There is no doubt that his idea and memory will prevail for posterity.

He also inspired his contemporaries and followers that human right is to freedom from poverty and designate a life of dignity. A life of dignity is every person's human right. This is true no matter where he or she lives or what his or her sex, race, or ethnic origin may be. Every woman, man, youth, and child has basic needs that must be met if he or she is to live in dignity. A life of poverty means that basic needs go unfulfilled and fundamental human rights are violated.

He was deeply shocked by observing the men's poverty which results in widespread violations of human rights.

He was the first progressive man who raised his voice for human rights including poverty for the development of society through non-government education. Still now more than 1 billion people live in poverty around the world and a great majority of them are illiterate. This was his feeling many years ago. For the right of men in society, he gave emphasis on both

learning and speaking in English at the campus of IUBAT. He did this to enhance the consciousness of human beings which will help to uphold human rights especially women's rights and also to prevent poverty.

He was working for enlightenment, circumventing the citadels of faith and conservatism for men's and women's rights and economic freedom. He knew that in order to reach the goal they must first remove the garbage of superstitious belief spread on the way. He had a bitter experience with entrenched beliefs and superstitions which easily lead to religious fanaticism. So he understood the point and uttered such words that religious people are few but superstitions among the people are strong.

He also wanted to establish the existence of women in the family and also in the society. For this, he struggled against the opposite power of his society throughout his whole life. As a humanist, he played a key role in the establishment and enlightenment of distressed and neglected women and men. For this reason, he had taken, responsibility and gave extra fascination of education for future men and women. He became interested in the education of the women who are living behind the curtain. For him, education is an eye-opener for everyone.

He established himself as a social reformer through his publications. His writings focused on women's rights, the welfare of society, and the progress of the country, aiming to liberate women from superstition and poverty. He was a magnanimous individual who passionately championed the cause of humanity with unwavering faith and confidence. The philosophy reflected in his thoughts and perspectives is pragmatic, emphasizing the importance of perceptive reasoning. He diligently explored the nature of the world and evaluated everything based on reason, which is essential for

human rights and women's empowerment, with the primary focus on combating poverty and gender discrimination. He strongly criticized those who withheld education from women, as well as those who restricted access to education in rural areas in the name of religion. Various economic problems related to food, clothing, and healthcare can only be solved through education. The well-being of humanity depends on addressing the economic inequalities present in society.

Dr. Miyan's distinguished and diverse academic career includes holding positions such as Director and Professor at Dhaka University's Institute of Business Administration. He is also the Founder Chairman of the Centre for Population and Research (CPMR). In 1991, he served as the President of IUBAT and later assumed the role of Vice-Chancellor in 1994. Furthermore, he has authored books on various topics related to promoting business, development, disaster management, and climate change in Bangladesh.

Dr. Miyan dedicated himself to grassroots work throughout the country. He firmly believed that only educated and trained individuals would be capable of uplifting their families, neighbors, and village communities through access to knowledge for economic and social development (KBAD p-4). To achieve greater economic and social status, it is essential for us to follow Dr. Miyan's guidance and walk alongside him. He was an inspirational figure who made significant contributions to the struggle for the rights and alleviation of poverty among both men and women. By following his path, we can break free from the shackles imposed by extremists and conservatives within our society. By doing so, we can create a harmonious and habitable society and world for future generations.

Change Is The Only Constant

Dr Rajib Lochan Das

Associate Professor, Mathematics and Additional Director IQAC

Around 500 BC, the Greek philosopher Heraclitus said that the only constant thing in life is change. Another great Greek mind, Plato, in his dialogue Cratylus (P.420), mentioned the source of the doctrine of flux as "Heraclitus, I believe, says that all things go and nothing stays, and comparing existents to the flow of a river, he says you could not step twice into the same river." Actually, great minds think alike. Professor Miyan was no exception. He internalized the doctrine and continuously made changes in his creation, none other than IUBAT.

IUBAT was born with a paradigm shift in higher education in South Asia. The most significant identity of Professor Miyan is being the pioneer of the non-government university movement in Bangladesh and the region. I have great respect for that extraordinary step towards widening the opportunities for higher education in the private sector. Moreover, I would mention his unique leadership quality of accepting and managing changes in the organization for continuous quality improvement. Among other essential leadership qualities, one must have a long-term vision for changes toward improvement. He was undoubtedly a visionary leader.

Education is ever-changing everywhere, even within the non-government sector of higher education in Bangladesh. The process of teaching-learning-assessment has also been changing over the years Professor Miyan lived. Technological advancements and globalization trends during the transition

and the beginning of the 21st century, along with the targets of the Millennium Development Goals (MDG), have significantly influenced higher education in the country. IUBAT started with a wide mixture of disciplines – business, agriculture, and technology – where technology was the common language of knowledge. Bangladesh achieved the MDG targets at a satisfactory level in all different areas, including education. Needless to mention, Professor Miyan and others in non-government higher education helped the nation achieve the educational goal by reaching a huge number of students spread all over the country. This was possible because Professor Miyan had a visionary approach called Knowledge-Based Area Development (KBAD) to produce at least one graduate from each village/ward in the country, reinforcing the MDG Education campaign ‘Education for All’. During his last days, Professor Miyan was preparing for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), in which the fourth goal is to “Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.”

Educational outreach to everyone is no longer sufficient. The quality of education must be ensured, and lifelong learning opportunities must be created. In the eternal absence of Professor Miyan, we can take this as a challenge to further strengthen IUBAT so that the university will be recognized as the source of quality higher education in the country and the region. And I believe this is only possible through thoughtful, prudent, pragmatic, and visionary change initiatives. What else would Professor Miyan think today?

Pioneering Idea Shapes the Future of Higher Education in Bangladesh

Mozaffar A Chowdhury

Dean and Assoc. Professor, CBA, IUBAT

On the solemn occasion of the 6th anniversary of Founder Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan, I would like to pay my utmost respect and admiration to his memory. His visionary outlook and unwavering belief in the development of private universities for higher education continue to inspire and resonate with us even today. He had a great feeling about the development of private universities for higher education. He used to express it in many of his speeches like the first concept paper he developed for a non-government university in Bangladesh in 1989. Indeed, IUBAT stands as a proud symbol of being the first non-government university in Bangladesh, and its establishment is attributed to the visionary leadership of Founder Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan. His pioneering idea and relentless efforts laid the groundwork for the development of private universities in the country.

The establishment of IUBAT marked a significant milestone in the history of higher education in Bangladesh. It set a precedent for non-government institutions to provide quality education and contribute to the overall growth and development of the nation. Dr. Miyan’s unwavering belief in the potential of private universities paved the way for the subsequent growth and expansion of the private education sector in Bangladesh. Today, Bangladesh boasts over 100 private universities, accommodating around 400,000 students, and this achievement is a testament to the practical realization of Dr. Miyan’s visionary idea. His pioneering efforts in establishing IUBAT served as an inspiration for others to follow suit and contribute to the education sector. These universities have

become essential contributors to higher education, offering diverse programs, fostering innovation, and shaping the next generation of leaders and professionals.

Dr. Miyan's vision and pioneering spirit have not only led to the establishment of IUBAT but have also transformed the landscape of higher education in Bangladesh. His belief in the importance of private universities and his dedication to creating an environment conducive to learning and growth have left an indelible mark on the educational system. As we reflect on his legacy, let us acknowledge Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan as the pioneer of non-government universities in Bangladesh. His pioneering idea has not only provided opportunities for countless students but has also contributed to the overall advancement of education in the country. May his vision and contributions continue to inspire and shape the future of higher education in Bangladesh.

As we commemorate the 6th death anniversary of Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan, let us reflect on his remarkable legacy and honor his immense contributions to education. May his vision and contributions continue to inspire and shape the future of higher education in Bangladesh.

আমার সাস্টেইনিবিলিটি গুরু

ডঃ মোহাম্মদ রেহান দস্তগীর

সহকারি অধ্যাপক, পরিবেশ বিজ্ঞান বিভাগ

প্রফেসর আলিমুল্লাহ মিয়ান স্যারের সাথে আমার দেখা হয় ২০১২ সনের জুন মাসে। তখন আমি জাপান থেকে পরিবেশের উপর সদ্য পিএইচডি করে দেশে কাজের সুযোগ খোঁজ করছি। বলাবাহুল্য উনার সাথে দেখা করার আগে আমি দেশে আরও চার জন ভিসির সাথে কথা বলেছি কিন্তু পরিবেশ নিয়ে কাউকে এতো আগ্রহী দেখে নি। সত্যিকথা বলতে গেলে তখনও আমি সাস্টেইনিবিলিটি বা টেকসই উন্নয়নের সাথে পরিচিত ছিলাম না এবং শুধুমাত্র ল্যাবরেটরি কেন্দ্রিক পরিবেশ বিজ্ঞান আমার চর্চার বিষয় ছিল না। পরিবেশ বিজ্ঞান সবসময়ই আমার নিকট প্রাকৃতিক বিজ্ঞানের বিভিন্ন শাখার সাথে সমাজ সচেতনতা আর উন্মুক্ত দর্শনচর্চার বিষয় বলে গণ্য হতো। স্যারের সাথে কাজ করতে গিয়ে জানতে পারলাম উনি 'এডুকেশন ফর সাস্টেইনিবিলিটি' নিয়ে সেই ২০০৩ সন থেকে কাজ করছেন। এডুকেশন ফর সাস্টেইনিবিলিটি বা পরিবেশের শিক্ষার সাথে স্যার আমাকে পরিচিত করালেন। আমরা আইইউবিএটিতে সিজিইসির (সেন্টার ফর গ্লোবাল এনভাইরনমেন্টাল কালচার) অধীনে সকল শিক্ষার্থীদের জন্য বাধ্যতামূলক পরিবেশ বিজ্ঞানের কোর্স চালু করলাম। এই কোর্সের মাধ্যমে আমরা মূলত সাস্টেইনিবিলিটি- ব্যক্তি পর্যায়ে সম্পদের সুষ্ঠু ব্যবহার তথা পানি, বিদ্যুৎ, গ্যাসের অপচয় রোধ করা; ওয়েস্ট ম্যানেজমেন্ট- যেখানে সেখানে ময়লা আবর্জনা না ফেলা, রিসাইক্লিং, কম্পোস্টিং; বৃক্ষ রোপন, জীববৈচিত্র সংরক্ষণ; জলবায়ু পরিবর্তন ইত্যাদি বিষয়ে শিক্ষার্থীদের সচেতনতা বৃদ্ধিতে শিক্ষা দিতে থাকলাম। আমাদের এই কোর্সটি জাপানের জাতিসংঘ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় থেকে অনেক প্রশংসা কুড়ালো। ২০১৭ সাথে আমি যখন দিল্লিতে গ্লোবাল আরসিই মিটিঙে অংশগ্রহণ করলাম তখন এআইটি প্রফেসর মারিও টাবুকানন আমার বক্তৃতার পর সেশন চেয়ার হিসেবে বললেন যে, 'যেখানে পৃথিবীর অনেক বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় সাস্টেইনিবিলিটি কোর্স প্রবর্তন করতে দ্বিধাম্বিত সেখানে প্রফেসর মিয়ান বাংলাদেশে তা চালু করে আজ অবধি ৭০০০ শিক্ষার্থীকে পরিবেশ বিষয়ে সচেতন করে ফেলেছেন কারণ এটা তাঁর নিজ হাতে গড়া বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়। তিনি নিজে পরিবেশের বিষয়ে একজন সচেতন নাগরিক এবং তাঁর কাছ থেকে আন্তর্জাতিক মহলের শেখার অনেক কিছু রয়েছে'।

আরেকটি কথা না বললেই নয়। প্রফেসর মিয়ান তাঁর সুদক্ষ আন্তর্জাতিক সুসম্পর্ক থেকে এশিয়া প্যাসিফিক নেটওয়ার্ক (এপিএন) জাপান থেকে পরিবেশ গবেষণায় একটি বড় ফান্ড পেয়েছিলেন ২০১৩ সনে। আমার সে প্রজেক্টে কাজ করার সৌভাগ্য হয়েছিল। এই প্রজেক্টে জলবায়ু পরিবর্তন, তৃতীয় বিশ্ব ও প্রশান্ত মহাসাগরীয় ক্ষুদ্র দ্বীপদেশসমূহে প্রকৃতির চরমভাবাপন্নতা, সমুদ্র ও উপকূলবর্তী অঞ্চলে দুর্যোগ ব্যবস্থাপনা বিষয়ে

গবেষণা করা হয়। উক্ত প্রজেক্টে আইইউবিএটি থেকে প্রফেসর আতাউর রহমান, প্রফেসর শহীদুল্লাহ মিয়াঁ, প্রফেসর দেওয়ান, প্রফেসর বসাক যার যার ক্ষেত্রে নেতৃত্ব দেন। আমরা আমাদের স্ব স্ব ক্ষেত্রে গবেষণা প্রবন্ধ ও সারমর্ম দুই বছর পর জমা দেই। এরপর এক দিনে প্রফেসর মিয়ানের কল পাই। স্যারের সাথে দেখা করলে উনি বলেন যে সেই দিন রাত বারোটোর মধ্যে এপিএন প্রজেক্টের ফাইনাল রিপোর্ট জমা দিতে হবে। আমার সাহায্য কামনা করলেন। ঘটনাক্রমে সেদিনটি ছিল ইউনিভার্সিটির ঈদের ছুটির আগের দিন। স্বভাবতই সেদিন বেশিরভাগ শিক্ষকই দেশে যাবার জন্য প্রস্তুতি নিয়ে যথা সময়ে বাসায় চলে গিয়েছেন। আমি তখনও ব্যাচেলর। আমার সেরকম তাড়া ছিল না। স্যারের সাথে আমি পলিসি ব্রিফ করতে বসলাম। পলিসি ব্রিফ হলো কোন বিষয়ে গবেষণা থেকে প্রাপ্ত ফলাফলকে পলিসিমেকার বা নীতিনির্ধারকদের জন্য সহজবোধ্য করে সংক্ষেপে উপস্থাপন করা। আমাদের বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের বেশিরভাগ শিক্ষকেরই পাবলিক পলিসি নিয়ে কাজের অভিজ্ঞতা ছিলনা। কিন্তু প্রফেসর মিয়ান ছিলেন বাংলাদেশের বহু পলিসির নির্মাতা। উনি ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের পপুলেশন সায়েন্স ইন্সটিটিউটে জাতীয় পর্যায়ে অনেক কাজ করেছেন। কাজ করেছেন দুর্যোগ মোকাবেলা নিয়ে জনগণকে কিভাবে দ্রুত অবহিত করা যায় বা আর্লি ওয়ার্নিং নিয়ে রোটারির সাথে। বেসরকারি বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের বিল জাতীয় সংসদ থেকে অনুমোদনে তিনিই বাংলাদেশে পথিকৃৎ। কাজেই সেদিন পলিসি ব্রিফ তাঁর কাছে ছেলে খেলা বলেই প্রতিভাত হল। তিনি বলতে থাকলেন আর আমি টাইপ করতে থাকলাম। সবচেয়ে অবাক হলাম এই ভেবে যে তিনি তো বিজনেসের একজন অধ্যাপক। অথচ পলিসি ব্রিফ করতে তাকে জলবায়ু পরিবর্তন, ক্লাইমেট মডেলিং, প্রাকৃতিক দুর্যোগ ও ইলিশ মাছের প্রজনন, কোস্টাল ইকোসিস্টেম এরকম অনেক বৈজ্ঞানিক পরিভাষা ও গবেষণালব্ধ ফলাফল হতে জিস্ট বের করতে হচ্ছিল। আমি সেদিন বিস্মিত হলাম যে, এসব তাকে কোনভাবেই স্পর্শ করছিল না। তিনি অবলীলায় পলিসি বানিয়ে যাচ্ছেন। পরে বুঝেছিলাম উনি ছিলেন জ্ঞানের সকল শাখায় বিচরণে সক্ষম একজন বুদ্ধিজীবী। এরকম দেখা যেত গ্রীক মনীষীদের মাঝে। আমরা জানি যে, এরিস্টটল অনেকগুলো বিদ্যার জনক। ওমর খৈয়াম একাধারে কবি ও গনিতজ্ঞ ছিলেন। ২০১২ থেকে ২০১৬ পর্যন্ত স্যারের সাথে পরিবেশ ও সাস্টেইনিবিলিটি নিয়ে অনেক কাজ করেছি একসাথে। একজন পরিবেশবিদ হিসেবে মিয়ান স্যারকে আমি আমার সাস্টেইনিবিলিটি গুরু হিসেবে মেনে নিয়েছি। ২০০৮ সালে তাঁর ঘোষিত সবুজ ক্যাম্পাস এখন আন্তর্জাতিকভাবে স্বীকৃত ইউআই ইন্ডেক্সড গ্রীন ক্যাম্পাস। তাঁর সবুজ ক্যাম্পাসে তাঁর মৃত্যু বার্ষিকী ১০ই মে'তে আজ তাঁর প্রিয় লাল রঙের কৃষ্ণচূড়া ফুলে ছেয়ে গেছে। পরিবেশ, দেশ ও নিজ ক্যাম্পাসের প্রতি গভীর ভালোবাসা থেকে এভাবেই প্রতিবছর তিনি আমাদের কাছে ফিরে আসেন।

Dr. M Alimullah Miyan **a pioneer, a visionary, a hero, a sage**

Md. Saiduzzaman
Assistant Professor, Dept. of Mathematics (Q.S.)

Dr. M Alimullah Miyan, a pioneer indeed,
A visionary who sowed a much-needed seed,
In the soil of Bangladesh, he planted a dream,
To create a university, unlike any we'd seen.

He saw the need for education that's not for profit,
A place for learning that's not just a ticket,
To a higher paying job, but a place to grow,
A place to learn, to think, to create, to glow.

With his vision in mind, he worked day and night,
To bring to life, his dream so bright,
He toiled and labored, and didn't give in,
To the doubts, the naysayers, the challenges, the din.

Finally, his dream saw the light of day,
As he founded a university that paved the way,
For others to follow, in his noble cause,
To educate, to empower, to create, to pause.

Dr. M Alimullah Miyan, a hero, a sage,
His legacy lives on, on every page,
Of the history of Bangladesh, of education too,
A pioneer, a visionary, whose dream came true.

The Peregrination of a Paragon

Dilara Dilshad

Lecturer, Department of English and Modern Languages

When the brightest star gleams around a silvery ray,
All can envision the brimming aura in deep darkness.
Where the rainbow tint colors the cloudy sky,
The blazing lantern enlightens the misty long way,
Silently diligent daffodil drops to enthrall others.
Dear Miyan Sir,
You are an epic of glorious deeds,
An usher of a new genesis,
The eternal sunshine of knowledge- paradise.
And a soothing fervor forever in all's souls.

Essay on Life and Contributions of Prof Dr. M Alimullah Miyan

Abdullah Miraz*

IUBAT BCSE ID # 20303002

In life, we often come across individuals who leave a lasting impact on us, inspiring us to strive for our goals and overcome any challenges that come our way. These individuals not only leave behind a legacy of resilience and perseverance but also motivate us to pursue our dreams. This story is of a child who grew up in poverty but managed to overcome it and provide opportunities for others to achieve their aspirations. It portrays a successful man who is deeply admired and respected. He once said,

“Education is not just about acquiring knowledge, it’s about developing skills, fostering creativity and building character.”

- Prof Dr. M Alimullah Miyan

This person is none other than Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan, a visionary who achieved all his goals through his hard-work, unwavering dedication and courage.

Professor Dr. M Alimullah Miyan was a forward-thinking leader, esteemed educator, proficient writer, active researcher and a great social worker who revolutionized the realm of higher education in Bangladesh. He established the International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT) and was the trailblazer for the inaugural non-government university in Bangladesh. Prior to this role, he was a professor at Dhaka University, served as the director of IBA, and was the founding Chairman of the center for Population Management and Research (CPMR) at Dhaka University. He dedicated his entire life to serving his country and is widely regarded as a critical figure in the movement to establish the

first private university in Bangladesh. The accomplishments and life journey of Dr. Miyan are undeniably spectacular and have left a considerable mark on the educational landscape of Bangladesh.

Prof Dr. M Alimullah Miyan was born in the village of Kailine in Comilla's Chandina on February 15, 1942. Unfortunately, he lost his parents at a very young age, causing him to face significant challenges in his early life. Despite these obstacles, he was determined to succeed and received his primary education from Kailine school in Comilla. After completing his secondary school certificate examination, he enrolled at Comilla Victoria College. He went on to earn his BCom (Hons) in 1962 and MCom (Master) in 1963 from Dhaka University. He continued his education in the United States, earning an MBA from Indiana University in 1968, and later obtaining his Ph.D. from the Manchester Business School in the UK in 1976.

In October 1963, he commenced his career as a teacher at Korotia Sadaat College, Tangail. During 1963-64, he worked as a Research Associate at the Social Science Research Committee. Subsequently, he joined Dhaka University in 1966 as a professor and served as the director of the Institute of Business and Agriculture in 1979. While teaching marketing research at IBA, he adopted a unique teaching style that encouraged students to be independent and take ownership of their work.

Dr. Miyan's most notable achievement in the field of education in Bangladesh is the founding of the International University of Business Agriculture and Technology (IUBAT). As a celebrated international scholar, he combined diverse global ideas to establish a university that reflected Bangladeshi values. He successfully integrated religious, cultural, social, and educational beliefs to develop a conducive learning

environment. Prior to 1989, private universities did not exist in Bangladesh, and Dr. Miyan was the visionary who initiated the idea of creating one. In 1989, the initial plans were set in motion, and the university was eventually founded in 1991.

During his time at IBA, Dr. Miyan began working on a project to create a private university. He gathered information and developed a plan, then presented it to the Secretary of the Ministry of Education, who acknowledged its potential and passed it on to the Education Minister. Dr. Miyan met with the Minister soon after he took office and proposed a law to enable the creation of private universities. Despite the Education Secretary's concerns about delays caused by law drafting, Dr. Miyan had already prepared a draft law to speed up the process. Meanwhile, other figures joined the movement for private universities. The Private Universities Act was eventually passed in 1992, making Dr. Miyan's vision a reality. Dr. Miyan did not wait for the law to be enacted before setting up the university, and by 1991, the first private university in Bangladesh was up and running. Other SAARC countries subsequently followed Bangladesh's example, thanks to Dr. Miyan's pioneering efforts.

Dr. Miyan had a keen interest in research and conducted almost 45 research studies in his lifetime. Following the independence of Bangladesh, Dr. Miyan established the first consultancy and training institute in the country, known as the Management Council. He was not only an educator, but also a prolific researcher. In 1983, he collaborated with Professor Dr. Abdur Rab on a sanitation and water conservation project which proved to be successful due to their efforts. On January 1, 2019, IUBAT inaugurated the M Alimullah Miyan Research Institute, which is responsible for managing research activities at the university, including research at the undergraduate level.

In addition to his involvement in education and research,

Dr. Miyan was an active participant in social work. He was appointed as the president of the Rotary Club of Greater Dhaka in 2008, where he led the organization in several charity events and initiatives for social causes. Furthermore, he established the Centre for Population Management and Research (CPMR) to encourage family planning and population management in Bangladesh.

He was among the founders of the Association of Management Development Institutions in South Asia, held an executive position in the International Society for Labour and Social Security Law, and was a member of the International Labour and Employment Relations Association.

Dr. Miyan was a philanthropist who believed in the importance of contributing to society. In 2010, he established the Bangladeshi chapter of World Wide Opportunities on Organic Farms at the International University of Business Agriculture and Technology. He also held the position of Secretary General for the Association of Private Universities of Bangladesh and signed an agreement with the University of Victoria on behalf of IUBAT. He was an early supporter of the nursing field in Bangladesh and worked diligently to address social stigma and institutional barriers.

In 2010, he received the prestigious Ekushey Padak award, which is one of the highest honors given to civilians in Bangladesh.

Dr. Miyan authored more than 16 books on diverse subjects including business, marketing, statistics, health and family planning, transportation, and law, among others. He also penned numerous articles that were published in renowned journals worldwide. His first article titled 'European Economic Community-its Origin, Working and Impact' was published in Business Digest, Chattogram in 1963, while his final article,

titled Quality Assurance and Assessment in Higher Education in Bangladesh Context, was published in IUBAT, Dhaka, Bangladesh in 2009.. He started with a market study on the Feasibility for Alloy Steel Plant in Pakistan for the East Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation in 1970, and continued his research until 2008.

Dr. Miyan has provided consulting services to several global organizations, such as the EU, UNDP, World Bank, Asian Development Bank, IPCC, WMO, IGBP, APN, European Union, USAID, IOC, CARE, The Aga Khan Foundation, UNICEF, UNESCO, Mennonite Central Committee, World Vision, DANIDA, ILO, UNFPA, FAO, UNWFP, OECD, ADPC, Commonwealth Secretariat, and several others. He also provided consultancy services to the Bangladesh Government and non-governmental organizations.

Dr. Miyan aimed to bring about a positive transformation in society and his country. To achieve this, he actively participated in numerous workshops and seminars from 1969 to 2009, both domestically and internationally. He was highly sought after as a speaker, and people from around the world invited him to their events. He was a motivational speaker who encouraged individuals to chart their own paths. Dr. Miyan was part of the group of social entrepreneurs who established and developed significant NGOs and educational institutions during the two decades after the War of Liberation.

Miyan's impact on the education sector in Bangladesh is significant. His commitment to providing quality education to students from all financial backgrounds has served as a source of inspiration for many. His tireless efforts to promote education and research in the country have helped many underprivileged students to achieve their goals. Miyan's contributions to academia and social work have motivated

many young people to pursue similar paths.

“Education is not a privilege, it’s a fundamental human right. It is the responsibility of society to ensure that everyone has access to quality education, regardless of their socio-economic background. At IUBAT, we are committed to making education accessible to all and creating a better future for our communities.”

- Prof. Dr. M Alimullah Miyan

In Conclusion, Prof Dr. M Alimullah Miyan was a passionate humanitarian and a supporter of higher education and business management. His goal was to establish a reputable university that was free from political affiliations and could contribute to the education of future generations of Bangladeshis. He devoted his life to advancing education and research in Bangladesh, and his impact on the education sector and social work has been profound. Miyan’s aspiration to provide top-notch education to all, irrespective of their financial circumstances, has motivated numerous young individuals. Despite facing numerous challenges, he paved his way to success, proving that change is not inevitable, but something that can be made possible. This visionary leader passed away on May 10, 2017, but his legacy lives on, and people continue to admire him for setting an enduring example of what can be accomplished through determination and perseverance.

Dr Miyan – The Phronesis of Impact

Md. Rabiul Islam
Deputy Registrar

A visionary, high above the name and faith known by, passionate for humanity, fiercely uncompromising at anomalies, a lifelong learner passionate for teaching, creative in problem-solving – turning problems into opportunities, a benevolent philanthropist, an entrepreneur, and a strongly disciplined life, ... the list goes on. All these apply to the one I have worked with and have worked for around two decades of my prime life. *Prof Dr M Alimullah Miyan*. I have very closely witnessed the embodiment of all these virtues and qualities in the personality of Dr Miyan and can elaborate on each of these virtues he possessed.

Passion for humanity: Dr. Miyan was all in when it came to humanity. He strongly believed in the potential of every human being and was deeply concerned about the lost potential caused by the environment. He had a crystal-clear vision that with opportunity and guidance, every human can succeed in life. Therefore, he devised the highly successful model called KBAD, which has profoundly touched the lives of thousands of individuals.

Here is an illustration of how Dr. Miyan’s vision changed the lives of others. After the Eid vacation, I was heading back to Dhaka and waited at Saidpur Airport. Suddenly, a very energetic and enthusiastic young man approached me and asked, “Brother, you work at IUBAT?” I answered, “Yes, I do.”

He told me the story of his life - *‘I am an orphan. But I was a good student. I had a chance for admission in zoology at Jahangirnagar University, but zoology was not the subject I liked. I wanted to be an engineer. As an orphan, I had no means to afford my study at a private*

university nor did I have anyone to support (because at a private university, the costs are not covered by public tax). I was frustrated but was trying to find an opportunity. I learned about IUBAT, about the financial assistance program under KBAD. Finally, I learned about the open-door policy of Dr Miyan. I literally took advantage of all these and met Dr Miyan. I explained to Dr Miyan about my chance for zoology education at Jahangirnagar University and my choice for studying mechanical engineering, and my financial insolvency. He gave a patient hearing. There was something called a career path program at IUBAT. He explained it and motivated me to stay strong in my choice for engineering education. He advised me to take admission to the Mechanical Engineering program of IUBAT. I said I am unable to pay. He advised me to apply for educational financing, take admission and pay as much as I can, and pay the remaining after graduation. There would be so much due, how would I pay? I inquired. 'If you are committed to your educational success leading to professional success, it might happen that the total overdue will be equivalent to your salary of a few months' – said Dr Miyan. Dr Miyan believed in me and his vision about me has come true. No sooner had I graduated, I had a job in the number one online payment gateway of Bangladesh and my starting salary was six digits. Now, there is a proposal for my marriage in a family so high to our family standard, I could never imagine. I am going to marry next month, keep me in your prayers. Unfortunately, I was not able to share with Dr Miyan that his vision of me has come true because he became sick and ultimately left us. May Allah give him Jannah. He has done so many good things.' This is exemplary of how Dr Miyan has touched thousands of lives.

Dr Miyan has invested all his life in his confidence in others' success - sometimes as a teacher, sometimes solving complex social problems, sometimes as a philanthropist, sometimes by entrepreneurial initiatives, and sometimes becoming uncompromising at anomalies committed by others for

disciplining for life.

A lifelong learner's passion for teaching: Dr Miyan was not only a passionate teacher but also a lifelong learner. Always eager to learn and improve, I have found Dr Miyan to ask “how to”, “teach me”, and “why you don't teach me?” to all levels of employees at work from janitors to professors. Anytime he was taught something, mostly about playing with computer applications, he used to introduce himself as an illegal immigrant to the digital world with a loud laugh-gag. In one instance, he kept one of his assistants standing behind him, called me in, asked me to ‘teach’ how to change the subject line of a Gmail when replying to it, and asked the other assistant to carefully watch/learn who also did not know how to. No sooner did I click on the dropdown triangle-shaped icon on the top-left corner of the compose area, Dr Miyan gave a big “Ah”. Advised the other assistant to go and try several times so she never forgot it.

While working closely for around two decades - sometimes as an assistant, sometimes as a secretary, and sometimes as a special aide - I have never found him shy about what he would not know nor shy about learning from anyone. This kept him always above many in the domain of knowledge and skill set.

On the other hand, if you would approach Dr Miyan with any issue - be it of your job, family, health, or finance, he had a solution for you - whether he would teach you hands-on how to or would put you in hands that could be of some help. One of his assistants was trying to develop a project for a school building in his village. Dr Miyan has taught him by making corrections and changing structures, and by sending the proposal to people he knew who could be of help in implementing the project. The emails and projects might be

still in the sent box of Dr Miyan. A class monitoring assistant came to him who could not attend the office due to some sickness. He kept him sitting on the other side of his table, asked every question he could, noted down, learned in detail about his sickness, and then took the mobile phone up and called a doctor he knew. He explained everything to the doctor, sometimes with the help of the class monitoring assistant, and provided guidelines on the preventive lifestyle. He explained to the doctor that the person might call the doctor in need and then provided the mobile number of the doctor to the class monitoring assistant. He treated everyone with respect, regardless of their position in the organizational hierarchy. A rare experience in the Bangladesh context.

Equality at play in a disciplined life: First day at the office after Eid vacation? From janitors to professors, everyone had handshakes and hugs from Dr Miyan whoever was within eyesight. And it all began with an invitation from Dr Miyan because many would not feel comfortable due to the widely accepted practices in Bangladesh where employees at the lower rungs of the hierarchy ladder even cannot meet the one at the top.

Dr Miyan used to walk to the cafeteria, collect lunch from the counter, carry the lunch by himself, sit with anyone who had an empty seat there, had a chat, and complete lunch, unlike many others in the university. He would join the end of the queue for food or a lift like anyone else.

These are a few examples of how a person could be so thoughtful every moment in every action. These practices allowed Dr Miyan to have access to 360 degrees of information in a very natural way and enabled him to analyze and resolve contradictory information. In the core, it was always a strong

sense of management. If the boss breaks the rules, the immediate juniors will break that upon their juniors. If the boss allows a few to feel special, the multitude will have a message, and the very few will use that upon the multitude of others within the organization. No separate bathroom for anyone as long as the same privacy is required.

Uncompromising to the Anomalies: To Dr Miyan, anything that went wrong or happened in contradiction to the principles of life, was just a mistake if so is admitted. He firmly believed that acknowledging and rectifying mistakes was essential, regardless of the original intention behind them. While he forgave mistakes, he also imparted valuable lessons on how to correct them. However, if someone intentionally committed a wrong and refused to admit it, Dr Miyan advocated for strict punishment, considering it an opportunity for personal growth. He was completely against corporeal punishments, however. The anger was always proportional. Anyone attentive to the details would feel the urge of learning to be angry from Dr Miyan. Without learning to be proportionately angry, the life of a CEO is so incomplete and so miserable.

We never felt worried about making a mistake and that made us more productive.

From personal life to dealing with the larger and national systems, at home and abroad, his stand was the same for anomalies. No matter how many difficulties he had to face, no matter how unfair life became to him, he never compromised with the anomalies. He would rather spend on legal fights than bribing anyone in life. Any failure was just a lesson.

Creativity in problem-solving – transforming problems into opportunities for others: The world is constantly confronted with emerging complex social problems that disproportionately

affect developing societies such as Bangladesh. Dr. Miyan acknowledged the complex social problems that plagued Bangladesh and actively sought out innovative solutions.

Imagine yourself in a country at a time, where there are less than a dozen universities offering higher education largely to the most privileged one. Admission tests are administered more for selection at par available seats, not to accommodate all meritorious students. And you have money, qualifications, and everything to pursue higher education in a subject of your choice but there is not a single seat in any institution to accommodate your choice for higher education. Have more money than you, fleeing Bangladesh for higher education abroad. With them taking a hell of lot of money.

Dr Miyan was one of the fortunate ones to study at and later teach at the same public university in Bangladesh. He witnessed the whole situation that disturbed him too much. His frustration grew and accumulated when he was failed by the system to introduce a bachelor's degree in business administration for the first time in Bangladesh. But as I said, any failure is just a lesson.

In the absence of a legal framework for an alternate solution, addressing this complex social problem was of paramount difficulty. But he had a strong commitment. He left the comfort zone of teaching at a public university, developed a working paper in 1989 for establishing a whole new private university, established IUBAT in 1991, and lobbied for and provided guidelines for the creation of a legal framework - all leading to the enactment of private university law in 1992 at the National Parliament of Bangladesh. A very big complex social problem is just going to be over. This made Dr Miyan the pioneer of private universities in Bangladesh and in turn, Dr Miyan made Bangladesh the pioneer in many Asian countries.

Public confidence in private universities continued to grow as manifested in the ever-increasing number of universities and body of students but things were not going as expected in terms of inclusive higher education. The cost of education at public universities is met by public tax, but at private universities, the beneficiaries have to meet the costs. He developed Knowledge Based Area Development: A Step Towards Community Self-Reliance with the theme of higher education for every qualified person with finance for the meritorious but needy. This solved the puzzle of financing higher education in Bangladesh with overarching positive social outcomes.

So, no matter what university you or a member of your family teach, work or study at, if it is a private university in Bangladesh or some other Asian country, you are just enjoying the legacy of Dr Miyan with profound impacts.

From establishing university, to developing social programs, to introducing many bachelor's degrees for the first time in Bangladesh, to establishing management consultancies, to leading many social and philanthropic local and international organizations, to establishing a few regional organizations, Dr Miyan solved many similar complex social problems with ubiquitous positive impacts.

Dr Miyan's impact is immense, and his presence transcends death, leaving behind an enduring legacy too rich for death to take away.

My Memories with Prof.Dr.Alimullah Miyan

Md.Yousuf Ali

Senior Territory Manager, University Education Extension Unit

The information about Financial Assistance for Higher Education at IUBAT was like a ray of light in my life when I heard about it from a relative and obtained Prof. Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan's visiting card. At that time, I had just completed my HSC from Ullapara Science College in Sirajganj. I had a conversation with Dr. Miyan about my career aspirations and mentioned my interest in obtaining a student loan for my bachelor's studies. At that time, I had no knowledge about Subjective Knowledge. Dr. Miyan suggested that both educators and students should think in a disciplined manner so that the knowledge they acquire can be applied to various places and situations. The way he spoke with me was like that of a friend or the best teacher in my life, and I couldn't imagine it. I was truly pleased. Prior to our conversation, I had no idea who Dr. Miyan was. Dr. Miyan is the pioneer of the first non-government university in Bangladesh and the founder Vice-Chancellor of IUBAT. Dr. Miyan also authored the statistics book titled "Mian and Miyan" in Bangladesh, which served as a guiding light during my moments of frustration.

I am grateful to Allah for the completion of my BBA studies with the help of KBAD Financial Assistance for higher education. I would like to express my special thanks to Prof. Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan for his valuable suggestions and assistance in obtaining financial aid to pursue my BBA degree at IUBAT. My parents were unable to finance my Bachelor's degree, and I can never fully repay them for the support they provided. Many other talented students in my area also received similar assistance.

Since my childhood, it has been my dream to pursue postgraduate studies, and this dream would not have been possible without the financial support of KBAD during my time at IUBAT. My father faced financial hardships as my five other siblings were also studying in schools and colleges. As the first graduate in BBA from Rasulpur village in Kamarkhand Upazila, Sirajganj, IUBAT's Founder Sir encouraged me to pursue an MBA, and with the financial support, I successfully completed my post-graduation.

Fortunately, I had the opportunity to work with Dr. Miyan, and I joined IUBAT on June 2nd, 2011. Under the direct supervision and prudent leadership of Prof. Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan, I received training in connection with achieving the short-term goals of the KBAD mission and the long-term vision of IUBAT, which is to become a premier institution for human resource development in Bangladesh. Dr. Miyan emphasized that KBAD is not merely clerical work, but a visionary endeavor. He told me, "Yousuf, KBAD is an ongoing program and a novel concept."

Prof. Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan emphasized that it is the responsibility of society, institutions, and the state to ensure that the people of the country, as human beings, become assets rather than threats. To transform human resources into real resources, improvements in human education, health, culture, cognitive and professional skills, and employment need to be made through higher education.

He stated that the role of higher education institutions is not limited to preparing workers for the job market, but also to develop students as well-rounded individuals who go beyond

obtaining certificates. In addition to acquiring knowledge, students should develop practical and action-oriented skills, and enhance their critical thinking, imagination, and innovation abilities. In the 21st century, it is crucial to focus on building a skilled human workforce.

Prof. Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan also emphasized the importance of English language skills for students. He believed that having proficiency in English would enable them to lead better lives in foreign countries and earn higher incomes. English should be practiced as the primary language on the IUBAT campus, with every student, faculty member, officer, and staff member engaging in English interactions in all corners and situations.

Finally, Prof. Dr. M. Alimullah Miyan shared that the KBAD concept will play a crucial role in creating technical graduates and attracting aspiring students from 550 Upazilas and 87,963 villages in Bangladesh for professional studies. This initiative has significantly helped families break free from the cycle of poverty and contributed to overall prosperity. Dr. Miyan decided to implement the first model Upazila in his birthplace, Chindina Upazila in Cumilla district.

স্মৃতিচারনে...

নাজমুল হক খান

জুনিয়র এসিস্টেন্ট রেজিস্ট্রার (এইচ.আর)

চাকুরিজীবির সাপ্তাহিক ছুটি ছাড়া সরকারী ছুটি পেলে, সেটা নানাভাবে কাজে লাগানোর চেষ্টা করে। আমার মা-কে দেখার জন্যই ১০ই মে সরকারী ছুটির দিনে ময়মনসিংহের উদ্দেশ্যে রওয়ানা হই। রাজেন্দ্রপুরের আগেই সাঈদ ভাই আমাকে ফোন করে বলেন, 'স্যার আর নেই'। নিজের কানকেই যেন বিশ্বাস করতে পারছিলাম না। খবরটা নিশ্চিত হওয়ার জন্য স্যারের ড্রাইভার সাহাবুদ্দিন ভাইকে ফোন করি। তিনিও আমাকে একই কথা জানালেন। সাথে সাথে আমি বাস থেকে নেমে পড়ি। নিজেকে সামলে ভার্শিটি থেকে সবাই এ্যাপোলো হাসপাতালে যাই। সেদিনের কষ্টের কথা মনে পড়লে এখনো আবেগে মর্মান্বিত হয়ে যাই। ২০১৪ সাল থেকে স্যার নিজে আমাকে এইচ.আর. এর কাজ হাতেখড়ি দেখিয়ে দেন। স্যারের কাছ থেকে আমি যা শিখেছি তা বলে বা লিখে বোঝানো সম্ভব নয়। এই ধারাবাহিকতায় ম্যাডামের কাছ থেকেও অনেক কিছু শিখছি।

স্যারের সাথে কাজ করতে গিয়ে যদি কোনো সময় কোনো ভুল করেছি স্যার বকা দিয়েছেন ঠিকই, কিন্তু পরক্ষণেই স্যার ডেকে এমন আন্তরিকভাবে কথা বলতেন আগের সবকিছু ভুলে যেতাম। এখনও বিভিন্ন কাজ করতে গিয়ে স্যারের কথা অনেক মনে পড়ে।

স্যারের কাজের দক্ষতা ছিল অসাধারণ। কোন কাজ কখন কিভাবে করতে হবে- তা তিনি তাৎক্ষণিকভাবে সঠিক দিক নির্দেশনা দিতেন।

অনেক শিক্ষার্থী তাদের ইচ্ছা-মেধা থাকা স্বত্ত্বেও আর্থিক অস্বচ্ছলতার কারণে তারা উচ্চশিক্ষা লাভ করার সুযোগ পেত না। সেসব শিক্ষার্থীদের স্বপ্নপূরণের লক্ষ্যে উচ্চতর ডিগ্রি লাভের সুযোগ করে দেন আমাদের ড: মিয়ান স্যার। এ কারণে অনেক শিক্ষার্থীর স্বপ্ন বাস্তবায়িত হয়েছে। অনেকে দেশে এবং দেশের বাইরে প্রতিষ্ঠিত হয়েছে।

লেখক ইমদাদুল হক মিলন স্যার যথার্থই লিখেছেন- ড: মিয়ান স্যার ছিলেন 'স্বপ্ন ছাড়িয়ে যাওয়া একজন মানুষ'।

স্যারের স্বপ্ন বাস্তবায়নের জন্য আমাদের সবাইকে একসাথে কাজ করে যেতে হবে। তবেই স্যারের আত্মা শান্তি পাবে।

আল্লাহ স্যারকে জান্নাত নসীব করুন