

## Literature doesn't ignite revolution

*Says Prof Syed Manzoorul Islam*

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Noted educationist Prof Syed Manzoorul Islam yesterday said literature does not ignite revolution, however it encourages people to stand against social evils and inequality.

The former professor of English at Dhaka University was speaking at the Second Nehreen Khan Memorial Lecture at East West University (EWU) in Dhaka.

The lecture was organised in memory of Nehreen Khan, a former student of the university and daughter of eminent economist Dr Akbar Ali Khan, says a press release.

He said literature helps people indentify different boundaries in society and encourages them to go beyond.

Manzoorul said marginalised people remain in the cycle of poverty due to the capitalist nature of the world.

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Although there have been some positive changes in the per capita income and social development index, people are still deprived of their rights.

Prof Manzoorul analysed the have-nots in the literary works of Shakespeare, Tagore and Nazrul. He said literature does not directly bring about revolution but ignites a spark in people.

At the programme, the educationist was handed over a citation crest and a cheque for Tk 1 lakh.

Prof Dr MM Shahidul Hassan, vice chancellor of EWU, presided over the programme while EWU pro-VC Prof Fakrul Alam delivered the welcome speech.

Dr Akbar Ali Khan, EWU treasurer AZM Shafiqul Alam, Nehreen Khan's classmates and noted personalities were also present.

