

Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association

BELTA Newsletter

Issue 37 (July 2025 -December 2025)

Table of Contents

1.	Message from BELTA President	2
2.	Editorial Note	3
3.	A Tribute to Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam	4
4.	BELTA AGM 2025 and EC Election 2025-2027	5
5.	BELTA Strategic Planning Retreat	6
6.	BELTA-THT Teacher Development Conference 2025	6
7.	BELTA Webinars	7
8.	U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop 2025	10
9.	BELTA Participation at National and International Platforms	14
10.	Observing World Teachers’ Day	23
11.	Publications by BELTA EC members	24
12.	BELTA Chapter Activities	25
13.	BELTA in Photos	28

Message from BELTA President



Dear BELTA Members

Season's Greetings!

We are happy to bring out the BELTA Newsletter, Issue 37. I congratulate and thank the editorial team for their sincere efforts to put this issue together, covering a glimpse of BELTA activities from the July-December 2025 period. This brief record of the events reflects that the 2nd half of 2025 was a vibrant period for BELTA.

During this period, the BELTA Executive Committee Election was held on 18 July 2025, and a new EC was formed. I sincerely congratulate all the members of the new committee and express my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to you all for re-electing me as the President of BELTA. This committee started its journey by organizing the BELTA Retreat and Strategic Planning Meeting in October 2025 where a detailed action plan was chalked out for the next two years. In addition to organizing the regular events, such as monthly webinars and annual BELTA-THT teacher development conference in November 2025, one of the remarkable achievements is the successful implementation of the teacher training workshops for the secondary school English teachers across the country with the support of the US Embassy, Dhaka. You can find a summary of the events contained in this issue in the editorial note.

I take this opportunity to thank all our partners, sponsors, facilitators of webinars, training programmes and workshops for their trust in BELTA, office bearers, EC members, chapter coordinators, and other members of BELTA for

their contribution to and unconditional support for BELTA to achieve its goals. I must acknowledge that this issue is not a comprehensive list of activities; neither is the Newsletter meant for showcasing the EC members' activities only. It is rather a platform for all BELTA members where you can share your academic achievements and reports of presentations at conferences and seminars, workshops, and brief write-ups about your experiences and any matters related to education. Therefore, I request you all to submit your write-ups to BELTA Newsletter throughout the year.

BELTA is committed to working relentlessly to help teachers and students across all levels and contribute to the overall development of English education in the country and beyond. I invite you to read the newsletter and look forward to your continued support and contributions to BELTA. I strongly believe and hope that the current Executive Committee will be able to fulfil its commitment to help BELTA reach new heights during the rest of its tenure.

Thank you.

Ahmed Bashir

President, BELTA

&

Professor, Department of English
University of Dhaka

2. Editorial Note

It is our great enthusiasm that the BELTA Newsletter, Issue-37, for July- December 2025, which captures the vibrant activities, accomplishments, and strategic advancements of Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) from July to December 2025, has been published. This year, we started with a heavy heart for the demise of our loving and respected Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam (1951-2025). We attributed his contribution to the field of English language and literature education in Bangladesh, as well as global perspectives.

It covered the onsite BELTA Annual General Meeting 2025 and the election of the BELTA Executive Committee for 2025-2027. BELTA vibrated with the BELTA-THT Teacher Development Conference 2025 at its two phases: Dhaka and Sylhet Phases. Alongside, for fostering and promoting concepts on different aspects of ELT practices, this newsletter contained the information on the different webinars organized by BELTA all through the time period.

Moreover, BELTA proudly participated in the U.S. Embassy-LPC-BELTA Teacher Training Workshop 2025 to train the ELT teachers and practitioners across the country. Through this training program, BELTA conceptualized the status of ELT practitioners to contribute to the country for English language education. The newsletter also highlighted the activities conducted by BELTA executives in the national and international region as well as their research activities.

Furthermore, the newsletter covered the activities

done by its nation-wide chapters. BELTA chapters are working locally in the remote of Bangladesh to contribute to country to fostering and improving English language education.

As BELTA is dedicated to contribute to the English language education, it remains steadfast in its commitment to empowering ELT educators, promoting professional growth, and creating inclusive spaces for learning and collaborating. We invite you to read, reflect, and join us in this journey of continuous development.

Dr. Prodhon mahbub Ibna Seraj

Editor, BELTA Newsletter

&

Associate Professor

Department of English

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB)

mahbubutm18@gmail.com

3. A Tribute to Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam



In loving memory of



Syed Manzoorul Islam
1951-2025

BELTA deeply mourns the passing of Professor Syed Manzoorul Islam (1951–2025) a remarkable teacher, writer, and thinker whose vision shaped Bangladesh’s literary and academic landscape. His generosity of mind and spirit will continue to inspire educators and students alike.

We pray to the Almighty: May Allah grant him Jannatul Ferdous, forgive his shortcomings, and grant comfort to his family and admirers. His legacy of thought and teaching will remain a guiding light for us all.

— *Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)*

4. Annual General Meeting 2025 & EC Election 2025-2027



Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) elected its new Executive Committee for 2025-27 at the AGM 2025 held on 18th July 2025 at 3.30 p. m. at RC Majumder Auditorium, University of Dhaka. Prof. Ahmed Bashir and Dr. Mohib Ullah have been re-elected as President and General Secretary with 23 committee members. The election commissioner was Prof. Nuruzzaman, Department of Philosophy, University of Dhaka.

Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association
[Registration No. S 97848 of 1984-1985 under Societies Registration Act of 1860]
www.belta-bd.org

BELTA EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (2025-2027)

<p>Adviser</p> <p>Prof. Arif Rahman, PhD Faculty Professor Institute of Modern Language (IML) University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Immediate Past President</p> <p>Prof. Rubina Khan, PhD Supernumerary Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>President</p> <p>Prof. Ahmed Bashir Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	
<p>Vice President (1)</p> <p>Mr. Tofiqul Alam Chowdhury Associate Professor & Head Department of English University of Asia Pacific (UAP)</p>	<p>Vice President (2)</p> <p>Dr. Md. Shafiqul Islam Associate Professor Department of English and Modern Languages Independent University, Bangladesh (I.U.B.)</p>	<p>General Secretary</p> <p>Dr. Md. Mohib Ullah Associate Professor Department of English Language and Literature International Islamic University Changsha</p>	<p>Joint Secretary</p> <p>Dr. Ashraf Rahman Associate Professor Department of English Bangladesh Maritime University</p>
<p>Treasurer</p> <p>Prof. Zahid Rahman Associate Professor College</p>	<p>Joint Treasurer</p> <p>Mr. Md. Saiful Hossain Akter Assistant Professor Curriculum Laboratory School and College</p>	<p>Organizing Secretary</p> <p>Prof. Md. Moinuddin Siddiqui PhD Institute of Education and Research University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Publications Secretary</p> <p>Dr. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam Associate Professor Department of English American International University Bangladesh (AIUB)</p>

Executive Committee Members

<p>Prof. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Prof. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Prof. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Prof. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>
<p>Ms. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Ms. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Ms. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Ms. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>
<p>Ms. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Ms. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Ms. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>	<p>Ms. Farukh Md. Shafiqul Islam PhD Associate Professor Department of English University of Dhaka</p>

Elected BELTA Executive Committee 2025-27

233rd BELTA Executive Committee Meeting at the University of Asia Pacific



The 233rd Executive Committee Meeting of BELTA was held on Saturday, August 16, 2025, at 8:30 a.m. at the University of Asia Pacific. The meeting was launched with the welcome speech by BELTA President Prof. Ahmed Bashir. The meeting was addressed by Prof. Dr. Arifa Rahman, Advisor, and Prof. Dr. Rubina Khan, Immediate Past President. The meeting had effective discussions on the future course of action of the organization.

5. BELTA Strategic Planning Retreat



BELTA Strategic Planning retreat was arranged at Shalban Green Resort, Gazipur on October 25, 2025 (Saturday). The meeting was launched with the welcome speech by BELTA President Prof. Ahmed Bashir. The meeting was addressed by Prof. Dr. Arifa Rahman, Advisor, and Prof. Dr. Rubina Khan, Immediate Past President. The meeting had effective discussions on the future course of action of the organization.

6. BELTA-THT BELTA-SMUCT-THT 19th Teacher Development Conference 2025 (1st Phase)



BELTA-IUB-THT 19th Teacher Development Conference 2025 was held at Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology (SMUCT) during 7-8 November 2025 (Phase 1). The conference began with its Virtual Version on Friday, 7 November 2024 at the Digital Classroom of SMUCT (a smart classroom equipped with cutting edge technology) with Prof. Brent Jones, Professor, and currently the Director of Language Programs, at Konan University, Hirao School of Management; Prof. Ahmed Bashir, President of BELTA and Professor, Department of English of the University of Dhaka, Dr. Patrick Dougherty, Professor and Dean of the Faculty of International Liberal Arts, Akita International University; Dr. Andy Rushton-sensei, Language Facilitator (English) of University of Leicester; Prof. Dr. Marian Wang, Associate Professor Department of Education, University of Liverpool.

BELTA-SIU-THT 19th Teacher Development Conference 2025 (2nd phase, Sylhet)

BELTA-SIU-THT conference in partnership with the Department of English, SIU was held on 07 November (virtual) and 10 November 2025 (onsite). Professor Dr Md. Ashraf Alam, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor of Sylhet International University inaugurated the daylong conference.



BELTA-SIU-THT
19th TEACHER DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE 2025
TEACHING ENGLISH IN INTERESTING TIMES
VENUE: Dept. of English, Sylhet International University

ONSITE FACILITATORS
Prof. Dr. Patrick Dougherty, Prof. Dr. Anna McCallan Howard, Prof. Dr. Christopher Johnson, Prof. Dr. Cecilia Silva

ONLINE FACILITATORS
Prof. Dr. Brent A. Jones, Andy Kulkarni, Prof. Dr. Marjan Wong

8:30 am - 3:00 pm
Day 1: Friday, 07 November 2025 (Virtual)
Day 2: Monday, 10 November 2025 (Onsite)
Venue: Sylhet International University, Shammabad Bagbar, Sylhet

Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)

7. BELTA Webinars

BELTA Webinar 39

WEBINAR SERIES 39

Teach. Research. Publish. Repeat: An Ideal Reflective Loop for ESL Teachers

Abstract: The webinar aims to make a case for an ideal reflective loop for ESL teachers. It will demonstrate that teachers can convert their classroom into a place of systematic enquiry, publish the results of it and improve the quality of learning in the classroom by continuing this process. This process can create sustainable motivation for teachers across institutions.

Speaker
Santosh Mahapatra, Ph. D.
Associate Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Birla Institute of Technology & Science Pilani
Hyderabad, India.

JOIN US ON ZOOM
MEETING ID: 6688717171
PASSWORD: 616161

DATE SATURDAY
26 JULY 2025
TIME 7:30 PM
www.belta-bd.org

Bio: Santosh Mahapatra is an Associate Professor at BITS Pilani, an Institute of Eminence in India. His research interests are teacher professional development in formative assessment and digital technology, and educational language policy. He has published and received funding in these areas.

The 39th BELTA Webinar titled “Teach. Research. Publish. Repeat: An Ideal Reflective Loop for ESL Teachers” was held on July 26, 2025, from 7:30 to 8:30 p.m. (Dhaka time) via the online platform ZOOM. Dr. Santosh Mahapatra, Associate Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Birla Institute of Technology & Science Pilani, Hyderabad, India presented the session.

BELTA Webinar 40

BELTA Webinar Series 40

PROMPT WRITING 101 WITH FREE AI TOOLS FOR THE GLOBAL SOUTH: CONTEXT IS EVERYTHING

Abstract:
AI might be at our fingertips, yet most people lack prompt literacy. This webinar explores the fundamentals of prompt writing (engineering) using free AI tools in a developing Global South nation like Bangladesh. I focus on 'context' because without it, a prompt is incoherent and incomplete. By the end of the webinar, participants will be familiar with the basic dos and don'ts of prompt writing.

Bio:
Professor Muhammed Shahriar Haque, Ph.D., has been teaching in the Department of English, East West University, for almost two decades. He is recognised as an authority in EdTech and AI in education, having trained academics, published papers in indexed journals and chapters in edited books, and presented academic papers at international conferences in these fields.

SATURDAY, 23 AUGUST 2025
BDT 7:30 PM

SPEAKER
MUHAMMED SHAHRIAR HAQUE, PH.D.
PROFESSOR,
EAST WEST UNIVERSITY

MEETING ID: 6688717171
PASSWORD: 616161

The 40th BELTA Webinar titled “Prompt Writing 101 with Free AI Tools for the Global South: Context is Everything” was held in August 2025, at 7:30 p.m. BDT via the virtual platform ZOOM. The session was facilitated by Dr. Muhammed Shahriar Haque, Professor at East West University, Bangladesh.

BELTA Webinar 41

BELTA Webinar Series 41

PROMOTING TRUE COMMUNICATIVE COMPETENCE WITH TASKS

Saturday, 20th September 2025
BDT 7:30 PM
EDT 9:30 AM

Meeting ID: 668 871 7171
Password: 616161

Facilitator:
Linh Phung, EdD

Abstract:
This session advocates emphasizing meaningful, contextualized language use with tasks and minimizing mechanical exercises in language learning. Drawing from her research in Task-based Language Teaching and published works, the presenter highlights how tasks encourage learners to use language meaningfully and develop skills transferable to target language use contexts. Join this session to explore frameworks and strategies to develop classroom tasks that transform language learning into an engaging, effective process.

Bio:
Dr. Linh Phung is the Founder of Eduling Speak, a mobile app offering English language and teacher development courses while allowing teachers to create and publish their own courses. Her professional experience also involves serving as Director of the English Language Program at Chatham University for 12 years, working as an English Language Specialist with the U.S. Department of State, and teaching graduate courses at the University of Languages and International Studies in Vietnam and Anaheim University in the U.S.A.

www.belta-bd.org

The 41st BELTA Webinar titled “Promoting True Communicative Competence with Tasks” was held on September 20, 2025, at 7:30 p.m. BDT via the virtual platform ZOOM. The session was facilitated by Dr. Linh Phung, Founder of Eduling Speak (a mobile app), Director of English Program at Chatham University, English Language Specialist with the US Department of State.

BELTA Webinar 42



FOSTERING LEARNER AUTONOMY: CHANGING THE FACE OF LEARNING

Friday,
31st October 2025

BDT 7:00 PM
EDT 9:00 AM



Meeting ID: 668 871 7171
Password: 616161



Speaker:
Dr. Mehnaz Tazeen Choudhury

Abstract:

Learner autonomy is perceived as an essential goal for language learners, but students cannot become autonomous learners by themselves. Teachers have to foster autonomy in their students. This paper offers some suggestions as to how teachers can do that in the face of institutional and curricular constraints:

Presenter's Bio:

Dr. Mehnaz Tazeen Choudhury is an Associate Professor at the Department of English at the University of Asia Pacific. She completed her PhD in English Language Education from The English and Foreign Languages University, Hyderabad, India. She was awarded a fellowship in 2008 for the International Leadership in Education Programme (ILEP), a programme of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs (ECA) of the US Department of State.

www.belta-bd.org

The 42nd BELTA Webinar titled “Fostering Learner Autonomy: Changing the Face of Learning” was held on October 31, 2025, at 7:00 p.m. BDT via the virtual platform ZOOM. The session was facilitated by Dr. Mehnaz Tazeen Choudhury, Associate Professor, Department of English, University of Asia Pacific.

BELTA Webinar 43



Brains Before Bots: Keeping Thinking at the Heart of Learning

Abstract:

As AI tools flood classrooms, educators must ask: Are we nurturing brains or leaning too heavily on tech? This webinar explores how to keep thinking central to learning. Dr. Stroud shares strategies for using AI to spark curiosity and engagement —without replacing the cognitive struggle that makes learning truly meaningful.

Presenter's Bio:

Dr. Robert Stroud is a Japan-based professor whose work bridges technology and education. As founding editor of The University Grapevine, creator of Culture Club, and co-author of the SMART Communication series, he promotes inclusive pedagogy, digital innovation, and critical thinking across global learning spaces.

Saturday,
22nd November, 2025

BDT 7:00 PM
EDT 9:00 AM



Meeting ID: 6688717171
Password: 616161



Speaker:
Dr. Robert Stroud

www.belta-bd.org

Dr. Robert Stroud facilitated the 43rd BELTA Webinar titled “Brains Before Bots: Keeping Thinking at the Heart of Learning”. The session was held on 22nd November 2025, at 7:00 p.m. BDT via the virtual platform zoom. Dr. Stroud is a Japan-based professor.

BELTA Webinar 44

TRANSLINGUAL GATEWAYS

WEBINAR SERIES 44

08:30-09:30 PM (BST)
Dec 20, 2025 Saturday

ZOOM
Meeting ID: 3510729066
Passcode: 616161

SPEAKER
Md Mijanur Rahman, PhD
California State University, USA

Moderator
Dr. Kh Atikur Rahman
Joint Secretary, BELTA

Abstract
In this talk, Dr. Md Mijanur Rahman utilizes the notion of "translingual gateways" as put forward in Rabbi and Rahman (2024), as a unique disciplinary lens that not only creates possibilities for pluralizing the scholarships in English studies but also allows English teachers, scholars and professionals from the global south to tap into their diverse linguistic identities as an asset in their professional practice. Informed by a cross-disciplinary framework in applied linguistics and writing studies, Dr. Rahman's talk advocates for a deliberate focus on developing endonormative practices by going beyond exocentric norms dominating the English language classrooms for decades.

Box: Dr. Md Mijanur Rahman is an Assistant Professor in the Department of English at California State University, Los Angeles, USA. A teacher-scholar originally from Bangladesh, he brings interdisciplinary expertise in applied linguistics and writing studies, with a focus on equity-focused and multilingual/translingual writing pedagogy.

The 44th BELTA Webinar titled "Translingual Gateways" was held on December 20, 2025 (08.30-09.30PM, Saturday) via the virtual platform ZOOM. The session was facilitated by Dr. Md. Mijanur Rahman, Assistant Professor at California State University, Los Angeles (USA). In this talk, Dr. Mijan explained the idea of "translingual gateways". This idea helped audiences look at English studies in a new way. It encouraged teachers and researchers, especially from the Global South, to use their own languages and identities as strengths in their work.

8. U.S. Embassy—LPC—BELTA Teacher Training Workshop 2025

U.S. Embassy—LPC—BELTA Teacher Training Workshop, Dhaka

LPC - BELTA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING 2025

PROF. DR. RUBINA KHAN
Immediate Past President
Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) & Professor, Department of English University of Dhaka

PROF. ZAKIA SULTANA
Treasurer
Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) & Professor, Department of English Adamjee Cantonment College, Dhaka

July 25-26, 2025
(Friday and Saturday)
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology (SMUCT)
Dhaka, Bangladesh

Implemented by: Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)

U.S. Embassy—LPC—BELTA Teacher Training Workshop 2025 was held at Shanto-Mariam University of Creative Technology (SMUCT), Dhaka, Bangladesh on July 25-26, 2025, conducted by Prof. Dr. Rubina Khan, Immediate Past President, BELTA & Professor, Department of English Dhaka University and Prof. Zakia Sultana, Treasurer, BELTA & Professor, Department of English, Adamjee Cantonment College, Dhaka

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop, Barishal

LPC - BELTA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING 2025

TAKAD AHMED CHOWDHURY
Associate Professor & Chairman
Department of English
University of Asia Pacific

DR. KH. ATIKUR RAHMAN
Associate Professor of English and
Communication
Bangladesh Maritime University

June 27-28, 2025
(Friday and Saturday)

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Trust University
Barishal

Implemented by: Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop 2025 was held at Trust University, Barishal on June 27-28, 2025, conducted by Dr. Kh. Atikur Rahman, Joint Secretary, BELTA, and Takad Ahmed Chowdhury, EC Member, BELTA.

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop, Cox's Bazar

LPC - BELTA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING 2025

PROF. DR. MD. ZULFEQAR HAIDER
Director General
National Academy for Educational
Management (NAEM) &
EC Member, BELTA

DR. MD. MOHIB ULLAH
Associate Professor
Department of English Language and
Literature, IIUC &
General Secretary, BELTA

August 8-9, 2025
(Friday and Saturday)

9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Cox's Bazar International
University (CBIU),
Cox's Bazar

Implemented by: Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop 2025 was held at Cox's Bazar International University (CBIU), Cox's Bazar, on August 8-9, 2025 (Friday & Saturday), conducted by Prof. Dr. Md. Zulfeqar Haider, Director General, National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM) & EC Member, BELTA, and Dr. Md. Mohib Ullah, Associate Professor, Dept. of English Language and Literature, IIUC, General Secretary, BELTA

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop, Chattogram

U.S. EMBASSY-LPC-BELTA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING 2025

PROF. DR. MD. ZULFEQAR HAIDER
Director General
National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM) & EC Member, BELTA

DR. MD. MOHIB ULLAH
Associate Professor
Department of English Language and Literature, IIUC & General Secretary, BELTA

Sept. 12-13, 2025
(Friday and Saturday)
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Premier University, GEC Circle

Implemented by: Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop 2025 was held at Premier University, GEC Circle, Chattogram on September 12-13, 2025 (Friday & Saturday), conducted by Prof. Dr. Md. Zulfeqar Haider, Director General, National Academy for Educational Management (NAEM) & EC Member, BELTA, and Dr. Md. Mohib Ullah, Associate Professor, Dept. of English Language and Literature, IIUC, General Secretary, BELTA.

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop, Bandarban

U.S. EMBASSY-LPC-BELTA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING 2025

PROF. AHMED BASHIR
President, BELTA & Professor, Department of English, University of Dhaka

TAKAD AHMED CHOWDHURY
Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of English, University of Asia Pacific, Bangladesh

Oct. 31 - Nov. 1, 2025
(Friday and Saturday)
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Bandarban University, Bandarban Sadar, Bandarban

Implemented by: Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)

The U.S. Embassy, together with the Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA), arranged daylong Secondary School English Teacher Training 2025 from October 31 to November 1, 2025 (Friday & Saturday) at Bandarban University, Bandarban Sadar, Bandarban. The trainers were Prof. Ahmed Bashir, President, BELTA & Professor, Department of English, University of Dhaka and Takad Ahmed Chowdhury, Associate Professor and Chairman, Department of English, University of Asia Pacific, Bangladesh

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop, Pabna

U.S. EMBASSY-LPC-BELTA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING 2025

DR. MD. SHAIFUL ISLAM
Assistant Professor,
Department of English and Modern Languages,
School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences,
Independent University Bangladesh (IUB)

DR. PRODHAN MAHBUB IBNA SERAJ
Associate Professor, Department of English,
American International University-Bangladesh
(AIUB)

Oct. 31 - Nov. 1, 2025
(Friday and Saturday)
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**Yasin Ali Training Building,
Bangladesh Sugarcrop Research
Institute (BSRI),
Ishwardi, Pabna.**

Implemented by: Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)

The U.S. Embassy, Language Proficiency Center (LPC), and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) jointly organized daylong Secondary School English Teacher Training 2025 — a professional development initiative designed to empower English teachers across Bangladesh from October 31 to November 1, 2025 (Friday & Saturday) at Yasin Ali Training Building, Bangladesh Sugarcrop Research Institute (BSRI), Ishwardi, Pabna. The trainers were Dr. Md. Shaiful Islam, Assistant Professor, Department of English and Modern Languages, School of Liberal Arts and Social Sciences, Independent University Bangladesh (IUB) and Dr. Prodhan Mahbub Ibna Seraj, Associate Professor, Department of English, American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB).

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop, NU, Gazipur

U.S. EMBASSY-LPC-BELTA
SECONDARY SCHOOL
ENGLISH TEACHER TRAINING 2025

DR. MD. MOHIB ULLAH
General Secretary, BELTA &
Associate Professor
Department of English Language & Literature
International Islamic University Chittagong

FERDOUSHI RAHMAN
Executive Committee Member, BELTA &
Professional Development Coordinator
Senior School
Glenrich International School, Dhaka

Nov. 14-15, 2025
(Friday and Saturday)
9:00 AM to 5:00 PM

**Virtual Classroom, 12th floor,
Academic Building, National
University, Gazipur**

Implemented by: Language Proficiency Center (LPC) and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA)

The U.S. Embassy, Language Proficiency Center (LPC), and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) jointly organized daylong Secondary School English Teacher Training 2025 — a professional development initiative designed to empower English teachers across Bangladesh from November 14 to 15, 2025 at Academic Building, National University, Gazipur. The trainers were Dr. Md. Mohib Ullah, Associate Professor, Department of English Language and Literature, International Islamic University Chittagong and Ferdoushi Rahman, Professional Development Co-ordinator, Senior School, Glenrich International School, Dhaka.

U.S. Embassy–LPC–BELTA Teacher Training Workshop, Sylhet

The U.S. Embassy, Language Proficiency Center (LPC), and Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) jointly organized daylong Secondary School English Teacher Training 2025 — a professional development initiative designed to empower English teachers across Bangladesh from November 21 to 22, 2025 at the Department of English, Sylhet International University, Sylhet. The trainers were Professor Tazin Aziz Chowdhury, PhD, Chair, Department of English, University of Dhaka and Dr. Akhter Jahan, Associate Professor & Chair, Department of English, East West University.

9. BELTA Participation in National and International Platforms by BELTA EC Members

Meeting with representatives from RELO Kathmandu, Nepal, and the U.S. Embassy, Dhaka



On July 31, 2025, BELTA had the pleasure of meeting with representatives from RELO Kathmandu, Nepal, and the U.S. Embassy, Dhaka, to explore future collaboration in English language education.

It was a fruitful and inspiring discussion aimed at enhancing teaching, learning, and professional development opportunities in Bangladesh.

Representatives of BELTA were:

Prof. Ahmed Bashir, President

Prof. Dr. Arifa Rahman, Advisor
Prof. Dr. Rubina Khan, Immediate Past President

Mr. Takad Ahmed Chowdhury, Vice President
Dr. Md. Saiful Islam, Vice President

From RELO and the U.S. Embassy:

Mr. Roger Cohen, RELO, Kathmandu, Nepal

Mr. Scott Hartmann, Director for Public Engagement, U.S. Embassy, Dhaka

Mr. Richard Bruner, Deputy Director for Public Engagement, U.S. Embassy, Dhaka

Mr. Shaon Karmokar, Lead, English Language Programs, U.S. Embassy

Ms. Rubaiyat Tasmia, Coordinator, English Language Programs

Mr. Gautam Bishaw, RELO Program Specialist, U.S. Embassy, Kathmandu

The meeting brought excitement about the possibilities ahead, and they were committed to working together to strengthen English language education across Bangladesh.

Dr. Rubina Khan, Immediate Past President, BELTA



Professor Rubina Khan presented a paper at the AsiaTEFL International conference in July 2025 at Hong Kong. She also attended 51st Annual International JALT International Conference on Language Teaching held on October 31 to November 2, 2025, Tokyo Japan.



Dr. Rubina Khan, Immediate Past President, BELTA & Supernumerary Professor, Department of English, University of Dhaka, has been conferred the Lifetime Academic Achievement Award as one of the ELT Pioneers by the TESOL Society of Bangladesh at the 3rd TESOL BD International Conference 2025 held at the Daffodil International University from 4-6 December 2025.

Professor Ahmed Bashir, President of BELTA

BELTA President as a Chief Discussant



Professor Ahmed Bashir delivered a speech on a seminar as a Chief Discussant on “Decolonizing ELT in Bangladesh: Rethinking Pedagogy and the Use of AI” organised by the Department of English, Manarat International University held on August 24, 2025.

BELTA President attended the capacity development program



Professor Ahmed Bashir spoke amidst the secondary school English teachers of Bagerhat at the Capacity Development Training on 11 August 2025, organised by the Bagerhat Zilla Parishad in partnership with Latif Master Foundation.

BELTA President at China Assembly 2025



Prof. Ahmed Bashir, was invited as a Featured Speaker at the 2025 Global English Education China Assembly Conference organized by China Daily at Beijing Normal University, 25-27 July 2025. The theme of the conference was "Building a New Digital Ecosystem for Language Education in the AI Era." The title of his presentation was “Decolonizing English Language Teaching in Bangladesh: Rethinking Language, Power, and Pedagogy

3rd BRLCN Council Meeting 2025



Prof. Ahmed Bashir, attended the 3rd Council Meeting of BRLCN (BELT and Road Languages and Cultures Network) on 24 July 2025 at Friendship Palace, Beijing Friendship Hotel, and the BRLCN Forum on 25 July 2025 at Beijing Normal University. BELTA is a founding member of BRLCN, an international network of teachers' associations and universities across the globe. The participants shared ideas for strengthening collaborations among the members and contributing to the enhancement of English education among the member countries and beyond.

BELTA signed MoU with NATE Russia



A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between BELTA and NATE Russia (National Association of Teachers of English in Russia). On behalf of BELTA, Professor Ahmed Bashir, President of BELTA signed the MoU and from the NATE Russia side, Professor Svetlana V. Sannikova, Chairperson, NATE RUSSIA Coordination Council, signed the MoU. The signing of the MoU took place on 25 July 2025 at the Beijing Friendship Hotel, China during the 3rd BRLCN Council Meeting in Beijing.

Participation in a US Exchange Program



Professor Ahmed Bashir participated in an Academic Exchange Program titled “Strategic Partnerships and Leadership in Academic Administrations Exchange and ACTFL Convention” from November 11 to 24, 2025. As part of the exchange program, he visited the Maryland Higher Education Commission, Baltimore City Community College, University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC), and Towson University in Maryland. He also attended the 2025 American Council of Teaching Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Annual Convention and World Languages Expo held in New Orleans from 21-23 Nov 2025. The Exchange program was sponsored by the US Department of State and supported by the US Embassy Dhaka.



For successful completion of this Exchange Program, Prof Bashir was awarded a certificate by Ms Monica Sie, Counselor of Public Affairs, Public Diplomacy Section, US Embassy Dhaka, and Mr Roger Cohen, RELO (Regional English Language Officer for Bangladesh, Nepal, Maldives and Sri Lanka)

Dr. Shaila Sultana, Executive Member



Professor Dr. Shaila Sultana, Executive Committee Member and Director of BRAC Institute of Languages (BIL) was invited as a Keynote Speaker at International Conference on Challenges and Trends in Arts and Social Sciences (ICCTASS 2025) organized by Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, American International University Bangladesh (AIUB) from December 11–12, 2025.

Dr. Kh. Atikur Rahman, Joint Secretary, BELTA

Featured Speaker



FEATURED SPEAKER 5

Assoc. Prof. Dr. Kh. Atikur Rahman, BELTA

Collaborative Reasoning as Disruptive and Decolonizing Pedagogy: Advancing Equity in EFL Classrooms

ABSTRACT

In many EFL classrooms across the Global South, including Bangladesh, English-speaking instruction remains dominated by teacher-led methods, offering minimal authentic student interaction (Safaria, 2016). This session presents a quasi-experimental study addressing this persistent challenge by investigating how Collaborative Reasoning (CR), a dialogic and student-led intervention, empowers learners in a Bangladeshi university. Fifty-six first-year undergraduate students (divided into CR and non-CR groups) participated in a six-week intervention. The CR group read culturally relevant texts, watched text-related YouTube videos, engaged in small-group discussions, and wrote argumentative essays, while the control group received conventional teacher-fronted instruction. Pre- and post-tests using the IELTS speaking rubric revealed that the CR group made significant gains in fluency and coherence, outperforming the non-CR group. Qualitative data highlighted increased student agency, reduced anxiety, and willingness to challenge peers' ideas—uncommon in authority-concept classrooms. The session will share both findings and practical strategies, offering insights for teachers transitioning from teacher-fronted instruction to more interactive, student-led speaking practices. Attendees will learn to adapt CR techniques across cultural contexts, advocating for more equitable and participatory EFL-speaking pedagogy.

BIODATA

Associate Professor Dr. Kh. Atikur Rahman, Joint Secretary of BELTA, is an educator, trainer and researcher. He recently conducted teacher training programs for the US Embassy in Dhaka and Bangladesh's Ministry of Education. His current research focuses on AI in assessment and academic writing. Explore his publications via Google Scholar.

34

BELTA Joint Secretary, Dr. Kh. Atikur Rahman, represented BELTA as a featured speaker at the 33rd MELTA International Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia held at Brickfields Asia College, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia on 13–15 September 2025. His talk, titled “Collaborative Reasoning as Disruptive and Decolonizing Pedagogy: Advancing Equity in EFL Classrooms,” highlighted a quasi-experimental study exploring the impact of Collaborative Reasoning (CR)—a dialogic, student-led intervention—on empowering learners in a Bangladeshi university. The session not only presented research findings but also offered practical strategies for teachers seeking to shift from traditional teacher-fronted instruction to more interactive, student-centered speaking practices.



International Conference on
Challenges and Trends in Arts and Social Sciences
American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB)

Dec 11-12, 2025

Balancing Global Standards and Local Needs in Sustainable Maritime English Curriculum Design



Abstract: This study explores how Maritime English curricula in Bangladesh can balance IMO global standards with local learner needs. Using surveys, interviews, and document analysis, it identifies gaps in proficiency, pedagogy, and authenticity. Cadets struggle with informal shipboard discourse, and instructors lack specialized training. A sustainable curriculum model is proposed, integrating task-based learning, real-world simulations, inclusive assessments, and teacher development to enhance both global employability and local relevance.

Dr. Kh Atikur Rahman, Joint Secretary of BELTA, chaired a session and presented a paper titled “Sustainable Maritime English Curriculum Design” at the International Conference on Challenges and Trends in Arts and Social Sciences (ICCTASS 2025), held at American International University–Bangladesh (AIUB) on December 12, 2025. He also presented his research work. His presentation addressed the need to balance global standards with local realities in Maritime English education, particularly within the Bangladeshi context. The presentation underscored the importance of aligning Maritime English instruction with the real communicative demands of cadets and seafarers, ensuring both global employability and local relevance.



As an invited speaker, Dr. Kh Atikur Rahman, Joint Secretary of BELTA, delivered a presentation titled “Developing Volunteers into Visionary Leaders” at the IATEFL Associates Online Conference 2025. His talk highlighted the central role of volunteerism in sustaining professional associations and emphasized the need to intentionally nurture volunteers as future leaders. The presentation also highlighted the role of shared values and vision in transforming short-term volunteer involvement into committed leadership. Dr. Rahman concluded by encouraging associations to create inclusive, supportive environments that empower volunteers to lead with purpose, empathy, and vision in an increasingly complex professional landscape.

Dr. Prodhon Mahbub Ibna Seraj, Publication Secretary

Malaysian Association of Applied Linguistics

International Postgraduate & Early-Career Researchers in Applied Linguistics Symposium

THE 2nd IPEALS 2025

Exploring New Horizons: Empowering Emerging Voices in Applied Linguistics

21/12/2025 SUNDAY
8:30 AM - 4:00 PM
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Brought to you by MAAL Young Researchers Outreach Program (MYRO)

Dr. Prodhon Mahbub Ibna Seraj, Publication Secretary and Dr. Shaiful Islam, Vice President, BELTA were invited as Discussants for a Parallel Session on " Artificial Intelligence & Language Technology" at the International Postgraduate and Early Career Researchers in Applied Linguistics and Language Education Symposium (IPEALS 2025) organized by Malaysian Association of Applied Linguistics – MAAL on 21st December, 2025.



Dr. Prodhan Mahbub Ibna Seraj was invited as one of the Keynote Speakers at the International Conference on Multidisciplinary Developments in Innovation and Advancement (ICMDIA-25), organized by Eminsphere™, Canada, in a hybrid mode in Helsinki, Finland, on December 14, 2025. His topic was “Digital Ecology in Education.”



Dr. Prodhan Mahbub Ibna Seraj, Publication Secretary of BELTA delivered a guest lecture on a Team Teaching Program, Indonesia on 9th October, 2025



Dr. Prodhan Mahbub Ibna Seraj, Publication Secretary of BELTA conducted a workshop on Data collection tools and analysis techniques of mixed method BITS, India on 21st November, 2025



Dr. Prodhan Mahbub Ibna Seraj, Publication Secretary of conducted a webinar on Qualitative Data Collection: How and What at Education Jam, Saudi Arabia on 11th October, 2025

Kaniz Fatema, Executive Committee (EC) member, BELTA



BELTA Executive Committee (EC) member, Kaniz Fatema (Senior Lecturer, Department of English, East West University) presented her research titled “Cohort-based Multimodal Assessment through E-portfolio for Tertiary-level EFL Writing” at the 33rd MELTA International Conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia held at Brickfields Asia College, Petaling Jaya, Malaysia on 13–15 September 2025. The experimental study explored the potential of integrating e-portfolio in the EFL writing classroom for multimodal and self-regulatory assessment with life-long impact. Besides, the study aligns the tool’s potential to achieve 21st century skills.



Ms. Fatema along with three of her undergrad students presented a paper in the 1st International conference on Science and Humanities for Sustainable Development (ICSHSD) on October 23-24, 2025 at Dhaka University of Engineering & Technology, Gazipur (DUET), Gazipur.

10. Observing World Teachers' Day



BELTA observed World Teachers' Day by arranging a webinar titled "World Teachers' Day 2025: Recasting Teaching as a Collaborative Profession". This year's theme focuses on enhancing Bangladeshi teachers' professional standards through collaboration, growth, and shared learning. A distinguished lineup of educators, researchers, and practitioners will share their insights on building a stronger framework for professional learning. Prof. Dr. Zulfequar Haider, Director General, NAEM was the keynote speaker. Welcomed speech was given by Prof. Dr. Rubina Khan, University of Dhaka & Immediate Past President, BELTA. The discussants were Ms. Ferdousi Rahman, Glenrich International School, Dhaka, Mr. Md. Ariful Islam Riad, Madrasatus Sunnah, Dhaka, Mr. Tajuhidul Reza, Rangamati Govt. High School, Chattogram Mr. Md. Saiful Islam Akon University Laboratory School and College, Dhaka and Prof. Dr. Mohammad Moninoor Roshid, IER, University of Dhaka. Prof. Dr. Shaila Sultana, Director, BIL, BRAC University moderated the webinar and the vote of thanks was given by Prof. Ahmed Bashir, University of Dhaka & President, BELTA

11. Publications by EC members

Rouf, M. A., & **Sultana, S.** (2025). Developing Teacher Agency for Professional Development: A Case Study of Secondary Level EL Teachers in Bangladesh. *Criticality, Agency, and Language Teacher Identities: Research and Praxis from Global Teacher Education*, 17.

Mehrin, I., Ahmed, T., **Sultana, R.**, & Sultana, S. (2025). Indigenous Ethnic Students in the Mainstream Education of Bangladesh: Cultural Misrecognition, Linguistic Inequality and Social Injustice. *Journal of Language, Identity & Education*, 1–15.

<https://doi.org/10.1080/15348458.2025.2520429>
c

Tarannum, T., Ahmed, R., & **Ibna Seraj, P. M.** (2025). ELT Teachers' perception and usage of ChatGPT as a teaching tool in the Bangladeshi EFL context. *Education and Information Technologies*, 0123456789.

<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10639-025-13515-7>

Ibna Seraj, P. M., & Klimova, B. (2025). Smartphone Apps -based Teaching Method to Develop Oral English Communication Skills at the Tertiary Level in an EFL Context. *World Journal of English Language*, 15(2), 250–262. <https://doi.org/10.5430/wjel.v15n2p250>

Biswas, M., **Fatema, K.** (2025). Students' Psychology in Applying Composition Writing Skills in Tertiary Level Literature Courses in Bangladesh. *Teaching English Literature and Interdisciplinarity: Exploring the Unexplored and Broadening Horizons*. Newcastle: Cambridge Scholars Publishing, 2025. 57-68. ISBN (10): 1-0364-5779-6; ISBN (13): 978-1-0364-5779-2

12. BELTA CHAPTER ACTIVITIES

Pabna Chapter Teachers' Training Workshop



BELTA Pabna Chapter arranged a two day Teachers' Training workshop titled "U.S. Embassy-LPC-BELTA Teacher Training Workshop-2025" on October 31-November 1, 2025 at Bangladesh Sugarcrop Research Institute, Ishwardi, Pabna, Bangladesh. About 28 Secondary Level English teachers around Pabna district attended the workshop. Dr. Prodhon Mahbub Ibna Seraj and Dr. Md. Shaiful Islam conducted the workshop.

Sylhet Chapter Teachers' Training Workshop



The U.S. Embassy-LPC-BELTA Teachers' Training Workshop was held on 21-22 November 2025 at Sylhet International University (SIU) with the participation of thirty English language teachers from different institutions across Sylhet. The two-day professional development program was organized in cooperation with the Department of English, Sylhet International University.

The training sessions were facilitated by Professor Dr. Tazin Aziz Chowdhury, Executive Committee Member of BELTA and Chair of the Department of English, University of Dhaka, and Dr. Akhter Jahan, BELTA Executive Committee Member and Associate Professor of English at East West University. The workshop was coordinated by Mr. Pranab Kanti Deb, Associate Professor and Head of the Department of English, SIU, and Coordinator of the BELTA Sylhet Chapter.

The closing ceremony was graced by Professor Dr. Md. Ashrafal Alam, Honorable Vice-Chancellor of Sylhet International University, as the Chief Guest. Professor Nitai Chandra Chanda, Honorable Treasurer of SIU, and Mr. Zabed Haider Karim, Director of LPC, attended the event as Special Guests.

The workshop focused on enhancing teachers' professional skills and promoting effective English language teaching practices.

BELTA-SIU-THT Conference Held at SIU



The BELTA-SIU-THT Conference was held on Monday, November 10, 2025 at the Mini Auditorium of Sylhet International University with the participation of over fifty English teachers from the Sylhet Division. The day-long event was jointly organized by BELTA, Teachers Helping Teachers (Japan), JALT, and the Department of English, SIU.

The conference was inaugurated by Professor Dr. Md. Ashrafal Alam, Vice-Chancellor of SIU, who emphasized the importance of continuous professional development and lifelong learning for effective English language teaching. The inaugural session was chaired by Associate Professor Pranab Kanti Deb, Head of the Department of English, SIU, with speeches by Professor Dr. Patrick Dworthy (THT, Japan) and Associate Professor Takad Ahmed Chowdhury, Vice-President of BELTA.

Titled “Teaching English in Interesting Times,” the conference featured renowned international resource persons from THT Japan, including Professor Dr. Patrick Dworthy (Akita University), Professor Dr. Annie Howard (Miyazaki International University), Professor Christopher Johnson (Ritsumeikan University), and Professor Cecilia Silva (Tohoku University).

The sessions focused on modern approaches to English language teaching, classroom management, and learner-centered pedagogy. The event concluded with a closing address by Professor Nitai Chandra Chand, Treasurer of SIU, followed by the distribution of certificates among participants.

Jashore Chapter Rethinking English Language Teaching and Learning in the Era of AI

Seminar on

Rethinking English Language Teaching and Learning in the Era of AI

Speaker: Professor Ahmed Bashir
Department of English, University of Dhaka
President, Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association

Chief Guest: Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Mazid
Vice Chancellor, Jashore University of Science and Technology

Special Guest: Professor Dr. Hossain Al Mamun
Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Science, JUST

Chair: Dr. Farzana Nasrin
Chairman, Department of English, JUST

Venue: Professor Sharif Hossain Gallery, JUS

Date: 13 September 2025

Organized by: Department of English, JUST & BELTA, Jashore Chapter

The BELTA Jashore Chapter and the Department of English, Jashore University of Science and Technology (JUST), jointly organized a seminar titled “Rethinking English Language Teaching and Learning in the Era of AI” on 13 September 2025 at the Professor Sharif Hossain Gallery of the Jatiyo Kobi Kazi Nazrul Islam Academic Building.



Professor Ahmed Bashir, President of BELTA and Professor of English at the University of Dhaka, delivered the keynote paper. Professor Dr. Md. Abdul Mazid, Vice Chancellor of JUST, attended the event as Chief Guest, while Professor Dr. Hossain Al Mamun, Treasurer of JUST, was present as Special Guest. The seminar was presided over by Dr. Farzana Nasrin, Chairperson of the Department of English, JUST.

13. BELTA in Photos

BELTA AGM 2025



BELTA EC Meeting at UAP

BELTA Strategic Planning and Retreat 2025



BELTA-THT 2025



US Embassy LPC BELTA Teacher Training 2025

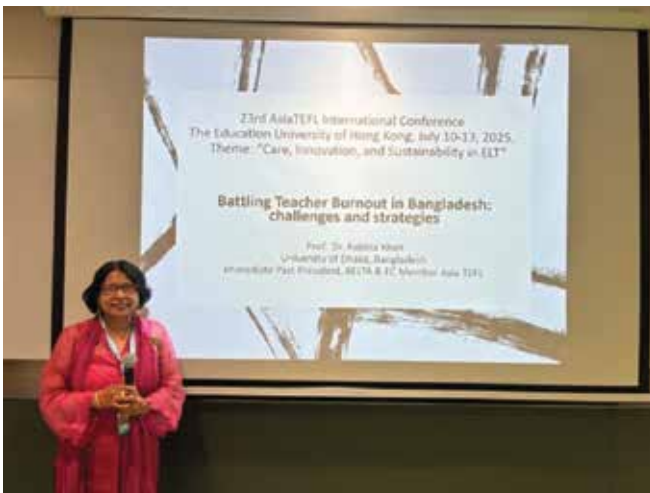




BELTA Advisor and IPP at 23rd AsiaTEFL International Conference



BELTA President at the US Exchange Program



EDITORIAL TEAM

Dr. Prodhan Mahbub Ibna Seraj, Associate Prof., Department of English, AIUB

Ms. Kaniz Fatema, Lecturer, Department of English, EWU

Ms. Tashrifa Fairuz, Lecturer, Department of English, UIU

General Information

BELTA newsletter primarily aims at all the members of BELTA. It is not a referral journal, but a newsletter that contains various news items, including brief reports on events organized by BELTA and its chapters, seminars, and conferences attended 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 practices and experiences. Please send your contributions to the BELTA newsletter as a word file in 350-500 words, and mention “Submission for BELTA Newsletter” in the subject line. We accept contributions throughout the year.

Send your write-ups to

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