

## Donald Lu's Visit in Bangladesh Reveals the True Face of Democracy and the Secular Rulers' Legacy of Subservience to The Colonial Masters

Within a week of the visit of the US National Security Council's Senior Director for South Asia, Rear Admiral Eileen Laubacher, another high-profile US official Donald Lu, Assistant Secretary of State for South and Central Asia, visited Bangladesh for two days from January 14 to January 15. Lu had numerous meetings with top government officials and representatives of 'civil society' and discussed a diverse range of issues including upcoming election, human rights, democracy, security, and other bilateral and regional issues. But among these, the Indo-Pacific Strategy (IPS) and infamous US defense treaties - the General Security of Military Information Agreement (GSOMIA) and the Acquisition Cross-Servicing Agreement (ACSA) - dominated the meetings due to the growing geostrategic interest of US in the Bay of Bengal. ("Momen, Lu to discuss IPS, other issues at Padma today", The Bangladesh Observer, 15 January, 2023). This time there was shameless display of political servility towards America on the occasion of Lu's visit. Opposition political parties which are under government tyranny were enthralled by the arrival of their 'American savior'. They were cheerful that Lu's tough message to the Hasina government would ensure a free, fair and inclusive elections. They feel that they deserve better to be in power to serve American interests. On the other hand, the slavish Hasina government was fully prepared with their homework too to please America. To secure its throne, the government instantly said ahead of Lu's visit that Bangladesh had no problem to join US Indo Pacific forum (Daily Jugantor, January 14, 2023). Also, like an obedient servant, its Foreign Minister was taking pride in sharing updates to Lu as how successfully they were playing their part in America's War on Islam under the pretext of combating militancy and Islamic extremism.

**O People**, what you are witnessing is the true face of democracy that America promotes in the Muslim lands. The subservient secular rulers and politicians in our lands are the part and parcel of this democracy. This is the 'freedom' that the US exports to other 'independent' countries in which the cheap and docile politicians eagerly wait for their master's (America) interventions. And the rulers are forced to give in to American demands to remain in power. O People, These secular rulers and politicians are surrendering Ummah's sovereignty and resources to the Kafir colonialist by being involved in this endless rat-race for power. The political climate centered on Donald Lu's visit proved the real deal of democracy in our land, which is absolutely nothing but American hegemony in the form of IPS, ACSA and GSOMIA. And in the name of 'human rights' and 'democracy', Colonialist America is deploying coercive tools to pressurize Bangladesh for its geopolitical interest. Muslims' liberation from secular oppression and misery are immaterial in American democracy. This noble Ummah never deserves to be ruled under such agent and treacherous secular rulers. Muslims must strive for a new world order under the shade of the promised Khilafah Rashidah (rightly-guided Caliphate) on the method of Prophethood which will take them from this western darkness to light. And Allah 'Azza wa Jal promises that in the Quran, ﴿وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الْصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي ارْتَضَىٰ لَهُمْ Allah has promised" وَلَيُبَدِّلْنَّهُم مِّن بَعْدٍ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَن كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ ﴾

those of you who believe and do good that He will certainly make them successors in the land, as He did with those before them; and will surely establish for them their faith which He has chosen for them; and will indeed change their fear into security—'provided that' they worship Me, associating nothing with Me. But whoever disbelieves after this 'promise', it is they who will be the rebellious." [Surah An-Noor 24:55]

## Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir in Wilayah Bangladesh