

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রী
FOREIGN MINISTER



GOVERNMENT OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
DHAKA

Message

15 August 2020

Today is 15 August, our 'National Mourning Day' - it is a disgraceful day for the Bengali Nation.

On this day in 1975, the architect of Independent Bangladesh, the greatest Bengali of all time, the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman along with most of his family members was assassinated in one of the most barbaric carnages of history. However, by the grace of Almighty Allah, both the daughters of Bangabandhu, Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Sheikh Rehana survived as they were abroad at that time.

On this day of mourning, I recall our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members martyred on 15 August with deep reverence.

The year 2020 is very significant in our national life. The Birth Centenary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman is being celebrated this year. The celebration will continue up to 26th March 2021. The coming year 2021 will mark the Golden Jubilee of our independence. These two glorious occasions are special events in our national life.

The charismatic leadership of the Father of the Nation united the whole nation like a solid rock under one umbrella. The Bengali Nation made utmost sacrifice and embraced untold sufferings at his clarion call for the achievement of a sovereign Bangladesh. Bangabandhu led all the democratic movements of Bengalis directed towards getting their freedom and rights. He never compromised on the question of the rights of the Bangalees. Bangabandhu was not only the leader of the Bengali but also a forerunner in realizing the rights of the oppressed and deprived people of the world. In response to his clarion call, the Bengali people took part in the nine month long great liberation war and achieved independent Bangladesh.

The Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman dreamt of a happy and prosperous Sonar Bangla, free from all kinds of exploitation and oppression. His dream was inspired by his enduring love for people, affection for Bengalis and a society free from all kinds of discrimination - all those constituted the core philosophy of his life. The death of Bangabandhu does not mean the extinct of the values, principles and ideals; rather these are ingrained in the depth of the heart of the Bengali Nation. His political ideologies reflected his belief in humanity, empowering people, ensuring socio-economic freedom, peace and rights of the oppressed people all across the world. Bangabandhu's extraordinary heroism was a source of inspiration for the people of the world.

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We have to uphold the ideology and achievements of the Father of the Nation in a much wider range in the international arena.

The progress was stalled, albeit, for a while. Nevertheless, Bangabandhu's daughter and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is determined to build a prosperous, knowledge based and happy country. As a result of pragmatic initiatives taken by the Awami League government, now Bangladesh has been transformed into a vibrant economy. The present government continues to make significant progress in rapid economic and social development which has helped to increase living standard of the general people and has been working relentlessly to turn Bangladesh into a developed country by the vision 2041. Poverty alleviation, sustainable growth, protection of the environment, women empowerment and human resources development are some of the key features of Bangladesh's development strategy. Today the country is often cited by the international community as a 'Role Model for Development'.

The government is working with utmost sincerity under the direct supervision of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to overcome the impact of Covid -19 Pandemic. Hon'ble Prime Minister declared a number of stimulus packages to support the emergency healthcare services, to protect jobs and to achieve smooth economic recovery. The economic recovery packages declared so far has totaled Tk. 1,03,117 crore.

On the day of mourning, let us transform our grief into strength and devote ourselves to build a prosperous Bangladesh under the leadership of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina to realise Bangabandhu's dream of Sonar Bangla (Golden Bengal).

**Joy Bangla, Joy Bangabandhu.
May Bangladesh Live Forever.**

Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP