

type of person he was -- principled, honest, self-effacing, full of humility yet with a steely resolve to stand up for what he believed in.

Khan's childhood days are described in detail in the first chapters of the book. Village life of the early 19th and 20th centuries is recounted, which include delightful accounts of a child's growing up -- playing pranks in school, being terrorised by sadistic teachers or inspired by kind ones, the relationship between Hindu and Muslim neighbours, fishing expeditions, boat racing, kite flying and so on. But there is also an underlying pathos in the writing, stemming from perpetual financial hardship that Khan had to go through. The author, in his lucid and direct style, describes how his own family became impoverished after their homestead in Faridpur got washed away by a merciless river Padma, how his father struggled to gather funds to get his son educated, his days as a university student studying English at Presidency College in Calcutta and then completing his law and MA Degrees from the University of Calcutta. Khan's life as depicted in the book, has been a great test of endurance. Apart from financial troubles, Khan had to bear the pain of losing many loved ones -- a supportive father, a brother, a sister, a favourite aunt, a doting mother, children and a loving wife. His days of incarceration are related with poignancy. The sub-standard food and harsh conditions of the jail when he joined the non-cooperation movement took a heavy toll on Khan's health. While in jail, Khan continued to defy his captors refusing to salute the Superintendent or other officials risking flogging. Even after he was released he preferred to take the hard way of fending for himself and his family instead of using his political connections.

Dr. Kamal, during his address, said that while reading the book he was struck by its relevance in today's context. Referring to the Tamizuddin Khan versus Federation of Pakistan case, Dr. Kamal said that Khan used his excellent education to defend an unjust position. Khan's involvement in the non-cooperation movement at considerable personal sacrifice, his defiance of his jailers -- all gave evidence to the inherent patriotism of Bangalis and their desire to fight injustice. "Every young person who protests against injustice should see Tamizuddin Khan as a model", said Dr. Kamal.

The first edition, published by University Press Limited (UPL) was sold out and this second edition has been published by the Tamizuddin Khan Trust. A Test of Time is valuable on several counts. It recreates the socio-political ambience of a momentous period in the history of the subcontinent. It also documents the thoughts, emotions and insight of a man who moulded his life and self to fight for the cause of justice and freedom. In that Khan is a true patriot whose example, no doubt, will remain timeless.

A. M. AMIN

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS



What is GED?

GED (General Educational Development) is for those who have not completed A Level or higher secondary but would like to study further. It is mainly intended for people with study gaps. A GED certificate enables a person to take admission to undergraduate programs in both foreign universities (in USA, Canada, etc.) and private universities of Bangladesh.

Do all Colleges and Universities accept GED?

No, quite a few of them do not accept it. You should make sure by **directly enquiring the admission office** of the College or University College you are interested in. A regular educational certificate like HSC or A Level is always advised.

What are covered in GED?

It is a computer-based test and is held in two parts.

PART ONE : (1. Writing Skills & 2. Interpreting Literature & Arts)

PART TWO : (1. Social Studies, 2. Science, and 3. Mathematics)

Where is the test held?

American Alumni Assn., Hs-135, Rd-13E, Banani, Dhaka. Ph:9881669.

How much is the test fee?

Currently it is US \$ 375/-.

How is it scored?

Each subject is scored on a scale of 200-800. To pass, one has to usually score at least 410 in each of the five subjects and 450 on an average. Minimum requirements may vary from college to college.

What is our program like?

Duration : 5 months. 5 days a week.

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