

1st FBLF Award Ceremony

Speech by Saifullah Syed

Secretary, FBLF
24 September 2022

Hon Chief Guest, distinguished participants, Friends and younger brother cadets

Let me start by congratulating the recipients of the awards: and say that :

*It wasn't Lady Luck who smiled
On you and brought you here
Instead it was your hard work
So today we clap and cheer*

Our clap and cheers clearly demonstrates that everyone likes to be recognized. Whether it's for a job well done, scoring the winning goal, achieving academic excellence, or being named volunteer of the year, recognition is rewarding. Acknowledgment and praise play a significant role in everyone's lives. Recognition fills the recipient's heart with pride, appreciation, and acceptance. It also make the givers of awards proud of the recipients.

Thank you Mosharraf, Kamal, Julfiqar and Mushfiqur. You all have made us proud and have shown that it is more than just hard work - it is also dedication and perseverance

As regards these awards, as our Chairman, Sadek has said earlier, are intended for our legacy. But in reality we would like them to go beyond - as a small step - towards a bigger objective for our society and country.

Demand for awards relies on an individual's desire for distinction. However, there is also a **supply** side (*sorry for talking like an economist - but then that's what I am - a student of economics*). The supply of awards is governed by the "**desire to motivate**". We also hope to kindle this desire too.

Let me take this opportunity to talk about, very briefly, the **supply** side. While receiving recognition, praise and award is natural human instinct. Giving the same is not always so.

If we carefully look at the social life of people in the developed countries, you will find that there are enormous number of awards in the form of orders, medals, decoration, prizes, titles, and other honors. It would be hard pressed to find any area of society in which awards are not used.

Many here are also recipients of such awards. Receiving an western award, often, places our elites on a higher social level.

In Bangladesh, we are making great progress. In comparison to many other countries we still have a long way to go and that probably applies to many other fields, including our overall socio economic development. We have started on the road towards progress and have the opportunity to do more.

Imagine, if we initiate a prize in our villages, and/or in the village school where many of us once attended for good behaviour, good social work, good overall performance, etc etc , what kind of impact that would have in our society and in the country ?

We would like to hope that our small step will contribute to our society and country to move forward to encourage and motivate youngsters to excel and contribute to society. In the end it is the individuals, that matters. And it is motivation and dream that drives an individual.

I stop here and leave that as food for thought for everyone here and beyond.

Thank you. Thank you all. Thanks to all my 1st batch friends who contributed to make this event successful. Thanks to **Roawa** club and its management for kindly hosting us here tonight.

May Allah bless us all.

Saifullah Syed

Secretary, FBLF