

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



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

31 Shrabon 1425  
15 August 2018

**Message**

The 15th August is the National Mourning Day. On this day in 1975, the greatest Bangalee of all time, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, along with his family members, was assassinated in one of the most barbaric carnages in the human history.

Eighteen members of the family along with Bangabandhu's wife Sheikh Fazilatunnesa Mujib, 3 sons- Captain Sheikh Kamal, Lieutenant Sheikh Jamal and Sheikh Russel- 2 daughters-in-law Sultana Kamal and Rosy Jamal, brother Sheikh Naser, peasant leader Abdur Rab Serniabat, youth leader Sheikh Fazlul Haq Moni and his wife Arzu Moni, Baby Serniabat, Sukanta Babu, Arif and Abdul Nayeem Khan Rintu were killed on that fateful night. Bangabandhu's Military Secretary Colonel Jamil was also killed. Some members of a family at Mohammadpur in the capital were also killed by artillery shells fired by the killers on the same day.

On this day, I pray to the Almighty Allah for the salvation of the souls of all martyrs of the 15th August, including the Father of the Nation.

Under the dynamic, courageous and charismatic leadership of the Father of the Nation, the people of this territory brought the reddish sun of the independence breaking the shackles of subjugation of thousands of years. The Bangalees have gotten their own nation-state, flag and national anthem.

But Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was killed at a time when he had undertaken an arduous task of building a Golden Bangladesh reconstructing the war-ravaged country and unifying the whole nation. The defeated forces of the Liberation War made abortive attempts to ruin the tradition, culture and advancement of the Bangalee nation. Their aim was to destroy the secular democratic fabric of Bangladesh.

The anti-liberation forces linked to the carnage initiated the politics of assassination, coup and conspiracy. The trial of Bangabandhu's brutal assassination was blocked through promulgation of indemnity ordinance.

Ziaur Rahman usurped the state power and promulgated Martial Law suspending the constitution and overthrowing the people's elected government. The killers of the Father of the Nation were rewarded and given jobs at the Bangladesh missions abroad. The anti-liberation elements were given nationality. They were made partners of the state power and rehabilitated politically and socially. The subsequent governments of BNP-Jamat alliance had followed the same path.

Winning the general elections on 12th June 1996, Bangladesh Awami League assumed state power after long 21 years. A new horizon of development was initiated during the 5-year tenure overcoming the obstacles of the past. The country once deficient in food production became self-sufficient. This period was a 'golden era' for the countrymen. We had initiated the trial of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib killing case. But after taking over state power, BNP-Jamat government stopped the trial.

The people of the country made Awami League victorious again in the 29th December general elections in 2008. Overcoming the stagnancy left by the previous BNP-Jamat government and global economic recession, we have put the country on firm economic footing. Rejecting BNP-Jamat's conspiracy to foil the general elections on 5th January 2014, people upheld the constitutional process by casting their votes. Bangladesh Awami League formed the government again and continued the work of development.

During the last nine and a half years, we have achieved desired advancement in every sector. Bangladesh is now a 'role model' of socio-economic development. Bangladesh has recently being graduated to developing country. We have launched Bangabandhu satellite-1. We shall turn Bangladesh into a middle-income country before 2021 and a developed one by 2041, InshaAllah.

We have executed the verdict of the Bangabandhu killing case. The trial of the killers of four national leaders has been completed. The verdicts of the cases against war criminals are being executed. Our government is following 'zero tolerance' policy to uproot militancy-terrorism. The path of grabbing state power unconstitutionally has been stopped by passing 15th amendment to the Constitution by the parliament. We have to remain ready to resist any ill-attempt by the anti-liberation-communal group and anti-development-democracy forces.

The killers were able to assassinate Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman but they could not erase his dreams and ideals. Let us come and turn the grief of the loss of Bangabandhu into strength. Let us engage ourselves holding Bangabandhu's philosophy in building a non-communal, hunger-, illiteracy-free, and happy-prosperous Bangladesh and establish the Golden Bangladesh as dreamt by the Father of the Nation. That is our solemn pledge on the National Mourning Day.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu  
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

**Sheikh Hasina**