

Eastern University VC addresses graduation ceremony in South Africa

Prof. Dr Farid A Sobhani, the Vice-Chancellor of Eastern University, delivered a keynote speech as an invited guest speaker at the graduation ceremony of the public institution, Sol Plaatje University (SPU) in South Africa. The ceremony was held on April 17 at the university's auditorium in Kimberley in a grand and festive atmosphere.

The event was attended by the Chancellor Dr Thebe Ikalafeng, Vice-Chancellor Prof. Dr Debra Meyer, distinguished national and international guests, and members of the university's academic community. Approximately 1,500 graduates from various faculties were awarded their degrees at this year's ceremony.

In his speech, Prof. Sobhani expressed his sincere gratitude to the university authorities for this honour and invitation. Addressing the graduates, he urged them to fulfill their responsibilities toward their families, university, and society, and to establish their competence on the global stage.

He encouraged the graduates to be inspired by the words of Nobel Laureate and Former President of South Africa, Nelson Mandela, and recalled Mandela's historic visit to Bangladesh in 1997. He

further called upon the graduates to pursue truth, take a firm stand against injustice, and remain committed to establishing justice in society.



DIU professor receives Independence Award 2026

Prof. Dr M A Rahim of Daffodil International University (DIU) has been awarded the prestigious Independence Award 2026, the highest civilian honour of Bangladesh, in recognition of his outstanding contributions to research and training.

Dr Rahim currently serves as the Acting Dean of the Faculty of Agriculture and Head of the Department of Agricultural Science at the university. He has been recognised for his significant role in advancing agricultural research and education, contributing meaningfully to national development. The award was announced by the Government of Bangladesh, acknowledging his long-standing contributions to research and training.

During his tenure at DIU, Dr Rahim made notable contributions to agricultural research. Under his leadership, four high-yielding and improved jackfruit varieties – DIU Jackfruit-1, DIU Jackfruit-2, DIU Jackfruit-3, and DIU Jackfruit-4 – have recently been approved and registered by the National Seed Board and the Ministry of Agriculture.

Over the years, Dr Rahim has received numerous prestigious awards, including the Prime Minister's Gold Medal in 2004, 2012, and 2013, the Bangabandhu Agricultural Award in 2014, the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences Gold Medal in 2012, and the Bangladesh Academy of Agriculture Gold Medal in 2016.

UAP and AVIANOMICS jointly host seminar on aviation profession in Bangladesh



The University of Asia Pacific (UAP), in collaboration with AVIANOMICS, organised a seminar titled "Aviation Profession in Bangladesh – Opportunities, Emerging Trends and Career Pathways" at the UAP Auditorium.

The event was graced by K M Mozibul Hoque, Chairman of the board of trustees, UAP, as the chief guest. Md Saiyed Bin Abdullah, Special Assistant to the Prime Minister of Bangladesh on Youth Employment, was present as the special guest. Prof. Dr Mohiuddin Ahmed Bhuiyan, Acting Vice-Chancellor of UAP, chaired the event. The keynote was delivered by Prasanta Kumar Chakraborty, an aviation expert, ICAO-certified instructor, Founder of AVIANOMICS, and Director of the Civil Aviation Academy, as the lead speaker.

The seminar emphasised industry-academia collaboration. UAP and AVIANOMICS announced a strategic partnership to offer specialised training, guest lectures, and internships in aviation management, aeronautical engineering, and aviation safety.



ULAB organises festival celebrating South Asian culture

The University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB) organised a day-long cultural festival and discussion titled "Cosmologies of Confluence" on April 18 at its campus, celebrating South Asian culture.

The State Minister of the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Bobby Hajjaj, MP, attended the event as the chief guest. In his remarks, he emphasised that such initiatives play a significant role in strengthening mutual understanding and harmony by honouring cultural diversity. The Vice-Chancellor of ULAB, Prof.

Shamsad Mortuza, PhD, delivered the welcome address, stating that integrating education and culture through such initiatives helps nurture a global outlook and human values in the new generation. The conceptual background and objectives of the event were presented by Prof. Kaiser Haq, PhD. At the end of the inaugural session, the Pro Vice-Chancellor of ULAB, Prof. Jude William R Genilo, PhD, extended a vote of thanks to all attendees.

During the main discussion session, Ghanshyam Bhandari,

Ambassador of the Federal Democratic Republic of Nepal, along with diplomats from various countries, shared their reflections on the significance of the event. Renowned singer-songwriter and writer Moushumi Bhowmik was also present at the session.

Special guests at the event included UNESCO Bangladesh Representative Dr Susan Vize; Chief of Chakma Circle Raja Devasish Roy; Country Director of The Hunger Project Prashanta Tripura; and researcher and writer Pavel Partha.