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## Primary schools celebrate Hasina's birthday

Mohiuddin Alamgir | Updated at 12:32am on September 28, 2018



Prime minister Sheikh Hasina. — UNB file photo

Students and teachers of primary schools across the country on Thursday celebrated 72nd birthday of prime minister Sheikh Hasina wishing her a long life.

Students and teachers of almost all primary schools in regular assembly prior to the beginning of academic activities on Thursday held a special prayer session, some of them cut cake and arranged discussion as part of the birthday celebrations, said Directorate of Primary Education officials.

'Almost all schools held a special prayer session during assembly seeking long life of prime minister Sheikh Hasina,' said director general of the directorate Abu Hena Mostofa Kamal.

He said that the directorate did not instruct anyone to arrange such celebrations, rather school authorities spontaneously held the programme out of respect to prime minister. He made the comment as a number of teachers said that they got instruction from district primary education officer to hold the celebrations of the birthday of Hasina, also the ruling Awami League president.

School authorities staged the celebrations one day ahead of Hasina's birthday that fell on Friday.

On September 28, 1947, Hasina, the eldest of the five children of the country's founding president Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Begum Fazilatunnesa, was born at Tungipara in Gopalganj.

There are 1.72 crore students and 5.74 lakh teachers at 1.34 lakh government and non-government primary schools.

The director said that some of the school authorities used to celebrate Hasina's birthday in the past but this year the celebrations caught attraction of people because of the vibrant social media.

Primary school authorities celebrated Hasina's birth day when the government was planning to set up a corner at about 20,000 secondary schools after the name the country's founding president Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, aiming to inform next generation about his contribution.

Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education in June asked all schools to collect a title on addresses of Hasina as reference book.

Since 2017, National Curriculum and Textbook Board has printed Hasina's photograph on the back cover of the textbooks for Class I-V in line with the recommendation of the parliamentary standing on primary and mass education ministry.

The directorate in 2014 asked all educational institutions to collect three books on Sheikh Mujibur Rahman written by a bureaucrat.

The parliamentary standing committee on primary and mass education ministry in June 2017 recommended display of Sheikh Mujib's portrait in every primary school classroom and office.

Textbooks for primary and secondary schools contain several photographs of Sheikh Mujib Rahman and contents on him.

There is a writing titled Mukijuddhader Katha with a photo of Sheikh Mujib in Class I Bangla textbook, a short biography of Sheikh Mujib titled Amader Jatir Pita with three pictures in Class III Bangladesh and Global Studies textbook, a photo in Class IV Bangladesh and Global studies textbook showing Sheikh Mujib delivering his historic March 7 speech and a writing titled Amader Khoka and a sketch of Sheikh Mujib with a poem Muktir Chhara in Class IV Bangla textbook.



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