

Islamic Varsity will also teach science, technology

SARSINA (Barisal), Dec. 8: Prime Minister Shah Azizur Rahman today justified democracy and multi-party system from Quranic verses and said besides the basis of Islamic Faith, the Holy Quran also lays down the political and social laws and a dynamic economic order, reports BSS.

Addressing a big public meeting at Sarsina Alla Madrasa playground on the occasion of annual Esale Sawab of late Pir Saheb of Sarsina, he said the Quran was the nucleus of all principles of Islamic knowledge and action.

Explaining the political system and economic order of Islam he said a democratic parliament existed during the time of the Holy Prophet and the caliphs who legislated according to the directions in divine revelations.

A Muslim he said cannot attain nearness to Allah unless he fulfills the basis conditions (1) Awe of Allah called 'Taqwa', (2) Renunciation of worldly possessions and wealth called 'Zuhd', (3) Contentment called

'Qena'. There are drawings by Muslim Arab Engineers (5th to 15th Century) showing how water can be impounded, conducted through canals, forced up into fountain jets and used to run water wheels. By building massive cisterns and by distributing the stored water through complex irrigation system, they were able to create cities in the desert. The Arabs, he said, were the fathers of modern horticulture. It was from the Arab Muslims that the world learnt the techniques of growing sesame, rice, melons, dates, pepper, ginger, singa, cloves, coffee and cotton, oranges and sugarcane. Al-Jazari's Castle water clock 13 ft high and 12 ft. long is world famous.

Al Haytun invented microscope. He in his book of optics

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laid the foundation of optical knowledge. Al Razi's Medical encyclopaedia is the basis of Modern Medical Science. Ibne Sina (10th century) wrote 43 books on Medicine. Al Zahrawi excelled in Surgery. Gama's pilot was Ibne Majid. The most remarkable map of the world was drawn by Al-Idrisi. From Abu Mashar the great Muslim astrologer the west first learnt about connections between the moon and the tides. Yaqut Al Rumi compiled a massive six volumes Geographical Dictionary (13 century). Omar Khayyam first devised a calendar in 11th century. Islamic architecture inspired the world.

Referring to the glorious contributions of the Muslims to science and technology in the past the Prime Minister said Madrasa education has to be amalgamated with modern scientific education. In this context he appreciated the establishment of an academy of science in Sarsina Alla Madrasa.

He said the Islamic University at Jessore, Kushtia will be a modern university teaching science, technology and agriculture. However, it will have a compulsory subject on Islamic studies, he added.

Pointing to the role played by Bangladesh in the Third World, Commonwealth and the Islamic World, Shah Azizur Rahman stressed the need for further stimulating Islamic solidarity and fraternity among the Muslim countries.