

22

Poet Shamsur Rahman passes away

Staff Correspondent

The celebrated poet of the sub-continent Shamsur Rahman is no more. He breathed his last at about 6:35 pm on Thursday at the Intensive Care Unit of Banabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) after struggling with life for the last 12 days in coma. He was 77.

The curtain dropped on a heckerred career of the celebrated poet at 6:35pm, as the attending doctors removed life-support with the consent of his family", medical sources said.

"As the news broke, mourners in large numbers thronged the hospital to have a last glimpse of their beloved poet, amid a pall of gloom," says a spot report.

The poet was admitted to the hospital on August 6 with multiple complexities.

He left behind his wife, one son, three daughters and a host of relatives, admirers and well-wishers at home and abroad to mourn his death.

The greatest living modern Bengali poet was born on October 24, 1929 at Mahuttuly in Dhaka.

He passed BA degree from Dhaka University in 1953. Poet

Shamsur Rahman started his literary career in his early youth. He was one of the pioneers of modern Bengali poetry. His poetic genius was first recognized when he got the Adamjee Award for 'Roudra karoti' in 1963.

Shamsur Rahman contributed regularly in national dailies and literary journals. He also wrote for children. His juvenile works include 'Dhan vanle kuro debo', 'Smritir shahor', 'Golap photo khukir hate'.

He was also a leading journalist of the country. He joined the erstwhile 'Dainik Pakistan' as Assis-

stant Editor. And he became the Chief Editor of the daily 'Dainik', the country. His progressive ideas were reflected in many of his



Bangla' and the weekly 'Bichitra'. Shamsur Rahman was actively associated with the progressive literary and cultural movements of

works, specially 'Safed Panjal' and 'Asader Shirt'.

He was one of the organizers (See page 15 Col. 2)

Shamsur Rahman

(From Page 1 Col. 3)

the first national poetry festival, held in Dhaka in 1987, over which he presided. He was elected president of the national poetry festival committee and held the post till February 1988.

Besides Admajee Award, he was honoured with other national and international awards like Bangla Academy Award for literature (poetry) in 1969, Jibananandadas purosker-1973, Ekushey Padak-1977, Kabitalap Purosker-1979, Abul Munsur Gold Medal-1981, Bhasani Purosker-1982, and Mitsubishi (Japan) Award for Journalism-1982.

Different political, social and cultural organisations, professional bodies and individuals issued statements on Thursday condoling the death of celebrated poet and journalist Shamsur Rahman.

Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh President Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury in a statement said the country has lost a great son. The nation will remember his contributions to various fields including Liberation War, all progressive movements, journalism and literature.

Gono Forum President and eminent lawyer Dr. Kamal Hossain in a condolence message said, "We are deeply shocked at

the death of one of the pioneers in Bengali literature and culture. This will remain as an irreparable loss for his beloved Bangladesh and the nation."

BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan condoled the death of the legendary poet Shamsur Rahman and said the countrymen were inspired by his writings and active participation in the democratic and progressive movements of the country.

Zaker Party Chairman Mustafa Amir Faisal in a statement expressed his deep condolence at the death of eminent poet Shamsur Rahman.

President of Communist Party of Bangladesh (CPB) Manjurul Ahsan Khan and General Secretary Mujahidul Islam Selim also condoled the death of celebrated poet Shamsur Rahman and expressed their sympathy to the bereaved family members.

Dhaka University Teachers Association (DUTA) in a condolence message expressed its deep shock at the death of the country's celebrated poet Shamsur Rahman. The DUTA termed him as the poet of progressive thinking and pioneer of the country's intellectual freedom.

Besides, Bangladesher Samajtantrik Dal (BSD), Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Kabita Patra, Bangladesh Uditchi Shilpi Gosthi, Bangladesh Chhatra Union, Bangladesh Jubo Union, Narayan Press Club, Ganosanghati Andolan, Bangalee Sangskriti Manch, Bishwa Kabita Kendra, Ganotantri Party, and News Pa-