



4th of July



233RD INDEPENDENCE DAY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Daily Star

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT

July 4, 2009



Barack Obama
President of the United States of America

MESSAGE

THE Fourth of July marks the 233rd anniversary of the American Declaration of Independence. On this day, Americans celebrate the birth of our nation and honor our founders.

The United States was blessed with a group of founders who worked collaboratively to solve the seemingly intractable problems of the day. Those founders were true statesmen. Even as they struggled with serious issues of the day, they set aside personal agendas to work for the common interests of the new nation. Acknowledging that democracy was a goal toward which we would strive, the Preamble to the Constitution stated that, "We the People of the United States, in Order to form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

Not everything the found-

ers proposed succeeded. The current U.S. Constitution was our second attempt; the earlier Articles of Confederation (?) proved unequal to the task of governing our young democracy. We have amended the U.S. Constitution 27 times. Our nation is not perfect, but the strength of American democracy is our ability to adapt to changing circumstances while guaranteeing the people's rights. The message of the Declaration of Independence states "that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, that among these are life liberty, and the pursuit of happiness."

Bangladesh and the United States enjoy a strong, healthy relationship. Like Bangladesh, we fought for freedom. We are bound by the same fundamental beliefs: the rights of the individual, a faith in the importance of free speech, freedom of religion and the press, and a dedication to the fundamental principles of democracy.

President Obama recently reached out to the Muslim

world to strengthen our relationship based on mutual interest and mutual respect. He emphasized that we shared common values -- "principles of justice and progress; tolerance and the dignity of all human beings." Like Bangladesh, the U.S. also contains diverse ethnic groups and people of different faiths.

We look forward to many years of continued close cooperation with Bangladesh -- a democracy, a partner, and a friend.



James F. Moriarty
Ambassador of the United States of America to Bangladesh

U.S. GOVERNMENT IN BANGLADESH

From the American people to the people of Bangladesh

THE U.S. Government is helping to improve the lives of the people of Bangladesh, especially the poor. We are committed to improving living conditions, promoting a free and democratic political environment, and providing assistance in times of natural disaster. We help Bangladeshis build infrastructure and develop capacity. To achieve these goals, we

work closely with the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), the private sector and other donors. The U.S. Government has provided over five billion dollars in assistance to Bangladesh since 1971. In 2009, our planned assistance amounts to about 163 million dollars, including help for people living in the Cyclone

Sidr and Cyclonic Storm Aila-affected areas.

Through the US Agency for International Development (USAID), the U.S. focuses assistance efforts in five broad areas: enhancing health and pre-primary education, creating income opportunities for rural poor, supporting good governance at the national and local level, improving food security and

strengthening disaster preparedness while providing emergency assistance following natural disasters. In health, U.S.G.-supported NGO health clinics provide high quality family planning and basic health services to more than 26 million patients each year through the 319 Smiling Sun (Shurjer Hashi) clinics. The U.S.G.-funded Sesame Street television program,

Sisimpur, is one of the most popular children's shows in Bangladesh, with weekly viewership of 9 million children and parents. To create income opportunities for the rural poor, USAID supports key sectors such as shrimp and aquaculture, horticulture, and leather to improve the quality of products, increase sales, create jobs and promote

CONTINUED ON PAGE 13



Our Greetings on your
Independence Day



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