

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



Message

PRIME MINISTER
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
BANGLADESH

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The greatest Bangalee of all times, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman returned to independent Bangladesh on the 10th January of 1972 after being freed from captivity in Pakistan's prison. The 10th of January is a historic day of signifying the liberty-struggle of the Bangalee. This very day has been selected for counting down the celebration of birth centenary of the Father of the Nation.

Bangladesh Awami League won by the totality of the electoral support in the 1970 elections under the leadership of the Father of the Nation. But the Pakistani military junta continued to ceasing the power from the elected representatives of the people paying no heed to the public mandate and also continued to stage farces. Aiming at an ultimate target to free the nation, Bangabandhu in his address in front of millions of audience at the then historic Racecourse Maidan on the 7th March in 1971 declared, ".....turn every house into fortress.....The struggle this time is a struggle for emancipation. The struggle this time is a struggle for independence". The Pakistani occupation forces launched a brutal killing mission on the innocent Bangalees in the dark of the 25th March in 1971. Bangabandhu proclaimed Independence of Bangladesh in the first hour of the 26th March.

Just after his declaration of independence, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was arrested and subsequently sent to 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 learning that death is imminent, he rejoiced the spirit of the Bangalee nation. He was the spirit of life for the freedom fighters. Under his undisputed leadership, the Bangalee nation achieved the ultimate victory. The defeated Pakistani rulers were compelled to free Bangabandhu. The Father of Nation returned to independent Bangladesh on the 10th of January 1972. While speaking before a mammoth public gathering at the Racecourse Maidan on the day, he narrated the inhuman torture of the Pakistani military junta meted out on him and in that respect, he also appealed to the United Nations to bring the Pakistani army in custody for committing such a crime of genocide during the liberation war. The Bangalee Nation got back the Father of the Nation. The victory attained fulfillment.

While Bangabandhu had engaged himself in the struggle to build a "Golden Bangladesh" as he dreamed, the anti-liberation forces in collusion with the war criminals assassinated the Father of the Nation along with most of his family members. Through this most abhorrent murdering of the 15th of August 1975, they initiated the politics of killing, coup, and conspiracy and obstructed the process to try the killers of Bangabandhu through promulgating Indemnity Ordinance. They rewarded those killers through recruiting them in the Embassies of Bangladesh as diplomats. They ruined the democracy by declaring Martial Law, distorted the glorious history of our independence, defaced the constitution and chocked press freedom. The BNP-Jamat government kept up on the path of their predecessors.

The Awami League, after a long 21 years of struggle and sacrifice, assumed the responsibility of running the government in 1996. Again the Awami League that led the War of Liberation formed a grand alliance, which had won a landslide victory in the 2008 election. Since then, Bangladesh Awami League has been in government for the last three consecutive terms and relentlessly been working for the development of the country and the people. Our government has accomplished immense developments in all sectors, including macro-economy, agriculture, education, health, transport, ICT, infrastructure, power, rural economic development, diplomatic successes during the last eleven years. The people living in the periphery of the country are the beneficiaries of this development. Now, Bangladesh has become one of the top five countries in the world in economic growth, a 'Role Model' for development.

We have already announced 17 March 2020 to 17 March 2021 time as 'Mujib Year'. We along with the UNESCO will jointly celebrate the birth centenary of Bangabandhu, 17th March, 2020 will be marked by the glorious inauguration of the birth centenary of Bangabandhu.

All the clocks for counting down the event and the displays to portray the life and work of Bangabandhu will be commenced on 10th January, which I hope will touch the lives of all walks with lots of courage and inspiration.

I pray for the all-out success of all programs undertaken to celebrate the counting down moment of the birth centenary of on Home-Return Day of the Father of the nation.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Sheikh Hasina