

Common calendar for Muslim countries

Representatives of Bangladesh and five other Muslim countries have structured a "common calendar" of lunar year to be followed in the all Muslim countries in the world, Prof M. Jabbar, Director of the Students Welfare of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology, disclosed in Dacca on Wednesday, reports BSS.

The representatives held a three-day conference at Istanbul (Turkey) recently and structured the calendar after making a thorough study of various aspects of Islamic doctrines and relevant astronomy, he said.

Dr Jabbar, who led a two-member Bangladesh team, said that all formalities in this regard have been completed and the new calendar will enable all Muslim countries to observe their religious occasion and festivals simultaneously and concurrently throughout the world.

The Istanbul meeting, which was also attended by Islamic scholars and astronomers from Saudi Arabia, Algeria, Egypt, Tunisia and Turkey was a follow up meeting of last years Ruat-e-Helal Conference which formed 10-nation committee to bring uniformity in different religious celebrations.

According to this new calendar, 1400 Hizri year will commence from November 21, 1979 while holy month of Ramzan this year will start from July 25, 1979 and Eid-ul-Fitr will fall on August 23 this year, he informed.

The other member of Bangladesh team was Dr M. A. Ishaque, Prof of Arabic and Islamic Studies of Dacca University.