

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ

পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রী  
FOREIGN MINISTER



GOVERNMENT OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
DHAKA

Message

16 December 2019

Today is our glorious Victory Day. This is the unique day of pride for the Bengali Nation. On this day in 1971, we snatched the victory by defeating the occupying Pakistani forces and achieved long-cherished independent and sovereign Bangladesh. On this happy moment, I extend my sincere greetings and warm felicitations to all the citizens of Bangladesh including expatriate Bangladeshis.

On this auspicious day, I recall with profound reverence the greatest Bengali of all time, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Under his dynamic, courageous and charismatic leadership, the Bangali Nation brought the red sun of independence breaking the shackles of subjugation of thousands of years. With deep respect, I recall the supreme sacrifices made by our war heroes, the 3 million martyrs and the wounded freedom fighters. I also pay my profound gratitude to the members of our Diaspora and the diplomatic front who, during and after our Liberation War, played a vital role in gaining international recognition.

Bangladesh is now well poised to celebrate the golden jubilee of our glorious independence and Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, which are rare occasions in our history. Celebrating year-long Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, I believe, his ideology and achievements will be made possible to uphold in a much wider range in the international arena. Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Bangladesh Missions abroad have been working to engage the international organizations, including the United Nations.

The seeds of development of the country were sown under the leadership of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. He took over the leadership of a war-ravaged and economically backward country. Bangabandhu accomplished the formidable tasks of rehabilitation and rebuilding the nation just in three and a half years. Conspirators and enemies committed the heinous crime on 15 August 1975 to thwart our advancement. Under the visionary leadership of Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, the government has been working relentlessly to turn Bangladesh into a middle income country by 2021 and a developed country by 2041. The country is often cited as a "Role Model for Development" and as per ADB, among the 45 Asia-Pacific countries, Bangladesh achieved highest GDP growth rate last year and it was 8.15%. Hon'ble Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's zero tolerance policy towards all forms of terrorism and violent extremism has received full support and cooperation from all walks of life as well as from the international community. I hope that the Bangladeshi expatriate will participate in the ongoing advancement of the government.

On this day, I congratulate Bangladesh Diaspora in every corner of the world. I also thank all the members of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and our Missions abroad who have been working with utmost dedication and commitment in achieving our foreign policy objectives and promote national interest of Bangladesh on the world stage.

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On this historic day, we, overwhelmed with the joy of victory, make a renewed pledge to devote ourselves to work from our respective positions imbued with the spirit of Liberation War to build a 'Sonar Bangla' and also a better world for our future generations.

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

**Dr. A. K. Abdul Momen, MP**