

Bangabandhu's Historical Speech in the United Nations General Assembly: A Comparative Analysis

Istiaque Hossain Molla



Abstract: *It has been almost 50 years since Bangladesh achieved its independence from Pakistani domination. The contribution and charismatic leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman who declared the independence of Bangladesh is beyond explanation. Bangabandhu delivered several historical speeches in his moral life. But one of the greatest and strongest speeches he delivered at the 29th United Nations (UN) General Assembly was a guideline for Bangladesh and the whole world, which completed him as a 'global leader'. Bangabandhu emphasized 'Peace and Justice' as he believed that only this can bring back discipline. The democratically elected Bangladesh Awami League (AL) government and the Prime Minister, H.E. Sheikh Hasina who is already recognized as a global leader are trying to implement all the directions that Bangabandhu mentioned in his speech regarding economic emancipation, peace and justice, social development, peaceful use of technology, good relationship with neighbors, upholding brotherhood and solidarity. These will help to build a peaceful world and Bangabandhu's 'Shonar Bangla' or 'Golden Bengal'. As a historical event, this paper is based on qualitative approaches including content analysis, literature review, and interviews with academic scholars. The expected findings of the paper are to present the leadership quality of Bangabandhu and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina through their speech at the UN, how they became global leaders, and the fair implications of Bangabandhu's policies by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina.*

Key Words: *Bangabandhu, Global Leader, UN, Policy, Awami League.*

I. INTRODUCTION

Bangabandhu presented his speech at the UN as a leader of the newborn country, Bangladesh. His leadership quality from the very beginning was unquestionable. In the speech, Bangabandhu presented such issues which were not only relevant to Bangladesh but also to the whole world. A charismatic leader can only present himself in the way Bangabandhu presented him. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is also following the path of Bangabandhu which also make her global leader. It is a proverb that all politicians don't have good leadership qualities. A leader may be defined by whom he or she is and by the responsibilities, obligations, and tasks he or she is charged with (the position) and social Psychologists distinguish 'leadership' between 'affective' like good relations among members, and 'instrumental'

like deal with advancing a group in the performance of a common objective or task and another trait is 'transforming' like reform, revolutionary, heroic or ideological leadership that James MacGregor Burns includes in his book 'Leadership' (Epley, 2015) [9]. Father of the Nations, Bangabandhu, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had all the leadership qualities and was known as a 'Charismatic' leader. According to Pappas (2016) [12], "Charisma is related to a leader's qualities, but not any qualities; it is rather a function of such qualities associated with a leader's extraordinary political role within the otherwise ordinary political system that liberal democracy is reckoned to be". Max Weber borrowed from a study of the early Christian church investigating St. Paul's use of the word charisma- 'gifts of grace' to justify leadership claims by himself and others and Weber used the word in his 'Sociology of Domination' (Breuilly, 2011) [4]. In his political life, Bangabandhu gave several speeches. The objective of the paper is to analyze the intense of the speech given by the greatest leader, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman in the 29th United Nations (UN) General Assembly session on 25th September 1974 and a comparative analysis of the speech of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the UN in 2017 and 2020 [2]. There is growing literature on Bangabandhu's life, leadership, political contribution, and sacrifices even in his several speeches. In this research, it was difficult to get any scholarly articles that have an analysis of his speech at the UN as well as a comparison with the speech of Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the UN. In most of the scholarly articles, it is found that the speech is used as a reference. But there are several seminars took place on the importance of this speech. The objective of this paper is to analyze the speech of Bangabandhu and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the UN. In addition to that, it will also be involved in the discussion of how Bangabandhu's policies and dreams are implemented by the ruling Awami League nationally and internationally in light of the speech given at the UN in 1974. This paper is not intended to find any anomaly in the speeches or to prove their validity and acceptance scientifically. Different methodological lenses can be used in political or historical research. Since this study seeks to explore the comparative analysis between the speech of Bangabandhu and Sheikh Hasina, therefore this study relied mainly on the speech of Bangabandhu and Sheikh Hasina's speech given at the UN and some scholarly articles and editorial writings. Therefore, this study had to opt for descriptive qualitative

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approaches; and ethnography including content analysis and literature review.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Bangabandhu's historic 7th March speech is considered one of the best speeches delivered around the world. The speech was influenced by Jacob F. Field in his famous book 'We Shall Fight on the Beaches: The Speeches That Inspired History' where the writer listed the most rousing and inspirational wartime speeches in the last 2500 years. The 7th March speech was submitted to UNESCO for perusal in 2016 and UNESCO declared the inscription of the 7th March on the memory of the World Register in 2017 (Shamsuddoha, 2020) [18]. Bangabandhu was the real architect of Bangladesh as he played a significant role from 1947 to 1971 and became a unique leader after assuming power (Suvra, 2021) [16]. He had been an advocate of democracy and had dreamt of building a nation on democratic ideologies. His beliefs in democracy were marked by the words 'I believe in democracy, I believe in the peoples' right to vote' (Siddika and Khan, 2021) [17]. This was also reflected in his speech at the UN. Bangabandhu never appreciated that 'identity politics' existed in Pakistan period. He always appreciated secularism and multilateralism in his political life which was also clear in his speeches including the speech given at the UN. That's why Bangladesh's foreign policy is based on peace and friendship with all. In the 29th session of the UN, Bangabandhu delivered a speech in Bengali which was full of fresh ideas and policies to build a brave new world free of economic inequalities, social injustice, military aggression, and threats of nuclear power. The speech can be treated as the 'Magna Carta' of Bangladesh's multilateral diplomatic principles and practices according to Sadia Muna, High Commissioner of Bangladesh to the UK (The Business Standard, 2020) [22]. According to AK Abdul Momen, the foreign minister of Bangladesh 'his speech was futuristic and forward-leaning, many of the issues that Bangabandhu raised are still relevant and being debated at the UN' (Bangladesh Post, 2020) [6].

III. ANALYSIS AND COMPARISON

Bangabandhu's speech was divided into 22 parts and it was the 2243rd plenary meeting of the UN General Assembly. In the inscription, Bangabandhu talked about hunger, poverty, food security, healthcare, ensuring justice, peace, security, discrimination owing to race, color, ethnicity, religion, fear of nuclear war, economic order, technology, injustice and oppression, natural disasters, inequality, human solidarity, human rights, literacy, diseases, non-alignment, reconciliation, good neighborly relations, spirit of safe play, belief in UN and UN charter, international cooperation etc. Sayed Abu Touab Shakir, an Associate Professor in the Department of History, at Jahangirnagar University, remarks that Bangabandhu's speech reflected his personality and leadership qualities and impressed international leaders. Bangabandhu went to the UN as a leader of a newborn country but through his speech he shared his vision for a better world for all as he expressed his concern about the global economic depression and miseries of poor countries

like Bangladesh, Mr. Shakir further added. Dr. Niloy Ranjan Biswas, Associate Professor of International Relations, University of Dhaka emphasized Bangabandhu's farsighted thoughts regarding a peaceful world. He said, "Bangabandhu's speech (1974) in the United Nations General Assembly is remarkable and full of foresightedness that would not only define the worldview of Bangladesh but also suggest how the world community should address the conflict of the then world and bring peaceful resolutions to those. He positioned the people's plight over the political interests of the states that caused crisis and conflict during the Cold War. He referred to the plight of human beings in different regions of the world and the role of the global community in resolving the crisis prioritizing the humanitarian aspects of it. The non-aligned position is significant and reflected in his speech, where he repeatedly highlighted how the world community cannot ignore their preventive roles to identify the root causes of the crisis and employ resources to attain sustainable development". The tension between Bangladesh and Pakistan was also dealt with insightfully by Bangabandhu after the glorious liberation war which was reflected in the UN speech as well. In this regard, Dr. Biswas added, "In dealing with bilateral issues, Bangabandhu's role is critical and noteworthy. The discussion over whether Bangladesh should join the OIC meeting in Lahore is noteworthy here. Bangladesh under the leadership of Bangabandhu always wanted a fair recognition of the newly independent state that demonstrates respect for the solidarity of its people and the rights of a sovereign nation. The OIC leadership has tried to mediate the crisis. Bangabandhu forwarded the issue of Pakistan's recognition first before He decided to participate in the OIC conference in 1974. Bangabandhu has upheld the interest of Bangladesh in discussing the terms and conditions of prisoners' transfer and prioritized the return of the Bengali prisoners who were held captivated in Pakistan since 1971. In several speeches of Bangabandhu, he raised his voice to the international community regarding Pakistan's injustice with the Bengalis held in Pakistan as prisoners". A senior faculty from BRAC University, Md. Shamsuddoha evaluates the part of injustice and oppression, human solidarity and rights like 'Bangabandhu addressed the issue of Palestine, Namibia, and Zimbabwe and urged for their peace and liberty through breaking the shackles of colonialism, forcible occupation, and totalitarianism. He identified two crucial choices of the world leaders, ultimate destruction faced by war and human suffering; or moving forward through peace, human creativity, and technological development'. He profoundly stressed the first option to create a better world, Mr. Doha added.

At the beginning of the speech Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman mentioned that the 'Bangalee' people represent a nation that got independence from Pakistani-occupied rulers which was a historical event for the citizens of Bangladesh. The determination of the Bangalee people for a self-ruled country came true. In his speech, Bangabandhu said clearly that 'they have (Bangalee people) aspired to live in peace and friendship with all the nations of the world'. It was the objective of Bangabandhu's foreign

policy. Because Bangabandhu believed ‘the new country would base its ties with the world outside its frontiers on the principle of friendship and malice toward none’.

This policy is followed by the current Premier of Bangladesh, H.E. Sheikh Hasina. She believes Bangabandhu’s policy strongly and always uttered that, Bangladesh wants peace but if it is attacked by outsiders, Bangladesh will take steps to protect its sovereignty. Because of this policy, Bangladesh never interferes in the internal politics of any neighboring country. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also emphasizes ‘peace and justice’ as Bangabandhu uttered in his speech at the UN. On 21st September 2017 in the 72nd general assembly, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also quoted from the historical speech of Bangabandhu “I know that the souls of our martyrs join us in pledging that the Bangalee nation fully commits itself to the building of a world order in which the aspiration of all men for peace and justice will be realized” (UN General Assembly, 2017) [27]. On 26th September 2020 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina again quoted from Bangabandhu’s historical speech in the 75th General Assembly session in the UN, “The noble ideals enshrined in the United Nations Charter are the very ideals for which millions of our people have made the supreme sacrifice. ... The Bangalee nation fully commits itself to the building of a world order, in which the aspiration of all men for peace and justice will be realized” She mentioned this quote as a bold expression for multilateralism which was predicted by Bangabandhu in 1974 continuous to remain equally relevant even today as we grapple with the current crisis, she added (UN General Assembly, 2020) [13].

After presenting him as one of the freedom fighters like the other civilians Bangabandhu also showed his gratitude to the people of (03 million) who sacrificed their lives for the freedom of Bangladesh. He also showed gratitude to those countries and people who supported Bangladesh in its struggle period. By showing gratitude Bangabandhu mentioned the country’s contributions that helped and rendered valuable assistance in restructuring war-ravaged land and thanked those who welcomed Bangladesh to the UN. Now when we are celebrating the birth anniversary of Bangabandhu, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also invited those heads of the nations who supported our liberation war to show appreciation to their people. The Awami League government also allocated 39 billion BDT every year for the freedom fighters (UN General Assembly, 2020) [15].

It is noticeable that Bangabandhu not only talked about the supreme sacrifice of the Bangladeshi people but also showed his feelings for the Asian and Latin American people who were fighting for their rights from racial discrimination and apartheid. From this, it is evident that Bangabandhu is a charismatic leader who identified that genocide is not only happening by killing people, it may also happen because of racial differences. Bangabandhu showed his solidarity with those people and praised the great victory in Algeria, Vietnam, Guinea-Bissau including Bangladesh. This extensive thought makes him a great leader who is the pioneer of ‘Shonar Bangla’ or ‘Golden Bengal’. Bangabandhu’s daughter also condemns any genocide or racial discrimination in the national or international arena as well.

Besides these, Bangabandhu did not forget about the strength of the ‘Muslim Brotherhood’ that the people of Palestine were suffering from the occupied force-Israel, the decolonization process. Bangabandhu compared with the apartheid people of Zimbabwe and Namibia where he reminded the UN assembly that they repeatedly declared it to be a crime against humanity. The current Awami League government is also showing its full support for the people of Palestine. In 2017 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina uttered in the UN General Assembly, “We reaffirm the call for a resumption of the Middle East peace process and for ending all forms of hostilities and discrimination against the brotherly Palestinian people” (UN General Assembly, 2017).

At that time Bangabandhu realized the importance of science and technology for a better future and for leading a decent life. The Premier of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina also emphasized it and introduced the campaign ‘Digital Bangladesh’ before the election of 2008 where Bangladesh Awami League won against Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its alliances from 1991-1995 and 2001-2006. On November 06, 2010, The Daily Star published a report where the writer said that “‘Digital Bangladesh’ has become a slogan for the present government” (The Daily Star, 2010) [20]. Bangabandhu was always against the ‘Nuclear War’ and threat alike Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also believes in this ideology and against the ‘misuse’ of ‘Nuclear Power’.

The ruling government is using ‘Nuclear Power’ for power supply only like ‘Rooppur Nuclear Power Reactor, Rooppur 1’ which started in November 2017 and will be commissioned by 2023 it is clearly defined that Bangladesh is using it to reduce its dependence on natural gas (World Nuclear Association, 2020) [28]. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina also mentioned in the 75th UN session, “We consistently and strongly support the global quest for a nuclear weapons-free world; to that end, we support the aspirations of developing countries to benefit from the peaceful use of nuclear technology (UN General Assembly, 2020). Bangabandhu could predict by his prudent thoughts that the upcoming world will suffer from mass starvation, unemployment, and poverty so he appealed to sue the best of technology to eradicate these from the world. The ruling government is also using technology for the development of the living standard of Bangladeshi people. One of the biggest examples is the ‘Access to Information (a2i) project’ which is also helpful in achieving ‘Sustainable Development Goals’ (SDGs). There are 5,000 one-stop Digital Centers throughout the country, which ensure that rural people, including women, people with disabilities, and the elderly, regardless of their literacy, computer skills, or location have effective access to vital information and services (a2i, 2017). Through this facility, the rural unemployment problem is reduced and access to information is ensured. The best use of technology is one of the bases for building ‘Sonar Bangla’. Besides this, to eradicate poverty the ruling government allocates a big amount of money in each fiscal year (FY) in the budget. Like: for the ‘Social Safety Net Program’ (SSNP), in FY 2019 Bangladesh government allocated BDT 642 billion or equivalent to 2.5% of the total GDP. Among this, about BDT 372 billion is being used to implement SSNPs like cash

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allowances, public works, education, and health incentives for poor and vulnerable households which aim to contribute to the fight against poverty and improve human capital (World Bank, 2019) [29]. Almost 9.1 million families benefit from it every year; Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina mentioned in her speech at the 75th UN General Assembly session (UN General Assembly, 2020). The government is also encouraging the youths who want to become entrepreneurs. Prime Minister announced to give formal recognition to the 'socially deprived' IT freelancers (bdnews24.com, 2020) [5]. In this COVID-19 pandemic, the Bangladesh government allocated 13.25 billion USD in stimulus packages for industries and expanding SSNPs, benefited nearly 10 million families, 4 million students got scholarships, and cash intensives were given to 5 million people including farmers, workers, laborers (UN News, 2020) [26].

Bangabandhu was also concerned about the worldwide economic crisis. He presented the situation of Bangladesh how it was affected by the economic crisis as a devastating war and later by natural disasters like floods. He showed his sincere gratitude to the UN and the foreign minister of Algeria for their appeal to help Bangladesh and in response to this, many friendly countries responded. Bangabandhu always thought about the welfare of all kinds of people in terms of religion, race, etc. Bangabandhu talked about the worldwide inflation and the misery of the people with less than USD 100 and mentioned their situation as 'more gloomy'. This presents the image of a dauntless and stubborn leader. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh uttered in her speech at the UN General Assembly on 26th September 2020 that "Despite the COVID-induced stagnation in global industrial outputs, GDP has registered a growth rate of 5.24% which is expected to be 7% in the next fiscal year" (UN General Assembly, 2020). COVID-19 is another war in 2020 where the whole world is struggling and suffering from this pandemic.

In the speech Bangabandhu said, "... Feeling of human solidarity and brotherhood and an acknowledgment of independence can bring about a rational solution and the urgent action needed to avail this catastrophe"- here Bangabandhu emphasized the solidarity and brotherhood with independence because Bangladesh witnessed a lack of independence and democracy for a long time. Again if we consider the sufferings of our Palestine brothers we can see the strong stand of the Awami League government again and again which ensures 'solidarity' and 'brotherhood' with them. The foreign ministry of Bangladesh repeatedly said that "Bangladesh has reaffirmed its unflinching support to Palestine and its territorial integrity as established through United Nations Security Council (UNSC) resolutions and the principle of 'land for peace'" (The New Age, 2019) [19]. Even to maintain world order, if any independent state is recognized by the UN, the Awami League government always pledged its support. On July 9, 2011 'South Sudan' was emerged as the 54th independent country in Africa and was recognized by Bangladesh in the same year by the government (The Daily Star, 2011) [21].

Bangabandhu emphasized on equal distribution of wealth for the people of the whole world. He emphasized full control of his natural resources but with equal distribution in

the world. He also mentioned the economic, social & cultural rights and human rights of the people. Articles 10 and 11 of the constitution of Bangladesh referred to 'participation of women in national life' and 'democracy and human rights' (Constitution of Bangladesh, 2018) [7]. By following this and inspired by the motivation of Bangabandhu's speech, the Awami League which is a 'people-centric' government is always aware of the human rights of the citizens of Bangladesh. Prime Minister always emphasized upholding human rights and because of her policy Bangladesh is sheltering the 'forcibly displaced Rohingyaas'. In our typical society, we observe that usually women are always deprived of their social and economic rights. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has taken so many initiatives to uphold equal rights and social justice for women. According to the Global Gender Gap Report 2020, published by the World Economic Forum (WEF), Bangladesh closed 72.6% of its overall gender gap and obtained 50th position out of 153 countries globally (World Economic Forum, 2020) [30]. The Prime Minister has kept the pledges her party made in the election of 2018 [31]. According to the Ministry of Education, at present the rate of female students at the primary level is 99.4% [32]. The Prime Minister of Bangladesh received the 'South-South Award' for her outstanding contribution to reducing infant and maternal mortality rates through the use of information technology in the health sector and the fight against hunger and poverty (Prime Minister Office, 2014) [14]. She also received the 'Global Women's Leadership Award' for her role in the development of women's education and entrepreneurship (Arab News, 2018) [3]. In October 2020, the Bangladesh government introduced the death penalty for rape cases which leads Bangladesh one more step forward in ensuring justice in society [33].

Bangabandhu urged to stop the 'arms race' in the world and appealed for peace, international amity, and understanding. Currently, the Prime Minister also emphasizes the same policy and stands against all the arms conflicts in the world. To avoid the 'arms conflict' in different countries, Bangladesh has contributed to 'Peace Keeping Operations' (PKO) for the last 32 years with glory and dignity. According to the latest statistics, Bangladeshi peacekeepers participated in more than 54 missions in 40 different countries across the globe. In these peacekeeping missions almost 1, 70,243 armed forces members have contributed. Bangladesh is now in the first position in peacekeeping missions (The Business Standard, 2020) [25].

Bangabandhu in his speech emphasized again and again the peaceful coexistence and friendship towards all. His approach towards foreign policy was the use of 'advanced power' which could avoid the use of hard and soft power. This policy could bring peace to the world. Because Bangabandhu believed that only peaceful coexistence can uphold the unity and independence of a nation and can eradicate hunger, poverty, diseases, illiteracy, and unemployment. This is the clear picture that their charismatic leader Bangabandhu always thinks about the poor and their development. To eradicate hunger, poverty, diseases, illiteracy, and unemployment Prime

Minister uttered at the UN that Bangladesh is trying to implement the SDGs and to become a ‘middle income’ country by 2021 (UN General Assembly, 2020).

For promoting peace and justice Bangabandhu emphasized not only in Asia but also in Africa, Europe, and Latin America in terms of race, and religion which shows that Bangabandhu was not a leader of Asia but of the whole world. Very few leaders are in the world who can think for others without any benefits. In a nutshell, Bangabandhu demanded peace in the Indian Ocean area. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is now a global leader and icon for other heads of state in terms of development issues like facing economic challenges, climate change, humanitarian issues, etc. Bangladesh is sheltering several 8, 60,356 Rohingya (Relief Web, 2020). In the UN sessions, the Prime Minister repeatedly urges the world to take some useful actions against this humanitarian crime which was compared to the genocide of the Pakistan army in 1971 (UN General Assembly, 2017, 2018).

‘Be peace based upon justice’- by believing this, Bangabandhu wanted to build up relations with those who had different roles in 1971. Bangabandhu believed that, by forgetting the strife of the past could be replaced by relations of friendship & cooperation for the welfare of all people. Bangladesh always prioritizes its relations with its neighbors India, Myanmar, and Nepal. The cultural brothers/allies were always the priority for Bangabandhu. Interestingly Bangabandhu also offered friendship to Pakistan by forgetting the past and wanting to open a new chapter which Bangabandhu mentioned as an ‘investment’. Bangabandhu said, “We have spread no effort to liquidate the legacies of the past, and made our ultimate contribution by granting clemency even to those 195 prisoners of war against whom there was overwhelming evidence of their having grave crimes”. About 93,000 Pakistani military personnel and civilians were taken to India as Prisoners of War (POWs). Among the POWs, there were 56998 armed forces regulars, 18287 Para military persons, and 17376 civilians including 4616 police and 1628 civilian government servants, and 3963 others including over 6000 women and children. Soon after their surrender, the UNO Security Council passed a resolution on December 21, 1971, calling upon the parties to observe the Geneva Convention and not to attach any conditions to the repatriation of the POWs (Mustafa and Gill, 2014) [10]. But Pakistan is not ready to apologize for their crime. In 2009, after four decades the Bangladeshi Government led by the ruling party Awami League re-established The International Crime Tribunal Bangladesh (ICTB). Then two tribunals were established in 2010 and 2012 respectively. The aim was to prosecute the war criminals who supported the Pakistan army in the 1971 war. The formation of the International War Crimes Tribunal allowed Bangladeshis an opportunity for redemption and closure, one can argue. It was finally time for justice, and an opportunity to perhaps assuage the deep-seated collective trauma. For ensuring justice for the martyrs of 1971 Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina faced lots of pressure from inside and outside of the world. When the International War Crimes Tribunal found the then secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami, Bangladesh – guilty of actively participating and abetting the murder and rape of unarmed civilians and was given death

penalty the Pakistan assembly passed a resolution in protest of the execution with support from Pakistan Muslim League (PML-N), Jamaat-e-Islami, Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf (PTI), Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam-F and Awami Muslim League. Even Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina denied the invitation to join the D-8 summit in 2012 to protest the behavior of Pakistan.

Bangabandhu talked about the 63,000 Pakistani families who wanted to be repatriated to their own country. He mentioned it as a ‘humanitarian disaster. Though they reaffirmed their allegiance to Pakistan Bangabandhu showed his humanity as a great leader. In 1973-1974 several 1,70,000 Biharis registered with ‘The Red Cross’ to return to Pakistan (Mantoo, 2013) [11]. According to the Delhi agreement, 1973, Pakistan was also agreed and Bangladesh expressed readiness to receive 12, 8000 Bengalis who had opted for Bangladesh. In 1998 the then PM Sheikh Hasina clearly said to the former PM of Pakistan Nawaz Sharif that, “the Biharis are unacceptable to Bangladesh and her government could not support them indefinitely”.

In the speech the ‘assets sharing’ issue was strongly presented. Bangladesh already proposed ‘On population basis with 50% of the total assets, 50% on equal distribution of wealth, and 50% on foreign currencies bases’. In 2016 the State Bank of Pakistan announced that Bangladesh had to pay Pakistan RS. 9.21 billion, after asset valuation (The Express Tribune, 2016) which was strongly rejected by the then finance Minister AMA Muhiit [23].

Bangabandhu stated clearly that “Bangladesh is always striving for good neighborly relations with all its neighbors based on peace coexistence, respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity and non-interference in one another’s internal affairs”. On the other side, the Pakistani Prime Minister unveiled a new ‘Political Map’ by including occupied Kashmir, and surprisingly such a map was published during 1947-48 by MA Jinnah (Dawn, 2020) [8]. But the map is also telling commentary about Pakistan’s relationship with its ‘Iron Brother’ China which has been engaged in a standoff with India for the last three months in East Ladakh. Bangladesh is standing in a neutral position and urged for peace in these areas.

In the 74th General Assembly Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina quoted from Bangabandhu’s speech that the contribution of the UN to ensure human progress in the political, economic, and social-cultural are highly appreciated. Bangabandhu praised UN actions during the refugee crisis who took shelter in India. 10 million people were forced to leave Bangladesh by the Pakistani army (Android, 2016) [1]. Bangabandhu hoped, in the future, the UN would continue its support to Bangladesh in natural calamities and requested to strengthen the UN Disaster Relief Co-coordinator. Currently, the Prime Minister is always trying to save Bangladesh and the world from the disastrous effects of climate change. She identified ‘The Paris Agreement-2015’ which was ratified by 189 countries, as the best chance to contain global warming and limit its most pernicious effects and emphasized to implement the initiatives of ‘Climate Vulnerable Forum’ (CVF)- a group of 48 countries where she was the chair (The Guardian, 2020) [24].

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At the end of his speech, Bangabandhu boldly said "Our nations may suffer, but they can never die"- these words showed his beliefs toward the Bangalee people, and "Keep faith in ourselves and our capacity" is much more important than technological- international cooperation for human development.

IV. SIGNIFICANCE OF BANGABANDHU'S SPEECH

Bangabandhu's speech was not only a speech it was a 'guideline' for Bangladesh and for the world. 'Peace', 'justice', 'friendship', 'Supreme sacrifice', 'independence', 'solidarity', 'brotherhood', 'coexistence', 'struggle', and 'sacrifice'- these are the words Bangabandhu used in his speech several times. He struggled to bring 'Peace' in the world to bring the world order into discipline. He believed economic emancipation, technological benefit; and cooperation can be achieved only if 'Peace' exists. The ruling democratic government led by Sheikh Hasina is also following the desired path that her father showed to her and the world. Cuban supreme leader Fidel Castro said, "I have not seen the Himalayas, but I have seen Sheikh Mujib, in personality and courage, this man is the Himalayas. I have thus had the witnessing the Himalayas". So by following his ideologies, and directions from the speech, the ruling government is continuing its economic, social, and political development which will fulfill the dream of Bangabandhu's 'Shonar Bangla' or 'Golden Bengal'.

V. CONCLUSION

Bangabandhu in his political career used to give impromptu speeches but in the UN the manuscript speech that he delivered was one of his best speeches. Like domestic politics, Bangabandhu also dominates global politics with his charismatic leadership. The foreign policy of Bangladesh is still based on the philosophy of Bangabandhu i.e., 'Friendship to all and malice towards none'. Based on this philosophy Bangladesh is also growing fast in terms of economy, eradicating poverty, peace and justice, human rights and solidarity, and military power with India and China by the leadership of Sheikh Hasina. Previously it was mentioned that this paper is not intended to prove any idea scientifically. The analysis is based on academic writings and the speeches given by the two great leaders and their initiatives to make Bangladesh a 'Golden Bengal' or 'Sonar Bangla'.

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