

Capt. Dr. Mohammed Russtam Suhrab Ismail

Master Mariner | Academic Leader | Maritime Educator | Researcher

Captain Dr. Mohammed Russtam Suhrab Ismail stands as a towering figure in maritime education and seafaring, with a distinguished career spanning more than four decades that seamlessly bridges practical seafaring expertise and academic excellence. Currently serving as an Instructor (Adjunct) at the Marine Fisheries Academy in Chattogram, affiliated with Bangladesh Maritime University, Dr. Ismail continues to shape the next generation of maritime professionals. His illustrious career includes a significant tenure as Senior Lecturer and PIC of International Promotion (Bangladesh) at Universiti Malaysia Terengganu's Faculty of Nautical Science & Maritime Transportation within the School of Ocean Engineering from December 2014 to January 2026, where he was a transformative force in maritime education across Asia. Before his international academic career, he served as Chief of Nautical Studies at MAS Maritime Academy, where he led academic planning and delivery of STCW-compliant training programs.

His maritime odyssey commenced with a solid academic foundation, earning his M.Sc. in Marine Navigation with Distinction from Murmansk Higher Engineering Marine School (now Murmansk State Technical University) in 1982, followed by a Ph.D. in Marine Navigation from the prestigious Admiral Makarov Leningrad Higher Marine Engineering School (now Admiral Makarov State University of Maritime & Inland Shipping) in 1987. His professional pinnacle was achieved in 1992 when he obtained his Master Mariner certification (COC Class-1 Ocean Going) from DOMT, Russian Federation, cementing his status among the elite of the maritime profession. This rare combination of advanced academic qualifications and the highest professional certification positions him uniquely among maritime educators.

Dr. Ismail's academic portfolio reflects remarkable breadth and depth. His teaching expertise encompasses Bridge Watchkeeping (Basic & Advanced), Ship Handling and Maneuvering utilizing the Polaris Full Mission Bridge Simulator, Cargo Operation and Management, Electro-Radio Navigation Systems, Principles of Navigation, Radar and ARPA systems, Shipboard Management, Ship Stability and Construction, Collision Prevention Regulations, and Ocean and Offshore Navigation. This comprehensive knowledge base, validated by his Malaysian Marine Department Teaching Permit valid until 2030 and PMTA issued in 2014, has enabled him to deliver exceptional maritime education to diverse cohorts of students across multiple institutions and countries.

As a dedicated educator and research supervisor, Dr. Ismail has mentored and graduated 3 Ph.D. candidates, 4 Master's students, and supervised 50 Bachelor's final year project students, with an additional 2 Master's students currently under his guidance. His research contributions are well-documented through his Google Scholar profile and ORCID, reflecting his commitment to

advancing maritime knowledge and contributing to the academic literature in his field. His supervision track record demonstrates his ability to guide students at all levels of academic pursuit.

His professional standing is further validated by prestigious affiliations, including Fellowship with The Nautical Institute London (AFNI) since February 2007, Membership with the Royal Institute of Navigation (MRIN), and Life Membership with the Society of Master Mariners Bangladesh since September 1994. These memberships reflect his sustained commitment to professional development and contribution to the global maritime community. The breadth of his affiliations underscores his international recognition and respect within the maritime industry.

Dr. Ismail's extensive maritime education, covering subjects such as Seamanship & Ship Control, Advanced Marine Navigation, Maritime Law, Cargo Operations, Advanced Ship Stability, Ship Construction, Marine Meteorology, Nautical Astronomy, Electro-Radio Navigation Systems, and Marine Power Plant Engineering, uniquely positions him as a comprehensive maritime scholar capable of addressing the multifaceted challenges of modern shipping and maritime education. This diverse educational background enables him to provide holistic instruction that prepares students for the complex realities of contemporary maritime operations.

Beyond his technical and academic prowess, Dr. Ismail serves as a cultural and educational bridge, promoting maritime education across international borders and fostering collaboration between Bangladesh, Malaysia, and other maritime nations. His career exemplifies the ideal fusion of theoretical knowledge, practical experience, and pedagogical excellence that defines the modern maritime educator. As he continues his academic journey at the Marine Fisheries Academy, Dr. Ismail remains dedicated to nurturing the next generation of maritime professionals, ensuring they possess the competence, professionalism, and ethical foundation required to navigate the increasingly complex waters of international shipping and maritime operations. His legacy as an educator, mentor, and maritime scholar continues to inspire students and colleagues alike.