

BY: Senator LIU

COMMEMORATING the 2020 Young People's Festival in recognition of celebrating the 100th 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 2020 Young People's Festival in recognition of celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh; and

WHEREAS, This year, on the occasion of the 100th Birthday of the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, who was born on March 17, 1920, the Muktaadhara Foundation will host a three-day Children's Festival in Queens from March 13-15, 2020, 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; and

WHEREAS, The largest gathering of Bangla language and literature enthusiasts outside the sub-continent, the Young People's Festival begins in New York City and will travel to three other cities in the United States; and

WHEREAS, The focus of the festival is to connect the members of 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, 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 2021, will mark the 50th 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 Race course 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 2020 Young People's Festival in recognition of celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Birth of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the Father of the Nation of Bangladesh; and be it further

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