

**Presidential Communications Operations Office
Presidential News Desk**

**PRESENTATION OF CREDENTIALS OF THE AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO
THE PHILIPPINES OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH**

[Held at the Reception Hall of the Malacañan Palace in Manila | 15 December 2021]

HIS EXCELLENCY F.M. BORHAN UDDIN (PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH): Your Excellency, Mr. President, good evening, magandang gabi and śubha sandhyā.

This is a great honor to present to you the letter of credence appointing me as Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the Republic of the Philippines, together with the letter of recall of my predecessor.

I take this opportunity to convey to you the warmest greetings and sincere wishes on behalf of my President, His Excellency Mr. Md. Abdul Hamid, and my Prime Minister, Her Excellency Sheikh Hasina. I also convey the greetings and goodwill of the people of Bangladesh through you to the friendly people of the Philippines.

Mr. President, Philippines was one of the first Southeast Asian countries to recognize Bangladesh on 24th February, 1972. Our father of the nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, stopped over at Manila in 1973 on his way back from Japan to show gratitude to the Philippines for its early recognition.

Since the establishment of diplomatic ties, Bangladesh and the Philippines have been enjoying excellent bilateral relations. Mr. President, we will mark the 50th anniversary of establishing the Bangladesh-Philippines diplomatic relations in the coming year. I hope the joint celebration of this event will create an opportunity to reaffirm the friendship and cooperation between our countries.

Mr. President, it is an honor to represent my country as its Ambassador to the Philippines. Similarities and priorities in policies, convergence of views and interests on many issues have led to cooperation in the regional and global platforms.

During my tenure, I will do my best to further deepen our friendship and strengthen bilateral cooperation to harness optimum level of mutual benefits.

Mr. President, let me share with you in brief the recent developments that took place in Bangladesh.

Bangladesh has recently been recommended by the UNCDP to graduate into a developing country from an LDC. Now, Bangladesh's per capita GDP is more than USD2,500. Bangladesh has been very successful in ready-made garments, ceramic industries, pharmaceuticals, shipbuilding, glass fiber industries, agricultural products, IT, education, and health sectors.

These are the areas where the two countries can enhance further collaboration. We need to find out new areas of cooperation for our mutual benefits. To achieve that end, our private sectors can play a significant role to further increasing and diversifying bilateral trade and investment.

Mr. President, let me avail myself of this opportunity to congratulate you on the forthcoming Christmas and convey my best wishes for the prosperity, happiness, and good health to you, members of your family, as well as to the people of the Philippines.

Mr. President, I am really humbled and honored to have this presence before you and I sincerely thank you for that.

I wish to cordially request you and your government to render assistance to me for the successful completion of my tour of duty.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE: I am pleased to accept Your Excellency's credentials as Ambassador of the People's Republic of Bangladesh to the Philippines.

The Philippines values its long-standing friendship with Bangladesh.

Your arrival comes at a very auspicious time for next year we will celebrate the golden anniversary of diplomatic relations between the Philippines and Bangladesh.

I hope to see more bilateral exchanges especially as we work towards the full post-pandemic recovery and sustainable growth.

Congratulations, Excellency. I wish you a successful tour of duty in the Philippines. Welcome.

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