

Life-sketch of Oli Ahmed

Born in 1939 in the 'Kutub' family of Chandanaish, Chittagong, Mr Oli Ahmed obtained B.A degree from National College, Karachi.

He joined erstwhile Pakistan Airforce in 1959. While studying Law he joined the Pakistan Military Academy and was Commissioned in 1965 when he was posted to 4th battalion of East Bengal Regiment.

He was appointed first Quarter Master of the Eighth East Bengal Regiment in Sholashahar Chittagong. On 25 March 1971, he took up arms against Pakistan under the leadership of Shahid President Ziaur Rahman. He fought the famous battles of Kalurghat Mirsarai Maston Nagar Karerhat Tolatala Haku Chikan Chara Ramgarh and Belunia. Subsequently he was appointed Sub-Sector Commander of Chittagong area covering from Feni river (Belunia) to Karerhat. In recognition of his gallant service in liberation war, he was awarded 'BIR BIKRAM'. In July 1971 he was appointed 1st Brigade Major of the famous 'Z' force and fought during the war of liberation in the Mymensingh and Sylhet sectors. He was promoted to Major in October 1972. He served as Second in Command of 19 East Bengal, 8 East Bengal, 10 East Bengal and 6 East Bengal Regiment.

He was promoted to Lt Colonel in September 1975. He Commanded and raised 24 East Bengal Regiment at Saidpur. He was posted to Army Head Quarters as General Staff Officer in November 1975. He was subsequently posted to the Office of Chief of Army Staff and DCMLA and later to the Office of Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces and CMLA and President of the Republic. He was promoted to Colonel in January 1980. A long associate and trusted friend of President Ziaur Rahman, Mr Oli Ahmed voluntarily retired from service in January 1980.

As member of President's entourage he visited China, Nepal, Pakistan, Burma, Iran, Thailand, India, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Japan, Australia, U.K., U.S.A., North Korea, UAE, Kuwait, Vatican, Egypt, Iraq, West Germany, Cuba, Italy, Holland, Saudi Arabia, Romania, Yugoslavia, Turkey, Zambia, Sree Lanka, Belgium, City of Vatican and Lebanon.

He was elected a Member of Parliament in bye-election in March 1980 from Chittagong 13 constituency.

In February 1982 Mr Oli Ahmed was appointed Minister of State in charge of the Ministry of Youth Development. He plays football, volleyball and lawn tennis and golf.

Mr Ahmed and his wife Begum Mumtaz have two sons and two daughters. He performed holly OMRAH three times.