

BNP aims at democracy of masses

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) is determined to consolidate people's unity and establish democracy of the masses based on nationalism, according to party's election manifesto released in Dacca on Thursday night reports BSS.

The manifesto, signed by BNP chief President Ziaur Rahman, contained the basic principles of the party and pledged to free the nation from the curse of imperialism, neo-colonialism, expansionism and racialism through attainment of economic self-sufficiency.

The party believes that the national independence and sovereignty could only be protected through the firm unity of the masses irrespective of caste, religion and class based on the great awareness of the Bangladeshi nationalism.

The BNP believes in the presidential form of government with a sovereign parliament in favour of which the people had given their verdict in the last June 3 presidential election. The party is determined to implement and uphold the people's verdict in this regard.

The party expressed confidence that the verdict of the people in the coming parliamentary elections on February 18 will again confirm the decision given during the last presidential election.

On the foreign policy, the manifesto said the main objective of the party's foreign policy was to extend the areas of friendly cooperation with all countries on the basis of independence and sovereignty of Bangladesh.

Following is the text of the

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BNP

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manifesto

Bismillaher Rahmaner Rahim
Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal
election manifesto, February, 1979.

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal is determined to consolidate people's unity and establish democracy of the masses. On the basis of nationalism and pledges to free a united nation from the curse of imperialism, neo-colonialism, expansionism and racialism through attaining economic self-sufficiency as its basic principles.

Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal believes that the experienced people will reject the negative undemocratic unstable and destructive programme of any opportunist party and cast their vote for "Sheaf of paddy" to elect the nominees of the Bangladesh Nationalist Party in the interest of establishing democracy, attaining economic emancipation and consolidating the national independence and sovereignty.

Our party believes that the national independence and sovereignty could only be protected through the firm unity of the masses irrespective of caste, religion and class based on the great awareness of the Bangladeshi nationalism.

Since independence till the end of 1975 anarchy reached its peak in Bangladesh. Murder, abduction, loot and arson became a daily affair. Our people got back the security of their life and property after November 7 of 1975. We shall continue our relentless effort to maintain this trend.

We hereby declare our firm determination to establish an exploitation-free society through the active participation of the people in the administrative system and by decentralising power in the interest of national progress. Simultaneously, we shall continue our efforts to make the administration people-oriented by bringing reforms in the colonial administrative system.

To ensure the democratic rights of the people, our party declares that all Bangladeshis will have equal political and civic rights, irrespective of caste, religion, colour, class, male or female. Fundamental rights of the people will be brought under the purview of judiciary.

We believe in the presidential form of government with a sovereign parliament. The people have also given their verdict in favour of this form of government in the last June 3 presidential election. We are determined to implement and uphold this decision of the people. We believe that the verdict of the people in national parliament's election on February 18 will further consolidate their decision of June 3 last.