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Newsbrief

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus consoled BNP Acting Chairman Tarique Rahman over the death of his mother three-time former Prime Minister, BNP Chairperson and top leader of democratic politics Begum Khaleda Zia. The Chief Adviser extended the condolence when bereaved Tarique Rahman, the eldest son of Begum Zia, arrived at the venue of his mother's namaj-e-janaza at the Manik Mia Avenue in Dhaka yesterday, according to the Chief Adviser's Press Wing.

BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia, three-time Prime Minister and political icon of Bangladesh, was laid to eternal rest with full state honor beside her husband Shaheed President Ziaur Rahman's grave at Zia Udyan in the capital yesterday. After the burial, a smartly turned-out contingent drawn from the Bangladesh Army, Navy, and Air Force presented a state salute with three gun-shots in honor of Begum Khaleda Zia. During that time, the bugle played the last Post. On behalf of the President and the Chief Adviser, floral wreaths were placed at the grave of Begum Zia. Later, BNP Acting Chairman Tarique Rahman and chiefs of the three services placed wreaths at her grave. Khaleda Zia's family members, several Advisers of the interim government, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir, Standing Committee members and other senior leaders attended the burial rituals. After the burial, doa and munajat were offered seeking the eternal peace of the departed soul.

Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan Sardar Ayaz Sadiq called on Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus at the State Guest House Jamuna, according to the Chief Adviser's Press Wing yesterday. Earlier, he handed over Islamabad's condolence message to BNP Acting Chairperson Tarique Rahman at the death of three-time former Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia, reflecting Pakistan's deep respect for Bangladesh's late uncompromising leader. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq met Tarique Rahman at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban this and formally conveyed the condolence message before the namaj-e-janaza of Begum Khaleda Zia at the Manik Mia Avenue.

Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus and Chief Justice Zubayer Rahman Chowdhury joined the funeral prayers along with Foreign Dignitaries, Advisers of the interim government, Chiefs of three services, family members and relatives, leaders of different political parties and senior civil and military officers. BNP Acting Chairman Tarique Rahman sought doa for eternal peace of the departed soul of his mother Begum Khaleda Zia, three-time former Prime Minister and the party's chairperson, prior to her Namaz-e-Janaza at Manik Mia Avenue in Dhaka yesterday. Millions of people joined the Janaza of Khaleda Zia, the country's first female Prime Minister and political icon. Baitul Mukarram National Mosque Khatib Mufti Mohammad Abdul Malek conducted the funeral prayers while BNP Standing Committee Member Nazrul Islam Khan read out a brief biography of Begum Zia.

China said, the contributions of former Prime Minister and BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia to strengthening Bangladesh-China friendship and bilateral relations would be remembered forever. Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson Lin Jian said this in Beijing yesterday. The Chinese Foreign Ministry Spokesperson also said, China expresses deep condolences over the passing of Khaleda Zia and heartfelt sympathies to the interim government of Bangladesh and to Khaleda Zia's family.

Bhutan conveyed formal condolences to Bangladesh as a high-level delegation paid respects at the state funeral of former Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia in Dhaka yesterday. On behalf of the people and the government of Bhutan, Foreign Affairs and External Trade Minister Lyonpo D. N. Dhungyel offered condolences to the government and people of Bangladesh. During the visit, condolence messages from the King of Bhutan, the Fourth Druk Gyalpo, and the Prime Minister of Bhutan were formally handed over to BNP Acting Chairperson Tarique Rahman, son of the late Begum Khaleda Zia.

Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar attended the funeral as the representative of the Indian government, highlighting New Delhi's acknowledgement of Begum Khaleda Zia's role in Bangladesh's political history and regional engagement. Adding a deeply personal diplomatic dimension to the global tribute, Jaishankar held separate courtesy meetings with BNP Acting Chairperson Tarique Rahman at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban to personally convey condolences. During his meeting, Jaishankar formally handed over a condolence message from the Government of India, including a personal letter from Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

Sri Lanka was represented by its Foreign Minister Vijitha Herath while Nepal's Foreign Minister Bala Nanda Sharma attended on behalf of the Government and people of Nepal attended the funeral of former Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday. Bhutan's Foreign Affairs and External Trade Minister Lyonpo D. N. Dhungyel also took part in the state funeral, further reinforcing the strong regional presence at the ceremony. A special envoy of the President of the Maldives was also among the foreign representatives. Ambassadors and high commissioners from nearly 40 countries including the United States, China, Russia, the United Kingdom, Japan, Germany, Canada, Australia and the European Union attended the Janaza, alongside heads of various multilateral and regional organizations.



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