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Silence in grief

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Businessmen, politicians and several eminent citizens of the country have urged the government to declare a state mourning for the demise of DNCC Mayor Annisul Huq. Many of them have told the Asian Age that government should declare state mourning for the early demise of Annisul Huq.

President, PM, ministers, diplomats, politicians, different socio-cultural organizations, and people from all walks of life have expressed deep shock at the untimely death of Mayor Annisul. In a condolence message, Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said: "Through the death of this people-oriented mayor, the country and the nation have lost a devoted public representative."

He won people's heart in a shorter time. He dreamt for a clean and green Dhaka. Annisul Huq always wanted to make the city better and livable. Recalling his extraordinary efforts, businessmen said that the contributions of Annisul Huq to the development of Dhaka North City Corporation area are remarkable.

He had done many development works in the city in a shorter while. The leader never compromised with any anomalies of the city. Karwan Bazaar eviction drive and Green Dhaka campaign are the best examples of his brave initiatives. Recalling his dedication, businessmen and politicians on Friday asked the

government to declare a state mourning. Meanwhile, at a program at Hotel Lakeshore in the city on Friday business leaders expressed deep shock at the death of Annisul Huq.

Breaking into tears, Annisul Huq's son Navidul Huq expressed gratitude to the countrymen and said his father's body will arrive in Dhaka this morning. "He always said that he wants to be remembered when he is no longer the Mayor anymore. Abbu, millions will remember you while you look down upon us from heaven," Annisul 's son wrote in his Facebook post.

Navidul said he does not have too many memories with his father from his childhood as his father was busy trying to build a business and future for his family, while simultaneously being an active member of civil society and a true patriot.

"As I grew older our bond became much stronger. He was my mentor, my partner, my boss and my guiding light," he said. Over the last few years, he said, they shared the best times together. "I stood by him as he became the DNCC mayor. I was his close confidant with who he shared all his actions, his plans and his dreams."

Navidul said he will surely write more and tell all about them. "All I can tell you is that he instilled in us the best values, living life with the grace and integrity he did would be enough of an achievement." For those who were lucky enough to spend some time with him, his booming voice, his laughter, his eloquence, his poetry, and his touch would stay with them forever, he said.

"I will miss you so much every single day. I am so lucky to have a legend like you as my father," Navidul said. People from all strata also expressed their shock on social media at the death of the businessman-turned politician.

They said that Bangladesh has lost a kindhearted great leader. They also prayed for the eternal peace of the departed soul and conveyed her deep sympathy to his bereaved family members. Annisul had been undergoing treatment at a hospital in London, passed away there at 4:23pm (London time) on Thursday at the age of 65.