



SoftFair 2005

THE "6TH SOFTFAIR - 2005" WITH THE SLOGAN "EXPERIENCE THE LATEST TECH, LIVE!" ORGANIZED BY NSU COMPUTER CLUB WAS HELD ON LAST 4-6 AUGUST AT THE BASHUNDHARA CITY EXHIBITION CENTER, LEVEL 7, BLOCK-B. THIS IS THE ANNUAL MEGA EVENT OF NSUCC, ONE OF THE BIGGEST CLUBS AT NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY. IT WAS HELD WITH GREAT ENTHUSIASM BY MORE THAN SIXTY DEDICATED MEMBERS INCLUDING THE EXECUTIVE BODY MEMBERS, IN-CHARGES OF THE DIFFERENT DEPARTMENTS AND THE GENERAL MEMBERS OF NSUCC WORKING EXTREMELY HARD FOR ABOUT A MONTH UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF MR. K. SHAJADUL HASAN, FACULTY ADVISOR, NSUCC, TO MAKE THIS FAIR A GREAT SUCCESS.

THE MAIN OBJECTIVE OF THE EVENT "SOFTFAIR" IS TO BUILD A BRIDGE BETWEEN TWO SIDES OF THE INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) SECTOR—THE CORPORATE SIDE AND THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. THE ICT SECTOR OF BANGLADESH IS ACTUALLY DIVIDED IN THESE TWO CATEGORIES, THE CORPORATE WORLD AND THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS. STUDENTS STUDYING IN ICT FIELD HAVE LITTLE IDEA ABOUT THE REAL WORLD OF INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY FROM THEIR FOUR YEARS BACHELORS' COURSE. TO GET A PROPER IDEA OF THE CORPORATE FIELD AND THUS BE PREPARED FOR THEIR FUTURE IN A BETTER WAY, STUDENTS NEED THE CHANCE TO COME IN CONTACT WITH THE IT FIRMS. IT FIRMS NEED TO GET SOME IDEA ABOUT WHAT TYPE OF PROJECTS STUDENTS USUALLY WORK ON AND WHAT ARE THEIR CAPABILITIES, BECAUSE IN A FEW YEARS TIME, THEY WOULD BE HIRING THESE PEOPLE FOR DIFFERENT JOBS. THE LINK BETWEEN THESE TWO SIDES IS THUS VERY IMPORTANT AND UNFORTUNATELY THAT LINKAGE IS QUITE WEAK HERE IN



OUR COUNTRY. CONSEQUENTLY TO STRENGTHEN THE BOND, SOFTFAIR IS ORGANIZED ANNUALLY BY NSU COMPUTER CLUB.

WITH THE COURSE OF TIME, THE COMPUTER CLUB HAS BROADENED ITS PERSPECTIVE OF SELECTING PARTICIPANTS, AND HAS INCLUDED THE TELECOM COMPANIES, ISPs, ONLINE JOB SITES AND OTHER FIRMS RELATED TO THE IT FIELD AS A NEW ADDITION TO THE PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATING SOFTWARE & HARDWARE FIRMS AND UNIVERSITIES FROM ALL OVER THE COUNTRY. THE REASON BEHIND THIS IS TO GATHER ALL THE PARTS OF ICT SECTOR UNDER ONE ROOF FOR THREE DAYS TIME TO LESSEN THE COMMUNICATION GAP FORMED DUE TO LACK OF OPPORTUNITY.

THE OPENING CEREMONY OF THE "6TH SOFTFAIR - 2005" WAS HELD AT THE SEMINAR HALL OF BASHUNDHARA CITY, LEVEL 7. PROFESSOR DR. M. ASADUZZAMAN, CHAIRMAN, UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMISSION, BANGLADESH WAS PRESENT AS THE CHIEF GUEST OF THE CEREMONY. DR. HAFIZ G. A. SIDDIQI, VICE CHANCELLOR, NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY, WAS THE SPECIAL GUEST. THE TARGET PEOPLE OF THE FAIR WERE STUDENTS AND GENERAL PUBLIC PARTICULARLY WHO ARE INTERESTED IN ICT. ENTRY WAS KEPT FREE FOR EVERYONE AT THE SOFTFAIR.

THIS YEAR THERE WERE 46 STALLS OF 29 PARTICIPANT COMPANIES AND UNIVERSITIES. THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AMONG THE PARTICIPANTS THIS YEAR ARE NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY, ASIAN UNIVERSITY, BANGLADESH UNIVERSITY OF ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY (BUET), DAFFODIL INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, DAFFODIL INSTITUTE OF IT, DARUL IHSAN UNIVERSITY, SOUTH EAST UNIVERSITY, STAMFORD UNIVERSITY AND WWW.EDUCATION.COM.BD. THE SOFTWARE FIRMS THAT PARTICIPATED ARE ALIMSOFT, ANUPAM INFOTEK LIMITED, AXIOM TECHNOLOGIES LTD., BANGALIANA, MAMTECH LTD., MICROS DIGITAL, RZM SOFT, SHAILEE DIGITAL



PROKASHONI AND THE DECODE LTD. HARDWARE PARTICIPANT FIRMS ARE GLOBAL BRAND PVT. LTD., HEWLETT-PACKARD, MOSITA COMPUTERS & ENGINEERS LTD. AND MULTILINK INTERNATIONAL Co. LTD. ISPs THAT PARTICIPATED ARE GLOBAL ONLINE AND DAFFODIL ONLINE LTD. JOBSITES THAT PARTICIPATED ARE BDJOBS.COM LTD., JOBBANGLA.COM, JOBSA1.COM, SHERADAM.COM AND SISCO NETWORK INFORMATION & TELECOM LTD.

THE UNIVERSITIES CAME UP WITH DIFFERENT PROJECTS DEVELOPED BY THE STUDENTS. NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY HAD TAKEN FOUR STALLS ALTOGETHER TO EXHIBIT 5 DIFFERENT STUDENTS' PROJECTS CALLED "NATIVE MOBILING", "REAL-ESTATE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM", "THE ELITE FORCE", "MAXIMUM SPEED" AND "HUNTER". THE YOUNG PROGRAMMERS ATTRACTED QUITE A HUGE AMOUNT OF CROWD OF AGE RANGING FROM ELEMENTARY SCHOOL CHILDREN TO GROWN-UPS AS THEY ARRANGED FOR THE VIEWERS TO PLAY THE GAMES IN HUGE MULTIMEDIA PROJECTOR SCREENS AND ALSO IN MOBILE PHONES.

SOUTH EAST UNIVERSITY HAD THREE PROJECTS TO DISPLAY—"E-HOME", "CLASS SCHEDULER" AND "BANK OF PERSIA". BUET PRESENTED THEIR INNOVATIVE PROJECT "BANGLA SMS" AND GATHERED A HUGE CROWD IN THEIR STALL ALL THROUGH OUT THE FAIR. ASIAN UNIVERSITY SHOWED "SHADHEEN BANGLA DESKTOP SOFTWARE" IN THE SOFTFAIR AND STAMFORD UNIVERSITY'S PROJECTS WERE "ASPECTS OF E-GOVERNMENT SYSTEM IN BANGLADESH AND ITS APPLICATIONS", "ONLINE UNIVERSITY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM" AND "CUSTOMIZED DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT OF A CHAT SYSTEM AND FILE TRANSFERRING MECHANISM FOR A LAN". DARUL IHSAN UNIVERSITY HAD TWO PROJECTS TO DISPLAY, "DISTRIBUTED POLLING SYSTEM" AND "DHAKA WASA BILLING MANAGEMENT SYSTEM". DAFFODIL INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY



DISPLAYED "STUDENT INFORMATION & REGISTRATION SYSTEM", "BILLING SYSTEM" AND "LIBRARY MANAGEMENT SYSTEM".

AT THE STALL NUMBER 33, FREE INTERNET USE WAS PROVIDED BY THE OFFICIAL ISP OF THE SOFTFAIR FOR THE VIEWERS AT THE FAIR.

A JUDGMENT OF THE PROJECTS AND PRODUCTS PRESENTED BY THE STUDENTS AND THE CORPORATE FIRMS TOOK PLACE ON THE SECOND DAY OF THE SOFTFAIR. DR. FARRUK AHMED, DEPT. OF CSE, NSU, DR. M. KAYKOBAD, DEPT. OF CSE, NSU, MR. MUNIRUL ISLAM, DEPT. OF CSE, NSU AND DR. GOLAM HAIDER ALI, DHAKA UNIVERSITY WERE IN THE JUDGE PANEL. THREE UNIVERSITIES AND THREE CORPORATE FIRMS WON PRIZES FOR BEING THE BEST THREE AT THEIR RESPECTIVE CATEGORIES.

AN INTERESTING SEMINAR ON "NETWORKING AND SIMULATION" ORGANIZED BY THE BANGLADESH ICT JOURNALIST FORUM (BIJF) TOOK PLACE ON THE THIRD DAY OF THE SOFTFAIR. SPEAKERS AT THE SEMINAR WERE MR. EMDAD AHMED FROM DEPT. OF CSE, NSU AND DR. ATIQR RAHMAN AHAD FROM DHAKA UNIVERSITY. THE AUDIENCES WERE MOSTLY STUDENTS, WHO EAGERLY ATTENDED THE SEMINAR TO LEARN ABOUT NETWORKING AND SIMULATION. MR. EMDAD AHMED GAVE A BRIEFING ON NETWORKING, WHILE DR. ATIQR RAHMAN AHAD DESCRIBED ABOUT SIMULATION. HE MENTIONED SOME SIMULATORS THAT COULD BE DOWNLOADED FROM THE INTERNET AND TRIED OUT AT HOME JUST FOR THE BEGINNERS.

THE CLOSING & AWARD GIVING CEREMONY WAS HELD AT THE SEMINAR HALL OF BASHUNDHARA CITY, LEVEL 7 ON AUGUST 6, 2005. IT WAS A GREAT EVENING FOR THE CCERS WHO WERE IN HIGH SPIRITS AND VERY GLAD TO HAVE ORGANIZED THE FAIR WITH SUCH A HUGE SUCCESS AND IT WAS ALSO GREAT FOR THE WINNERS OF BOTH THE CORPORATE FIELD AND THE UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.



IT WAS THRILLING TO WAIT FOR THE AWARD GIVING, SINCE TILL THEN THE NAMES OF THE WINNERS WERE KEPT SECRET. DR. HAFIZ G. A. SIDDIQI, VICE CHANCELLOR, NSU WAS THE CHIEF GUEST OF THE CLOSING CEREMONY, AND DR. S. A. M. KHAIRUL BASHAR, PRO VICE CHANCELLOR, NSU WAS PRESENT AS THE SPECIAL GUEST.

THE "6TH SOFTFAIR - 2005" HAD "CHANNEL I" AND "THE INDEPENDENT" AS ITS MEDIA PARTNERS WHILE THERE WERE NEWS OF THE SOFTFAIR 2005 IN MOST OF THE NEWSPAPERS OF THE COUNTRY AND NTV SHOWED THE SOFTFAIR IN THEIR WEEKLY PROGRAM ON IT "RIGHT CLICK". DAFFODIL ONLINE WAS THE INTERNAL NETWORKING PARTNER, GLOBAL ONLINE WAS THE OFFICIAL ISP AND JOBSA1.COM WAS THE WEB PARTNER OF THE EVENT.



--[Syeda Madeeha Bokhari](#)