

ROAD TO JUSTICE	ARREST June 29, 2010	ARREST FOR WAR CRIMES August 2, 2010	PROBE July 2010 to October 2011	CHARGES PRESSED December 11, 2011	FRESH CHARGES PRESSED January 16, 2012	INDICTMENT June 21, 2012	TRIBUNAL VERDICT July 17, 2013	MOJAHEED'S APPEAL August 11, 2013	END OF SC HEARING May 27, 2015	SC VERDICT June 16, 2015
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Death penalty for Mojaheed

SC UPHOLDS VERDICT

Confirms maximum punishment for his role in killing of intellectuals in 1971

ASHUTOSH SARKAR

The Supreme Court yesterday unanimously upheld the death penalty of Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed for planning and instigating the killing of intellectuals and professionals at the fag end of the country's Liberation War.

The SC verdict has paved the way for execution of the Jamaat-e-Islami secretary general and also a former minister, originally sentenced to death by a war crimes tribunal two years ago.

During the nine-month bloody war, he was chief of the infamous Al-Badr Bahini, an auxiliary force of the Pakistan occupation army, responsible for abducting, torturing and killing freedom fighters, intellectuals and pro-liberation people.

This is the first time an ex-minister's death sentence for war crimes has been



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Intellectuals' killing not forgiven

TUHIN SHUBHRA ADHIKARY and WASIM BIN HABIB

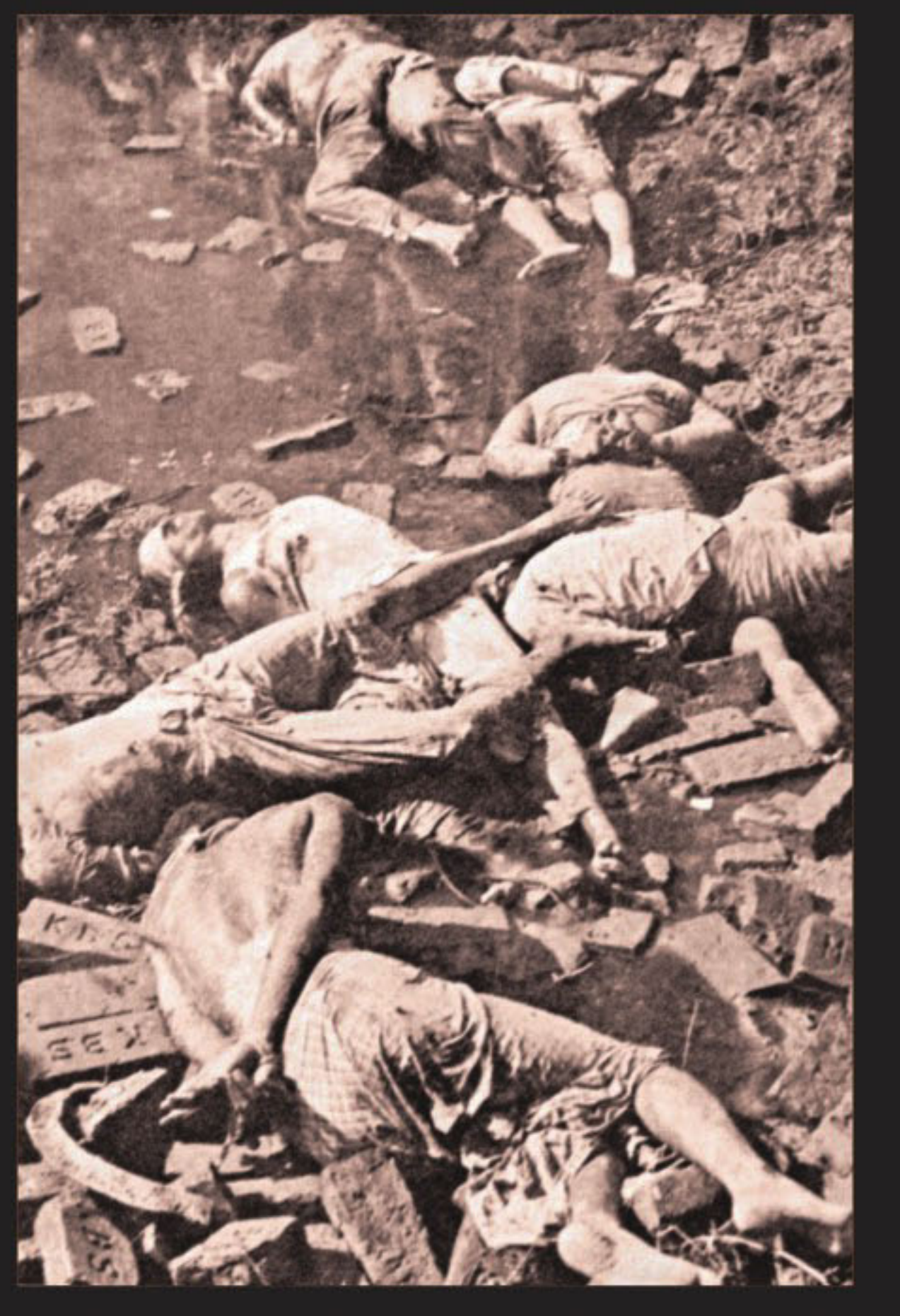
He had a ruthless militia and an evil design at his disposal. And with those, he set out to intellectually cripple the soon-to-be independent Bangladesh.

Under the plan, which he along with his political colleagues and the Pakistan army had devised, the notorious militia Al-Badr massacred university teachers, doctors, journalists and other professionals towards the end of the Liberation War in 1971.

The country lost many of its brightest sons and daughters.

All these years, Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed, the AL-Badr chief and the man responsible for the savagery, has never showed any sign of repentance. Rather, after the 1975 assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, he re-emerged in politics in the country against whose birth he had fought so hard.

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Justice on the horizon

Victim families happy with judgment; now want Jamaat trial

TAMANNA KHAN

Families of the martyred intellectuals heaved a sigh of relief at the Supreme Court's decision to uphold the International War Crimes Tribunal's death sentence handed to convicted war criminal Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed. Asserting their faith in the country's legal justice system, they said the apex court had brought them one step closer to getting justice.

Shaon Mahmud, daughter of martyred music composer Altaf Mahmud, said, "This is yet another

step towards our success in receiving justice. It paves the way for banning Jamaat-e-Islami."

"This verdict is a befitting reply to these criminals' outrageous claim that there were no war criminals in the country," she said, referring to Mojaheed's 2007 comment that there were no war criminals in Bangladesh.

Shaon is confident that the trial of Jamaat-e-Islami will also be held for its heinous role during the Liberation War in 1971.

"Since trial of the individuals involved in crimes

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Internet keeps Jamaat alive

Party calls 24-hr hartal from 6am today

RASHIDUL HASAN

With virtually no presence on the streets or even in the public eye, top leaders of Jamaat-e-Islami have now resorted to the Internet to keep the party alive.

Important programmes, like today's hartal announced yesterday to protest the apex court's upholding the death penalty

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TACKLING CYBER CRIMES

Tough law on cards

Experts say it is only to control social networks, bloggers

MUHAMMAD ZAHIDUL ISLAM

The government has readied a draft of "cyber security act", which has the provision for 20 years' imprisonment for committing "cyber terrorism", and arrest of suspects without warrants.

According to the draft, a crime committed online with its effect in another country would be considered cyber terrorism.

Legal and industry experts are very critical of the draft. They said the government wants to formulate this act only to control social networks and the bloggers. They said the draft does not bring anything new to the table, apart from increasing the punishment for cyber crime.

They even went on to say that the government could not secure people's data but

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