



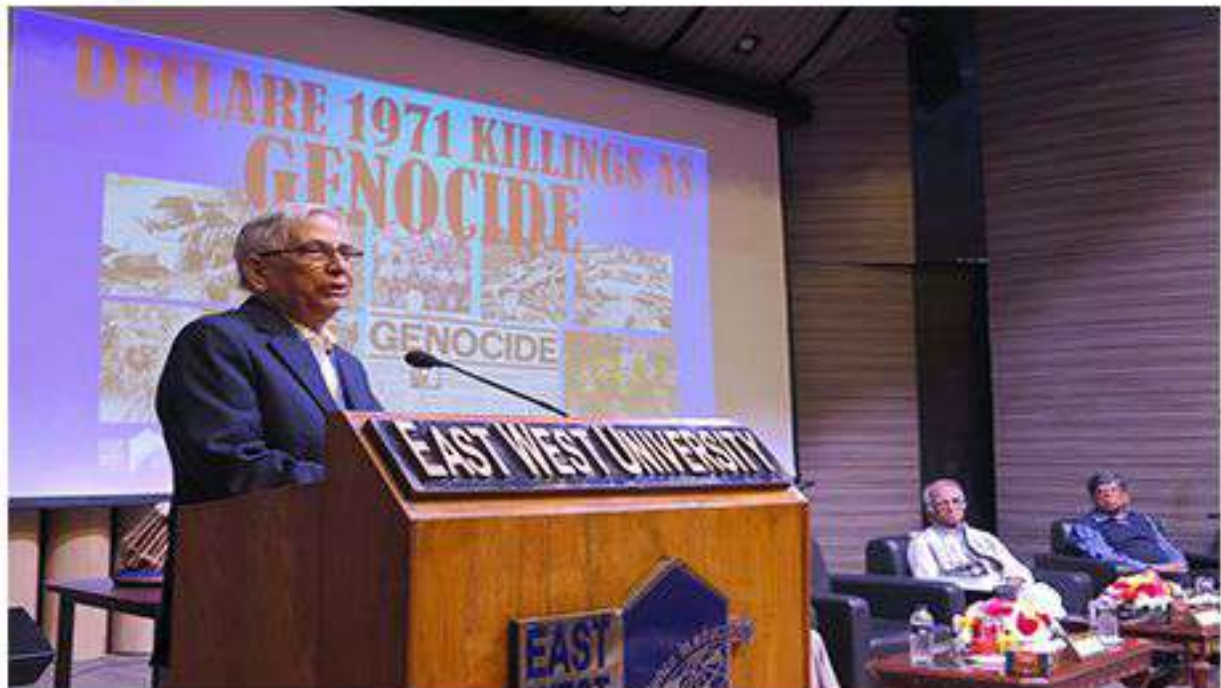
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Declare 1971 killings as 'genocide'

Speakers demand at EWU discussion

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Speakers at a discussion demanded that the massacre perpetrated by the Pakistani occupation forces in Bangladesh during the 1971 Liberation War should be declared as 'genocide'.

They were speaking at a programme held at the newly constructed 'Manzur Elahi' auditorium of East West University (EWU) on Wednesday, says a press release.

Mofidul Haque, Trustee of Liberation War Museum; Prof Dr Imtiaz Ahmed, Director of Centre for Genocide Studies of Dhaka University, Prof Dr MM Shahidul Hassan, Vice-Chancellor of EWU and Prof Dr Mohammed Farashuddin, former PS to Bangabandhu and Chief Advisor of EWU, have raised the demand while addressing the programme.

They said the killings that took place during the 1971 Liberation War were cruelest and most terrible in Bangladesh's history.

More than 30 lakh people were killed, 5-6 lakh women were dishonoured and more than one crore people were displaced by the Pakistani occupation forces during the war, the speakers said.

The similar kind of incidents occurred in Bosnia, Rwanda, that were recognised as 'genocide' by the United Nations (UN), they observed.

They demanded recognition of genocide from the UN and also urged the new generation to speak out through more research and writings to achieve that acknowledgement.

Documentaries on the Liberation War 'Stop Genocide' and 'Janajudda 71' were screened at the event. Faculty members, officials, staff members and students of the university participated at the programme.