

- Obituary



**PROFESSOR DR. AMINUL ISLAM**  
(1935-2017)

Professor Dr. Aminul Islam was an academic personality in Bangladesh. He was born on 1 January 1935 in Nagerchar village under Homna Upazilla in Comilla district. He received B. Sc. (Honours) in Chemistry and M.Sc. in Soil Science degrees from the University of Dhaka in 1954 and 1955, respectively. He started his career as an Assistant Scientist of Jute Research Institute. He received his Ph.D. degree in Soil Science from Michigan University, USA in 1962 and then joined the Department of Soil Science, University of Dhaka until he joined the then Soil Survey Project of Pakistan (now Soil Resources Development Institute) as a Deputy Director in January, 1963. Later he came back to the Department of Soil Science, Dhaka University again and retired from this Department as a selection grade Professor in 1996. He also served as the Vice Chancellor of National University and Daffodil International University. After that he joined as the Professor Emeritus at Daffodil International University and was in that position until his death.

At different times Professor Aminul Islam was the Head of the Department of Soil Science, Dean of the Faculty of Biological Sciences, Director of Centre for Advanced Studies and Research in Biological Sciences, Director of Biotechnology Research Centre, Member of Senate and Syndicate of Dhaka University. He was also elected as the President of the Bangladesh Academy of Sciences. Professor Islam was awarded a few gold medals including President's Gold Medal and Independence Day Gold Medal for his academic achievements.

Dr Aminul Islam had 129 research publications to his credit in national and international journals. He has contributed 2 chapters in a book and compiled and edited Research Publications of the Department of Soil Science (1949-2000) and Department of Soil, Water and Environment (2000-2013). He was an Editorial Board Member of Bangla Academy Science Encyclopedia and Banglapedia published by Asiatic Society of Bangladesh.. He also supervised 55 M. Sc., 2M.Phil. and 19 Ph.D. students.

Professor Aminul Islam was awarded Fulbright Fellowship, SEATO Fellowship, Nuffield Foundation Fellowship and DAAD Fellowship. Among his many consulting works for international organizations a few are: Soil Management Expert for FAO, Soil Research Evaluation specialist for FAO, Agricultural Research Evaluation Specialist for World Bank, Agronomy Expert in Sri Lanka etc. He also participated, presented papers and led delegations at International Seminars/Symposia held in India, Pakistan, China, Honk Kong, Thailand, Chili, Malaysia, Sri Lanka, New Zealand, North Korea, UK and USA.

Professor Aminul Islam has left his wife, one daughter, one son and also a lot students, colleagues, and well-wishers. We pray to the Almighty to rest his soul in eternal peace.