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President Professor AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury distributing awards and certificates among the meritorious students of Ahsanullah Science and Technology University at Osmani Memorial Auditorium on Monday.

# Students must learn to hate violence: President

Varsity Correspondent

President and Chancellor of universities Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury has once again advised most of the private universities, running without proper campus, for not ensuring atmosphere conducive to quality education.

"We must not compromise on quality education, proper environment, a teaching staff of excellence, on moral values and on discipline. Such topics are beyond any compromise whatsoever," he told a function on Monday.

Referring to the private universities in the West and neighbouring countries, the President said that those universities had a long record of success and attracting students from home and abroad for their standard, excellence and academic atmosphere.

The President's convictions came at the first convocation of the Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology (AUST) at Osmani Memorial Hall in the city on Monday.

Education Minister Dr M Osman Farruk, Prof Wahiduddin Ahmad, AUST Vice Chancellor Prof MH Khan, Executive Director of Dhaka Ahsania Mission Kazi Rafiqul Alam and Chairman of the university Syndicate Kazi Fazlur Rahman also addressed the convocation.

The President said that the stu-

dents "must learn to hate violence and corruption and work with a vision to help themselves, their families and the country."

The president also pointed out that the responsibility of the university authority is to see that the students "are equipped with the latest knowledge, develop strong character and uncompromising patriotism". Stressing on moral values the President added, "I feel strongly that there is no purpose in education without character".

Some 337 graduates of 618 pass-outs of the university were conferred the Bachelor's and Master's degrees at the convocation.

Three talents - Faisal Imam, Sadia Afroz and Ahmed Raihan Al-Emran - were awarded Khanbahadur Ahsanullah Padak for their outstanding academic performances.

The university, founded by Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) in 1995, has an enrolment of nearly 1,200 students in eight disciplines.

Prof Chowdhury lauded the role of educationists and resource persons in combining their efforts to expand higher education through establishment of private universities, both general and specialized. He said some of the entrepreneurs have rather commercial propensities, but others have ideal approach production of enlightened

and qualified citizens for the country.

The President underlined the need for excellence in English and suggested to establish language learning laboratory with audiovisual facilities in all the universities.

He said English learning in a methodical way should be made compulsory, which is expected to help learning computer, the vehicle of learning of the 21st century.

Education Minister Dr Osman Farruk appreciated the sponsors of AUST for establishing need based institution for learning and said in the present day, the higher education is very much different from that of the past.

The Minister said the growth of private universities in the country is satisfactory and underscored the monitoring and evaluating the quality and standard of education.

The Convocation Speaker Prof Wahiduddin Ahmad said it has been accepted that though education is for all, higher education must be reserved for the extremely brilliant students. Universities will only assist the brilliant students for their pursuit of knowledge.