

Embassy of Bangladesh  
Bangkok  
**PRESS RELEASE**

**“Bangkok observes National Mourning Day by paying tribute to Bangabandhu’s secular, progressive and humanist spirit”**

**Bangkok, 15 August 2018:** “Let us honour Bangabandhu’s indomitable freedom-loving and secular spirit by standing boldly against terrorism, radicalization, extremism and sectarianism at home and abroad”, said , Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand and Permanent Representative to UNESCAP, Ms. Saida Muna Tasneem at commemorative programme organised at the Embassy of Bangladesh in Thailand on the occasion of the National Mourning Day and 43<sup>rd</sup> anniversary of the martyrdom of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members . A *Milad Mahfil*, special prayers and a panel discussion was dedicated to mark the Day organised at the Embassy premises followed by laying of wreath at the portrait of Bangabandhu by Bangladesh Community and Thai school children alongside the Ambassador of Bangladesh. A large number of expatriate Bangladeshis living in Thailand including from UNESCAP and other International organisations, businessmen and Bangladeshi students studying in different Thai Universities as well as local Thai people, especially school children participated spontaneously in Bangladesh’s National Mourning Day programme.

In her statement Ambassador Tasneem condemned the heinous killing of the Father of the Nation on 15 August and termed it as one of the most shameful and inhumane assassination in world history. The Ambassador paid a rich tribute to Bangabandhu for his fearless leadership of the Bengali nation’s emancipation towards its independence and sovereignty in 1971, as well as his diplomatic achievements between 1972-75 towards Bangladesh’s international recognition and membership in the UN.

Ambassador Muna also briefed the community of the various initiatives undertaken by the Embassy over the past 4 years to immortalise Bangabandhu in Thailand and Cambodia including establishment of a PhD level ‘Bangabandhu Chair at the AIT, Thailand, naming of a prominent street in Phnom Penh, Cambodia after the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, translation of the historic 07 March speech to Thai language at the Chulalongkorn University and currently. Transition of “Unfinished memoir” by the Bangabandhu. The Ambassador called upon the expatriate Bangladeshi youths to uphold the image and profile of Bangladesh in Thailand and Cambodia emulating the progressive, tolerant and non-communal Bengali values upheld by the Father of the Nation throughout his life.

Earlier, national flag was hoisted at half-mast at a Ceremony, followed by special prayers for salvation and eternal peace of the departed martyrs of souls of 15 August 1975, including the Father of the Nation. Messages issued on the occasion by the Hon’ble President, the Hon’ble Prime Minister and the Hon’ble Foreign Minister were read out and a documentary on “Life and Work of Bangabandhu” was screened at the programme. A group of Thai School children paid a special tribute to Bangabandhu and laid wreathes at his portrait. Panellists at the discussion spoke on the significance of the Day, including Bangabandhu Chair Professor at the AIT, Dr. Joyashree Roy, Mrs. Alam Ara Begum, Additional Secretary, M/O Public Administration, Dhaka, community personalities Mr. Mustafizur Rahman, Mr. Niamat Ali Talukder Badal, Mr. Pijush Kanti Saha, Mr. Shaheen Chowdhury, Mr. Rafiqul Islam Talukder etc.