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Neo-Fascism under Dr. Muhammad Yunus: Assessment of Meticulous Destructive Design Narratives in Bangladesh

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Introduction

The political upheaval in Bangladesh during July–August 2024 marked one of the most turbulent transitions in the nation’s history. The resignation and exile of long-serving Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, following mass protests and violent clashes, ushered in a new interim government led by Nobel Peace Prize laureate Dr. Muhammad Yunus. Initially celebrated as a neutral figure with global stature and a reputation for social innovation, Yunus was entrusted with steering Bangladesh toward democratic reform, national unity, and institutional stability.

However, within months, his administration became the subject of intense domestic and international controversy. Allegations began to surface—primarily from Hasina’s Awami League and allied groups—that the Yunus-led interim regime was engaging in *neo-fascist* practices: consolidating power, suppressing dissent, manipulating the justice system, and enabling extremist or communal forces. The accusations extended beyond politics, encompassing economic decline, erosion of press freedom, targeted persecution of religious minorities, historical revisionism, and the alleged “meticulous destruction” of Bangladesh’s democratic and secular foundations.

Supporters of Yunus counter these charges by framing them as politically motivated attacks by a discredited former regime seeking to regain control. They argue that emergency measures taken under Yunus’s leadership were necessary to restore order in the aftermath of sustained authoritarianism, and to address decades-long