



*Consulate General of the
People's Republic of Bangladesh
Sydney*

Press Release (26 March 2021)

Bangladesh Consulate General in Sydney celebrates Golden Jubilee of Independence

The Consulate General of Bangladesh in Sydney celebrated the 50th anniversary of the Independence Day of Bangladesh with patriotic fervour, zeal, dignity and pride on Friday, 26 March that saw the enthusiastic participation of large number of political leaders & dignitaries, diplomats, as well as members of Bangladesh community, including representatives from all walks of life.

The day began with the flag hoisting ceremony that was held at Bangladesh House lawns in the early morning of 26 March 2021. Thereafter, the messages issued on the occasion by the Hon'ble President, Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Foreign Minister and Hon'ble State Minister for Foreign Affairs were read out to the attendees. A special prayer was offered seeking dua for the salvation of the soul of the Father of the Nation and the martyred members of his family, the martyred liberation war heroes as well as the protection of the sovereignty and the continuous prosperity of the nation. In his remarks afterwards, Consul General spoke about the Bangladesh's remarkable development over the last five decades that paved the way to become developing nations on its 50th year of the independence. He hoped that if Bangladesh sustains its present growth, it will become a developed country by 2041. He encouraged everyone to work to realize the dream of the Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to make Bangladesh a 'Sonar Bangla'.

In the evening, the Consulate hosted an elegant National Day Reception and Dinner for more than 150 guests at the grand ballroom of the City's Four Seasons Hotel in a complete COVID safe manner. Present in the packed hall was a large number of dignitaries including the Governor of NSW the Honourable Margaret Beazley, who was the guest of honour of the event, the speaker of the Legislative Assembly of NSW Jonathan O'DEA, MP, leader of the opposition of NSW Legislative Assembly Ms Jodi McKay, MP, parliament members, local government representatives including Mayors and Deputy Mayors of city councils of Sydney area, representatives of Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, members of media and eminent members of Bangladesh community.

The meteoric emergence of Bangladesh in the global economy were displayed through the digital banners at the centre of the hall. Video footages and documentaries of various sectors were also displayed in the large screen.

The Consul General made a welcome remark addressing the august gatherings. In his remarks, he extended a warm welcome and greetings to all attendees on the National Day. He paid rich tribute to the memory of the Father of the Nation and recalled with profound

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gratitude his immense contribution to the independence of Bangladesh. He also paid profound homage to our 3 million martyrs and two hundred thousand mothers and sisters whose supreme sacrifices bought us the sovereignty and independence. Consul General, in his speech, highlighted Bangladesh's remarkable journey as a nation in last fifty years. Representing the spellbinding statistics of various economic and social indices, he showed the enhanced trajectory of Bangladesh's economic growth on the way to become a developing nation at its 50th year of independence. He expressed his sincere appreciation to Bangladesh diaspora in NSW and Queensland for their outstanding contributions in uplifting the image of Bangladesh abroad and urged them to contribute towards the economic growth of Bangladesh and strengthen the bonds of friendship between Bangladesh and Australia. The Governor, in her remarks, congratulated Bangladesh on both fiftieth anniversary of independence and celebration of Mujib Year. Appreciated the development of Bangladesh and specially lauded the achievements in health sector and women empowerment. The leader of the opposition Ms Jodi McKay, Ms. Wendy Lindsay MP who represented Premier of New South Wales and High Commissioner of Bangladesh to Australia also spoke on the occasion.

A crisp cultural show of dance and sarod playing followed the discussion segment which was widely appreciated. The guests were served traditional Bangladeshi dishes at dinner.

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