Response on the article 'Our Universities'

INDEED, the writer of the article 'Our Universities' pointed towards a critical issue that concerns thousands of university students and remains unveiled. I agree with him in most of the points but to some extent I also disagree. In case of the aim and meaning of the 'university' I would like to refer the concept of Henry Cardinal Newman who puts a lot of emphasis on liberal education in his famous prose named 'The Idea of a University'.

Yes, the aim of university is neither to create faithful and dutiful servants nor to make dominant bureaucrats. University must aim to create better, perfect and astute human beings.

But things do not fall into place so easily. Due to the rise of capitalism and globalisation students have to read subjects in demand for their survival. That means the subject value is determined by capital and utility.

Moreover, failing to create a perfect graduate is no longer a blame for the university alone rather a blame for the government as well.

Let us come to private universities. The Private University Act passed in 1992 with a view to enlarging and enriching our faculty of knowledge. And it is a sad truth that most of the private universities have failed to uphold its purposes. But at the same time its true that the leading private universities have played their role nicely though it's a handful number. Some private universities have ample campuses along with good atmosphere and well-equipped lab facilities in comparison to public universities for education.

At the end of his article the writer mentions that we need a few quality ones instead of enormous number of universities. But my point is that these quality ones should have the facilities to admit large number of students.

Again, the writer diplomatically escaped from the issues like campus violence, session jam, political influence, curriculum, and way of teaching and some other things that play a negative role for education.

To define the standard of our students, I would like to represent a qualitative research of Vivan Cook, a professor of ELT, University of Essex. According to his research, the sub-continental students particularly the Bangladeshis make the best approach in terms of acquisition of a language and do well in their thesis and research work.

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IN response to the article 'Our Universities', I would like to share my thoughts and views with the readers. The definition of *'university'* in the oxford dictionary is- *an institution that teaches and examines students in many branches of advanced learning, awarding degrees and providing facilities for academic research.* But how much is this definition true about the universities of our country? We all know the reality of public universities and its never-ending session jams, student politics, poor education and accommodation facilities. On the other hand, the reality of our private universities is equally deplorable. Increasing tuition and admission fees in almost every alternative semester, inadequate lab, campus and teaching facilities, has become the modern definition of universities of our country. What can we say? There is hardly any ideal university in our country in my opinion. Is there any remedy to these boundless differences in our education system? Can we ever solve the existing problems in both our public and private universities? How much conscious and qualified are we to get all the facilities and amenities we are talking about now and then?

We are always claiming our rights and shouting about the injustice that we are facing. But we need to think how much we have contributed to change this situation. What have we done in our personal level to upraise ourselves, how many responsibilities have we fulfilled towards our nation? Judge yourself first before pointing the faults in others. The rule of this world is that you cannot have free lunches unless you earn it. We have to change our attitudes and our thinking. Our universities and this nation cannot change until we change ourselves. In order to develop the conditions we need to develop our inner positive qualities.

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