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PRIME MINISTER'S

PERSONAL MESSAGE

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10 DOWNING STREET

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Subject filed on:  
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UK/Bangladesh Relations

THE PRIME MINISTER

4 May 1982

Thank you for your letter of 2 April explaining recent developments in Bangladesh and setting out your hopes for the future.

While Britain has of course no wish to intervene in the internal affairs of Bangladesh, I welcome your assurance that you will endeavour to restore a democratic system of government in Bangladesh as soon as possible.

I am also pleased to learn that in the international arena we shall continue to hear Bangladesh's voice speaking up in favour of balance and moderation. I am most grateful for your government's helpful approach to the problem of the Falklands.

I share your hope that bilateral cooperation between our two countries will continue and intensify. As you will know from the outcome of the Aid Consortium meeting in Paris earlier this month, Britain will continue to assist with the economic and social development of Bangladesh and we shall watch with interest your efforts to improve the effectiveness of the economy in meeting the needs of the people.

/ Britain

VB

Britain and Bangladesh have a close association which is greatly valued by the British Government and which we hope will continue to the mutual benefit of both our countries.

(SGD) MARGARET THATCHER

General Ershad