

The Legacy of Zia

Every national leader leaves behind a legacy that serves as a source of inspiration to his followers...

We have several reasons for paying our tributes to the late President. Perhaps the most important one is his establishment of the multiparty government...

The observance of Zia's death anniversary today may well be largely ritualistic, with the present-day leaders of the BNP administration indulging in sincere exhortations...

There are indeed many challenges to be met. In the first place, BNP leaders should accept that in many areas, the work of the late President had remained unfinished...

If we look at areas where Zia's unfinished work must be either completed or adapted to the new situation, BNP leaders must also be bold enough to identify the qualitative decline in performance...

A strong effective leader, Zia had his own way, sometimes controversial, of halting a drift. It will be unrealistic to expect the present BNP administration to treat the legacy of the late leader as a ready-made blueprint for progress...

New Hope for Tourism

This daily carried a report yesterday on the possible foreign investment in the country's tourism sector. After years of local experiments devoid of ingenuity and innovation, there is hardly any other option other than seeking foreign help...

Preferably, both ideas and resources take a fair share in the development of our tourism. But to have the benefits of best of both worlds, the prerequisite is to make the right choice of the prospective partners in the business...

This is exactly at this point, the local authority must retain the right to say 'no' wherever things go against the country's perceived interests — be it in the cultural, economic and environmental areas...

Development of Kuakata and Sonadia as modern tourist resorts should not pose any such threat to our culture and environment if necessary caution is taken beforehand. The plan has to be made keeping in view the future pressure on those island resorts without harming the biodiversity of those places...

World Conference on Human Rights: Are We Poised to Slide Backwards?

The Second World Conference on Human Rights, organized by the United Nations, will be held in Vienna, Austria from 14 to 25 June, 1993. The first World Conference, it may be recalled, was held in Teheran, Iran in 1968. The struggle to extend human rights started long ago...

rights and therefore the right to a gainful employment must take precedence over other rights. It was this line of thinking which led to the passage of a series of new declarations emphasizing the importance of economic development...

International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1969. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 1951. International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women, 1981...

This is indeed a most impressive list of documents that have been negotiated by the international community over the last half a century. On paper we stand on a much higher ground than we ever did on the question of human rights...

Let us not kid ourselves. We are all witnessing the genocide being committed in Bosnia. This is happening to the Muslims in Bosnia because of their ethnic origin and religious belief...

means of enforcing the human rights more strictly than it has been hitherto possible. But we all know that the most ringing declarations and resolutions are useless if these are not backed by the political will of the member countries...

Commitment to human rights took a back seat. What is likely to be the assessment of the World Conference about mankind's record during the last quarter century? Has there been a significant progress since the Teheran Conference?

In order to enforce human rights a number of important covenants and agreements have been signed under the auspices of the United Nations. A few important ones are listed below:

International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, 1976. Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide, 1951. International Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Racial Discrimination, 1969...

Eye brows may be raised at the rather pessimistic title given to this article. Let us not kid ourselves. We are all witnessing the genocide being committed in Bosnia. This is happening to the Muslims in Bosnia because of their ethnic origin and religious belief...

ON THE RECORD

by Shah AMS Kibria

Nobel Laureate for peace, has been under arrest without trial for more than three years. She is the leader of the political party which won an election but the junta ignored the verdict of the people and refused to hand over power to the elected representatives...

Bangladesh — Viewed from a Distance

Arshad-uz Zaman writes from Istanbul

A rural woman, who is a member of the delegation. Women of Bangladesh, from all walks of life must take justified pride. In fact, Grameen Bank of Mr Mohammad Yunus, is a success story, which fills the heart of every Bengali...

are not satisfied with engineering feats on the ground, but have conquered space. Where is that man of vision who will harness the great human energy of the subcontinent and turn collective misery into prosperity?

The advantage of distance in time and space may be that it gives the possibility, hopefully, of viewing events in a detached manner. From my usual foreign affairs field, I propose to attempt to present to readers present day Bangladesh, seen from abroad.

It must be readily conceded, and I am using media language, Bangladesh is not newsworthy. One does have to go abroad to come face to face with this truth. We live in the age of satellite TV and sitting in Dhaka, it is easy to comprehend that Bangladesh is not newsworthy...

death must run into thousands in our case to attract world attention and destruction must be at a gigantic scale.

Let us now evaluate the annual rate of population growth, food requirement, food production, food deficit and import of foodgrains during the last 10 years of rapid agricultural development from 1982-83 to 1991-92.

The food production of 112.55 lakh tons in 1970-71 contained 53.4 per cent Aman rice, 25.8 per cent Aus rice, 19.8 per cent Boro rice and 1 per cent wheat...

As regards the population increase during the post-independence period, it has increased from 7.12 crores in 1970-71 to 11.63 crores in 1991-92, equal to 4.51 crore or 63.3 per cent against the increase in food production by 71.6 in the last 21 years.

During the post-independence period from 1971-72 to 1991-92, the food production of 112.55 lakh tons in 1970-71 increased to 193.17 lakh tons in 1991-92 with a rise of 80.62 lakh tons or 71.6 per cent in 21 years of independence.

that whatever be the food deficit in the country, the annual food import generally varies between 15 and 20 lakh tons in almost every year.

It is no denying the fact that every year population is increasing by at least 22 lakh tons in almost every year.

for which we need an extra food production of 3.6 lakh tons over the normal yearly production. Each year we are producing an additional four lakh tons of food. This means that our total food production has now fulfilled our food demand and that our additional food production each year is also sufficient enough to meet the food demand of extra 22 lakh population each year.

It is also worthwhile to mention that during the last 10 years of agricultural development in Bangladesh, the annual population growth has increased at 2.42 per cent against the annual food production growth rate of 2.72 per cent.

Food Production Increased, Apparently

by Dr MA Sattar

Year	Population (mill)	Food Production (lakh mt)	Food Requirement (lakh mt)	Food Deficit (lakh mt)	Food Import (lakh mt)
1982-83	336	151.81	151.81	0	18.65
1983-84	357	153.69	153.37	0.32	20.44
1984-85	382	159.02	158.30	0.72	21.45
1985-86	407	162.60	162.60	0	23.28
1986-87	431	166.20	166.20	0	24.36
1987-88	456	169.84	169.84	0	25.39
1988-89	481	173.50	173.50	0	26.38
1989-90	507	177.19	177.19	0	27.34
1990-91	533	180.86	180.86	0	28.27
1991-92	559	184.53	184.53	0	29.16

The data show that with the increase of population, food production and food requirement in each year, the annual food deficit is also increasing from 18 to 34 lakh tons till 1987-88. After this the food deficit declined, ranging between 18 and 19 lakh tons in a year. But food import has not been significantly increased with corresponding increase in food deficit.

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To the Editor...

Session jam at BUET

Sir, I would like to draw the attention of BUET and the Ministry of Education to session jam at BUET and remedial measures thereof.

Currently, in the fourth year (final year) Engineering classes two batches are studying simultaneously as the BUET authority started their sessions together to reduce session jam. To accommodate these double batch students, extra books were purchased for the rental library, extra arrangements were made in the halls...

of residence, bus services being provided for Dhaka based students and finally the teachers and other supporting staff in the laboratories paid extra for the double load. These two batches will be passing out in September this year.

New students who passed their HSC examination in 1991 and 1992 are waiting for their classes to start. Because all the facilities are available, may we, the guardians, request the BUET authority to start classes for these two batches together like they did four years ago.

needed for this noble venture. In the recently held fourth convocation of BUET, the Vice-Chancellor also referred to the fund constraints to start classes for two batches together.

Bosnia-Herzegovina and EC Sir, For the past thirteen months, the Muslim community in the Bosnia republic, an independent country in Europe and a member of the United Nations, was being systematically murdered by the Bosnian Serbs...

targeted for the final kill by an armed Bosnian Serb. The Bosnian Serbs have so far killed nearly one hundred and thirty thousand Muslim civilians, raped thousands of women, and a whole people have been reduced to stateless refugees, huddled together in so called 'safe havens'...

All through there was an arms embargo for the Bosnian Government, and they were expected to fight the Serbs with their bare hands. A widely circulated news photo showed that an unarmed and wounded civilian was being...

World War such large scale killing of an unarmed people was allowed to happen for such a long time. Apparently, the world civilization has now come to its lowest ebb. The least that the international community can do now is to set up an international war crimes tribunal, to punish all the cold-blooded murderers and rapists...

Shahabuddin Mahtab Siddheswari Road, Dhaka. Never since the Second