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Zia's policy on Madrasa edn to be followed, says Huda

Information Minister Nazmul Huda on Thursday said that the present democratic Government would follow the policy of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman in the development of Madrasa education in the country, reports BSS.

He was addressing as the chief guest the inaugural function of the Bangladesh Madrasa Shikkhak Samity in Dhaka with State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M.A. Mannan in the chair.

State Minister for Establishment Aminul Huq, Deputy Minister for Shipping A.B.M. Zahidul Huq and Principal of the Madrasa-e-Alia, Dhaka Muhammad Yunus Sikder, among others, also addressed the function.

The Information Minister called for upholding the flag of Islam and said Bangladeshi nationalism was based mainly on Islam and our mother tongue.

"The culture of Bangladeshi Muslims is the main foundation of our nationalism," he said adding many non-Bengali Muslims living here are

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also Bangladeshis.

Barrister Huda said, we had created a separate state by isolating ourselves from the non-Muslims on the basis of Islam and we had achieved Bangladesh on the basis of the Bengali language.

"Our politics is to uphold Islam and Bengali language which are the two main pillars of our nationalism," he said and added, "we do not want to indulge in politics of religion but we are pledge-bound to establish religion in our politics."

Barrister Huda also stressed the need for establishing the teachings of Islam in national life and warned that no hypocrisy in the name of religion would be allowed in the country.

The Information Minister told the audience that he would request Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia to form a cell involving concerned ministers to study thoroughly their demands.

He also said their demand for taking part in the BCS examination was a just one.

Barrister Huda said Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia as the competent successor to Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman was doing her best for the spread and development of Madrasa education in the country as Islamic bias is our national entity.

State Minister for Establishment Aminul Huq said the present democratic Government was deeply contemplating coordination between general and Madrasa education for raising the percentage of literacy in the country.

"The present Government made the highest allocation in the education sector," he said adding it was a shame for us the rate of literacy in the country was only 30 per cent.

Barrister Huq said Islam had encouraged education more than any other religion.

Deputy Minister for Shipping ABM Zahidul Huq said the present Government was giving due honour to the Madrasa teachers as it was pledge-bound to implement the policy of Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman.