NORTH SOUTH UNIVERSITY

600 km

DHP

DEPARTMENT OF HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY

EMERGENCE OF BANGLADESH

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INTRODUCTORY SESSION

GENERAL

Human beings love to narrate
& listen to stories

Just remember how fondly we had lent our ears to our grandpas and grandmas in our childhood before going to sleep or spent hours together under a moonlit night trying to figure out an old lady spinning thread on her spinning wheel sitting on the moon.

- Even we read in our primary school text books as to how the cave dwellers used to write and paint stories of their exploits on the cave walls and now living in 21st century what we do?
- We take selfies and put those on Facebook wall.
- Stories are what make the sense of the world we live in; stories are what define us.
- Since human history covers endless time and involved billions of people, there is no chance that we could study them all.
- Therefore, when we study the past, we need to select which are significant enough to be discussed.
- So it is very important that we fix first what is important.
- Now how do you understand what's important?
- This can be measured against some criteria like:

NOVELTY

- ‘Novelty’ means “the quality of being new, original, or unusual“. For example:
- Think of German Inventor Gutenberg's printing machine. In 1440, it launched a revolution in printing. It allowed manuscripts and books to be mass-produced at a cheaper cost. It eventually helped increase literacy throughout Europe because more people had access to literature.
- WW I is one such event. With the end of Treaty of Versailles in Paris in 1919, the maps of Europe and the Middle East looked drastically different. The Russian, Austro-Hungarian and German empires collapsed, and their former territories formed many modern-day European nations.
- Much of the new technological advancement was used for the first time in this war for example machine gun, grandees, mortar, artillery, tanks, sub-marines, telegraph and air-crafts.

APPLICABILITY

A past event can suddenly become significant because people have found their applicability to something happening currently. Examples:

- How Bangladesh dealt with insurgency situation in CHT that erupted over the nationality issue back in 1970s and 1990s. It offered lot of invaluable lessons.
- Probably something from our model could be applied to resolve the nationality issues within and outside our region. For Example, the Rohinga issue by Mayanmar & the Baluchistan problem by Pakistan.
- You must have heard about the Spanish flu that caused about 50 million deaths worldwide; far more than the deaths from battle casualties in the WW I (1914-18).
- The protocols used during those days are now followed by us in our fight against Covid-19.

MEMORY

- Things often become significant because they have been remembered in a particular way over time.
- In history, it is common for certain events to become more famous with each passing year. For example:
- The language movement of 1952 and the liberation war of Bangladesh will continue to be the most significant events in our history because they have been commemorated as the basis of the formation of our identity.
- The same could apply to the people of Pakistan and India that came to be independent following the partition of Indian sub-continent in 1947. The people fought incessantly against the British to achieve their freedom.
- So is the 9/11 that is remembered with lot of grief and sadness. It also gave the US to wage the war on terror across the globe.

EFFECTS

- Finally, some people or events are also considered to be significant because a lot of people have been affected by them. Examples:
- We remember how WW 2 concluded defeating the Nazi Germany & fascist Italy that paved the way for democracy to flourish. In the wake of the war numerous countries across the globe got decolonized by several imperial powers.
- No other events impacted the life of so many people on the earth the way it did and as such it continue to hold its importance in human life for years to come.
- William Wilberforce - a British politician, philanthropist who played a significant role in abolishing the slave trade throughout the entire British Empire.

- By all these counts the emergence of Bangladesh is the finest stories to tell to the members of the future generations.
- You may ask as to why focusing on the youths? In fact the youth is the time to learn and build their character for any future undertakings.
- There are thousands of instances from the history where the youths achieved spectacular success.
- Even if I think of myself, in the 1990s while serving in the CHT, I could desperately haunt for the miscreants without any regards to my personal comfort and losses, I had no fear going inside battle zone between the belligerents as peacekeeper.
- But, now at this stage even if I am mentally ready but probably my physique will not allow me to do the same.
- Taking que from here, it can be said that if the youths can be groomed and brought up rightly they can achieve great things collectively/individually much naturally than the elderly people and the world history is abundantly flooded with such instances.

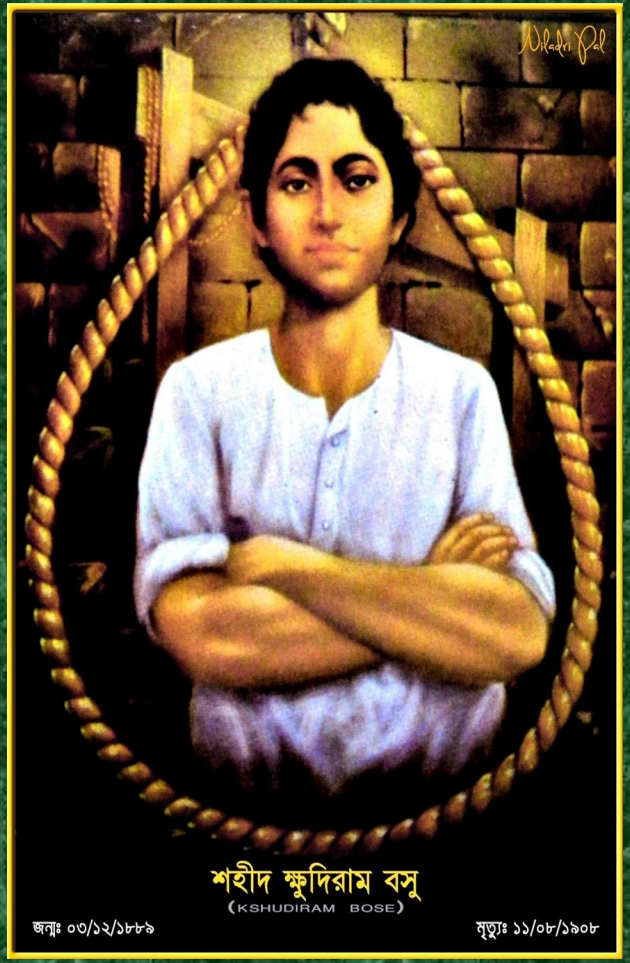
Alexander the great, the king of Macedonia conquered countries at only **18** and his empire stretched from Macedonia to Egypt and from Greece to part of India.

Agustus Caesar grandnephew of Julius Caesar who became Roman Senator at the age of **20**.

Joan of Arc who was the Heroine of France fought against the English and driven them out at **17**

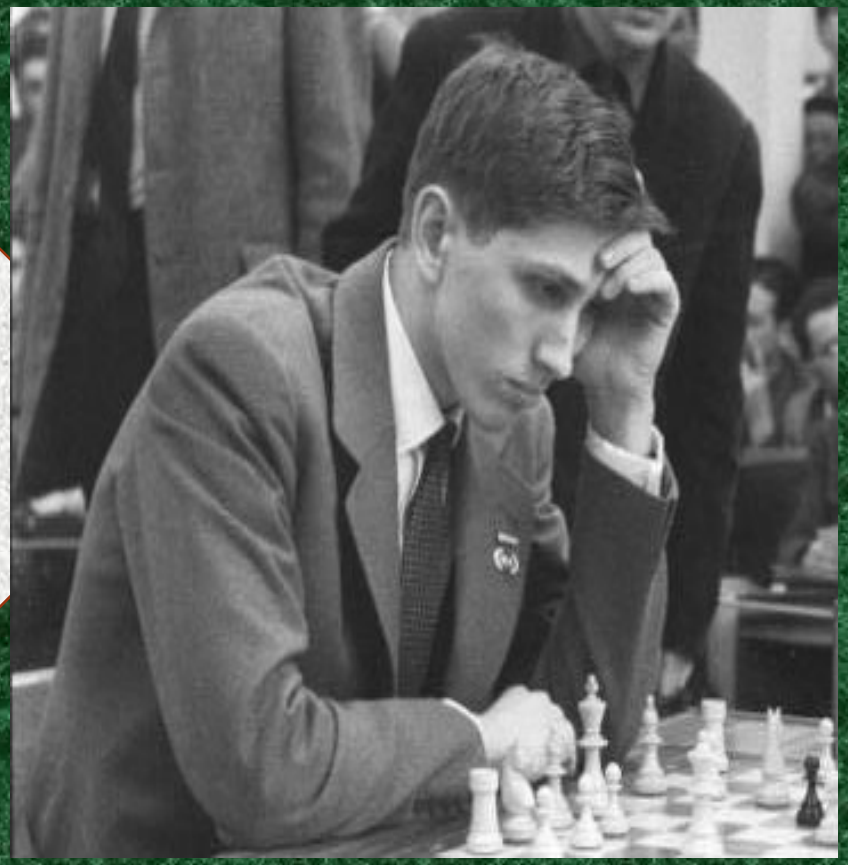
MalalaYousufzai- the Pakistani female education activist who was shot by the Taliban miscreants got Nobel Prize at the age of **16**

Khudiram Bose attempted to assassinate a British Magistrate Douglas Kingsford, by throwing bombs on his carriage in defying British rule in India. The magistrate couldn't be killed but two female were killed for which he was executed while he was only **18**. He came to be known as the youngest freedom fighters of Indian movement.



Boby Fischer – a US Grand master at 15 (US) who had an IQ level of 181 and someone with normal level would have a score of 100.

The lowest recorded IQ scores are found in sub-Saharan African countries such as Somalia (68), Sudan (71), and Ethiopia (69).



Pele the Brazilian footballer won World cup at only **17** and was the only player to have won three world cups

Mark Jukarberg – an American media magnet discovered Facebook at the age of **19**

Samantha Smith– the US School Girl wrote a letter to Russian leader Yuri Andropov inquiring why US-USSR got a bitter relation. She was invited by Yuri to visit USSR which she accepted. She became a peace activist and at later years while travelling by plane got crushed at the age of **13(1972-1985)**

- From these amazing stories we can very easily understand the strengths of the youths. Bangladesh is a young country. Nearly half the people are about 25 year's age.
- 65% people are working people in our country.
- Since 2007/2008, we are going through the demographic dividend phase.
- It's a phase when a country possesses maximum working age people in its inventory.
- This phase is likely to continue until 2040. This is attained when the birth rate is kept under tight control, mortality rate remains low. This is when more people earns, people tends to spend more and pays more taxes. As a whole the country develops in all indices.
- After 2040, the number of working people will be declining and then the government will have to spend much in social welfare in the form of pension, rehabilitation, social welfare and medical.
- So, now is the time the government needs to focus on the younger generations in terms of their education.

- We learnt little about emergence of Bangladesh in our primary and high school curriculum.
- But realizing the importance, UGC has made it mandatory for the private university students to learn about the emergence of Bangladesh.
- A study of history especially on emergence of Bangladesh is essential for good citizenship.
- This is the most common justification for the imparting history in educational institutions.
- But the greater objective is to induce them with love and patriotism to do great things for his or her countries.
- History helps us to understand people and societies. It provides a storehouse of information about how people and societies developed and behave.
- Understanding the operations of people and societies is not an easy task.
- How can we evaluate war if the nation is at peace - unless we use historical materials?
- We live in the present, but we plan for and worry about the future.

- History makes the link between the past and the future based on some events, facts and figures.
- But the sad part is that we don't prefer history over other subjects.
- People are less spontaneously drawn to the subject and more doubtful about the outcome of learning history.
- History is in fact very useful, actually indispensable, but the products of historical study are less tangible, sometimes less immediate, than those that stem from some other disciplines like medicine and engineering.
- But, practically studying history can help you earn great jobs
- 'A history major can lead to all kinds of careers. Some of the more popular options include:

Government positions,
Departments of Foreign Affairs & embassies
All kinds of NGOs,
Immigration and Aboriginal Affairs,
Teaching,
Journalism and the media,
Tourism,
Heritage consultancy and planning,
Museums,
Research institutes on arts and culture,
Public library
Archives,
Project management

YOU WILL BE SURPRISED TO KNOW THAT SOME OF THE WORLD'S MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE STUDIED HISTORY LIKE:

Alexander the Great

Prince Charles (Cambridge),

Shahi Tharor

Gordon Brown

Theodore Roosevelt

Woodrow Wilson

Franklin D. Roosevelt

George W. Bush

John F. Kennedy

Richard Nixon

Dwight Eisenhower

Winston Churchill

Henry Kissinger

Joe Biden

Kareem Abdul-Jabbar

- Unfortunately, we couldn't present the saga of our independence war to the members of the future generations befittingly.
- Let me share my experience which I gathered during the 2018 book fair. I was there to promote my book on liberation war. While standing in the book stall, I had an opportunity to talk to a group of students. I was narrating them about what all happened in DU on the night of 25 March 1971. When I finished taking, I just asked them as to why did I share all this with them? They replied to sell book.

- In today's world we need to sell better stories. If we do not tell our stories, nobody else will do it for us.

- Truth needs to be told and taught to the members of the future generations.
- History is neither for excuses nor revenge.

- If we understand how and why we responded to a particular situation in the past including its ramifications, maybe, we can develop a better response to a similar situation if it occurs again.

- I have carefully organized the course outline so that at the end of the course one has a fair understanding about the emergence of Bangladesh covering pertinent issues including the process through which we got our freedom.

- Initial lessons will amplify how the liberation war was historically contextualized. Mind you although ours is a 50 years history but our legacy goes as back as few thousand years. But I shall be covering from as early as 1600 onwards.

- Apart from the socio-political dimension, you will be also apprised about the way war unfolded including our response.
- I am particularly focusing to bring in synergy in the comprehensions of all students clearing long held doubts and misgivings.
- These doubts and misgivings are detrimental to the growth and development of the future citizens of the country.
- You will find this course as a saga of astounding Bengali victory and should serve as a stimulant for all particularly all of you who can claim to be the proud members of new generation Bengalis.
- Alongside learning I would request you to just focus on the class notes and also follow where do I put much emphasize for doing well in exams.
- If you follow this much, I hope you will not only learn but do well in exam too.

AIM

TO BRING FORTH A COHERENT UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROCESS THROUGH WHICH BANGLADESH GOT INDEPENDENCE WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIZE ON MAJOR POLITICAL EVENTS INCLUDING THE GROWTH, ROLE & EFFECTIVENESS OF OUR FFS.

COURSE OUTLINE

- **Session 1. Introductory Lecture on the Course** including discussion on Course Outline and pertinent issues Session
- **Session 2. Trader to Ruler (1600-1757):** Transformation of British trading interest into the colonial annexation of the Kingdom of Bengal following Battle of Plessey
- **Session 3. British Exploitation of various Resources including deindustrialization**
- **Session 4. Colonial Drug Trafficking in South-Asia – From Plessey to Partition**
- **Session 5. Dimensions of the Revolt of 1857 (Q-1)**

- **Session 6.** Exploitive British Policies and Resulting Orientation of the Muslims leading to the creation of Pakistan(1757-1947): permanent settlement of 1793, 1857 uprising, partition of Bengal, Khilafat movement, concept of a separate Muslim state, Lahore resolution, Cripps's mission, Quiet India movement, Muslim league's triumph in 1945-1946 election, Cabinet mission plan and the great divide of 1947

- **Session 7.** Partition of Bengal (1905-1911) and its Ramifications
- **Session 8.** Events leading to the Lahore Resolution of 1911-'40
- **Session 9.** Pakistan to Bangladesh (1947 to 1971): The refusal to accept Bengali as a state language, economic disparity, the hegemony of the West Pakistani ruling elite, martial laws, and a demeaning attitude towards Bengali culture and its people caused serious psychological fissure that ended in their physical separation.

- **Session 10. Allocation of research topics & briefing**
- **Session 11.** The Formative Phase of Awami Muslim League
- **Session 12.** Language Movement of 1952 and Rise of Bengali Nationalism
- **Session 13.** An Analysis of the Constitutional Crisis in Pakistan (1958-1969) **(Q-2)**
- **Session 14.** Six Point Autonomy Movement - The Charter of our Freedom
- **Session 15. Mid Term Examination**
- **Session 16.** Agartala Doctrine and the trial of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (1968-1969)
- **Session 17.** The Historic 7th March Speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman
- **Session 18.** Pakistani Military Junta launched the “Operation Searchlight” and the war escalates

- **Session 19.** Bangladesh Forces – the Growth of a formidable outfit from scratch
- **Session 20.** Allied offensive & various lessons from the war
- **Session 21.** Cold War politics & the role of Super Powers in the Liberation struggle of Bangladesh
- **Session 22. Project Presentation**
- **Session 23. Project Presentation**
- **Session 24. Final Exam**
- **Session 25. Viva-voce Exam**

DISTRIBUTION OF MARKS

- Attendance & Class Participation – (5+5)=10%
- Quiz Test (2) - 20%
- Project Work (1) - 20%
- Mid-term Exam(1) – 20%
- Final Exam - 30% (25 written + 5 oral)

GUIDELINES FOR EXAMS

- Attendance & Class Participation - 10 - Be present in the class & participate in discussion
- Quiz Test (2/3) - 20
  - True/false
  - Multiple choices
  - Fill in the blanks
- Project (1) - 20 Entire section will be divided into 4/5 groups & be given a project for presentation in 15 m time. All will work & will present the research outcome.

- Mid-term Exam & (20) Short questions
  - Short questions
  - Footnotes/definitions
- End Term Exam(25+5)
  - Short Question
  - Broad Questions
  - Viva-voce

question
good
answers
Quora
really
answer
ask
know
knowledge
one
want
something
see
people
genuine
intellectual
thought
work
tiny
problems
assumptions

CONCLUSION

রাষ্ট্রপতি মোঃ আবদুল হামিদ ১১ জানুয়ারি ২০১৮ বৃহস্পতিবার ঢাকায় বঙ্গভবনে রাষ্ট্রপতির সামরিক সচিব মেজর জেনারেল মোঃ সরোয়ার হোসেন রচিত '1971 : Resistance, Resilience and Redemption' শীর্ষক বইয়ের মোড়ক উন্মোচন করেন ।-পিআইডি

প্র কা শ না উ ৎ স ব
প্রধান অতিথি
জনাব মোঃ আবদুল হামিদ
মহামান্য রাষ্ট্রপতি, গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ
সভাপতি
প্রতিরোধ সংগ্রাম বিজ

city bank
making sense of money
আনন্দ আলো

Mirza Banu Memorial Lecture 20
Award Ceremony
1971