

## **FBLF Award Ceremony, September 24, 2022**

### **Speech by Sadek Afzal**

Chairman, FBLF

BismillahirRahmanir Rahim.

Hon'ble Chief Guest, and Distinguished Guests, Friends and younger brothers:

As the Chairman of First Batch Legacy Fund it is my proud privilege to welcome you all on behalf of myself and all my friends of first batch of Rajshahi Cadet College. Thank you very much for gracing our maiden program to accord recognition to two categories of achievements for 2021 and 2022.

We gather to recognize the two best all-rounder cadets of Rajshahi Cadet College who passed out in 2021 and in 2022.

We gather here to recognize two RCC alumnus who made the most significant social contribution over the years. We will confer awards for 2021 and 2022.

By recognizing and conferring awards we not only honor some outstanding individuals, but we also honor ourselves.

However, before I go any further, let me answer the questions which is probably lingering in your mind:

#### ***Why did the 1st batch initiated these awards ?***

A little over 52 years ago when we passed out—the very first batch of Rajshahi Cadet College—we could not imagine that in spite of widely separate disciplines that we would pursue and journeys that we would undertake, that over half century later we would meet in an auspicious occasion like this.

We passed out with dreams and hopes and aspirations to pay back for what an impoverished country contributed for our world-class nurturing, training, and education. We were made to believe in ourselves and our impressionable minds absorbed a rich and wide array of knowledge, concepts, and skills. And we resolved to pay back the nation through service and leadership.

We have friends here who were freedom fighters. The country owes a special gratitude to Abdul Mannaf who laid down his life within 2 miles of RCC. We also remember others who are not with us tonight: Captain Mustafizur Rahman, Dr. Shah Alam, Maj Bazlur Rashid, Ferdous Alam, Maj Shahidul Islam, Maj Shah Zakaria and Lt. Col. Md. Ali Ahsan. May they Rest In Peace and be granted JannatulFerdous.

Now that we have stepped into the evening of our lives, we are concerned as to how to motivate those who pass out of RCC today, and recognize those who have served a lifetime selflessly to making the world around them a better place than they found it.

***We are concerned about leaving our legacy.***

But leaving a legacy means not only finding your own fulfillment, but also inspiring others to achieve great things. Hence, after lots of discussion and debates, the 1st Batch found a common ground of agreement - ***to leave behind a legacy of our values - and if we are ever remembered long after we are gone - it should be for the values we stood for.***

As our values, induced by the Cadet College, includes "giving back" and "excelling in what we do" we all agreed on creating a foundation for leaving our legacy. Giving back and excelling in what one does is also a proven way to find fulfillment: Contribution and success are human needs that drive us in life.

We also understood that everyone likes to be recognized. Acknowledgment and praise play a significant role in everyone's lives. Recognition fills the recipient's heart with pride, appreciation, and acceptance, and the presenter's soul with gratification.

Therefore, if there has ever been an inter-generational "win-win relationship", then this is it - Our First Batch Legacy Foundation Awards.

Hence, the two awards: best all rounder for "excelling in the college" and the "Significant social contributor" for giving back to society.

The need for recognition, one of our more sophisticated needs, is one of the most difficult to achieve. It is the only one that is wholly dependent upon others to respond appropriately. In other words, recognition, by definition, must come from others.

At this moment, here, we are "the others" to give recognition to those who have successfully upheld our values.

We hope and pray, there will be many more "others" to promote the core values of the cadet colleges.

On behalf of all my friends I thank you all once again. I express my gratitude to RCC administrators, teachers, and staff of our times. I express my gratefulness to this country of ours. I express my gratitude to the Almighty for a fulfilling life we could live. May the Almighty guide, protect, and bless all of us.

Sadek Afzal. Chairman, FBLF

