

Bangladesh Recent Elections February 2026

Back Ground:

On January 7, 2024 was the date when Bangladesh witnessed Awami League, the political party of the founder of Bangladesh Sheikh Mujibur-Rahman, led by his daughter, Haseena Wajid, winning fourth consecutive time. These were the elections when BNP, the main opposition party boycotted the elections and another political party Jamat-e-Islami was banned by Awami league. Overall it was the fifth time when Haseena Wajid occupied the office of prime minister and fourth time in a row.

In June, 2024, a mass movement was built by the students to counter the law of “job quota system” restored by Supreme court to give priority to the children of the people fought in 1971 liberation movement against Pakistan. Students took it as the killing of merit. They took the streets on June 2024. Haseena responded violently and almost 1,400 people were killed by police firing, majority of them were students. Finally, on 5th, August 2024, Haseena resigned and flew to India. On 8th August, Muhammad Yunus, a globally recognised economist and 2006 Nobel peace prize winner, took over as the interim leader. Afterwards, he brought certain changes in the law and political frame work. All the political prisoners were set free and Jamat-e-Islami was allowed to participate in the forthcoming elections. Awami league was banned by the court for its fascinate tendencies. Haseena Wajid was sentenced to death for giving brutal orders to shoot to kill whoever agitate against her government. She survived as she flew to India with her family and India gave her full protection.

There were some big political decisions which were taken by Awami league and they became the basis of its political death. First, Internally, they pushed all the opposition parties to the wall. Banned a religious political party, Jamat-e-Islami, even sentenced to death to its leaders by court. Pressurized the court and took control over it. Largest opposition party BNP was alleged and accused guilty on corruption. Anyone who opposed and criticized the

government policies were abducted officially, and became as missing persons. Secondly, on foreign front, party created a hatred for Pakistan and went too close to India. Even her policy of “quota of jobs” in which giving priority to the children of the people who fought for liberation was in reality was giving benefit to the political supporters and loyal of Awami league. It was just political bribing. Thirdly, without any doubt in her period Bangladeshi textile industry flourished a lot but its benefit was all to the industry owners nothing for workers and for masses. Working class in the industry was working in extremely bad conditions. Just for an example, Rana Textile, a largest textile mill of the country was caught fire. Labours working there did not survive because where they were working was locked from outside. This is just an example. Bangladesh was the country where there were maximum fire eruption incidents in the world. Mills were insured, that’s why no loss to the industrialist but there was no compensation for died workers (some couple of hundred thousand as compensation, can never become the replacement of a human life, who are the only earning source of their family and there were lot of such cases). Apart from textile industry there was no industry in the country, all items were imported from India.

All the above reasons final, back fired, all who were pushed to wall they bounced back. A big wave of hate for India aroused among people, positive attitude built towards Pakistan (the country from there they got liberation). Jamat-e-Islami, which was never so popular, gained popularity among people. In the history of Bangladesh this party won the students elections in Dacca university. Self-praising of the government spread hatred among the masses.

In this back ground election of 2026 were held.

Election February, 2026

In this recent elections, Awami league was banned but individually its members were allowed to participate in the elections as independent candidates, but Haseena Wajid and any of her family member were banned to participate as even independent candidate.

Khalida Zia, the head of the largest political party BNP, had a natural death and her son Tarique Rahman came from self-exile and participated the elections. The students whose movement actually threw the government formed a political part as, National citizen party and made an alliance with Jamat-e-Islami with other nine parties. Totally, it was eleven party's alliance.

There were total 350 seats and election was held on 299 seats. On one seat elections were postponed due to death of a candidate. Voters turnout was 59.44%. BNP won 209 seats, Jamat-e-Islami won 68 and NCP 6 and overall 74 seats as an alliance. BNP got a huge two third win and the students party NCP got just 6 seats. Tarique Rahman took oath as new prime minister.

Future Prospect of the elections:

Now this is the main question, that what is the future of this elections. Is this a new Bangladesh? Let's discuss this, one thing is clear that BNP is not a revolutionary party. This party is the symbol of old and existing political system. Tarique Rahman, the new PM, was the person who had so many corruption charges on him. May be many will be wrong but one thing is very clear that in this system and especially in the third world corruption is very much a normal routine in politics (though recently Jeffery Epstein files have disclosed that whenever and wherever three things, Power, money and politics come together a worse sort of corruption emerges. In this capitalist system these three things always become close to each other and become one and the size and share of these three decide the volume of corruption). Therefore, in future we cannot eliminate the factor of corruption in the country.

NCP, the party who threw away the Awami league government had no clear cut agenda to replace the existing system. It was just a reaction of the people against that government and they succeeded in it but they were totally blind on what to do next. Therefore, they made an alliance

with Jamat-e-Islami to take their manifesto of implementing Islam in the country. Had they come up with progressive and socialist approach for giving control of all the factories to the working class and replacing bureaucracy with elected people and free health, education and housing for all, they would have given popularity but instead of going forward they went backward which resulted to a loss in the election.

Now, keeping in view of these facts, it seems no hope for the masses and in the coming period Awami league can bounce back and if they were not allowed by force, then may be Jamat-e-Islami gain more seats. In fact, there is no future of capitalism anymore in this world, and now this capitalism is in direct conflict not only with other countries but also with its own people and without opting to a new socialist system world cannot move further. As, Fredrick Engles once said, a time comes when people have to choose between barbarism and socialism.

In any way, it seems no hope for Bangladeshi people and these elections are just old wine in new bottle and nothing else.

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