



104 years of N'ganj High School

Pritam Chakra bory Kanchu

A fact. A student failed in the test examination and was not allowed to appear in the Entrance Examination. He requested the Headmaster again and again but failed to convince him and was returning home. On his way home, the boy found his Headmaster at the railway station. When the Headmaster was passing by him, the boy said, "Sir, You're really losing a diamond." The Headmaster looked behind, talked to the boy and at last allowed him to appear at the Entrance Examination. The boy came off with a brilliant result in the examination. The name of the school from which the boy passed is Narayanganj High School.

Since its establishment in 1885, the Narayanganj High School served the motherland in many ways. At first it was an Anglo-vernacular school. It became an M.E. school in 1876 and finally it was promoted to high school in 1885. The school was located on the bank of the Sitalakhya bank near Netaiganj from 1885 to 1907. In those days the school used to sit in a fenced house. I heard from my father — constellations seemed to be radiating through the hole of the broken fences. But such lustre is not seen any more from the modern school buildings.

Sharat Chandra Basu was the first Headmaster of this school. The school was shifted to its present location from Netaiganj in 1907 with the increase of students. The SDO bungalow was there at that time and the bungalow was also shifted to its present site in the same year. There was a pond behind the school named 'Ornamental Tank'. The pond is filled up now and some buildings have been constructed.

Nagendra Nath Pal took over the charge as Headmaster of this school in 1900 while Sharat Babu left the profession. Mr. Pal performed his duties competently. Tara Nath Dey was the most successful Headmaster of Narayanganj High School. During his period from 1922 to 1948 the reputation of this institution spread far and wide. With guidance from him and his dedicated staff Sudhir Chandra Majumder and Karuna Ketan Sen (ICS) stood first class first in the Entrance Examination

from Calcutta University in 1925 and in 1928 respectively. Besides them, the other reputed students during the time of Tara Nath Babu, included Sunil Guha (2nd-CU-1934), Subash Bhattacharya (3rd-CU-1936), Girja Shankar Guha (10th CU), Dinendra Kumar Roy (13th-CU). The Chief Minister of West Bengal Jyoti Basu was also a student of this school for a few days. In fact, Tara Nath Dey was a signboard and a beacon of light.

Then the school used to sit at noon because the classes of Tolaram College were held in the morning shift and it continued from 1948 to 1956. In the early 60's there was also a night college here to give the light of higher education to the working people. After T. N. Dey, many a Headmaster has come and gone and the school has reached its present position through many ups and downs. After Tara Nath Babu, Kabetra Mohan Roy, Nabi Newaz Khan Lodi, Rais-Uddin Ahmed, Heramba Chandra Ghosh, Keramat Ali, Abdul Jabbar, Khorshed Ali, Mir Moazzem Ali and Habibur Rahman were the Headmasters of this school.

Habibur Rahman held the steering of the school very efficiently from 1975 to 1988. At present the school is being run smoothly under the administration of acting Headmaster Nurul Amin. The results of students at the SSC Examination is satisfactory and the percentage of pass is nearly 80. In the recent years some students were also placed in the combined merit list of the Dhaka Education Board. Among them we can mention the name of Sajjad Hossain (now an Assistant Professor of BUET), Nirum Uddin, Anjan Kumar Karmokar.

At present about 2000 students read in Narayanganj High School. The students of this school play a remarkable roles in the field of sports of the country. Last year, the school has become champion in the Nirman School Cricket Tournament. Lack of a gymnasium is seriously felt. If it is established the students will be able to better their roles.

The school is not only the pride Narayanganj but also the pride of the whole country. I am proud of being a student of this school.