



**MOHAMMED FARASHUDDIN PH.D**

PRESIDENT  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
EAST WEST UNIVERSITY

President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and the Chancellor of East West University. His Excellency Professor Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed, Hon'ble Education Minister Dr. Osman Farruk, Distinguished Convocation Speaker Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud, Hon'ble Ministers, Hon'ble Members of the Parliament, Excellencies, Members of the Board of Directors, East West University, Vice Chancellors, Pro-Vice Chancellor, Dean of Faculties, Convocation Marshal, Respected Faculty Members, Esteemed Guardians, Dear Graduating Students, Friends from the Press and Electronic Media, Ladies and Gentlemen.

**Assalamu Alaikum**

Welcome to Convocation 2003 of East West University. Please accept our felicitations on and gratitude for your graceful attendance to The Second Convocation of East West University. Your participation in this event is of enormous importance to the 161 graduating students as well to the entire East West University family. You have encouraged a young but potent university to make even harder efforts towards its commitment since its birth to ensure excellence in education. We are particularly grateful to our Chancellor for sparing time to preside over Convocation 2003.

**Hon'ble Chancellor and Distinguished Participants**

To my mind, a university is a great repository of learning, an impeccable standard setter, an effective laboratory for the education and training of men of thought and of men in action. The university is, therefore, an apparatus for the society to not only create knowledge but also to conserve knowledge, disseminate knowledge for the practical person and to continuously research knowledge for the enlightenment of the nation as a whole. Here in East West University, we are dedicated to the daunting but most logical task of particularly nurturing middle class merit. This we do through the teaching of a state-of-the-art curricula which are of practicable use in the context of Bangladesh. A very competent and mostly full-time faculty provides the knowledge through a congenial environment of both class room teaching as well as after class hour counseling and laboratory guidance. In addition, East West University has an honest and hardworking placement service for assisting the students at the internship level for practically testing the theoretical knowledge of the students and for job searching as well. To be very candid, in East West University, creation and dissemination of knowledge is important but finding a gainful employment by its graduates is no less important. It has been a realization at the very inception of East West University that many young men and women from the middle class which constitutes the vast majority of the country specially in the rural areas, have to prematurely end their education for a shortage of purchasing power to pay for the tuition and other costs. The sponsors of this university resolved at its birth not to take any financial benefit from the university and to redeploy the entire operating surplus towards the development of East West University. This is being followed scrupulously. You would be pleased to hear that the Board Members do not take even a sitting fee for their attendance in the Board meetings. The sponsors also decided from the very beginning to generously provide merit scholarships and need based financial assistance to as many of its students as possible. This year i.e. in 2003, the process of awarding an amount of taka one crore to 260 students or so as merit scholarships as well as need based financial assistance is already ongoing.



**Hon'ble Chancellor, Distinguished Guests**

East West University has adopted an academic philosophy aimed at ensuring freedom of the academic community to choose what will be taught and by whom and how and what books and which laboratory equipment shall be used. The university is a believer in the power of knowledge to drive away the frontiers of darkness and filling up of the consequent space by enlightenment on the one hand and freedom to choose a profession by its graduates on the other. East West University takes pride in having a mainly full time teaching community. Each member of faculty is highly educated and capable of preparing and guiding the students to achieve upto date academic knowledge and hands-on practical insight to meet the human resource challenges of the country. The university is very fortunate to have the guidance and counsel of several outstanding academicians of the country through their association with the Academic Council. The Academic Council provides the guidelines and direction to the university as to the disciplines to be covered, curricula to be taught, books and reference materials to be consulted as well as the system of examinations to be followed. We are really very proud that Professor Wahiduddin Mahmud, the Convocation Speaker of today piloted the academic horizon of East West University as the Chairperson of the its Academic Council for the first two years of its life. East West University now has a rich library, an English Language Laboratory, four Computer Laboratories, one Digital System Laboratory, one Physics Laboratory and a VSAT of its own. With the opening of the new Department of Pharmacy, a Pharmaceutical Science Laboratory is also going to be set up in the next couple of weeks. The sponsors of the university have never hesitated in investing in faculty, space, books, equipment and all other auxiliary instruments that are needed for East West University to enable the students to expand their horizon of theoretical knowledge and making it usable for the practical life. One other important aspect of East West University is its research endeavor. The Center for Research in Business, Economics and Technology (CERBET) is engaged in theoretical and applied research for the enlargement of the thinking horizon of the faculty member researchers and exposing the senior students of the university to the socio-economico-technological challenges of Bangladesh.

**Dear Graduates and Gold Medal Winners**

I offer my sincere and warm-hearted congratulations to you on your success. And this felicitations are offered on behalf of the East West University family as well. Behind the distinction you have earned today, there are at least three qualities you had to have the capacity and willingness for industry, fixity of purpose and a determination to achieve a better standard of life and living. We have our full admiration of the toils you have made in reaching your destination so far. I share with you your joy in being able to maintain the academic reputation of the university and pray that this promising start will lead to a flowering of consciousness to unfold. To be very honest with you, dear graduates and gold medal winners, East West University is also grateful to you for making a concerted stride along with others in making East West University into what it is today. Many of you, particularly those who are receiving the master's degree today, are already in or would soon be in the workplace, hopefully of your choice. Amongst the bachelor's degree coming graduates, many are already in workplace and others would also be in gainful employment. Please be always reminded of an onerous responsibility that you have to make the very best efforts from your respective positions in making Bangladesh into a land of peace, tranquility and prosperity. On you, who are the real architects of a brighter tomorrow of this land of ours, will devolve the responsibility of setting a standard of conduct to be emulated, of an insistence that there is no difference between private and public behavior and of making it a bounden duty to practice in our life what we preach for others. The above may sound like a lot of "sound and fury signifying nothing" but as far as I am concerned, an essential prerequisite for honesty is a verifiable transparency.

We wish you success in your future endeavor and may Allah guide you.

Please do stay in touch with your alma mater for as long as you feel an emotional attachment to it.