I have read 'Our Universities' written by Shafayet Jamil and found the article very contradictory. I think he had been unnecessarily biased against the private universities.

He pointed out directly against the private universities when he said "I want to know what specialty they possess apart from creating a good number of graduates?" Well, if he finds that the private universities are doing a fault creating good numbers of graduates and nothing else, then what's bad in it? At least they are giving the nation some graduates, unlike the public universities, which are still surviving bullets and ballots every now and then! He also pointed out that private universities lack of research facilities and full time teaching staff, no permanent campus, poor lab facilities have become our modern definition of university. He has logic in his claim. But then we must also say that despite having huge permanent campuses and modest lab facilities, the public universities, are still falling behind in utilizing those for their students. Sprawling university campuses are not just 'a show-off', they are meant for holding campus fairs, or exhibitions, or sports festivals or book fairs. When was the last time that such occasions graced our public university campuses?

So I believe we should stop throwing mud at each other because both the public and the private universities belong to us and meant for us: the students. We must have respect for each other and do something jointly for a better future.

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I agree with Shafayet Jamil when he said that the students are the future leaders of any nation. It is because we all know that education indeed is the 'deciding factor' for any nation to take a leap forward in today's competitive world and the students are the people who have the abilities to maintain the roles of leadership that can lead a particular society to a bright future.

Nevertheless, there are some prejudice of the writer in the article about private universities that upset me. He claimed that private universities are lacking research facilities and full time teaching staff, no permanent campus and poor lab facilities. I think he generalized the institution called private university.

I partially agree with his judgment because there are private universities which have the above mentioned blemishes to carry on their shoulders, but I presume that the writer has failed to see the fact that there are numerous universities in the country which fall into different categories in status and quality; a few of them in fact excel in imparting quality education to the nation. In fact, a recent study by Research Bangla (RB) shows that top three private universities in web-research publications are East West University (885), IUB (283) and Daffodil International University (230).

The writer perhaps did not realize that if there were no private universities, thousands of young, bright students would have been turned into a frustrated community failing to get admitted to the holy place called public universities. It is true that most of the public universities (if not all) still depend on the public university teachers to teach their students and the writer's concern for lack of permanent/full time faculty is not negligible, but my question is- has anyone wondered why public university teachers take part-time jobs in private universities? Well, the reason is clear, it's because they are paid well for their hardship and effort and the working environment is also healthy with less political influence working against them. Most of our public university itself has plunged into oblivion as it has been rated as 4900th something in the global universities' ranking list. It is a matter of great concern as very recently the public university campuses are again getting into headlines for all wrong reasons.

I fully agree with the view point of the writer when he said that it is a university that holds the responsibility to deck the camouflaged ability or qualities that are necessary for the students to achieve their primary goals but along with the university, I think the students themselves should also maintain punctuality and be hardworking so that he can make a smooth journey towards a wonderful and a meaningful future.

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