

Abul Fazal laid to rest

From Our Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG May 5:—Prof. Abul Fazal eminent litterateur and educationist of the country was laid to rest at Kazir Dewri mosque graveyard this afternoon.

His Namaj-e-Janaza was held immediately after Johr prayer at Chittagong Circuit House maidan. Several thousand people from all walks of life attended the Janaza. ZMLA Major General Abdul Mannaf and Chittagong University VC Dr. Abdul Aziz Khan also attended it.

Tens of hundreds of people thronged his Kazir Dewri residence immediately after the spread of death news of Prof. Abul Fazal in the morning. The people throughout the day entered the residence in queue and passed by his bed-side in silence to have a last glimpse and to pay respect to the eminent litterateur. A condolence book was also opened at his residence for the signature of visitors.

Among the prominent persons who visited his residence were Vice-Chancellor of Chittagong University Prof. Abdul Aziz Khan Consul General of Soviet Consulate in Chittagong Mr. George K. Groushetsky Assistant High Commissioner of India in Chittagong Mr. D.K. Sarkar.

The Soviet Consul General also handed over a condolence message of Soviet Ambassador in Bangladesh Mr. V.P. Stepanov to members of the bereaved family.

Professor Abul Fazal during his life time received many awards for his outstanding literary works. His prominent books include Chouhchir Rekha Chitro Shamokal Durginer Dullpi Lekho ter Roop and Ranga Prokhal.

Prof. Fazal received Bangla Academy award for literature in 1962 President's Pride of Performance award in 1963 and Adamjee Award in 1965.

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Fazal's bold works to eternise memory: Ershad

The Chief Martial Law Administrator Lt. Gen. H. M. Ershad on Thursday expressed his profound shock at the death of eminent educationist litterateur and thinker Prof. Abul Fazal reports BSS.

In a condolence message General Ershad said that the bold and creative contributions of the late Professor in the fields of literature and education would eternise his memory. Praying for the peace of the departed soul the CMLA conveyed his heartfelt sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

The Education Minister Dr. A. Majee Khan expressed in Dhaka on Thursday his deep shock at the death of Prof. Abul Fazal and said he had taken up his pen against injustices in the society to remove those by his writings.

In a condolence message the Minister said Prof. Abul Fazal had a leading role in the movement for freedom of thought and referred to his association with the group called 'Shikha' in this connection.

The Minister prayed for the solace of the departed soul and conveyed sincere sympathy to the members of the bereaved family.

Fazal's death condoled.

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By A Staff Correspondent

Different political parties and socio-cultural organisations in separate Press releases on Thursday condoled the death of Prof. Abul Fazal who died at his Chittagong residence on Wednesday.

Bangla Academy condoled the death of Prof. Fazal, an eminent educationist and litterateur. A discussion meeting would be held at 5 p.m. at the academy premises tomorrow (Saturday).

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy held a condolence meeting at its premises on Thursday. Speakers at the meeting paid rich tributes to his memory.

National Book Centre organised a meeting on Thursday to condole the death of Prof. Abul Fazal. It also expressed sympathy with the members of the bereaved family.

The members of the Staff Council of Jagannath College expressed their deep feeling at the death Prof. Fazal.

The members of Chittagong Association in Dhaka also condoled his death.

Bangladesh Udchi Shilpi Goshthi condoling the death of Prof. Fazal who was Chairman of the Board of Advisers of the organisation, said that the loss in the literary arena of the country would take long time to be filled up.

Chitrali Pathak Pathika Chalachitra Sangshad also condoled his death.

Sk. Hasina Wazed and Mr. Abdur Razzak, President and General Secretary respectively of Bangladesh Awami League (H) in a statement condoled the death of Prof. Fazal. They said with his death the nation has lost a champion of nationalism and an illustrious son of the soil.

Gen (Retd) M.A.G. Osmani, chief of Jatiya Janata Party said that Prof. Fazal was a progressive thinker, who upheld values of humanity and a man of great courage for right cause he said.

Mr. Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury and Mr. Nure-Alam Siddique President and General Secretary respectively of Awami League (Mizan) also condoled his death.

Bangladesh National Awami Party (Muzaffar) Bangladesh Labour Party (Matin) National Awami Party (Harun) Jatiya Krishak Samity Communist Party of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Samajik Sangskritik Sangstha Bangladesh, Chhatra League (Jalal-Jahangir) Jatiya Ganotantrik Party Bangladesh Workers' Party Bangladesh Public Administration ex-Students Association Palli Mongal and Awami Shilpi Goshthi also condoled his death in separate Press releases.

Press Commission

Bangladesh Press Commission also condoled the death of Prof. Abul Fazal. The condolence meeting was presided over by Mr. Ataur Rahman Khan Chairman of the Commission. The meeting also condoled the death of Mr. Hasan Hafizur Rahman and Mr. Atiquzzaman Khan.

BFUJ, DUJ

BSS adds: The four leaders of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists and Dhaka Union

of Journalists have expressed their deep shock at the death of Prof. Abul Fazal and paid rich tributes to his memory.

The leaders Messrs Ahmed Humayun, Reazuddin Ahmed, Anwar Zahid and Amanullah Kabir said in a joint statement that in his death the country lost an outstanding litterateur, an outspoken man who stood by truth and justice.

They said his death was an irreparable loss and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Mr. Serajuddin Ahmed, President of Chittagong Chamber of Commerce and Industry also condoled his death.

Laid to rest

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After liberation of the country he was awarded Ekushey Padak Nasiruddin Sarna Padak and Muktaadhar Shahitya Medal. Shamokal Shahitya Gosthi honoured him with the title of Banglar Bibek.

Prof. Abul Fazal a former Education Minister was also associated with the University Association. He pursued his long career in teaching in different colleges including Chittagong Government College and retired in the year 1959.

He held the office of Vice-chancellor of Chittagong University from 1973 to 1975. He joined the Council of Advisers of President Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayem in 1975. Late Abul Fazal continued in the same post even in the cabinet of former President Ziaur Rahman till 1977.

Prof. Fazal was born at Kewchhia in Satkanla thana under Chittagong district in 1903 in a respectable Muslim family. His father was late Maulvi Fazlur Rahman.