



Owais Shafique envisioned to serve as an academician.

A pursuit of excellence

OWAIS Shafique, 25, is a PhD (Business Administration) student at Asia e University (AeU).

He works as a lecturer at the Department of Management Sciences of the Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB) – the only university in the city of Bahawalpur, Punjab, Pakistan.

His PhD degree thesis title is “Impact of Micro-credit Financing on Women Empowerment and Poverty Eradication in Pakistan”.

Owais shares his aspirations in his pursuit of education excellence at AeU:

“Since completing my Bachelor of Business Administration, I envisioned to serve as an academician because I believe this is the only field I can leave my mark and do something productive in my life, especially taking into consideration that my city is in dire need of good academicians.

I knew that to serve as an academician at a highest level, I must aim for a doctoral qualification.

However, the Islamia University of Bahawalpur (IUB) did not offer the programme in my field of study – Master of Business Administration (MBA).

The nearest university offering MBA was 150km away in Multan city. I felt like it would be impossible to continue my studies and pursue my career in academia due to my family responsibilities.

Then I met a friend who recently applied for admission at the Virtual University (VU) of Pakistan (one of the only two universities of Pakistan offering distance learning programmes).

He told me the university has a campus in my hometown and that they offered MBA.

Next thing I knew, I was at the Bahawalpur campus of the VU, submitting my application for admission.

AeU (Asian e University) continuously offers me the opportunity to gain important new knowledge of the economy, develop new skills and see things in a critical manner.

– OWAIS SHAFIQUE

I started my classes while also serving as a visiting lecturer at IUB, putting into practise all the new concepts I was learning in my MBA from VU.

I was so happy and felt privileged that while studying at VU I was being taught by the best professors in Pakistan and learning a lot of new concepts and their applications.

This made me realise the importance of being taught by the finest faculty members from around the world.

Before completion of my MBA I embarked on a search for the best university offering PhD in Business Administration through open distance learning.

My search ended when my teacher and mentor, Najib ur Rahman introduced me to Asia e University.

As AeU offered everything that met my expectations, I promptly decided to apply for my PhD in Business Administration as soon as I graduated from my MBA.

My application was accepted and I was admitted in January.

Within a few days, Dr Oo Yu Hock was appointed as my academic adviser.

He proved to be very helpful in familiarising me with AeU and in selecting a good supervisor for my PhD research.

Soon afterwards, Prof Datuk Dr Sayed Mushtaq Hussain was assigned as my supervisor for my PhD research and I have to admit that I could not have asked for a better supervisor.

He was decorated with high academic qualifications and had worked for the United Nations for 22 years.

He is also an expert in Economics. I had the privilege to meet Prof Datuk Dr Sayed Mushtaq during his visit to Pakistan.

The meeting proved very fruitful for my research thesis.

All the guidance I received from him was so prolific that I still remembered all his words.

It takes a lot of hard work and dedication to fulfil the dream of achieving a PhD.

However, with prayers from my father, excellent guidance from my supervisor and exceptional service support provided by the dean and administrative staff at the School of Graduate Studies, I will strive to complete my PhD within the stipulated time frame.

In a nutshell, AeU continuously offers me the opportunity to gain important new knowledge of the economy, develop new skills and see things in a critical manner.

In my journey of educational immersion at AeU, I have gained a wealth of new knowledge and skills in a journey of self-discovery, personal transformation and self-development.

For all those aspiring to pursue a PhD degree, I would advise you to prepare yourself mentally as well as physically.

You must set your goals and manage your time effectively.”

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