

# DU VC not willing to serve beyond interim government's tenure

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*Professor Niaz Ahmed Khan | Collected photo*

Dhaka University vice-chancellor Professor Niaz Ahmed Khan said on Sunday that he had no intention of continuing in his role once an elected government took office.

He emphasised that he had joined the university under special circumstances and did not wish to obstruct the functioning of a political government.

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Speaking to New Age on Sunday evening, he described his role as primarily a 'salvage operation,' and noted that he expected to remain in office until the elections were held.

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'I tried to stabilise a few things, and the university has reached a certain stage. Democratic bodies have resumed functioning, discipline has largely returned to the halls, and funds have been secured,' he said.

'My job was to set things in order. An elected government will now take it forward. I do not want to stand in their way. It is natural that they will make decisions as they see fit,' he added.

Professor Niaz clarified that he had assumed the position of vice-chancellor only for the interim period.

'If the elected government feels it needs me, I will discuss it and may reconsider,' he said.

He also mentioned that he was considering his options for the future. 'Going abroad as an ambassador is one possibility that has been discussed, but I have not received any formal proposal,' he said.

When asked why he was concerned about a political government despite leading an autonomous institution, he explained that it was 'normal in Bangladesh's context.'

'Dhaka University is a national institution. When an elected government comes, it has its own priorities, and I respect that. I am not a partisan person; I am non-political, and I do not want to obstruct their plans,' he said.

Professor Niaz further stated that he had not joined for a four-year term.

'Others came for four years, but I did not. I joined temporarily. I do not see this as a job. I am a teacher, and I want to return to my department,' he said.

Regarding recent media reports and social media posts suggesting that he was set to be appointed as Bangladesh's next ambassador to Denmark, he clarified that he had not yet received any such proposal.