



National Flag of Bangladesh

Welcome to the 11th AGM of OUIAA
From Dhaka Branch in Bangladesh

Current Executive Committee of OUIAA at Dhaka Branch in Bangladesh

1. President (Director): Professor Dr. Md. Harunor Rashid Khan (profhrkhan@du.ac.bd; duharun@yahoo.com)
2. Vice-president (Vice-Director): Professor Md. Mahfuzul Hoque (drmdhoque2004@yahoo.com)
3. Treasurer: Professor Dr. Anowara Begum (anowara@du.ac.bd)
4. Cultural Secretary: Dr. Munirul Alam (munirul@icddrb.org)
5. Organizing Secretary: Dr. Mohammad Amir Hossain Bhuiyan (amirhb75@yahoo.com)
6. Social welfare Secretary: Professor Dr. Omar Ahmed (omarahmed1959@du.ac.bd)
7. Member: Professor Dr. Tapan Kumar Saha (tk_saha_ju@yahoo.com)
8. Member: Professor Dr. Rabindra Nath Mondal (rnmondal71@yahoo.com)
9. Member: Professor Dr. Shefali Begum (alambaec@yahoo.com)
10. Member: Dr. Abul Hasanat Md. Shamim (abulhasnats@yahoo.com)
11. Member: Professor Dr. M. Akhtaruzzaman (makhtar@du.ac.bd).

Prof. Dr. Md. Harunor Rashid Khan



Md. Harunor Rashid Khan has obtained his B.Sc. (Hons: 1st class 2nd) and M.Sc. (Thesis: 1st class 1st) degrees from the Dept. of Soil Science, Univ. of Dhaka (DU). He awarded his PhD from Okayama Univ. (OU), Japan in March 1994 and subsequently availed the Alexander von Humboldt (AvH) Post-doctoral fellowships at Kiel Univ. (KU) in FR-Germany during 1994-96, 98-99 & 2001. He was also offered (1997-99) the Australian VC-Postdoc Award at UNSW.

Dr. Khan was an Assoc. Prof. in the Dept. of Environmental Management Engineering, Faculty of Env. Sci. & Tech., OU during 2005-08. Dr. Khan has been served as an Adjunct Prof. in the Institute for Plant Nutrition and Soil Science, Univ. of Kiel during his post-doctoral periods. Dr. Khan has also been served as a member of the working group of the 'Soil Ecology and Environment' Headed by Em Prof. Dr. Dr.hc H.-P. Blume and Prof. Dr. Franciscus Colijn.

Prof. Khan was the First Vice-Chancellor of the University of Barisal. Prof. Khan has the part-time member (Dec.'13-April'15) of the UGC of Bangladesh during his successful tenure in the BU. Dr. Khan is the Founder President of Baitun Noor Jam-e-Mosque (1992) and the founder of the 'First Vice-Chancellor Trust' in BU (worth about 0.22 M US \$, Established in April'15) for providing scholarships to the students, teachers and welfare of the Officers and Staff of the BU.

Specialization and major fields of researches: Prof. Khan has specialization on the processes of development, reclamation and management of ecosystems of saline and acid sulfate soils. His major fields of researches are - Reclamation and Improvement of Soil Health, Soil Bio-technology and Lithosphere management, Emissions of trace gases and global climate change, Phytoremediation, Phytoextraction and Purification of industrial wastes, Soil Ecology and Environment, Agro-ecosystems and their sustainable management; C-N sequestration and Soil-Plant-Air-Water-Continuum Quality; Climate Change, Mitigation and Adaptation.

Research Activities: Prof. Khan has done plenty of national (BARC, BWDB, DU, UGC, MOSICT, MOST, MOEFCC) and international (CIDA, WB, UNESCO, AvH, DAAD, VW-Foundation, KU-Germany, OU-Japan, NSWU-Australia, McGill-Canada, Ohio State Univ.-USA) researches, which made significant contributions to the body of knowledge. Dr. Khan has conducted several pieces of fundamental researches during his PhD on the reclamation and management of problem soils. During his post-doc. (AvH) fellowships, he has been studied on the ecology, ecosystems and environment of salt-affected coastal areas through the investigations on the emissions and concentrations of trace gases, nutrients and microbial biomass dynamics in coastal arable and natural soils under variable climate and management practices. **His scientific achievements include (i)** Identified reclamation techniques (which awarded gold medal) for the problem soils which save aquatic lives and environments, **(ii)** Made an effective and cheap Gas sampler (which awarded 'The AvH distinguished Scientist Recognition), **(iii)** Prepared effective and economic Natural Sand-Gravity-Filter, **(iv)** Identified Sulfidic materials as Bio-fertilizers (which assists him to have offered for the Australian VC-Postdoc Award, UNSW), **(v)** Identified locally available indigenous organic materials/amendments, such as, Vermicompost, Rice straw compost, Trichocompost, Rice straw, Rice hull, Saw dust, Saw dust compost, Rice husk ash, Mustard meal, Mustard straw biochar, Oil cake, Poultry manure, Burned poultry litters and Poultry manure biochar, etc. under increased soil temperature of 2 to 4°C and moisture levels at the nine AEZs of Bangladesh considering the improvement soil health, reclamation and management of marginal, acid and calcareous -soils as well as carbon captures which help in the reduction of Global Warming (GW) and of negative impacts of Climate Change (Project done with the financial supports of about 0.33 M US \$ from the Climate Change Trust Fund), **(vi)** Identified some salt-tolerant indigenous and exotic Rice, Sunflower, Maize, Chilli, Brinjal -varieties and **(vii)** Introduced Tea and Coffee in flat plain lands, and also addressed **(viii)** Eco-friendly printing (1991-'96) approaches to reduce the use of resources and GW.

Articles and Books: Prof. Khan has 151 (35 *Single author*, 114 *First author*) research articles of which more than hundred were published in the international reputed journals. Some Chapters/Articles are in the Books. A few of these are (i) Environmental Engineering Education and Training 1996, TV Duggan and CA Brebbia (Editors), Publ. CMC-UK Publ. ISBN 1-85312-393-5; (ii) Towards Sustainable Land Use (Vol I-II) 1998, H.-P. Blume *et al.* (Editors), Advances in Geoecology 31, Publ. IUSS, ISBN 3-923381-42-5; (iii) The Restoration and Management of Derelict Land – Modern Approaches 2002, MH Wang and AD Bradshaw (Editors), Publ. World Sci. Publ. Co., ISBN9812382534; (iv) Bangladesh Environment (Vol I & II) Ahmed *et al.* (Editors), Publ. BAPA, ISBN 984-32-0443-3; (v) Remediation and Management of Degraded Lands 20000, A. Brion and RW Bell (Editors). Publ. Promaco Convention Pty Ltd., Australia. ISBN 1 86308 088 0. Prof. Khan was the principal supervisor of 73 MS and 12 PhDs under DAAD/Monbuscho scholarships and 7 in DU till 2020.

Okayama University International Alumni Association (OUIAA)

Activity Report to the 11th AGM of OUIAA from Dhaka Branch in Bangladesh

- ★ Okayama University International Alumni Association (OUIAA) has established on the 24 February, 2013 here in Dhaka - the capital city of Bangladesh.
- ★ Considering the diverse universities at different locations here in Bangladesh and the large number of Okayama University Alumni in Bangladesh, the OUIAA have been separated into two branches named **the OUIAA - Dhaka Branch** and **the OUIAA - Mymensingh Branch** in December 2014.
- ★ The second Executive Committee consists of eleven members of OUIAA at Dhaka Branch was formed on the last 20th March 2015.
- ★ The third Executive Committee consists of eleven members of OUIAA at Dhaka Branch was formed on the last 23rd September 2017.

Activities of alumni

- # As we know that the alumni are the brand-ambassadors of their alma maters. An institution's alumni are the reflection of its past, representation of its present and a link to its future.
- # Alumni can help students get placed at their respective organizations. They can play an active role in voluntary programs like mentoring students in their areas of expertise and contributing to get scholarships to deserving students.
- # Skillful contributions of alumni and involvement is crucial in achieving institution's vision and mission. Without strong alumni relations, the prospect pool will be significantly reduced and the chances of significant progress may be hindered.
- # Alumni relations is an important part of an institution's advancement activities for many reasons, such as alumni are an institution's most loyal supporters and can generate invaluable word-of-mouth marketing among their social and professional networks. By engaging alumni, an institution can continue to benefit from their skills and experience.
- # Alumni are great role models for current students. They take their knowledge of the institution to their hometowns and countries and into their professional and social networks.

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- # Maintaining a positive relationship with the alumni means that the messages they share about the institution will also be positive and current.
- # Maintaining communication channels with alumni means we can keep them informed of our achievements and make them part of our institution's future, not just its past.
- # Good alumni relations benefits alumni as well as the institution. If we support our alumni in their professional and personal lives through activities such as the facilitation of social and professional networks, preferential access to on-campus expertise and facilities and negotiated benefits with third-party suppliers, they are likely to be our loyal life-long supporters.
- # Alumnus supports may also help the alumni to achieve positions of success and influence, which will in turn benefit the institution as they begin to give back.
- # Helping the institution become bigger, stronger and more successful, alumni are also enhancing the value of their own degree qualification.

Accomplishments of OUIAA at Dhaka Branch

Key points to uphold:

- ★ Strengthening academic activities among the universities in Japan especially in Okayama and Bangladesh;
- ★ Uphold the sprit of student, teacher and scientist exchange program through Govt. to Govt. or private arrangement/agreement;
- ★ Regular participation in social, cultural, disaster management, Digital/Economic growth, ICT development and other events along with the Japanese peoples and the Bangladeshi living at Okayama;
- ★ Hold bi-monthly meeting of executive committee;
- ★ Arrangement of meeting at the different institutions/places;
- ★ Introduced monthly subscription fees from each alumnus for strengthening the activities of the association;

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- ★ Active role in voluntary programs like mentoring students in their areas of expertise.
- ★ Work together through skillful contributions/involvement of alumni for achieving institution's vision and mission
- ★ Strengthening the relationship among the alumni regarding to generate invaluable word-of-mouth marketing among their social and professional networks and continue to benefit from their skills and experience.
- ★ We the alumni should work for voluntary programs like mentoring students in their areas of expertise
- ★ Good alumni relations benefits alumni as well as the institution. If we support our alumni in their professional and personal lives through activities such as the facilitation of social and professional networks and negotiated benefits with third-party suppliers, they are likely to be our loyal life-long supporters.

We the OUIAA members here in Bangladesh are working together to uphold the above mentioned themes. However, COVID-19 has disrupted our sequence of activities. But in the near future, we will maintain/continue our activities even virtually.

We would like to extend our sincere thanks/heartiest gratitude to the Japanese people due to their generous supports regarding to our present great occasions on -

- i) Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation - Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman,
- ii) Birth Centenary of the University of Dhaka,
- iii) Golden Jubilee of the Peoples Republic of Bangladesh, and
- iv) Platinum Jubilee of our Hon'ble Prime Minister (Govt. of the PR-Bangladesh) Sheikh Hasina.

Finally, I would like to express my deepest respects and best wishes to all the teachers, stuffs, students, alumni of the OU and the participants of the AGM today. Heartiest thanks to the organizers of the AGM.

Lastly, we should pray for all the departed souls due to COVID-19. May God bless them and rest their souls in eternal peace.

God bless us, safe us all and try to take care!

Prof. Dr. Md. Harunor Rashid Khan
President OUIAA, Dhaka Branch,
Bangladesh
10 December 2021