



**Professor Dr. Sheikh Shamimul Alam
(1960-2017)**

Professor Dr. Sheikh Shamimul Alam was born on 2 September, 1960 in a respectable Muslim family at Aruapara, Kustia, Bangladesh. He was the youngest son of late Sheikh Yakub Ali and late Noorjahan Begum. He received B.Sc. (Hons.) and M.Sc. degree from Department of Botany, University of Dhaka in 1981 (held in 1984) and 1982 (held in 1987), respectively. He joined as a lecturer in Dept. of Botany, University of Dhaka on 4 October, 1988. His lifelong contributions in the fields of Cytology, Fundamental Cytogenetics and Molecular Cytogenetics were reflected in his outstanding national and international reputation and many awards and honors. He was the founder Director of “Chromosome Research Centre”, University of Dhaka. Ph.D. degree was awarded to Dr. Alam from Hiroshima University, Japan (Funded by Japanese Ministry of Science through Monbusho Scholarship) with specialization in “Molecular Cytogenetics” in 1995. Later he did post-doctoral research for two times (2001-2002 and 2006-2007) funded by Alexander von Humboldt Foundation at Institute of Crop Science and Plant Breeding, University of Kiel, Germany. Dr. Alam was promoted to Professor of Dept. of Botany, University of Dhaka on 1 December, 2004.

Professor Dr. Sheikh Shamimul Alam had supervised seven Ph.D., two M.Phil. and more than 55 M.Sc. and MS thesis students of Dept. of Botany, University of Dhaka. More than 100 of his research findings had been published in national and international reputed journals. He was awarded Dean’s Gold Medal as the best researcher in Biological Sciences, University of Dhaka for the year 2010. He also received prestigious WADA Memorial Award-2011 (Japan Mendel Society) - from The Journal Cytologia as the best research and best cited article in 2011. For his outstanding contribution in education and research, Prof. Alam was awarded “Justice Ibrahim Memorial Gold Medal” in 2014 at the 49th convocation of University of Dhaka. This gold medal was given by Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid, honorable President, Govt. of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh. Dr. Alam was associated with different reputed institutions, organizations and associations such as Secretary General of Bangladesh Botanical Society, General Secretary of Bangladesh Association for Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology (BAPTC&B), Joint Secretary of Association of Humboldt Fellows, Bangladesh, Life member of German Alumni Association, Bangladesh, Life member of Japan University Alumni Bangladesh, etc. He was the founder General Secretary of “Dhaka University Botany Alumni Association”, University of Dhaka and one of the pioneer organizers of “Botany Olympiad”. Prof. Alam was the Director of Institute of Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC), University of Dhaka. He was also a member of the editorial board of the Journals of Botany, Journal of Plant Tissue Culture & Biotechnology and Chromosome Botany, Japan. Prof. Alam had visited different countries of the world, namely India, Pakistan, Nepal, Switzerland, Philippines, The Netherlands, Germany, Sweden, China, Japan, Singapore, Belgium, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Sri Lanka.

Professor Dr. Sheikh Shamimul Alam passed away following a massive cardiac arrest at 8:40 a.m. on Monday, 18 December 2017 at Singapore General Hospital. He is laid to eternal peace besides Martyred intellectual’s graveyard of Rayer Bazar, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Almighty Allah rest his departed soul in eternal peace and place in Zannatul Ferdous. Ameen.