LINGUISTICS

# **TESOL CONNECTS**

Newsletter of TESOL Society of Bangladesh

TESOL.BD

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## TESOL BD Organizes Academic Adda on Exploring Education in Post-COVID Landscape

**TESOL SOCIETY OF BANGLADESH:** 

**AN ASSOCIATION OF APPLIED** 

In yet another installment of its Academic Adda series, TESOL BD arranged a discussion titled "Exploring Education in an Altered Landscape Post-COVID: Teachers and the Future Generation". The virtual event, broadcast on Facebook Live, provided invaluable insight into the transformative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on education systems worldwide.

Dr. Sayeedur Rahman, Professor of English Language at the Institute of Modern Languages, University of Dhaka, and the founding president of TESOL BD was one of the discussants of the event. Other speakers were Mohammad Kabir Hossain, Associate Professor, and Attached Officer at a2i (Aspire to Innovate), TTC, Ranjit Podder, Associate Professor at TTC, Khurshiduzzaman Ahmed, Head Teacher at Kaliganj Karim Uddin Public Pilot High School, Lalmonirhat, and S. M. Rabbe, Assistant Teacher at Joynagar Govt. Primary School, Manikganj. The discussion was expertly moderated by S M Tahmina, Assistant Head Teacher at G K Model High School, Gazipur, who navigated the conversation through various aspects of adapting education in response to the challenges posed by the pandemic.

The onset of the COVID-19 pandemic has triggered a dramatic shift in education, pushing institutions, educators, and students into uncharted territory. Conventional classroom setups have undergone a remarkable transformation. This profound change has challenged the status quo and prompted innovative adaptations to ensure continuity in learning. This virtual gathering aimed to explore the dynamic shifts in the education sector due to the pandemic. The panellists deliberated on strategies teachers employed to adapt to the COVID situation and the role of technology in facilitating education during the lockdown, changes in pedagogical methods, and the impact on future generations' learning experiences.

The event, open to all, included educators, students, researchers, parents, and anyone interested in the future of education. The interactive format allowed participants to join the live broadcast on Facebook Live and interact in this thoughtprovoking discussion by asking questions and sharing their insights.



## Celebrating Shakespeare: Adapting the Bard for Contemporary English Studies

TESOL Society of Bangladesh celebrated Shakespeare's birthday by organizing a webinar with the title 'Shakespeare in Contemporary Literary Studies'.

This webinar was organized by the society as an early celebration of the day, with English professors from several universities participating as speakers. These were Professor Dr Maswood Akhter from the Department of English, Rajshahi University, Professor Mashrur Shahid Hossain from the Department of English, Jahangirnagar University, and Dr Sheikh Mehedi Hasan, Associate Professor, Department of English Language and Literature from Jatiya Kabi Kaji Nazrul Islam University.

The event was moderated by Dr Liza Sharmin, Head, Department of English, and Dipty Rahman, Lecturer, Department of English from Daffodil International University.

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An intellectual rendezvous for lite-

ature enthusiasts and all those teaching and researching Shakespeare, it explored the enduring charm of William Shakespeare's works and their relevance in today's academic landscape. The webinar focused on contemporary perspectives of Shakespearean literature. Professor Maswood Akhter discussed different adaptations and portrayals of Shakespeare's plays in Bollywood, while Professor Mashrur Shahid Hossain focused on applying critical affective pedagogy in teaching Shakespearean dramas. Dr Mehedi, on the other hand, talked about reading and interpreting Shakespeare in localised contexts as well as the ideas of decanonising and decolonizing these texts.

TESOL Society of Bangladesh's Vice-President, Hamidul Haque, Senior Assistant Professor and Head, Department of English, AIUB delivered the welcome address, and the General Secretary, Syeda Farzana Hafsa, Assistant Professor, Brac University concluded the program with a vote of thanks.



### $J\,U\,N\,E\,,\ 2\,0\,2\,4$

## TESOL Society of Bangladesh Hosts Empowering Women's Day Webinar



Dilruba Ferdous Shuvra



Dr. Sabrin Farooqui



Papri Rahman

TESOL Society of Bangladesh organised a webinar in celebration of International Women's Day, titled "নারী "দি BOSS"/ সর্বজয়া", aimed at providing a platform for women in creative and leadership positions to discuss their journeys. The webinar highlighted and celebrated women's achievements, leadership, and empowerment in various fields.

The webinar featured distinguished speakers who shared their insights and experiences, inspiring participants to embrace their roles as leaders and contributors to society. The speakers for the event were: Dilruba Ferdous Shuvra, Co-Founder, MREE Studio, Lead Architect, Social Architecture Project, OXFAM Bangladesh, and Assistant Professor, Dept. of Architecture, Brac University, Dr. Sabrin Farooqui, Founder Member & Current President, Cultural Diversity Network Inc. (CDNI), and Papri Rahman, Fiction Writer.

speakers covered topics, including The women's leadership, societal issues affecting women, and the challenges they faced throughout their careers. Their backgrounds and experiences diverse provided а comprehensive view of the contributions women make in various professional fields.

These stories and expertise have not only celebrated the achievements of women but also served as a source of inspiration for the sizable audience that congregated in the webinar and on Facebook Live. The event ended with a question-and-answer session from the participants.

## TESOL BD Organizes Webinar on "Emotional Intelligence for Educators"

TESOL Society of Bangladesh (TESOL BD) organized an insightful webinar on 'Emotional Intelligence for Educators' on 8th June 2021 on Zoom. Dr. Rehnuma Karim, Founder and CEO of Heroes For All Inc., and Adjunct Faculty, College at Brockport, State University New York graced the webinar as the key speaker. The webinar explored the topic extensively and discussed useful strategies for effective communication among educators.



The webinar was inaugurated by a welcome speech from Hamidul Haque, Vice-President, TESOL Society of Bangladesh and Head of Department of English, American International University- Bangladesh. It was moderated by Dr. Syeda Farzana Sultana, General Secretary, TESOL Society of Bangladesh, and Assistant Professor, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh.

Research suggests that our success in communication largely depends on Emotional Intelligence which is why this issue has been of interest to psychologists, educators, and researchers in recent years. Studies also show that Emotional Intelligence helps to create an effective learning environment and that educators with high Emotional Intelligence can become better teachers making better decisions while keeping their students' learning needs in mind.

The webinar concluded with an engaging question and answer session and a vote of thanks by the General Secretary of the organisation.

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### **KEEPING IN TOUCH**

The vision of the Society is to establish an engaging platform for professionals working in the field of TESOL/Applied Linguistics and other allied disciplines to participate in constructive dialogue with one another and with recent developments to strengthen the impact of the field in the community. The Society can help you to remain connected to fellow applied linguists through regular interaction and collaboration with the members.

### **BECOME A MEMBER**

- Student membership: BDT 200/- (BDT 200/- yearly renewal fee)
- Life Membership: BDT 3000/- (One time) (BDT 2000/- if registered in a group of 5 members)
- General membership: Fees 1000 (BDT 500/- yearly renewal fee)
- Associate Membership: 5000 BDT (500 BDT discount if registered in a group of 10) (BDT 500/- yearly renewal fee for regional membership or collective members of a regional EL association)
- Institutional Membership: Departments of English of any school, college, etc.
- Fill out the Registration Form
- Submit a copy of PP Photograph & NID

### **ENGAGE WITH THE SOCIETY!**

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