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President Shahabuddin Ahmed receiving Nobel laureate Amartya Sen at Bangabhaban yesterday. — PID photo

We're proud of Sen's success : President

President Shahabuddin Ahmed has said Nobel-winning Bengali genius Amartya Sen devoted himself to research of a new kind of economics which is different from the traditional one, reports UNB.

Speaking at a reception accorded to Prof Sen by him at Bangabhaban yesterday afternoon, President Ahmed said he is an extra-ordinary meritorious.

Shahabuddin said Prof Sen's economics has become well-known world over as 'welfare economics' and the subjects of his research were hunger, poverty, famine and equitable distribution of wealth and social justice.

He said Prof Sen conducted extensive research on the cause, sufferings and dreadful effects of the famine that swayed Bengal in the Fifties.

The president noted with satisfaction that his research findings have been acknowledged by the world today. "We are delighted at his great success," he said.

Like great poet Rabindranath, Amartya Sen has close association with Bangladesh, he said. After partition in 1947, Sen became a citizen of India, but as Bangali he has natural affinity with this

country, the President added.

Prof Sen identifies himself as an Indian, a Bangali and a Bangladeshi. "We are proud of his wonderful success as a son of the country," Shahabuddin added.

He recalled the early education of Amartya Sen in St Gregory School here and termed him as a 'son of Dhaka'.

President Shahabuddin mentioned that three other meritorious students of the Subcontinent were contemporary and friends of Amartya Sen when they were in Cambridge University. They are Rehman Sobhan of Bangladesh, Mahbub-ul Huq of Pakistan and former Indian Finance Minister Monomohon Singh.

In reply, Prof Amartya Sen thanked the President for the reception and said that he was overwhelmed with joy for the generous mind and friendly attitude of the people of Bangladesh.

The reception was also attended by Ministers, State Ministers, political leaders, Judges and former Judges, diplomats, Members of Parliament, Vice Chancellors, intellectuals, lawyers, journalists, scientists, writers, researchers and physicians.