

AURORA

**114th Senior
Staff Course**



Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre
Savar, Dhaka



114th Senior Staff Course Participants with Rector, BPATC & Course Management Team





Date of Publication

October, 2024

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Rector

Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre, Savar, Dhaka

Course Advisor

114th Senior Staff Course

Message

It is with great pleasure and pride that I extend my warmest congratulations to you, esteemed participants of the 114th SSC course for Joint Secretaries and equivalent offices at BPATC. This publication commemorates the culmination of your tenure here, dedicated to enriching your knowledge in public policy, administration, and the essential services we provide to our nation. Throughout this course, you have demonstrated exceptional dedication to understanding the intricate dynamics of governance, policy formulation, and the efficient delivery of public services.

As senior civil servants, your role in administration is pivotal—not only in executing policies but also in shaping them to resonate with the needs and aspirations of our people. The training you have received is not merely academic but a vital investment in our nation's future. The knowledge acquired, strategies developed, and networks established will empower you to lead with vision, integrity, and a profound sense of duty towards our citizens' welfare. As you return to your respective roles, I urge you to carry forward the lessons learned and the values reinforced during this course. Our collective goal as public servants is to enhance the quality of life for all Bangladeshis. Your leadership in public policy and administration will play a crucial role in achieving this, ensuring transparent, accountable governance responsive to our citizens' needs.

I am confident that the insights and experiences encapsulated within this publication will serve as enduring sources of inspiration and guidance as you advance in your public service journey. May this publication serve as a reminder of our shared commitment to the progress and prosperity of our nation. On behalf of BPATC, I extend my best wishes for your continued success in all your future endeavors, and eagerly anticipate the positive impacts of your contributions to our country's development.

With warm regards

Sayeed Mahub Khan



MDS

Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre, Savar, Dhaka

Course Director

114th Senior Staff Course

Message

It is indeed a great pleasure for me to know that the participants of 114th Senior Staff Course (SSC) are going to publish a souvenir to uphold the memories of the course. Now we are at the eve of 4IR. In this era of artificial intelligence and governance, the role of civil service expanded and demand competency, skill and positive outlook. The course modules one designed to meet the contemporary demand.

The SSC training provided to the Joint Secretary and equivalent level senior officials consisting of contents on public sector governance, development strategies and management, research and policy evaluation and cross-cutting contemporary issues including contents of maintaining physical fitness. The training also provided short field trip to see some public sector projects/private organizations to know how they are operating for achieving results in their specified areas. In the changing scenario of global economy, most modern technology and geo-political conflicting reality Bangladesh has been passing through a challenging time with conceivable footmark in its every socio-economic sector. However, Bangladesh has several numbers of medium- and long-term strategies in place that accommodated these challenges. We hope the skills and message received by the participating officials will start to pay off in implementing these strategies more efficiently while they resume to work back in the ministries.

Finally, I congratulate all the participating senior level officials of 114th SSC for their hard work, commitment, dedication to successful completion of the training. May all participating officials remain blessed with enormous joy, prosperity and happiness.

With warmest regards

Dr. Md. Mohoshin Ali



President

Souvenir Committee

114th Senior Staff Course

Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre, Savar, Dhaka

Message from the President

As participant as well as the president of the souvenir committee of the 114th Senior Staff Course comprised of a constellation of 27 bright civil servants hailing from four different services of the government I feel myself fortunate enough for finally becoming successful in publishing this beautiful and informative piece of souvenir called "Aurora". Today I wonder how time does fly. We did our Foundation Training and ACAD Training several years ago and now we are completing our SSC Training from this pioneering public servants' training providing institution called BPATC at Savar. BPATC as an apex Training Providing Institution of the government has not only retained its fame of the glorious past but also enhanced its dignity far and wide with the passage of time through gradual imparting of expertise among its trainers and staffs.

Within a short span of time of only 46 days this 114th SSC course has ingrained some core principles, values, knowledge, skills and good practices among the participants. It seems to me that when we will go back from here, we will definitely miss the morning P.T. which would keep us physically and mentally fit for the whole day. The gala reception and thanksgiving to the guest speaker by the manager of the day have undoubtedly added a new dimension of courtesy. By undergoing this rigorous course participants have been able to enrich themselves through gathering knowledge from the informative deliberations made by the qualified and distinguished guest speakers on different topics and subjects. Every day in the afternoon games and sports have always kept us vibrant. Moreover, exposure visits have always refreshed our body and minds.

On behalf of the Souvenir committee I, first of all, express my heartfelt gratitude and thanks generally to all participants and especially to the members of the souvenir committee for their unique contribution and untiring efforts in compiling such a huge task. Second, all respective members and staffs involved with the 114th SSC course deserve kudos for their proper counsel, guidance and support in various ways. I also firmly believe that the knowledge and skills gathered through the policy evaluation module will go a long way towards helping us in formulating proper policy for the government. Last but not the least the day to day interactions between CMT and the participants as well as internal conversation among participants have left an indelible impression on our minds. I think this souvenir "AURORA" will always remind us of our close bonds for all time to come.

With warmest regards

Babar Ali Mir

Course Management Team



Sayeed Mahbub Khan
Rector, BPATC



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Course Director



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Course Coordinator



Ms. Alina Aktar
Course Coordinator

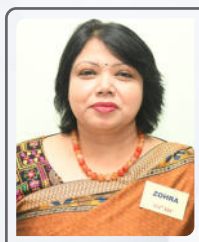
Souvenir Committee



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Dr. Sadia Sharmin
Member



Zohra Begum
Member



Md. Monzorul Haque
Member



Md. Siddiqur Rahman
Member



Mohammad Abul Hashem
Member



A.K.M Abul Kalam Azad
Member

Committees at a glance

Souvenir Committee

Babor Ali Mir	President
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Md. Siddiqur Rahman	Member
Mohammad Abul Hashem	Member
Zohra Begum	Member
Md. Monzorul Haque	Member
Dr. Sadia Sharmin	Member

Mess Committee

Md. Abdul Wahed	President
A.K.M Abul Kalam Azad	Member
Lubna Yasmine	Member
Abu Daud Md. Gulam Mustafa	Member
Zohra Begum	Member
Group Captain Md Mezbaul Islam	Member

Tour Committee

Rathindra Nath Datta	President
Alaya Khatun	Member
Jahidul Islam	Member
Habibun Nahar	Member
Sayedaf Afroz	Member
Sadia Sharmin	Member
Dr. Md. Aminul Islam	Member
A K M Tareque	Member
Meer Ahemed Tariqul Omar	Member

Sports Committee

Mahfuzur Rahman	President
S M Nazim Uddin	Member
Kazi Nazrul Islam	Member
Md. Arif Nazmul Hasan	Member
Habibun Nahar	Member
Sayedaf Afroz	Member
A K M Tareque	Member

Cultural Committee

Md. Shohelur Rahman Khan	President
Dr. Roksana Tarannum	Member
Habibun Nahar	Member
Sayedaf Afroz	Member
Captain A T M Shahid Ahsan	Member
Sadia Sharmin	Member
Munira Sultana	Member

Committees of the 114th Senior Staff Course



Souvenir Committee



Mess Committee

Committees of the 114th Senior Staff Course



Cultural Committee



Sports Committee

Committees of the 114th Senior Staff Course



Tour Committee

PARTICIPANTS INFORMATION



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Director General (Joint Secretary)

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
 CONTACT	 BLOOD GROUP
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
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AZAD

Official Address : Public Private Partnership Authority (PPA)
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Permanent Address : Vill: North Porgola, Post: Jujkhola,
Upazila: Pirojpur, District.: Pirojpur

Name of Spouse : Laboni Akhter

Spouse Profession : Housewife

Children : 1 Boy

Hobby : Travelling

Favorite Quote : "Let us sacrifice our today so that our children can have a better tomorrow"

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HABIBUN NAHAR

Joint Secretary

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20 th Batch	BCS (Administration)
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	30 November



NAHAR

Official Address : Economic Relations division, Ministry of Finance

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Dhaka -1214

Permanent Address : Vill : Krishnodia ,Post : Krishnodia,
Upazilla : Raygonj ,Dist : Sirajgonj

Name of Spouse : Md. Shamim Parvej Ibne Halim

Spouse Profession : Doctor

Children : Diba Tasnim-(girl) and Adib Parvej-(boy)

Hobby : Travelling

Favorite Quote : "Life is really simple, but we insist on making it Complicated" - Confucius

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MD MEZBAUL ISLAM

Group Captain

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01 Short GD (P)	Bangladesh Air Force
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MEZBA

Official Address : Deputy Chief Inspector (Operations),
Air Headquarters, Bangladesh Air Force

Present Address : Chayabithi 408/cha, Officers Quarters,
BAF Base Kurmitola

Permanent Address : Foyzon Villa, House-3, Road-1,
Kerani Para, Rangpur

Name of Spouse : Dr Mahzabeen Shahnaz

Spouse Profession : House Wife

Children : Md Muztahid Al Mahdee (Son), Tayeeba Tanjib Manha (Daughter)

Hobby : Golfing & Travelling

Favorite Quote : Nothing is Impossible

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DR. MUNIRA SULTANA

Joint Secretary

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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Official Address : Ministry of Cultural Affairs,
Bangladesh Secretariat

Present Address : Ashian-5, 18 Baily Road, Dhaka-1000

Permanent Address : College Road, Amlapara, Jamalpur Sadar-2000

Name of Spouse : Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury

Spouse Profession : Electrical Engineer

Children : 1 Daughter

Hobby : Watching movie, Shopping

Favorite Quote : N/A

E-mail : sultana2004@gmail.com



MONI



MAHFUZUR RAHMAN BPM (BAR)

Deputy Inspector General of Police

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18 th BCS	BCS (Police)
 CONTACT	 BLOOD GROUP
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RASHED

Official Address : Highway Police Headquarters,
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64 Dhamalkot, Road # 11, Dhaka Cantonment,
Dhaka – 1206

Permanent Address : Flat # A2, Ena Levant Rose, House # 37,
Road # 11, Dhaka Cantonment, Dhaka 1206

Name of Spouse : Farzana Nasreen

Spouse Profession : Teaching

Children : 3 (three) daughters

Hobby : Photography

Favorite Quote : “Do not despair of the mercy of Allah. Indeed, Allah forgives all sins.
Indeed, it is He who is the Forgiving, the Merciful.” (the Holy Quran 39:53)

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MEER AHMED TARIQUL OMAR

Joint Secretary

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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Official Address : Joint Chief, Physical Infrastructure Division,
Planning Commission

Present Address : A1/31, Naboneer Govt. Officers' Residential
Complex, Khiljee Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka

Permanent Address : A1/31, Naboyeer Govt. Officers' Residential
Complex, Khiljee Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka

Name of Spouse : Shahzadi Sonia Nasrin

Spouse Profession : Housewife

Children : 1 Sons & 1 Daughter

Hobby : Reading Books, Travel, Documentary

Favorite Quote : "I think, therefore I am". _rené descartes

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OMAR



MOHAMMAD ABUL HASHEM

Joint Secretary

 BATCH	 CADRE
20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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	18 May



HASHEM

Official Address : Physical infrastructure division,
Planning commission

Present Address : Flat B1, house -27, Road -16,
Dhanmondi residential area, Dhaka -1209

Permanent Address : Basu talukder bari, vill: yasin nager,
Post : Fakir tilla ,Upazilla : Raozan ,Dist : Chottogram

Name of Spouse : Sabrina halim

Spouse Profession : House maker

Children : Tahsan zaed rafsan (boy) Oamia nawal adiba-(girl)

Hobby : Travelling

Favorite Quote : Over devotion is the sign of a thief.

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ABU DAUD MD. GULAM MUSTAFA

Joint Secretary

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
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MUSTAFA

Official Address : Ministry of Disaster Management & Relief

Present Address : FQ # 22, Arunima, BARD, Kotbari, Cumilla

Permanent Address : Vill & Post.: Dhampti, Upazila: Debidwar, Cumilla

Name of Spouse : Azma Mahmuda

Spouse Profession : Service

Children : 2 Daughters

Hobby : Travelling

Favorite Quote : Don't live in the past, don't dream of the future,
focus on the present moment.

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DR. SADIA SHARMIN

Joint Secretary

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
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Official Address : Planning Division, Ministry of Planning

Present Address : 117 Gulshan Avenue,
House: Isamoti Govt. Apartment,
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Permanent Address : Sabuj Para, Post : Nilphamari,
Upazilla : Nilphamari, Dist : Nilphamari

Name of Spouse : S M Muzibul Alam

Spouse Profession : Private Service

Children : Afrida Mahzabin

Hobby : Traveling, Cooking, Watching Movie, Indoor Gardening

Favorite Quote : "Strong minds discuss ideas, average minds discuss events,
weak minds discuss people" ---- Socrates

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SADIA



MD. MONZORUL HAQUE

Joint Secretary

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
 CONTACT	 BLOOD GROUP
+88 01712074868	O Positive
	 DATE OF BIRTH
	06.01.1974

Official Address : Finance Division, Ministry of Finance,
Bangladesh Secretariat

Present Address : 4/F, Mohua, Sobhanbag Officer's Quarter (E-Type),
Dhanmondi, Dhaka

Permanent Address : Village- Deulabari, P/O- Raton Borish,
P/S- Ghatail, Dist- Tangail

Name of Spouse : Sauda Zaman

Spouse Profession : House Wife

Children : 2 girl(s)

Hobby : Travelling

Favorite Quote : N/A

E-mail : monjurul6688@gmail.com



MONJU



MD. ABDUL WAHED

Joint Secretary

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	01 August



WAHED

Official Address : Ministry of Industries, 91, Motizheel, Dhaka

Present Address : 3/10, Baily Square Officers Quarter,
Baily Road, Dhaka

Permanent Address : Vill : Jharbari, Upz : Birgonj; Dist : Dinajpur

Name of Spouse : Anju Wahed

Spouse Profession : House Maker

Children : Ashran Wahid Wrivu (boy) and Ashrafi Wahid Writu (girl)

Hobby : To watch a movie

Favorite Quote : "Love the Life You Live."

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S M NAZIM UDDIN

Joint Secretary

 BATCH	 CADRE
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 CONTACT	 BLOOD GROUP
+88 01937391910	A Positive
	 DATE OF BIRTH
	24.09.1971

Official Address : Ministry of Food, Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

Present Address : 2/7, Bardhanbari, Mazar Road, Mirpur-1

Permanent Address : Sikderpara, Rajarkul, Ramu, Cox's Bazar

Name of Spouse : Tarmin Siddika

Spouse Profession : House Wife

Children : 3 Girls

Hobby : Reading, Travelling

Favorite Quote : "Give me a deal mother, I will give you I deal nation"

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NAZIM



ZOHRA BEGUM

Deputy Inspector General of Police

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18 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
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ZOHRA

Official Address : ICT Division

Present Address : 246/02 West Agargaon, Dhaka

Permanent Address : 37/1, Hossaini Dalan Road, Dhaka

Name of Spouse : N/A

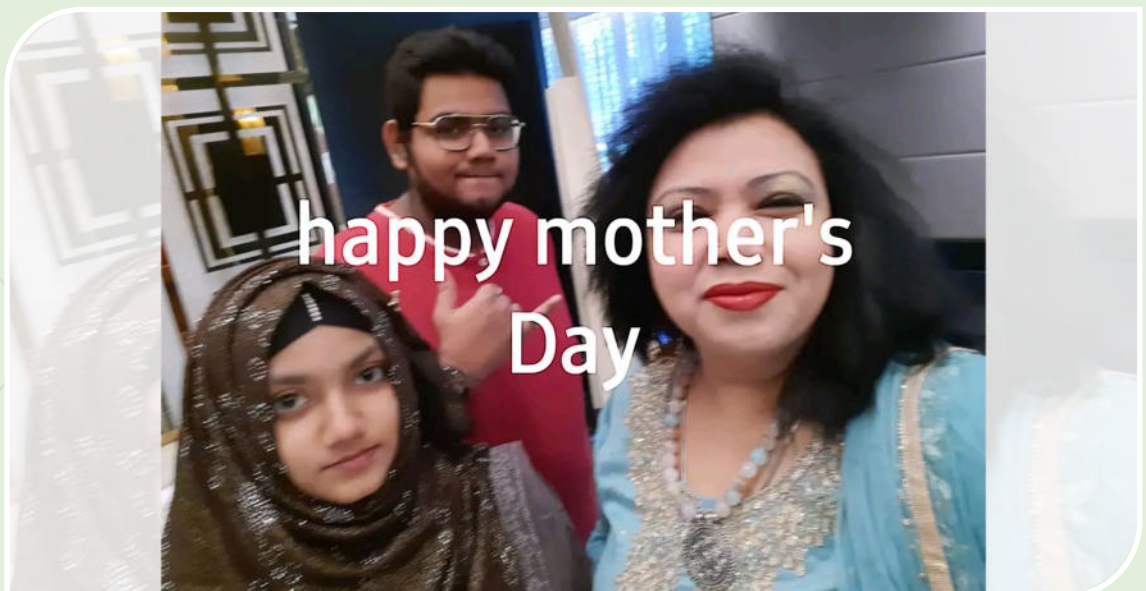
Spouse Profession : N/A

Children : a) Abdullah Abbas Raja (Son)
b) Samira Begum (Daughter)

Hobby : Travelling

Favorite Quote : It is better to fail in originality than to succeed in imitation

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JAHIDUL ISLAM

Joint Secretary

 BATCH	 CADRE
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	3rd January 1972



BIPLOB

Official Address : Rural Development and Co-operatives Division,
Ministry of Local Government,
Rural Development and Co-operatives.
Bangladesh Secretariats. Dhaka.

Present Address : House No. # 130/3/1, Baganbari,
South Madertek, Sabujbug, Dhaka.

Permanent Address : Village: North Kishamatjalla, Post+ Upazila: Islampur, District: Jamalpur

Name of Spouse : Sanjida Jahan

Spouse Profession : House Wife

Children : 2 Girls

Hobby : Play sports, listening music

Favorite Quote : "It is the smile of a child, the love of a mother, the joy of a father,
the togetherness of a family."

E-mail : jahidagri7840@gmail.com



MD. SIDDIQUR RAHMAN

Additional Director General
(Joint Secretary), DoE

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
 CONTACT	 BLOOD GROUP
+88 01715820740	B Positive
	 DATE OF BIRTH
	15.05.1969



SIDDIQUE

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Officer's Quarter

Permanent Address : Vill: Barakota, P.O.: Dakuarhat,
Upazila: Wazirpur, Dist.: Barisal

Name of Spouse : Mrs. Shanjida Rahman

Spouse Profession : Housewife

Children : 1. Lt. Ar-Rafi Rahman, 2. Anisa Rahman, 3. Tanisa Rahman

Hobby : Writing, Gardening, Fishing

Favorite Quote : High thinking, Simple living

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LUBNA YASMINE

Joint Secretary

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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	N/A

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Forest and Climate Change,
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka.

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Moghbar, Dhaka-1217

Permanent Address : B/305 (North) Khilgaon, Dhaka-1219

Name of Spouse : Md. Sharif Hossain Sarker

Spouse Profession : N/A

Children : 2 Daughters

Hobby : Music and gardening

Favorite Quote : "A life without prayer is life without power"

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LUBNA



RATHINDRA NATH DATTA

Joint Secretary

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	15/10/1973



RATHIN

Official Address : M/O Education

Present Address : 25, Tejkunipara, Tejgaon, Dhaka-1205

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Name of Spouse : Chandana Das

Spouse Profession : Housewife

Children : Two Daughter (1. Proggya Dutta, 2. Shreya Dutta)

Hobby : Reading Books

Favorite Quote : চলো মানুষকে ভালবাসি, সাহায্য করি

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ALAYA KHATUN

Joint Secretary

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	07 February 1975

Official Address : Ministry of Social Welfare,
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Permanent Address : Gouripur, Post & PS: Sherpur Sadar,
Sherpur-2100

Name of Spouse : A.K.M.Shahiduzzaman

Spouse Profession : Business

Children : A.K.M.Sajiduzzaman Prottay

Hobby : Travelling & Gardening

Favorite Quote : Where knowledge is limited, the intellect is bounded and liberation is impossible

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MADHU



A T M SHAHID AHSAN

General Manager, BN Dockyard, Mongla

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94B Batch in BM	Bangladesh Navy
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	05.11.1975



AHSAN

Official Address : GM Admin, BN Dockyard, Mongla

Present Address : Flat- E-2, House: 377, Road: 06,
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Permanent Address : 597 Senpara Parbata, Dhaka

Name of Spouse : Istar Jahan

Spouse Profession : Electrical Engineer

Children : 1 Son & 1 Daughter

Hobby : Reading, Writing, Angling

Favorite Quote : Friends do love always truly, the do not judge,
they are never happy, when you are unhappy.

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ROKSANA TARANNUM

Joint Secretary

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	26/12/1975

Official Address : Block: 6, Room: 17, Planning Commission
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Present Address : House: 26, Road: 13/A, Dhanmondi, Dhaka-1209

Permanent Address : 132/11, Mujgunni Res. Area, Khulna

Name of Spouse : Asif Hossain Chowdhury

Spouse Profession : Banking Service

Children : 2 Sons

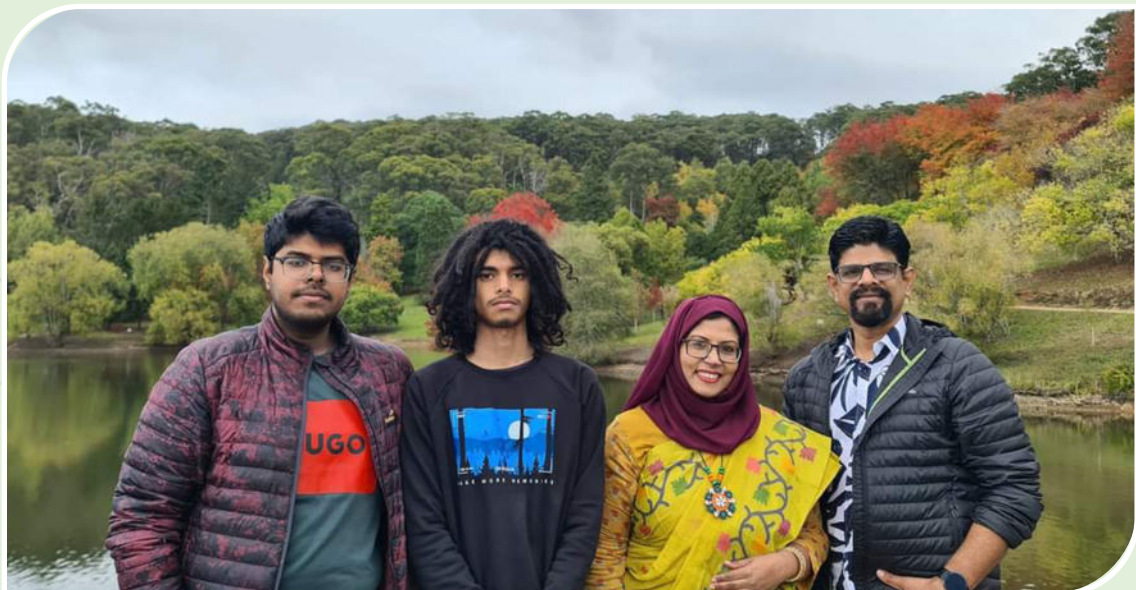
Hobby : Travelling, Music & Movies

Favorite Quote : “Dream is not that which you see while sleep,
dream is something that does not let you sleep”

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TARANNUM



AKM TAREQUE

Joint Secretary

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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	25/08



TAREQUE

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Name of Spouse : Shiny Shifa

Spouse Profession : Home maker

Children : Shahmat Sharar Adree, Shahmat Sharaf Aritro

Hobby : Sports & Travelling

Favorite Quote : এসো নিপবনে ছায়াবিহী তলে, এসো করো স্মান নবধারা জলে

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ARIF NAZMUL HASAN

Joint Secretary

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20 th BCS	BCS (Administration)
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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	28 June 1972

Official Address : Ministry of Public Administration

Present Address : Dhanmondi, Dhaka

Permanent Address : Shahjadpur, Sirajganj

Name of Spouse : Nazmoon Karim

Spouse Profession : Assistant Professor, Dhaka College

Children : 2 Daughters

Hobby : Reading Books, Sports

Favorite Quote : N/A

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ARIF



SAYEDA AFROZ

Joint Secretary

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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	01 September



SAYEDA

Official Address : Posts and Telecommunications Division,
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Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

Present Address : Iqbal Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka – 1207

Permanent Address : Iqbal Road, Mohammadpur, Dhaka – 1207

Name of Spouse : Faisal Ahmed

Spouse Profession : Civil Service

Children : 2 (Two)

Hobby : Gardening

Favorite Quote : 'Difficulties in your life do not come to destroy you, but to help you realize your hidden potential and power. Let difficulties know that you too are difficult (A.P.J. Abdul Kalam)'

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BABOR ALI MIR

Joint Secretary

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	 DATE OF BIRTH
	10 December



BAMIR

Official Address : Agriculture, water resources and rural institutions division, Planning commission

Present Address : Flat C-4, House -1/ga, Road -7/A, Jigatala, Dhanmondi residential area, Dhaka -1209

Permanent Address : Mir Barhi , village : Sreeghat ,Post : Shayera, Upazilla : Bagerhat ,District : Bagerhat

Name of Spouse : Mosammat Fatema Afroz

Spouse Profession : Teaching

Children : M. Raiyan Mir

Hobby : Travelling, playing, reading & writing books/articles

Favorite Quote : Man's conscience is the best oracle of almighty creator

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KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM

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Spouse Profession : Physician

Children : I) Farhan Ishraq Khan (Sohi) and II) Wazna Zinnurine Khan (Sharleez)

Hobby : Travelling

Favorite Quote : "I am not handsome but I can give my hand to someone who needs help...
Because beauty is required in the heart, not in the face...." – Dr. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam

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The image is a vertical composition. The top half shows a vibrant Aurora Borealis (Northern Lights) in shades of green and purple against a dark night sky. Below the sky, a calm body of water reflects the lights and the surrounding landscape. The middle ground is a dense forest of snow-covered evergreen trees. In the foreground, a large, glowing, textured sphere, resembling a planet or a moon, is partially visible at the bottom center. The overall scene is surreal and dreamlike.

CREATIVE WRITING



Taking a trip down the memory lane of my days spent at LKYSPP

Babor Ali Mir

Joint Chief, Joint Secretary, AWRRI Division, Planning Commission

Sometimes I wonder how quickly time does fly. Long 17 years back from now I have had my master in public administration from LKSP under NUS. Surpassing my beautiful childhood and youth, when have I become an oldster I don't know! Now a days standing before the looking glass I can't compare that BAMIR with the present one. We are living in the age of Chatbot and AI where many herculean tasks can be easily performed by inert robots. Sometimes I contemplate whether AI can one day replace our memory by achieving the capacity of reminding us what happened in our childhood, adulthood and past days. Before the advent of such improved technology let us carry forward our sweet memories of the historic incidents like war of independence of 1971 and our 2nd war of liberation for speech, life and liberty of people of August 5, 2024 from one generation to another.

Tonight, my sleep was broken at 4-30 a.m., I woke up from bed and stood at the balcony of my living room provided by BPATC. The sky was overcast with patches of black clouds. At that time, all on a sudden I began to reminisce my days passed at the LKYSPP (Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy) under NUS (National University of Singapore) in Singapore from 2006-2007.

It should be pertinent here to mention that prior to my study in Singapore, I was posted as AC (land) at Barisal Sadar Upazila. That was also a co-incident. The ministry of land made AC (land) placement order six months earlier but my Deputy Commissioner of the smallest district of Bangladesh was reluctant to release me and I was happily passing days with magistracy there. But when the land ministry put pressure on him, once he released me immediately from there and I joined at divisional commissioner's office Barisal as AC (land). Thus, I was the last AC (land) among my batchmates. Being appointed as AC (land) Barisal Sadar I availed an opportunity of playing lawn tennis regularly along with some senior officers like Divisional Commissioner, Additional Divisional Commissioner, PS to Divisional Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner Barisal. One afternoon I made undue delay in arriving at the tennis court for I was searching for scholarship at a computer shop on hourly payment basis. Without finding me in the tennis ground the Divisional Commissioner made a call to my cell phone and wanted to know where I was and what I was doing there. After knowing the reason, the next day, he gave the detailed information of LKYSPP and encouraged me to apply. After completion of the application process the University Authority instructed all the applicants to be present at hotel Sonargaon on a specific day. Professor Caroline Brassard of the LKY school took both written and viva voice examination of English efficiency there. After the end of the written test, I was called first and my interview was taken and I was offered both junior and senior level courses. Between the two I chose the senior level course. Afterwards the university authority confirmed my visa and Air ticket and on the scheduled date and time I landed at Singapore Changi International Airport. I was given a warm reception by the university authority. My joys knew no bounds when I arrived at the the picturesque Buki Timu Campus of LKYSPP university. There I first became acquainted with 59

Scholars from around 40 countries of the world.

Some 10 participants from China and Indonesia were brought from their countries at least one month before the formal beginning of the course in order to make drastic improvement of their English language proficiency. That day in the afternoon our accommodation was made at the Banyan condominium and the keys of the living rooms were handed over to respective participants. My apartment needed to be shared by two other course mates; one from Indonesia and the other from India. My Indonesian friend Tauvik Mohammad took possession of the master bed room earlier and Onil Omana Krishnan of Indian ICS took the next room to mine. Tauvik began to take extra care to both of us and in return we give up our right of sharing master bed room to him which was supposed to be occupied by rotation after the expiry of six months' interval stay for each.

My initial days in Singapore seemed very difficult as I didn't know how to cook food. So, I requested my wife and a lot my friends in Dhaka to send me cooking books. Two to three books were sent to me within a week. But still I failed to eat whatever I cooked. Seeing my deplorable condition my Indian friend Onil Omana Krishnan extended his helping hands towards me. He came to me and said, "Hey Bangladeshi bureaucrat you don't know how to cook food, come I will teach you in practice." From then onwards I learnt cooking and gradually things became normal to me. I was charmed by his hospitality also as he used to offer me vanilla ice-cream almost every afternoon. At one stage I also became addicted to chocolate ice-cream and began to buy various kinds of ice-cream boxes from super shops.

Our regular class began from the next day in the month of July 2006. It was a two-hour class without any break. There were two shifts. One group had to come to the class at 4 p.m. in the afternoon and the other group's class started at 9 a.m. in the morning. Fortunately, I belonged to the second group. I was fond of playing lawn tennis regularly at home. So, I had an ardent desire for playing lawn tennis and that's why I was desperately looking for a partner. At last my Singaporean friend Mr. Aziz Tayebally agreed to play tennis with me. For that purpose, every afternoon he had to drive 10 kilometers to come to our condominium and play tennis with me. We used to play single games and he played far better than me.

In another day I left my mobile phone in the class room and after reaching home I could not remember where I had lost my cell phone. Without finding any other alternative I informed the matter to our course coordinator Mrs. Agnes Tan Swe Tin. She was a very smart and dexterous lady. The next day when I entered the class, she handed over my lost mobile with a beaming smile in her face and said, "Behold Mr. Mir this is not Bangladesh, this is Singapore. Nobody will dare to touch your mobile for fear of harsh punishment because in the campus everything and everyone continuously remains under strict surveillance of close circuit camera."

Within a few days I found Mr. Paul Mbkeni from Cameroon as my belamy. We began to go to the university together walking on foot. Every morning he used to appear beside my living room and knocked at my door twice to alert me to get ready for going to the class. One day he informed me that that day his girlfriend would land in Singapore flying from the USA. As a close friend of Paul, I accompanied him in the Airport in order to receive his beloved. Before her arrival he was depicting his girlfriend as the best beautiful lady of the earth. That's why I was very curious to

become introduced with her. But after seeing her I became very much disappointed as I found her as a jet-black skinned lady whose face could not be clearly visible except her glittering eyes. It was a moonlight tryst. However, I thought in my mind that love looks not with the eyes but with the mind. Moreover, he was also a negro so his liking should be different from mine.

From the university once we were taken to Malaysia for a few days as part of our study tour. In Kuala Lumpur, the capital of Malaysia I saw durian fruit and I intended to buy one and taking taste of it. It was also available in Singapore but carrying it on the train was a punishable offence there. I asked the price of it to its seller. He demanded 50 Singapore dollars as its price. By that time my two Indonesian friends Tauvik and Arif Adhi Sanjay appeared there and expressed their desires to share it with me. So, we three friends bought the Durian fruit and ate it there at once. The taste was really awesome. I think it was the sweetest of all fruits in the world.

That was a very costly scholarship for us. Every participant used to get 2500 Singapore dollars per month. At that time one Singapore dollar was tantamount to almost 50 Bangladeshi takas. For gathering Bangladeshi foods, I had to visit Mostofa Center almost every weekend. From the point of view of expenditure 500 Singapore dollar was enough for me to defray my cost of the entire month. So, I could easily save 2000 sing dollar per month.

Another Indonesian Muslim friend of me Mr. Arif Adhi Sanjoy was a religious man. Every Friday he used to say his Jumma prayer at a new mosque. In our farewell speech he mentioned that he had completed saying prayers at all mosques of Singapore. However, towards the fag end of the course I also encountered many funny incidents.

Generally, Paul Mbkeni, Vinay and I used to go to the university by walking on foot and in the same way we returned home from school every day. One day both of them had some urgent pieces of businesses in the town so that day I had to walk the entire path alone. In the midway I faced an awkward situation. Naturally in Singapore dogs remain chained and governed by their owners. But on my way on that day while I was walking through the left side of the footpath, all on a sudden, I saw a lame poodle running towards me. Being terrified of its ferociousness I began to run in the opposite direction but still it continued to chasing me. For quite a few minutes I desperately ran in order to avoid dog bite. But still the dog showed no sign of respite from chasing me. Being exasperated in awe I was gasping. At one stage I had lost the strength of my body to run away and became dazed, lost and shaken. Then I took the decision to cross the road. When I went to the other side of the road the dog was gnawing at me intending to cross the road but suddenly a bus arrived there at that time and I dodged the dog by getting on the bus within the blink of an eye.

Another day I had an appointment with the course coordinator after the end of the class. After finishing the discussion with her I was looking for my close friends to walk together for our residences. But without finding me after waiting for some time perhaps they left the campus. Later on, I alone boarded on the lift. The next couple of days were holidays in occasion of the observance of the holy Eid-ul-Adha. It was an irony of fate for me that the lift was not opening when it stopped at the ground floor. As a result, despite my frantic efforts I failed to come out of it. Then I tried to make a phone call to my neighboring friend Onil and Tauvik. But what a tragedy! There was no network inside the lift. Clandestinely I was offering prayer to almighty

creator to get rid of that peril. At long last luck became benign upon me. Perhaps a few minutes later one person (might be the operator) came and took me out from the lift.

A luminous personality Kishore Mahabhubani was our dean at that time. In a recently published survey conducted by a famous company he has been ranked as one of the fifty greatest thinkers of the world. I also feel proud of a number of brilliant professors of LKSPP including Scot Fritzen and Caroline Brasard. LKYSPP graduates are honored worldwide. When I visited Monash university in 2019 at a civil servants' strengthening course, I was highly admired by a number of Australian professors for my presentation in the course there. They also inquired of me why I had not pursued my Phd yet.

We were basically the first batch of the Public Administration course at LKYSPP. And at that time the founder of the school, the stalwart legendary hero of Singapore Mr. Lee Kuan Yew was alive and I had the opportunity to ask him a question on Bangladesh economy when once he and his wife attended at a function of the university. Another student asked him about his prediction on Singapore's future economic condition. He smartly answered that there was no apprehension of downfall of Singapore's economy in near or distant future.

I will conclude my write up by citing one quotation of one my favorite LKYSPP professors who was a south Korean nationality of 85 years old and who used to teach us the subject of "Morality and Ethics". One day he said, "Suppose you are 60 students in the class and each of you intend to drink only half glass of wine tonight and in the same way if the entire Singaporeans want to take taste of half glass of wine each what would have happened to the law and order situation of Singapore? Will it be possible to control the law and order situation by deploying huge number of police and magistrates?" The answer was "no". By way of this parable he wanted to mean that raising individual morality among citizens can guide a nation to keep them in the right track towards prosperity and development. So, I must put an end to reminiscing my memory in this regard by saying that "Man's conscience is the best oracle of God".



G2G Policy Implementation of Public Private Partnerships (PPP) in Bangladesh

A.K.M Abul Kalam Azad

Director General, PPP Authority

The concept of Public Private Partnership (PPP) was launched for the development of countries' infrastructure. A PPP is a contract between a government and a private party in which the private party finances, builds, and maintains infrastructure for public use. PPP models are regularly used for different services and construction projects around the world. Developed and developing nations have diverse perceptions depending on the political, social, economic, and environmental aspects that exist. Although there are certain challenges, limitations, risks and community success factors, the implementation of the PPP framework also depends on country-specific factors. PPP practices in neighboring countries have been extremely successful. The PPP model has been applied in the implementation of 24 infrastructure projects in India, 11 number in Pakistan and number 37 projects in Malaysia. In Bangladesh PPP is applied to bridges, highways, airports, railways, power plants, healthcare and telecommunications infrastructure.

The Bangladesh Private Partnership Authority (PPPA) was established in 2010 to serve as a catalyst to proactively implement PPP projects. The main vision of PPPA is to develop sustainable public services and the mission is to provide an enabling environment for government organizations through PPP in the provision of public service infrastructure. Line ministries and divisions receive assistance from the PPP Authority in locating, submitting bids for, and funding PPP projects. Bangladesh has comprehensive policies, guidelines, legislations and regulatory bodies for PPPs. PPPs are essential to Bangladesh's rapid economic growth as they offer stakeholders a win-win solution. The establishment of the PPP Authority in Bangladesh in September 2011 in order to support PPP projects was made possible by the PPP policy of 2010. As part of the new reforms, the PPP Authority was created under the Prime Minister's Office. Since then, the World Bank's Investment Promotion and Financing Facility (IPFF) and the Asian Development Bank's (ADB) technical assistance project have collaborated with the PPP Authority to spearhead the implementation of PPPs in Bangladesh. The PPP Authority is mandated by Section 9 of the PPP Act 2015 to assist line ministries in identifying, designing, bidding and financing PPP projects. The Government of Bangladesh has also adopted in 2017 "Policy on Implementation of PPP Projects through Government-to-Government Partnerships" to build on strong bilateral relationships with others to develop and upgrade large public infrastructure in with other countries, in order to support economic growth in a sustainable manner and provide essential public services.

The policy delineates the terms of participation and the methods of execution for PPP initiatives to be executed within the context of a G2G collaboration. These projects are implemented with the assistance of other governments and are carried out by their public or private entities. Under this G2G Partnership Policy, PPP Authority signs a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with

a government ministry/agency to facilitate the implementation of projects by foreign private investors in Bangladesh.

The gross domestic product (GDP) of the Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has been growing progressively. Over time, the economy has changed from a rural economy to an urban and industrial economy. Bangladesh is required, within the framework of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), to expand its economic sector. The government of Bangladesh needs to increase its GDP by 8 % to achieve this. Despite its promise, the idea of public-private partnership has proven ineffective in Bangladesh due to several underlying challenges. The current implementation of G2G policy attributed to the absence of pre-feasibility studies for project selection, the unlimited number of PPP projects, the absence of competition between partner countries and experienced companies, the absence of Viability Gap Funding (VGF) agreement and the absence of duration of the G2G policy. There are few studies on the G2G policy of PPP project implementation in Bangladesh. The PPP project's implementation within the parameters of the G2G policy is having issues.

The Bangladesh government has encouraged the implementation of PPP projects and programs in various countries based on G2G partnership agreements. The adoption of the policy of implementation of PPP via the G2G partnership in 2017 is considered an important milestone in the PPP journey. The policy provides the framework for engagement and the modalities for implementation of PPP projects to be undertaken within the framework of a G2G partnership, the implementation of which is carried out with the support of other governments and executed by their public or private entities. Under this agreement the GoB may directly interact with other governments through this policy and ask for their assistance in implementing PPP projects.



Ratargul Swamp Forest: A Glimpse into Nature's Future

Dr. Sadia Sharmin

Joint Secretary, Planning Division, Ministry of Planning



Located deep within Bangladesh, in Sylhet district's Gowainghat upazila, lies Ratargul Swamp Forest, a flawless haven untouched by the passage of time. Renowned as one of the few freshwater swamp forests in the world. Ratargul exemplifies the enduring beauty of nature in the midst of modern times. This captivating destination not only offers a serene escape from urban life but also provides profound insight into the potential of sustainable tourism and conservation efforts for the future of our planet.

A Sanctuary of Biodiversity

Ratargul Swamp Forest is a sanctuary for a diverse tapestry of flora and fauna. Its submerged trees, primarily Gewa, Korocho, Hijal create an otherworldly ambiance as they stand partially submerged in the water, reflecting their vibrant green foliage on the waters beneath. The forest floor teems with life, from rare orchids to common amphibians and reptiles, making every step through its trails a discovery of new wonders.

Sustainable Tourism: Balancing Preservation and Experience

As a growing tourist destination, Ratargul exemplifies the delicate balance between preserving natural habitats and welcoming visitors. Sustainable tourism practices ensure that the integrity of the ecosystem remains intact while allowing tourists to experience its wonders responsibly. Visitors can explore the forest via serene boat rides, guided tours, or tranquil walks along designated paths, all under the watchful eye of trained guides who impart knowledge about the forest's importance and fragility.

Conservation Efforts

Beyond its aesthetic appeal, Ratargul Swamp Forest serves as an educational hub for researchers and nature enthusiasts alike. Conservation efforts are paramount here, with ongoing initiatives focused on protecting endangered species, reforestation, and raising awareness about the importance of preserving wetland ecosystems. Local government, communities and local administration are integral to these efforts, benefiting economically from tourism while actively participating in conservation activities, ensuring a sustainable future for both the forest and its inhabitants.

The Promise of Ecotourism

Ratargul Swamp Forest stands as a beacon of hope for the future of ecotourism—a model where nature conservation and tourism can coexist harmoniously. By showcasing the natural beauty of Bangladesh's wetlands, Ratargul not only attracts visitors seeking a deeper connection with nature but also underscores the need for global initiatives to protect and preserve such fragile ecosystems worldwide.

Enhancing Accessibility and Sustainability

Ratargul Swamp Forest presents a unique opportunity for sustainable infrastructure development aimed at enhancing visitor experience while preserving its delicate ecology. The following proposals for infrastructure improvements may be taken.

Access Roads and Parking Facilities:

- Constructing well-maintained access roads leading to the forest entrance, ensuring smooth transportation for visitors.
- Designating eco-friendly parking areas outside the forest to minimize environmental impact.

Visitor Centers and Information Booths:

- Establishing visitor centers equipped with educational displays, maps, and guides to orient and educate tourists about the forest's biodiversity and conservation efforts.
- Setting up information booths at key points to provide guidance on trails, safety tips, and the importance of preserving the ecosystem.

Sustainable Lodging and Accommodation:

- Developing eco-friendly lodging options such as lodges or eco-lodges designed to blend with the natural surroundings, utilizing renewable energy sources and minimizing waste.
- Partnering with local communities to offer home stay experiences, providing economic opportunities while immersing visitors in local culture.

Trail Systems and Viewing Platforms:

- Creating well-marked trail systems with minimal environmental impact, ensuring pathways are sturdy and easy to navigate for visitors.
- Constructing elevated viewing platforms strategically placed to offer panoramic views of the swamp forest, enhancing the visitor's experience without disturbing wildlife habitats.

Boat Docks and Guided Tours:

- Building sturdy boat docks and launching points for guided tours, ensuring safe and regulated access to explore the forest from the water.
- Training local guides proficient in ecotourism principles, biodiversity knowledge, and safety protocols to lead informative and responsible tours.

Waste Management and Facilities:

- Installing eco-friendly waste disposal systems such as composting toilets and recycling stations throughout the forest to minimize litter and pollution.
- Implementing strict waste management policies and encouraging visitors to adhere to leave-no-trace principles to preserve the pristine environment.

Research and Conservation Facilities:

- Establishing research stations equipped with laboratories and monitoring equipment to facilitate ongoing studies on the forest's biodiversity, climate resilience, and ecosystem health.
- Collaborating with universities, conservation organizations, and government agencies to conduct research and implement conservation initiatives aimed at protecting endangered species and habitats.

Community Engagement and Economic Opportunities:

- Engaging local communities in infrastructure development and tourism management, fostering a sense of ownership and providing training in hospitality, guiding, and sustainable practices.
- Promoting community-based tourism initiatives such as handicraft workshops, cultural performances, and local cuisine experiences to diversify income sources and showcase native culture.

Infrastructure development at Ratargul Swamp Forest should prioritize sustainability, accessibility, and conservation to ensure that future generations can continue to appreciate and benefit from its natural beauty. By integrating these infrastructure improvements with robust conservation efforts and community engagement, Ratargul can emerge as a model for responsible ecotourism and environmental stewardship on a global scale. A souvenir from Ratargul Swamp Forest encapsulates more than just a memory of a picturesque destination. It symbolizes our collective responsibility towards safeguarding earth's natural wonders. As we look ahead, destinations like Ratargul inspire us to embrace sustainable practices and forge a path towards a future where tourism and conservation thrive hand in hand.



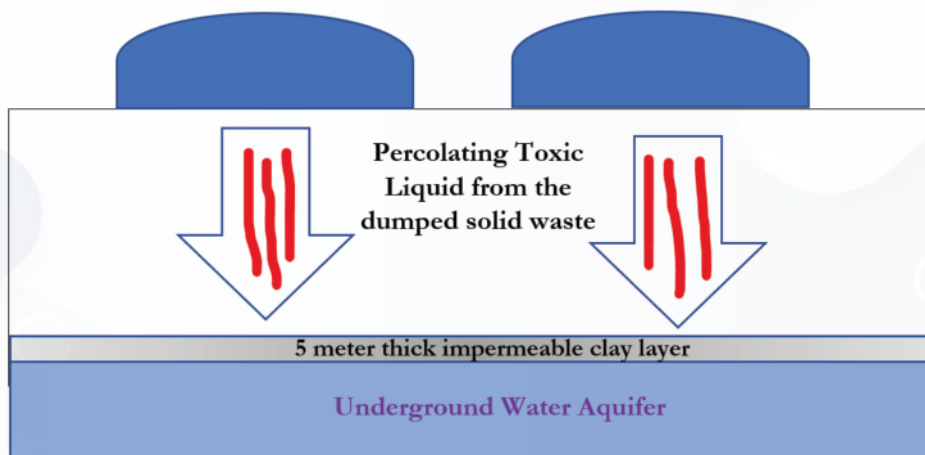
Cogwheel

Meer Ahemed Tariqul Omar

Joint Secretary

The office hour was closing, a hurry was conspicuous in the afternoon ambience of a late winter. Mr. Omar Ali, Assistant Director of IMED was wrapping up the last minutes tasks. All on a sudden an office assistant rushed into his room and delivered a 200-page project proposal and an impending meeting notice. Omar Ali scanned the notice that announced that a Project Evaluation Meeting would be held on the very next day at 10 am in the morning, where he would remain present as the representative of the IMED. Omar Ali was a bit annoyed with the short notice of the meeting, which was supposed to be served at least 5 working days before.

Ali was about to miss the shuttle bus for his way back home. Returning home after an hour bus ride pushing through the huge traffic jam of Dhaka, he had an evening tea. Then he started to skimming through the project document. It was about the construction of a landfill under the then Dhaka City Corporation. The proposed location was in Amin Bazar. Mr. Omar studied the document till 12'o clock in the midnight. Among the 200 pages of the document, Omar Ali found one letter from the Japanese consultant of the just completed Matuail landfill project. In that letter the consultant recommended to test the soil condition of the Amin Bazar site before its final selection. The letter stipulated that the soil be impervious enough to prevent the percolation of the toxic liquid of the solid waste and the permeability rate not exceed 5 cm per year.



The letter also recommended that the site have a 5-meter-thick impermeable layer of clay so that the toxic element not reach the aquifer underneath. Mr. Omar found no soil test report of the site in the document that intrigued his curiosity.

Next morning, Assistant Director Omar Ali drew the kind attention of the PEC Chair about the soil test report. The project officials informed the meeting that the test had not been done yet, but

there was cost head for conducting the soil test in the proposed project proposal. As a complementary question, the Public Health concern of the seepage of the landfill toxic liquid into the ground water aquifer was raised in the meeting, if anything wrong happened who would bear the responsibility of death or perpetual health damage over the generations to come.

The Chair opined that Mr. Ali's concern was valid and should be addressed. Despite the severe public health implication due to the extreme exigencies from the top policy makers and the lack of time for conducting the soil test the PEC recommended the project for the consideration of the apex committee, the ECNEC.

It was passed in the next ECNEC meeting. As a member of the professional bureaucrat, Mr. Omar Ali could not disown the responsibility but he had no authority to stop it.

The Government is a huge ship where Assistant Director Mr. Omar Ali was a mere cogwheel!

Omar Ali was pondering over the prevailing socio-political norms, if the teeth of the cogwheel are not fitted with the giant machine, it is to be replaced immediately. Nobody will give a second thought about the veracity of the fact or the strength of the logic pleaded for the common good.

Omar Ali did not get anymore promotion, was retired as Assistant Director with full pension benefit.



দ্রুন্দসী এলমিনা

মাহফুজুর রহমান বিপিএম (বার)

ডিআইজি, বাংলাদেশ পুলিশ।

ঘানা পশ্চিম আফ্রিকার একটি দেশ। ডক্টর কাওমে নকরুমার নেতৃত্বে এদেশের মানুষ ১৯৫৭ সালের ৬ মার্চ ব্রিটিশদের কাছ থেকে স্বাধীনতা অর্জন করেছিল। সেই থেকে গনতন্ত্র চর্চার একটি আদর্শ দেশ হিসাবে ঘানা ব্যাপক পরিচিতি লাভ করেছে। যদিও সামরিক অভ্যুত্থানের কারণে গনতন্ত্রের এই অগ্রযাত্রা কিছু সময়ের জন্য ছন্দ হারিয়ে ছিল। যেখানে পশ্চিম আফ্রিকার অধিকাংশ দেশেই যুদ্ধ বিগ্রহ আর হানাহানি বিরাজ করেছে, যেখানে ঘানা তার জন্মালগ্ন থেকেই গনতন্ত্র রক্ষায় সদা সচেতন।



ড: নকরুমার মূর্তি



নকরুমার সমাধিস্থল

ঘানা এক সময় "গোল্ড কোস্ট" হিসাবে পরিচিত ছিল। স্বর্ণ, আইভরি আর দাস ব্যবসার প্রাণকেন্দ্র ছিল আটলান্টিকের পাড়ের এই সম্পদশালী দেশটি। পর্তুগীজ, ওলন্দাজ, সুইডিশ, ডেনিশ এবং সর্বশেষ ব্রিটিশ বেনিয়াদের দ্বারা ঘানার অধিবাসীরা যুগ যুগ যাবত শাসিত-শোষিত, আক্রান্ত ও নির্যাতিত হয়েছে। দেশটির সমুদ্র পাড়ে দাড়িয়ে থাকা অসংখ্য ক্যাসেল আর দুর্গ ঔপনিবেশিক শাসনামলের সে সব দুর্বিসহ দিনগুলোর কথাই আমাদেরকে স্মরণ করিয়ে দেয়। অবর্ণনীয় নির্যাতনের দুঃসহ স্মৃতি আজো এ অঞ্চলের বাতাসকে বেদনাময় করে রেখেছে। শত শত বছরের অত্যাচার, নীপিড়ন আর বঞ্চনার জলজ্যন্ত স্বাক্ষী এক একটি ক্যাসেল। ক্রিস্টিয়ানবার্গ ক্যাসেল, ফোর্ট গুড হোপ, ফোর্ট প্যাসেন্স, ফোর্ট আমস্টারডাম, ফোর্ট উইলিয়াম, ফোর্ট সেইন্ট সেবাস্টিয়ান, ফোর্ট অরেঞ্জ, ফোর্ট বাটেনস্টিয়েন, ফোর্ট মেটাল ক্রস, গ্রস-ফ্রিডরিচবার্গ, ফোর্ট সেইন্ট এন্টনী, ফোর্ট এপোলোনিয়া, কেপ কোস্ট ক্যাসেল, ফোর্ট সেইন্ট জাগো এবং এলমিনা ক্যাসেল - প্রতিটি স্বপনা যেন এক একটি বেদনাবিধুর মহাকাব্য।

আইভরিকোস্ট শান্তিরক্ষা মিশনে কাজ করার সুবাদে ঘানা ভ্রমণের সুযোগ আমার হয়েছিল। সে সময় আমি এলমিনা ক্যাসেল দেখেছি। ক্যাসেলটি ঘানার দক্ষিণ পশ্চিমের একটি পরিপাটি ও সুন্দর পর্যটন শহর কেপ কোস্টে অবস্থিত। এ শহরে এলমিনা ছাড়াও কেপ কোস্ট ক্যাসেল ও ফোর্ট সেইন্ট জাগো নামে আরো দুটি ক্যাসেল রয়েছে। ১৪৮২ খ্রীষ্টাব্দে পর্তুগীজ নাবিকরা তৈরী করে "সাও জর্জ দা মিনা" ক্যাসেল যা স্থানীয়দের কাছে "এলমিনা ক্যাসেল" নামে অধিক পরিচিত। স্থাপত্য ইতিহাসে ট্রপিক্যাল আফ্রিকায় এলমিনা ক্যাসেলই সর্ব প্রথম ইউরোপীয় স্থাপনা হিসেবে স্বীকৃত। ১৬৩৭ খ্রীষ্টাব্দে ডাচদের কাছে পরাজয়ের আগ পর্যন্ত এলমিনা ক্যাসেল পশ্চিম আফ্রিকায় পর্তুগীজ সাম্রাজ্যের সদর দপ্তর ছিল। ১৫ ও ১৬ শতাব্দীতে পর্তুগীজরা এ অঞ্চলে ব্যবসা বানিজ্যে উন্নতির চরম শিখরে পৌঁছেছিল। মরক্কো থেকে বিপুল পরিমাণ নতুন-পুরাতন কাপড় ও কস্টাল এবং উত্তর ইউরোপ থেকে তামা, ব্রাসওয়্যার, ধাতব ব্রেসলেট, লোহার কেতলী ও বার আমদানী করা হতো আর বিনিময়ে স্থানীয় বাজার থেকে স্বর্ণের গুড়ো ও অলংকার সংগ্রহ করা হতো।



এলমিনা ক্যাসেল



ক্যাসেলের প্রধান ফটক



কর্মব্যাস্ত জেলে পাড়া

আমদানীকৃত কাপড় পরিবহন ও ব্যবসা বানিজ্যে কায়িক শ্রমের প্রয়োজন হওয়ায় ১৬ শতকের প্রারম্ভে পর্তুগিজরা পান্থবর্তী বেনিন থেকে কৃষ্ণাঙ্গদের দাস হিসাবে ধরে নিয়ে আসা শুরু করে। সেই থেকে এলমিনা ক্যাসেল মানব ইতিহাসের কলঙ্কময় অধ্যায়ের অর্থাৎ দাস ব্যবসার সাক্ষীতে পরিণত হয়।

এলমিনা ক্যাসেলের প্রতিটি ইট পাথর অত্যাচারিত কৃষ্ণাঙ্গ নারী পুরুষের অবর্ণনীয় দুঃখ, সীমাহীন কষ্ট, নিষ্ফল আহাজারি আর অসহায় কান্নার কথা বলার জন্য যেন ব্যাকুল হয়ে আছে। তথাকথিত ইউরোপীয়ান সভ্যদের বর্বর আর অসভ্য আচরণের কাহিনী ক্যাসেলের ভূগর্ভস্থ অন্ধকার কারাকক্ষগুলোতে আজো ভেসে বেড়াচ্ছে। হাতে পায়ে লোহার বেড়ি আর ভারী শিকল বেঁধে অন্ধকার কুঠুরীতে পশুর মত গাদাগাদি করে রাখা হতো কৃষ্ণাঙ্গ আদম সন্তানদের। আলো বাতাস বলতে ছাদের কাছে ছোট্ট এক গর্ত যা দিয়ে সর্বোচ্চ দুটো বিড়াল পাশাপাশি আসা যাওয়া করতে পারে। তিন চার দিন পর পর কিছু খাবার দেয়া হতো তাও অপ্রতুল। মহিলা ও পুরুষদের জন্য পৃথক পৃথক "ডানজিওন" অর্থাৎ ভূগর্ভস্থ কারাকক্ষ ছিল। প্রকৃতির ডাকে সাড়া দেয়ার কাজ কুঠুরীর মধ্যেই সারতে হতো। পয়ঃনিষ্কাশনের জন্য বৃষ্টির পানি বিশেষ ভাবে ড্রেনের মাধ্যমে প্রবাহিত করে "ডানজিওন" গুলোর মধ্য দিয়ে সমুদ্রে ফেলা হতো। বৃষ্টি না আসা পর্যন্ত নিজেদের মলমূত্রের মধ্যেই কৃষ্ণাঙ্গ এই সকল আশরাফুল মাখলুকাতদের দিনাতিপাত করতে হতো। সৃষ্টিকর্তাকে ডাকা আর উন্মাদের মতো চিৎকার করা ছাড়া এই বন্দীদের আর কিছু করার ছিল না।



অন্ধকার ডানজিওন



শিকল ডান্ডাবেরী



বিশেষ ড্রেন

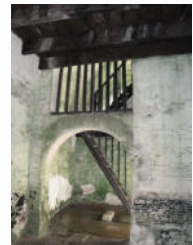
এই রকম মানবের অবস্থায় তাদেরকে তিন চার মাস বন্দীদশায় থাকতে হতো কখনো বা আরো বেশী সময়। সব কিছু নির্ভর করতো জাহাজের আগমনের উপর। মহিলা বন্দীদের দুর্দশা আরো বেশী অমানবিক। ক্যাসেলে থাকা অবস্থায় কোন বন্দীর কপালে গোসল জুটতো না। ব্যতিক্রম গুটি কয়েক নারী বন্দী। ইউরোপীয় কর্তাদের যখন ফুটি করার বাসনা জাগত, তখন সুশ্রী তিন চারজন নারী বন্দীকে ক্যাসেলের ভিতরে একটি খোলা জায়গায় জড়ো করা হতো। এরপর তাদেরকে গোসল করানো হতো। বন্দীদশায় এটাই তাদের প্রথম স্নান। কর্তারা ভোগ্যপণ্যদের নিজেদের মধ্যে ভাগ বাটোয়ারা করে নিত। এর মধ্যে যদি কোন নারী নিজ সন্ত্রম রক্ষায় বেঁকে বসতেন, তখনই তার উপর নির্মম অত্যাচার নেমে আসতো। ঐ খোলা স্থানেই তাকে পায়ে মোটা শিকল বেঁধে ভারী লোহার গোলকের সাথে আটকে রেখে নির্যাতন করা হতো যতক্ষণ পর্যন্ত না সে নতি স্বীকার করে। অনেকক্ষেত্রেই বিদ্রোহী নারীটি মৃত্যুকেই আলীঙ্গন করে নিতেন। অমানবিক এই আচরণগুলো অসভ্য ইউরোপীয় কর্তাব্যক্তির দোতলার বারান্দা থেকে উপোভোগ করতো।



নারীদের জড় করার ও গোসলের স্থান



কর্তারা দোতলায় থাকতেন



এই সিঁড়ি দিয়েই দোতলায় নেয়া হতো

অত্যাচার আর নিপীড়নের এখানেই শেষ নয়। পুরুষদের মধ্যে কিছু বন্দীকে কায়িক পরিশ্রমে বাধ্য করা হতো। অমানুষিক পরিশ্রম করা হলেও তারা অন্তত আলো বাতাসের দেখা পেত। বাকীদের জীবন ডানজিওনের অন্ধকারেই কাটতো অনাহার,

ব্যাধি আর মুক্ত বাতাসের জন্য চরম হাহাকারের মধ্যে। বিদ্রোহী বন্দীদের জন্য বিভীষিকাময় ডেথ সেলের ব্যবস্থা ছিল এলমিনা ক্যাসেলে। আনুমানিক দশ ফিট বাই দশ ফিট আয়তনের এই অন্ধকার কক্ষে আলো প্রবেশের কোন উপায় নেই। বিদ্রোহীদেরকে এই মৃত্যুকুপে একবারই প্রবেশ করানো হতো। খাবারের অভাবে আর ক্ষতের রক্তক্ষরণে তারা মারা গেলে লাশ বের করে কোন রকম সৎকার ছাড়াই সমুদ্রে নিক্ষেপ করা হতো। সবচেয়ে বড় পরিহাস হচ্ছে অনাহারে আর অত্যাচারে নীচতলায় যখন এই কালো আদম সন্তানেরা সৃষ্টিকর্তার কাছে মৃত্যু কামনারত, উপর তলায় তখন ইউরোপীয় সাহেবরা গীর্জায় তাদের নিরবিচ্ছিন্ন সুখ-সমৃদ্ধির জন্য ঈশ্বরের কাছে প্রার্থনায় নিবেদিত। গীর্জার ফলকটিতে আজো লেখা আছে "ঈশ্বর এ ঘরের বাহিরে থাকেন না।" মনুষ্যত্বের সাথে কি নির্মম পরিহাস। সাহেবদের কক্ষগুলো ছিল সুপরিসর, পরিষ্কার পরিচ্ছন্ন, আলোকিত আর সমুদ্রের নির্মল হাওয়ায় ভরপুর।



ডেথ সেল



সাহেবদের সুপরিসর কক্ষ

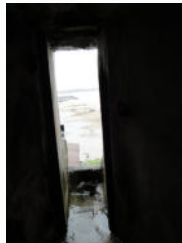


গীর্জার ফলক

মাসের পর মাস এভাবে অত্যাচার আর অনাহারে কাটানোর পর বন্দীরা হাড্ডি চর্মসার হলে এক সময় বেনিয়াদের জাহাজ আসতো এবং তাদেরকে সরু একটি দরজা দিয়ে ছোট ছোট নৌকায় করে জাহাজে তোলা হতো। দরজাটি এতোটাই সরু ছিল যে একজন স্বাভাবিক আকৃতির মানুষের পক্ষে সে পথ দিয়ে যাওয়া প্রায় অসম্ভব ছিল। কিন্তু বন্দীরা অপুষ্টিতে ভোগার ফলে তাদের দৈহিক আকৃতি খর্বকায় হয়ে পড়তো আর ঐ সরু দরজা গলে তাদেরকে নৌকায় তোলা খুব কঠিন হতো না। এই দরজাটির নাম ছিল "ডোর অফ নো রিটার্ন।" এই দরজা দিয়ে যে সকল বন্দীদের জাহাজে নেয়া হতো তাদের আর কখনও নিজ মাতৃভূমিতে ফেরার উপায় ছিল না। তাদেরকে দাস হিসাবে ব্যবহারের জন্য সমুদ্র পথে সুদূর ইউরোপ, আমেরিকা আর আরব দেশে নিয়ে যাওয়া হতো। উনিশ শতকের প্রারম্ভে যখন দাস প্রথার অবসান ঘটে, তখন ব্রিটিশরা এলমিনাসহ ঘানার অন্যান্য ক্যাসেলের সবগুলো "ডোর অফ নো রিটার্ন"-কে বন্ধ করে দেয়। সেই সাথে শেষ হয় মানব ইতিহাসের এক কলঙ্কময় অধ্যায়ের।



ডোর অফ নো রিটার্ন



এ পথেই শেষ যাত্রা



পূর্ব পুরুষদের জন্য শ্রদ্ধার্থ

ঘানাতে সবসময়ই বিশ্বের বিভিন্ন দেশ থেকে অনেক পর্যটক আসে। এর মধ্যে আফ্রিকান আমেরিকান আর ব্রিটিশ আফ্রিকানদের সংখ্যা উল্লেখযোগ্য। সাদা চামড়ার ইউরোপীয় আর আমেরিকানদের সংখ্যাও কম নয়। সারা বিশ্ব থেকে আগত কৃষ্ণঙ্গরা তাদের পূর্ব পুরুষদের করুণ কাহিনী স্থানীয় গাইডের রাগ আর অভিমান ভরা কণ্ঠে শোনে আর আবেগে আপ্ত হ'ন। সাদা কালো সবার চোখই অশ্রুসিক্ত হয় এসকল ক্যাসেলে ঘটে যাওয়া অমানবিক অত্যাচার আর নীপিড়নের বর্ণনা শুনে। কৃষ্ণঙ্গ পর্যটকরা ডানজিওনের মধ্যে ফুলের তোড়া আর মোমবাতি জ্বলে তাদের পূর্ব পুরুষদের আত্মার প্রতি শ্রদ্ধা নিবেদন করেন। আর স্বেতাঙ্গ পর্যটকরা লজ্জায় মাথা অবনত করে রাখেন তাদের পূর্ব পুরুষদের অসম্ভব অসম্মত কথার শ্রবণ করে। নাড়ির সন্ধানে বারাক ওবামা স্বপরিবারে কেপ কোস্ট ক্যাসেলে এসেছিলেন। জনশ্রুতি আছে, মিশেল ওবামার পূর্ব পুরুষদের এ অঞ্চল থেকেই আমেরিকাতে দাস হিসাবে ধরে নিয়ে

যাওয়া হয়েছিল। হয়তো অজস্র কালো মানুষের কান্নার প্রতিদান দিতেই সৃষ্টিকর্তা মার্কিন যুক্তরাষ্ট্রের মতো একটি দেশের প্রেসিডেন্ট হিসাবে একজন কালো মানুষকে নির্বাচিত করেছেন। সারাবিশ্বের কালো মানুষরা আজ গর্বিত এই মানুষটির সাফল্যের জন্য।



পর্যটক



পর্যটক



ওবামা দম্পতি

ঘানাসহ সারাবিশ্বে আজ দাস প্রথার অবসান ঘটেছে। কিন্তু আফ্রিকার বিভিন্ন দেশে এলমিনা ক্যাসেলের মত অসংখ্য স্থাপনা আজো ইউরোপীয়দের কলঙ্কময় দাস ব্যবসার সাক্ষী হয়ে আছে। আটলান্টিকের পাড়ে দাড়িয়ে থাকা এলমিনার কান্না যেন আজো থামেনি, হাজার হাজার কালো মানুষের চোখের জল মহাসাগরের নোনা জলে মিশে একাকার হয়ে আছে।



বিপিএটিসি
জোহরা বেগম
যুগ্মসচিব



সাফল্যের আলো বিপিএটিসি, সুনীল আলোয় ভরা,
জ্ঞান আর মেধার সমন্বয়ে গড়া,
প্রতিটি পথে বাস্তবতা ও স্বপ্নের ছোঁয়া;
নবীন, প্রবীণ পথিকের মনে বাঁধা
ভালোবাসার দোলা ।

তোমার প্রশিক্ষণে বদলে যায় পথ ।
কর্মে নিত্য-নতুন অধ্যায় লেখা,
দেশপ্রেমের স্রোতে ভেসে চলে রথ ।

বিপিএটিসি, তুমি পথের প্রদীপ,
আকাশের নীলে তোমার জয়গান,
প্রত্যেক কণ্ঠে জাগে তোমার স্বপ্ন,
তুমি আমাদের আশার উন্মুক্ত তরণ ।

কখনও তুমি ভোরের ঘুম ভাঙনি,
কখনও বা দুপুরে ঘুমের ঘোরের মূল্যায়ন,
তখনও বা সন্ধ্যা-রাতে লেকচারের সেশন ।

অপূর্ব রহস্যময়ী তুমি স্বপ্ন বুনো হাতে,
তাইতো তুমি গর্বিত এ জাতির সাথে ।



স্বাধীনতা কাজী নজরুল ইসলাম যুগ্মসচিব

স্বাধীনতা তুমি সবুজ ঘাসের উপর শিশির বিন্দু
অন্যাসে বেড়ে উঠার প্রতিশ্রুতি,
স্বাধীনতা তুমি ভালোবেসে কাছে পাবার আনন্দ
স্বাধীনতা তুমি ব্যর্থ প্রেমিকের না পাবার কষ্ট
আর বেদনা ভেলার মন্ত্র ।

স্বাধীনতা তুমি স্বপ্ন দেখার আয়না
মাটিতে শুয়ে লুটোপুটো খাওয়ার বায়না,
স্বাধীনতা তুমি মায়ের চোখের জল
বোনের চোখে ভাইয়ের জন্য ভালোবাসার ফসল ।

স্বাধীনতা তুমি বাংলা ভাষায় কথা বলার অঙ্গীকার
নির্ভয়ে পথ চলার অহংকার ।
স্বাধীনতা তুমি বিসর্জনের গুচ্ছমালা
অশান্ত প্রাণে বেঁচে থাকার উন্মাদনা ।

স্বাধীনতা তুমি বসন্তের কোকিলের সুমধুর গান
অতৃপ্ত মনে বসে থাকা কাকের অর্থহীন বলিদান ।
স্বাধীনতা তুমি ভালোবাসার লাল গোলাপ
যুদ্ধের মাঠে অকুতোভয় সৈনিকের সংকল্প সংলাপ ।

স্বাধীনতা তুমি রাত জেগে বসে থাকার আনন্দ
অকারণে মুক্ত বাতাসে ঘুরে বেড়ানোর যৌক্তিকতা ।
স্বাধীনতা তুমি কোটি বাঙালির স্বপ্ন
সবার মুখের ভাষা,
আমার কাছে যুদ্ধ জয়ের আনন্দ
আর দিগন্ত জয়ের আশা ।
স্বাধীনতা তুমি সবুজ ঘাসের উপর শিশির বিন্দু
অন্যাসে বেড়ে উঠার প্রতিশ্রুতি ।

MEMORABLE MOMENTS



Memorable Mommments



Paid homage to National Martyrs' Monument at Savar



Paid homage to National Martyrs' Monument at Savar



During the session

Memorable Momments



Morning freshness after the walk



Group work



Group work

Memorable Mommments



Group work



Group work



Group work

Memorable Momments



Session conducted by MDS, BPATC



Debate time



Policy paper presentation

Memorable Mommments



Photo session with the Guest Speaker



Photo session with the Guest Speaker



Photo session with the Guest Speaker

Memorable Momments



Industry visit



Industry visit at 4A Yarn Dyeing Ltd.



With the MD of 4A Yarn Group

Memorable Momments



Metting with the members of Souvenir Committee



Posing after session



Posing after debate competition

Memorable Momments



Departing for sylhet



On the stay to sylhet



Waiting for flight at Sylhet Osmani International Airport

Memorable Mommments



Sylhet tour



Memorable moments at Sada Pathor, Companiganj, Sylhet



Memorable moments at Sada Pathor, Companiganj, Sylhet

Memorable Momments



Memorable moments at Sada Pathor, Companiganj, Sylhet



Memorable moments at Sada Pathor, Companiganj, Sylhet



Memorable moments at Sada Pathor, Companiganj, Sylhet

Memorable Moments



Ratargul swamp forest



Ratargul swamp forest



At Matlinichhera Tea Estate

Memorable Momments



Malnichara Tea Estate



Health break photo session



Posing after long session

Memorable Momments



Reception by the local Administration of Gowainghat Upazila, Sylhet



Warm reception by UNO, Companigonj, Sylhet



Preparation for Cultural Night

Memorable Momments



Health Break after the session



Health break after session



Tea time

Memorable Moments



Friendly volleyball match with faculties



Players ready for volleyball match



Ready for Mini Marathon

Memorable Momments



Ready for Mini Marathon



Posing after Mini Marathon



Startup for Mini Marathon

Memorable Moments



Evening sports



Friendly Volleyball Match



Class attendant Siraj was always with the Participants

Memorable Momments



Logistic support by Siraj

বাংলাদেশ লোক প্রশাসন প্রশিক্ষণ কেন্দ্র, সাভার, ঢাকায়
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এর পক্ষ থেকে শুভেচ্ছা ও আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন।

“নবায়নযোগ্য প্রযুক্তি ব্যবহারের মাধ্যমে
বসবাসযোগ্য পরিবেশ গড়া আমাদের অঙ্গীকার”



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Wishing all the best on the occasion of 114th Senior
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