



SIL

THE SIL BANGLADESH
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HISTORIC SPEECH IN 22 MINORITY LANGUAGES

SIL Bangladesh has translated the 7th March speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (the father of the Nation) in 22 ethnic minority languages. Sheikh Mujibur Rahman (1920–1975), widely known as Bangabandhu, was the founding father of Bangladesh. He was the first President and later the Prime Minister of the country. Declaring Bangladesh's independence from Pakistan, Bangabandhu made a historic speech on March 7, 1971, at the Ramna Racecourse in Dhaka to a gathering of over one million people. This book was released during the 'Ekushe Book Fair' in 22 minority languages of ethnic groups in Dhaka on March 15, 2022.

The Language and Culture Archives benefit ethnolinguistic minority communities by preserving knowledge and resources and by providing open access to them. The archives include information that is compiled or created as the result of SIL's service to these communities in the pursuit of their language development goals.

The Bangladesh government has recognized a total of 50 ethnic groups in Bangladesh through an ordinance dated March 19, 2019. Almost everyone in each ethnic group speaks their own language and lives according to their culture. Many of the languages have their own written form and spelling and others do not. Through this initiative, the ethnic minority communities can read Bangabandhu's speech in their language and be more motivated, encouraged, and caring to preserve and promote their language and culture.

Highlights



Mahali Youth Conference

Mahali Youth Conference was organized with 230 participants with the call, '***Be the Changemaker***' at Rajshahi.

Key Dates

Apr.'22: MLE Teachers Training with Usoi Community.

Apr.'22: MLE Teachers Training with Mahali, Kol and Hajong Community.

Apr.'22: Field Test and feedback sessions with the Data collectors' of 9 minority languages communities.

SIL Bangladesh helps communities achieve their development goals while retaining their Ethnolinguistic identities.

HISTORIC SPEECH IN 22 MINORITY LANGUAGES

This book will help ethnic people to develop respect for their language and culture and be proud to present their nationality and identity to others. On the other hand, ethnic people also had a significant contribution and role in the great liberation war of Bangladesh in 1971. Many participated in the war of liberation in response to his speech, and many were martyred and lost their dignity and were tortured. Therefore, it will remind the people of their contribution to the war of liberation and will encourage the next generation to work for the overall development of the country, protection of its sovereignty, and welfare of all.

That is why SIL Bangladesh has taken an important initiative to translate this book. The ethnic minority communities include Bawm, Bishnupriya Manipuri, Chakma, Garo, Hajong, Khasia, Khyang, Koch, Kol, Lusai, Mahali, Meitei Manipuri, Mro, Munda, Oraon-Kurux, Oraon-Sadri, Pahari, Pangkhua, Santal, Tangchangya, Tripura Ushoi, and Koda.

This book is to commemorate on the occasion of the birth centenary of Bangabandhu and the 50th anniversary of the great war of liberation celebrated this year.

Let us all take sincere concerted effective action at the government, private, and individual levels to protect the language and culture of the minority groups living in Bangladesh. Only then can we save the diversity of Bangladesh and the languages of the ethnic groups from being lost.

Written By: Cornelius Tudu, Country Director, SIL Bangladesh.

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Local Feeds of March

Kol Youth Conference



Kol Youth Conference

was organized with 185 participants with the call, ***'Be the Changemaker'*** at Chapainawabganj.

Survey Training for the Data Collectors



Survey Training for the Data Collectors

by the Research Team of SIL Bangladesh.

Independence Day Celebration



Independence Day of Bangladesh

celebrated in all the working areas of SIL Bangladesh.

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SIL BANGLADESH

LANGUAGE, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT.

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