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Memoirs of an educationist

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Chandpur District (erstwhile Tripura Dist) in 1906 in a respectable muslim family, MA Kuddus started his career as an educationist, which spanned 33 (thirtythree) years and retired as the additional director of Public Instructions (ADPI). He was the first superintendent of Comilla Primary Training Institute in 1951 and introduced adult education in the programme of Bangladesh Academy for Rural Development (BARD) in 1960.

Late MA Kuddus always believed in female education in which the country lagged far behind and advocated to build an educated society. As an eminent instorian, research personality and literateur, he wrote atleast 50 books on different subjects. Most of which bore historical contents. He worked extensively on the Comilla days of the Rebel Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam.

Among his recently published books of historical events Shahar Comilla (Comilla Town) Comilla Nazrul (Nazrul in Comilla), Comillar Smaraniya Baraniya Worthy personalities of Comilla), collected works of Razia Khatun Chowdhurani, Comilla Zelai. Islam Prochar (Preaching of the Ismam in Comilla District), Pyar-e-Habib (Habib's Love), Ami Jajabar Kabi (I am a Nomadic poet) etc. received applause from the readers. Moreover, he was one of the editors of the costly controversial volume on Comilla district, Comilla Zilar Itihash'.

While working for the centenary festival of the Rupjalal, a poetical work of Nawab Faizunnessa, he collected some lost pages of the invaluable book corresponding to the authority of the National Library of

Great Britain in London. When ever he got any information about any historical events or source related to his work, he used to rush to the spot to mark the personality. In this quest for knowing the unknown, he came to know from Mr Afsaruddin Ahmed (86), a close associate of the Rebel poet in the latter Comilla days that Nazrul first visited Comilla in 1922 to attend a conference and sang the inaugural song

etc. accorded him reception as an worthy son of the soil. Like most of the scholars-writers, he also was not beyond controvercies. The controvercies erupted solely because of his works (maximum of these) on Islamic ways of thinking and deliberations. Even the socalled extreme revolutionaries in the field of education and literature etc. termed him as a reactionary, which could hardly dishearten the distin-

When the country was gripped by floods in August last, the death of a distinguished educationist, research personality, literateur and founder of several educational institutions came as a shock to many.

Though it was not a premature death, yet the death at 83 of Jatiya Ekushey Award (1984) recipient. Abdul Kuddus is a great loss to the country, particularly in the field of education and research on the rebel poet, which was his pride, and passion.

Popularly called 'Dadu' (Grandfather) by the people of all age-groups in Comilla, MA Kuddus became a part and parcel of all socio-literary-cultural functions in the town as a resource personality in his later days. The scholar last addressed in the Jamtala of Poura Park on February 20 last in the 21-day Ekushey Programme organized by Teen Nadi Parishad in open air.

Born in the village Nasirkot under Hajiganj Upazila of



'Khodar Dulal Elo Shatadal'.

For his contribution in the field of education and research, he was decorated with National Ekushey Award in 1984. Atiul Literary Gold Medal in 1983, Ushash Literary Award in 1986 etc. Dhaka Mohammedan Spor-

guished personality.

The eventful life of M A Kuddus came to an end, at Dhaka Diabetic Hospital after prolonged illness on August 30 last at around 6 A.M. when overnight dew of the Autumn bhgan to dry off (fadeout).