**Title: The Role of Media and Civil Society in Strengthening Democracy in Bangladesh: Lessons from Recent Student Protests**

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Abstract: Bangladesh has set a significant precedent, not only in its own history but also as an example that "democracy is for the people and by the people." When people unite, it is challenging for any force to overcome them. This paper examines the crucial role that social media and other media platforms play in revitalizing democracy in Bangladesh. Although recent student protests have somewhat advanced freedom of speech, concerns persist regarding the current state of democracy in the country. Additionally, this study will explore whether Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina’s leadership can be characterized as authoritarian and assess the long-term impact of this social movement. The paper will also investigate whether the protest is an organic expression of public dissent against perceived injustices and authoritarianism or if it is influenced by international entities. To analyze these complex democratic and socio-political issues in Bangladesh, this paper will apply several theoretical frameworks, including the Theory of Democracy, Collective Action Theory, Resource Mobilization Theory, and Political Process Theory. Finally, this paper will examine the role of civil society and media in promoting democracy and evaluate the extent to which student protests can foster democratic and socio-political progress in Bangladesh.

Keywords: Democracy, Injustice, Theory of Democracy, Resource Mobilization Theory, Political Process Theory.