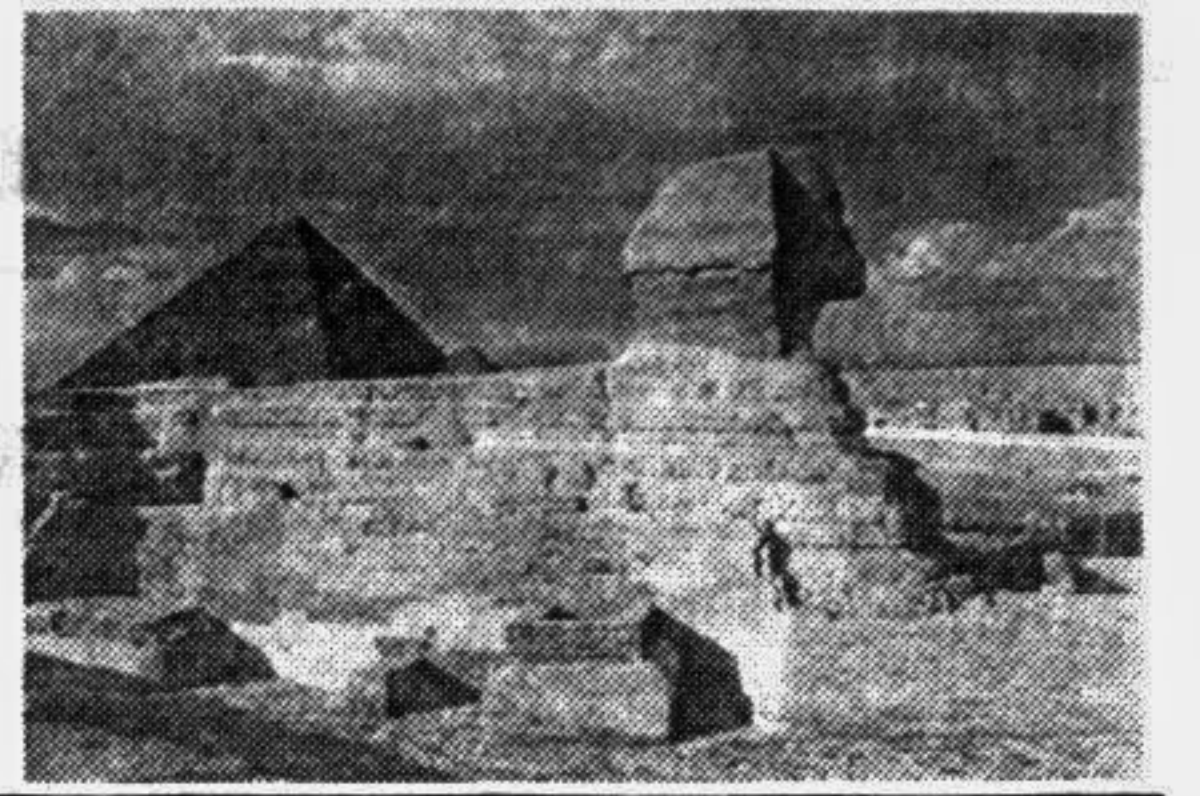


NATIONAL DAY OF EGYPT

The Daily Star

Special Supplement

July 23, 1998



MESSAGE

We are celebrating today, on the 23rd of July 1998, the 46th anniversary of the Egyptian Revolution. This revolution was not a mere revolt by the will of the people of Egypt against a non-patriotic monarchial regime, but a revolt against all forms of colonialism and suppression not only in Egypt but in the Arab, African, Islamic and the developing world. It was to revolutionise the way of thinking to help occupied countries to free themselves and to take their own destiny in their own hands by cooperating with each other. With this principles in mind Egypt began to develop strong good relations with other developing countries specially with Egypt's brotherly Muslim countries. Bangladesh being the second largest Muslim country, it was a high priority of Egypt to develop excellent relations with Bangladesh.

The relations between Egypt and the State of Bangladesh goes back to the early days after the independence of Bangladesh. In fact Egypt is one of the first countries that recognised the independence of Bangladesh. The formal diplomatic relations between the two brotherly countries started from 16/9/1973. Since then the two countries had ever increasing prosperous relations. Egypt exerted its all out efforts and diplomacy at the highest level in order to persuade the Islamic countries to recognise the newly independent state. These efforts have been crowned by the visit of H E late President Sadat to Bangladesh in 1974. The first visit ever of an Arab or Muslim head of state to Bangladesh. At the end of this historic visit President Sadat accompanied by H E Sheikh Mujibur Rahman went together to attend the OIC summit in Lahore, Pakistan. Since that time, the two countries have cooperated within the OIC, NAM, WTO, UN and other international organisations. They have exchanged views, coordinated together and supported each other's views. Bosnia and the Palestinian cause are only few of the many issues in which Egypt and Bangladesh have cooperated and still are cooperating.

Both our brotherly countries have wide range of potentials and experiences that can be shared. In the economic arena, both our countries can achieve tremendous results through extensive cooperation. Together we are currently exploring all possible means to further promote the already existing economic and trade relations. These efforts have been given a boost by the launching of the D-8 group and the anticipated summit of the Group in Dhaka in November this year. This new forum is designed to promote economic and trade links between eight Islamic countries including Bangladesh and Egypt. The forum will not only enhance cooperation between the member countries in areas like industries, trade, rural development, but it will also support the economic position of the member states within the world economic community. It is through this type of cooperation that we can overcome the problems that face us — the developing countries — and achieve our goal of sustained development and prosperity for our people.

I seize this opportunity to congratulate Bangladesh for its achievements in the different sectors of development, mainly poverty alleviation, rural development, health, infrastructure, micro credit and many other. These achievements that have attracted the attention of countries from all over the world including Egypt arouse their interest in exchanging views and cooperation while seeking the guidance of Bangladesh in some of these field. We take also this opportunity to congratulate Bangladesh on achieving the return of peace to the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and reaching a solution regarding the problem of Water Sharing of the Ganges. Furthermore, we would like to hail the important and pioneering efforts of Bangladesh in resolving the crises and problems in South Asia which effectively contributes to the achievement of peace, stability and development in the region, as well as, congratulate Bangladesh on the remarkable role it has played in the international arena and its support to the Palestinian cause and the peace process.

We pray to God to bless the brotherly people of Bangladesh and the already prosperous warm relation between our two countries, and to assist our efforts for further success and prosperity of our nations.

Long Live the friendship between Bangladesh and Egypt.
Joy Bangla, Joy Egypt.



Oussama Mohamed Tawfik
Ambassador of Egypt to Bangladesh



President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak

Egypt — Your Partner in Development

BUSINESSMEN from Bangladesh have tremendous potentials to explore in Egypt. The Egyptian economy has witnessed great achievements in the recent years. Egypt now enjoys sound and reliable up-to-date infrastructure. The adjustment programmes to carry on economic reforms under taken by the government since the late 80's has enabled Egypt to stabilise its macroeconomic fundamentals. Moreover, the aggressive policy the government is following to attract and encourage investment include simplifying bureaucratic and administration procedure as well as providing tax holidays and exemptions as well as other incentives, have made Egypt one of the most attractive and vibrant investment markets in the Middle East and Africa. Conscious of these potential and its excellent human resources of highly qualified and experienced professions and skilled labor, Egypt has been taking advantage of its geopolitical and geo-economic position to consolidate and expand its economic and trade relations with the Arab World, Africa and Europe and recently with Asia.

Recently several major pro-

jects are underway including the establishment of free trade zones in Egypt and efforts to set up an Egypt Arab Common Market. These projects and plans will further promote Egypt's economic and trade position within the Arab world.

This makes Egypt one of the most favourable nations to do business with. For interested Bangladeshi businessmen, Egypt holds tremendous potentials, either through bilateral trading or as a base to reach to Middle Eastern and African markets. As far bilateral trade is concerned, the traditional trading items like cotton, jute, jute products, fertilisers, rock, phosphate, can be further exploited. But more importantly are the items that need yet to be explored like building materials, electric goods and equipment, processed food, ceramics, cement, house appliances, pharmaceuticals, dies, textiles, carpets, readymade garments, chemical products and other industrial components, as well as, services like major contracting works (bridges, hotels resorts,...) which can be imported from Egypt. These items are currently invading Arab and African markets, and are even being widely exported to Europe and the United States.

Bangladesh is well positioned to cooperate with Egypt, and set joint ventures to produce some of the above items specially in the field of textiles, pharmaceuticals and readymade garments where the two countries can exchange experiences and compliment each other. Bangladeshi businessmen can use their joint ventures as a gateway to reach the Middle Eastern and African countries and have additional access to Europe, South East Asia and United States markets.

Currently the economic cooperation between our two brotherly countries still needs efforts and clever inter-perennial skills and some adventurous businessmen to multiply in a short period of time. Hopefully more prospects are envisaged through the cooperation between the two brotherly countries in the new economic Group of Eight Islamic Countries D-8 which was formally launched in 15 June 1997 and the anticipated summit of the Group which will be held in Dhaka this November. This will create additional venues of cooperation and prospects of economic prosperity for our two countries that will directly benefit our people.

Trade Centre of Egypt

THE Trade Centre of Egypt (TCE) is operating in Dhaka since 1960 and relentlessly serving the cause of trade and commerce between the friendly countries — Bangladesh and Egypt. In addition to this, we at this Centre are moving ahead in diversifying our operational activities to the mutual advantage of the two countries.

TCE is one of the several overseas branches of the public sector business company MISR Import and Export Co (IMPEX MISR) which is specialised in the field of foreign trade, international trade, switch operations and sole agencies and rep-

resentations.

The TCE during this long period has successfully introduced several Egyptian raw materials like raw cotton, cotton yarn, fertilisers (single super phosphate powder and granular) and rock phosphate etc. This Centre also ventured and to a large extent succeeded in familiarising the Bangladeshi business community with Egyptian products.

The Centre is making accelerated efforts to introduce and promote Egyptian finished and semi-finished commodities and services to Bangladesh market such as tyres and tubes, ceramic and tile items, steel and PVC pipes and fittings, pharmaceu-

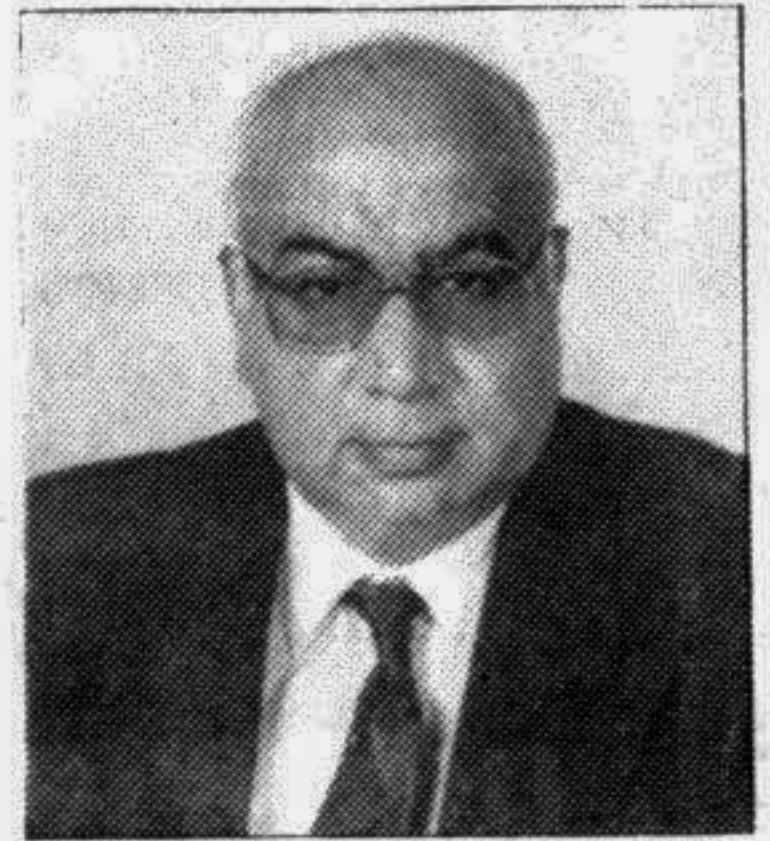
tical raw materials and medical supplies, rice, sugar, carpets and tourism packages, etc. There were many successful trials of our commodities and products and we fervently hope good deals will be initiated in the near future.

Steps are afoot to enter into construction fields like steel roadway bridges, railway bogies and coaches, ammunition, electrical and engineering products, household and electronics. Many developing steps have been achieved in these fields and we are certain fruitful results will follow.

The Trade Centre of Egypt successfully concluded and ex-

ecuted several contracts of raw jute and jute goods during fiscal 1997-98 ending June 30. This target has been achieved through the help and assistance of the local government organisations, BJMC and TCB and several well known private sector suppliers in Bangladesh and many reputed overseas trading houses and their representative offices in Bangladesh.

The Centre takes this glorious occasion of the National Day of Egypt to express sincere congratulations to the Bangladeshi and Egyptian entrepreneurs, extending cooperation, consultation and experience to help enhance bilateral trade and economic relations.



Magdi Riad Ibrahim
Trade Representative

Egypt's Role — Regionally and Internationally

SINCE the dawn of civilization Egypt has played a leading and prominent role in the world arena. With its human resources, historic heritage and culture, Egypt was posed to be a regional power in the Middle East and Africa and to have vital contribution to world politics. Egypt is one of the first members of UN since then it has played an important role in all its activities. In almost all of the United Nation Organizations and Committees, you are bound to find a prominent Egyptian in a key position. A obvious example to that, is Dr Boutros Ghali, the former UN Secretary General. Egypt is one of the Co-founders of the Non Alignment Movement and is actively involved in the G16. It is a leading member of the OIC and Organization of African Unity. Its needless to say that Egypt was the one behind the establishment of the Arab League. Egypt used its leading role in these organizations and its own potentials to achieve its vision of regional and worldwide peace, cohesiveness, and prosperity.

Egypt's Role in the Middle East

As a peace loving country Egypt relentlessly plays a crucial role in establishing a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East. Bearing in mind the ultimate goal of achieving just peace according to the International Law and UN resolutions on this subject, HE President Hosni Mubarak recently held a series of meeting with

Head of States of the Arab World, Palestine Chairman, Israeli Prime Minister, European leaders and President Bill Clinton. Egypt has taken upon its self to continue its efforts to achieve these goals despite of all the set backs, because it knows that its contribution is vital and indispensable.

At the same time Egypt takes a strong position to achieve stability in the whole Middle East region. It stress that all weapons of mass destruction should be removed, and that no double standards are used to deal with this issue in the Middle East. In this regard Egypt is taking the opportunity in every forum or venue where it can lobby and push for the achievement of a greater Middle East free from all sorts of weapons of mass destruction. These efforts are highlighted by an initiative formulated by H E President Mohamed Hosni Mubarak to achieve the ultimate goal of a mass destruction weapons free region in the Middle East.

Egypt's Role in Africa

With regard to weapons of mass destruction, Egypt has been more successful in Africa by using its leading role in OAU and its excellent bilateral relations with African countries. Egypt has been able to achieve these signing of the African Nuclear Weapon Free Zone Treaty in Cairo in April 1996. In addition, the African countries have been able due to tremendous efforts exerted by Egypt to establish a new mechanism for the peaceful settlement of disputes.

Egypt and the Islamic Countries

While the obvious importance of the Middle Eastern and African (the two geographical entities to whom Egypt belongs) are demonstrate in the Egyptian Foreign Policy, Egypt accords an equal importance to the Islamic World. It has cooperated and coordinate with its Islamic brotherly nations and Bangladesh on their top through the OIC in issues like Bosnia and Jerusalem.

Egypt in World Economy

What makes Egypt a regional power is not only its political activities and potentials, but also its economic endeavor. Conscious of the ever increasing potential of economic politics in a world of multiplying economic group, Egypt is taking part in diversified economic forums. Egypt is actively contribute to the Mediterranean forum and increasing its partnership with the EU. With the new partnership agreement, Egypt currently receives one of the most extensive privileged trade facilities with the EU. Last but not least, is the launching of the D-8 group through which Egypt will have close cooperation with Bangladesh and the other 6 Islamic countries.

Our Warmest Felicitations on
The National Day of Egypt

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Fax: (02) 956-3294
E.MAIL: moghani@citechco.net

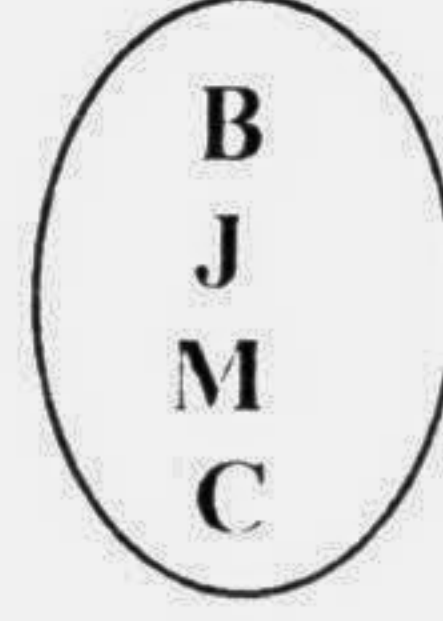
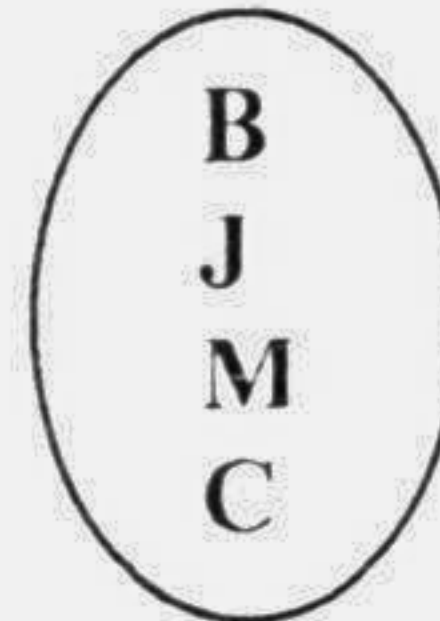
Warmest Felicitations to
The Government and the Friendly People
of Egypt on the occasion of their
National Day

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On the occasion of "National Day" of the Arab Republic of Egypt
we take pleasure to inform our Egyptian brothers



BJMC — the single largest manufacturer and exporter of jute goods all over the world has proven records as dependable supplier of traditional and non-traditional jute products like hessian cloth & bag, sacking cloth & bag, carpet backing cloth, twine, yarn, soil saver, wall covering, D.W. tarpaulin & jute canvas, felt, webbing, laminated jute cloth & bag and jute carpets including a wide range of diversified jute products e.g. shopping bag, dyed fabrics, scrim cloth, nursery pot/sheet, prayer mat. etc.

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