

09 JUN 1989



**BANGLADESH  
BIGGANCHINTA**  
(An anthology of science  
writing in Bangladesh)  
Edited by Abdullah  
Al-Muti

**Muktadhara**  
256 pages, Taka 100/-  
The book is divided into  
five parts, each of them contain-  
ing three to five articles written  
by some eminent writers of  
different scientific topics. The  
subjects dealt in the book pre-  
sently related to our modern  
life and these articles will help  
the readers understand the im-  
portant place which the science  
occupies in our present day  
life in the context of the world.  
The five chapters that the book  
contains are:

i) The Universe, ii) Science  
and Bangladesh, iii) Life and  
Science, iv) Background of  
Science, and v) Matters of  
Application.  
The editor of the book  
correctly observes that the  
foundation of science or orien-  
tation of scientific thought is  
not very firm and wide in  
Bangladesh as yet. Even then  
he feels that writings on differ-  
ent science subjects as we find  
now and also the compilations  
of such writings like the present  
one may help solve many pro-

**BOOKS**

**Science for All**

blems now existing in the field  
of this country's science study  
and research. The future learn-  
ers or researchers in different  
fields of science may also get  
valuable inspiration and guide-  
lines from these writings.

As the title limits the  
scope of the book, the writings  
of those pioneers who initiated  
the discussions on science  
topics in our mother tongue  
could not be included. But if  
that could be done it might  
have projected the process of  
evolution or advancement of  
scientific writings and thoughts  
in this country. In the intro-  
duction, of course, the editor  
of the book did not fail to men-  
tion that even at the beginning  
of the nineteenth century, lead-  
ing pioneering persons started  
writing science topics as they  
foresaw the necessity of science  
study. According to Mr Muti,  
the number of known and regu-  
lar writers dealing with scienti-  
fic topics in Bangla will be  
more than 100. In a poor  
developing country like ours it

is not at all a very insignificant  
matter as this might indicate  
that our people are gradually  
becoming science-minded.

Mr. Muti will, however,  
have to admit that the condi-  
tion of our people's orientation  
towards science and the base  
of science education or research  
are not very sound in this  
country till now. Even so, it is  
a sign of encouragement that  
some people are thinking and  
writing on different subjects  
of science and dealing with the  
problems relating to these  
matters.

Four articles on astronomy  
have been included in the first  
chapter, i. e. the chapter on the  
universe. These articles are  
respectively written by (i) Kazi  
Motahar Hussain, (Science in  
Search of Infinity), (ii) Md,  
Abdul Jabbar (The Ultimate  
Goal or Future of the Uni-  
verse), (iii) Abdullah-al-Muti  
himself (Astronomy vs Astro-  
tology) and (iv) Tapan Chakra-  
borti (The Revolutionary As-  
tronomer).

The chapter, Science and  
Bangladesh also contains four  
articles written by:

- i) Mohammad Qudrat-e-  
Khuda (Bangalis and Science),
- ii) A M Harun-of-Rashid Twen-  
tieth Century Science and  
Bangladesh, iii) Abdul Halim  
Socio-Economic Environment  
of Bangladesh and Science  
Study and, iv) Ajoy Roy, Sci-  
ence Study in Bangladesh.

In the third chapter titled  
Life and Science we get five  
articles written by (i) Jahurul  
Haque (Law of probability), (ii)  
Abdul Huq Khondker (Taking  
Ait), (iii) Ahmed Rafique  
(Higher Technology in Medical  
Treatment: Some Problems),  
(iv) Noajesh Ahmed (Its Name  
is Camelia) and (v) Subhagata  
Chowdhury (Curd in Preserva-  
tion of Health).

The fourth chapter i.e.  
back ground of science includes  
four articles written by (i) Ali  
Asgar (Industrial Revolution  
and Science in Under Develop-  
ed Countries), (ii) Mohammad  
Ibrahim Why Should One Be-

lieve in Science), (iii) Subrata  
Barua (The History of Science),  
(iv) Shahjahan Tapan Einstein  
In the Light of Hundred  
Years).

The chapter five discusses  
on matters of application. It  
has also four articles written  
by (i) Shah Fazlur Rahman  
(Bengali Language in Higher  
Education on Science subjects),  
(ii) Dwijen Sharma (Scientific  
Research and People's Orienta-  
tion) (iii) Nurul Huda (Science  
Study in Bengali Language and  
Qudrat-e-Khuda), and (iv) Kazi  
Zaker Hussain Wildlife Pre-  
servation Efforts.

All the articles are interest-  
ing and will easily be under-  
stood by common readers  
including those having no  
background of science educa-  
tion. The style of writings of  
almost all the writers is also  
very lucid and attractive and  
no reader is therefore sposed  
to suffer from boredom while  
reading the book.

Mr Muti, a well-known  
writer who is dedicated to  
popularise science in our coun-  
try could tell us better than  
anybody if the percentage of  
people interested in science  
education is increasing and how  
to increase this rate further.

**BENODE DAS GUPTA**