

Seminar held on Cultural Exchange Promotes Global Education

In observance of the International Education Week 2005, a seminar on “Cultural Exchange Promotes Global Education” was organized by Bangladesh Education and Resource Network (bEARN) and Nacel Open Door Bangladesh Country Office on 18 November 2005 at BIAM, Dhaka.

Mr. Lutfur Rahman Khan Azad, MP, Honorable State Minister, Ministry of NGO Affairs was chief guest while Syed Margub Morshed, Ex-Chairman, BTRC and Mr. Mohammad Shahidul Alam, Director General, BIAM were the special guests. The Key Note Paper was presented by Prof. Dr. Arifa Rahman. The seminar was chaired by Mr. Dulal Biswas, Country Director, Nacel Open Door (NOD) Bangladesh.

In the welcome address Mr. Golam R. Hiru, Executive Director, Bangladesh Education and Resource Network (bEARN) expressed that cultural exchange should be open to the globe so that every one can share, learn and accept the best practices. He stated that culture has recently been defined as “a way of being, relating, behaving, believing and acting which people live out in their lives and which is in a constant process of change and exchange with other cultures”.

Presenting the Key Note Paper Prof. Dr. Arifa Rahman said that education is a great challenge in the modern age but there are also opportunities of education in the information age. She expressed that true education and its relationship with knowledge should be promoted through a knowledge-based education system. She shared a great statement of Mahatma Gandhi on culture and its practice: “I do not want my house to be walled in on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the culture of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible. But I refuse to be blown off my feet by any”.

Mr. Mohammad Shahidul Alam thanked the organizers of the seminar and expressed in his speech that global education through cultural exchange is an excellent program which bridges the people of different communities and regions. He also mentioned that we should encourage the idea of the cultural exchange for a better cohesive living for our posterity.

Syed Margub Morshed expressed his happiness for the venture and praised the theme of the program. He said that we should all be open minded to accept others’ culture and value and we can adopt the best one. He also emphasized on the process by which we can build a ‘better living-together world’.

Mr. Lutfur Rahman Khan Azad, State Minister, Ministry of NGO Affairs expressed his deep satisfaction for arranging this seminar. In his speech he mentioned that cultural exchanges is open to all. Students, teachers, youth leaders, NGO representatives, members of YES Alumni and civil society people were present in the seminar.

On behalf of the Press Release

Golam R. Hiru

Executive Director

Bangladesh Education And Resource Network (bEARN)

House # 4/9 (1st floor), Humayun Road

Mohammadpur

Dhaka - 1207

Bangladesh

Tel : 880 191 363050 (Mobile) 88 02 8129232 (Res)

E-mail : grhiru@yahoo.com, grhiru@hotmail.com