

DU  
2002

## Japanese award for DU Professor

Staff Correspondent

As recognition to the life contribution to cultural exchange between Japan and Bangladesh Prof Kibria of the Institute of Fine Arts of Dhaka University has been awarded a commendation of Japanese Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi.

Japanese Ambassador in Dhaka Jiro Kobayashi formally handed over the commendation to Prof Kibria at his residence on Wednesday evening. The function was attended by noted artists including Rafiqunnabi, Abdul Quayum Chowdhury, Abul Khair and Moynuddin Khaled.

Prof Kibria went to Japan for higher studies and stayed there from 1959 to 1963. He chose to go to Japan because he was fascinated, more than art itself, by the beauty of Japan and her inherent philosophies.

After completing higher education Prof Kibria came back home and joined the Institute of Fine Arts of Dhaka University as a faculty member and taught the concept of Japanese beauty to his students. He also masterfully blended the Japanese beauty and the beauty of Bangladesh into his artworks.

Kibria was very successful in creating this unique fusion of two traditions and his contributions were acknowledged many times at home and abroad. He received the Ekushey Padak in 1983 and Independence Day Award in 1999 are the most coveted awards of Bangladesh. He also received two awards for his excellence as an artist during his days as a student of Fine Arts in Japan. These include the Starlem Award at the First Young Asian Artist Exhibition held in Tokyo in 1959 and a prize at the All Japan Print Exhibition in 1960.

Prof. Kibria will visit Japan from October 6 and will hold a solo art exhibition in Tokyo.