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## Dhaka University Mosque

Sir,

Thanks to the Vice Chancellor, Dhaka University who has undertaken the renovation of Dhaka University mosque and who is often found to supervise the work of renovation when he goes to say the Juma Prayer.

Dhaka University is not only situated on the campus of the great seat of learning but it is also situated just on the main road of Kazi Nasrul Islam Road having the vast green Suhrawardy Uddyan flanked by the Art College, Central Public Library and Bangabandhu Sheikh Majibur Rahman Medical University in the north and T.S.C. and other student residential halls in the south and Academic and Administrative building of the University in the west.

Not to speak of the location of the mosque, the gorgeous and architectural design of the mosque makes it different from other mosques. It is, very spacious. It can accommodate a huge number of musallis. Once the former adviser to the caretaker Government of Justice Shahabuddin who used to perform the Juma Prayer there admired its dimension and beauty to me when we were discussing the topic of mosques in Dhaka City. But, what is painful is that though the mosque has many shelves for books, these remain totally empty exhibiting poor thinking and negligence on the part of the university.

Dhaka University is the oldest seat of learning of the country having a background of more than a century and was once called the Oxford of the East and its literary is possibly the richest in collection of books which, came to learn once from late M.S. Khan, the great literarian of the country. So its mosque should also be made the richest in respect of preservation of Islamic books, publications and research. In such an educational and important surrounding, if it is equipped with religious books and collections, it can serve as the greatest seat of Islamic learning and ultimately may become the centre of attraction of the Islamic world.

Moreover if the mosque would have been provided with sufficient materials on Islamic learning, students could also utilise their part time in the study of these religious books. At a time of great moral degradation everywhere, Islamic learning and religious teaching has a great role to play. We, therefore, urge the University authority to equip the mosque with religious books, records and other equipment and to turn the mosque into a seat of Islamic learning for which the background is already set.

Nasrul Haq Chowdhury, Dharmamond, Dhaka.