



NOTRE DAME UNIVERSITY BANGLADESH

The competence to see and the courage to act



PRESIDENT
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
BANGABHABAN, DHAKA

25 Magh 1431
08 February 2025

Message

On the auspicious occasion of the 2nd Convocation of the Notre Dame University Bangladesh, I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the graduating students, their parents, faculty members, and the university authorities.

Universities stand as bastions of knowledge and are essential for cultivating high-quality human capital, which is indispensable for a nation's growth and development. As the interim government is marching forward to build a progressive, inclusive and prosperous new Bangladesh, the demand for skilled and proficient individuals to meet both national and global requisites is immense. I hope that Notre Dame University Bangladesh will persistently strive for academic excellence, enabling its students to navigate and address the multifaceted challenges of the twenty-first century.

The student led mass uprising in July-August 2024 will always be remembered as a transformative milestone in the history of Bangladesh. The courage, unity, sacrifice and resilience demonstrated by the students including Notre Damians were truly commendable. I am confident that the graduates will uphold the spirit of the uprising and embrace the responsibility of realizing the vision of a knowledge based, equitable and just society.

Convocation marks a unique milestone in the lives of students, recognizing their achievements and the dedication of their alma mater. I am optimistic that the graduates would apply their acquired knowledge for the betterment and prosperity of the masses. I wish them all a bright and successful future.

I wish the 2nd Convocation of the Notre Dame University Bangladesh a grand success. May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Mohammed Shahabuddin



Message

Adviser
Ministry of Education
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

I am glad to know that Notre Dame University Bangladesh is publishing the commemorative on the occasion of its second convocation. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to all concerned with publishing the commemorative.

The role of the educational institutions of Holy Cross Congregation in imparting quality education is admirable. These institutions are recognized and admired for fostering moral character by instilling values and developing leadership skills among students.

For decades, the educational institutions run by Catholic missionaries have been imparting not only academic knowledge but also the principles of human development, equality, and justice. This holistic approach to education ensures that students are equipped and inspired to contribute positively to society.

I firmly believe that in the future, Notre Dame University Bangladesh will continue to play a significant role in advancing higher education and contributing to the creation of a prosperous and progressive Bangladesh.

My best wishes go to the proud parents of the graduates, all the teachers, staff and administrators of Notre Dame University Bangladesh. May this journey, propelled by the democratic revolution of 2024, pave the way to a bright and successful future for all.

May the path ahead for Notre Dame University Bangladesh be smooth and glorious, and may its reputation continue to flourish in Bangladesh and beyond.

Wahiduddin Mahmud



Message

Adviser
Ministry of Power, Energy and Mineral Resources,
Ministry of Road Transport and Bridges & Ministry of Railways
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

I am honored to be a part of this momentous occasion—the 2nd Convocation ceremony of Notre Dame University Bangladesh (NDUB). This day marks the culmination of years of hard work, perseverance and dedication by the graduates. I am reminded of the incredible journey that each of you has undertaken to reach this point.

Graduates are being handed over the keys to unlock the future full of possibilities. They stand on the threshold of a world that is rapidly changing—one that is full of challenges and rich in opportunities.

I firmly believe that NDUB has equipped the graduates with the knowledge, skills, and values necessary to excel in their chosen fields and this university will continue to play a significant role in advancing their higher education and contributing to the creation of a prosperous and progressive Bangladesh.

To the faculty members of NDUB, I extend my deepest appreciation. Their dedication to nurturing young minds and fostering an environment of academic excellence will be remembered.

Special thanks to the parents and families of graduates for the sacrifice and unwavering support that have made all the differences.

This step of graduates into this world is not the end but the beginning of a new chapter. I wish all the success and fulfillment of our graduates in future endeavors.

Dr. Muhammad Fouzul Kabir Khan



Message

CONGREGATION OF HOLY CROSS
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Dear Graduates, Administration, Faculty, and Friends,

I am pleased to offer my prayerful best wishes and congratulations to the graduates of Notre Dame University Bangladesh on the occasion of your 2025 annual Convocation. You now join hundreds of thousands of men and women who are proud graduates of other Holy Cross educational institutions around the world.

During 19th century France, when schools were based on the classical system of education, our holy Founder, Blessed Basile Moreau, saw the importance of a more holistic, value-based education integrating the fine arts and emerging sciences within a rigorous academic program, while also providing time for spiritual, social, and physical activities. This unique philosophy of "educating the hearts and minds" of students has endured almost 200 years and continues today to be a hallmark of Holy Cross education in our schools on five continents. I am delighted that Notre Dame University Bangladesh continues this fine tradition.

Occasions such as this is a time to express gratitude. I thank your teachers who have patiently and successfully brought you to this day and your families who have supported you throughout this journey. I also thank the many people who continue to support the mission and educational philosophy of Notre Dame University Bangladesh.

As you look to the future, I encourage you to seek God's guidance in your life's decisions and to uphold the Holy Cross values of building community with respect for all people so a world of love, justice, and peace will one day prevail.

May God continue to reward and bless you so that you may be an inspiration to all of those you meet. I assure you of my prayers and blessings for your continued success. I remain



Message

Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Global Affairs at the University of Notre Dame, U.S.A.

It is my great pleasure to congratulate the graduates of Notre Dame University Bangladesh as you receive your diplomas on this special occasion.

You have devoted years of your lives to attain this goal and I am sure you will later look back on this experience as a time that prepared you well for the challenges ahead. But as you know, a university is not only a place of academic training and scholarly research. A university is also a community. You belong to a great family, that shares a vision of hope and bonds of friendship to help you overcome many obstacles.

As a student at NDUB, founded in the tradition of Holy Cross education, you are joining a global community that includes graduates on every continent, who have been inspired by these same ideals and values. Together you recognize that today's world needs the integration of mind and heart in its approach to conflicts and problems. We must always take into account the human dimension of every technical application.

The great advances in science that have greatly improved our lives in recent centuries have also placed upon us an inescapable responsibility. We cannot drive a car, use a computer, or run a business without recognizing that the powerful machines we depend on must be guided by our decisions.

As a graduate of NDUB, you are carrying with you the promise of remedies for a suffering world that needs repair, transformation, healing, and renewal in many ways. With the benefit of your education, you can make a difference by your choices. You are at the beginning of great possibilities for yourself, your family, your country, and a world that is waiting to welcome you. Go to meet it with courage and the confidence of an NDUB alumnus.

Dr. R. Scott Appleby
Keough-Hesburgh Professor of Global Affairs at the University of Notre Dame, U.S.A.



With a reputation for quality education, Notre Dame is recognized both in Bangladesh and around the world. Since 1853, the Holy Cross missionaries have been working tirelessly to provide education, not for profit, but for the betterment of society. Their dedication laid the foundation for many renowned institutions, benefiting the people of Bangladesh for generations. Building on that tradition, the Holy Cross missionaries took the academic journey to its next level and there comes the first private university in the country, Notre Dame University Bangladesh (NDUB), which envisions to achieve diligently true knowledge and wisdom for life and living, through studies in humanities, technologies, and also business, preparing the youth globally and culturally so that students can contribute effectively to humanity.

OUR VISION: Formation of mind and heart for truth and for the fullness of life and living.

OUR MISSION: To seek sincerely and achieve diligently true knowledge and wisdom for life and living, through studies in humanities and technologies, based on the local Bangladesh culture and spiritual heritage, so that the students may develop their best selves to serve their society and contribute effectively to humanity.

Values that constitute the foundation of the university and the essential elements of our teaching and learning are: Pursuit of truth, Rational thinking, Respect for human dignity, Non-violence, Social responsibility, Commitment to human development, Solidarity and justice, Peace and charity, Gender equality, Global unity, Communal harmony, Respect for creation

COLLABORATION
NDUB has a collaboration program with the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, United States of America. Each year faculty members from foreign universities conduct workshops and training programs for the faculty members and students at NDUB campus. Furthermore, NDUB and Martin Luther Christian University, Shillong, Meghalaya, India, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to foster academic exchange and cooperation.

CO-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES
NDUB also believes in pragmatic training for the students and there NDUB presents its full-fledged running clubs at task where students explore their potentials, work on their dormant talents, learn the leadership skills and get prepared for a better future through achieving competency in career. Moreover, NDUB has its own in-door and outdoor game facilities. Annual sports competition is held every year. By participating in these games students are given the opportunities to be fit mentally and physically, learning team management, leadership, resolving instant crises, and effective communication skills.

RECENT HISTORY
The Government of Bangladesh, along with its dedicated officers and resources, has cooperated enthusiastically to accelerate the founding and growth of the university. The Governing Body of Notre Dame College donated land on the south edge of their campus, which now serves as the home of NDUB. The Principal of Notre Dame College, worked tirelessly to prepare the initial application to the University Grants Commission, while Fr. Thomas O'Hara, CSC, former President of King's College in the USA, offered valuable advice in establishing the institution and forming its Board of Trustees. Since 2013, this Board has met continually, with guidance from the Syndicate and Academic Council, to support the University leadership in upholding its founding vision and preparing for future challenges. After 11 years of teaching and learning, a dedicated faculty, committed administration, and a diverse student body have gathered on our Motijheel campus today, February 8, 2025, to celebrate the Second Convocation of Notre Dame University Bangladesh. These outstanding graduates, and those to come, are an undeniable proof of the vision's worthiness. We believe they now have "The Competence to See and the Courage to Act."

THE BEGINNINGS
Following the end of the British Raj and Pakistan's independence in 1947, the Holy Cross community extended its educational mission to support the new nation by offering intermediate college education. In November 1949, Notre Dame College opened its doors alongside St. Gregory's High School in Luxmibazar. A year later, the college moved to a nearby pharmacy building on Subhash Bose Lane, and in 1954, it shifted to the developing Motijheel area of Dhaka. Shortly thereafter, the Holy Cross Sisters established Holy Cross College for girls at Tejgaon.

These institutions quickly gained a reputation for academic excellence and strong character training, reflecting founder Fr. Basil Moreau's belief that education should nurture both mind and heart. In 1954, Notre Dame College launched a small degree program initially affiliated with Dhaka University, later transitioning to National University affiliation in 1992.

Over subsequent decades, growing support from friends and the Catholic Bishops Conference of Bangladesh spurred calls for a Catholic university in Dhaka. With effective advocacy by Bishop Theotonius Gomes, CSC, and leadership from Br. Bijoy Rodrigues, CSC, an exploratory taskforce was formed. In July 2012, the Holy Cross Fathers established Notre Dame University Bangladesh. Today, they continue inspiring truly outstanding educational excellence nationwide.



Message

Welcome back. A great many members of the university have worked hard to make this Convocation a celebration you will always remember. I hope you are enjoying the fruits of their efforts. You have earned it. I ask myself what it must be like for you to return to Notre Dame today. Because it has been a few years since our last Convocation, I imagine the first impression of many of you will be that much has changed since you have been away. Most noticeably, our beloved old building is gone! As someone who hasn't been at Notre Dame very long, I'm grateful that I had a chance to experience life in the old building when I first arrived. The cradle of the university, it was filled with a beautiful spirit. Despite all the crowding and inconvenience, it was clear that the students, faculty and staff cared deeply for the place, and for one another. Now that we have a beautiful new building, with air-conditioning and elbow room, we're doing our best to ensure that the old spirit takes root in the new soil.

You will notice too that some of your most beloved faculty and staff are no longer with us. For example, a lot of us are still coming to terms with loss of Fr. Tom McDermott, CSC. His wisdom, dauntless enthusiasm and profound commitment to the university and its people inspired so many. He and the others we have lost have left something beautiful behind them – a university to be proud of – a university worth loving. And you are that university. Notre Dame students in America have a favorite chant. They love to shout out together, "We are ND." It's true. They are. So are you. You are Notre Dame University Bangladesh. That has not changed. That will not change. You are young and have limitless potential. The same is true of NDUB. Our university will continue to grow and will achieve its potential as you achieve yours. Who knows, the next time you visit the campus we may all be in yet another, even bigger more beautiful building! But wherever we are, we will all still be NDUB. Meanwhile, today we recognize your achievement. Well done, and once again, welcome home.

Charles B. Gordon, CSC
Dr. Fr. Charles B. Gordon, CSC
Pro-Vice Chancellor



Message

As one of the NDUB family members, I am privileged to be a part of the Second Convocation ceremony! The best words that I want to utter for you today, are "Congratulations, Graduates of NDUB!" The Holy Cross Fathers who have been working in this part of the world since 1853, established a Catholic university in Bangladesh in 2013. The birth process of the founding of this University was tough because of many obstacles and difficulties, yet this experience was like a woman's first conception and giving birth to her first child. With the Benjamin's effective leadership and wisdom we were able to reach the far distant "promised land" on 7 December 2014; on that day that we had our first day of class with 303 new students. We forgot all our weariness to see that our graduates are finding jobs in many esteemed firms, companies and institutions.

Today I can hear the guiding voices of many Holy Cross men like Bishop Theotonius, Cardinal Patrick, Fr. Frank, Fr. Benjamin, Fr. Tom O'Hara (former Provincial, US Province), Fr. Tom McDermott, Fr. James Cruze, and many others who greatly contributed to making many important decisions and thus to implement the dream of the Holy Cross Fathers of establishing NDUB in Dhaka. The invaluable contributions of Archbishop Joseph S. Marino (former Vatican Ambassador), the Ministry of Education, the UGC, Barrister Shabiq Ahmed (former Law Minister), Prof. Dr. Sirajul Islam Chowdhury, Dr. Kamal Hossain, Dr. S A Samad, the Members of the Board of Trustees and the Syndicate can never be forgotten.

The goal of NDUB is to impart quality education to the students and maintain a high standard in all academic and administrative activities. And so, NDUB has chosen "formation of mind and heart for truth and for the fullness of life and living" as its vision and "the competence to see and the courage to act" as the motto. To implement these NDUB tries to teach all students a set of important values like pursuit of truth, rational thinking, respect for human dignity, non-violence, social responsibility, commitment to human development, solidarity and justice, peace and charity, gender equality, global unity, communal harmony and so on. NDUB ensures a learning environment and maintains that our students can complete all courses of studies within stipulated timeframes and affordable costs. To help them in this regard, NDUB offers various types of scholarships and waivers. This financial assistance helps many of our meritorious but underprivileged students complete their studies.

Our students get ample opportunities to practice public speaking with effective communications in the classrooms, clubs and national programs; they can develop leadership by serving as Class Representatives (CR) and club executives, enrich their hearts by taking part in 'Fullness of Life' programs in Bhadun, seminars, workshops, training programs, and the national programs. From these they develop qualities which cannot be attained from curriculum-based lessons. In 2024 many of our alumni and current students jointly collected money, prepared hundreds of bags with relief goods and went to distribute to those among the flood victims. By such charitable deeds, our students proved that they loved humanity. Thus, our graduates are becoming competent to see and courageous to act. I strongly believe, they will not fail to practice in their workplaces, families and society what they have learned at NDUB. May the Almighty be with all our graduates to let their light shine in our beloved motherland and everywhere else.

Dr. Fr. Subash Adam Pereira, CSC
Treasurer & Acting Proctor



CHIEF ADVISOR
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

25 Magh 1431
08 February 2025

Message

I am pleased to learn that the second convocation ceremony of Notre Dame University Bangladesh is set to take place. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to the esteemed faculty, parents, and members of the administration for their unwavering support in guiding these students to success.

The nation has witnessed the remarkable capabilities of our students, who stand as the harbingers of social reform and catalysts for positive change. The spirit of the July-August Revolution serves as a testament to the power of educated youth and the profound impact they can have on the nation's progress.

The name of Notre Dame University Bangladesh has garnered widespread respect for its exemplary leadership in advancing quality education in Bangladesh. I trust that the institution will continue to uphold its motto—the competence to see, and the courage to act—in alignment with the spirit of the July-August Revolution.

I wish the graduating students and the university continued success in all their future endeavors.

Professor Muhammad Yunus



Message

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

I am immensely pleased that Notre Dame University Bangladesh (NDUB) is holding its 2nd Convocation on 8 February 2025 at its permanent campus. It is, indeed, a very special day for this university because it bears testimony to the accomplishments of students, faculty members, and the management of the university. On this occasion, I take the opportunity to express my sincere congratulations and warm felicitations to the graduating students, proud parents, dedicated faculty members, and committed administration of the university.

Nowadays, private universities are an integral part of the higher education of Bangladesh and making substantial contributions to infuse knowledge and skills to the graduating students who, in turn, are playing a vital role in building their careers and promoting the economic development of the country. Since these universities are an integral part of our higher education system, quality educational facilities must be provided at an affordable cost by these universities for the benefit of our nation.

I am informed that Notre Dame University Bangladesh, since its inception, has striven for excellence in higher education through a student-centered, value-based, and service-oriented philosophy. The faculty members at NDUB are known for their competence and dedication, always ready to support students in the development of their knowledge, skills, and ethical outlook. Moreover, NDUB has established itself as a safe and respectful space for all members of its community. Its safeguarding policies prioritize the well-being of students, faculty, and staff. This holistic approach to education not only prepares graduates for excellence in their chosen fields but also equips them with the values needed for responsible citizenship in the global community.

As NDUB continues to expand its contribution to higher education, I am confident that it will play an even greater role in shaping the destiny of the nation. I hope and pray for the grand success of the 2nd Convocation of Notre Dame University Bangladesh and invite their graduates to keep scaling new heights in their personal and professional lives beyond their time at Notre Dame.

Professor Dr. S. M. A. Faiz
Chairman



Message

It is my honor and privilege to congratulate you, as the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of Notre Dame University Bangladesh (NDUB), on this momentous occasion of the 2nd Convocation Ceremony of our beloved university. This ceremony recognizes your remarkable academic accomplishments and celebrates our collective commitment and dedication to education, values, and service to society.

Since its establishment in 2013, Notre Dame University Bangladesh has made a tremendous and tireless effort to provide a quality education and create a conducive learning environment that facilitates the flourishing of young minds. Over the years, our university has been a beacon of hope and excellence for the youth of Bangladesh by empowering them with knowledge, skills, and strong moral foundations. This convocation marks yet another milestone in our journey. It is a testament to the hard work, dedication, and vision that we all share.

At the heart of this institution lies the Congregation of Holy Cross, which has been the driving force behind the success of our university. The Congregation has a long and illustrious history of contributing to education, not only in Bangladesh but across the globe. In Bangladesh, in the spirit of Blessed Basil Moreau, the founder of the Congregation, the Priests of the Congregation have been pioneers in value-based education and knowledge that educates both the hearts and the minds of the students.

Dear Graduates, this is your day that marks the culmination of years of hard work, perseverance, and dedication to your studies and human growth. You stand here today as proud graduates of NDUB and are ready to embrace the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. As you step out into the greater world, kindly remember the values Notre Dame University Bangladesh instilled in you. These values enable you to see and give you the courage to act in this materialistic and competitive world. The education that you have received here at NDUB is more than a degree. Rather, it is a call to action to wholeheartedly commit to the service to your families, societies, and the nation.

As graduates of an institution committed to providing excellent academic training while emphasizing moral integrity and social awareness, I encourage you to live purposeful lives and always strive for excellence. Be bold in your dreams, humble in your successes, and resilient in your challenges. Remember that true success is not measured by wealth or status, but by the positive impact you make in the lives of others.

On behalf of the Board of Trustees, I also extend my heartfelt gratitude to each faculty member and staff member of NDUB for their unwavering commitment to nurturing and educating our students. At the same time, I also congratulate and thank our proud parents and families for entrusting us with the shared responsibility of forming your sons and daughters and allowing us to witness their phenomenal achievements.

Once again, my heartfelt congratulations to the graduates. Dear students, may your journey ahead be filled with success, happiness, and fulfillment.

Thank you! God bless you all.

Fr. George K. Rozario, CSC
Chairman, NDUB Board of Trustees



Message

The second convocation at Notre Dame University Bangladesh marks a welcome occasion for celebration, for gratitude, and for reflection. While we joyfully and publicly congratulate the graduates of the past several years, we also pause, with them, to take our bearings. As they go forth with our blessings and best wishes, we share with them our apprehension as we look ahead toward an inviting but unclear future. The challenges that face them will require not only competence and courage, but strong hearts and open minds that are prepared to resist false promises and to work for change where justice, respect, and compassion are needed.

You who are receiving your certificates today have won our admiration for your dedication and hard work. As NDUB students, you learned new ways of understanding the world and you acquired practical skills that will allow you to take up professional responsibilities and pursue creative enterprises in settings that are both familiar and have yet to be explored. We urge you to set your sites on targets that not only demonstrate your ability, advance your careers and support your families, but work to help transform societal structures to improve and to enrich the lives of others.

You who are the first generation of twenty-first century stand before a global phenomenon that no one completely understands because no one is the master of all the complex units that interact to form the systems of power, production, exchange, socialization, law, media, and movement. The pace of technological innovation over the past 50 years has been stunning, but the possibilities for more in the next decades are no less extraordinary. But are we ready to absorb these marvels? For example, try asking AI (Artificial Intelligence) a question like "when humans will establish colonies in outer space." Then open a newspaper to see reports of ecological disasters, wars, economic turmoil, corruption, malpractice, political repression, and the chaos of international migration.

The proof of a successful education is not a university diploma but the integral development of a whole person. The essential work of every university graduate is not merely to reproduce what has been learned in the classroom or in the laboratory, but to adapt this knowledge in real situations where circumstances inevitably require ethical judgment and moral accountability.

Interestingly, the prestigious weekly news magazine The Economist recently named Bangladesh "the country of the year" for 2024. The editors justify this choice mainly by pointing to the results of the student led protest that brought about the "36 Days of July." You who are the students of this privileged moment in the history of this country know the high cost and the triumphant achievement of this remarkable effort. May that experience continue to inspire you, as graduates of NDUB, to strive for a world order that provides all that is best, fair, and beautiful.

Dr. Fr. Patrick Daniel Gaffney, CSC
Vice Chancellor