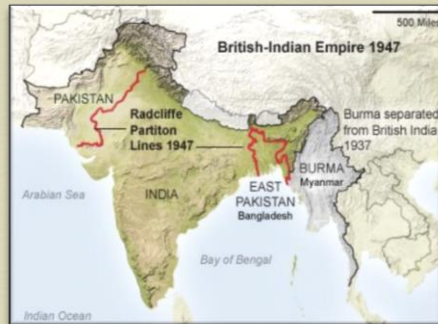


# Pakistan Period and Emergence of Bangladesh



# Bangladesh in Pakistan Period



# Bangladesh in Pakistan Period



- ❧ The history of East Bengal or East Pakistan from 1947 to 1971 covers the period of Bangladesh's history between its independence as a part of Pakistan from British colonial rule in 1947 to its independence from Pakistan in 1971.
- ❧ East Pakistan : **14 August 1947 – 15 December 1971**
- ❧ In the following lessons, we will know about Bangladesh in Pakistan period, ups and downs of political situation and their impacts.



# Background of Pakistan Period



- ❑ Indian Independence Act – 1947. It was a Law, which was formed and passed in the British Parliament.
- ❑ According to the law - the then Indian Sub-continent was divided into two parts and born in two new countries :

1. **Pakistan – 14 August 1947**
2. **India – 15 August 1947**

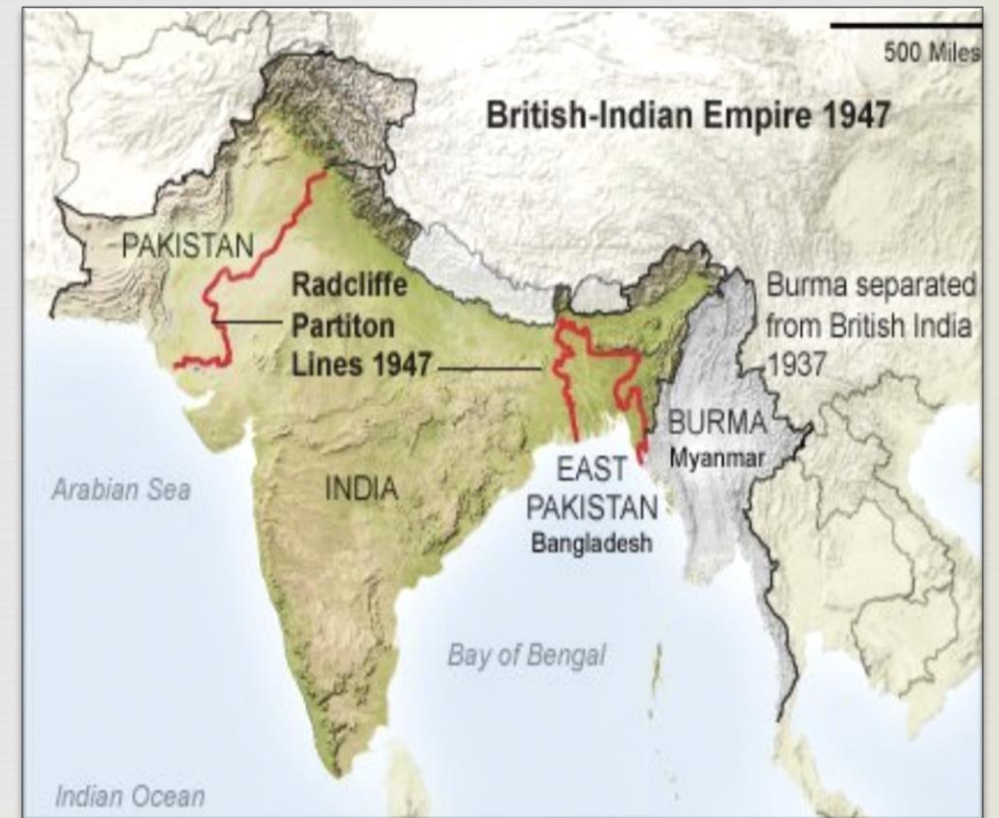


- ❑ With the partition of **India** in 1947, East Bengal became the Pakistani province.
- East Bengal, later renamed **East Pakistan**.
- **East Pakistan** was one of the five provinces of Pakistan.
- ❑ Five provinces of Pakistan were –
- 1. **East Bengal**, 2. West Punjab, 3. Sind, 4. Baluchistan, 5. North-West frontier Province.

# Pakistan Period



- ❧ On the basis of 'Two-Nation Theory' two states called India and Pakistan emerged in 1947. East Bengal was made a province of Pakistan based only on religion although there were dissimilarities in **geographic position**, **language** and **culture**. This new state could not bring any freedom in the life of the people of East Bengal. Only the rulers were changed and the people of the East Bengal got ruled by a new foreign ruler.
- ❧ The Bangalees are fighters. They protested against injustice, against discrimination subjected to them. And so they had to struggle; The Language Movement, Formation of United Front, Six-Point movement, Case of Agartala, Mass Uprising and General Election of 1970, Historic speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March, all of which led to our War of Independence.

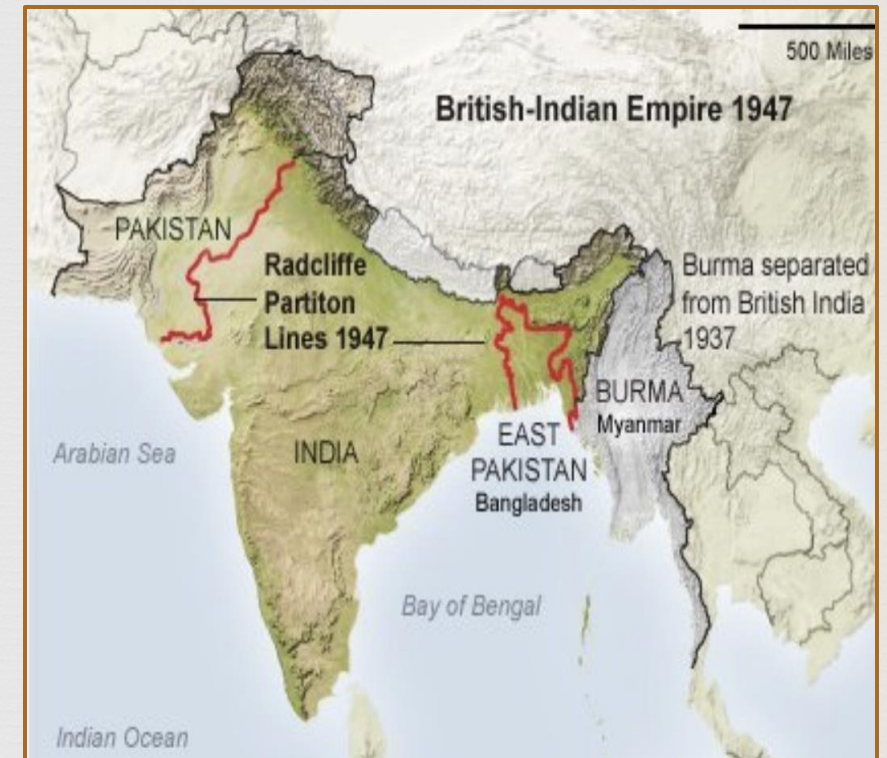




# Bangladesh in Pakistan Period



- ❑ A new independent Bangladesh emerged in 1971 through many movements, struggles and much sacrifice. As an independent country this history of the emergence of Bangladesh is eventful.
- **Some important events:**
  - ❧ 1. The Language Movement
  - ❧ 2. United Front
  - ❧ 3. Six-Point Movement
  - ❧ 4. Historic Case of Agartala
  - ❧ 5. The Mass Uprising of 1969
  - ❧ 6. General Election of 1970
  - ❧ 7. The flag was hoisted for the first time on 2 March.
  - ❧ 8. Historic speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March
  - ❧ 9. Operation Search Light the hellish genocide of 25 March.
  - ❧ 10. Emergence of Bangladesh
  - ❖ All of which led to our War of Independence.



# The Language Movement



- ❧ In 1947, After the independence of Pakistan, there is a confusion about the **policies** and **ideologies** of the state. The situation can be called a crisis of solidarity and unity.
- ❧ The main logic for the establishment of Pakistan was that, the Hindus and the Muslims were two different nations. Jinnah, initiator of the 'Two-Nation' theory, declared in the National Assembly only after a few days of the independence of Pakistan, "Forgetting identities like Muslim-Hindu-Buddhist-Christian or Panjabi-Bangalee-Sindhi-Pakhtun, everyone will now be Pakistani only."
- ❧ Although they spoke about united Pakistan, their means were always Islam, the religion, and Urdu, the language. Thus they stood against all other religions, languages and cultures. They even took a stand against the rich heritage of Bangla literature. The then Pakistani government took hostile position against the literary writers like Rabindranath, Michael and Bankim.



# The Language Movement



- ❧ The linguist **Dr. Muhammad Shahidullah** along with many other intellectuals and litterateurs came forward with a view to protecting Bangla language, literature, culture and heritage. Dr. Muhammad Shahidullah in one of his speeches at this period said, “It is obvious that we are Hindus and Muslims, but it is more a truth that we are Banglalees. It is not an ideology, rather it is a fact. Nature in her own hands has awarded us with such resemblances as Bangalees. We have no scope to hide that with our garlands-tilak-tuff or cap-lungi-beard.”
- ❧ Soon after independence of Pakistan, the issue of its state language came up. The conscious and literate Bangalee of East Bengal raised their voice in favour of Bangla. But the then Pakistan government started conspiracy to make Urdu the state language.
- ❧ In March of 1948, Father of Pakistan and first governor general Muhammad Ali Jinnah declared- Urdu would be the only state language of Pakistan. When he gave this declaration in a meeting with teachers and students at Curzon Hall of Dhaka University, the students shouted out in protest “No, no, no,” Educationalists, litterateurs, intellectuals and most of the political leaders of this country supported Bangla language in this issue.



# The Language Movement



- ❧ **Dhirendranath Dutta**, a member of the national assembly, and later a martyr of 1971, first proposed Bangla as the state language of Pakistan. But the then prime minister Liakot Ali Khan strongly encountered of this proposal. But it was rational only for Bangla to get the status.
- ❧ The then population of Pakistan was 6 crore 90 lakh of which the Bangalees were 4 crore 40 lakh. Urdu was not even the mother tongue of the rest two and half crore. The Pakistani ruling group tried to impose the language of the minority on the majority Bangalees. The Bangalees did not demand Bangla as the only state language. They wanted the recognition of Bangla as a state language alongside Urdu.
- ❧ Many initiatives were taken in East Bengal to ensure the right of Bangla, the mother tongue. By this time all the party state language committee was formed by the progressive politicians and the students of Dhaka University, Kazi Golam Mahbub, Shawkat Ali, Gaziul Haq, Mohammad Toaha, Abdul Matin and Sheikh Mujibur Rahman were active among the students and youth under its leadership.

# The Language Movement



- ❧ A strike was called on 11 March, **1948** to further press the rightful demand for Bangla. Many students were arrested and wounded due to brutality of the police force. That times the movement was slow but steady. As a result, after four years, the students decided to lay a siege at the Pakistan National Assembly during its winter session in 1952 in Dhaka and place a memorandum. The day was set on 21<sup>st</sup> February.
- ❧ The Muslim league-led government under the chief minister of East Bengal, Nurul Amin decided to resist the students. The provincial authority imposed section 144 in Dhaka University area. But the students decided to violate section 144 to perform the procession.
- ❧ Armed Police pounced on the demonstrating students that day. First day (21 Feb.) they charged batons and tear gas. That could not control the protesters. Then they opened fire on the procession led by Abdul Matin and Gaziul Huq. Rafik Uddin, Abdul Jabbar and Abul Barkat were spot dead at this, while numerous others were injured and admitted into Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Abdus Salam died under treatment.



# The Language Movement



- ❧ 22 February, 1952 police again fired on a student-crowd rally and killed Shafiur Rahman and Oliullah, a 9-years-old boy. Besides, some anonymous people also died on 21 and 22 February. All of them are language martyrs.
- ❧ **Language Movement** began in 1948 and reached its climax in the killing of 21 February 1952, and ended in the adoption of Bangla as one of the state languages of Pakistan.
- ❧ The Bangalees poured their blood and established the dignity of mother tongue. The East Pakistan legislature decided in favor of Bangla as one of the state language. In 1956, the first constitution of Pakistan also gave this recognition as it included Bangla as one of the state languages. Thus, the language Movement met its successful ending.

# Central Shaheed Minar

Location : Dhaka University area and adjacent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

Architect : Hamidur Rahman



- ❧ The Shaheed Minar is a national monument in Dhaka, Bangladesh, established to commemorate those killed during the Language Movement of 1952 in the then East Pakistan.
- ❧ The first Shaheed Minar : On 23 February, 1952 students of Dhaka Medical College built a mausoleum on the spot the students were killed on 21<sup>st</sup> February.
- ❧ This temporary mausoleum was replaced by a larger one in 1963.
- ❧ The Shaheed Minar was designed and built by Bangladeshi sculptors Hamidur Rahman in collaboration with Novera Ahmed.
- ❧ Construction was delayed by martial law, but it was finally completed in 1963, and stood until the Bangladesh Liberation War in 1971.
- ❧ It was demolished completely during Operation Searchlight. After Bangladesh gained independence later that year, it was rebuilt.



The first Shaheed Minar, built on 23 February 1952. It was demolished by Pakistan Police and Army three days later.



The second Shaheed Minar, 21 February 1954

The first Shaheed Minar was built immediately after the events of 21–22 February 1952. According to Dr. Sayeed Haider the main planner and the designer of the first Shaheed Minar, the decision to build it was first made by the students of Dhaka Medical College.



# Significance of Language Movement

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- ❑ The Bangalees poured their blood and established the dignity of mother tongue. The East Pakistan legislature decided in favor of Bangla as one of the state language. In 1956, the first constitution of Pakistan also gave this recognition as it included Bangla as one of the state languages. Thus, the language Movement met its successful ending.
- ❑ Finally the conquest of the Bengalee nation was achieved. Both Bangla and Urdu were declared state languages and this brought victory for the Bangalee as a nation. Besides the pride in Bangla language, Bangla literature and thousand years' heritage, the Bangalees also regained their confidence.
- ❑ The 21 February has been observing as **the Martyr Day** since 1953 through the country. Every year we pay tribute to the martyrs by laying floral wreath at the Shahid Minar (Martyr Memorial) early in the morning after walking barefoot.
- ❑ The whole world pays respect to this movement for language by the Bangalees. Our Language Movement received international recognition in 1999. On 17 November of that year, UNESCO declared **21<sup>st</sup> February** as the **International Mother Language Day**. All nations around the world observe this day as a tribute to their respective mother tongues. They also recall the supreme sacrifice of the Bangalees endured during the Language Movement.

# The role of the political Movement in developing the Bengali Nationalism

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- ❑ The people of the East Bengal understood the political peculiarities of the state called Pakistan, and realised the illusions of the two-nation theory immediately after the establishment of Pakistan. Although the Bengalis were 56% of the total population, the West Pakistanis dominated everywhere in running the state, either occupying high administrative posts or availing of the economic and political privileges. The people of East Pakistan, the Bengalees were deprived of their rights.
- ❑ There were three streams in the political parties and leadership in that time :
  1. Political parties loyal to Pakistan like Jamat-a Islami, Nizme Islam, the Muslim League;
  2. Political parties defended the interest of East Bengal like The Awami League, the National Awami Party(NAP);
  3. The Political parties of the Left Stream.



# United Front



- ❧ Conspiracies of Pakistani rulers since its inception led the people of East Bengal to feel aggrieved. People of different opinions built unity on the issue of self protection and development.
- ❧ Muslim League, the ruling party, turned into a symbol of conspiracy and repression. Major political parties and their leaders wanted to defeat Muslim League in the election and thus establish rights of the Bangalees. They formed an alliance ahead of the election of East Bengal Provincial Assembly in 1954. This alliance is known as the **United Front**. This front has a significant role in our movement towards liberation.
- ❧ The Awami Muslim League, Krishak Shramik Party, Nejam-e-Islami and Gonotantri Party joined the United Front during this election. The United Front's election symbol was **Boat**. The Front was led by three veteran leaders: Sher-e-Bangla AK Fazlul Haque, Mawlana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhashani and Hossain Shahid Suhrawardi. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman took the spotlight among the youth with his growing popularity. The front announced their 21 point in the manifesto to the public.
- ❧ The election was not the national assembly election of the two parts of Pakistan. It was only the provincial election of East Bengal. This election is a milestone in the history of struggle against the oppression of the West Pakistani rulers.
- ❧ The United Front achieved a landslide victory with 236 seats out of 309 in this election. With only 9 seats, the Muslim League had a disaster. Independent candidates and parties won the rest of the seats. Newspapers and magazines at home and abroad termed this victory of United Front a "Ballot Revolution".

# Reasons behind the Victory of United Front & its Reaction

- ❧ The post independence role of Muslim League angered the Bangalees. Besides, the success of Language Movement inspired them towards a change in the political landscape of the country. The United Front presented diverse opinions and ideologies under one banner which had an effect on the voters. The 21 – points in the election is also the reason for the success.
- ❧ On the contrary, **the manifesto of Muslim League was obscure and full of loose ends. The party leaders, being alienated from the people could not stand a chance. Misrule, price-hike, oppression, factionalism, corruption, disparity between the two parts of Pakistan can be termed as some of the reasons for the crushing defeat of Muslim League.**
- ❧ As a result, Muslim League came to be known as an anti-people party. Factionalism severely came into effect in the party by 1957 and take-off from state power. In the election of 1970, the party failed to obtain any seat.
- ❧ The Pakistani ruling class never refrained from hatching conspiracies since independence. Always the same trend continued. Using special powers, they dissolved the United Front government within two months. A civil government was formed under the new constitution. However, **President Iskandar Mirza declared martial law on 7 October 1958** on the pretext of deterioration of law and order situation in the country.
- ❧ Later, **General Ayub Khan** ousted Iskandar Mirza from the presidency and proclaimed himself as the **new president**. All activities of political parties were banned from 1958 to 1962.



# Six-Point Movement



On 5 February 1966, a conference of the opposition parties was held in Lahore. Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman proposed the six-point programme there to regain all kinds of rights for the Bangalees of East Pakistan. **Mainly these six-points were the demand for autonomy of the province.** The people of East Pakistan would have the full right to rule themselves while staying united with western part of Pakistan.



# Six-Point Movement



- ∞ The six point demand : Magna Carta of our struggle for independence ---
1. A new constitution has to be written according to the spirit of historical Lahore Declaration of 1940. The country should be based on **parliamentary form of government**. The parliament and legislatures should be formed with adult franchise. The legislatures should have the sovereignty.
  2. The **federal government** (central) will have defence and foreign affairs of the country. All the rest affairs will be dealt by the state government.
  3. **Two separate but freely convertible currencies for two wings have to be introduced**. The responsibility of currency should be there in the hands of federal government. There should be two independent central banks for two wings. If this is not feasible, there should be one currency for both the wings. But that should be done ensuring stoppage of the flight of capital from East to West Pakistan.
  4. The **power of taxation and revenue collection** should be vested on state governments. The federal government would get a fixed share of the collected revenue by the state government.
  5. There has to be **two separate accounts for the foreign exchange earnings of the two wings**. Each state government should have full rights over the earned foreign exchange and should contribute to the federal government equally or in a ratio to be fixed. The constitution should empower the units to establish trade links with foreign countries.
  6. East Pakistan should have a **separate paramilitary force**.



# Reaction of Six-Point Demand



- ❑ General Ayub Khan, the martial law administrator, got afraid of the six-point demand. He realized that such autonomy for East Pakistan would end all their exploitations. They were also worried about independence of the wing some day.
- ❑ That would lessen the foreign exchange earning of Pakistan because the greatest source of foreign exchange of Pakistan was jute of the East. However, this earning was diverted to civil and military sectors of the West instead of the East Pakistan.
- ❑ Bangalees hardly had any higher position in job sector. This monopoly for the West Pakistanis would end with the autonomy of the East. Therefore, **the conspiracies began again. Many cases were filed against Bangabandhu in various districts of the province.** Leaders and workers of the Awami League were arrested.
- ❑ Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Tajuddin Ahmed and many other party leaders were subjected to this kind of harassment. But the movement could not be silenced because of the firm leadership of Bangabandhu and his widespread popularity.

# Historic Case of Agartala



- ❧ The case was “**State versus Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and others**”.
- ❧ In 1968, the Ayub and Monayem brought an allegation of subversive activities against some civil and military personnel of East Pakistan.
- ❧ It was actually aimed at stopping the six-point movement.
- ❧ The Pakistan government filed a case named Agartala Conspiracy Case. The case was filed against mentioned 35 people including Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as accused.
- ❧ **The case stated that the accused had been attempting to create an independent state in East Pakistan with Indian Support.** The ultimate goal of the government was to prove all 35 along with Bangabandhu as enemies of Pakistan and award them capital punishment. Thus they wanted to silence political agitations altogether.
- ❧ However, the military-led government finally had to retreat in the face of massive protests from students and general people. The Pakistan government were compelled to withdraw the case and free all prisoners.



# The Mass Uprising



- ❧ In January 1969, Chhatra League, Chhatra Union and Jatiyo Chhatra Federation formed all party “**Chhatra Songram Parishad**” with a view to ousting General Ayub Khan. Students started agitation programmes in favour of their 11 points alongside the six points of Awami League. The government started using police atrocity to suppress the agitation.
- ❧ On 20 January 1969, when the police opened indiscriminate fire on agitating students in Dhaka, **Asaduzzaman**, a student of Dhaka University, was killed. This killing transformed the agitation into a mass uprising.
- ❧ On 15 February 1969, **Sgt Zahurul Huq**, an accused of the Agartala case, was shot dead in captivity condition at Kurmitola cantonment of Dhaka. **Dr. Shamsuzzoha**, a Rajshahi University teacher, was brutally killed by the Pakistan Army personnel on 16<sup>th</sup> February. At that moment, he was busy pacifying the agitated students. News of these killings lit the fire of discontent among the mass people.
- ❧ Failing to sustain the tides of the movement, the military-led government was compelled to withdraw the Agartala case and free all the accused unconditionally on 22 February 1969.
- ❧ Finding no other way, **the frightened General Ayub Khan resigned from the presidency on 25 March 1969. He handed over the presidency to General Yahiya Khan.**
- ❧ Thus the students and the people obtained another success in their movement.

# General Election of 1970



- ❧ President Ayub Khan resigned from the presidency handing over power to the army chief **Yahiya Khan**. Soon after assuming power, Yahiya Khan attempted to pacify Bangalees. He pledged to hold a general election in 1970.
- ❧ The **general election of Pakistan National Assembly** was held on **7 December 1970**. There were a total of 313 seats in parliament of which 169 were allocated to East Pakistan and the rest to West Pakistan. The main opponents – Awami League won 167 seats in the National Assembly while Pakistan People's Party (PPP) got 88. **A.L. got the majority in E. Pakistan while PPP in the West.**
- ❧ Later, on **17 December** of the same year, the **provincial election** was held. Awami League came out as the majority with 298 of 310 seats of the Provincial Assembly of East Pakistan.
- ❧ **The results of Election in 1970 increased the pace of our movement towards liberation. Two different majorities in two separate wings of Pakistan proved Bangladesh as a separate nation.**
- ❧ The overwhelming victory obtained by Awami League reflected the cherished desire for recognition of our race as a separate identity since 1947. The demand for autonomy was also validated in the mandate. The result altogether bade our farewell to the Pakistani rulers.
- ❧ **At the same time, the Bangalees showed their acceptance of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib as their symbol of emancipation.**



# March 1971



Background of Liberation War

# Background of Liberation War



- ❧ According to general election of 1970, a new government was supposed to be formed by Bangabandhu and his Party as they won the election. But the Pakistani army ruler started conspiracy without handing over power to victorious Awami League. They postponed the session of the Nation Assembly several times. This made the president of Awami League, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, call for non co-operation movement from the beginning of March, 1971.
- ❧ On one side Awami League started to take preparation for accepting power and on the other side Zulfikar Ali Bhutto started a conspiracy to nullify that. He created a new crisis in the politics of Pakistan by declaring that he would boycott the National Assembly to be held at Dhaka.
- ❧ The people of East Pakistan reacted angrily at this declaration. They took spontaneous part in all activities demanding the handover of power. Students played a pioneering role in this movement. Besides, teachers, professionals and women organizations also came forward to join the movement. Meeting and procession were held everyday from the beginning of March, 1971 and people attended in huge numbers.



# Background of Liberation War



- ❧ Being motivated by conspiracy of Bhutto, President Yahya Khan suspended the holding of national assembly on 1<sup>st</sup> March to delay handing over power to Awami League.
- ❧ Scheme of all-out movement was declared on 1<sup>st</sup> March 1971 in the parliamentary meeting of Awami League. People extended their spontaneous support. Thus, another chapter of Liberation War of Bangladesh started which is called 'Non co-operation movement'.
- ❧ The Awami League declared 'Hartal' in Dhaka city on 2<sup>nd</sup> March and in the whole country on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.
- ❧ On 2<sup>nd</sup> March, at 11am. Leaders of Dhaka University Chattra League and leaders of DUCSU (Dhaka University Central Students Union) jointly hoisted the flag which was inscribed with the map of the country. It was the first flag of independent Bangladesh which was hoisted formally in a big gathering.
- ❧ This flag inspired us during our liberation war.



# Flag of Bangladesh



- ❧ On **2<sup>nd</sup> March, 1971**, at 11am. Leaders of Dhaka University Chattra League and leaders of DUCSU (Dhaka University Central Students Union) jointly hoisted the flag which was inscribed with the map of the country. It was the first flag of independent Bangladesh which was hoisted formally in a big gathering,
- ❧ This flag inspired us during our liberation war.

❑ Information about National flag:



- ❖ The national flag of Bangladesh pronounced was adopted officially on **17 January 1972**. It consists of a red dot on top of a dark green banner.
- Designed by: **Quamrul Hassan**.



Flag used during the [Liberation War](#) (1971)



Hoisting of the flag of independent Bangladesh in the student rally at Dhaka University on 2 March 1971



# Historic Speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March



- ❧ According to general election of 1970, a new government was supposed to be formed by Bangabandhu and his Party as they won the election. But the Pakistani army ruler started conspiracy without handing over power to victorious Awami League. They postponed the session of the Nation Assembly several times. This made the president of Awami League, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, call for non co-operation movement from the beginning of March, 1971.
- ❧ Full non co-operation movement started from 3<sup>rd</sup> March and continued up to 25<sup>th</sup> March. Students actions committee was formed on 3<sup>rd</sup> March. At this, the movement became stronger. Students action committee pledged total confidence under the leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and gave declaration of independence sovereign Bangladesh.
- ❧ Being afraid of this step, President Yahiya Khan in a radio speech on 6<sup>th</sup> March convened the session of National Assembly on 25<sup>th</sup> March. The undisputed leader of Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman however, could not become satisfied with this declaration. A public meeting was convened on 7<sup>th</sup> March at Racecourse ground (now, Suhrawardee Uddyan) with a view to declaring a programme for a greater movement.

# Historic Speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March



- ❧ In his speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March 1971, Bangabandhu gave the declaration of running the country's administration as the elected party. He did this according to a consensus of Awami League leaders. He instructed the people to maintain non cooperation with Pakistan Government and declared the closure of courts, offices, educational institutions for an indefinite period.
- ❧ We know that a sovereign country is ruled with money collected in the form of tax and revenue. In his speech, he declared, "There shall be no payment of tax and revenue till my country is liberated". Bangabandhu could understand that Yahiya and his associate Bhuto would not hand over power willingly. So he asked the people to take a preparations to launch a liberation war. To make the people ready for achieving independence by war, he told them – from an action committee in each village, each area under the leadership of Awami League. Remain ready with what you have.
- ❧ On the 7<sup>th</sup> March 1971, Bangabandhu said to the people, "Make a fort in each house. You will have to face the enemy with what you have". This was a clear indication of liberating Bangladesh by guerrilla warfare. In his speech, Bangabandhu used Bangladesh in the presence of 10 lac people and thus he finalized the name of the future new country.



# Historic Speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March



- ❧ The significant side of Bangabandhu's speech was that he wanted to make people ready for war, for freedom and for independence. He openly gave a call to fight for independence when in the later part of his speech he said, "This struggle is the struggle for our freedom, and this struggle is the struggle for our liberation".
- ❧ Actually this was the clear declaration of independence by Bangabandhu.
- ❧ In the speech, Bangabandhu did not turn his back against the path of dialogue to settle the problem. About participation in the session of National Assembly on 25<sup>th</sup> March, he gave four pre-condition:
  - 1. Withdrawing martial law.
  - 2. Handing over power to people's representatives.
  - 3. Inquiries into mass killing by the army.
  - 4. Taking the soldiers back to the barrack.
- ❑ Bangabandhu instructed all to continue non-cooperation movement till these demands were met. Pakistani martial law administrators, under the leadership of Yahiya Khan, did not accept Bangabandhu's democratic demands and as a result, the movement of liberation became momentous.



## Historical speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March

This was the indirect declaration of independence of Bangladesh by Bangabandhu.



# Memory of the World Register as a Documentary Heritage

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- ❧ The speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March of Bangabandhu was the document of liberation to the Bangladeshis. This speech inspired all the people of the country to fight for liberation. It united the people and encouraged them to make maximum sacrifice for the country. It magically transformed the Bangalee masses into a nation of heroes. So, this speech is an unprecedented example in the political history of the world.
- ❧ In 2017, the UNESCO has recognised 'The Historic March 7, 1971 speech' of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as a world documentary heritage. The speech has been included in the memory of the World International Register, a list of world's important documentary heritage maintained by the UNESCO.
- ❧ This is for the first time the UNESCO recognize any such document as a world heritage which was a speech without any script and thus unwritten.

# Historical speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March



- ❧ The 7<sup>th</sup> March Speech of Bangabandhu was a speech given by Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the founding father of Bangladesh on 7<sup>th</sup> March 1971 at the Ramna Race course in Dhaka to a gathering of over 10 lac people. It was the great inspiration for all Bangladeshi people for preparing liberation war. Actually it was the indirect declaration of independence of Bangladesh.
- ❧ The speech has been included in the memory of the World International Register, a list of world's important documentary heritage maintained by UNESCO.



**Name :** 7 March Speech of Bangabandhu  
**Date:** March 7, 1971  
**Time:** 2:45 pm – 3:03 pm  
**Duration :** 18 Minutes (approximately)  
**Place :** Ramana Race Course in Dhaka  
**Recognition:** Memory of the World Register as a Documentary Heritage  
**Date of recognition:** On 30 October 2017 by UNESCO



# Reaction of 7<sup>th</sup> March Speech



- ❧ After the 7<sup>th</sup> March speech, the united people took active part in the non-cooperation movement and spontaneously took part in the fight for freedom. School, college, offices, mills, and factories of the whole country were closed at the order of Bangabandhu. Agitated people started to resist Pakistan's forces in different places. There was no collection of tax and revenue.
- ❧ The control of Bangabandhu was established everywhere except in the cantonments. Bangladesh was then ruled by the house of Bangabandhu at Dhanmandi, Road 32. This house became the office of the Government. Tajuddin Ahmed, General Secretary of the party, continued to implement the instructions of Bangabandhu from the head quarter of Awami League.
- ❧ Realizing the gravity of the situation, Yahya Khan arrived in Dhaka on 15<sup>th</sup> March and proposed negotiations with Bangabandhu. Negotiation started on 16<sup>th</sup> March. Zulfikar Ali Bhutto also came on 22<sup>nd</sup> March and took part in the negotiation. Finding negotiation futile Yahya Khan and Zulfikar Ali Bhutto left Dhaka on the night of 25<sup>th</sup> March.
- ❧ The wrath of the Pakistan Army fell upon the Bangalees at midnight of 25<sup>th</sup> March, 1971. Pakistani soldiers mercilessly killed many innocent Bangalees on that black night.

# Hellish Genocide of 25 March



- ❧ Genocide conducted by Pakistani soldiers on the night of 25<sup>th</sup> March, 1971 in the then East Pakistan was named '**Operation Search Light**'. Though this operation started on the night of 25<sup>th</sup> March, its preparation had started from the beginning of March. A ship named M.V. Swayat loaded with arms and weapons reached Chattogram from West Pakistan on 3<sup>rd</sup> March.
- ❧ President Yahiya Khan stayed at Dhaka from 15<sup>th</sup> -24<sup>th</sup> March in the name of discussion with Bangabandhu, but actually he stayed at Dhaka to supervise the preparation of '**Operation Search Light**'.
- ❧ According to '**Operation Search Light**', the responsibility of conducting genocide in Dhaka city was given to Major General Rao Forman Ali of Pakistani army. According to the plan, Pakistani soldiers wanted to take control of EPR headquarters at Peelkhana and Rajarbag Police Lines.
- ❧ The primary responsibilities of the soldiers were to attack Dhaka University, Dhaka Engineering University, to arrest Bangabandhu, to control telephone exchange, radio, television, state bank, communication system of Dhaka city and to arrest Awami League leaders and to seize the arms of all Bangalee soldiers of Rajshahi, Jashore, Khulna, Rangpur, Syedpur and Cumilla cantonments and all members of EPR, Ansar and Police departments. To keep Chattogram port and other important settlement under their control was also the target of Pakistani soldiers.
- ❧ Outside Dhaka, this operation was conducted by General Khadem Hossain Raja. The head of the this operation was Lt. General Tikka Khan.



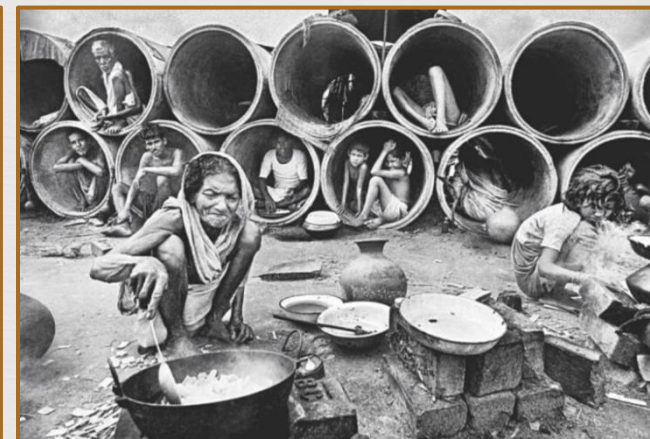
# Hellish Genocide of 25 March



- ❧ Pakistani soldiers came out at the streets from Dhaka Cantonment at 11.30 pm. on 25<sup>th</sup> March. A procession in support of liberation became the first target of Pakistani soldiers at Farmgate. At the same time, attack was carried on at Peelkhana and Rajarbag Police Lines. Bangalee soldiers tried to resist Pakistani soldiers, but they had no arms and preparation capable of resisting the planned attack of well armed soldiers. As a result, Pakistani soldiers mercilessly killed many of them on that night.
- ❧ Attack was conducted in the halls of Dhaka University at dead of night. Pakistani soldiers entered Iqbal Hall (present Jahurul Huq Hall) and Jagannath Hall and killed many innocent sleeping students. They conducted mass killing at Dhaka Hall (Shahidullah Hall), Rokeya Hall and University area as well. 10 teachers, 300 students and employees of Dhaka University were killed during the genocide in March. The railway slums near Jahurul Haq Hall were set on fire and the result of this was heavy destruction. At the same time they attack also old Dhaka. 7-8 thousand innocent people were killed on the night of 25<sup>th</sup> March.



# Genocide during the Liberation War





# Hellish Genocide of 25 March



- ❧ Pakistani soldiers conducted attack in the cantonments, EPR base and in other places outside Dhaka city and killed a good number of people. In this way, the Pakistani soldiers could take the control of all police and EPR settlements from the beginning of 'Operation Search Light'. Many innocent persons were killed in these areas.
- ❧ According to the plan of 'Operation Search Light', the Pakistani soldiers arrested **Bangabandhu** from his 32 no. Dhanmondi house at 1:30 am. on 25<sup>th</sup> March (at the start of 26 March). **Before being arrested**, Bangabandhu, **declared the independence of Bangladesh** and gave a clarion call to his countrymen to launch war.
- ❧ This declaration of independence on behalf of Bangabandhu was broadcasted by wireless centre created inspiration and expectations at all levels. With this declaration of independence on behalf of Bangabandhu on 26<sup>th</sup> March, the Liberation war got a real shape.

# Emergence of Bangladesh



- ❧ Since the birth of Pakistan, the West Pakistani rulers could never think of the Bangalees as their own people. Instead of freedom and independence, the Bangalees got all the discrimination; a new foreign ruler in place of the British. The relation between the two wings was that of an exploiter and the exploited class. We became the exploited. The huge disparity and discrimination between the inhabitants of the two wings of Pakistan was visible in every strata of life like politics, administration, military, economy, education, culture etc.
- ❧ This was deliberate attempt to keep the Bangalees dominated. But the Bangalees demonstrated their discontent about that through various ways. Finally, they created a new country Bangladesh through the War of Liberation.
- ❧ A symbolic poster of that time is presented a portray of the disparity. That was - A cow is grazing in East Pakistan (Bangladesh at present) while a person from West Pakistan is milking that cow. It means production takes place in East Pakistan, while the profit is enjoyed by West Pakistan.
- ❧ The Bangalees are fighters. They protested against injustice during the **Mughal and British period**. The Awami League, under the leadership of Bangabandhu, won absolute majority in the general election of 1970. This victory was indeed a huge step towards the goal of our independence. But the Pakistani rulers started hatching conspiracies to delay the transfer of power to the Bangalees and playing different games.
- ❧ **On 25 March 1971**, at midnight, the Pakistani military occupation forces launched '**Operation Searchlight**', a sudden attack on the unarmed Bangalees and started **genocide**. They attacked Rajarbagh police Line. News of the attack was telecast from police lines fax. Bangabandhu was arrested on the same night.
- ❧ Before the arrest of **Bangabandhu**, **on march 25, the first hour of march 26**, he **declared the independence of Bangladesh**. The Liberation War started. Finally, with the **victory on 16 December 1971** Bangalees gave their answer to **24 years** of exploitation and discrimination by the Pakistani rulers. As a result, Bangladesh emerged as an independent and sovereign country in the world in exchange of the **blood of 30 lakh martyrs**.





**26 March**  
**Independence Day**  
**The Day Bangladesh was born.**



**16 December**  
**Victory Day of Bangladesh**



# End of the Pakistan period



# Home Task

## Instructions



- ❑ Students,
  - ✓ you have to write the answers of these questions in short with the questions.
  - ✓ You shall complete this task via PowerPoint or similar apps and submit in PDF form.
    - ✓ Your home task must be typed.
    - ✓ If you have any problem in typing, you may use your handwritten as well.
  - ✓ In this way you shall complete all home works given before and in future as well.
    - ✓ I will inform you later when and where to submit .



# Language Movement



- ❧ When did UNESCO declare '21 February' is the International Mother Language Day ?
- ❧ In which year the 'Bangla Language' got recognition as a state language of the then Pakistan ?
- ❧ When is the International Mother Language Day?
- ❧ Which organization declared 21<sup>st</sup> February as the International Mother Language Day ?
- ❧ Who first proposed 'Bangla' as one of the state language of the then Pakistan in the National Assembly of Pakistan ?
- ❧ Who raised the proposal for state language in favor of Bangla in the National Assembly of Pakistan ?
- ❧ In which year the Central Shahid Minar was constructed in front of Dhaka Medical College ?
- ❧ Who wrote the most iconic song- "Amar bhaier rokte rangano ekushey February" ?
- ❧ The Central Shahid Minar was constructed in front of Dhaka Medical College in the year \_\_\_\_ .

# United Front



- ☐ When was the United Front formed ?
- ☐ With what symbol did United Front participate in the election of 1954 ?
- ☐ How many parties joined the United Front ?
- ☐ How many point were placed before voters by the United Front ?
- ☐ What did the media of home and abroad say about the victory of United Front ?
- ☐ Who declared martial law in Pakistan in 1958 ?
- ☐ Why was the Muslim League defeated in the election in 1954 ?



# Six-point demand



- ☐ When did Sheikh Mujibur Rahman propose the Six-Point demand ?
- ☐ Who declared the Six-point demand ?
- ☐ What is called the document of freedom for Bangladesh ?
- ☐ Where was the Six-point demand declared ?
- ☐ For how many years, was Bangladesh exploited by Pakistani rulers?

# Historic Case of Agartala



- ☐ Where is Agartala located ?
- ☐ Who was enlisted as the main accused of 'Agartala Conspiracy' ?
- ☐ How many people were accused in the Agartala Case ?
- ☐ What was the official name of Agartala Case ?
- ☐ Why did the rulers of Pakistan compel to withdraw Agartala conspiracy case ?



# National Flag



- ❧ What was the first flag of Bangladesh inscribed with ?
- ❧ Who first hoisted the flag of independent Bangladesh on 2 March, 1971 ?
- ❧ When was the first flag of Bangladesh hoisted ?
- ❧ When was the national flag of Bangladesh officially adopted ?

# Historical speech of 7<sup>th</sup> March



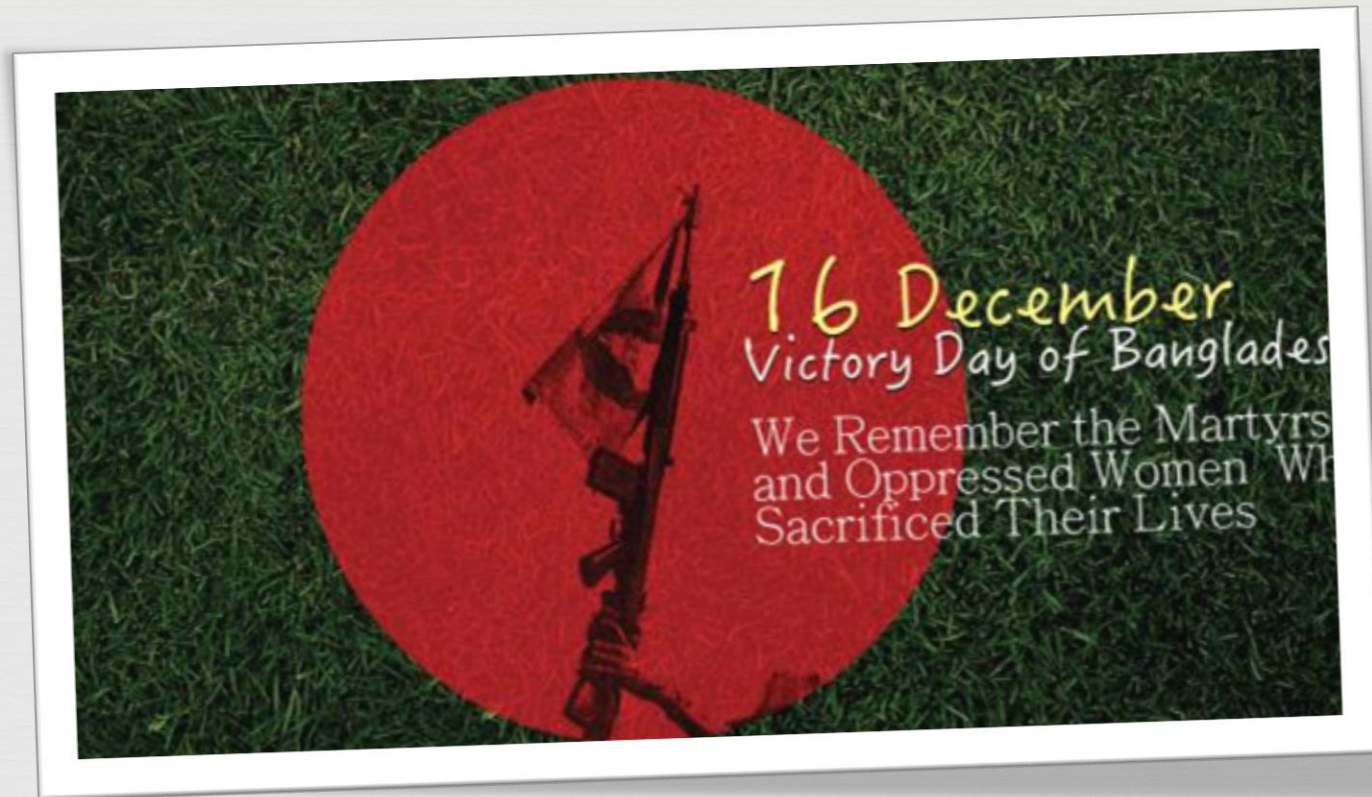
- ❧ How many people attended the historic 7<sup>th</sup> March speech ?
- ❧ Which UN organization has recognized the 7<sup>th</sup> March speech ?
- ❧ Which speech was the first to be recognized by UNESCO as a document of world heritage without any script and thus unwritten ?
- ❧ How many precondition(s) did Bangabandhu give for joining the National Assembly on 25<sup>th</sup> March 1971 ?
- ❧ When did Bangabandhu give the declaration of running the country's administration as the elected party ?



# Operation Searchlight



- ❧ What is Operation Searchlight ?
- ❧ What was the code name of the operation that took place in Dhaka at midnight, 25 March in 1971 ?
- ❧ When did Pakistani military launch Operation Searchlight ?
- ❧ When did the Pakistani military force all on a sudden begin genocide over unarmed Bangalees ?
- ❧ On which date Operation Searchlight took place ?
- ❧ How many people were killed on the night of 25 March, 1971 approximately ?



Thank You.