

BY: Senator LIU

COMMEMORATING the 2022 Young People's Festival in recognition of the 102nd Anniversary of the Birth of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh

WHEREAS, It is the sense of this Legislative Body to recognize and pay just tribute to the cultural heritage of the ethnic groups which comprise and contribute to the richness and diversity of the communities of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, Attendant to such concern, and in full accord with its long-standing traditions, this Legislative Body is justly proud to commemorate the 2022 Annual Young People's Festival, now in its 6th year, in recognition of its celebration of the 102nd Anniversary of the Birth of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh, and the 51st Anniversary of the Independence of Bangladesh; and

WHEREAS, This year, on the occasion of the 102nd Birthday of the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who was born on March 17, 1920, and the 51st Anniversary of the Independence of Bangladesh, the Muktaadhara Foundation will host a three-day Children's Festival in Queens, March 17-19, 2022, which will include various thematic competitions, seminars, as well as open forums; there will also be a special segment dedicated to identifying 'young heroes' who have already set pioneering examples of community services and leadership; the week will also see numerous events, in New York and beyond, marking Bangabandhu's birth centenary; and

WHEREAS, The focus of the 2022 Young People's Festival is to connect the members of the Bangladesh community, especially the new generation of Bangladeshi-Americans, with the history and culture of Bangladesh and locate a multicultural purpose of their life and work in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Bangabandhu was a world's statesman, who stressed the importance of peace, justice, and global equity; by encouraging the young Bangladeshi-Americans to learn from Bangabandhu's life, the Foundation hopes to lead them to a more globalized living; and

WHEREAS, The New York State Senate has declared September 25th as Bangladeshi Immigrants Day as a recognition of the role being played by the Bangladeshi-Americans in promoting a culture of tolerance and harmonious living; greatly appreciated by the Bangladeshi community in New York, the declaration of Bangabandhu Children's Festival Week will further strengthen the ties between Bangladeshi immigrants and their communities as this will encourage them to follow the footsteps of their great founding father; and

WHEREAS, The month of March is significant to the Bangladeshi

community in many other ways; in conjunction with the anniversary of the birth of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, March 17th is also Children's Day in Bangladesh; and

WHEREAS, In addition, March 26th is the Anniversary of Bangladesh's Independence; the year 2022, will mark the 51st Anniversary, which will be observed with a myriad of events; and

WHEREAS, In 1971, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, along with other freedom fighters, diligently worked to gain independence from Pakistan; on March 7th of that year, Bangabandhu gave a famous speech at the Ramna Racecourse calling for non-cooperation, and on March 26th, independence was officially declared; and

WHEREAS, It is the intent of this Legislative Body to honor those organizations and individuals of significance who add strength, vigor, and inspiration to the ethnic diversity and quality of life in the communities of this great Empire State; and

WHEREAS, This Legislative Body is proud to acknowledge various cultures of people who add to the overall diversity of our State and, on this occasion, we take the opportunity to recognize the contributions made by the Bangladeshi-American community and extend best wishes to all of its members as they hold appropriate ceremonies to commemorate this historic milestone; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That this Legislative Body pause in its deliberations to commemorate the 2022 Young People's Festival in recognition of its celebration of the 102nd Anniversary of the Birth of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh, and the 51st Anniversary of the Independence of Bangladesh; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution, suitably engrossed, be transmitted to the Muktaadhara Foundation.