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Principal Abul Kashem dead

DHAKA, BSS: Principal Abul Kashem Founder of Tamuddun Majlish and a pioneer of the 1948-52 Language Movement died Monday morning at the Suhrawardy Hospital here. He was 71. He left behind his wife, six sons, four daughters and a host of admirers at home and abroad. Principal Abul Kashem began his career as lecturer of Physics at the Dhaka University in 1946 and later made outstanding contribution in the movement for recognition of Bangla as one of the state languages of Pakistan soon after the independence in 1947.

He founded the Tamuddin Majlish on September 1, 1947 to pioneer the movement for rights of Bangla language and set up the Bangla College in 1962. He was the founder Principal of the college.

He was elected a member of the then East Pakistan Legislative Assembly in 1954 as a candidate of the United Front and as a nominee of Khelafat-e-Rabbani Party.

He was recipient of the Ekushey Padak in 1987, Bangla Academy Award in 1982, Islamic Foundation Medal in 1988, gold medal of Chittagong Association in 1988 and gold medal in a national reception in 1989.

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Kashem dead

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He authored nearly 100 books including text books on science for post-graduate students and on education, Islam and culture.

He was born on June 20, 1920 at village Sebundi-Barama under Chandanaish upazila of Chittagong district.

KHALEDA

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia Monday condoled the death of Principal Abul Kashem and said that he had been given lead in the Language Movement under the aegis of the Tamaddun Majlis.

He also rendered important contribution to the concept of Bangladeshi nationalism as its ardent supporter, she said.

Begum Zia in her message said the country lost a patriot and important intellectual in his death.

CONDOLENCES

Adviser for Culture and Food Prof Iajuddin Ahmed Monday condoled the death of Principal Abul Kashem.

In a message of condolence he termed Principal Kashem as a good organiser and said that his contribution to the Language Movement and in introducing Bangla in the field of education would be ever remembered by the nation. In his death the nation lost a brilliant son.

Prof Iajuddin prayed for the peace of departed soul and expressed his sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.