

DU honours UNESCO DG

Call to promote culture of peace

Staff Correspondent

Visiting Director General of UNESCO Prof. Federico Mayor was conferred the Doctor of Science (D.Sc.) degree by the University of Dhaka on Tuesday at a special convocation held at TSC auditorium of the university.

As per article 10 (4) of the University Order 1973, Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. A.K. Azad Chowdhury formally conferred the honorary D.Sc. degree on Prof. Mayor on behalf of the Chancellor and President Shahabuddin Ahmed.

The function started with a convocation procession of deans, syndicate members, senate members and university teachers was led by the Vice-Chancellor of the university.

Declaring the convocation open by the Vice-Chancellor, a citation for the degree on Dr. Federico Mayor was presented by the Dean of the Faculty of Pharmacy Prof. Munir Uddin Ahmed.

The citation said, "Dr. Mayor's spirit of selfless service, his scientific achievements, his humanism and

democratic outlook, his zeal as an internationalists, his qualities of leadership and keenness of vision have undoubtedly made him one of the leading figures of the contemporary world."

Receiving the degree, the UNESCO Director General Prof. Mayor in his speech said "Solidarity of the intellectuals" is a must to make welfare of the whole mankind. In this regard educationists especially university teachers should play the key role to establish peace in the world, he said.

He said, "We have paid much price of killings, violence and wars. Now we must have to pay price of better sharing for a better world. We must have to promote the culture of tolerance, the culture of peace and the culture of sympathy to restore peace everywhere in the world."

Dr. Mayor further said "defects of bureaucracy" and some complexities are the barriers in the advancement of some countries. The faculty mem-

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bers of the universities can simplify all complexities and problems and the law-makers or the Government can take decision on the difficult issues on the basis of the recommendation of university teachers, he stated.

Vice-Chancellor Prof. A.K. Azad Chowdhury said modern technological innovations have made the world a global village. This has reduced physical distances from country to country and region to region but the distance from one mind to another, instead of being reduced, has widened further, he stated.

Prof. Azad Chowdhury said, self-centred and individualistic approaches to the life and living, society and the world has kept the world divided and encouraged conflicts, contradictions and confrontations. With the blossoming of finer human values, the world may truly become a global village with brotherhood of man reigning supreme and this is the dream of Dr. Federico Mayor, he said.

A large number of distinguished personalities including ministers, secretaries, parliament members, political leaders, heads of diplomatic missions, vice-chancellors of various universities and elite of the city attended the function.



Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof. A.K. Azad Chowdhury formally conferred honorary D.Sc degree on DG of UNESCO Prof. Dr. Federico Mayor at a special convocation at the university TSC auditorium on Tuesday.