بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَٰنِ الرَّحِيمِ

﴿وَعَدَ اللَّهُ الَّذِينَ آمَنُوا مِنكُمْ وَعَمِلُوا الصَّالِحَاتِ لَيَسْتَخْلِفَنَّهُمْ فِي الْأَرْضِ كَمَا اسْتَخْلَفَ الَّذِينَ مِن قَبْلِهِمْ وَلَيُمَكِّنَنَّ لَهُمْ دِينَهُمُ الَّذِي ارْتَضَىٰ لَهُمْ وَلَيُبَدِّلَنَّهُم مِّن بَعْدِ خَوْفِهِمْ أَمْنًا يَعْبُدُونَنِي لَا يُشْرِكُونَ بِي شَيْئًا وَمَن كَفَرَ بَعْدَ ذَٰلِكَ فَأُولَٰئِكَ هُمُ الْفَاسِقُونَ﴾

Media Office of Hizb ut Tahrir Wilayah Bangladesh

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Press Release

American Hegemony Under the Guise of Investment: DFC Financing and Bangladesh's Food Security

On 16 November 2026, the United States made Bangladesh eligible for financing from the U.S. International Development Finance Corporation (DFC). Its CEO, Ben Black, said the move would advance both Bangladesh's *development* and America's *strategic interests*. We should take both halves of that sentence seriously.

DFC is an investment-financing tool, not a free-trade agreement - but financing is not neutral. DFC's own statements frame the Indo-Pacific as a zone of "strategic U.S. investment," and Bangladesh sits at its center: the "missing link" between Diego Garcia and Singapore, which U.S. analysts call the natural starting point for America's "western flank." Its agriculture and food-security work aims to expand American agricultural exports and modernize supply chains. In Bangladesh, projects would involve warehousing, storage, logistics, soybeans, cotton and wheat. And, naturally, Bangladesh would not control these facilities, supply contracts or long-term market relationships. So, DFC is not charity; it advances Washington's economic and strategic interests. Although it is not a trade liberalization deal, it could reinforce similar dependence by embedding American suppliers in our farm infrastructure. Combined with existing U.S. purchase commitments, this would weaken our local producers and put food sovereignty at risk.

Yet some in Bangladesh celebrate, pointing to investment, jobs and cheaper food. Why assume a fair, win-win outcome? Washington does not act on economics alone. Its Indo-Pacific strategy seeks to counter China and strengthen influence in the Bay of Bengal. DFC financing becomes another instrument of that influence, tying our food supply, ports and logistics to American interests. We must look beyond the promised dollars and ask what dependence they create.

O people, we cannot rely on imperialist powers for our food security and industrial development. That hope is an illusion. We must reject these investments of the imperialists and build the capacity to choose our own path. Food security and industrial independence must be our priorities, not dependent on foreign approval or financing. The solution lies in the reestablishment of the promised Khilafah Rashidah (rightly guided Caliphate), which would mobilize the Bayt al-Mal - funded by kharaj (land tax), ushr (agricultural tithe), and revenues from public and state properties - to strengthen agriculture and industry. Even the later Umayyad, Abbasid and other Caliphates - though the Rashidun remains our model - funded canals, water bureaus, land reclamation, farmer loans, fair kharaj and grain reserves against drought and siege, and ran workshops for textiles and metalwork. Andalusian granaries and tiraz workshops did the same. They built this strength from their own resources - never relying on a disbelieving superpower like Rome for their security. Allah (swt) says in the Qur'an, ﴿وَلَن يَجْعَلَ اللَّهُ لِلْكَافِرِينَ عَلَى الْمُؤْمِنِينَ سَبِيلًا﴾ **"And never will Allah give the disbelievers over the believers a way (to overcome them)."** [Surah An-Nisa:141].

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