

History is easy, just study

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It is a churlish fact that the history of the War of Liberation 1971 and facts leading up to our most prized national achievement ever have been officially distorted over the decades, and shamelessly so by vested quarters only for their mere political survival. Thankfully, even a child understands that.

There are those few who say that everything the pure Bangalee say is not true. '*Onek gap achhey*,' they utter, possibly with the same hope of a retreating terrorist bursting a canister of smokescreen to run away from reality and the people.

It is easy to sieve out the heroes and martyrs from the villains of this country without relying at all on the present pack of liars, few though they may be. They remind one of the murderer, who under oath told the judge that as he was checking the sharpness of the knife, his wife came and fell on it. 'She used to frequently do such things, Your Honour, but the last time she was not so lucky', he sobbed while wiping a tear from somewhere.

The facts are in the past. The facts are available in our local and international newspapers of 1970-71, and earlier, and in official government documents of many countries, including India, Pakistan and the USA. Some of these documents are also available on the net. Search for them. Let me give you some excerpts from documents prepared by Pakistan, our sworn enemy then, on how unfair a deal we had to suffer for 24 years, from 1947:

	Total	East Pakistan (now Bangladesh)	West Pakistan (now Pakistan)
Contribution to revenue	100%	60%	40%
Allotment for defence	60%	10%	50%
Allotted for civil expenses	40%	15%	25%
Received for expenses	100%	10+15=25%	50+25=75%

In those days it was illegal to carry gold from West Pakistan to East Pakistan, but legal from East to West. And they called it one country!

Why! Throughout March all the TV channels here have been running daily documentaries on the War, original b/w footages, for the world to see. See them. Arrange special screening of those scenes even when it is not March.

The tool of our struggle for self emancipation was Awami League president Sheikh Mujibur Rahman's six-point programme (*Choy Dafa*), delivered on March 23, 1966, five years before our independence. The points called for Pakistan to be a Federation (of two wings, that is East Pakistan and West Pakistan) based on the Lahore Resolution (of two nations) with the Federal government dealing with only defence and foreign affairs, two separate currencies for the two wings, or one currency with constitutional provision for stopping flight of currency from East (Bangladesh) to West Pakistan, separate power of taxation and revenue collection for the two wings, separate accounts for foreign exchange earnings, and a militia or a paramilitary force for East Pakistan.