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Your Right to Know

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A dawn darker than night

WASIM BIN HABIB

August 14, 1975.

The rumble of truck engines of the 2nd Field Regiment disturbed the evening quietness at Dhaka cantonment. Loaded with 105mm cannons, the heavy-duty trucks began heading from the southern end of the cantonment to the under-construction airport on the capital's edge.

Hours later, around 10:00pm, several Bengal Lancer T-54 tanks left their units in the north of cantonment and rolled down towards the airport, only to join the 2nd Field Regiment. On the barren field of the airport, 18 cannons and 28 tanks assembled.

The soldiers present there were still unsure what was going to happen.

Then, around 11:30pm, some rogue army officers including Major Shariful

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NATIONAL MOURNING DAY TODAY

"I'm broken by the news of Sheikh Mujib's death. He was a great leader. His extraordinary heroism has been a source of inspiration for the people of Asia and Africa."

INDIRA GANDHI

"The killers were able to murder Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib but they could not kill his dreams and ideals."

SHEIKH HASINA

TRIBUTE TO BANGABANDHU

How to remember a Hero?

MAHFUZ ANAM

Bangladesh and Bangalees have many heroes. But Bangabandhu shines far above all. While our other heroes may be matchless examples of excellence in their own respective fields, or a multiple of them, Bangabandhu's achievement is that he led us to having a country that we could call our own.

A country is of course its land, its people, its heritage, its mineral resources, its nature, its rivers, its trees, all the species that live in it and everything that it encompasses. A

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Biplob.©

Taliban sniff Kabul

Afghan President Ghani vows to stop bloodshed; Pentagon says afghan capital not facing 'imminent threat'; Mazar-i-Sharif falls

AGENCIES

Afghanistan's beleaguered president yesterday vowed to prevent further bloodshed, as Taliban fighters closed in on Kabul after routing his armed forces over the past 10 days.

In a recorded address to the nation -- his first since the Taliban launched their sweeping offensive -- Ashraf Ghani said he wanted to stop the violence "as a historic mission".

"I will not let the imposed war on people cause more deaths," he said, appearing sombre and sitting before an Afghan flag.

"As your president, my focus is on preventing further instability, violence, and displacement of my people," Ghani said in a brief televised address, adding that he was consulting government, elders, politicians and international leaders.



The president gave no hint he would resign or take responsibility for the calamitous military collapse, but said the armed forces could be "remobilized" and consultations were taking place to try to help end the war.

But he offered few specifics on what

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Daily deaths, infections lowest in 3 weeks

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The health directorate yesterday reported 178 deaths from Covid-19 and 6,885 new cases, the lowest numbers in three weeks.

On July 23, the number of deaths reported was 166 and on July 24, there were 6,780 confirmed cases. The numbers steadily rose afterwards and started falling on August 2.

"The lockdown was lifted in the interest of maintaining livelihood and avoiding an economic decline," Health Minister

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From the house of KDS

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15 AUGUST

NATIONAL MOURNING DAY

WALTON