

Our Education System

A Talk with Dr. Siddique

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"THE contribution of the teachers to society is not limited only to the technical aspects of spreading education," commented, Dr. Hafiz G.H. Siddique, a leading academician of the country, while discussing the various aspects of our education system with the writer, a few days ago.

Dr. Siddique, presently the chief-academic coordinator of North-South University, The nation's first degree-awarding private university, has years of teaching experience at home and abroad. He focuses on different issues regarding our educational system and his views are summarized in this article. Soft spoken, Dr. Siddique has a brilliant academic record. He was awarded for his merit at every stage of academic life. Starting from primary scholarship, he was awarded Fulbright, Ford Foundation and British government scholarships. He secured fifth place in SSC and sixteenth in HSC examinations. Having post-graduate degree in economics, he has earned the doctoral degree in international business.

In his opinion, a teacher shapes the values, attitudes and moralities of the students which in turn motivate them to serve society. "True patriotism," in his view, on the part of the stu-

dents can encourage them to work for the cause of society and the teachers play the most important role in moulding the feelings of patriotism among the students.

He opined that our education system is lagging be-

stead of the conventional system. Limited resource, mismanagement, outdated syllabus and above all lack of leadership are the factors responsible for our under-developed system of education, in his view. He pointed out that the ideal environment of education prevailing in the developed countries assists to a great extent the students of Bangladesh studying abroad to achieve, in some instances, great success.

It proves that, in his view, our students have the quality and capacity for any achievement of international standards. What they need is an environment free of politics, violence and mismanagement but full of motivation, real evaluation and due reward.

According to Dr. Siddique, there are two primary reasons for which the degrees awarded by our educational institutions are not accepted by their foreign counterparts, especially in Europe and the USA. Their disrespect to the quality of our education is one of the reasons and another is their demand for particular type of education, which does not match with our supply. He cited their demand for computer experts, as an example. He fervently hopes that the actual opportunity of proper employment within the country would



Dr. Hafiz G.H. Siddique

hind the world standard both morally and technically. He is concerned about the present system of student evaluation, which is, in his view, the most defective part of our education system. It is very difficult to distinguish between a good and an excellent student under the present system. He is in favour of introducing letter-grading system of evaluation in-

be a good solution to the brain-drain problem. His advice to the students eager to pursue higher education abroad is that they should prepare their mind to face the unfavourable factors in an alien land.

Finally, Dr. Siddique

sought contribution and co-operation from all sections of society for the establishment, maintenance and development of an effective education system of high quality in our beloved country.