

Lays foundation of Friendship School in Beijing

BEIJING, July 3 : President H M Ershad here today laid the foundation stone of the new building of Bangladesh-China Friendship School to be built with one million dollars grant provided by Bangladesh Government as a token of love and friendship for the people of China, reports BSS.

Speaking on the occasion, the President said this school would remain as an example of cordial relations between Bangladesh and China. He said the school would be a unique one as its students would get the opportunity to know about

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Bangladesh in detail and in turn would be able to tell others about the country and its people.

He referred to the centuries-old ties between Bangladesh and China and expressed the confidence that the Friendship School would cement further the relationship between the peoples of the two countries. In

this context, he mentioned about the Friendship Bridge built by China over the River Buriganga in Dhaka as a token of love for the people of Bangladesh.

President Ershad wished the students of the school all successes in their lives and hoped they would significantly contribute to the development of their country.

Deputy Mayor of Beijing Feng Hingwei who received the President and Begum Raushan Ershad when they arrived at the School premises made a brief welcome speech. Madam Deng Yingchao, Wife of late Chinese Premier Zhou Enlai was also present on the occasion. Madam Zhou Enlai was a teacher of this school in 1920.

On arrival at the School premises the teachers and students gave a standing ovation to the President and Begum Ershad. The Children also performed a variety show where a small girl student recited a poem—titled Kanok Pradip Jalo—composed by President Ershad. She recited the poem in Bengali.

OFFERS JUMMA PRAYER

All members of the presidential entourage were present on the occasion. Earlier, President Ershad and other members of the entourage offered their Jumma prayer at the Dongsi Mosque here. The Imam of the Mosque in his Khutba sought divine blessings for the progress and prosperity of Bangladesh and long life, personal well-being and continued success of President Ershad.