

# World **CMA Students'**

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. Imran Hossen** is a Management level Student of ICMAB. He has completed 1100 marks from ICMAB along with his graduation. He started his Professional journey at ICMAB after his HSC through intermediate Entry Route in the year of 2016. Recently he has completed his graduation with a major in accounting from Dhaka College affiliated with University of Dhaka. He completed his HSC from Notre Dame College, Dhaka in 2013 and SSC from Shekhdhi Abdulla Molla High School, Jatrabari Dhaka in 2011.



## **Why do you pursue CMA education from ICMAB? Explain in detail?**

Since my childhood, I envisage to be a unique personality and I have cherished this dream throughout my academic endeavor. After my HSC examination, I felt the urge to do something unique. Yet, the initial plan did not work well due to the lack of proper guidelines. Then I chose to start a bachelor degree (BBA) in Accounting. Simultaneously, I was looking for alternatives to fulfill my long cherished dream. Few of my friends were committed to make preparation for public sector jobs. I was confused of choosing the right direction. I got disappointed and frustrated about my future. The news of CMA qualification came to me as an incredible opportunity to materialize my childhood dream. Then I decided to get admission at the ICMAB. Moreover, I have found that ICMAB offer CMA with very affordable cost and the degree is accredited with CIMA (UK). Also, it would be advantageous for my future career. Considering all of this, I decided to pursue CMA from ICMAB.

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

Well, if I have to make a comparison between CMA education and other academic qualification, I

would say that academic qualifications involve the study of a subject with an academic discipline and may be research oriented. The qualification could only contribute in building specialized knowledge in a subject matter. It may not necessarily provide the required practical knowledge. On the other hand, CMA qualification is application oriented advanced level studies. CMA qualification would not only impart a wide variety of knowledge but also build a set of practical skills necessary for professional works.

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

As CMA is a challenging degree, everyone needs to do proper paperwork to get CMA degree. I followed some strategies to finish CMA degree in time. As mentioned before, I have been pursuing both an academic and professional CMA degree. So, it has been challenging for me when the exam schedule of both collide and I have to make exam preparation for both around the same time. However, I worked hard and managed to appear in both exams with good preparation. I know my hard work would build a better career.

## **Do you think that CMA qualification will help you to get added advantage in the job market?**

Obviously, I think that CMA qualification will help anyone to get advantage in the job market. As far as Bangladesh is concerned, we have still limited number of professional accountants compared to the size of our market and economy. Also, each year a limited number qualify CMA degree.

CMAs achieve top position in companies very easily. Individual who start their career with an academic degree will often find them in difficult position after a certain period. On the other hand, it is easier for CMA professionals to reach to upper echelon of management.

### **What are the strategy you are following to complete the CMA education on schedule?**

Everyone needs to follow some strategy to achieve his/her desired goals. Here are some strategies that I would suggest for fellow CMA students:

1. **Regular Study:** I have always been regular in CMA study. I try to complete at least few pages of study per day.
2. **Time Management:** I followed a proper time schedule for each subject I passed over the last few years.
3. **Making Notes:** In every subject, I maintained write down notes containing important points and formulae.
4. **Group Study:** For each subject I passed so far, I have maintained group study. This has helped me to solve complex and difficult topics with ease and comfort.
5. **Practice, Practice and Practice:** Practice makes a man perfect. One of the great strategies for passing CMA easily is practicing more and more. For example, I used to practice each math 4/5 times before exam.

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

As a CMA student we always have expectations from ICMAB like the following:

1. ICMAB should create a career development panel to work as mentors. The team should organize training programs and give continuous guidelines

to the students for career development.

2. ICMAB should arrange some soft skills training and corporate skills training for students at minimum cost.
3. ICMAB should arrange some practical workshops to provide insights on working environment.
4. The institute should arrange training programs on IFRS, IAS, VAT & TAX as pertinent knowledge enhancing initiatives.

### **Could you remember any memorable event during your study at ICMAB?**

Out of thousands events there is one, which I remember well. As mentioned earlier, I have been pursuing both an academic and a professional qualification together to reap the best for my career. For that, I had to appear in both academic and CMA exams at the same time, which was quite challenging for me. I still remember about December 2019 when CMA and BBA 4th year's final exams were held concurrently. The exam schedule was so close that I had exams in every consecutive day. I had managed well both the exams and passed with good result.

### **To fulfill your future dream comes true; do you think the CMA qualification will be able to fulfill your Aspirations?**

Obviously, I do believe that CMA education would make a better future and all of my dreams would come true one day after achieving CMA degree. It is not only fulfilling my dreams but also it would enhance my capability to add value to the corporate world and to the Economy.

I believe that CMA qualification is the path for me to make myself an innovative and creative professional. In addition, we are living in a decade where a rapid change has become the norm: Covid-19, unprecedented digital disruption and global financial crisis, whereas, CMA qualification would help us to take pragmatic and proactive stance in current uncertainties and combat the challenges of Globalization and Digitalization.

*[Interviewed by: Sazedul Hoq ACMA]*