



This section focuses on reflections from young students of ICMAB and how they have been pursuing their CMA career path and facing challenges in CMA study at the beginning of their career.

Mr. Md. Jahirul Islam is a final level student of ICMAB. He has passed 1800 marks. He completed his MBS degree in Accounting and obtained first class from National University under Govt. Bangla College, Dhaka. He completed his BBS degree in Accounting and obtained first class from National University under Feni Govt. College, Feni. Currently he is working with (SAP) ERP-FICO team in Square Textile. During his College and School life, he has participated in various games, sports and cultural activities.

Why do you pursue CMA education from ICMAB?

From my early age, it was a dream to become a corporate leader. In order to achieve that, I thought need a professional degree. I was enquiring about various professional degrees in Bangladesh a degree which is held by corporate leaders of leading organizations. I came across the name of ICMAB amongst others. I was collecting information about ICMAB and its educational systems. As I came from mid-level family money is the main factor to get admitted in any institute for achieving the professional degree. No other global professional degree like ICMAB can be earned with such a minimum cost. As feature of ICMAB was matching with my expectation, I decided to get admitted in ICMAB for achieving my goal.

How do you make a comparison between CMA education and other academic qualifications?

CMA is a professional certification in the area of cost accounting, management accounting and

financial accounting. The certification indicates that the person have knowledge in the fields of Costing, budgeting, financial planning, financial control etc. Other educational qualifications do not provide specific knowledge like CMA qualification. Many CMA qualified persons are currently serving very in the fields like Tax, VAT, Operations, SCM, ERP and Commercial in addition to the accounts and finance. that's why I think CMA educations is different from other academic qualifications.

What are the main challenges you faced in studying CMA education?

I was admitted in ICMAB after completing my bachelor degree it was really challenging for me to continue my education because my family was not capable enough to support me financially. After completing 900 marks I was searching for job and I got the job in a reputed company. I have to acquire more knowledge from various sources to qualify CMA examination. The time constrain became the

main challenge for me. I have allocated few hours of my time regularly for CMA education but it seems not enough.

Do you think that CMA qualification will give you added advantage in the job market?

Definitely, CMA degree will give me added advantage in the job market. Already I have received benefit in my workplace such as in recent exam after passing 3 subject I was promoted. In my opinion, without any professional degree its difficult for one to reach the top position in an organization. CMA profession is one of the leading professional degrees in Bangladesh which also recognized globally.

What is the strategy you are following to complete the CMA education?

Studying continuously is my strategy, so I think that my strategy is very simple. Before being engaged in job, I was regular in visiting ICMAB library from morning till closure of the library. We created a 4-members study group in library for studying math and case study base subject. Now I am working in Square Textile Divisions head office as a Core Team Member SAP (ERP) FICO and my office is in Uttara which is around 15 km far. Now, every day, after office hour, I go to ICMAB library for studying. I am taking the pressure as I know the honor and Value of the CMA.

What do you expect to get from ICMAB as a student?

I am proud to be a student of ICMAB. My target is to become a member of ICMAB very soon. So, my expectation is very high from my ICMAB.

- to give emphasis on online learning process rather than traditional concept, because it will be helpful to us to understand & learn more efficiently and easily.
- to arrange training, seminar on regular basis on current issues, changes in global accounting systems, prominent accounting software like, SAP, Tally, Quick Books etc.
- Enhance public relation with various sector to widen job market for students and members.
- Professional development of the student by arranging extra curricular activities like, case study discussion, motivational speech regularly.
- Establish a language club to enhance proficiency in language.

Could you remember any memorable event during your study at ICMA?

My 1st examination day in ICMAB is the most memorable day of my ICMAB study life. The system of examination is totally different from other educational examination system. There are no alternative question, that means “all questions are to be attempted”. When I got the question paper, I was surprised because till that time, this pattern of question paper was new to me. I wanted to understand the question paper very carefully. After passing few minutes I asked the teacher for helping me to explain the pattern of the question. Teacher explained me very briefly about the question. The examination room was absolutely silent every one was busy with their writing because all the answer have to be answered within due time.

Do you think the CMA qualification will be able to fulfill your aspirations?

Of course, I believe, my aspirations will be fulfilled if I can earn CMA degree. In Bangladesh many CMA's are playing leading role in professional arena. Specially in manufacturing industries CMA professionals has contributed a lot. In today's scenario, CMA professionals are contributing a lot in the area of cost accounting, management accounting, financial accounting and other sectors of the company including operation. With the enhancement of their professional skills, CMA professional has created new scope in the job market. So, I think CMA professionals will go a long way in the upcoming future. 

[Interviewed by Sazedul Hoq ACMA]

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