

Call for teaching Islamic Economics at varsity level

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia on Tuesday called for teaching Islamic Economics at University level considering its historical success and potential, reports BSS.

Begum Zia said Islamic Economics once created revolution in establishing social equality, economic justice and eradicating poverty and exploitation from the society. Because of this historical success and considering the time and demand of the Future Islamic Economics should be taught at university level.

The Prime Minister was addressing the inaugural session of a two-week international seminar on teaching Islamic Economics at university level at Hotel Sonargaon in Dhaka.

The seminar is sponsored by

the Islamic Research and Training Institute and the Islamic Development Bank of Jeddah and cosponsored by the Islamic Foundation Bangladesh and Al-Baraka Bank Bangladesh.

The inaugural session was also addressed by Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Abdur Rahman Biswas, State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof. Abdul Mannan, Religious Affairs Ministry Secretary A. Z. M. Shamsul Alam and Islamic Development Bank representative Dr. Monzer Kah.

Ministers, diplomats and high civil officials attended the function.

More than ten experts on Islamic Economics and other relevant matters from home and abroad would present papers in the seminar.

Begum Zia said today reawakening of religious and democratic values was taking its course throughout the world and instead of discrimination and division there was positive thinking for a socio-economic order to be based on justice.

The Prime Minister said from international perspective, most of the intellectuals believed that in this worldwide changing condition Islam, particularly Islamic Economic system, could play a vital role.

In the present world system, the poor, whether an individual or a nation, was becoming poorer and the rich richer, Begum Zia said adding "Allah is the creator of all and Allah is the Real owner of All

Contd. on page 8 col. 6

Islamic Economics

Contd from page 1
wealth. So, all men have universal rights in Allah's wealth".

The Prime Minister said Hazrat Muhammad (SM) set up a welfare state in Medina and established a social order in which all men's sustenance was ensured without hampering any fundamental democratic rights though that state was not so much affluent. She mentioned that as Allah is the creator and sustainer of all human beings, preservation of rights of all was ensured irrespective of caste and creed in that welfare state.

She said today Muslim Ummah has made an attempt to regain its lost heritage.

Begum Zia said even in the recent past, it was impossible to think of a banking system free from interest but now in many countries the banking system without interest had been running successfully.

The Prime Minister said the people of Bangladesh was deeply

religious minded and they believe in the universal nature of religion. She said people of this country feel proud of the universal ideals and liberal tradition of Islam.

Begum Zia hoped that as a result of the achievement of this seminar measures would be taken to open departments of Islamic economics at universities of the Muslim world. She further hoped that the seminar on this important subject would not be the last one but more and more seminars would be organised in different countries to discuss various aspects of the subject.