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# 6-day Asian universities debating championship begins tomorrow

## Staff Correspondent

THE fifth Asian Universities Debating Championship will be held from May 14-19 in Dhaka with 276 participants forming 69 teams from 10 countries.

East West University, this year's host and organiser of the championship to be held for the first time in Bangladesh, announced the itinerary of the championship on Tuesday.

The participating countries are Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, Thailand and the Philippines.

The tournament is divided into two parts. The preliminary round will be held with participation of all the teams from May 15-17 at Oxford International School, which is the tournament partner of EWU AUCD 2009.

Top 16 teams of the preliminary round will qualify for the knockout round, also known as breaking round to be held on May 18 and 19 at Sonargaon Hotel,

which is the accommodation partner of the competition.

The inaugural ceremony of the competition will be held on May 14 at Sonargaon Hotel at 7:00pm. Speaker of the parliament Abdul Hamid will attend the function as chief guest and University Grants Commission chairman

Nazrul Islam as special guest.

The closing and award giving ceremony will be held on May 19 at 8:00pm at the hotel. Law minister Shafique Ahmed will be present as chief guest and Asiatic Group chairman Aly Zaker as special guest.

Mojo is the beverage partner of EWU AUCD

2009 while Arkay Multimedia, New Age, bdnews24.com and Radio Foorti are media partners.

The AUCD is the largest debating competition in Asia and the second largest in the world, said a press release. The first tournament was held in the Philippines in 2005.



Jalaluddin Ahmed, president of board of directors of East West University, speaks at a press conference on Asian Universities Debating Championship at Sonargaon Hotel in Dhaka on Tuesday. — New Age photo