

Letters will only be considered if they carry the writer's full name, address and telephone number (if any). The identity of the writers will be protected. Letters must be limited to 300 words. All letters will be subject to editing.

Execution of JMB militants

The six including Abdur Rahman, the head of the banned Islamic group Jamaatul Mujahideen Bangladesh, and his deputy Siddiqui Islam, known as Bangla Bhai, and four other associates were executed at different jails across the country. The November 2005 attack on the judges was part of a series of bombings for which the JMB was blamed. Heartiest thanks to the present CTG for taking the action as per the verdict of the Supreme Court.

The nation will be waiting to see the executions of the murderers of the father of the nation and his family members.

My sincere thanks and gratitude to you for the elaborate and fact finding commentary published on March 30, 2007.

**Gopal Sengupta**  
Canada

India's contribution to our liberation

On the Victory Day this year, let's thank the government, armed forces and people of India for their great support to our war of independence in 1971. Let's officially recognise the contributions made by them. Let's start building a monument with the names of the Indian soldiers who died for Bangladesh.

Let's invite some Indian soldiers who fought in that war and family members of those who lost their lives.

**Zafar Chowdhury**  
Houston, Texas, USA

Country on the right track

In my wildest dream, I never thought that the war criminals of Bangladesh would be put on trial. Well, as of today, they are not. However, the army chief dared to mention this. Our hats off to him. A nation which does not recognise its founding father is an orphan. A nation which does not prosecute its war criminals is not doing the right thing.

There are many good people in Bangladesh, we need to come together to take the country to the next step.

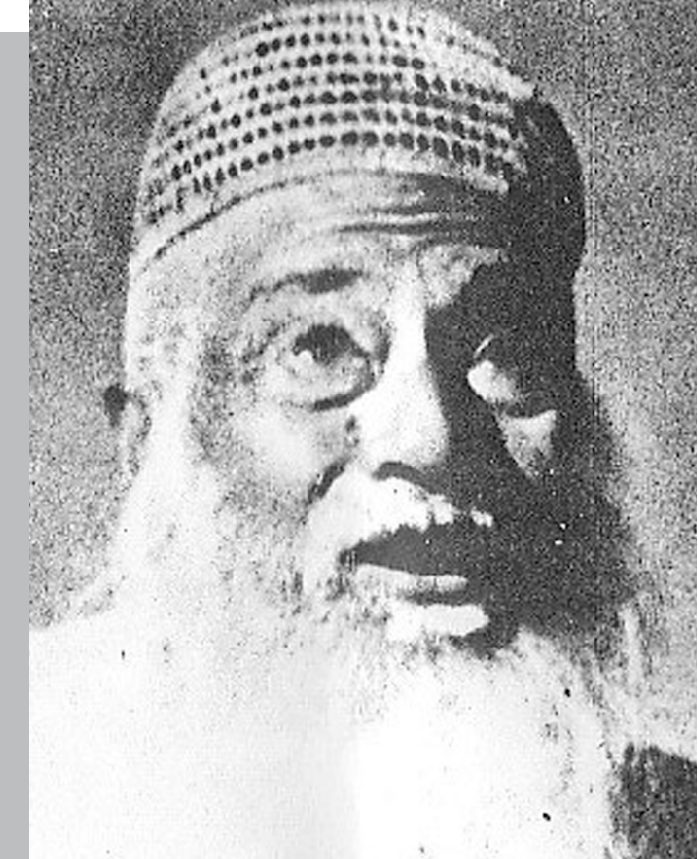
**Bidyutpal Sarkar**  
Los Angeles, USA

Money siphoned off

Corrupt individuals have illegally taken huge amounts of money out of our country. Now that a new era of hope has ushered in, we must all help this government to succeed in its effort to lead the nation towards the right path. My suggestions to recover the money are as follows:

Our ambassadors and high commissioners can be instructed to open information-gathering centres in their respective offices, encouraging our nationals living abroad to come forward with information. A reward may be offered as an additional incentive for people to come forward.

Our embassies and high commissions can liaise with the editors of Bangla newspapers published



Recognise our national leaders

I am very happy to know that at last the nation is going to recognise our national leaders and also give them due places in history according to their contributions towards the creation of Bangladesh. I wrote 4 to 5 letters on this particular issue since 2003 which were published in The Daily Star and weekly Holiday respectively.

By recognising Maulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani as the Dreamer of Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as the Founder/Architect of Bangladesh, Ziaur Rahman as the Declarer of Independence as well as Builder of Bangladesh and also Tajuddin Ahmed and General M.A.G. Osmani for playing major roles during our Liberation War in 1971, we are going to be united again.

No more controversy or debate or division. Enough is enough. As patriots it is our obligation and responsibility to respect and honour them as they are our national leaders. The best way to show respect to our national leaders is to build statues like that of Language Martyrs either at Suhrawardy Uddyan or at Kalurghat or at Mujibnagar.

I shall also be happy if a "Pillar of Hatred" is built at Suhrawardy Uddyan to remind the nation of the Rajakars, Al-Badr and Al-Shams for collaborating with the Pakistani Army in 1971.

**Iqbal Ahmed**  
New Eskaton, Dhaka

in foreign countries and they can use their knowledge of our community living there to find the associates of corrupt individuals and to locate their wealth and funds. Advertisements in those newspapers will also help.

Our foreign office can ask other countries to help locate our money transferred there illegally and to

their funds illegally transferred abroad. We can learn from the Indian experience and knowledge.

**M. I. Hussain**  
Dhanmondi, Dhaka

Independence Day and Begum Khaleda Zia

I am very upset to know that the government didn't give the permission to Begum Khaleda Zia to go to the National Monument on the occasion of the Independence Day.

The government's duty is to provide security to every citizen. But an individual's movement should not be restricted in the name of security. As an ex-prime minister and elected people's representative for a long time they should give her due security as well as permission to go to such an important place on such an important day.

**Mostofa Saikh Chowdhury**  
Shahjadpur, Dhaka

Change election laws

Graduation as minimum level of education for participation in polls.

No duty free incentives for elected MPs (the root of all corruption by MPs and their cronies).

No use of mikes (other than in meetings at designated places) during election campaigns.

No procession on roads.

No blockade of roads.

No posters on walls, only leaflets.

Meetings at designated open fields (all campaigns through open field meetings).

No roadside election camps (this is the focal point of all illegal activities, the meeting place of local mastans).

Campaigning through media viz. newspaper, TV, radio etc.

Advertisement on reduced rates in national channels.

Arrangement for participation by leaders of major political parties in a two hour final debate 3 days before the election.

Compulsory registration of all parties participating in the election.

Four-year term with fixed calendar as in the United States (for example, election in the last week of December, inauguration of parliament session in the first week of January, resignation of the cabinet in the last week of September etc).

No provision for reserved seats for women.

Premiership to be limited to maximum two terms for an individual. (We must get rid of the family rule).

These are just a few of the points. I may have missed many. But while formulating a law, the Election Commission, I believe will consider every proposal that is being put forward by different groups or individuals.

**Fatema Chowdhury**  
Dhanmondi, Dhaka

Eastern bypass

Thank you for the article on this issue published in your daily on 25 March, 2007. It is good news for the inhabitants of Dhaka, as well as for the people travelling from the northern part of the country to Chittagong and vice versa.

Those who travel through Rampura or Mirpur towards Mymensing, Tangail or Netrokona or the North Bengal through Jamuna Bridge know what the traffic mean to them. It makes human lives miserable, and affects our national economy.

On the other hand, those who live in Basabo, Vatara and adjacent areas know the drudgery in the monsoon. But it is not clear to us why the govt is not constructing the embankment through any private venture, local or foreign. In Malaysia we have seen that big roads, bypasses and bridges are being constructed by the private entrepreneurs.

Our government should seriously consider what is being done

Neutrally speaking...

I am not taking anyone's side here, just trying to put my opinion using my brain, instead of being emotional or judgmental. Well, first of all

Poor performance in Super Eights

Most of our batsmen threw away their wickets and broke the hearts of millions. It is quite shocking to see the batting average of Ashrafur. He has played almost 94 ODIs for Bangladesh with an average of 20 only. Rajin Saleh, whose average is better, has been ignored. Except against Bermuda & India they played like they are tourist cricketers having fun.

The cricketers should show a lot more commitment and grit to succeed at that level of the game.

**Rajiul Hasan**  
University of Ballarat, Sydney



I do not trust any of the past governments in Bangladesh which were engaged in wrongdoings. Back then everything was possible. Beginning with corruption to injustice. We all know by now that our nation was overwhelmed with corruption, exploitation, injustice and bribery since Bangladesh got its independence until Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed, chief adviser to the caretaker government, stood up for the people of Bangladesh with all his confidence about reconstruction.

However, justice must be done to all.

**Afsan Chowdhury**  
USA

Eastern bypass

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Our government should seriously consider what is being done

by others.

**Monzur Rahman**  
Rajshahi

**Politicians fail**

It is sad that our political parties couldn't make a single good move to present a concrete history of post-liberation Bangladesh. Now that in almost every move we are demanding that the CTG has to fix this and that, what is the guarantee that the next elected government will not change the history again?

We have lost our confidence on these political leaders and so I can hardly rely on the consistency of whatever moves being made now.

**Saidul Alam**  
University of Alberta  
Edmonton, AB, Canada

Give due respect .....

In your article "Give due respect to all our leaders and let the nation move on," you wrote:

"We once again urge the caretaker government to take the crucial steps in uniting the nation by declaring Bangabandhu the Father of the Nation, Ziaur Rahman as the declarer, in Bangabdhū's name, of our independence and giving a befitting pride of place to Tajuddin Ahmed."

Looks like you made a simple equation (political).

For Awami League - Bangabandhu the Father of the Nation.

For BNP - Ziaur Rahman as the declarer, in Bangabdhū's name, of independence.

I believe this is not at all a simple equation.

If Ziaur Rahman made this announcement on 27 March 1971, how come our Independence Day

is 26 March? After 2001, the BNP-Jamaat government tried to convince us that Major Zia's Declaration was made on 26 March instead of 27. Because our Independence day is 26 March. After that there were lots of protests from all over Bangladesh.

Finally, you remember Tajuddin Ahmed. That's a good sign.

We hope the government will come forward to set history right.

**MMR Jalal**  
On e-mail

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The political problems in the last 35 years have caused lots of other problems. Even our history is misleading and our next generation will never know the facts.

There is no question that both the BNP and the AL have divided the nation and distorted its history.

Time has come to take action to revive the true history.

**Obaidur Rahim**  
Davenport, Iowa  
USA

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Your writing on Bangabandhu is very timely. The controversy must end. The nation cannot suffer any more.

**Areader**  
On e-mail

Advertisement and ethics

Advertisement, a typical phenomenon of today's production and marketing world, is basically engaged with promoting goods and services to its clients. Nobody in today's world could think of having an ad-free world. Definitely, it has a great contribution to making consumers' choice more diversified. They are now well aware of having

better goods and services and having more options to judge the merits or demerits of buying commodities.

But the advertisements should show due respect to our social norms and values. This is an important thing that cannot be ignored.

Here again, the responsibilities of the media, advertisement agencies, and the authorities concerned should be well-defined.

**Sultan Mohammed Zakaria**  
Research Officer  
Unnayan Shamannay

27th BCS

I am a student from the department of International Relations of the University of Dhaka working in a development agency now. I noticed a few reports being published in the last couple of days that the results of 27th BCS should be cancelled immediately. But I cannot understand why people are demanding cancellation of the 27th BCS. Why did not you write against the results before they were published? I was also a candidate for the 27th BCS but did not qualify.

I have some friends who were also informed of the irregularities in the PSC. We took preparations but I failed to qualify but four of my close friends from the same department qualified. I also know a few students from my department who also came out successful. I congratulated them.

I think the results should not be cancelled.

**Shajahan Ali**  
On e-mail

# Martyrs of 1971

This is the 36th anniversary of our great liberation war. I was born in 1981, so I did not witness the most crucial times of our history. A few days ago, I read a book which is about a boy who sacrificed his life to save many freedom fighters. After reading this story, I could not control my tears. I cannot really imagine how much courage and patriotism could drive a youngster to sacrifice his valuable life for independence. We do not know how many potential youths we lost in the war. Do we pay proper respect to them? I think those who are young today have to know about the valiant sons of the soil.

I salute the great martyrs who gave us an independent country where we grow up freely today. We have to remember them with a deep sense of gratitude. I pray for the peace of the departed souls.

**Mohammad Anisur Rahman**  
Abdul Gani Road, Pahartali  
Chittagong

সাবাস, বাংলাদেশ, এ পৃথিবী  
অবাক তাকিয়ে রয় :  
জ্বলে - পুড়ে - মরে হারখার  
তবু মাথা নোয়াবার নয় ॥

সুকান্ত ভট্টাচার্য

# Noise pollution

Like other pollutions in Dhaka city, noise pollution is no less serious. In the busy roads and some important bus-stops noise pollution crosses all limits of tolerance. Hydraulic horns are widely used in most of the buses in violation of the rules. As a result, noise pollution has now reached a critical stage.

The government has taken some steps to counter noise pollution, but more drastic measures are needed.

**Rahad Abir, Dhaka**

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