



Bangladesh Academy of Sciences NEWSLETTER

Vol. 5, No.1, January-April 2016

NATIONAL EVENTS

i. Condolence of death of Late Emeritus Professor Dr. Abdul Jabbar, Fellow, BAS and Professor S M Azizul Haque, Foundation Fellow, BAS

Dr. Abdul Jabbar, a Senior Fellow, BAS and Emeritus Professor, Faculty of Pharmacy, Dhaka University expired on Saturday, 30 January 2016. The BAS Council in its 30th meeting held on 18 February 2016 condoled the death and expressed profound shock at the death of Late Emeritus Professor Dr. Abdul Jabbar. As per decision of the Council, the President and the Secretary of the Academy sent a condolence message to the family of Late Emeritus Professor Dr. Abdul Jabbar and expressed heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved family members of Late Emeritus Professor Dr. Abdul Jabbar.

Professor S M Azizul Haque, Foundation Fellow of the Academy expired on 13 April 2016 in Boston, USA. The news of his demise was circulated to all Fellows of the Academy on 08 May 2016. The President sent a message of condolence to the family of Late Professor S M Azizul Haque. The matter will be discussed as an agenda in the next Council meeting.

ii. BAS-Science Olympiad 2016, 22 January 2016

The BAS Science Olympiad 2016 was held successfully this year both at the divisional level and national level.



Balloons are being released during inauguration

The Science Olympiad 2016 was sponsored by the First Security Islami Bank Ltd. and daily Samakal was media partner. The Science Olympiad 2016 at divisional level was held on Friday 8 January 2016 at 7 centers in the Metropolitan Dhaka and 23 centers throughout the country covering the remote areas, like Mongla Port in the Southwest, Bandarban, Khagrachari in the southeast, Sylhet in the northeast and Dinajpur in the northwest region of the country.



Address by President, BAS

The Science Olympiad 2016 at national level (NSO 2016) was held on Friday 22 January 2016 at the Curzon Hall Campus auditorium, Dhaka University. The Science Olympiad started at 9.00 am with the National Anthem and flag hoisting. Prof. Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmad, President of the Academy hoisted the national flag and inaugurated the National Science Olympiad 2016. The BAS National Olympiad 2016 started through release of pigeons, balloons and festoons. Prof. Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury, Fellow, BAS and Coordinator of the National Science Olympiad 2016 moderated the day-long program. Prof. Dr. KM Sultanul Aziz, Secretary, BAS inspired the young participants to develop the country through promotion of science education and research. The test for the Olympiad 2016 started in Curzon Hall Auditorium at 10.00 am and continued for one and a half hour. The open question and answer session started at 1.00 pm and continued up to 2.30 pm.



Address by the Chief Guest



Address by the Special Guest

The Prize Distribution Ceremony was held at 3.30 pm. Architect Yeafesh Osman, Hon'ble Minister, Ministry of Science and Technology was the Chief Guest and Professor Dr. AAMS Arefin Siddique, Vice Chancellor, Dhaka University, Mr. Mustafiz Shafi, Executive Editor, Samakal and Mr. Syed Waseque Md. Ali, Managing Director, First Security Islami Bank Ltd. were the Special Guests. The ceremony was chaired by Prof. Dr. Meshabuddin Ahmad, President of the Academy. Professor Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury, Co-ordinator, BAS Science Olympiad moderated the ceremony. The Chief Guest distributed prize money, medals, certificates, and books to the Olympiad winners. About 7000 students participated in the Science Olympiad 2016 at divisional level from all over the country. About 350 students participated in the National Science Olympiad 2016. The names of winners from SSC and HSC Groups of the Science Olympiad 2016 are as follows-



Address by the Coordinator, NSO 2016



Open question-answer session

BAS-National Science Olympiad 2016

Center- Curzon Hall, Dhaka University

Date: 22 January 2016

Winner list (School group)

Sl. No	Students Name	School/College	Marks out of 100
1.	Irtiza Iram	St. Joseph Higher Sec. school	85
2.	Al Amru Bil Maruf	Dinajpur Zilla School	71
3.	Sadman Nasif	Khulna Zilla School	71
4.	Md. Moyeenul Hossain Ratul	Bindu Basini Govt. Boys High School	65.5
5.	Sudipta Sarkar	ACED School	65
6.	Sami Mohammad	St. Joseph Higher Sec. School	63
7.	Nazmush Sakib Nafsin	Shaheed Police Smrity College	62
8.	Mohammad Ismail Hasan	Comilla Zilla School	62
9.	Saif Hossain	AERE School and College	62
10.	Md. Mobinul Islam	BIAM Model School and College	62
11.	Mostagisul Haq	Khulna Zilla School	61
12.	Arpon Biswas Joy	Motijheel Govt. Boys High School	60.5
13.	Fuad Kabir Jaan	National Ideal School	60
14.	Bokhtiar Faysol Himon	St. Gregory's High School	60
15.	Irfan Ahmed	Mymensingh Zilla School	59
16.	Puja Rani Paul	Savar Girls High School	59
17.	Md. Ishrak Ahsan	St. Joseph Higher Sec. school	59
18.	Nian Ibne Nazrul	Comilla Zilla School	58.5
19.	Sheikh Sabbir Hossain	Faridpur Zilla School	58
20.	Zulkar Nain Prince	Faridpur Zilla School	57
21.	Nazmus Sakib	Comilla Zilla School	56
22.	Md. Tanvir Haque	BEPZA Public School and College	56
23.	Atia Rahman Orthi	Jahangirnagar University School	55
24.	Tasnim Tamanna	Jahangirnagar University School	55
25.	Tousif Ansari	St. Joseph Higher Secondary School	55



Receiving the prizes from Chief Guest

BAS-National Science Olympiad 2016

Center-Curzon Hall, Dhaka University

Date: 22 January 2016

Winner list (College group)

Sl. No	Students Name	School/College	Marks out of 100
1.	Nayem Siddique	New Govt. Degree College	71
2.	Mahmud Rayhan	Dhaka Residential Model College	70
3.	Soham Irtiza Swapnil	Notre Dame College	69
4.	Md. Shahrar Fatemi	Notre Dame College	67
5.	Md. Abdulla Hill Kafi	Rajshahi College	66
6.	Nafis Nehal Jalal	Jahangir Nagar University School and College	66
7.	Nova Amn Khan	Govt. Women's College, Pabna	65
8.	Syed Md. A H Walid	Dinajpur Govt. College	65
9.	Kazi Abdun Noor	Savar Cantonment Public College	64
10.	Azad Rahman Sajib	Notre Dame College	63
11.	A K M Mehedi Hasan	Cantt. Public School & College, Rangpur	63
12.	Antarangaya Mazumder	Govt. Bangabandhu College	62
13.	Sudipto Sikder	Govt. Rajendra College	60
14.	Enas Jahan Emu	Savar Cantonment Public College	60
15.	Tarik Bin Jihad Nirjash	Notre Dame College	60
16.	Md. Morshed-Uz-Zaman Mandal	Cantt. Public School & College, Rangpur	59.5
17.	Kanij Mafruha Mouri	Savar Cantonment Public College	59
18.	Sadeka Mahrukh	Govt. Womens College, Pabna	58
19.	Saadat Shahidi	Notre Dame College	58
20.	Md. Shadman Sakib Showrov	Notre Dame College	57.5
22.	Nikita Rahman	Rajshahi College, Rajshahi	57.5
23.	Plaban Chandra Sarker	Carmichael, Rangpur	56.5

24.	Dipon Paul	Govt. MM City College, Khulna	56.5
25.	Sanjay Kushal Biswas	Govt. Rajendra College	56
26.	Kanak Kanti Bhowmik	Govt. Ragendra College	56
27.	Sagar Mutsuddi	Chittagong Engineering University School & College	56
28.	Abidur Rahman	Notre Dame College	56

All the participants of the National Science Olympiad 2016 were given a popular book on science.

iii. Academy Seminar on "Zika Virus- an Overview", 25 February 2016

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) organized a seminar on "Zika virus- an overview" in association with Bangladesh Society of Microbiologists (BSM) and the Department of Microbiology, University of Dhaka at the Gallery of the Microbiology Department. The Secretary of the Academy, Professor Dr KM Sultanul Aziz highlighted the importance of this emerging virus as a threat to the public health, which could spread to humans through the bites of infected mosquito, Aedes aegypti, the vector which is also a primary carrier that transmits dengue, chikungunya and yellow fever. Earlier this year, WHO declared Zika as Public Health Emergency of International Concern. He, therefore stressed to create public awareness what could be a good step forward, hence this seminar.



President, BAS and Guests at the Seminar



Participants at the Seminar

The Speaker of the Seminar, Maj Gen (retd.) Prof Dr ASM Matiur Rahman, Fellow, BAS mentioned that individuals once infected, show mild symptoms: fever, rash, conjunctivitis, muscle and joint pain, which are basically self limiting lasting for only 2 to 7 days. Causal relationship between Zika infection during pregnancy and microcephaly, which is the small heads of new born babies, is strongly suspected, though not yet scientifically proven. In the panel discussions, Professor Dr Be-Nazir Ahmed, NIPSOM, mentioned that although Bangladesh is far from the epicenter of the Zika outbreak, he requested public cooperation to help government implement steps to keep mosquito populations minimum, and pointed out how to avoid getting bitten using protective clothing, mosquito repellants and bed nets. Dr. Mushtaque Hossain of Institute of Epidemiology Disease Control and Research (IEDCR) revealed that the virus is prevalent throughout the world including Americas, Africa, Asia and the Pacific islands. Dr Jamalunnessa, Professor of Microbiology, DU cited that the lack of vaccines and rapid and reliable diagnostic tests, and the absence of population immunity in newly affected countries are further causes for concern. A coordinated international response is needed to improve surveillance, the detection of infections, congenital malformations, and neurological complications, to intensify the control of mosquito populations, and to expedite the development of diagnostic tests and vaccines to protect people at risk, especially during pregnancy. Professor Mesbahuddin Ahmad, President, BAS referred to a flurry of emails received from the Inter Academy Panel (IAP) and Inter Academy Medical Panel (IAMP) on the importance of preventive measures including mosquito control, community and individual level action. He read out the message from Dato Ir Lee Yee Cheong, Chair IAP SEP Global Council which included production of simple

and easy to understand instructions on combating the spread of mosquitoes and to propagate educational and good house-keeping instructional materials to schools by engaging school teachers and headmasters. Earlier, Professor Dr M Mahfuzul Hoque, President of BSM welcomed the audience, while the acting as Chairperson of the Department of Microbiology, DU, Prof Sabita Rahman concluded the seminar giving vote of thanks and choosing the Department as the venue of the seminar. Health professionals, academicians, researchers and students attended this talk and participated in a vibrant discussion.

iv. BAS-INASP Training Workshop on Library Marketing and Advocacy, 29-30 March 2016

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) organized a 3-day Training Workshop on "Library Marketing and Advocacy" during 29-31 March 2016 in the seminar room of the Academy at NMST Bhaban, Agargaon, Dhaka-1207. The International Network for the Availability of Scientific Publications (INASP) sponsored the training workshop. The workshop was inaugurated by Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmad, President, BAS as the Chief Guest on 29 March 2016 at 9.30 am, while Professor Dr. KM Sultanul Aziz, Secretary, BAS was in the Chair. Professor Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury, Immediate past Secretary, BAS and Professor Dr. Z.N Tahmida Begum, Fellow, BAS were also present as Special Guests. Dr. M A Mazed, Director, BAS moderated the inaugural ceremony. Professor Dr. SM Zayed Ahmed, Department of Library Science, Dhaka University and Librarian (Acting), Dhaka University Library, Dhaka University and Ms. Hazera Rahman, Deputy Librarian (Head of Library), South East University, Banani, Dhaka were the Facilitators of the workshop; 23 Librarians of different universities (Public and Private), research organizations from all over the country participated in the training workshop.



Keynote Speaker delivering the lecture



Address by the President, BAS



Guests and participants

The main objectives of the workshop were to:

- Define and use key concepts related to advocacy and marketing in their work as librarians;
- Explain the role of marketing and advocacy in developing strong libraries;
- Articulate appropriate evidence-based marketing and advocacy message;
- Identify the most appropriate communication channels for promoting the library and for advocacy;
- Develop realistic and effective marketing and advocacy plans for their libraries;
- Assess the impact of marketing and advocacy activities; and
- Transfer the acquired skills and knowledge to their workplace.



Training session



Certificate being received from the Special Guest

The certificate awarding ceremony was held at 3.30pm on 31 March 2016. Professor Dr. KM Sultanul Aziz, Secretary, BAS chaired the session. Prof. Dr. Amir Hussain Khan, Treasurer, BAS was the Chief Guest, Professor Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury, Fellow, BAS was Special Guest. The Trainees (both male and female) and the facilitators spoke about their experiences achieved during the training. The Chief Guest and Special Guest gave away the certificates for the trainees and facilitators.



A Facilitator receiving certificate from the Chief Guest

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

i. 8th Hope Meeting 2016, 7-11 March 2016, Japan

The Academy nominated three candidates to attend 8th HOPE meeting in Japan held during 7-11 March 2016. The candidates are-

1. Ummul Khair Fatema
Ph.D. student
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University of Dhaka
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E-mail: ummul_khair208@yahoo.com
2. Mahabubur Rahman
Senior Scientific Officer
Nuclear Safety & Security Division
Bangladesh Atomic Energy Regulatory Authority
E-12/ A, Shahid Shahabuddin Road
Agargaon, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh
Mobile: +8801718214284
E-mail: tstariq2007@gmail.com
3. Nur Uddin Ahamad
Associate Professor
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Sylhet, Bangladesh
Telephone: 880-821-713494 x251, Cell: 01940174653
Email address:nur-che@sust.edu

The Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS) granted travel support and local hospitalities for Ummul Khair Fatema and Mahabubur Rahman and only local hospitalities for Nur Uddin Ahamad. The Academy granted travel cost for Dr. Nur Uddin Ahamad.

The title "HOPE Meeting" signifies the promise held for the future roles of young researchers and optimism for creating a bright Science & Technology future within the global community. The programme included Lectures by Nobel laureates, distinguished researchers and cultural authorities, Small group discussions with the lecturers (seminar style), Poster session including 1 minute oral presentation by each participant, Oral presentations by multinational student teams, Cultural program (e.g. culture experience program/concert), Excursion (research facilities and historical heritages).



Participant Mahabub with Makoto Kobayashi: winner of Nobel Prize in Physics 2008



Participants of 16th HOPE meeting held in Tokyo, Japan

ii. The 10th International Workshop on Algorithms and Computation (WALCOM 2016), 29-31 March 2016, Kathmandu, Nepal

Bangladesh Academy of Sciences (BAS) initiated the workshop WALCOM. Prof. Dr. Md. Saidur Rahman, Fellow, BAS attended WALCOM 2016 to represent BAS there and for planning of future WALCOMs. Professor Rahman presented the history of WALCOM and declared that the next WALCOM will be held in Hsinchu, Taiwan during March 29-31, 2017 according to the decision of steering committee of WALCOM.

A paper entitled "A necessary condition and a sufficient condition for pairwise compatibility graphs" which was coauthored by Professor Rahman was presented by his Ph. D. student in the workshop. The paper deals with graph theoretic prediction of phylogenetic trees.



Prof. Saidur Rahman, Prof. Kaykobad, Professor Rossella Petreschi and Professor Costas Iliopoulos



Professor Dr. Md. Saidur Rahman receiving a memento from Professor Mathe

Initiated by Bangladesh Academy of Sciences in 2007, WALCOM has established itself as a fully referred quality conference for theoretical computer science in Asia. Professor Rossella Petreschi of Italy and Prof. M. Kaykobad of Bangladesh worked as program co-chair of WALCOM 2016. The workshop received 68 submissions from 170 different authors in 28 countries. The program committee selected 27 papers based on 190 review reports. More than 40 participants from different countries of Asia, Europe and USA attended WALCOM 2016. There were four invited talks in the conference given by Sajal Das of Missouri University of science and Technology, Costas Ilioupoulos of King's College London, Giusseppe F. Italiano of University Tor Vergata - Rome and Giuseppe Persiano of University Salerno-Fisciano. Four participants from Bangladesh attended the workshop.

UPCOMING EVENTS

i. 16th SCA Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka 31 May-01 June 2016

Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmad, President, BAS will attend the 16th SCA Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka 31 May-01 June 2016 under the theme of "Science for the People: Mobilizing Modern Technologies for Sustainable Development in Asia". The Conference is organized by National Academy of Sri Lanka (NASSL) and National Science Foundation of Sri Lanka (NSF). The agenda of the conference will include (1) General Assemblies, (2) Management Board Meetings (3) SCA Joint Project Workshops and (4) SCA International Symposium. President of the Academy is a member of the Management Board, SCA.

OBITUARY



Professor Emeritus Dr. Abdul Jabbar
(1921-2016)

Dr. Abdul Jabbar, Professor Emeritus, Department of Pharmacy, Dhaka University, was born at Comilla in 1921. Education: Dr. Abdul Jabbar received M.Sc. in Chemistry from Dhaka University in 1946. He studied Microbial Chemistry in the Imperial College of Science and Technology and was awarded the Ph. D. degree from the London University in 1954 and the D.I.C in the same year from the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. He carried out research work in the field of Pharmacy at the University of California as a Visiting Professor from 1959 to 1960.

Fields of research: Professor Abdul Jabbar did notable research work on Microbial Chemistry specially antibiotics, Plant Chemistry specially alkaloids, terpenes and glycosides and use of micro- and macro-plants as a pharmaceutical raw materials against TB and cancer.

Fellowships and publications: Professor Jabbar was elected a Fellow of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences in 1980. He was an Associate Secretary of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences. He has many research publications in national and international journals.

Professor Abdul Jabbar expired on 30 January 2016. In his death the nation lost brilliant soul dedicated to the cause of promoting science and technology in the country.

OBITUARY



Professor Dr. Sharif Muhammad Azizul Haque
(1924-2016)

Sharif Muhammad Azizul Haque was born on February 1, 1924 in Village Astail, P.S. and P.O. Mollahat, District Bagerhat. His father is late Alhaj Abdul Wajid Sharif, and his mother Mussamat Matiunnesa. Education: He had his early education at Mollahat Middle English School (Bagerhat), Ikhari Katinga High English School (Khulna) and the Wajid Memorial High School, Mollahat (Bagerhat). He passed the Matriculation Examination of the Calcutta University in 1940 in First Division with distinction in five subjects. In 1940, he got himself admitted to the Presidency College, Calcutta, and passed the Intermediate Science, B.Sc. with Honours in Mathematics and M.Sc. in Applied Mathematics of the Calcutta University, respectively in 1942, 1944 and 1946, from that College. He was placed in the First Division in the Intermediate examination, with marks of distinction in three subjects and was awarded a First Grade Government Scholarship. In the B. Sc. (Hons.) and in the M.Sc. Examinations he stood First in First Class.

Dr. Haque worked as Customs Appraiser in Calcutta during the first half of 1947, and in Chittagong and Khulna during the second half after the partition of India in 1947.

In January 1948, he was appointed Lecturer in Mathematics in the University of Dhaka and worked in this capacity till the end of August, 1948 when he left with an overseas state scholarship to study for Ph.D. at the Imperial College of Science and Technology, London. He joined University of Dhaka as a Reader (Associate Professor) in Mathematics on November 1, 1950. In the Summer of 1952, he attended the Foreign Student Summer Project of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. In 1954 he attended the UNESCO symposium on Typhoons held in Tokyo, Japan as a Consultant. During 1957 - 1958 he worked as a member of the Research staff of the Department of Mathematics, University of Manchester, U. K. as a Nuffield Foundation Fellow. During 1962 - 1963 he worked as a Professor at the Florida State University, Tallabasse, Florida, U.S.A., and during 1963 - 1964, he worked as a Professor at the University of Hawaii, Honolulu, U.S.A. He was appointed Professor of Mathematics, University of Dhaka in 1962 and worked as the Head of the Department from 1954 to 1975 excluding the period during which he worked abroad. He was President of section of Physics, Mathematics, Statistics, Astronomy, and Meteorology of the Pakistan Association for the Advancement of Science in 1965.

He was elected a Fellow of the Pakistan Academy of Sciences in 1970, and became a Founder Fellow of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences in 1973.

From 1977 to 1980 he worked as a Professor of Mathematics at Al-Mustansiriyah University, Baghdad, Iraq, and the College of Engineering of the University of Baghdad, Iraq. From 1980 to 1985, he worked as Professor and Head of the Department of Mathematics, Higher Institute of Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Hoon, Libya. He worked as the Provost of Zahurul Huq Hall (Iqbal Hall till December, 1971) of the University of Dhaka from 1966 to 1972. He worked as the Dean of the Faculty of Science, University of Dhaka from 1972 to 1973. He retired from the University of Dhaka in 1982. Besides his career as a University teacher, he was an Associate of the Institute of Actuaries, London and worked as a consulting actuary in Pakistan and Bangladesh. He worked as the Chairman of the Sadharan Bima (General Insurance) Corporation of Bangladesh from 1973 to 1976.

Dr. Azizul Haque has about 20 publications to his credit in the national and international journal of Sciences and Mathematics.

Professor SM Azizul Haque breathed his last in USA on 13 April 2016. In his death the nation lost an outstanding scientist dedicated to the cause of science and technology.

Editorial Committee

Professor Dr. Naiyyum Choudhury	Editor
Professor Dr. SM Humayun Kabir	Member
Professor Dr. Mesbahuddin Ahmed	Member

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