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BCS Written

English

Comprehension

Home Practice – 04

Read the following passage and answer question no. 1-7

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) seek to encourage the identification, protection and preservation of cultural and natural heritage around the world considered to be of outstanding value to humanity. This is **embodied** in an international treaty called the Convention concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, adopted by UNESCO in 1972. It strengthens the ties between nations and societies, and mobilizes the wider public so that each child and citizen has access to quality education; a basic human right and an indispensable prerequisite for sustainable development; may grow and live in a cultural environment rich in **diversity** and dialogue, where heritage serves as a bridge between generations and people; can fully benefit from scientific advances and can enjoy full freedom of expression; the basis of democracy, development and human **dignity**. UNESCO's messages are of increasing today, in the globalized world where interconnections and diversity must serve as opportunities to build peace in the minds of men and women.

The UNESCO has recognized the historic March 7 speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman as a world documentary heritage. The speech has been included in the memory of the World International Register, a list of world's important documentary heritage maintained by UNESCO. Director General Irma Bokova of UNESCO announced the decision on Monday at the UNESCO Headquarters in Paris, says a foreign ministry press release.

On March 7, 1971, Bangabandhu in his **fiery** speech called on the freedom-loving Bangladeshis to wage a decisive struggle against the Pakistani oppressors. The speech set the tone for the Liberation War that would officially begin later that

month on March 26. “Ebarer sangram amader muktir sangram, ebarer sangram swadhinatar sangram [The struggle this time is a struggle for emancipation, the struggle this time is a struggle for independence],” Bangabandhu proclaimed in a thunderous voice at a mammoth rally at the Racecourse Maidan (now Suhrawardy Udyan) that day. “Turn every house into a fortress, resist the enemy with everything you have ... Having mastered the lesson of sacrifice, we shall give more blood. God willing [Inshallah], we shall free the people of this land,” Bangabandhu went on to proclaim.

The speech touched every Bangalee's heart across the then East Pakistan, now Bangladesh, and mobilized the whole nation, excepting a few pro-Pakistani elements, to prepare for the Liberation War. “The world will now get to know more about our Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and our glorious Liberation War,” Foreign Minister Abul Hassan Mahmood Ali said in the press release.

The minister said the March 7 speech provided inspiration to the Bangalees in their quest for freedom and emancipation. The speech also energized the entire nation and prepared the people for the forthcoming Liberation struggle, he added. It also served as the ultimate source of inspiration for the countless freedom fighters, he said, adding that Bangabandhu's speech is played throughout the country on different national occasions and continues to reverberate in the hearts and minds of the Bangalees. “This speech continues to enthrall our people and will continue to inspire succeeding generations,” the minister observed.

The Memory of the World International Register is a list of documents having global significance. The objective of creating the International Register is to ensure preservation of, and access to, documentary heritage in various parts of the world, reads a press release.

The International Advisory Committee (IAC) is responsible for recommending whether or not a document qualifies for inclusion in the Memory of the World International Register.

All walks of people of Bangladesh highly acclaimed such recognition by UNESCO though it was late. The speech of Bangabandhu is now a valuable asset not only for Bangladesh but also for the entire world. We, the Bangladeshis, are proud of having such a charismatic and revered public figure.

1. Answer the questions below. Do not copy any sentence from the passage above. Write the answers in your own sentences having your own wording and phrasing :

- a) What are the functions of the UNESCO?
- b) How has the UNESCO reacted with historic March 7 speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman?
- c) What was the message from historic March 7 speech?
- d) Whom did the historic March 7 speech touch?
- e) What will be the global impact of March 7 speech with the recognition by the UNESCO?
- f) What role did historic March 7 speech play during the liberation war of Bangladesh?
- g) What is the role of international Advisory Committee (IAC) of UNESCO?
- h) What is the Memory of the World International Register?
- i) When will the appeal of March 7 speech, lose?
- j) Give a suitable title to this feature.

2. Write the contextual meaning of the following words in English. (The words are underlined in the passage).

- a) embody
- b) fiery
- c) dignity
- d) diversity
- e) documentary

3. Fill in the table by putting words in the empty cells according to their parts of speech:

| Noun | Verb | Adjective |
|-----------|----------|-------------|
| Speech | (a) | X |
| (b) | X | Thunderous |
| (c) | Energize | X |
| Inclusion | X | (d) |
| (e) | X | Charismatic |

4. Write meaningful sentence with the following words. Copying from any sentence from the passage must be avoided.

- a) revered
- b) heritage
- c) enthrall
- d) reverberate
- e) forthcoming
- f) emancipation
- g) fortress
- h) decisive
- i) identification
- j) preservation

5. join the sets of sentence into one:
- a) UNESCO strengthens the ties between nations and societies; it also mobilizes the wider public.
 - b) The historic March 7 speech has recently been recognized by UNESCO; the speech inspired all walks of people to join the war.
 - c) The March 7 speech of Bangabandhu is a valuable asset for Bangladesh; beside it is a valuable asset for the world.
 - d) The UNESCO's recognition has opened the door of the world; the people of the world will get to know more about Bangabandhu.
 - e) Heritage serves between generations and people; UNESCO supervise heritage.
6. Summarize the passage in your own words in 100 words.
7. Write a letter to the Editor of a renowned Daily in which the feature appeared about the UNESCO's recognition of the historic March 7 speech of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

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