

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Bangladesh Times, 1 DIT Avenue, Dacca 2

Some corrections

Recently I had the opportunity to go through "Appendix IV" under the caption of "The Emergence of Bangladesh" of the book "An Advance History of India" by R. C. Majumdar and others (Fourth Edition 1978 by The MacMillan Company of India).

In this chapter the writers made some mistakes. The writers wrote that "On 28th March, 1971, the liberation army chief, Major Ziauddin Khan, announced the formation of a Bangladesh Government" (p. 1011-12). Actually the fact is that there was no liberation army chief in the name of Major Ziauddin Khan on that day. It was Major Ziaur Rahman (now President of Bangladesh) who declared independence on 28th

March, 1971 through the Radio station, Chittagong. And Bangladesh Government was formed at Mujibnagar during the later part of April, 1971. Secondly, the writers narrated that Lt-General Niazi, Commander of the Pakistani forces and the Pakistani troops surrendered unconditionally to General Aurora at 4-21 p.m. on 16th December at the Dacca Race Course Ground (P-1013). But when Pakistani troops

Bangladesh Liberation Army on behalf of Bangladesh Government was also present. The writers did not mention his name. Even the contribution of Col. M. A. G. Osmany during liberation war was not described anywhere. Thirdly, the writers said that Mr Justice Mohammad resigned the Presidentship of Bangladesh on 21st April, 1976 on ground of ill health and nominated Major-General Ziaur Rahman, Chief of Army

Staff and Chief Martial Law Administrator, to succeed him as President (p-1018). But there was no Justice Mohammad as President of Bangladesh at that time. It was Justice Abu Sadat Mohammad Sayam who resigned the Presidentship of Bangladesh on 21st April, 1977 and not in 1976 as stated by the writers.

As this is a book of history and was written 7 years after the emergence of Bangladesh, we cannot expect such mistakes. We hope the writers will take necessary measures to amend the chapter and will throw true lights on the History of Bangladesh.

A. A. M. KAIS
CHOWDHURY,
27 No. Masjid Khanpur,
Narayanganj.