

The Bangladesh Observer

B. Com (Pass) Result

Sir,

We, the students of Saidpur College, appeared at the Bachelor of Commerce examination—1990 under the Rajshahi University which commenced on 09.05.91 and ended on 27.05.91. Seven months have passed since we appeared at the examination but our result has not yet been declared.

The results of B. Com. (Pass) examination of the Chittagong University and the Dhaka University have already been published. If the university authority would publish old results it will enable us to go for higher education.

Therefore, our fervent appeal to the Rajshahi University authority is to publish the result as soon as possible.

A.K.M. Masud Rana and others,
Vilk Kukhpara, Nilphamari.

Darul-Ihsan University

Sir.

Many of us were surprised to read in some newspapers on 14th November a report about a Private University called Darul-Ihsan University situated at Savar. It is reported to have distributed certificates for B.Ed. and M.Ed degrees at a ceremony on the 13th presided over by its Chancellor, Dr. Omar Abdullah Nassif of Saudi Arabia.

When was this university established? Did our National Assembly pass an Act authorising the foundation of privately funded university with power to award degrees? We have not heard of any such Act. But we know that a degree giving institution with the status of a university cannot legally function without a specific Act. We wonder what actually is the truth.

What is even more surprising is that this so-called university has a foreigner for its Chancellor. Dr. Nassif is a renowned person, and is held in great respect as Secretary General of the Mecca-based Rabeta. But how can he as a non-Bangladesh hold the position of Chancellor of a Bangladesh university? Our law requires that our President would hold this position. Is there any provision in the constitution for a departure from this practice?

I am afraid the functioning of a non-Bangladeshi as Chancellor constitutes an infringement of our sovereignty. The fact that Dr. Nassif as a Muslim should not obscure this dangerous aspect of the situation.

Suppose this becomes a precedent. How shall we react to somebody like Mr. Advani of India being appointed Chancellor of another private university? If we tolerate a Saudi can we legally object to an Indian or a Chinese or an American?

We also notice that Darul-Ihsan has a Rector. Who created this position and who made the appointment?

I wonder how a Minister could associate himself with Darul-Ihsan officially.

Would the government please remove our confusion by an authoritative statement?

Nurul Islam, Lalbagh.

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Sir.

Days back the certificate award ceremony held by the Darul Ihsan authorities has stunned many of us. In presence of the Education Minister of Bangladesh, the V.C. and the "Rector" of the University have distributed the Degree award to the successful trainees.

It is correct that the Rabeta Secretary General is a highly esteemed personality. Distribution of any award by him may be taken as a nice thing. What, however, unbelievable and highly questionable is the existence of a university at Savar called the Darul Ihsan. There is no existence of a private university in Bangladesh. No act has so far been enacted for the purpose. No Government can enact any statute in a sovereign country as Bangladesh is aimed to establish a University to be run by foreign fund, control and foreign topmost bosses. Because, it amounts to dent the sovereignty of our country. If the Darul Ihsan is given a clear legal stand in this country and its V.C. etc. are appointed, paid and controlled from foreign soil, then how could we object to some other countries pressure, particularly of India, if they wish to establish another Bisha Bharati here in Dhaka?

Well, we appreciate our dear Muslim brothers' eagerness to fund our education institutions, particularly the Islam based institutions. That is a very laudable effort. We would welcome such venture and funding. There are, however many other scopes and processes to fruitfully utilize such voluntary funds.

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There exists and operates in this country a lone institution for training of technologists, technicians, technical teachers, etc., for the last 10 years. Located at Gazipur, nearly 25 Kms north of Dhaka city, the institution briefly called the ICTVTR had been established by the members of the OIC having great expectations nad need for training in these essential subjects thousands of youths from the Muslim countries. Tragically, however, the institution has been running in chronic shortage of fund for the last few years. When this is the condition of the already established ICTVTR (International Centre for Technical Vocational Training and Research), and there is ample scope for expansion of that technological institution at its present site, and only additional funds could well give additional life to this lone but prestigious institution, can there be any need to duplicate efforts in establishing the Darul Ihsan at Savar as a separate private University? I see, no social or economic utility of this new institution. Whatever additional fund is available for the Darul Ihsan may well be diverted and fruitfully utilized for expansion of facilities now existing at the ICTVTR campus for training in many other disciplines and of levels.

I wonder, if the Government of Bangladesh and the Rabeta Alam al-Islami to have second thoughts on the matter.

M. T. Hussain, Tejgaon, Dhaka.