

# BIRTH CENTENARY CELEBRATION OF FATHER OF THE NATION (2020-2021)



» As long as Padma, Jamuna, Gouri, Meghna flows on, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Your accomplishment will also live on.

—Poet Annadashankar Ray

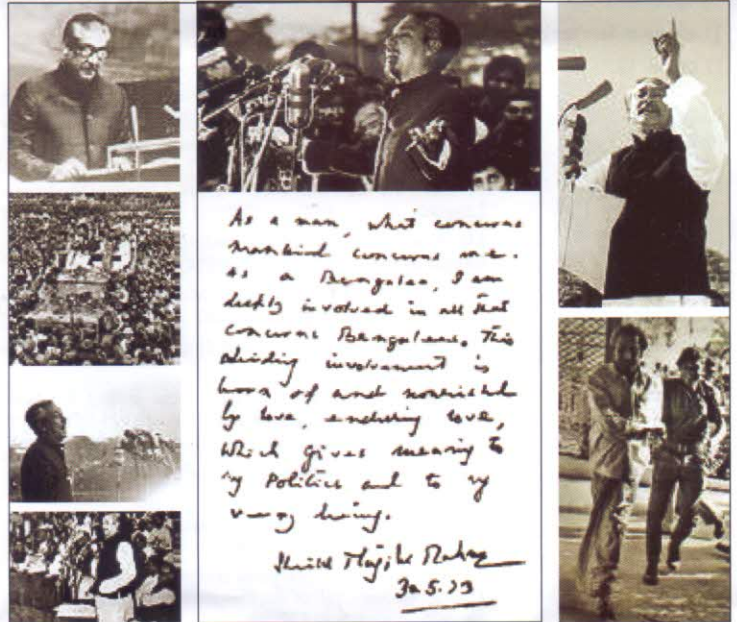
» "I have not seen the Himalayas. But I have seen Sheikh Mujib. In personality and in courage, this man is the Himalayas. I have thus had the experience of witnessing the Himalayas."

—Fidel Castro, President of Cuba remarked at the Non-Aligned summit in Algiers, 1973

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National Implementation Committee for the Celebration of the Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman

## Celebration of Birth Centenary of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman



As a man, what concerns mankind concerns me. As a Bengalee, I am deeply involved in all that concerns Bengalees. This abiding involvement is born of and nourished by love, enduring love, which gives meaning to my politics and to my very being.

Sheikh Mujibur Rahman  
3.5.73

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—Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Unfinished Memoirs, 3 May 1973



“My greatest strength is the love for my people, my greatest weakness is that I love them too much.”

“People’s strength is the biggest force for the challenge of survival.”



**Timeline of few major events in Bangabandhu's life:**

- 17 March 1920 - Born in the village of Tungipara (now Upazila), the then Gopalganj sub-division of greater Faridpur district.
- 1943 - Elected as a counselor of the 'All India Muslim League'.
- 1946 - Played a crucial role in mitigating communal riot during 'Calcutta Killing'.
- 4 January 1948 - Founded the 'East Pakistan Muslim Chhatro (Students) League'.
- 11 March 1948 - Mujib was arrested for his leading role in demanding Bangla as the state language of Pakistan.
- 23 June 1949 - Elected as the Joint Secretary of newly formed 'East Pakistan Awami Muslim League'.
- 16 February 1952 - Hunger strikes from jail demanding Bangla as the state language of Pakistan.
- 10 March 1954 - Elected as the Member of Parliament during the first national election of Pakistan and took oath as Minister for Agriculture and Forest in the new provincial government.
- 1955 - Elected as the General Secretary of the renamed party as 'Awami League'.
- 11 October 1958 - After military take-over by general Ayub Khan, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was arrested.
- 5 February 1966 - Announced historic six-point programme known as the 'Charter of Survival' of the Bangalees at a conference of opposition parties in Lahore.
- 18 March 1966 - Elected as the President of 'Awami League'.
- 1968 - 22 February 1969 - Arrested and tried in the 'State vs. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and others, popularly known as 'Agartala Shorjontro Mamla' (Agartala Conspiracy Case).
- 23 February 1969 - In a gathering of millions, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was given the cognomen 'Bangabandhu' (the Friend of Bengal).

**DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE OF BANGLADESH**

“This may be my last message; from today Bangladesh is independent. I call upon the people of Bangladesh wherever you might be and with whatever you have, to resist the army of occupation to the last. Your fight must go on until the last soldier of the Pakistan occupation army is expelled from the soil of Bangladesh and final victory is achieved.”

[ Message embodying Declaration of Independence sent by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to Chottogram shortly after midnight of 25th March, i.e. early hours of 26th March, 1971 for transmission throughout Bangladesh over the ex-EPR transmitter. ]

- 7 December 1970 - 'Awami League' received a landslide victory in the general election.
- 7 March 1971 - Aspirations of the Bangalis for freedom reached on indomitable height with the historic speech of Bangabandhu, that is now a part of UNESCO International Memory of the World Register.
- 26 March 1971 - Just after the gruesome genocide by the occupational Pakistan Army on the fateful night of 25 March, Bangabandhu declared Independence of Bangladesh before his arrest by the Pakistani commandos and taken to Pakistan.
- 8 January 1972 - Released from prison in Pakistan.
- 10 January 1972 - Returned to independent Bangladesh and devoted all his efforts towards the reconstruction of the war-ravaged Bangladesh.
- 1973 - Bangabandhu was awarded Julio Curie Peace Prize for his Endeavour to promote global peace.
- 25 September 1974 - Addressed General Assembly of the United Nations in Bangla as the first Bangali.
- 15 August 1975 - Assassinated in his home in Dhanmondi, Dhaka, along with his family members except Sheikh Hasina and Sheikh Rehana by a handful of anti-liberation and renegade military officers.

“World peace could not be established unless there was an end to oppression.”

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