

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



PRIME MINISTER
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH

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Message

The greatest Bangalee, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman returned to independent Bangladesh on the 10th January of 1972 after over nine and a half months' captivity in a Pakistan jail. The 10th January is one of the memorable days in the history of the liberation struggle of the Bangalee.

Bangladesh Awami League achieved absolute majority in the 1971 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 7th March in 1971 declared, "This time the struggle is for our freedom, this time the struggle is for the independence". The Paistani occupation forces launched brutal attack on the innocent Bangalees and carried out massacre on the night of the 25th March in 1971. Bangabandhu declared Independence of Bangladesh at the first hour of the 26th 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. Even in the face of imminent 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 war. The defeated Pakistani rulers were compelled to free Bangabandhu. The Father of Nation returned to the independent Bangladesh on the 10th January 1972. While speaking before a mammoth gathering at the then Racecourse Maidan on the day, he narrated the inhuman torture of the Pakistani military junta meted out on the people of Bangladesh. 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. Responding to his call, many international organizations, including the United Nations and friendly countries quickly recognized Bangladesh. Bangladesh became a member of OIC in 1974. Within a short time under the charismatic leadership of Bangabandhu, Bangladesh made a strong position in the world.

As Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib had engaged himself in the struggle to build a "Golden Babgladesh" reconstructing the war-torn country, the anti-liberation forces in collusion with the war criminals assassinated Bangabandhu along with most of his family members. Through the heinous killings of the 15th August 1975, they initiated the politics of killings, coup and conspiracy and obstructed the process to try the killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib through promulgating Indemnity Ordinance. They ruined the democracy by declaring Martial Law, distorted the glorious history of our independence, defaced the constitution and gagged the press freedom. The BNP-Jamat alliance government had followed the paths of their predecessors.

We reestablished the democracy in 1996 through a long struggle and sacrifice. Our government's 1996-2001 tenure will always be marked as a glorious period in our national history. The Bangalee nation reestablished democracy and rights of the people in 2008 through a long struggle. The nation overwhelmingly voted in favour of Bangladesh Awami League, the party that led the War of Liberation, in the much-awaited parliamentary elections. Awami League-led Grand Alliance government ensured the franchise of the people by bringing the 15th amendment to the constitution which prohibited usurpation of the state power.