

Extract from the letter dated 12th. July '71 from Mr. Zahur Ahmed Chowdhury, Convener, Bangladesh Liberation Council, Eastern Zone addressed to the Prime Minister (by name).

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3. Zonal Administrative Committee

(Whatever has been attained by us has been done in the face of these hindrances as well as the major hindrance due to the lack of your formal authorisation of the political entity of the Council of Representatives of this Zone. Your authorisation of Mr. M.R. Siddiqui personally, was certainly a beneficial act in the beginning. During his frequent and long absences, however the lack of authorisation of our Council gives rise to a serious vacuum as you may recall from my past letters. Whereas, we observed all the formalities in the formation of this Zonal Council. The first meeting of the General Council members was held on 14.5.71, and attended by 55 MNAs & MPAs of this Zone who elected me as the Convener, with five District representatives as members of the "High Powered Political Committee of the Eastern Zone."

Upon the advise of Mr. Mizanur Rahman, Organisation Secretary, a second meeting of the General Council was held on 19.5.71. It was attended by 71 MNAs/MPAs. The body was remained as Bangladesh Liberation Council, Eastern Zone, with the office bearers as follows.

1. Mr. Zahur Ahmed, Chowdhury, Convener, (representing Chittagong Hill Tracts and Chittagong City) in-charge of Political Activities.
2. Mr. M.R. Siddiqui, representing Chittagong District, in-charge of Finance.
3. Mr. Nurul Haq Chowdhury, representing Coxkhali District in-charge of War Efforts.
4. Mr. Zohurul Quium, representing Comilla District, in-charge of Press Publicity and Youth Camp.
5. Mr. Farid Gazi representing Sylhet in-charge of Administration.
6. Mr. Shamouza representing Dacca District, in-charge of Refugee & Rehabilitation.
7. Mr. A.Q. Makhan representing Students Action Committee

Not only has the Council followed the usual formalities in its formation, and not only it had to work that under the hindrance mentioned above, but yet I recall with gratitude the general satisfaction with our work. As desired by you, I am arranging to formally rename the body as "Zonal Administrative Council", and I hope you will accord it your long due authorisation at the earliest date.

As for your suggestion to keep the students out of this Council I would again request you to consider that we have attained a lot in terms of united action with the support of students by associating their representative in our Council. The division that will be created by discarding the student representative at this stage will be almost suicidal for us. The most vital weapon in our hands to-day is the Youth, and a dis-satisfaction of the Student Community will have the most serious repercussions in this regard. I shall therefore request you to allow this arrangement to continue.

*27 July 1971
B.S. (G.M.)
Signature
27/7/71*

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স্বাক্ষরকারী: ডক্টর ফারুক আজিজ খান

প্রধানমন্ত্রীর একান্ত সচিব