

### Press Release

## Cultural Diversity of 8 Countries Showcased Online

**Dhaka, Monday, 12 October, 2020:** To exchange the inland cultural diversity, a cultural program titled ‘Intangible Cultural Heritage’ was held today with participation of teachers from 8 countries from around the world. This program was celebrated as part of the 6-month-long program arranged on the occasion of International Teachers’ Day and the Hundredth year of birth of father of the nation Bangabondhu Sheikh Mujibar Rahman. In this program, teachers from 8 countries showcased the intangible cultural heritage of their countries.

Under the supervision of Mr. Md Mohiuddin, English Teacher, Chittagong Presidency International School, the cultural tradition of India, ‘Kalamkari’ was presented by Aditee Kulkarni, the cultural tradition and spiritual music of Russia ‘Tyvan’ & ‘Khuresh’ was presented by Nadezhda Ivanova, Indian cultural diversity was highlighted by Shabbi Parwez, Cultural tradition of Turkey ‘Turkish coffee’ was presented by Derya Ceylan, the cultural tradition of South africa was presented by Elliot Mashinini, the tradition of Pakistan ‘Kelash Culture’ was presented by Muhammad Asif Iqbal, Indian ancient religious feast ‘Kumvameela’ was presented by Sandhya Mishra, the traditional culture of Croatia was presented by Snjezana Kovacevic, the ancient recipe of Moroccan delicacy ‘Couscous’ was presented by Asmae Nasri, the effect of Indian dance on Canadian culture was presented by Indrani Choudhury and the tradition of Bangladesh ‘Jamdani Saree’ was presented by Md Mohiuddin.

Dr. Md. Abdul Mannan PAA, Project Director (Additional Secretary), a2i was present as the Chief Guest in the program. Ms. Kizzy Tahnin, Program Officer, UNESCO Bangladesh and Mr. Mohammed Rafiqul Islam, Educational Technology Expert, a2i was also present as guests.

In his speech, Project Director of a2i Dr. Md. Abdul Mannan PAA said, we believe teachers can bring changes in the society. So this kind of arrangement strengthens the sharing of culture. The participated teachers can present cultural diversity to their students through this.

The Program Officer of UNESCO Dhaka office, Kizzy Tahnin said, Intangible Culture not only presents the cultural position of a country but also the manner and individuality of a society or tribe. It is very important to know or study about a tribe or a society. At the time, he discussed about the cultural and traditional activities of UNESCO and about the intangible culture of Bangladesh. Besides the teachers of Government Teachers Training College, representatives of a2i, and various national and international teachers was connected through online in the program.

The education system of a country, educational institutions and teachers play a great role to introduce the students to their own culture, to create cultural values and to create positive mentality towards other cultures. This cultural program was arranged to recognize the similarities and dissimilarities of different countries with our own intangible cultural heritage.

Under the implementation of a joint venture of Education Ministry, Ministry of Primary and Mass education and The Aspire to Innovate (a2i) programme of the ICT Division and the Cabinet Division, supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), it was the first cultural episode of a 6 month long program titled ‘Teachers: Leadership in Crisis, Think Anew about the Future’ with 100 teachers around the world, education officers, researchers and personalities related to education. The series of programs, with almost 21 seminars, 5 cultural programs and 6 side events will end on 17 March, 2021.

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