

But before moving onto the tournament details, it would be really unjust to the organizers if the tournament's bidding history is not mentioned. As expected, the 'Asians' did not come to Bangladesh in one day but had a long and grueling history of its own. The first time North South University (NSU) sent their team to the *Asians* was in the year 2005. Both in 2005 and in 2006, the team from NSU narrowly missed 'breaking' into the top 16 being ranked as 18th and 17th respectively. The first bid was placed in 2006 by NSUDC President (2005-2006) Khondker Zunaed Rabbani, General Secretary (2005-2006) Sarajit Baral and General Secretary (2004-2005) Asif Newaz. Due to the extreme difficulty of holding this event, a year ahead of the next competition, bids are presented from different institutions who would like to host the All Asians and delegates from each participating institutions vote for the bid they believe will be best. Although NSUDC lost the bid in 2006 to South Korea in 2006, the team was able to create substantial impression. And for the next one year, the organizers made it a point to visit different debating events all across Asia to convince teams to vote for NSU and Bangladesh. According to Zunaed Rabbani, the convener of the event, he even had to answer some really silly questions based on people's preconceived ideas about Bangladesh. 'Do tigers roam around in the streets in Bangladesh?', 'Do you have highways in Dhaka?' and questions of the sort. Overcoming all these obstacles, NSUDC managed to win the bid for 2008 in the Asians held at South Korea in 2007 and thus achieved a milestone for both itself and the country.

The event started with foreign delegates starting to arrive in Dhaka from May 6, 2008 who received accommodation in the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel. Registration began on May 7, 2008 after which, the Ice Breaking Party was held at the Samarai Convention Centre where the participants were thoroughly entertained by 'Nemesis'. 66 teams from 38 institutions hailing from 12 different Asian nations took part in the championship.

The tournament was officially inaugurated by Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, honourable Chief Adviser, Government of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh, on May 8, 2008 at the Grand Ballroom of the Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel. Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, in his speech, welcomed the foreign delegates to the beautiful Bangladesh. He invited them to explore the country, to discover its beauty and nature. He congratulated North South University for its excellent effort and for giving Bangladesh such positive exposure and for being the pioneer; he said cultural exchange, leadership building, fostering friendship lead to regional peace. Furthermore, he encouraged the youths of Bangladesh to host more such international events in the future.

Preceding the honourable Chief Adviser, the Convener of the tournament, Khondker Zunaed Rabbani, welcomed the delegates and