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MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Greetings!

Hello Everyone! Get ready to look forward to an action filled upcoming few months! BELTA is pleased to publish this issue prior to its long-awaited 10th International Conference in November (18-19), 2022. We are also delighted to announce our flagship programme, the 16th Annual Teacher Development Conference in partnership with Teachers Helping Teachers (THT), a Special



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Interest Group (SIG) of the Japan Association of Language Teachers (JALT) from 28 to 31 October, 2022.

As usual for the past several months BELTA has been busy organising and delivering workshops and webinars catering to the needs of changing times by both local and expatriate specialists. We thank our webinar facilitators for sharing their time and expertise with the teaching community.

The 16th BELTA -THT professional development conference (Hybrid), titled: Language Pedagogy in New Contexts is scheduled to be held from 28 Oct to 31 Oct, 2022. This event is like a travelling conference as on the last day of the conference we travel to one of the regions. This time we are going to have the regional event at Chittagong. The key facilitators will be Dr. Pat Dougherty, Dr. Anne Howard and Dr. Cecilia Silva.

Apart from the announcement of our two upcoming seminal events this issue presents a brief list of BELTA activities and webinars. Participation of members at conferences and their publications are also shared. We also showcase chapter reports and present some short write-ups from classroom teachers. A few links to websites on free teacher resources are also provided in this issue.

Some exciting news about new teacher development initiatives and for strengthening BELTA's leadership activities which will foster growth and sustainability are being prepared and will be shared in the next issue of the newsletter.

BELTA pledges to work with more commitment and vision in the coming months

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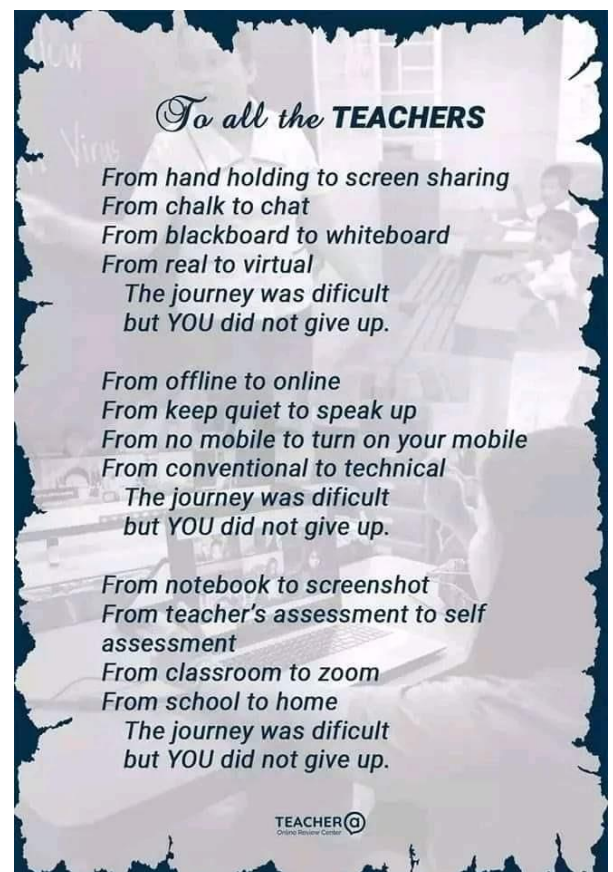
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so that we are able to reach out to the teachers in the regions, in the furthest parts of our country. We seek cooperation from all members to come forward to support us in our endeavour of promoting ELT in Bangladesh.

Stay healthy, stay happy till we meet again!

Rubina Khan
President, BELTA

TRIBUTE TO TEACHERS



Source: Collected



A SUCCESS STORY (ENGLISH MICRO-SCHOLARSHIP ACCESS PROGRAM)

I have been involved with this programme for quite a few years and I have seen the gradual developments in the learners. They had developed and improved their language skills after they began to do classes at LPC (Language Proficiency Center). At the beginning of the programme they were scared, naïve and did not utter any English words. Most of the students did not want to participate in class discussion because of their fear of English. But gradually as time went by, they felt relaxed, comfortable and motivated in the classroom.

As a teacher it was my duty and responsibility to help them overcome their fear towards learning English. I also had to motivate them to improve themselves in learning English.

Usually, I start my classes with warm-up activities which are sometimes related to the topic I have chosen to teach.

In one of the classes, I taught descriptive writing using pictures. I started the class making a student draw a picture while the other students were describing the picture. At the beginning of the class, I asked a student to leave the class for a minute. After the student left the class, I distributed a picture to each of the students.

The students were supposed to describe the picture to the other student who was supposed to draw the picture. The students were really motivated and excited to do this activity. They described the picture very clearly and the other student drew the picture very nicely too. After the activity the two pictures were shown to the girl and were compared.

The whole activity was very effective in teaching them descriptive writing and they were highly motivated and engaged in the class.

As a teacher, I made sure that my teaching objectives and my learning outcomes both were achieved. So, I made the class as interesting as possible by involving a drawing activity in a language classroom. I believe that to make a class interesting and achieve your teaching objectives different fun-filled activities can be added.

From then onwards students were highly motivated to do the classes and they were not as scared as they were before for doing the English class because they understood that English can also be learned in a fun way.

In conclusion, I would like to say that teaching English can be fun and interesting if various fun-filled methods are used.

Nawsheen Ahsan
ACCESS Teacher (English Micro-scholarship
ACCESS Program)



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**BELTA WEBINAR ON
INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION:
ALIENATION, DEVIANCE AND
ASSIMILATION**

The 9th BELTA Webinar on ‘Intercultural Communication: Alienation, Deviance and Assimilation’ was held on 30th June, 2021 at 7.30 pm utilizing the virtual platform Zoom. The facilitator was Dr. Kalyani Samantray, professor of English Language and Literature and Head, Faculty of Arts, Communication and Indic Studies of Sri Sri University, India. The webinar started with a warm welcome speech by Dr. Rubina Khan, President, BELTA. Dr. Khan introduced the facilitator and welcomed the participants from different parts of the world.

Dr. Samantray started with two aspects of intercultural communication: culture and pragmatics. She emphasized the role of culture in interactions. The facilitator analyzed a few conversations among the people from different cultures and explained why alienation and deviances happen and suggested how people can assimilate. She mentioned that symbols have in-depth meaning in different cultures and have different implications. She added that culture plays a huge role in meaning. Therefore, due to cultural variation, appropriate use of language can lead to a lot of confusion and barriers to communication. Human behavior, values, norms and expectations and even gestures differ from one

culture to another. Thus, cultural misunderstandings and pragmatic failure leads to communication breakdown and alienation. At the end of her talk, Dr. Samantray focused on achieving intercultural competence which will create effective intercultural communication. She mentioned four dimensions of achieving intercultural competence, these are – intercultural awareness, knowledge, attitude and some skills such as empathy, listening, observation, interpretation and analysis of the features of another culture. She stated that a transition from alienation to assimilation is possible if people are prepared to understand and respect individuals of other cultures.

The webinar ended with a Question-Answer session. Mr. Laxman Gnawali, Professor, Kathmandu University School of Education, Nepal and Senior Vice President, NELTA shared his experience regarding intercultural miscommunication and talked about cultural discourse. Dr. Arifa Rahman, Advisor to BELTA also focused on the importance of intercultural communication. She mentioned that misunderstandings of culture may lead to conflict. At the end of the session, Mr. Ahmed Bashir, General Secretary of BELTA thanked Dr. Kalyani Samantray for the wonderful session. Dr. Arifa Rahman also thanked the speaker in her closing remarks for reminding us the importance of knowledge, attitude and empathy in order to achieve intercultural competence.



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BELTA WEBINAR ON MULTIPLE PERSPECTIVES ON TEACHING AND LEARNING ENGLISH IN PRIMARY SCHOOLS DURING COVID-19

Facilitators:

Dr Sue Garton, Professor of Applied Linguistics (TESOL), Aston University, Birmingham, UK.

Nargiza Makhmudova, Associate Professor of English and American Literature, Uzbekistan State University of World Languages, Tashkent, Uzbekistan.

The webinar was a work-in-progress presentation by two members of the international research team of *English as a school subject: Learning effective practices from low level primary English language teachers in Bangladesh, Malawi, Mexico and Uzbekistan* project (ESS project) funded by the British Council Widening Participation Research Grant and organised by the University of Stirling, UK. This international project comprises the UK, Bangladesh, Malawi, Mexico and Uzbekistan.

The webinar was especially significant as it covered a wider than usual setting focusing on the global pandemic that has forced major changes in the delivery of English language teaching over the last two years. Analysing empirical data collected through the multiple lived experiences of teachers, children and parents in four countries (Bangladesh, Malawi,

Mexico and Uzbekistan), facilitators Garton and Makhmudova presented their findings in terms of Challenges and Affordances. The affordances were particularly interesting as they unfolded a positive representation of growing digital skills by teachers and school children, the developing sense of cooperation and group formation for learning and assessment purposes. The differences in the four-country policy and practices were discussed. Finally, some practical implications for teachers everywhere who are still dealing with the uncertainties of teaching English in times of COVID-19 were considered.

This 90-minute webinar was attended by the rest of the ESS research team members and more than 80 participants from Bangladesh and a range of other countries, mainly India, Malaysia, Uzbekistan and UK. The follow-up Q & A session was invigorating and truly reflected the “multiple perspectives” used in the webinar title. Kudos to BELTA for organizing this timely and informative ELT webinar.

BELTA WEBINAR ON TEACHING ENGLISH WRITING IN K-12 SETTINGS

The 10th BELTA Webinar on ‘Teaching English Writing in K-12 Settings’ was held on 31st July, 2021 at 7.30 pm utilizing the virtual platform Zoom. Dr. Subrata Bhowmik, Senior Instructor, Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary facilitated the webinar.



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The webinar started with a warm welcome speech by Mr. Harunur Rashid Khan, Immediate Past President, BELTA. Dr. Khan introduced the facilitator and welcomed the participants from different parts of the world.

Dr. Subrata Bhowmik provided an overview of a range of pedagogical approaches and classroom techniques that teachers may find useful when teaching English writing from Kindergarten to grade 12 contexts in his talk. He drew some implications based on research findings at the end. He focused on the dual challenges for Bangladeshi writers as they need to learn the language and writing together. Dr. Bhowmik mentioned that this area has been overlooked by the researchers. Thus, his talk was based on an ongoing project of a systematic review of 49 empirical studies published in 2010-2019. In his talk, Dr. Bhowmik divided the pedagogical approaches into three categories. Firstly, he focused on the approaches adopted by the teachers. Secondly, he focused on the approaches adopted by the students. His third focus was on approaches that help incorporate recent research and theories into English writing pedagogy. The facilitator suggested the teachers get rid of deficit views and embrace a positive view to motivate the learners. He also focused on the active role and accountability of the students. Furthermore, Dr. Bhowmik presented four pedagogical techniques for teaching writing. The techniques are – adopting Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL) and genre based

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activities, recognizing student characteristics as English writers, incorporating digital technology and adopting innovative instructional practices in the writing classroom. At the end, while talking about the implications, Dr. Bhowmik focused on the teacher preparation, some external factors in teaching and professional development opportunities for teachers.

The webinar ended with a Question-Answer session. Ms. Afroza Aziz Suchana, executive member, BELTA moderated the webinar session. Mr. Ahmed Bashir, General Secretary of BELTA concluded the session with a vote of thanks to the facilitator and the participants.

BOOK LAUNCHING CEREMONY BY BELTA AND NELTA

The Book Launching Ceremony of the E-Book titled: **Enhancement Approach: Success Stories of EFL Teachers from Bangladesh and Nepal** took place on February 05, 2022 from 4.00 pm to 5.00 pm. via ZOOM. Bangladesh English Language Teachers' Association (BELTA) and Nepal English Language Teachers' Association (NELTA) jointly released the E-book. The Hornby Trust supported the book. It is a free resource for teachers, trainers and researchers.

The session started with a warm welcome speech by Saraswati Dawdi from Nepal.



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Voices from the representative contributors, editors, sponsor, the BELTA President and the NELTA Senior Vice-president made the event a success. The publication journey and the enhancement approach and teachers' success stories were presented by Ram Ashish Giri and Sagun Sreshtha respectively. Then Mr. Amin Rahman from Bangladesh and Pushpa Priya from Nepal shared their experiences as representative contributors. Sunita Sawar reviewed the book and Richard Keily delivered his remarks in the session. Furthermore, one representative from the British Council, Bangladesh and one from the British council, Nepal commented on the book. At the end of the session, Dr. Rubina Khan, president, BELTA and Dr. Laxman Gnawali, Senior Vice-president NELTA delivered their remarks. Both Dr. Khan and Dr. Gnawali stated that the book is very user-friendly collection of success stories from practitioners from Bangladesh and Nepal. Dr. Khan mentioned that the book will be helpful for both the experienced and novice teachers. She further added that BELTA is proud to be a co-publisher of this E-book. Ms. Saifa Haque, one of the editors of the book delivered her vote of thanks at the end of the ceremony.

BELTA-THT 2021 VIRTUAL TEACHER TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT SEMINAR

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“Language Teaching in a Time of Change”

This 15th two-day THT event was hosted by BELTA on 29-30 October 2021. Like the 2020 THT programme, it was a virtual programme via the Zoom Educational Account being donated by Akita International University, Akita, Japan. Nearly a hundred ELT educators and BELTA members zoomed in from various regions of Bangladesh, as did a number of participants from countries in South Asia.

THT Team leader and Coordinator was long-time BELTA friend and teacher educator, **Prof. Patrick Dougherty**, Dean of the Faculty of International Liberal Arts, Head of the English for Academic Purposes Program and Foreign Language Education, Director of the Active Learning Center and Professor in the Faculty of International Liberal Arts of Akita International University, Japan. Besides Prof Pat Dougherty, the other presenters, all based in tertiary institutes in Japan, were:

1. Prof. Naeko Naganuma
2. Prof. Carlos Budding
3. Prof. Marian Wang
4. Prof. Anne McLellan Howard
5. Prof. Brent Jones
6. Yuki Togawa-sensei
7. Mark deBoer-sensei



True to the theme, the variety of topics were appropriately selected for this challenging and changed world. Ranging from a tutorial on using Google classrooms effectively to emerging educational concepts for encouraging/stimulating learning such as the Science of Positive Psychology with well-being at the heart of human existence, the presenters provided fresh insights into long established practices such as Learner Feedback, Self-Access learning, developing critical thinking skills as well as focusing on contextual features in the learning phenomenon, not to forget an ESP aspect – Business English and Content Learning. We were also treated to a teacher’s identity construction through his life experiences that skillfully integrated the qualities and skills that a true educator needs to possess and practice in today’s changing world.

The final session on the second day was an-hour long interesting Round Table Discussion, “Language Teaching in a time of change in the context of Bangladesh”, moderated by Prof Patrick Dougherty. The panelists addressed the issue of how the pandemic had changed the nature of education in their own particular contexts and whether these changes would remain after the pandemic subsided.

The Panelists from BELTA were:

Tertiary Level: Prof Muhammed Shahriar Haque, Department of English, East-West University

Higher Secondary level: Ms. Zakia Sultana, Associate Professor, Department of English, Adamjee Cantonment College

Secondary Level: Md. Saiful Islam Akon, Assistant Professor, English, University Laboratory School and College, IER, University of Dhaka

Primary level: Mr. Shah Alom, Head Teacher, Government Primary School, Mymensingh

THT Panelists were educationists from Japan, Dr. Anne Howard, Professor, Miyazaki International College, and Dr Cherie Brown, Akita International University.

The rounding up of the panel discussion and closing remarks of the 2nd -day event were made by Prof Arifa Rahman, Adviser, BELTA.

BELTA PARTICIPATION @ NATIONAL & INTERNATIONAL PLATFORMS

Professor Arifa Rahman, Adviser, BELTA participated in the following international events:

1. 19th Asia TEFL International Conference, 4 December 2021. Delhi, India
Online Symposium: *English Language in Education for the Future: Interdisciplinary pedagogies and collaborative practices.*

The Panelists were Dr Park Joo-Kyong (South Korea), Dr Willy Renandya (Singapore), Dr Masaki Oda (Japan), Dr Arifa Rahman (Bangladesh). Dr Ramesh Nair (Malaysia) moderated the session.

The panelists discussed issues related to the changing educational landscape and how English Language educators could collaborate across borders and across boundaries of knowledge to better leverage on the rising opportunities to hone creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills not only in learners but also among themselves. Panelists predicted collaborative engagements in ELT in the future and the necessity of current education policies to support educators



in equipping our students with the skills which will allow them to make informed decisions, or take individual and collective action to embrace diversity, equity and inclusiveness in order to change our societies and care for the planet.

2. ESS Research Summit – University of Stirling, UK, 9-13 May, 2022. A working meeting of researchers from 5 countries, advisors and sponsors of the Research Project, *“English as a school subject: learning effective practices from low level primary English language teachers”* (ESS for short), and funded by the British Council Widening Partnership Research Grant, involving Bangladesh, Malawi, Mexico, Uzbekistan and UK. The discussions and exchanges analysed the multi-layered research investigations and findings from the cross-border teacher interviews, children surveys, FGDs, filming of primary school lessons and gave direction to remaining research work of the project, scheduled to end in December.

3. The 55th IATEFL International Conference, 17 -20 May 2022, Belfast, Northern Ireland, UK

a. Pre-Conference Associates’ Day, 16th May 2022. As BELTA is an Associate of IATEFL, Arifa Rahman, BELTA representative, participated in the day-long engaging sessions with more than 80 representatives from Associates around the world.

b. FORUM Presentation (selected for the YLTSIG Showcase track of sessions)

Title: Teaching English in the Global South: insights from primary teachers.

There were 3 Forum presenters: Dr Sue Garton (UK), Dr Arifa Rahman (Bangladesh), Dr Mario E Gopar (Mexico).

Dr Sue Garton presented on “Learning from primary teachers in the Global South”.

Dr Arifa Rahman followed on, presenting on “Challenges faced by primary school teachers in the Global South”.

Finally Dr Mario e Gopar presented on “Primary teachers’ strategies to resolve challenges in the Global South”. They each spoke for 25 minutes.

The 90-minute Forum attracted an animated discussion among the attendees during the Q&A session.

Professor Rubina Khan, President, BELTA participated in the following events:

1. TESOL 2022 International Convention & English Language Expo

Rubina Khan Participated in the **TESOL 2022 International Convention & English Language Expo** on Inspiring Innovation, Empowering ELT Professionals Hybrid (22-25 March 2022).

2. English Teaching FORUM Conference (August 27, 2022)

Rubina Khan co-presented a session with Dr. Akhter Jahan (EWU) titled: Online learning during Covid-19: *Gains for teachers and learners* at the English Teaching FORUM 60th Anniversary Conference (August 27, 2022).

3. AICE Conference (19-21 May 2022)

Rubina Khan co-presented a paper with Dr.Kh Atikur Rahman (Maritime University, Dhaka) titled: **Online Learning and Digital**

Disparity in Education at the 6th International Conference on Equity and Inclusion in Education on 19-21 May 2022 at the Asian Centre for Inclusive Education (ACIE), Dhaka, Bangladesh.

4. British Council Symposium (29 March 2022)

Professor Rubina Khan was a panelist at the British Council Symposium, Dhaka held on 29 March 2022.

She shared her views on the theme of working on *quality enhancement in the Higher Education Sector by focusing on Teaching and Learning*.



5. Rubina Khan participated as an adjudicator at the 30th MELTA International Conference (Hybrid) titled: “English Language Education and The 2030 Agenda For Sustainable Development”

Professor Shaila Sultana presented a paper titled Decoloniality as/in praxis: The English language textbook at the higher secondary level of education in Bangladesh as an invited featured speaker at Asia TEFL in the 20th Asia TEFL, 68th TEFLIN, and 5th iNELTA 2022 held in the University of Malang, Indonesia

Shaila Sultana Presented a paper titled Digital Translingual Spaces Contested with Everydayism as an invited speaker in the Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences, University of Jyväskylä, Finland on 13th June, 2022.

PUBLICATION NEWS

Sultana, S. (2022). Applied linguistics from the Global South: Way forward to linguistic equality and social justice. *Applied Linguistics Review*. doi/10.1515/applirev-2022-0071/html

Sultana, S. (2022). Emergency remote teaching (ELT) or surveillance? Panopticism and higher education in Bangladesh. In Chan, J. (Ed.). *Emergency Remote Teaching and Beyond* (pp. 341-367). Cham, Switzerland: Springer.

Sultana, S. (2022). Young professional Bangladeshi women with rebel bones: Translingual practices and gender. *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development*, 1-16.

Sultana, S. (2022). Translingual practices and national identity mediated in the semiotised digital spaces. *Journal of Australian Review of Applied Linguistics*. <https://doi.org/10.1075/ara1.21051.sul>

BELTA Research Team Publications:

Six members of the BELTA research SIG were awarded a small research grant and they conducted research on the various dimensions of education during COVID-19.



Their work has been published in a number of journals. Some recent publications are shared below:

M. Moninoor Roshid, Shaila Sultana, Mian Md. Naushaad Kabir, Akhter Jahan, Rubina Khan & Md. Zulfeqar Haider (2022): Equity, fairness, and social justice in teaching and learning in higher education during the COVID-19 pandemic, *Asia Pacific Journal of Education*, DOI: 10.1080/02188791.2022.2122024

Link:
<https://doi.org/10.1080/02188791.2022.2122024>

Sultana, S., Roshid, M. M., Haider, M. Z., Khan, R., Kabir, M. M. N., & Jahan, A. (2022). University students' and teachers' wellbeing during COVID-19 in Bangladesh: A qualitative inquiry. *The Qualitative Report*, 27(6), 1635-1655. <https://doi.org/10.46743/2160-3715/2022.5265>

Jahan, A., Khan, R., Roshid, M. M., Haider, M. Z., Sultana, S., & Kabir, M. M. N. (2022). From Crises to Opportunities in Higher Education in Bangladesh. *The Dhaka University Journal of Linguistics*, 14(27-28), 143-166.

BELTA CHITTAGONG SOUTH CHAPTER ACTIVITIES 2022

BELTA Chittagong South Chapter made the highest contribution from Life Membership fees during the years 2021 to 2022, emerging to be the largest chapter of BELTA with 140 Life Members in 4 years. Between 2021 and 2022, the Chapter organized two webinars, two cascading sessions, and three OPEN Program briefing sessions. It hosted three

MOOCs with American Center, US Embassy, and supported almost 110 participants from Bangladesh, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Afghanistan nominated by the RELO at TESOL International Conference 2022. Eight of its life members nominated by BELTA, GASD, and Access Program attended the Conference. Nine life members nominated by Global Aid for Sustainable Development (GASD) completed the prestigious OPEN Scholarship Courses sponsored by the US Dept. of State, USA. Some of them were the highest performing candidates in the world in their cohort. One joint research paper was submitted for publication in a Scopus indexed journal from the Chapter. The Chapter supported MOOCers to complete MOOCs on three MOOCs: TESOL Methodology, English for Business and Entrepreneurship, and Integrating Critical Thinking Skills into the Exploration of Culture in an EFL Setting. It also provided meals for Iftar to the slum-dwellers and floating people throughout Ramadan as part of its charity activities.



BELTA Chittagong South Activity



BELTA SYLHET CHAPTER

New Committee Formation

BELTA Sylhet Chapter has started its new journey with full enthusiasm on 8th November 2021. BELTA President Professor Dr. Rubina Khan graced that virtual committee declaration program as the chief guest, Professor Harunur Rashid Khan, Immediate Past President was present as special guest. After a short discussion, new committee of BELTA Sylhet Chapter was declared by Mr. N.K Das Bipul, Coordinator, BELTA Chapters. Mr. Pranab Kanti Deb, Assistant Professor, Department of English, Sylhet International University and Alumnus of US State Department has been selected as the Chapter Coordinator of Sylhet. The other office bearers are Tasnia Mizan Chowdhury, Assistant Chapter Coordinator; Sultan Ahmed, General Secretary; Emdadul Haque Milon, Joint Secretary; Suman Roy, Treasurer; Chowdhury Saimun Afrojee, Organizing Secretary; Atia Amatun Nur, Publication Secretary and Eahtashamul Karim, Rownak Ahmed, Chittaranjan Rajbongshi, Md.Moshiur Rahman, Purna Roy Bhowmik, Sree Bidhan Chakraborty, Md. Mahfujur Rahman and Md. Masud Miah as executive members of the committee.



The Induction Ceremony of the new Committee

The Induction Ceremony of the New Committee was held on 15th January 2022 at the American Corner Sylhet Premises. Professor Abdul Mannan Khan, Director, Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, Sylhet Zone was the chief guest of the program. At the same time, BELTA Life member, veteran freedom fighter Mr. Idris Ali Birprotik was present as a special guest. The induction program followed by a special talk on ‘Teachers Attitude in ELT’ by Mr. Mihirkanti Choudhury, renowned teacher and translator. Along with the BELTA members, a group of ELT practitioners participated in the programme.

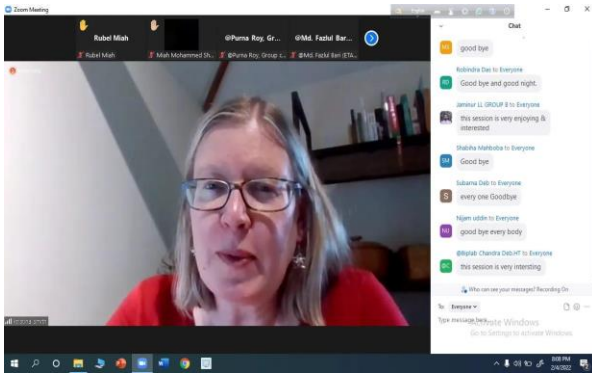


Partnered with PRELIM 2

BELTA Sylhet Chapter has successfully partnered with British Council in the PRELIM Language Development for English Teachers project in January-March 2022. A group of 65 primary teachers from four districts of Sylhet division has successfully completed the training program.



PRELIM Language Development for English Teachers Bangladesh 2022



TESOL 2022 Participation



BELTA Sylhet Chapter has nominated four teachers from four districts to attend TESOL 2022 International Convention with the sponsorship of US Embassy, Dhaka

Seminar on Challenges of English Language Teaching in Haor Areas



BELTA Sylhet Chapter organized a seminar on ‘Challenges of English Language Teaching in Haor Areas’ in Sunamganj on 10th June 2022 at Shahid Muktijoddha Jogoth Juthi Public Library auditorium. The seminar was chaired by Pranab Kanti Deb, Coordinator, BELTA Sylhet Chapter and Assistant Professor, Department of English, Sylhet International University while Professor Rajat Kanti Shome, Principal, Sunamganj Govt. College was the chief guest. The keynote speaker of the seminar was Mr. Emdadul Haque Milon, joint secretary, BELTA, Sylhet Chapter and Assistant Teacher, Duara Bazar Model High School, Sunamganj. The discussants were Mr, Idris Ali Birprotik, BELTA Life member and veteran teacher, Ms. Eva Roy, Assistant Professor, Sunamganj Govt. College and Mr. Suman Roy, Treasurer, BELTA Sylhet Chapter and Lecturer, Dakshin Surma Govt. College. The seminar was hosted by Mr. Moshiur Rahman, Executive member, BELTA Sylhet Chapter and lecturer, Govt. Digendra Barman Degree College. A good number of English language practitioners from different areas of Sunamganj actively participated in the seminar.

Love towards the flood-affected people in Sylhet Areas

BELTA Sylhet Chapter has extended support towards the flood-affected people in Sylhet areas. On June 29, 2022, BELTA Sylhet chapter leaders formally handed over the Cash-help to the people in Bishwambhar Pur, Sunamganj in the presence of local UNO Mr. Sadi Ur Rahim Jadid and other local guests.



BELTA PABNA CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

BELTA Pabna Chapter has done the following activities in 2021 despite the challenges of COVID-19 pandemic.

Teachers' development activities:

a) Ms. Farzana Anwar had the opportunity to attend TEA (Teaching Excellence and Achievement) Program-2021 in the USA. She held a cascading session after returning home from The TEA program on 17 October 2021. It was done online with 43 teachers attending the session.

b) Two international webinars were held to celebrate "International Education Week". They were also online programs. Presenters were from Bangladesh, India, Russia, Zimbabwe and Sudan.



c) Two face-face workshops were also held in Ishwardi and Pabna Sadar on "Students' Engagement in English language classes" and "Uses of Technologies in English language classes".

Students' development activities:

a) Poster making Competition was arranged to encourage students to speak. This was arranged to help students overcome their inhibitions and try to become fluent speakers of English.

b) Two workshops were done on "Developing Writing Skills" where students of 9th & 10th grade were the participants.

c) An "Essay Writing Competition" was held for the students of grade 9/10 to celebrate the "World Environment Day"



Social activities:

BELTA Pabna Chapter also initiated the following social activities:

1. Distributing Ifter and Eid material among the needy of the community.
2. Rally and Tree plantation program on "World Environment Day"

ON-LINE RESOURCES for TEACHERS

1. Reclaiming the Joy of Teaching

<https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/philosophy-of-teaching/reclaiming-the-joy-of-teaching/>

2. Five Reasons to Stop Giving Exams in Class

<https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/educational-assessment/five-reasons-to-stop-giving-exams-in-class/>

3. 15 Ways to Engage your students:

<https://www.facultyfocus.com/articles/online-education/online-student-engagement/15->

BELTA DONATIONS TO FLOOD VICTIMS

Mr. Harunur Rashid Khan, Immediate Past President, BELTA took the initiative on behalf of BELTA to help the flood victims of Sylhet and Sunamganj by collecting donations. People in these areas were severely affected by flood. The sum of Taka 26K was received from members as well as a friend of BELTA Mr. Rashad Armun Mony as donation and BELTA added the same amount to this fund. A total of Taka 52K was transferred to Mr. Pranab Kanti Deb, Sylhet Chapter Coordinator, who disperse the fund among the flood victims of Sylhet and Sunamganj in July 2022. Mr. Harunur Rashid Khan warmly thanked all

contributors for their prompt response and support. He also expressed his gratitude to Moshir Rahman for helping to raise and transfer the fund and Mr. Pranab Kanti Deb for shouldering the responsibility of distributing the funds among the affected people.

BELTA IN PICTURES

English Teaching FORUM 60th Anniversary Conference @ NAEM organized by American Center (27th August, 2022)







NEWSLETTER

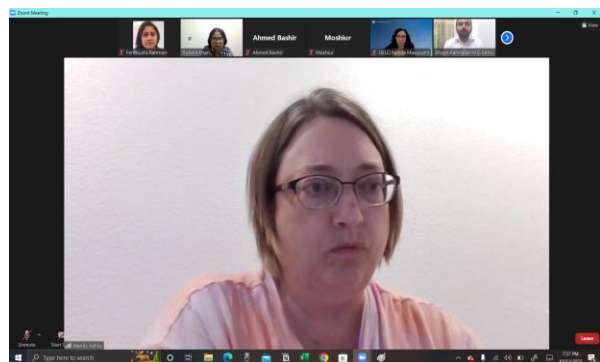
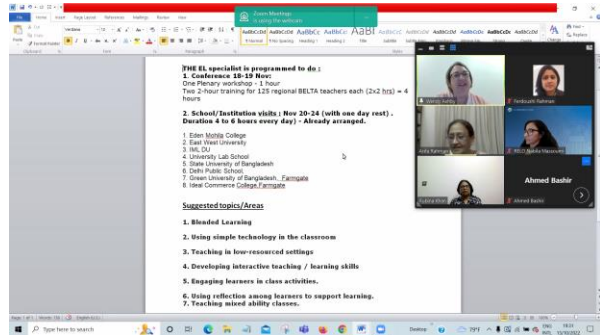
Meeting with Dr. Nabila Massoumi, RELO & Shaon Karmakar, English Language Program Coordinator, U.S. Embassy Dhaka @ NCC, Dhaka



SEPTEMBER, 2022

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BELTA International Conference preparation meeting: With RELO & Wendy, EL Specialist





NEWSLETTER

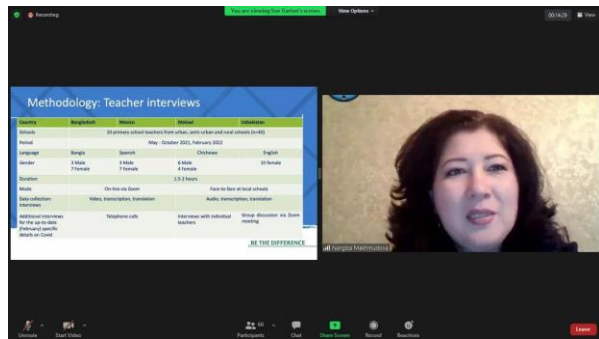
SEPTEMBER, 2022

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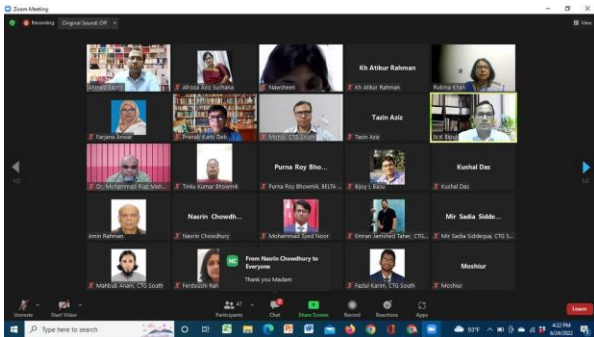
Rubina Khan was a panelist at the British Council Symposium, Dhaka held on 29 March 2022



@BELTA webinar on Multiple Perspectives on Teaching & Learning English in Primary Schools during COVID-19



@BELTA Online AGM, 24th June 2022



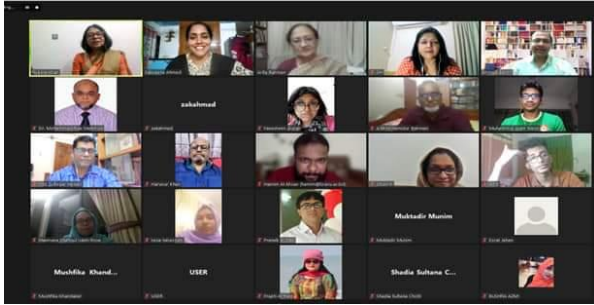
@BELTA Webinar 18 on Using Online Tools to Engage Students for Impactful Learning



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2022

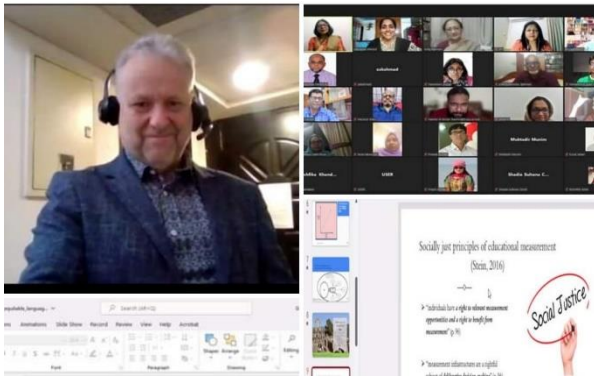
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@BELTA Webinar 19 on Machine learning for more equitable & accessible English Language Testing



**IATEFL CONFERENCE, May 2022
Dr Sue & Dr. Arifa Rahman**



English Connects Stakeholders' Networking Meeting @ British Council, 6th October 2022



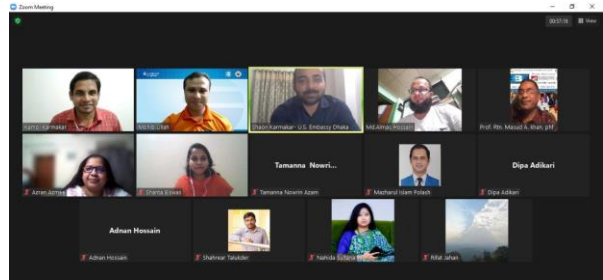
Ferdoushi Rahman, Joint Treasurer, BELTA conducting workshop on Developing Effective Questioning Skills in Students & Teachers



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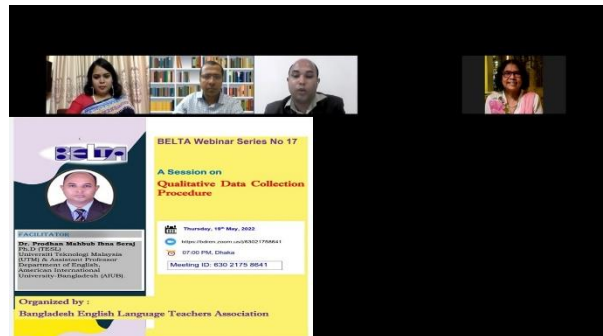


Md. Mohib Ullah (2nd from left) coordinator, BELTA Chittagong South @OPEN Program Orientation Fall 2022 with the US Embassy, Dhaka



Flood victim support at Boshwambarpur, Sunamganj

@MOOC camp on English for Graduation Ceremony by BELTA Chottagong South



@Inaguration ceremony of new committee BELTA Sylhet Chapter

Dr. Prodhnan Mahbub Ibn Siraj @ BELTA webinar 17, conducting a session on qualitative data collection procedure



NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER, 2022

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UPCOMING EVENTS

BELTA-THT 2022: 16th Annual Teacher Development Conference

Hybrid Event (Virtual & F2F)

Theme: “Language Pedagogy in New Contexts”
Dates: October 28 - 31, 2022

EDITORIAL BOARD

Dr. Zakia Ahmad

Prof. Ahmed Bashir

Ms. Ferdoushi Rahman

GENERAL INFORMATION

BELTA newsletter primarily aims at all the members of BELTA. It is not a refereed journal, rather a newsletter that contains various news items including brief reports on events organized by BELTA and its chapters, and seminars and conferences participated by its members. It also contains short write-ups on any topics related to ELT, Applied Linguistics and Education in general. Besides, the newsletter welcomes any write-ups about your teaching and learning experiences, or any tips on teaching and learning.

Please send your contributions to BELTA Newsletter as a word file in 350-500 words. We accept contributions all the year round.

WHERE TO SEND

Send your write-ups to

belta.newsletter@gmail.com

Dr. Zakia Ahmad zakahmad17@gmail.com

Ferdoushi Rahman

ferdoushirahman80@gmail.com

BELTA website

www.belta-bd.org

10th BELTA (Hybrid) International Conference 2022
November 18 - 19, 2022
Venue: University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh, Dhanmondi, Dhaka
Partner: Dept of English & Humanities, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh
Keynote speaker: Prof Richard Smith, Warwick University
CALL for PAPERS

RESEARCH PAPERS PRESENTATIONS WORKSHOPS PANEL DISCUSSIONS

- Plenary/featured speakers: 30 minutes
- Paper: 15 minutes
- Workshop: 30 minutes
- Panel Discussion / Colloquium (group of 3/4 with a moderator): 30 minutes

Content Areas (but not limited to):

- Global Issues in Language Education
- Identity and learner Autonomy
- ELT in the post-Covid19 era
- Language Teaching Skills
- Methods and Approaches
- Dealing with transition and change
- Materials for the Millennium
- Teaching English in Multi-Lingual contexts
- Multilingual and Multicultural Education
- Technology in Language Teaching / Learning
- Research in Language Education
- Teacher as Researcher
- Language Planning, Management & Policy
- English at Primary/Secondary/Tertiary Levels
- Teaching English Literature and the arts
- Testing, Evaluation and Assessment

Online SUBMISSION ONLY!
Proposal Submission Link: [Click or copy/paste](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdjaK78lDMMmRmHWS_jb7Y8w4icdv80C7HWEaZ_bE9Lk000IMw/viewform)

Submit Paper Proposal with **TITLE (max 10 words), ABSTRACT (max 75 words), SESSION DESCRIPTION (max 150 words), PRESENTER(S)'s BIO (max 60 words)**

DEADLINE for SUBMISSION of PROPOSAL: 17 September 2022
Acceptance Notification by 25 September 2022

REGISTRATION FEE			
BELTA MEMBERS (Dhaka-based):	BDT 1500	Early Bird Registration:	BDT 1200
BELTA MEMBERS (Region-based):	BDT 1000	Early Bird Registration:	same rate
NON-MEMBERS:	BDT 1800	Early Bird Registration:	BDT 1500
STUDENTS:	BDT 700	Early Bird Registration:	BDT 600
INTERNATIONAL (SAARC):	USD 80	Early Bird Registration:	USD 60
INTERNATIONAL (NON-SAARC):	USD 120	Early Bird Registration:	USD 100

DEADLINE for EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION: September 30, 2022
DEADLINE for Regular Registration: November 12, 2022

Registration Link: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeT5X9wzttXp8BwAOHfadDevUsSGE98G7MPMiXYPvYVtG9Q/viewform>
Click or copy/paste

Further information
Email: beltaconference2022@gmail.com

01721-347803 (Moshiur, BELTA) www.belta-bd.org
01635-816270 (Tithi Das, ULAB) <https://ulab.edu.bd/>