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number of teachers and the number of students were all much smaller than they now are. As a result, teachers of different Departments were mostly known to one another.

I particularly remember some of those friend of mine who were senior to me and guided me in various decisions about my career. One such friend was Mr Santosh Bhattacharya of the History Department. One day I met him at the southern gate of Azimpur New Market just accidentally. He came forward and asked me about my decision in respect of my joining Rajshahi University. It was the year 1965 when I was working in a government department on secondment from the university. At that time I got an offer from Rajshahi University which offered me a higher pay and position than I had at Dhaka University. He urged me not to leave Dhaka Uni-

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government.

During the difficult days after March, 1971, I met him often at the teachers' lounge at the University Arts Faculty building and exchanged our experiences in the rural areas of Bangladesh (East Pakistan of those days). He told me that he had stayed for some time in the kitchen of a rural family which had also the family Dhenki (wooden husking machine) in the same room.

Dr. Govinda Dev was another senior friend with whom I had the fortune of

## Some recollections

by Dr. K.T. Hossain

a matter of natural right whether it is enshrined in the constitution or not. The injustices done to East Pakistan (Bangladesh) for about a quarter of a century were impossible to make people forget simply by the use of force. This is a prime instance of a logical fallacy (argumentum ad baculum) being quite close. He was an eminent philosopher who had also a high position in the Pakistan on Philosophical Congress. As far back as in 1956 he had organized the annual meeting of the Congress at Dhaka very successfully. Noticing my regular attendance in the sessions of the Congress, he once jokingly remarked that I should have belonged to the Philosophy Department of the University.

Later, in 1962, he asked me to become a member of the Philosophy Association and I later complied with his request. He loved good meals and I know of an occasion when he had many aged to finish as many as eight good-sized "koi" fishes, to the smiting occasion when he had many

friends who were picked up by the Pakistan army or their agents during the war of liberation were reportedly involved in the same way in the war. Their misfortune of being picked up by the Pakistani army for slaughter

was due to this reason. Dr. Abul Khair and Dr. Glasuddin of the History Department were particularly distinguished scholars in their subjects. They

followed in the academic community of the Dhaka University and the other universities of his time in the country.

Dr. Mohammad Mortaza was the Medical Officer of Dhaka University. He was my neighbour. We lived in the same area of Fuller Road. His particular weakness was the servants. While we sent an ailing servant to him rather hesitantly since the servant did not, strictly speaking, belong to our families, he used to prepare

prescription for them, saying that they deserved special care, since they are poor. He always went forward to help the poor. During the 1971 days when students everywhere had to sustain injuries on account of the policy of oppressing them followed by the then Pakistan Government, Dr.

bounds of the details of religion and community-bound ritualism was universally admired, appreciated and in their subjects. They greeted everybody in the campus with a smile and were involved—we learnt later—in the serious work of secretly helping our freedom fighters.

Most of the other teachers who were picked up by the Pakistan army or their agents during the war of liberation were reportedly involved in the same way in the war. Their misfortune of being picked up by the Pakistani army for slaughter seems inevitable.

Slaughtering Intellectuals

als causes a huge loss not only to the country involved

but also to human civilisation as a whole. This heinous activity of ancient times was as much a loss to civilisation as in modern times. Sometimes the names of kings were associated with this crime. In

modern times, there are no kings. Whose purpose then does it serve? It seems that the answer to this question is that it serves nobody's purpose. It is a total loss to everybody. It is a pity that it happened in 1971 possibly with full knowledge of its