

Prof. Dr. Milton Biswas

Intellectual Activism and Academic Leadership

Prof. Dr. Milton Biswas is widely recognized as a distinctive intellectual voice advocating for the history, identity and social rights of the Christian community in Bangladesh. His leadership philosophy is rooted in **intellectual activism**, which integrates rigorous academic research with grassroots social engagement.

Through his scholarly writings and organizational initiatives, he has consistently worked to reposition the Christian community not merely as a religious minority but as an **integral contributor to Bangladesh's national development, cultural heritage and democratic pluralism**. His academic and social interventions have helped bridge historical gaps in representation and foster a more inclusive national narrative.

Academic Formation and Professional Career

Dr. Biswas completed his **M.Phil. degree in 1999** with research on the poetic philosophy of *Jibanananda Das and Buddhadeb Bose*, and later earned his **Ph.D. in 2007** focusing on the subaltern consciousness in the short stories of *Tarasankar Bandyopadhyay*. These scholarly pursuits shaped his long-standing commitment to marginalized histories and cultural identities.

He began his teaching career at the **University of Chittagong in 2000**, subsequently joining **Jagannath University**, where he served as **Head of the Department of Bengali**. His academic leadership contributed to strengthening research culture, curriculum development and interdisciplinary literary studies.

His broader research trajectory highlights the Christian community's role in **Bangladesh's socio-cultural transformation, education, humanitarian service and literary history**, thereby situating minority experiences within the mainstream discourse of national progress.

Organizational Leadership and Ecumenical Engagement

As **Secretary of the Ecumenical Christian Trust (ECT)**, Dr. Biswas has played a transformative role in fostering unity among diverse Christian denominations, including Catholic, Protestant and Baptist communities.

His advocacy of **Ecumenism** promotes collaborative dialogue, joint social initiatives and collective representation for minority rights. Under his leadership, ECT has undertaken significant community-oriented programs such as:

- Free medical outreach and health awareness campaigns
- Legal literacy initiatives addressing family protection and women's rights
- Educational scholarships for underprivileged Christian students
- Youth leadership development forums

These initiatives have strengthened grassroots empowerment and social cohesion across denominational boundaries.

International Religious Leadership Training and Global Exposure

Dr. Milton Biswas's leadership perspective has been enriched by substantial **international religious training and ecumenical exposure**. He successfully completed a **25-day intensive Leadership Training Program at the Haggai International Institute, Maui, Hawaii, USA**, focusing on faith-based leadership, ethical governance and community transformation.

In addition, he has actively participated in **ecumenical seminars and interfaith conferences** in several countries, including:

Thailand, Myanmar, India, Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, Germany and France.

These engagements have enabled him to develop a global outlook on religious dialogue, minority rights advocacy and intercultural cooperation.

Historical Documentation and Literary Contributions

One of Dr. Milton Biswas's most notable intellectual achievements is his comprehensive documentation of the **over 450-year history of the Church in Bangladesh (1600–2025)**, moving beyond fragmented missionary records to produce a systematic historical narrative. This research highlights Christianity's contributions to education, language development, healthcare and social reform.

His major research themes include:

- Eurasian heritage and identity formation among Firingee and Anglo-Bengali Christians

- Christian participation in Bangladesh’s Liberation War (1971)
- Christian symbolism and the archetype of Resurrection in world literature

These works have established a scholarly foundation for understanding the **intersection of faith, culture, and national history**.

According to the detailed research monograph uploaded in this conversation, Dr. Biswas’s intellectual activism combines academic scholarship with social leadership to promote minority awareness and interfaith harmony in Bangladesh .

Advocacy, Public Intellectualism and Human Rights Engagement

Dr. Biswas is also a prolific public intellectual, having authored **over 4,000 newspaper columns** addressing issues of minority oppression, social injustice and democratic rights.

As former **Chairman of the Shalom Foundation**, he contributed to humanitarian programs focusing on poverty alleviation and community welfare. Through ECT, he established a **legal aid initiative** to support Christians in safeguarding ancestral properties and church lands from unlawful occupation.

He is a strong proponent of **Interfaith Dialogue (Dialogic Faith)** and regularly organizes meetings with leaders from Muslim, Hindu and Buddhist communities to promote peaceful coexistence and national unity.

International Recognition and Digital Academic Outreach

Dr. Biswas’s scholarly works are globally accessible through major digital publishing platforms such as **Amazon Kindle, Draft2Digital and Apple Books**, bringing Bangladeshi Christian history into international academic circulation.

His contributions have been acknowledged through prestigious honors, including:

- **Dineshchandra Sen Memorial Gold Medal (2023)** for excellence in literature and research
- **Life Membership of Bangla Academy**, recognizing his national contribution to language and literary scholarship