

Report on 6th Winter School

Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice (CSGJ), Liberation War Museum

Inaugural Ceremony

The 6th Winter School organized by Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice (CSGJ), Liberation War Museum (LWM) started its day with the registration process of the participants at 8.30 AM in Liberation War Museum. After completing the registration process, the participants were taken to the galleries.



Having an opening session at 11.30, all the participants along with the resident mentors and resident instructors departed from LWM to the venue named Sheikh Hasina National Youth Center situated in Savar.



Day 1: (17.01.2020)

Ice breaking: After lunch, an ice breaking session was taken by all the resident mentors and a guideline and basic instruction were delivered to the participants by Naureen Rahim, research associate of CSGJ, LWM and other mentors.



The first session of the first day was taken by Mofidul Hoque, Director of CSGJ, LWM on ‘National Trial of International Crimes: Experiences from Bangladesh’. He at first elaborated the idea of genocide to the participants quoting Rafael Lemkin. Then he discussed the Nuremberg principles, the Genocide Convention Act, 1948, and the International Crimes Tribunal Act, 1973. After that he described the definition of genocide in the context of Bangladesh referring the International Crimes Tribunal, Bangladesh. He also talked about various debate relating to this issue.

The next session of the day was delivered by Emraan Azad, Lecturer in Law, Bangladesh University of Professionals on Genocide as ‘Violence’ and Genocide as ‘Crime’: Where do ‘Victims’ and ‘Perpetrators’ Stand? . First, he showed the difference between genocide and other crimes including war crimes, crime against humanity, mass killing. Then he described ten stages of committing Genocide. Then he differentiated between genocide and ethnic cleansing. Lastly, he showed sociological aspect of genocide.



The participants then had to sit for a short exam based on the lessons they had taken that day. After completing the dinner, one documentary film was screened before the participants named 'Muktir Gaan' by Tareque Masud and Cathrine Masud.



Day 2: 18.01.2020

The day was started with the national anthem. First session of the day was conducted by Ehshan Mazid Mustafa Nirjhar, Lecturer in Law, University of Khulna. He gave a brief idea on the Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice, Liberation War Museum. Then he discussed about the mission and vision of this center. In discussing it, he showed some pictures and documentaries on various activities of the center. He further discussed about the field visit to Rohingya Camp and which is still an ongoing process. He elaborated the role of volunteers and research fellowship programs of the center. He further showed some publications on genocidal issue namely, Art against Genocide, Rohingya Publication, Testimony of Sixty, Quilt of Memory and Hope etc.



The next session was taken by Naureen Rahim on ‘Amnesty Versus Impunity: An International Criminal Law Perspective with Special Focus on 1971’. She was at first posing a question to the participants about the amnesty support to the Head of the state who has committed crime against peace. She then discussed about difference between crime in pardon and crime in amnesty, definition of impunity, pardon and amnesty, analyzing the International Crimes, amnesty in the International Criminal Courts and other Criminal Justice Mechanisms. At last she mentioned some cases relating to amnesty and then talked about the alternative ways to ensure justice.

After tea break, Dr. Ahrar Ahmed, Professor Emeritus, Black Hills State University, USA, took their session on 'from Partition of 1947 to Liberation War of 1971: the Politics of Conflict and Amnesia'. He first described the contextual background of the 1947 and 1971 and then talked about what British did, participation of Bengal in 1905, situation after Second World War. Lastly, he discussed about the objectives of 1971 war.

At 2.00 PM, Md Abdul Hannan Khan, Chief Investigator, ICT-BD took the 4th session of the day on his experience of witness/victims protection. Mainly his topic was, 'Investigating Atrocity Crimes: the Case of Victim R.P.Shaha. He started with international perspective and then came to Bangladesh chapter. He then serially clarified who the witnesses are, how to tackle the witnesses and the victims, the rules for witnesses and victims protection. He shared his experience about the reasons of lack of evidence and document, the problems of exchanging the criminals etc. He added that the measures taken by government for the safety, security and protection are not enough. In his session, he mainly focused on R.P.Shaha's abduction on 7th May, 1971.



After having a lunch break, a conversation was happened with Professor Ashis Nandy, Indian Political Psychologist, Social Theorist and Critic. First, he showed how 20th centuries Genocide happens. He referred Indonesian genocide and concentrated on theory of Deep Detailing. Then he referred American Genocide and showed the consequences of genocide in human memory. Lastly, he focused on counter memory and said that justice should be dependent on the psychological ethics of the victims as well as perpetrators.



After that, the 6th session was taken by Former Ambassador and the First Permanent Observer to the European Office of the United Nations in Geneva taken by Wali-ur Rahman. Firstly, he asked a question where was law when Genocide happens and describe purposes of law. Then he focused on importance of establishment of Rule of Law. His main attention was on the formation of ICT-BD and showing summary of charges.

Day 3: 19.01.2020

Like the other day, the day was started with the national anthem. The first session was delivered on a topic titled 'The Social Dimensions of Genocide: A Sub-altern Aproach' by Dr. Samina Lutfu, Associate Professor of Sociology, University of Dhaka. At first she described the definition of Genocide and how we know about the social dimension of anything. Then she talked about the historical roots of Genocide,

the sociology of modernity: Bauman. After that, she raised the issues of ethnic minorities and conflicts, middleman minorities, ethnocentrism and rape and genocide in Bangladesh. Then she discussed about the psychological perspective of the perpetrators. Lastly, she explained Zimbardo's study.

Md. Pizar Hossain, Senior Lecturer in Law, East West University, Bangladesh then took the next session on the topic 'Testimonies of Intellectual Killing in ICT-BD Cases: A Reflection of Truth towards Justice'. He showed an overview of ICT-BD and formation of ICT-BD. Then he talked about some cases and judgments by ICT-BD. Then he explained ICT-BD trials on intellectual killings. He showed some places of torturing most of the abducted intellectuals. At last, he concluded taking the view of several cases.



Next session, Nasrin Akhter and Pia Coradsen, Program Officers (Rohingya Crisis), Asia Justice and Rights (AJAR) took a group exercise. There were 7 groups namely, peace, harmony, non-communalism, non-hatred, memorialization and justice. And their task was making memorials.



After having lunch, Prokriti Shyamolima, Researcher, Liberation War Museum took a session on ‘Memorializing Passed Crimes: The Case Study of LWM’s “Oral History Project”’. Firstly, she showed mobile bus and then described its purpose, background etc. After that, she introduced everyone with the student program and contributions. Then she talked about oral history project and narrated its evidentiary value.

After tea break, the 11th session was conducted by Nasrin Akhter and Pia Conradsen, Program Officers, AJAR, on ‘Quilt of Memory and Hope: Art War by Rohingya, Women Victims’. First part of the session was taken by Nasrin Akhter and she gave a description about AJAR. Then she shared the objectives of Pilot project which was sixteen days workshop. Finally, Pia gave an evaluation of the whole workshop.

Then a group exercise and presentation was initiated by all resident mentors on the basis of an imaginary fact. They were required to identify whether there was happened of genocide or ethnic cleansing. Each group gave a presentation on their standing.

By 8.00 PM all the participants, volunteers, resident mentors were left the venue to Jahangirnagar University for enjoying a drama named ‘Dahan-Dayita’. The whole drama was around one hour. The drama was based on a Japanese short story. From the performance, the audience came to know about the challenges and crucial stages during a girl’s teenage period. Everyone enjoyed the drama a lot.



After dinner, a skype chatting was conducted with Irene Victoria Massimino, Human Rights Lawyer and Genocide Scholar, Argentina on ‘Genocide and Justice Studies in Local and Global Context’. She talked about transitional justice process and peace education in global context.



Day 4: 20.01.2020

The sessions of this day, after singing national anthem, was started by Professor Hasibul Alam Prodhan, Professor of Law, University of Rajshahi. He started the session by giving a definition of transitional justice and the evaluation of transitional justice. Then he put some questions that where does the term transitional justice come from? Has the idea of transitional justice come from? What is transitional justice? Then he described the aims, goals and the strategies of transitional justice. Lastly, he described the different approaches of transitional justice.

Then the nest session of that day was conducted by Anjali Manivannam, Senior Programs Officer, World Federalist Movement-Institute for Global Policy on ‘Promoting Justice Globally : The Role of Coalition

for the International Criminal Court and International Coalition for the Responsibility to Protect'. She first showed the World Federalist Movement and then she described the background of CICC and what they do. Then she took a view of Bangladesh, Myanmar situation and the role of CICC. Then she described other recent updates of CICC and the challenges. She talked about ICR to P background, Rohingya Genocide and other 2019 updates.



After having lunch, members of CSGJ research team on Rohingya Genocide conducted the session on Rohingya Genocide and future plan. They showed how volunteers were contributed and how new one can contribute in this process. They also described their working methods. Nadia Islam, Abdullah Masud shared their experience in second field visit to Rohingya Camp. They were mitigating the curiosity of participants in the questioning session. Finally, Naureen Rahim summarized the whole session. After tea break Emraan Azad gave briefing on Field Trip to 1971's Memorial Site so that participants may identify issues and prepare questionnaire. A Pitha Utshob was arranged for all. There were varieties of Pithas and everybody enjoyed that. After passing free time everyone enjoyed Bauliana: Music Promoting Pluralism and Harmony by Maqsood of Dhaka Band.

Session 15 was facilitated by Fredrick John Packer on 'International options for Accountability of Mass Atrocities against the Rohingya: Possibilities and Prospects.' Firstly he described Torture against Rohingya and Controversy on that issue. After that he showed different aspects of crimes and criminal law. Finally, he talked about justice issues and differentiated between International Criminal Court and International Court of Justice. He put a guideline on where the victims can go for justice.

After dinner, participants listened to Fredric about his Life and Work.





Day 05: 21.01.2020

In fifth day, all the resident mentors, volunteers and participants left the venue by 7.00 am for the trip to Kumudini Welfare Trust Mirzapur, Tangail. After arrival by 9.00 am, all the participants were divided into seven groups and they were facilitated by one member of organizing committee. After entering into there, all teams visited library of R.P. Shaha and it was a great place full of aristocracy. There were so many pictures of R.P. Shaha and his family members, around 3,000 books, household accessories, certificates, testimonial and awards.



After that the teams were entered into Bharateswari Homes and having breakfast by 9:50 am . Then they go for site seeing. By 11:40 am all gathered in auditorium hall, the authority of the home arranged a little program. The little students of the home performed so many things that was mesmerizing. Chief Guest

and other guests were coming at 12.00 pm. Protibha Mutsuddi , a fighter of language movement and caretaker of the home narrated the abduction story of R.P.Shaha . A documentary film was screened on R.P.Shaha's historical life and colorful works for the people and society. After that, Emraan Azad gave a vote of thanks to the homes authority on behalf of Liberation War Museum. Other guests were also shared their experience in 1971's liberation war and narrated their relation with R.P.Shaha. Pran Gopal Shaha, Pulak Sarker And Solaiman Miah shared their opinion about liberation war. All of them gave a description of brutality and mass killing by Pakistan Army in 1971.

The authority arranged lunch and that was full of so many traditional Bengali dishes. Finished lunch by 3:15, participants were taking interviews about R.P.Shaha's historical life and work.

They left Mirzapur by 4:30 pm and reached at the venue at 5:30 pm.

After taking rest for one hour and having evening snacks, participants gave a group presentation on Truth seeking, Memorialization, Justice and Philosophy & Ideology of R.P.Shaha's abduction.



They took dinner by 8:30 pm and after that watched a documentary film named “Bonnie Capuccino : Mother of War Babies” by Nahidur Ananda.

Day 06: 22.01.2020

The day was started with the national anthem like the other days. Then, the session on ‘Research on Liberation War History and in the Context of Socio-economic Perspective: The Role of the Common People’ was taken by Dr. Atiur Rahman, Professor of Development Studies, University of Dhaka. In his session, he showed the research history on Liberation War: the Rationale. Then he elaborated the language movement in detail. He said that the language movement saw the rise of a unique middle class leadership and Bangabandhu was behind the rise of the unique middle-class leadership. After 21 February 1952, it was clear that the Bengali cannot evolve under the Pakistan state. Then he took the view of a nation towards independence and said that Bangladesh was never treated equally and industrial growth was focused on West Pakistan. After that, he showed differential allocation of central Governmental funds. Lastly, he described the liberation war and genocide and engaging the youth through social media.

Session 17th was conducted by Dr. Muhammed Jafar Iqbal, Eminent Writer and Former Professor of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (SUST) on 'In Search of Non-communalism, Harmony and Peace Contents in the Education Curriculum of Bangladesh: A Reflection of an Educationist'. At first he narrated the sufferings of his family in 1971 and he never wanted the same with the young citizens of Bangladesh. He shared a concept to add preliminary Genocide knowledge at school level. Then he talked about the necessity of diversified educational system.



There was a Panel Discussion on 'Activism to Confront Genocide: Talking about Possible Roles of Bangladeshi Young Generation and Global Community' by Frederick John Packer and Emraan Azad.

In next session was taken by Azrin Afrin, Lecturer in History, University of Dhaka on Using Oral History as a Method while Interviewing Genocide Victims: Bangladesh in Context'. Firstly, she emphasized on the meaning of oral history and how and when to collect data. After that, she talked about how those data shall be preserved. Lastly, she showed the challenges of collecting oral history.

After tea break, all resident mentors gave a briefing on Declaration of Intent and Non-Judicial Hearing and Relevant Discussion. Then all the groups were preparing their declaration of intent and non-judicial hearing.

The last session of the day was taken by Julian Francis, Friend of Liberation War. He shared his experience of refugee camps 1971 and Rohingya Camps 2017. He memorialized his contribution in liberation war and how Indian govt. helped Bengali people. After 1971 a new Bangladesh was emerged and now it gives shelter to the Rohingya people, he described the issue with this practical context.

Day 07: 23.-01.2020

The day was started with National anthem and then a written exam was held on the basis of whole learning.

After one hour exam, a panel discussion was conducted by the participants from Bangladesh, Malaysia, Cambodia, Nepal, and Sri Lanka on "Beyond Genocide: Peace Education through Community Engagement and Global Network.

After tea break, there had a group presentation on Declaration of Intent. And after the group presentation, two participants from each group were preparing the final declaration.

After prayer and lunch break, participants were prepared for Non-Judicial Hearing. Participants were divided into groups like Panel of Judges, Appellant , Respondent, UN Fact Finding Mission, Representative of Victims, Representative from Civil Society and so many. Their submission was based on an hypothetical case

Later on, one participant from each group together gave final presentation on Declaration of Intent. After that, participants passed free time and took preparation for cultural program. After taking dinner, an informal cultural program was enjoyed by all. And finally, participants shared their experiences and feedback on Winter School.

Day 08: 20.01.2018

At 8.00 AM participants took their breakfast and then they left from Winter School Venue to Liberation War Museum. Then all members relating to winter school gathered together at auditorium hall and the closing ceremony had started. The Chief Guest was Justice Obaidul Hasan, Former Honorable Chairman of International Crimes Tribunal-2. The chief guest, Mofidul Hoque and others were took their seat and gave valuable speech to all. After that, Naurin Rahim gave vote of thanks to every participant, volunteers resident mentors and team CSGJ for completing the Winter School Program successfully. Later on certificates and awards were distributed among all. Finally, a short cultural program was conducted by the participants and volunteers.

