

# The Daily Star

March 29, 2014

## Abed among 50 greatest leaders

*Staff Correspondent*



US-based Fortune magazine has included Brac Founder and Chairperson Sir Fazle Hasan Abed on its list of the world's 50 greatest leaders.

The list, which features leaders from politics and religion to corporate CEOs and heads of civil society organisations, puts the Brac founder at number 32.

“In an era that feels starved for leadership, we've found men and women who will inspire you -- some famous, others little known, all of them energizing their followers and making the world better,” says the magazine in its March 20 issue.

Recalling Sir Abed's contribution, it says, "After Bangladesh fought a war to become independent, Abed, 77, established the Brac to aid the rural poor, including 10 million returning refugees".

Fazle Hasan Abed, who was knighted in 2010, has built the Brac into the world's largest non-profit organisation, with over 100,000 employees serving millions in 10 Asian and African countries to bring them out of poverty through innovative ways, it continued.

Pope Francis, German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Ford Motor Co CEO Alan Mulally, US investor Warren Buffet and former US President Bill Clinton grab the top five positions on the Fortune's list.

Other notable persons on the list include Myanmar's democratic leader Aung San Suu Kyi, singer Bono, Tibet's religious leader the Dalai Lama, actress Angelina Jolie and education activist Malala Yousafzai. Sir Fazle Hasan Abed is the lone Bangladeshi to have made it to the list. Fortune magazine is best known for publishing the annual Fortune 500 list, which ranks the largest US companies on the basis of gross revenues.