



Education does not end after varsity degree

By Korban Ali Joarder.

Does education end after the last degree at a university? Many of us may think so. But that is not the real picture. Education can never be ended before death. That is why Prophet Muhammad says, "seek knowledge from cradle to the grave".

Three noted American academicians who visited Bangladesh, especially Dhaka University mass communication and journalism department recently advocated for establishing the new concept of "continuing education" to our country. This, in other words, meant education is a process that continue to the last day of our lives.

Interpreting the new concept the American Professors said, the continuing education is the concept of additional training for all sorts of working people due to the rapid growth of information and technology. Peoples at all levels must continually up date skills in order to compete and be successful in the modern world, they observed.

According to the scholars, Ph. D is not good enough any more. "Continue to learn you can not stop education because everything is changing. Nothing stands still. We must learn from cradle to the grave."

They were teachers of the Southern Illinois University (SIU), USA. They reached Dhaka on January 2 under the university affiliation programme and stayed programme aimed at exchange of programme between DU and SIU at Carbondale.

It is a two-year programme.

Under the programme, six faculties from DU will be at SIU campus and in the return six of them will be at DU campus in cyclic order.

The three professors were Dr Joe S Foote, Chairperson, Department of Radio-Television, Dr Walter B Jaehning, Director of the School of Journalism and Dr Linz C Brown, Director of the International Programmes and Services of SIU. Both Dr Jaehning and Dr Brown left Dhaka on January 27 last. Dr Foote left a little earlier.

Chairman of the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism Mr Tauhidul Anwar and teachers of the department Dr A A M S Arefin Siddique were present on the occasion. While talking, the academicians said that apart from various departments and faculties of Dhaka University, they also visited the Press Institute of Bangla-

desh (PIB), National Institute of Mass Communication, the Bangladesh Observer, the Bangladesh Times, The Daily Ittefaq, United News of Bangladesh (UNB), Radio Bangladesh, Bangladesh Television, Broadcasting Authorities, National Press Club authorities and exchanged views with them.

Expressing his impression about the Journalism Department Dr Brown said, "I think the Journalism Department here is a very good one and is going to become one of the best in Asia."

Replying to a question, the Professor said, "the system of education here are more similar than we expected comparing with that of the USA. Our journalism programme does much the same thing as the department of DU. The students have seemed to very bright and committed to their studies."

Regarding the prospect of a media centre for Journalism Department, Dr Walter B Jaehning said that the Asia Foundation has expressed an interest in supporting the media centre and the faculty plans to develop it very soon.

Replying to a question about the scope and nature of the Journalism Department Dr Jaehning observed, we have been impressed by the number of prominent journalists in Dhaka who have received their education from this department."