An afternoon with the VC of Jahangirnagar University

(Interview taken by Farhat Tasannum Farah on behalf of Star Campus)

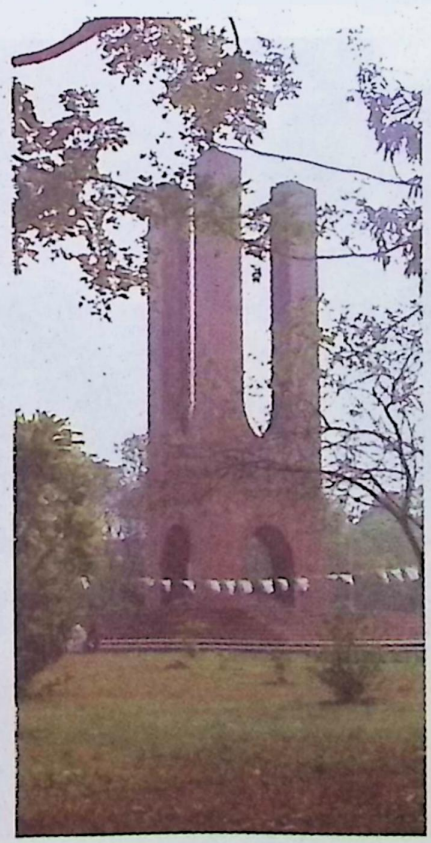
PROFESSOR Mohammed Muniruzzaman is the Vice-Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University. His opinions were sought on the eve of its 38th Anniversary.

Star Campus (SC): Can you please give us some details about the inception of the university.

Professor M. Muniruzzaman (PMM): Jahangirnagar University was officially inaugurated on January 12, 1971. At the very beginning we started with four departments, Economics, Geography, Mathematics and Statistics. About 150 students first enrolled in this university. At present, we have 10,000 students here including the M Phil and PhD students. There are currently 26 departments in this university.

SC: What are the plans to celebrate the 38th Anniversary of JU?

PMM: Actually, we didn't get much time to hold a day-long programme with various events and after an urgent meeting we decided to hold a big rally that would start from the old Social science building (now Biology building) and end at the cafeteria. All faculty Deans, Provosts, heads of the departments, teachers and students are to participate in this rally. Ex-students were also invited through newspapers. Special transports were arranged for them.





SC: What does this day mean to you?

PMM: This is a special day where the ex-students can meet each other and reminisce about their old days. They can also compare their campus life with that of the present students.

Another important aspect I want to mention is, whether I would be able to manage the responsibilities given to me, whether I would perform my duties sincerely or not. I need to think over-whether I evaluated students by their merit or not.

SC: What do you think about the standard of studies in JU?

PMM: We started the department of physics with only *three* teachers but now things have changed. There are many science courses that have been added to Physics including Environmental Science and Computer Science and Engineering.

In the beginning the students didn't get all the facilities that are easily available now. Internet access is easy and you can learn many things through the world wide web.