

Phone: (202) 244-5071
Fax : (202) 244-2771/7830
E-mail: press.bew@gmail.com
Website : www.bdembassyusa.org



EMBASSY OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
3510 International Drive, NW
Washington, D.C. 20008

PRESS RELEASE



Sheikh Kamal set motion that gains momentum in today's Bangladesh Cricket: Ambassador Ziauddin

Washington DC, 05 September 2017:

The first ever Sheikh Kamal Memorial USA Western Regional Cricket Tournament ended in Los Angeles Monday with Northern California Cricket Association clinched the champion trophy beating North West Cricket League.

Six teams from the states of Southern California, Northern California, Seattle-Washington, Utah, Colorado and Arizona participated in the three-day tournament organized by South California Cricket Association.

Bangladesh Ambassador to the USA Mohammad Ziauddin who witnessed the final match congratulated both the winning team and the runners up for putting up a delightful show with the bat and the ball.

The Ambassador said the tournament is significant for its introduction of Sheikh Kamal, the eldest son of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He said Sheikh Kamal was an avid cricketer who was dedicatedly involved in promoting sports, sporting activities as well as cultural activities soon after Bangladesh's independence in 1971.

The Ambassador said Sheikh Kamal's interest and involvement helped in quickly reviving sporting activities, especially after his establishment of the famous Abahoni Krira Chakra. With his tragic assassination on August 15, 1975, he said sporting activities in Bangladesh became dormant. Some years passed before sports, particularly cricket again appeared in the playground of Bangladesh.

"It was possible for the inspiration Sheikh Kamal left behind could revive life to cricket and to other sporting activities,' the Ambassador said.

Dr. Rabi Alam, Mr. Nazim Shiraji, President and Executive members of the South California Cricket Association, sponsors and organizers of the tournament and a large number of spectators were present in the final match.

Ambassador Ziauddin said Sheikh Kamal revived and resurrected new life in both sports and culture after the war of liberation in 1971 and founded Abahoni Krira Chakra Club and Spondon Shilpi Gosthi. "His presence brought a breath of fresh air to the sporting and cultural world," the envoy recalled.

The Ambassador had personal acquaintance with Sheikh Kamal as they grew up in the same residential area in Dhaka. Ziauddin who was a teacher of English language at Dhaka College used to meet Sheikh Kamal frequently when he was a student of Dhaka College during 1967 to 1969.

The Ambassador noted that the interest and encouragement that Sheikh Kamal exuded immediately after Bangladesh's independence contributed significantly to the growth, development and progress of cricket in the country. "The motion that he set forth, through the years, gained in momentum to reach Bangladesh cricket to where it is today."

Shamim Ahmad
Minister (Press)