Highlights on the lectures on

**Political Development in Bangladesh (1971-2023)**

**The Regimes**

1971-1975: The Democratic Regime

1975-1981: The first military regime

1982-1990: The Second military regime

1990: End of military era

1991-1996: BNP regime

1996-2001: Awami League regime

2001-2006: BNP-Jamaat regime

2007-2008: Military backed caretaker government

Since 2009: AL regime

**The First Civil Regime (1972-1975)**

**Success**

New Constitution and Basic Principles: Nationalism, Democracy, Socialism and Secularism

Education Policy

Five Year Plan

Sending the Indian Army Back

First Amendment: Trial of War Criminals

Banning of use of religion in politics

**Challenges**

Devastated Economy

Underground Political Parties

Tension in Bureaucracy and Army

Problem inside the Ruling Party

New Party JASAD

No support from the Middle East and America

Big Event: From Parliamentary to Presidential system, and One-Party System BAKSAL

**First Military Regime (1975-1981)**

15th August: Killing of Bangabandhu and his family, and the End of the First Democratic Regime

7th November Killings

Ziaur Rahman captured power

5th Amendment of the constitution: Secularism dropped and immunity to the killers

Use of religion in politics

Use of state-machinery against political parties

New Party

Totally rigged elections

Coup and counter-coup

Bangladeshi nationalism

De-nationalization and Privatization

Growing intimacy with Pakistan and Islamic countries

**The Second Military Regime (1982-1990)**

Power captured in a coup without bloodshed

Same as the first military regime – Use of religion, Formation of new party, Use of state agencies against political parties, Unbridled corruption, Privatization continues, rigged elections

No Coup in military

Military personnel in civil positions

8th Amendment of the constitution: Islam as the state religion

Liberal and left parties, and BNP against the Regime

Widespread anti-military movement: AL-led 15 Party Alliance, BNP-7 Party Alliance and 5 Party Alliance of the Left Parties, and Cultural activism

**The End of Military Era, 1990**

Chatra Sangram Parishad: Chatra League + Lefts

All Party Student Alliance: Chatra League + Lefts + Chatradal

Changed international scenario

Mass Movement and Ershad resigned

Formation of Caretaker government

Parliament Elections, 1991

**BNP Government (1991-1996)**

BNP won the 1991 election: Use of religion, anti-India campaign, nomination of big business, retired bureaucrats and military officers

Awami League emphasized secularism that proved wrong

Pro-Caretaker government movement

Caretaker system in the Constitution

**Awami League (1996-2001)**

Awami League in power after 21 years, Jatiya Party supported Awami Leaguee

Big change in election strategy: no attention to secularism, Careful about a pro-Muslim image, Nomination for big business, and retires military and bureaucrats.

Trial of Bangabandhu murder

**BNP-Jamaat led alliance (2001-2006)**

Anti-liberation forces in power for the first time

Extraordinary growth of extremism

Grenade attack on AL

Severe international criticisms

Beginning of extrajudicial killings – RAB formed. Operation Clean Heart.

ICT ACT 2006

Efforts to prolong the stay in power

Serious anti-government movement

**Military-backed caretaker government (2007-2008)**

So-called “minus-two formula”

Dr. Younus in the field

Constitution and human rights

International Crisis Group (ICG)

**Awami League Government since 2009**

Reintroduction of secularism in the constitution 2011 with the provision of a state religion

War crime trial

Pro-secular and anti-secular differences acute

The regime is heavy handed against extremism.

Opposition parties weaker

Society: More conservative

Huge success in economic growth

Inequality is on the rise