

Title of the Play Bangladesh 2.0: The People's Revolution

Course

Introduction to English Drama

ENG 114

Section: 01

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Character List:

6 National Coordinators of the Students:

Nahid Islam – A human rights defender and a student of Sociology Department of Dhaka University.

Sarjis Alam – Calm and strategic student activist and a student of Zoology Department of Dhaka University.

Hasnat Abdullah – Passionate, leads with conviction, often clashes with authority, a student of the English Department of Dhaka University.

Abu Baker Majumdar – Handles media relations for the movement, a student of Geography Department of Dhaka University.

Asif Mahmud – A calm, tactical coordinator, always thinking two steps ahead and a student of the Linguistics Department of Dhaka University.

Nusrat Tabassum – Strong-willed female leader, a student of the Political Science Department of Dhaka University.

DB Harun: A police officer who is clumsy and silly. Although he is a police officer, he is funny in the middle of tension.

Manzur al Matin: An honored lawyer who speaks for students in court, something that represents a good future for the people who have suffered.

Government Bodies: A voiceless and faceless authority of the ruling power who is giving orders in a mechanical and unemotional way.

Sheikh Hasina: The Prime Minister who is the main villain in the story who does not care to heed the cries of the youth.

Junayed Ahmed Palak: Minister of State for Information and Communication, responsible for the internet blackout, a cunning manipulator.

Obaidul Quader: Minister of Road Transport and Bridges, instructing the Student League to suppress the movement with violence.

Anisul Hoque: The Law Minister, corrupt and willing to bend the legal system to serve the government's agenda.

Jamuna Television Journalist: An inspiring journalist who represents people's interest, propagating for the students' suffering.

General Public: Symbolize the common masses of Bangladesh who later support the students' movement and provide strength to it.

Police Force: A blind obedient mob that becomes an accessory to the act of violence against the students.

Student League: Aggressive participants of a government-sponsored organization, who attacked unarmed students.

Context:

Before starting the one point movement, it was just a peaceful movement for the quota reformation in government jobs by the public universities students. The students demanded a more equitable system, but the government's harsh response and indifference escalated the situation more complex. The situation worsened when students protesting against eviction got provoked when the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina called them 'Rajakar' meaning traitors in a press conference, and the ruling party's 'Student League' attacked the protesting students many of whom were harmless, even female students, with weapons. This triggered a reactive throughout the country that would shortly call not only for quota change but a consolidated and burning demand –Resignation of Hasina.

Scene 1: The Spark

[Location: Dhaka University Campus, late afternoon. The student leaders Nahid, Sarjis, Hasnat, Nusrat, and others are standing near a graffiti-covered wall. The air is tense.]

Nahid:

(Punching his palm)

"They called us *rajakars*! Do you know what that means? We're fighting for justice, and they dare call us traitors?"

Sajid:

(Fierce)

"They've gone too far, Nahid. Obaidul's dogs attacked our sisters today. What's next?"

Nusrat:

(rises from her seat)

It's time to escalate. The whole nation is watching. We have to go beyond reformation. We have to demand justice for the violence against students. We can't stop now.

Asif:

What do we call this? What is the slogan that unites us all?

Hasnat:

One demand, one point! "1 dofa, 1 dabi, Hasina kobe jabi?" This isn't about reform anymore; it's about revolution!

Abu Baker:

We take to the streets tomorrow, graffiti everywhere! "Step Down Hasina" must be on every wall of Dhaka.

(They all nod in agreement. The movement takes shape as a wave of revolution brews in their eyes.)

Scene 2: The Blackout

[Location: Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission, midnight. Junayed Ahmed Palak stands in front of his desk, phone in hand, tense.]

Junayed Ahmed Palak:

(Pacing, frustrated)

"Shut it all down. Internet, mobile networks—everything! These students think they can outsmart us. I want complete silence by tomorrow morning!"

Government Bodies (Voice-over):

"Internet blackout begins at dawn. This is for the good of the nation. Any opposition will be treated as a threat to national security."

Scene 3: A Dark Morning

[Location: Dhaka streets. Students gather but are disoriented due to the internet blackout. Students are doing Graffiti everywhere: "Step Down Hasina," "1 Point Demand"]

Asif Mahmud:

(Holding his phone up in frustration)

"No signal. They've done it. We're cut off."

Abu Baker Majumdar:

(Determined)

"It doesn't matter. We don't need the internet. The streets will be our voice today!"

General Public:

(Shouting from the crowd)

"Don't worry. We're with you! We will protect our children. Hasina must go!"

Nahid:

(Raising his fist)

"Ami k tumi k, rajakar rajakar!K boleche k boleche? Shwoirachar, Shwoirachar! Hah! They want to silence us, but the people of Bangladesh are louder than their shutdown!"

Scene 4: The Attack

[Location: Dhaka University. The police and BCL storm in. Chaos ensues as the police start shooting, and students are running for cover.]

Police Officer 1:

"Fire! Fire on them! They're the enemies!"

Hasnat:

(Pushing students back)

"Run! Take cover!"

Nusrat:

(Shouting at the police, fearless)

"How can you fire on your own people? We're fighting for you too!"

DB Harun (Comic Relief):

(Bumbling, drops his gun, slips in mud)

"Wait, wait! I didn't sign up for this chaos!"

(As chaos ensues, students scatter, but the determination in their eyes remains strong.)

Scene 5: The Death of Abu Sayed

[Location: Rangpur streets, moments later. A crowd gathers around the lifeless body of Abu Sayed, shot by police. Silence falls over the gathering.]

General Public Member 1:

(Crying out)

"This is unacceptable! We cannot let this go unpunished!"

General Public Member 2:

(Voice breaking)

"Abu Sayed's death will not be in vain. We must rally together for him and for every student who has suffered!"

(The crowd begins to chant, fueled by anger and grief.)

Crowd:

"Murderer Hasina! We want Justice for Abu Sayed!"

Scene 6: Public Unity

[Location: A small alley. Students from public and private universities unite, joined by members of the general public.]

Sarjis:

(Looking around, shocked)

"They came... the people came."

Nusrat:

(Tearing up)

"This... this is the reason why we are still fighting."

Scene 7: Manzur's Stand

[Location: Courtroom. Manzur Al Matin is standing tall, representing students falsely accused by the government.]

Manzur Al Matin:

"They are not criminals! They are the future of Bangladesh, victims of a brutal, corrupt regime!"

Judge:

"But the government claims—"

Manzur Al Matin:

"The government lies. The world knows the truth. These students were unarmed! They were fired upon for demanding justice!"

Scene 8: Jamuna Television's Bold Stand

[Location: Jamuna Television Studio. Despite government pressure, the journalists are determined to broadcast the truth.]

Reporter 1(via microphone) on news:

(Facing the camera, stern)

"Despite the internet blackout and the government's threats, we are here to bring you the truth. The students are fighting for justice. This is not a movement of chaos, but one for change."

Reporter 2(via phone):

"Police have opened fire on students. But the people are rising in unity. This is no longer a movement of just a few—it's a revolution!"

Scene 9: The Curfew

[Location: Empty Dhaka streets, a government announcement blares from speakers.]

Government Bodies (Voice-over):

"A nationwide curfew is in effect. All schools, offices, and businesses are closed. Disobeying the curfew will result in immediate arrest."

Scene 10: Before the The Fall

[Location: Prime Minister's Office. Obaidul Quader storms in, breathless, as chaos erupts on the streets.]

Obaidul Quader:

(Panicking)

"We can't control them anymore! They're everywhere!"

Sheikh Hasina (offstage):

"Hold them off... Just hold them off a little longer."

Final Scene: The People's Victory and the Fall of Sheikh Hasina

Setting: The streets of Dhaka, filled with people from all walks of life—students, workers, teachers, and parents. The **General Public** marches alongside students, banners in hand. **Jamuna Television** broadcasts the scene live, the camera capturing the growing crowds as they push forward.

Jamuna Journalist (voice trembling with emotion):

This is a momentous day for Bangladesh. The students who started this movement... their courage has awakened the entire nation. What we are witnessing today will be remembered for generations.

(Suddenly, the broadcast is interrupted by a live announcement from a high-ranking **Army General**. He stands before a podium, flanked by uniformed officers. The crowd goes silent, all eyes on the screen.)

Army General (calm but firm):

This morning, **Sheikh Hasina resigned** from her position as Prime Minister. She had left the country. The government, under the immense pressure from the people, has collapsed. Bangladesh will be led by the will of its people moving forward.

(The silence that follows is brief but deafening. Then, like a tidal wave, the news ripples through the streets. The crowd erupts into cheers, disbelief turning to joy.)

Nahid (shouting over the noise):

We did it! She's gone!

Nusrat (raising her fist):

This is the **second victory** for Bangladesh! The power of the people!

(The students hug, tears of relief and joy streaming down their faces. The people begin marching toward **Ganabhaban**, the Prime Minister's residence, now a symbol of their victory. The **Victory Rally** begins.)

Sarjis (grinning as he walks):

We're not just students anymore. We're the voice of this nation.

Hasnat (leading the chants):

Onward to Ganabhaban! This is our country now!

(The streets of Dhaka come alive with chanting, drums, and the collective euphoria of victory.)

Crowd (Chanting):

"1 dofa, 1 dabi, Hasina kobe jabi!"

"Victory for the people! Victory for Bangladesh!"

(As the rally moves toward Ganabhaban, the camera captures a sea of people, united, joyful, and triumphant. The once silenced masses have found their voice, and it roars across the city.)

Closing Scene:

Setting: The gates of **Ganabhaban**. The rally reaches the former seat of power, now empty, and the people stand together, arms raised in triumph. The sun sets on a **new Bangladesh**.

Nusrat (quietly, looking out at the crowd):

We did it. The people won.

Nahid (nodding):

This is just the beginning. **Bangladesh 2.0** starts today.

(The crowd cheers as fireworks light up the sky, symbolizing a new dawn for the country. The revolution, led by students and fueled by the people, has succeeded.)

End of Play