



DU Day marked by anti-VC demonstrations

# Sickness of educational institutions has become a social disease

DU Correspondent

It was all there yesterday at Dhaka University. Some of the most famous names of the country, scores of lesser or hardly knowns and a happy turnout of the current students intermingled, mixed emotions of nostalgia, gaiety and enthusiasm bordering the over effusive in celebration of the sixth Dhaka University Day.

Introduced by the university authorities to replace the rudely dismembered tradition of rag day six years ago the day provides a chance for alumni, freshers, mid termers and the outgoing to converge on the hallowed campus that has, so many times in the past, been

where history was created.

The motto of the Day was to help build a society where there was a happy balance between physical and mental growth.

The Day dawning bright and sunny with a cool breeze gently fluttering National Flag and the University Flag was inaugurated by National Professor Nurul Islam on the lush green lawn adjacent to the University's Administrative Building.

Prof. Islam set the tone by observing that it was the duty of a university to help remove social unrest by turning out potential and worthy citizens.

Presided over by Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof Abdul Mannan wearing the sober and dignified convocation cloak and beret, the inaugural function was also addressed by DUCSU vice-president Sultan Mohammad Mansur and General secretary Mushtaq Hossain.

In delving deeper into the sickness of the educational institutions, Prof Nurul Islam said that the malaise had become a social disease. Explaining further, he said that conflict among the students had resulted in a general decline in the standard of education.

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Prof Islam said it could not be expected that all the students of an institution would choose the right path. Naturally a section might go the wrong way. But when this section became stronger the situation turned dangerous and detrimental to academic atmosphere, he added.

Dr. Islam held responsible those who he said, in the guise of patriots disrupted national progress and added that it was time to unmask them.

The National Professor said the responsibilities of a university should not be confined into its campus, rather, it should work as the heartbeat of all educational institutions.

Dr. Islam thought that one of the causes of campus unrest was negligence in teaching and research.

The Vice-Chancellor in his address cautioned those trying to create fresh violence on DU campus while a group of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) members demonstrated around the dais.

The JCD members raised different slogans and threw eggs and black handkerchiefs at the Vice-Chancellor. At that time, he announced that the demonstrators would be identified.

Prof Mannan said that the peaceful situation now prevailing on the campus would be maintained at any cost. If the congenial atmosphere was disturbed, various problems of the university including the session jam could not be solved. He sought cooperation from all quarters concerned to resist evil activities of any vested quarter.

The Vice-Chancellor said that those responsible for the recent violence on the campus were identified and proposals

were made to take punitive action against them.

Prof. Mannan expressed his grave concern over large scale copying in examinations and called upon all to come forward to build up social resistance against this vice.

In celebration of the Day exhibitions of books, photos, posters, handicrafts, arts and paintings were arranged. Different cultural programmes including music soiree, and recitations were held and open air dramas were also staged at the Arts Building, Teacher-Student Centre and Curzon Hall premises.

HASINA

Sheikh Hasina, President of Awami League, yesterday visited Dhaka University on this occasion. She also went to the DUCSU office where its leaders greeted her.