

AGENTS OF CHANGE

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The Liberation War: A reading list

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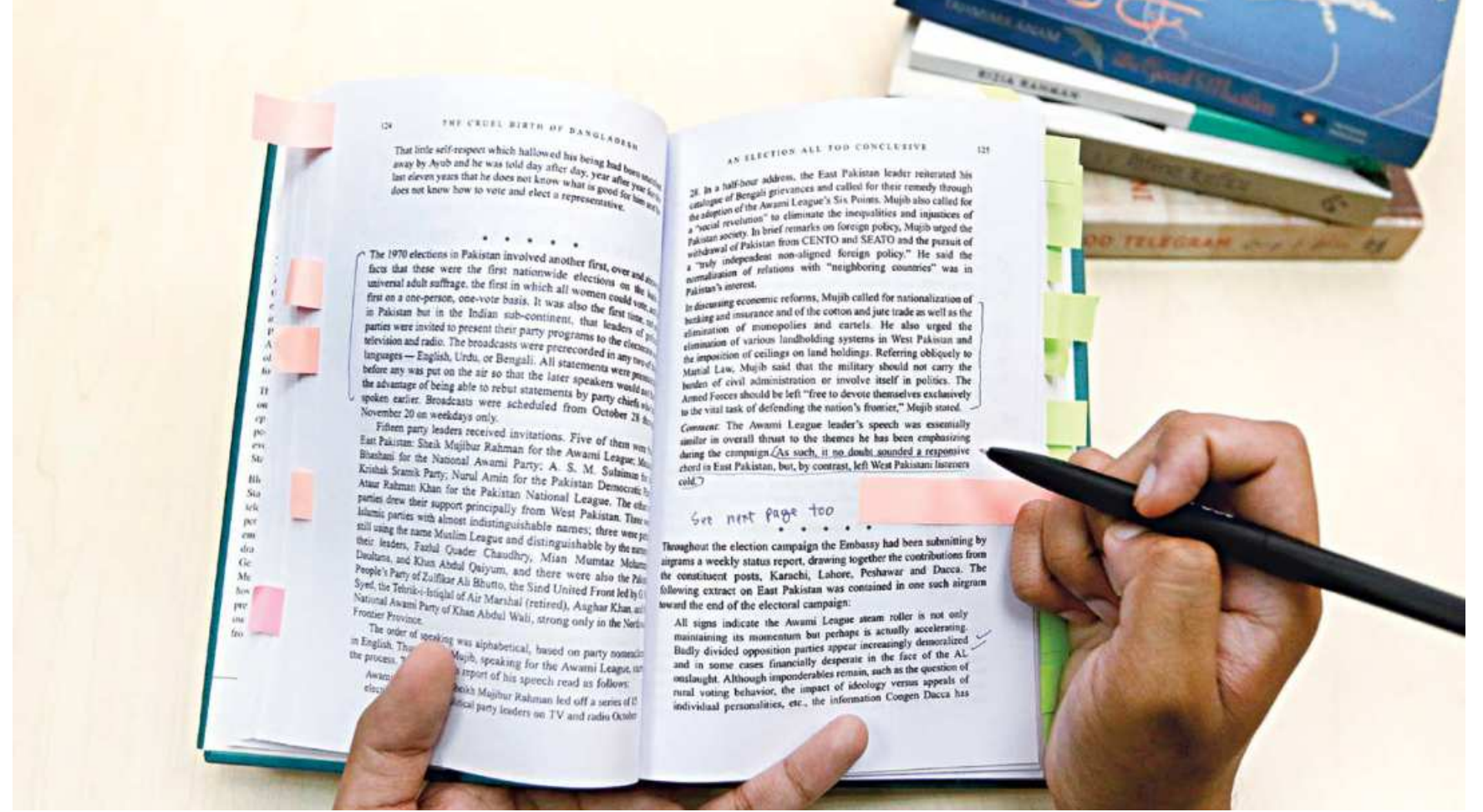
and subsequently the US, led it to supporting the cause of Bangladesh's independence. A journalistic feat, The Blood Telegram sets a stage for readers to witness the ways in which the politics of the Cold War played out in South Asia back then.

Ami Birangona Bolchi

According to estimates, the Pakistani Military and their collaborators sexually abused around 200,000-400,000 women during the Liberation War of Bangladesh. Compiled by Nilima Ibrahim, this is a collection of seven stories told by Birangonas (war heroines), who survived the unspeakable cruelty they had to face at the hands of pro-Pakistan forces. Dr Nilima Ibrahim deserves an ode for her work, not only because of the compilation, but also for the journey that she had to undertake for setting these stories free, beyond the victims' lips. She managed successful adoptions (mostly encouraged by willing Canadian citizens) and triumphantly convinced many Pakistan-bound fleeing Birangonas Pakistan bound to stay back, since leaving would bring more uncertainty into their lives. The book provides its readers with a vantage point on the ways in which a war disproportionately affects women. It brims with stories of both hope and dread.

Letters of Blood

Arunava Sinha's, Letters of Blood—translated from the Bengali Rokter Okkhor—is a novel by the late Rizia Rahman that illuminates the lives of the women who have been (directly and indirectly) forced into prostitution, and shows how the intricacies of their lives hold them captive in a physically and mentally hostile ecosystem. The novel is populated by characters from as young as 12 years old to those on the brink of death—a feat that reflects



the reality seen in brothels. One of the novel's protagonists happens to be a Birangona, and following that thread, it establishes a connection between a newly independent country and its harrowing past.

A Golden Age

Tahmima Anam's debut novel, A Golden Age, won the Commonwealth Writers' Prize for Best First Book. It is the first book of her Bangladesh trilogy, which traces the course of Bangladesh's journey from before independence. This novel narrates the story of Rehana Haque and

her children, Maya and Sohail Haque, as they grapple with the dizzying forces of political upheaval in East Pakistan. First in the face of custody battles and then an impending war of liberation, we see the intense level of trials and tribulations Rehana must brave to keep her children close to her. We also see how war changes the course of the characters' lives—Maya moves to Kolkata to become a journalist advocating for Bangladeshi self-determination, while Sohail joins the Mukti Bahini. A Golden Age is a vivid snapshot of a country coming alive

and the fumes left in its wake.

Besides the aforementioned works, nonfiction books such as Anam Zakaria's 1971: A People's History from Bangladesh, Pakistan, and India, Nayanika Mookherjee's The Spectral Wound: Sexual Violence, Public Memories, and the Bangladesh War of 1971, and novels such as Numair Atif Choudhury's Babu Bangladesh!, and Nadeem Zaman's In the Time of the Others are also significant contributions to the literary body devoted to telling the story of 1971.

Kamila Shamsie's Kartography, Intizar Hussain's Basti, and Quratulain Hyder's Fireflies in the Mist are some popular novels about the war written by renowned non-Bangladeshi writers.

The author is an undergraduate student of International Relations at Bangladesh University of Professionals. tazrian1234@gmail.com

The photographer is a staff photojournalist at The Daily Star. mehedi.morshed@thedailystar.net

অঙ্গনা স্বপ্নের শুরু যেখানে



নারীদের জন্য বিশেষ ব্যাংকিং সুবিধা

বিশেষ ডিসকাউন্ট সুবিধা

ফ্রি ইনস্যুরেন্স কাভারেজ

সঞ্চয়ের উপর আকর্ষণীয় ইন্টারেস্ট রেট

নারী উদ্যোক্তাদের জন্য বিশেষ লোন সুবিধা

