

Embassy of Bangladesh

Bangkok

**PRESS RELEASE**

**“Bangladesh Embassy Bangkok observes National Mourning Day by paying tribute to Bangabandhu’s lifelong sacrifice”**

**Bangkok, 15 August 2019:** “Let us honour Bangabandhu’s sacrifice by working hard for making Shonar Bangla”, said Bangladesh Ambassador to Thailand and Permanent Representative to UNESCAP, Md. Nazmul Quanine at the commemorative programme organised at the Embassy of Bangladesh in Thailand on the occasion of the National Mourning Day and the 44<sup>th</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 his speech Ambassador Quanine 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 Quanine also briefed the community of the various initiatives undertaken by the Embassy to mark the Birth Centenary celebrations coming up next year. The Ambassador informed the community that the translation of the “Unfinished memoir” of Bangabandhu to Thai language by the Chulalongkorn University is under progress. 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. Bangabandhu Chair Professor of AIT Dr. Joyashree Roy attended the programme as the special guest and she, in her speech, highlighted the progress of the Chair in making sustainable energy model for Bangladesh.

Earlier, national flag was hoisted at half-mast at a Ceremony, followed by holy Quran recitation and special prayers for salvation and eternal peace of the departed martyrs 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 and the State Minister were read out and a documentary “Bangabandhu for ever in our hearts” 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 included community personalities Mr. Subhash Dasgupta, Mr. Shaheen Chowdhury and the leaders of Thailand Awami League Mr. Mustafizur Rahman and Mr. Niamat Ali Talukder Badal.