



বাংলাদেশ জাতীয়তাবাদী দল (বিএনপি)-এর চেয়ারপ্রারম্ভন, সাবেক তিনি বারের প্রধানমন্ত্রী, শহীদ প্রেসিডেন্ট জিয়াউর রহমান-এর সহধর্মী ও আপোষহীন মেত্রী বেগম খালেদা জিয়ার মৃত্যু (ইমালিন্দাহি ওয়া ইন্ডাইছি রাজিউন)-তে আমরা গভীরভাবে শোকাত। এদেশে গণতন্ত্র অর্জনের সংগ্রামে নিবেদিত-প্রাণ এ মহান নেতৃত্বের ইন্দ্রকালে বিএইচএফসি-এর সর্বস্তরের কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারীদের পক্ষ থেকে তাঁর বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত কামনার পাশাপাশি শোকসন্তুষ্ট সকলের প্রতি গভীর সমবেদনা জ্ঞাপন করা হলো।



বাংলাদেশ হাউজ বিভিং ফাইনেন্স কর্পোরেশন
Bangladesh House Building Finance Corporation
গৃহবাসের সমিত্বাত



CONDOLENCE MESSAGE ON THE SAD DEMISE OF THE FORMER PRIME MINISTER BEGUM KHALEDA ZIA (1945-2025)

MCCI expresses its profound grief at the passing of Begum Khaleda Zia, a three-time elected Prime Minister of Bangladesh, who breathed her last around 6:00 am on 30 December 2025 at Evercare Hospital, Dhaka. Inna lillahi wa inna ilaihi rajeun.

Begum Khaleda Zia led Bangladesh during 1991-1995, briefly in 1996, and then from 2001 to 2006. As the first woman to hold the office, Begum Khaleda Zia oversaw a tenure marked by the restoration of parliamentary democracy and reforms aimed at strengthening the electoral process.

MCCI expresses its heartfelt condolences and recognizes her service to the nation. We extend our sympathies to the bereaved family at this time of loss.



METROPOLITAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY, DHAKA

সাবেক প্রধানমন্ত্রী বেগম খালেদা জিয়া এর মৃত্যুতে আমরা শোকাত



বাংলাদেশ ব্যাংক

The night she won, and the legacy that followed

FROM 1966, she had to confront one of the deadliest cyclones in history—the April 29, 1991 cyclone, which claimed more than 138,000 lives.

Her administration institutionalized a free-market economy, encouraged the private sector, and laid the foundations for a new entrepreneurial class. Her government introduced value added tax (VAT), which expanded the tax net. Today, VAT is the largest source of revenue in Bangladesh, accounting for nearly 38 percent of tax collection.

She made primary education free and compulsory, introduced the "Food for Education" programme, and made secondary education free for girls—initiatives that increased enrolment and reduced gender disparity.

Still, her government faced criticism, particularly after the controversial Magura by-election in 1994. In response, the Awami League, Jatiya Party, and Jamaat-e-Islami formed a three-party alliance that led widespread movements demanding a neutral caretaker government for elections. At the time, Khaleda declared, "Only children or lunatics can be neutral."

The crisis culminated in the one-sided election of February 15, 1996—boycotted by the opposition—in which 48 candidates were elected unopposed. Khaleda resigned on March 30, 1996, but before dissolving parliament, her government introduced the constitutional amendment establishing the caretaker system, under which fresh elections were held in June.

In opposition, Khaleda rebuilt the party. After the 1997 Chittagong Hill Tracts Peace Accord, she accelerated political agitation against the Awami League government and in 1999 formed the Four-Party Alliance—which included Ershad's Jatiya Party, Jamaat-e-Islami, and Islami Oikya Jote. This alliance won the 2001 election, although the inclusion of Jamaat leaders—accused of war crimes—drew fierce criticism. Allegations of minority persecution further damaged her government's image.

Her third term (2001-2006) was a period of strong economic growth. Remittances increased, the industrial sector expanded rapidly, especially garment production and small enterprises.

But this period was also clouded by controversies. There were corruption allegations, the perception of an alternative power centre at Hawa Bhaban, dynastic politics, the 2004 grenade attack on Sheikh Hasina's rally, and nationwide bombings by extremist groups—all harmed her reputation.

By late 2006, political tensions peaked, leading to the declaration of a state of emergency in January 2007. Khaleda resigned and handed power to a caretaker government. She was arrested later the same year.

After the 2008 election, she faced further personal hardship. She was evicted from her long-time residence in the cantonment area. In 2014, when the BNP announced the "March for Democracy," sand-laden trucks were placed at the entrance to her home.

She boycotted the controversial 2014 election and again the 2024 election, although the BNP took part in 2018—an election marred by allegations of widespread vote-rigging.

Her difficulties deepened with corruption cases. In 2018, she was sentenced to a total of 17 years in prison in the Zia Orphanage Trust and Zia Charitable Trust cases. During the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, she was released from prison and put under

house arrest. She has long suffered from severe illnesses—liver cirrhosis, arthritis, diabetes, and complications in her kidneys, lungs, heart, and eyes.

On August 6, 2024—one day after Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled the country amid a mass uprising—Khaleda Zia emerged from five years of house arrest. On November 21, 2024, she appeared in public for the first time in six years, at an event in Dhaka Cantonment marking Armed Forces Day.

Khaleda Zia is distinct from other rulers because she has never been described as authoritarian. In every constituency she contested, she never lost. From Bogura to Dhaka, from Khulna to Feni—her victories demonstrate her nationwide popularity and acceptance.

Her career also highlights the value of uncompromising principles. By boycotting the 1986 election, she risked political isolation, but ultimately gained credibility as the unwavering opponent of dictatorship.

Her politics was not flawless—there were controversies, allegations of corruption, and political missteps. Yet in guiding Bangladesh's democratic journey, she proved that leadership requires perseverance, adaptability, and the ability to inspire people even in adversity.

When history recalls her, one truth will shine above all—real leadership never forged through fear or force, but through faith in people. To believe in their strength, their dreams, and their dignity is to earn their trust. And it is this bond of trust that sets an extraordinary leader apart from the rest. Khaleda had sealed that bond of trust.

আমেরো শোকাত



বাংলাদেশের প্রথম নারী প্রধানমন্ত্রী ও তিনবারের সফল প্রধানমন্ত্রী এবং বাংলাদেশ জাতীয়তাবাদী দলের চেয়ারপ্রারম্ভন বেগম খালেদা জিয়া ৩০ ডিসেম্বর ২০২৫ তারিখে ইন্ডেকাল করেছেন। তাঁর ইন্ডেকালে সোনালী ব্যাংক পরিচালনা পর্ষদ, ব্যবস্থাপনা কর্তৃপক্ষসহ সর্বস্তরের কর্মকর্তা-কর্মচারীবৃন্দ গভীরভাবে শোকাত। আমরা তাঁর বিদেহী আত্মার মাগফেরাত কামনা করছি এবং শোকসন্তুষ্ট পরিবারের প্রতি গভীর সমবেদনা জ্ঞাপন করছি।

সোনালী ব্যাংক পিএলসি

বিশ্বত ও স্মার্ট

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WE MOURN
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1945-2025