

The Open University And Moulana Bhasani

Sir,
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman was a great leader of the Bengalees, who fought for our rights with his 6-point demand. Under his leadership Bangladesh emerged in the world history as an independent nation. The Awami League government since taking over power, has spared little time to re-establish the memory of Bangabandhu. By now we have the Bangabandhu Jamuna Bridge, Bangabandhu Medical University, and Bangabandhu Agriculture University and may be in future we shall have more.

Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani was also a great leader of the Bengalees who was the original dreamer of a Bengali nation since 1957 and under whose top guidance as Chairman of the Advisory Committee, the Mujibnagar Government fought the great independence war in 1971. But surprisingly, Bhasani has not been given his due importance in our history, by both the BNP and the AL government and their supporting intellectuals.

Recently a writer in this column of your esteemed daily has opined that the Open University may be named after Sir Salimullah, the founder of Muslim League. I would like to mention here that Sir Salimullah has a Medical College after his name at Mitford, Dhaka. Similarly Suhrawardi has a hospital and a garden (Suhurwardi Uddayan), A K M Fazlul Haq has a Medical College, Ziaur Rahman has an airport (ZIA), Osmani has an airport, a garden and a medical college after his name. But Bhasani has nothing! Why?

Sir, in my understanding, Bhasani was so great a leader that he can only be compared with either Mahatma Gandhi or Ho Chi Minh. The people of our country will never forget him. I have the following proposals for the present and future authorities, to pay due honour to the memory of Moulana Bhasani.

1. The Open University of Bangladesh be renamed as Moulana Bhasani Open University.
2. The Ramna Garden be renamed as Moulana Bhasani Uddayan.
3. The Padma Barrage be named as Moulana Bhasani Barrage.

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