



The Curzon Hall is a British Raj-era building and home of the Faculty of Sciences at the University of Dhaka. The building was originally intended to be a town hall and is named after Lord Curzon, the Viceroy of India who laid its foundation stone in 1904.

History:

Curzon Hall meant to be a town hall originally, was named after [LORD CURZON](#), the Viceroy of India, who laid its foundation

in 1904. A year later Bengal was partitioned and [DHAKA](#) became the capital of the newly created province of East Bengal and Assam. Following the annulment of the partition in 1911 it was used as a premise of [DHAKA COLLEGE](#), and after the establishment of [DHAKA UNIVERSITY](#) in 1921, became part of the university's science section, which continues until now. Laid out in a spacious and carefully maintained garden, this double storied brick building has a large central hall, lateral wings on the east and west with several rooms, and a continuous verandah on all sides.



One of the best examples of Dhaka's [ARCHITECTURE](#), it is a happy blend of European and Mughal elements, particularly noticeable in the projecting facade in the north which has both horse-shoe and cusped arches.

The style combined traditional art with modern technology and functions and favoured Mughal forms such as arches and domes, believed to have entered the Islamic world from the west. It marks the casting aside of veiled power after the [SEPOY REVOLT](#) of 1857, and India's passing directly under the British

Crown, seeking legitimacy by linkage to the Mughals. The red colour substituting for red sandstone, and the ornate brackets, deep eaves, and domed terrace pavilions (chhatris), specially of the middle section are strikingly reminiscent of the small but well-known Diwan-i-Khas in the palace fortress of Fatehpur Sikri, Emperor [AKBAR](#)'s capital between 1570 and 1585. Not only were both cities new capitals, but the deliberate choice of the Fatehpur Sikri style may be explained by the fact that the British favoured Akbar as the wisest and most tolerant of all the Mughals, feeding into the ideal of their own role in India.

The Curzon Hall has attained a great significance in the history of the [LANGUAGE MOVEMENT](#). It was here, in 1948, that the students of Dhaka University sounded their first refusal to accept [MOHAMMED ALI JINNAH](#)'s declaration that [URDU](#) alone would be the state language of the then [PAKISTAN](#).



Corner view
Chemistry

Department Of



Corridor



Detail



Department of Bio-Chemistry

Facilities:

The Botanical Garden of the university is located on the premises of Curzon Hall, and is used by students and faculty for teaching botany and for scientific studies with plants.

Architecture:

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noticeable in the projecting facade in the north which has both horse-shoe and cusped arches.