



MANAGING MULTICULTURAL CHALLENGES:

- A CASE STUDY OF MASTERS IN
PUBLIC HEALTH (MPH) PROGRAM
IN NORTHERN UNIVERSITY
BANGLADESH

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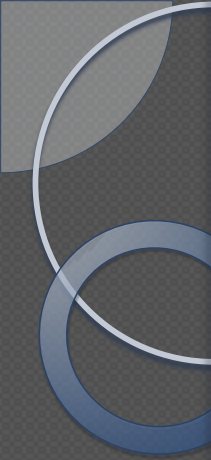
NORTHERN UNIVERSITY
B A N G L A D E S H

**Greetings to all of you from
Northern University Bangladesh**



Introduction

- Globalization and Information technology is changing the world
- Innovation in education leads people to pursue knowledge abroad
- Developed nations are generating quality education while the developing nations are not
- Developing countries must find a way to manage the situation



Results of studies indicated that, the challenges faced by international students have been categorized by following four categories:

- (1) general living adjustment
- (2) academic difficulties
- (3) socio-cultural difficulties
- (4) personal psychological adjustment



Objective of the Report

1. To identify the factors contributing towards Cultural differences
2. To provide an alternative approach of managing multi-cultural challenges through collaboration with International institutions

Methods

- Place: Northern University Bangladesh
- Participants: Postgraduate students of MPH program
- Sampling technique: Convenience
- Method of contact: E-Mail, Phone
- Method of Data Collection: Questionnaire
- Time: July – September 2014

Findings

- Respondents are asked:
 - About their duration of study and living in Bangladesh,
 - How they learn about Northern University Bangladesh,
 - Their problem with the environment and how they managed it.
- Open Questions:
 - Share your experience of being a student of Northern University Bangladesh in your own words.
 - What suggestions can you give to improve the situation for foreign students studying in Bangladesh?



Type of Problem

Factors Related to the Problem

Staying Problem

Accommodation / Housing problem, Language Problem, Visa renew / Passport office related problem, Religion Difference, Cultural barriers, Political instability

Study-related Problem

Availability of Study Materials, Cooperation from the domestic students', Understanding texts and class lectures, Cooperation from the teachers', Management system of the university, Educational fees of the university

Personal Problem

Loneliness, Lack of sharing partner, Feeling of being an alien, Inferiority complex, Missing family members



Independent Comments about:

- Adaptation to the environment
- Experience of Life in Bangladesh
- Suggestions from the respondents

Suggestions

- Renewable Visa Opportunity, then they doesn't have to renew every year. Visa extension to be done from the university administration committee itself as it is very tedious for students
- Facility improvement should be emphasized
- English speaking should be made mandatory to teachers in class and during lectures
- Accommodation should be provided for the students rather than they being left alone to look for houses by themselves. Especially the unmarried ones because it is extremely difficult to find houses
- Cultural exposure during time of festivals and occasions would help to overcome loneliness when every domestic students rush to their hometowns
- Local students could be more cooperative and help each other to adjust in the new society as my friends had done



MPH Program at Northern University Bangladesh

- Faculty members having PhD from reputed national/international universities or institutions having proven Research/Management expertise.
- Appreciable communication Experiences.
- Evening and Holiday/Weekend class schedule.
- Updated courses curriculum and course modules.
- NUB Financial Aids/Tuition Waiver for deserving candidates.
- Provision of internship in the relevant areas of specialization.
- Offers enrollment opportunity for medical and non-medical graduates.
- Extra-curricular activities.



MPH Program at Northern University Bangladesh

- Most of the NUB MPH graduates have already secured job at different GO/NGO like UNO, WHO, UNFPA, UNICEF, UNDP, ADB & other national organizations
- Internship opportunities in local organization for career development program
- Course waiver for deserving & experienced students
- Well established library having rich collection of books & high impact Journals with online access
- Exclusive research & computer labs having 24 hours internet facilities for students
- Provision of uploading lectures so that students can have the facilities to download & prepare before the class commence
- NUB campus is under the coverage of Wi-Fi facilities
- National study tour as a part of course curriculum



Collaborations of Northern University Bangladesh

- BIAM Foundation, Bangladesh;
- TQIP (Trauma Quality Improvement Program),
- Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) Academy Bangladesh;
- Microsoft;
- CISCO;
- Nottingham University of United Kingdom;
- International Islamic University Malaysia;
- Chiang Mai University, Thailand;
- Salahaddin University of Iraq;
- University Malaysia Perlis
- Tribhuvan University of Nepal.



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**You are welcome to enter
collaboration with
Northern University
Bangladesh**



Our Sincere thanks to
Organizers of Christian
University of Thailand and
all the member countries
of 13th Asian University
Presidents Forum.

Good day to You.