

Department of Philosophy International Seminar

Md. Khalequzzaman, PhD

Professor of Geology, Lock Haven University, Pennsylvania, USA

Ecological Philosophy of the Bangladesh Delta Plan 2100

Moderator: Professor Md. Munir Hossain Talukder, PhD

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10.00am to 12.00pm

Room 117, New Arts Building

Jahangirnagar University

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ABSTRACT

This study evaluates the feasibility and scientific merits of the BDP 2100 in context of deep ecology and environmental philosophy principles. The following recommendations are made to make necessary changes in the policy and strategy for implementation of this mammoth project: (1) carry out additional research to document spatio-temporal changes in sediment flux to coastal region, sediment distribution patterns in coastal plain and flood plain, sedimentation and subsidence rates, changes in landuse patterns, and elevation changes using high resolution digital elevation models (DEM) and/or LiDAR data; (2) study natural hydrologic and geomorphic evolution of the coastal plain; (3) undertake projects that will enhance natural sedimentation processes in areas behind the polders and embankments; (4) resolve transboundary water and sediment sharing issues before taking up water and sediment control structures; and (5) revise the BDP 2100 documents and projects in light of ecological approach to water resources management which is in congruence with the spirit of SDGs.

SHORT BIOGRAPHY

Dr. Md. Khalequzzaman holds B.S./M.S. degree in Mining Engineering/Geology from Azerbaijan Institute of Petroleum & Chemistry in Baku, formerly USSR; another M.S. and a Ph.D. in Geology from University of Delaware, U.S.A. Dr. Khalequzzaman is a professor of Geology at Lock Haven University (LHU) since 2001. He also served as the chair of the Department of Geology & Physics at LHU for three years from 2005 to 2008. His areas of expertise and research include water resources management, water quality, coastal environmental oceanography, sustainable development, and GIS. He published extensively on natural hazards in Bangladesh, coastal environmental problems, water resources management in the sub-continent and climate change (life-time record: 100 items). In addition, he regularly writes Op-Ed pieces on climate change and water-related environmental issues in national newspapers (life-time record: 50 items). He published numerous papers in peer-reviewed journals. He wrote a book chapter on water in the Routledge Handbook on Contemporary Bangladesh. He is the author of three books (one in English and two are in Bangla) on water resources and environment. He collaborated with scientists from India, Canada, and Bangladesh on research projects dealing with equitable and reasonable sharing of trans-boundary rivers. He co-edited proceedings of five international conferences on trans-boundary rivers and regional cooperation on water resources in the Ganges-Brahputra-Meghna Basins. Prof. Khalequzzaman is a recipient of several national and international awards and research grants. He is involved in community-based watershed alliances and environmental research in central Pennsylvania, U.S.A.