

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



**PRIME MINISTER**  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF**  
**BANGLADESH**

27 Poush 1424  
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## Message

The 10<sup>th</sup> January of 1972 is one of the red letter days in the history of the liberation struggle of the Bangalee nation. On this day, the greatest Bangalee of all time, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman returned to independent Bangladesh after over nine and a half months' captivity in a Pakistan jail.

Bangladesh Awami League achieved absolute majority in the 1970 elections under the leadership of the Father of the Nation. But the Pakistani military junta continued to cling to power ignoring the people's mandate staging various farces. Aiming at an ultimate target to free the Bangalee nation, Bangabandhu in his address at the then historic Racecourse Maidan on the 7<sup>th</sup> March in 1971 declared, "This time the struggle is for our freedom, this time the struggle is for the independence". The Pakistani occupation forces launched brutal attack on the innocent Bangalees and carried out massacre on the night of the 25<sup>th</sup> of March in 1971. The Father of the Nation declared Independence of Bangladesh at the first hour of the 26<sup>th</sup> March.

Just after his declaration of the independence, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was arrested and subsequently sent to a solitary confinement in Pakistani Jail. He was subjected to inhuman torture in the jail where he had been counting moments for being executed after his death sentence was pronounced in a farcical trial. In the face of death, he rejoiced the spirit of the Bangalee nation. He was the inspiration of the freedom fighters. Under his undisputed leadership, the Bangalee nation earned the ultimate victory waging the 9-month solemnly-vowed war. The defeated Pakistani rulers were finally compelled to free Bangabandhu. The Father of the Nation returned to the independent Bangladesh on the 10<sup>th</sup> January in 1972. On his return, he delivered a speech before a mammoth gathering at the Racecourse Maidan where he narrated the inhuman torture of the Pakistani military junta meted out on him. The Bangalee Nation got back the Father of the Nation and their victory attained the fulfillment.

After his return, the Father of the Nation devoted all his efforts to rebuild the war-ravaged Bangladesh. Bangladesh soon made its strong presence in the comity of nations under the charismatic leadership of Bangabandhu.

The anti-liberation forces in collusion with war criminals halted the march-forward of Bangladesh through killing the Father of the nation along with most of his family members on the 15 August 1975. The armed usurpers marred the democracy, defaced the constitution. They distorted the glorious history of our independence and halted the path of progress and development.

The democracy has been reestablished after a protracted struggles and sacrifices. The Awami League government has uplifted the living standard of the people through tireless efforts. Bangladesh is now a universal model of development. The historic 7th March Speech of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman has been included in the international memory of the world register as World Documentary Heritage by UNESCO. This recognition has made the nation proud again. The world is now acclaiming Bangladesh for attaining remarkable progress in socio-economic fronts.

We will turn Bangladesh into a middle-income country by 2021 and a developed and prosperous one by 2041. Let us build a hunger-poverty-free and happy-prosperous Sonar Bangladesh as dreamt by Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

**Sheikh Hasina**