

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



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BANGLADESH

11 Chaitra 1431
25 March 2025

Message

Today, March 25, is 'Genocide Day.' On this day in 1971, the Pakistani invading forces carried out the world's most barbaric crackdown across the country, including Dhaka. I remember, with a heavy heart, all the martyrs who sacrificed their lives on that most terrible night. The nation is still grieving over this infernal carnage.

During those days of March 1971, when all of Bangladesh was turbulent in movement, the military dictator Yahya secretly left Dhaka on the evening of March 25, amidst the non-cooperation movement. That night, Pakistani troops launched 'Operation Search Light' and carried out the most brutal massacre in history on sleeping unarmed people. Thousands of innocent people, including students, teachers, police, and army personnel, were martyred across the country, including Dhaka University, Pilkhana, and Rajarbagh in the sudden attacks by the invading forces equipped with sophisticated weapons. It was through their sacrifices that we achieved our desired independence through a nine-month long bloody war of liberation.

The Bangladesh we wanted after the independence, there people did not have any fundamental rights during the dictatorship that fell upon the country. In the July uprising, the nation was unshackled from the tyranny of dictatorship through the valour of the students and the masses. The interim government aspires to move forward by embracing the spirit of the great War of Independence and the July uprising to build a just society and establish the rule of law.

The 'New Bangladesh' will emerge as a strong, peaceful, and democratic country- this is our pledge on the Genocide Day.

I pray for the salvation of the souls of all martyrs on the night of 25th March.

Professor Muhammad Yunus