The journey of Bangladesh cricket.

Star sport gave them the perfect tag line before India Bangladesh series “Bache ab bache nai rehe”.The story of Bangladesh cricket is no less than an inspiration to some of the nations trying to make hand at this game.

Well if you look at the journey of Bangladesh cricket, they had their success in bits and pieces in both form of game test as well as ODI’s. And so was their rewards. Most of the time they were unsuccessful but then this did not stop them from working hard. From 1999 to 2015 it’s been a long journey for them.

In 1999 cricket world cup they defeated Pakistan. And this win Cleary indicated their passion for this game. As if they made the statement “We are here to stay”. So what If we come from small nation. We have everything required to make it big.

And hence in 2000 they played their first test match with India in Dhaka becoming the 10th test playing nation. They still hold the record for most consecutive losses in Tests (21, between 2000 and 2002) and ODIs (23, between 2001 and 2004). Once they came close to defeat Pakistan in Multan in 2003. Pakistan really had to fought hard to win this test match. All thanks to their, that time captain, Inzamam ulhaq, who took Pakistan to victory with just only One wicket left .

Talent was never a question for this nation. When players were struggling to play Irfan pathan' in swings durning india tour of bangladesh in 2004. There was one talent mahumad Ashraful who smashed 158 notout hiting indian bowlers all over the park.

In 2005 they toured England for a tri-angular series. In their first ODI against Australia, As expected, it was Australia who everybody thought would win the game. But then tigers had something else in mind. Ashraful’s 100 took them to victory. Victory they would cherish all long their life as it came at the home of cricket, lord. The whole stadium erupted to joy. It was like a small kid who have now learned to stand on his feet after crawling all the initial years in his life.

Buy this time Bangladesh had changed their out looked of how other teams look at them. From Minos to someone who cant be taken weakly on the cricket field.In 2006 they came close to beat Australia taking first innings lead of 158 but eventually loosing by three wickets.

2007 was the year would be marked as on the great for the Bangladesh cricket. First they defeated india in the worldcup and then westindies in t20 world cup. Making to second round in both the tournaments India defeat to Bangladesh in 2007 world cup forced an early exit for India.

Durning this time Bangladesh had learn the art of wining, the art of pulling important moments in the game. They had improved on handling pressure, more imporatant handling pressure at the descesive moments. But as you say there is always a room for improvments. So was there, and more important players were eager to improve, were eager to make mark in the international cricket. The series score would now looked as 2-1, 4-1, or 5-2 which earlier was 3-0 5-0. They had started wining matches. Or in test the three match series would end up in 2-0.

2011 they were given the opportunity to join host the cricket world cup. Nation had huge expections with them. They defeated teams like England, Ireland and neitherland but failed to make to the second round of the tournament. 2012, Bangladesh hosted asia cup and this time did not disappointed the fans . made it to the final of the tournament defeating srilanka and worldcup winners India. Lost the final against Pakistan.

In 2012-2014, Bangladeshi all-rounder Shakib Al Hasanemerged as the number one all rounder in all formats of the game. This was the first time ever that any player achieved such a feat.

There habit of surprising during big tournaments was not new. Pakistan in 1999 worldcup, India In 2007 worldcup, Westindies in 2007 t20 world cup, India and srlianks in 2012 Asia cup and this time it was for England. They defeated England in 2015 world group stage and made to the knockout stage for the first time in their history.

The small kid, who after crawling, walking has now started to run. Run with nothing to lose attitude. And this was the best part. They had played all their cricket with this attitude and probably the time has changed now. They have made their mark in the game and can now no longer be taken as Minos. Well done Bangladesh you deserve all this. Its time we give you your due respect. Cheers.