

A Triumph Against the Odds

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The long awaited moment finally came. The clock read 12:56pm. The calendar read Monday, 10th of January, 2005. Finally, Bangladesh registered their first ever win in test cricket. It was 10th of November, 2000 when Bangladesh, the youngest among the 10 test playing countries, played their first test match against the neighbouring India. Four long years and two months went by before Bangladesh could grab the long eluding victory on January 10 at MA Aziz Stadium in Chittagong. The entire country burst into celebration the cricket crazy Bangladeshis finally got something to rejoice about.



IT'S been a gruelling journey -- from entry into the test fold to the maiden test victory. When the euphoria over getting test status started to fade as Bangladesh's performance in both small and longer version showed little improvement, the win against Zimbabwe gives them the long-awaited taste of beating an opponent. Its test record, especially, was getting horrific with every match; whoever the opponent was Bangladesh seemed doomed to suffer an innings defeat. At one stage there were even apprehensions that Bangladesh's test status might be withdrawn. Among 34 test matches Bangladesh have played since November, 2000, Bangladesh's best performance was three draws, that too with the assistance of rains, while losing the remaining 31.

Bangladesh's performance however showed a little upward