

Date: 12/20/2007

Dear Bangladesh Genocide researcher,

As you are already aware that Kean University and The Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies sponsored the seminar "Bangladesh 1971: Intolerance, Violence and Genocide" on December 9, in University Center Theatre.

The seminar was designed to serve as the platform for creating a professional research network in the academia as well as to convince the university to take necessary steps to initiate a course on Bangladesh Genocide within Kean's Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies (MAHGS). A goal of the seminar was also to create a platform to reach out the family members for their stories for oral history purpose as well.

The seminar was a great success since the university administration was surprised to learn that genocide of such magnitude happened almost thirty seven years ago and never was attended in any institutional level for study. The administration was also overwhelmed to see the huge support from the community in the seminar as the University Center theatre was completely packed more than to its capacity.

After the seminar, the university administration, together with The Bangladesh Genocide Study Group (BGSG), is willing to take the endeavor to develop a strong research network, to gather evidences, research works, books, articles, pictures, videos and of course oral testimony by the suffered family members from Bangladeshis living in all over the US, and other countries including Bangladesh. These resources will be preserved at the Holocaust Resource Center at Kean University for students and researchers of Holocaust. This Holocaust Resource Center is one of the leading resource centers in the State of New Jersey that has one of the largest collections of both oral and documented history of Jewish Holocaust. This center is directly connected with the New Jersey Holocaust Commission that holds seminars and symposiums every year at the state level on holocausts and genocides of human history. This commission also works with the State of New Jersey that mandates to teach about Holocaust, genocide, and prejudice in New Jersey public schools.

Once enough resources are collected to support the curriculum Dr. Bernard Weinstein and the BGSG will work together with the administration to develop the course curriculum and submit it to the curriculum committee. The curriculum development is a long process; therefore, the ground work should be laid now so that enough resources to support the curriculum are collected as soon as possible. All these activities will make the curriculum development process smoother and faster.

Dr. Weinstein and we, BGSG, are looking forward to have you in the BGSG committee and are looking forward to your expertise in on Bangladesh genocide. We are cordially inviting you to bring in your knowledge, research work and your network with other researchers to the university administration and the BGSG so that your valuable work can be cited and used as a source of information.

Kean University is one of the very few universities that offer Master of Arts Degree in Holocaust and Genocide Studies in the United States. In this program students study the history of various holocausts and genocides. Once a course is developed students will be able to study Bangladesh Genocide in the MAHGS program. For more information about the program please visit the MAHG program page listed below. http://www.kean.edu/~keangrad/grad_CHSS_hgs.htm

Please note that, the University and BGSG does not hold any political or social or personal agenda. This endeavor of developing course on Bangladesh Genocide is completely from historical, humanitarian and academic research purpose.

We are looking forward to hearing from you as soon as possible and looking forward to your contribution to this unprecedented endeavor in the history of Bangladesh. Please join the BGSG by sending us an email at bdgenostudy@gmail.com.

Please visit Bangladesh Genocide Study web page: http://cie.kean.edu/~bdgenostudy and give your comments.

Yours truly,

Bernard Weinstein, Ph.D.

Coordinator of the Master of Arts in Holocaust and Genocide Studies Program Founder member and President, BGSG bweinste@kean.edu

Faruque Chowdhury Director, Human Resources Founder member and Chief Advisor, BGSG

Arifur Rahman Assistant Director, Office of the Registrar Founder Member and Vice President, BGSG rahmanmd@exchange.kean.edu

Mohammad Rahman Network Analyst, Office of Computer and Information Services Founder Member and Assistant Vice President, BGSG mrahman@exchange.kean.edu