



Yunus awarded Nichols Chancellor's Medal
UNB, Dhaka

Nobel laureate Prof Muhammad Yunus has called on Vanderbilt University students to help create a world where museums have exhibits on poverty because it is a thing of the past.

"The world cannot remain the way it is. It's our job to create the world that we want to live in. Nobody should be a poor person in that world. There's no need to be," said Prof Yunus while addressing the Vanderbilt graduates on Alumni Lawns as part of Senior Class Day on May 10, according to a message received from the university.

At the programme, Chancellor Gordon Gee awarded Prof Yunus, an alumnus of Vanderbilt University, the second Nichols-Chancellor's Medal.

Vanderbilt University has been celebrating the Nobel Peace Prize since October in a big way since Prof Yunus is the first Nobel Laureate from the university. The quarterly magazine of Vanderbilt recently had a major cover story on Prof Yunus.

Prof Yunus in his address said the blame for poverty lies in unfair economics systems, not poor people.

"Nothing is wrong with (the poor)," he said, adding, "They're as good and active as anybody else ... Poverty is not created by the poor."

Prof Yunus entered Vanderbilt's Graduate Program in Economic Development for master's study and continued in the economics department for the doctorate, which he earned from Vanderbilt in 1970.

"Prof Yunus is a matchless example ... of how to live a fully human, peaceful life," Gee said.

"The methods he has implemented for alleviating poverty are practical, innovative and radically compassionate. He's brought great distinction on this university through his work."

Last year, first lady Laura Bush accepted the first Nichols-Chancellor's Medal on behalf of rescue workers who respond to natural disasters around the world.

Book on history of railway launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday urged the government to take immediate steps to restore past glory of railway department.

They were speaking at the publication ceremony of a book titled 'Purba Bangla Railway Itihas' (History of the East Bengal Railway) 1862-1947 by Dr Dinak Sohan Kabir at the National Museum in the city. Academic Press and Publishers Library organised the ceremony.

Speaking as the chief guest, Vice Chancellor of University of Asia Pacific Dr Abdul Matin Patwari said, "Once the railway was the cheapest, safest and the fastest means of communication, but it now lost its past glory".

Quoting some reports from the national newspapers he said day by day the railway department is becoming a national burden.

Comparing the rail communication system of Bangladesh with that of neighbouring countries, particularly India, he said the authorities of Bangladesh Railway can take lessons from their Indian counterparts.

Political analyst Dr Mizanur Rahman Shelly said the author depicted the railway department's impact on social, political and economic development of the country.

Dr Shelly chaired the ceremony while Dr KM Mohsin and Dr Sharif Uddin Ahmed of History Department of Dhaka University, and Publisher of the book Shahina Rahman were also present.

'Walk the World' to end child hunger today

UNB, Dhaka

In response to UN food agency WFP's global advocacy event 'Walk the World' to end child hunger, a walkathon will be staged in the city today.

The walkathon will start from IDB Bhaban at Agargaon at 10:00am and end on the backside of Sangsad Bhaban, Chandrima Uddyan (intersection of Bijoy Sarani and Rokeya Sarani).

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) over the years has organised the global advocacy event, campaigning for raising awareness and funds to feed the hungry children.

Under the programme, hundreds of thousands of people worldwide will walk together over a 24-hour period in each of the planet's time zones, to deliver a message: Child hunger has no place in this world and citizens across the globe can put an end to it.

WFP together with its major global corporate partners, TNT and Unilever, are teaming up with an array of celebrities, dignitaries, employees, NGO partners, families, friends and people affected by hunger themselves, to "Fight Hunger: Walk the World".

TIB-CUDS DEBATE COMPETITION OPENS Help free country from corruption

ACC chief urges youths

CU CORRESPONDENT

Chairman of Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Lt General (retd) Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury has called upon the young generation to play a significant role in freeing the country from corruption.

"We know what our problems and the right way to overcome those. So we have to solve our problems by our own. There is no need to hire any foreign consultant in this regard," he observed.

The ACC chairman was addressing as chief guest at the inaugural ceremony of 'TIB-CUDS 9th Bengali-3rd English Inter-Department Debate Competition 2007' at the auditorium of Chittagong University (CU) Commerce Faculty yesterday.

The competition was organised jointly by Chittagong University Debating Society (CUDS), Transparency International

Bangladesh (TIB) and Sachetan Nagorik Committee, Chittagong.

Hasan Mashhud said the role of young generation is more important than any other section of the society as they are largely believed to be far away from any sort of corruption.

"We know what our problems and the right way to overcome those. So we have to solve our problems by our own. There is no need to hire any foreign consultant in this regard," he observed.

"Any suggestions from either military or civil bureaucracy including stakeholders concerned will not bring any benefit unless and until the students get involved in anti-corruption movement," he said.

Terming the debate on corruption very important, he called for spreading such initiatives across the country.

CUDS Moderator Prof Dr Mahbubul Haque presided over the

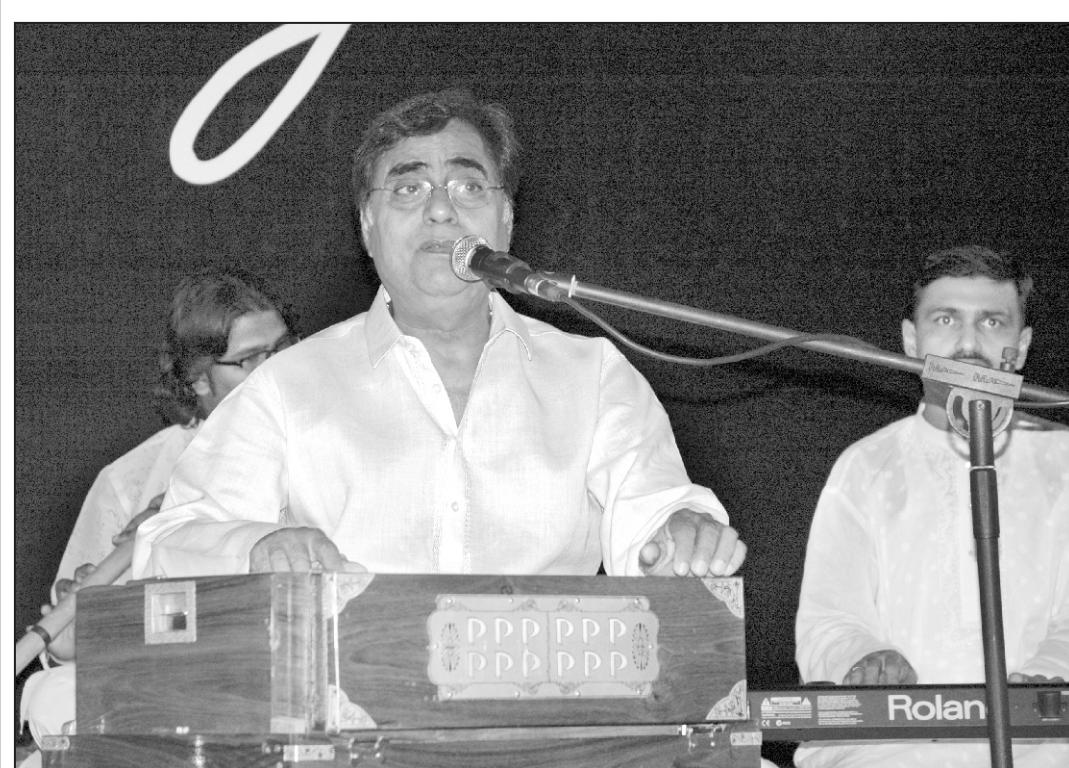


PHOTO: STAR

Renowned Indian Ghazal maestro Jagjit Singh performs at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city yesterday. CREATAS organised the event.

CG activities not producing fair results for people

Justice Rabbani tells press confce

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Justice Rabbani.

Secretary General of Citizens Rights Movement Tushar Rehman in a written statement placed the 11-point demand at the press conference yesterday.

He said, "Justice is disappearing from each and every corner of life and this is high time for people to play a conscious role."

The press conference was organised by the Citizens Rights Movement at the National Press Club in the city to press home its 11-point demand to communication ministry as well as other bodies concerned.

In support of his remark, Justice Rabbani, who is an adviser of the organisation, said the price of essentials can be an example.

"Nobody knows how the money has been robbed of by the middlemen. It is the duty of the caretaker government to find out the gaps and take immediate steps," said

and tins meant for poor people," he added.

"We want exemplary punishment to those who are involved in corruption," the speakers urged.

"The communication minister offformer government and his close allies took bribes in importing CNG-run auto-rickshaws/taxis. They breached the promise of lower fare for CNG-run bus, but took the advantage of tax exemption, and stole money in establishing CNG refuelling stations," they alleged.

Part from strong monitoring system, the speakers called for steps to ensure that CNG-run three-wheelers/taxis strictly follow the metres, and there is 24-hour service of traffic police in the city tomorrow, says a press release.

Journalist Syed Abul Moksdur, Dr Dilara Hafiz of Eden College and Group Captain Alfaz also spoke on this occasion.

"Though we have gone for BMW, Cadillac, Mercedes and Rolls-Royce, but still we feel an ardent craving for relief materials

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Two killed in Satkhira road accident

UNB, Satkhira

Two youths were killed as a bus rammed into a motorbike at Hridip Kulpukur in Devhatia upazila on Satkhira-Munshiganj road yesterday.

The dead were identified as

Saheenur Rahman, 30, and

Anwarul Islam, 25, of Maghur Ali village in Kaliganj upazila.

Police said the accident

occurred when a Munshiganj-bound bus ploughed through the motorbike, leaving the two youths dead on the spot. Saheenur and Anwarul were going to Parulia Bazar riding the motorbike at about 10:00am.

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