

POT SONG ON OPENNESS TO INFORMATION

<i>Composed by :</i>	<i>Md. Elias Fakir</i>
<i>Concept :</i>	<i>Manusher Jonno Project</i>
<i>Planning :</i>	<i>Rafiqul Islam Khokan</i>
<i>Pot Painting :</i>	<i>Sreebash & Alok</i>
<i>Direction :</i>	<i>Swapam Guha</i>

*Information enlightens knowledge, removes darkness, aware on rights
Access to Information is our rights, rights for all brothers and sisters!!*

Plot -I

Firstly, we praise the almighty Creator
Creating the vast universe with
The sun, the moon, the planets, the stars, the sky,
The air, water, mountains, rivers, forests and flowers.
Ours is a small country amongst all these
The Golden Bengal with greenery and grains.
Yet we suffer from shortages of many things
We are in short of food, education, dwelling houses,
As well, people are in short of money.
We have further shortages of morale
And lack sympathy for others.
We find shortages of social harmony and hospitality
Shortages and lack of information
Basically works behind all these shortages.

Plot -II

The learned people say that information is like lights
That improves merits and knowledge of people.
Information is like fortune stone
In touch of which iron and bronze become gold
Likewise, information opens doors of wisdom
But such information is misused from years to years.
Some clever people keep the information concealed
So as to keep people ignorant and unaware of events
On the thinking of loosing their business
If general people become knowledgeable
And so some of the people of the world
Keep people away from valuable information resources.
Wise men say, snatching information
And snatching rights are the same on judgment.
So, we need to demand for rights to information
Information must be open for all.
Anaemia leads to death,
Lack of information leads darkness and ignorance

Plot -III

Let us talk of the information situation of Bangladesh
Listen carefully, dear brothers and sisters.
As per law of eighteen seventy two of the British
Information may be kept concealed in Bangladesh.
It was again re-introduced in nineteen twenty three
Through which they could exploit the people.
We are independent since three decades
Yet the old rules of information concealing prevail.
The government is democratic
So, why to conceal true information?
Information should reach everybody
The old laws are being amended.
Information is no more concealed
To ensure good governance and democracy.
In the greater interest of national development
Let us demand that such law should no more be in practice.
In a democratic country information should be open,
Open to all for peoples' access of information
Towards their enhanced knowledge and prosperity.

Plot -IV

The majority of the people of Bangladesh is poor
And lack of information makes them poorest of the poor.
Those living in the rural areas and live on day to day earning
Suffer from economical loss due to lack of information.
Such as, lack of information on health services,
They fall prey to the treacherous cheaters,
Many poor children are deprived of education,
Due to lack of information general people are not in a position
To get hold the miscreants of the society.
As a result, resources are looted, general people suffer
And the giants live luxuriously.
If the trend continues, the country will suffer further
From severe corruption and down fall.
Let us organize movement to break the confidentiality
In establishing basic rights- at least to some extent. !!

Plot - V

People have no alternative but access to information
We need open information for all.
The law of keeping information closed or concealed
Assists the corrupt people even escaping serious offenses.
The journalists collecting many information taking risks
And Openness of such information to the public
Make them face tortures and harassments.
We should be with the journalists in demanding
For openness of information to the public.
Freedom of press will reduce corruption,
Miscreants will be cornered, they will be identified,
Disguised persons will be open to the public
Government will get people's support
Thus people will get security
And so, let us all demand for open information.!!

Plot - VI

We urge - We request you all - to consider
Information Technology is the heart of development.
Without information nation can not progress
A Nation with information is always aware.
So, for all we need open information
There is no more laws for information concealing.
Majority of the people are yet deprived
Even after three decades of independence.
Our country is known as number one in corruption,
Still we are not ashamed, we can not forgive disputes.
Some bad leaders are engaged in corruptions
The nation is suffering for their position and power.
So, the law of concealing information is cancelled
Allowing free flow of information
That will reduce corruption and misconduct and
Ensure social development by wisdom and knowledge
And with the great leadership of Sheikh Hasina
Favourable environment will develop in all spheres.

On behalf of all, this is or earnest request
Get united for a movement with all male and female
Demanding for free flow and freedom of information. !!

Sponsor : Manusher Jonno Foundation
Presentation : Rupantar