

The book is planned to get published in September 2005. It will be printed **black and white**, with full color cover. For more information contact email: [dewdrop@shwelumaung.org](mailto:dewdrop@shwelumaung.org).

### Chapter 3. The Return of Pan-Islam

Bangladesh saw the return of Pan-Islam soon after her secular leader Mujib (Sheikh Mujibur Rahman) was assassinated on August 15, 1975. I am not qualified to answer the question why he was killed. But, I shall focus on the consequent rise of Bangladesh Pan-Islam after his death.

Not only Sheikh Mujib but also another four prominent leaders detained at Dhaka jail were killed by the military officers. After killing President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman the military junta that took over imprisoned Vice President Syed Nazrul Islam, First Prime Minister Tajuddin Ahmed, Prime Minister Mansur Ali, and Cabinet Minister Kamruzzaman. They were all killed by the same group of military officers after illegally entering the jail on the night of November 3, 1975. This action after 80 days of Sheikh Mujib's assassination, clearly revealed that it was a planned clean-up of Awami League's leadership. It was not only targeted at Sheikh Mujib, but also Awami League as a whole was the target.

The events that took place between August 15 and November 7, 1975 will never surface in truth. Bangladesh history will remain in the dark for that short period. Khandakar Mushtaq Ahmed, a Awami Leaguer, General Khaled Mosharraf, and General Zia Rahman are the names in the history of those dark days which were characterized by coups and counter-coups. General Zia turned out to be the strongest person who crushed some 20 counter-coups and cleaned up the army. As the Chief Martial Administrator he formed his own political party, amended the constitution, held a general election and emerged as the elected President of Bangladesh on April 21, 1977. He was killed by one of his colleagues, another general, on May 30, 1981. Upon his assassination, Vice President Abdus Sattar took over the presidency. General Hossain Mohammad Ershad quietly removed President Sattar in a bloodless coup on March 24, 1982.

A list of successive Bangladesh governments from 1971 to date is summarized below. This demonstrates gradual but progressive renaissance of Pan-Islam in post-Mujib Bangladesh. The caretaker or acting governments that ruled in the interludes or transitions during the general elections are not included. Only heads of the government who actually wield the power are considered.

1. January 10, 1971 to August 15, 1975: Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, President, assassinated in a military coup d'état. Awami League (AL).
2. August 15 to November 7, 1975: Interlude ridden with coups and counter coups.
3. November 7, 1975 to May 30, 1981: Ziaur Rahman, President. Popularly known as General Zia and later President Zia. Assassinated on May 30, 1981 by a general who was a former colleague. Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP).
4. May 30, 1981 to March 24, 1982. Abdus Sattar. President. Disposed by a military coup. BNP.
5. March 24, 1982 to December 6, 1990. Hossain Mohammad Ershad, General, later President. Came to power through coup and later became elected president. Overthrown by a popular uprising. Thrown into jail under the guilty verdict of corruption charges. Now free and active in politics leading his Jatio Party (JP).
6. March 20, 1991 to March 30, 1996, Khaleda Zia (Begum Zia). Prime Minister. Widow of President Zia. Won the 1991 general election. BNP.
7. June 23, 1996 to July 15, 2001: Sheikh Hasina. Prime Minister. Daughter of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Won the 1996 general election. AL.
8. October 1, 2001 to date: Khaleda Zia. Prime Minister. Won the 2001 general election. BNP.
9. Tomorrow: ? Next election will be in 2005.

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Chapter 3 contains 18 illustrations, 7 tables, 2 figures, and 1 map, incorporated under the following subheadings.

- 3.1. Secularism to Islamism.
- 3.2. The Process of Islamization.
- 3.3. Impact of Islamic Renaissance.
- 3.4.. Factors that influence the Islamic Renaissance in Bangladesh.
- 3.5. Blossoms of Islam.

**Table 3.1. The impact of Islamic Renaissance in Bangladesh Parliament**  
 (For the explanations, please see next page)

Pre-Bangladesh (Pakistan)		1971	Independent Bangladesh					
Party	1970 (1)		1973 (2)	1979 (3)	1986 (4)	1991 (5)	1996 (6)	2001 (7)
Awami League	167	293	39	97**	88	177	62	
Jamat-e-Islam	4							
Jamiat-e-Olema	7							
ML (Convention)	2			10	20	3	18	
ML (Council)	7							14
ML (Qayuum)	9							1
NAP (Wali)	6							1
PDP	1		8	4	n/a			
PPP (Butto)	88				1			
Individuals	7					1		
			18	4				
		1						
		1			5			
					1			
					1			
		5/0	3/10	5/0	2/0			2/0
		300	300	300	330*	330*		300

1971 Bangladesh was born through a bloody revolution -- 1971--