



15TH ANNIVERSARY

# SABCA

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANGLADESHI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

শুভ  
নববর্ষ



BANGLA

# 1426

# NEW YEAR



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Editor



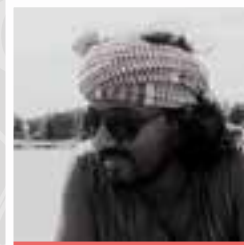
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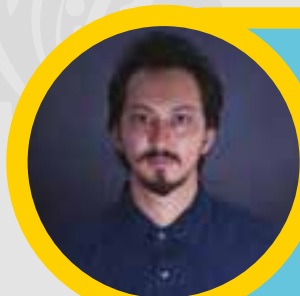


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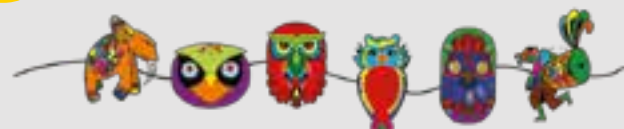
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## Lead Designer



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# শুভ নববর্ষ ১৪২৬

## Happy Bangla New Year 1426

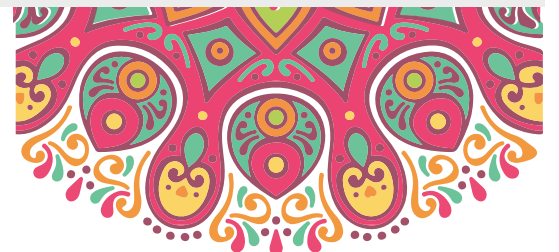


Mahbub Siraz Tuhin  
Chairperson & Chief Editor

### Message From Chairperson & Chief Editor

In the year 2004, South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA) was formed to support Bangladeshi migrants and international students. After 15 years of operation, as of 2019, SABCA has over 500 registered members and about 300 volunteers making SABCA the biggest community organisation among the Bangladeshi Community in South Australia. Today is a proud moment for us when we are celebrating the 15 years of anniversary of our loving organisation together with our community members. During last 15 years SABCA has moved strategic directions from a cultural- based organisation to a more community contributing organisation. SABCA was established to develop awareness of Bangladeshi culture, language, tradition and lifestyle among our Australian friends and neighbours, to build a harmonious multicultural Australian society. SABCA also provides assistance to new arrivals in South Australia by providing information and by other means. SABCA has established and maintained a Bangladeshi Community School in order to educate children of Bangladeshi origin and others interested in Bangladeshi culture and language. SABCA is providing support to the community and migrants through airport transport, funeral assistance, job support and health awareness. SABCA has partnered

with FoodBank SA to eliminate hunger in South Australia. SABCA is also a financial member of Australian Migrant Resource Centre (AMRC). We gratefully acknowledge all of our ancestors for their sacrifice and contributions, if it wasn't for them, we wouldn't be who we are today and we wouldn't be able to teach our next generation about our splendid culture and heritage. This is the fourth Annual Magazine that I have been appointed as Chief Editor. My heartiest thanks to SABCA Executive Council for appointing me as Chief Editor. My very special thanks to Editorial Board Members Md. Asaduzzaman, Md. Tarik and Anik Sikder for their tireless effort. My special thanks to Reshan the creative person for graphics designing of the Annual Magazine. My gratitude to Honourable Message givers, photographers and article writers. My distinctive thanks and gratitude to Mostak Ahmed Chowdhury, Principal, BCS, Teachers, School Committee Members, Parents and Students. We gratefully acknowledge Honourable Steven Marshall, Premier of South Australia, City of Prospect and City of West Torrens for their grants to SABCA Bioy Mela: The Multicultural Festival and SABCA Boisakhi Uthsab (Bangla New Year) celebration. My gratitude to all Sponsors, Advertisers and Personal Donors for their kind contributions. Without their support our dream cannot be true. Our heartiest thanks to volunteers for sacrificing their personal and professional life for SABCA. Congratulations to Bangladeshi Community in South Australia for celebrating the 15th Anniversary of SABCA.



Message From His Excellency  
The Honourable **Hieu Van Le AC** For The  
South Australian Bangladeshi  
Community Association



His Excellency the Honourable **Hieu Van Le AC**  
Governor of South Australia

It is my great pleasure to congratulate the South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association on reaching its 15 th anniversary in 2019. Since 2004, the Association has made a tremendous positive contribution to our State by sharing Bangladeshi culture, language, traditions and lifestyle with our community. I am impressed by the large number of activities in which the Association takes part, such as observing national days of significance, as well as undertaking cultural events and community service endeavours, such as a blood donation program. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the Association, and the South Australian Bangladeshi Community, for promoting the values of cultural diversity in our State. I wish the Association all the very best for the future.



A Message From The Premier Of  
South Australia The Honourable  
**Steven Marshall, MP**



The Honourable **Steven Marshall**,  
MP Premier Of South Australia

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "S Marshall".

On behalf of the people and Government of South Australia, it gives me great pleasure to congratulate the South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA) on the occasion of its 15 th anniversary. It is said that “from little things big things grow”. From small beginnings fifteen years ago when a handful of foresighted Bangladeshi community members saw the need to establish SABCA, the organisation has grown to count hundreds of members in its ranks. 2004 marked a turning point for the Bangladeshi community in South Australia. It was then that the number of migrants coming from Bangladesh grew from a trickle to a steady flow. It was also then that SABCA was established. Since its establishment in January 2004, SABCA has been contributing to the successful development of the South Australian Bangladeshi community through the organisation of many cultural and educational activities to maintain and share Bangladeshi customs, language and traditions. I commend SABCA on responding to the needs of the growing Bangladeshi community with a range of welcoming settlement supports. With this support, the Bangladeshi community has become an important and positive contributor to the development of our State and to the continuing success of multiculturalism.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANGLADESHI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION





The Honourable **Hon Scott Morrison MP**  
Prime Minister of Australia



### Message From Honourable **Prime Minister** of Australia

It is with great pleasure that I send my congratulations to the South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association as you celebrate your 15th anniversary and welcome in the Bangla New Year. This is a wonderful moment in the life of your community to reflect on your history and achievements, as well as to pay tribute to the Association's leadership and members, past and present. Australians are an optimistic, passionate and ambitious people, full of aspiration for ourselves, our families, and for our great nation. This is clearly seen in the Association's mission to support the Bangladeshi community and to promote understanding and respect. I thank you for your efforts to ensure our multicultural, multi-faith society remains one of the most happy and harmonious in the world. As Australians, we are indeed blessed to live in a nation of peace and goodwill, where people from around the globe, and from all walks of life, live together in remarkable harmony. The South Australian Bangladesh

Community Association has every reason to celebrate today and to embrace the New Year with confidence and hope.



### Message From **HE High Commissioner** For The People's Republic Of Bangladesh Canberra



The Honourable **Mohammad Sufiur Rahman**  
High Commissioner For The People's  
Republic Of Bangladesh Canberra

I am delighted to know that South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA) is celebrating its 15th Anniversary and Bangla Happy New Year 1426 on 14th April 2019 and publish a Souvenir. I extend my heartiest felicitation to the members of Bangladesh community on this festive, colourful occasion and hope this will help build close bonding between the first generation and new generation. I appreciate SABCA for volunteering to organize Consular Camp in Adelaide for last ten years and to act as link between Bangladesh High Commission and the Bangladesh diaspora initiatives in South Australia. Bangladesh is country with natural diversity, and harmony. Leveraging the social harmony and with Government's constructive and ambitious policies, Bangladesh has made commendable progress in all the socio-economic sectors in the recent times. In the process of moving towards a developed country by 2041, Bangladesh needs manifold contribution from our diaspora, in particular to portray a positive narrative of an emerging Bangladesh to the Australian Society. I hope Bangladesh community in Australia will continue to contribute in our development process by maintaining link with our Motherland and facilitating knowledge transfer. It may also underscore and spread the message of inclusiveness in Australia and develop respect for local culture and way of life. I wish SABCA will continue to contribute to friendship between people of Bangladesh and Australia.



A Message of Congratulations  
to the South Australian Bangladeshi  
Community Association of South Australia



The Honourable **Jing Lee MLC**  
Assistant Minister to The Premier  
Member of Parliament  
in the Legislative Council

I wish to extend my heartfelt congratulations to the South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA) on your milestone 15th Anniversary. South Australia is very fortunate to have an energetic and passionate Bangladeshi community which is dedicated to maintaining your unique customs and traditions. It is wonderful to see SABCA hosting a variety of festivals and cultural events and sharing your experiences and culture with the wider community. I would like to thank and congratulate the SABCA Executive Council for your commitment to supporting the Bangladeshi community in South Australia through a variety of services and for encouraging stronger intercultural connections and exchanges. Congratulations once again on your 15th Anniversary and I wish SABCA and everyone in the South Australian Bangladeshi community a joyful and prosperous Bangla New Year as you celebrate Pohela Boishakh!



The Honourable **Michael Coxon**  
Mayor City of West Torrens

On behalf of the City of West Torrens, I would like to congratulate SABCA on their 15th anniversary and express my gratitude to SABCA for their services to the Bangladeshi Community. Established in 2004, SABCA is the biggest community organisation in the City of West Torrens having 530 Financial Members and 300 Volunteers headquartered in Camden Park. Over the past 15 years, SABCA has assisted migrants with establishing new lives in a new country, when they are very often affected by a Cultural Gap and other associated emotional issues. SABCA has helped the migrants in our community to overcome isolation and stress by providing critical support structures designed to increase social interaction that is specially targeted to the women, children, and elderly population in the Community. In conclusion, may I wish you all in SABCA a wonderful celebration for your Bangla New Year Celebrations along with your 15th year anniversary of service to the local Bangladeshi Community. Thank you once again.



# 2018-2019 SABCA REPORT

**Md. Asaduzzama**  
GENERAL SECRETARY



Bangladesh is a small independent country in South Asia. It is a country of natural beauty and hundreds of rivers. Bangladesh has 700 rivers and 8,046 km (5,000 mi) of

inland waterways. The country is notable for its soil fertility land, including the Ganges Delta, Sylhet Division and the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The country is among the top producers of rice (fourth), potatoes (seventh), tropical fruits (sixth), jute (second), and farmed fish (fifth).

SABCA organize a Home Buyer's Seminar on 03-March-2019. Two renowned financial organizations – HomeStart & Nieuvison Finance were key sponsors of this event. Over 120 community members participated in this event and got help & guidance from financial experts.

**c) SABCA Funeral Fund** - This is another initiative from SABCA to help & support Bangladeshi Community in Adelaide. A separate Bank Account already created and that will be audited annually to keep the transparency. Money collected in this account will be used to help & support the funeral cost of any Bangladeshi regardless of membership status or religion.

### **3. Community engagement- stronger bonding among Bangladeshi community members**

**a) Bangladesh High Commission Camp - 18 & 19-Aug-2018** Like previous years, this year SABCA and Bangladesh High Commission, Australia joined organized two days' camp to provide consular support to the Bangladeshi community members. Around 300 people directly benefited from this program.

**b) Meet the Community with Bangladesh High Commission Team - 19-Aug-2019** Last year, SABCA organized "Meet the Community with Bangladesh High Commission Team" and gave the community members the opportunity to meet Bangladesh High Commission Team. That was a very informative & interactive question & answer session where our community members participated.

**c) Mehidi Night - Pre Eid Celebration - 19-Aug-2018** To showcase our Bangla tradition & Culture of pre Eid celebration with Mehidi Night, this year Bangladeshi Community School (BCS) and SABCA jointly organized Mehidi Night on 19-Aug-2018 at the Goodwood Primary School where more than 350 people participated.

**d) Annual Picnic - A day in nature, 10 November 2019** - Once again, SABCA organized an annual picnic for Bangladeshi community members to build up and maintain the community bonding and harmony. This year, 330+ participants enjoyed a full day of fun at Morailta Recreation Park. This year Picnic was a package of sports, cultural events, raffle draw and many more.

**e) Eid Reunion - cultural night, 15 September 2018:** Last year SABCA organized a mega celebration of Eid Reunion at Dom Polski Centre. This program promoted new artists and gave the opportunity to our kids to learn about the Eid. SABCA also presented our Adelaide based Bangladeshi band "Rong" in this event. Over 600 audience enjoyed this mega celebration. There were number of stalls with traditional Bangladeshi food, clothing's, henna and so on.

**f) SABCA Bijoy Mela 2018: Multicultural Festival (Victory Day Celebration) 16 December 2018** - This was a historic moment for Bangladeshi community. It was the biggest ever gathering in any Bangladeshi Community event and over 1000 people from multicultural community participated in this event and celebrate SABCA Bijoy Mela 2018: Multicultural Festival at St Helen's Park, Prospect. It was a free outdoor event and 15 multicultural community and organization participated and presented their cultural & heritage in this event.

This year's Bijoy Mela (Victory Day Celebration 2018) will be remembered for a long time among the Bangladeshi community members, especially among the kids for its colourful and vibrating atmosphere, not only that, this year it was celebrated on the 16 of December, the day Bangladesh was born by a blood-spattered liberation war in 1971. This year's Bejoy Mela was celebrated in a truly multicultural environment. Not only Bangladeshi community members but also members from different communities such as the Indian, Nepalese, Bhutanese, African, Bulgarian, Lebanese, Sri Lanka and Arabic community also presented their culture, food and history in front of more than thousand people. Bangladeshi legendary singer Samina Chowdhury also performed live this mega event.

**g) Debi Movie-** SABCA EC decided to partner with BongOz Films, the local distributor of Debi Film to present Debi to the Audience of Adelaide to enhance Bangla Movie culture within our community. This was a great opportunity to introduce great writer Humayun Ahmed to our next generation. For the first time in Adelaide, we had 2 housefull show of any Bangla movie in Adelaide and over 450 community members enjoyed this movie.

**h) Bengali New Year- Pohela Boishak Celebration and Kumar Bishawjit Live in Adelaide** As mentioned earlier, once again, this year SABCA is going to celebrate Bangla New Year on a bigger scale on 14th April, 2019 at the Woodville Town Hall. All performers, especially kids are very excited to perform at the mega event and they have been working very hard over the last few months.

**i) Brand New Modern Website for SABCA - <http://www.sabca.org.au/>** Inauguration of brand new modern website for SABCA was one of the key milestone we have achieved this year which was highly appreciated by our members and community. Special thanks to our Ex BCS Principal Mr Saroar Jahan for design and development of such beautiful website for SABCA.

**j) Advisory Council Meeting:** Our respected Advisors are key strength of SABCA. An Advisory Council meeting was conducted to develop strategic and operational guidelines of SABCA.

**Bangla New Year or Pohela Boishakh** is an integral part of our Bangla culture and a symbol of unity and festivity, irrespective of religious, political and regional differences. Boishakh (first month of the Bangla calendar) is the most exciting time of the year for the Bangla speaking people throughout the world. It has been practiced since the period of Mughal Emperor Akbar from 1584 AD. South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA), once again, is going to organise Pohela Boishakh on the 14 April 2019 and publishing this magazine. This year is the 15th anniversary of SABCA and on behalf of SABCA EC we have decided to celebrate SABCA's 15th anniversary along with Pohela Boishakh celebration. As the General Secretary of SABCA, I would like to take the opportunity to describe our activities and achievements to the wider communities, on behalf of SABCA Executive Committee (EC) 2018 -19. SABCA EC 2018 - 19 primarily focused on the following goals and has been working hard to achieve these:

#### **1. Contribution to Australian society - Fund Raising for FoodBank**

#### **2. Supporting & empowering Bangladeshi Community**

#### **3. Community engagement- stronger bonding among Bangladeshi community members**

#### **4. Integration of Bangladeshi community with the wider Australian society**

#### **5. Organising traditional cultural events**

#### **1. Contribution to Australian society - Fund Raising for FoodBank**

Last year, we have organized a Fund Raising Afternoon Tea for FoodBank. We are extremely happy to inform you that Fund raising for FoodBank outstrips all our expectations. With the gigantic response from Bangladeshi Community from all over the Australia we were able to collect \$1000. On behalf of SABCA, Mahbub Siraz Tuhin, Chairperson and Anik Sikder, Executive Member and Ex. Vice Chairperson, SABCA handed over the Cheque of \$1000 to Greg Pattinson, Chief Executive Officer, Foodbank on Friday, 14 September 2018, day before Eid Reunion Program. FoodBank will be able to put an additional 2,000 meals for those in need which means 2000 happy faces contributed by Bangladeshi Community.

#### **2. Supporting & empowering Bangladeshi Community**

**a) SABCA-RWM Joint Venture Employment Program** - In 2018, we have established a strategic relationship with RWM. SABCA & RWM worked together to create employment for Bangladeshi immigrant in regional Australia. We successfully did SABCA-RWM Joint Venture Employment Program 11-July-2018 in Adelaide and from that successful event 12 Bangladeshi immigrant got full time employment with relocation package. Our relation with RWM still continuing and through this program so far we were able to manage full time employment for 20 Bangladeshi migrant in Naracoorte and Waga Waga.

**b) Home Buyer's Seminar** - To help & support home ownership dream of our community members,





#### 4. Integration of Bangladeshi community with the wider Australian community

a) **Australia Day Celebration 26 January** SABCA participated Australia Day Parade 2018 in festive mood with traditional Clothing's. This year Traditional Towel(Gamcha) and Farmer straw Hat add extra attractions. SABCA Parade was huge applauded by audience and VIP Guests attended the event.

#### b) **Blood Donation Program:**

SABCA and Australian Red Cross joined organised blood donation program on 15-Dec-2018 where 20 SABCA member donated blood, most of them were first-time donors. Special thanks to Mohammed Towhidul Islam, Finance Secretary, SABCA 2018-19 for organizing & co-ordinating this event successfully.

c) **Partnership with Australian Migration Resource Centre (AMRC)-** SABCA EC approved organizational membership for SABCA with Australian Migration Resource Centre (AMRC)

5. **SABCA and it's working partners-** This year SABCA has established new working relationships with different corporate and community organisations, such as:

City of West Torrens | City of Prospect | Adelaide PTE | EduAID | Fortune Living | Clovercrest Family Practice | Playford Medical Centre  
Craigmore Family Practice | Adelaide Physicians & Surgeons | Blair Athol Medical | nievision | Finance | HomeStart | Finance People's Choice  
Credit Union | Mortgage 123

SABCA also maintained and strengthened the existing relationship with Multicultural SA, Dept. for Communities and Social Inclusion, Australian Liberal Party - South Australia, Australian Labour Party, Bangla Bazar Prospect, Bangla Dokan South Road, Australia Post and Goodwood Primary School,

6. **Upcoming Event's in this Financial Year:** I am really proud what we have done together as a team for SABCA and for the community. Still we have plan for the following in this financial year: **Training on Fire Safety, CPR & First Aid Training, Career Seminar**

7. **My Gratitude-** Finally, I would like to thank all my EC colleagues, SABCA members, members of the Bangladeshi Community School (BCS) Management Committee members and BCS teachers, all senior members of our society, members of the Advisory Committee, Magazine Editorial Committee, graphic designer Sk Massif Reshan, and most importantly sponsors for their continuous support. It would have been impossible to carry out so many successful programs without their support and active participation. I would feel guilty if I do not mention all the kids who worked so hard throughout the year to perform different cultural events. These lovely kids are the true inspiration for SABCA. I would also like to thankfully acknowledge the sacrifice offered by my wife, Zeenat Jahan. Special thanks to my son Samin and my daughter Rimjihim, you two are always an extra motivation for the author.





## **SABCA, A PLATFORM TO CHERISH OUR IDENTITY**

Dr. Abu Siddique Miah  
Ex Chairperson, Advisor &  
Founder Member

We, the Bangladeshi people have chosen to migrate to Australia for a variety of reasons. It is our solemn responsibility to preserve our identity wherever we live. Our identity includes our rich culture, language, religious beliefs, values, food and lifestyle. Different aspects of identity are learned, practised and transmitted from one generation to another. Nurturing different aspects of our identity connects us to our roots and prevents us from getting lost.

It is human nature that we desire to see ourselves in our children. We wish that our children don't lose their identity. We dream to pass on our language, culture, religious beliefs and values that we have inherited from our ancestors to our children. With the intention of fulfilling our cherished dream and to serve the interest of our community, fifteen years ago in January 2004, the South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA) was established. The founding members must be appreciated, remembered and duly honoured for their decision making, sacrifice, hard work and financial support in the process of establishing SABCA.

Our rich culture is a prime feature of our identity. Our literally rich Bangla language is the key to represent our culture. Bangla language and our culture are interlinked and therefore one cannot last without the other. Practising Bangla language, tradition, culture and religion at home will strengthen our children's sense of identity. Our children's self-esteem will also be boosted. Learning and practising Bangla language and culture will be helpful to our children to establish relationships with their grandparents, relatives and friends back in the motherland and with fellow community members here in Australia. This will also contribute to strengthening the bonds between members within families, extended families and the broader community.

Parents or caregivers must be prepared to take on the challenge of passing on their language and culture to their children. Parents, other family members and close relatives must play a vital role in maintaining and developing the language of their motherland (first language). It is not an easy task due to the fact that our children are exposed to the second language English in mainstream schooling. In February 2004, SABCA established Bangladeshi Community School (BCS) in order to help our children to learn their first language Bangla, as well as culture, tradition and values which are





DR.ABU SIDDIQUE MIAH, CONVENOR  
15TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ORGANISING COMMITTEE

the key features of our identity. Parents or caregivers should regularly send their children to the BCS where appropriate learning programs are delivered by a group of experienced teachers. Parents or caregivers should avail every opportunity to expose their children to social settings where their first language and culture are show-cased. SABCA and/or BCS have been organising a number of events of National or International significance every year, such as International Mother Language Day, Independence and Victory day of Bangladesh, Bangla New Year, Australian Day Parade, Children Day, Harmony Day, Eid Reunion, Ifter Party, Sports Day, etc. Participating in these events will be helpful to parents and their children in improving their first language proficiency and cultural skills. Compared to a monolingual person, a bilingual or multilingual person will have a better chance to be successful in the areas of studying, travelling, interacting, job finding and multitasking.

We are Australian and Australia is a multicultural country. We should teach our children to respect and appreciate existing different cultures in Australia. We must acknowledge from the bottom of our heart that all cultures are equally valuable and equally deserve to be respected. Intercultural and interfaith dialogues will enhance understanding and mutual respect between the members of different cultures and faith. SABCA strives to build an inclusive multicultural society where mainstream and all ethnic groups feel welcomed and are equally valued. In recent events, SABCA invited different cultural groups to showcase their cultures in the same platform on the occasion of celebrating the Victory Day of Bangladesh.

It is naive to expect that our children will learn the Bangla language and culture to the same extent that we, the parent, have learnt while we were in Bangladesh. There should not be any unreasonable pressure on our children, against their will, to learn Bangla language and culture. We must acknowledge that our children are required to learn English, Mathematics, Science, Arts, etc. in mainstream school.

Multicultural inclusiveness in Australia is vibrant. While respecting and embracing Australian values and cultures, we and our descendants endeavour to preserve our identity to be reminded of our pride and to show respect to our ancestors.





# Our Predecessors

## 2017-2018

Abdul Mannan—Chairperson  
Anik Sikder—Vice Chairperson  
Mohammad Tarik—General Secretary  
Nazmus Sadat—Assistant General Secretary  
Mohammad Towhidul Islam—Finance Secretary  
Maherina Z Sayeem—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Riffat Nazneen—Assistant Cultural Affairs Secretary  
A K M Tazammol Hossain—Public Relations Secretary  
Md.Asaduzzaman—Student Affairs Secretary  
Mahbub Siraz Tuhin—Executive Member  
Dr.Nasir Uddin Rumon—Executive Member

## 2016-2017

Kh.Khayrul Hoque - Chairperson(Jul,16-March,17)  
Abdul Mannan- Chairperson(March,17-June,17)  
Anik Sikder-Vice Chairperson  
Mohammad Tarik-General Secretary  
Dr.Al Nahian Riyadh-Finance Secretary  
Abu Touhid Alam-Cultural Secretary  
Riffat Nazneen- Assistant Cultural Secretary  
Md.Asaduzzaman-Public Relations Secretary  
Munira Hossain Rakhi-Student Affairs Secretary  
A.K.M.Tazammol Hossain-Executive Members  
Kazi Tanzeeb Shahid- Executive Members

## 2015-2016

Dr N M Nizamul Islam—Chairperson  
Mahbub Siraz Tuhin—Vice Chairperson  
Mostofa M Sayeem—General Secretary  
Shafiqul Islam Shumon—Assistant General Secretary  
Salima Akhter—Finance Secretary  
Md Shahadat Hossain Liton—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Nawshaba Hussain—Assistant Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Dr Nasir Uddin Rumon—Public Relations Secretary  
Mohammad Ferdous Mehbub—Student Affairs Secretary  
Syed Diderul Alam—Executive Member  
Anik Sikder—Executive Member

## 2014-2015

Dr Abu Siddique Miah—Chairperson  
Md Abdul Mannan—Vice Chairperson  
Dr Md Mahmudur Rahman—General Secretary  
Shafiqul Islam Sumon—Assistant General Secretary  
Nazia Zerín Hossain—Finance Secretary  
Abu Touhid Alam (Jun '14 - Sep '14)—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Hassan Imam (from Sep '14)—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Farhana Mahmud—Assistant Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Maherina Z Sayeem—Public Relations Secretary  
Mohammad Ferdous Mahbub—Student Affairs Secretary  
Wasim Saeed—Executive Member  
Ataur Rohman—Executive Member

## 2013-2014

Dr N M Nizamul Islam—Chairperson  
Engr Kamal Ahamed—Vice Chairperson  
Md. Abdul Mannan—General Secretary  
Mostofa Monowar Sayeem—Assistant General Secretary  
Abu Touhid Alam—Finance Secretary  
Nusrat Jahan Smrity—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Dr Tuhin Sultana—Assistant Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Ahasanul Hoque Dipu—Public Relations Secretary  
Shahdat Hossain—Student Affairs Secretary  
Dr Alauddin Talukder—Executive Member  
Ataur Rahman—Executive Member

## 2012-2013

Dr Mahfuz Aziz—Chairperson  
Dr N M Nizamul Islam—Vice Chairperson  
Masum Mithu—General Secretary  
Sakhwat Rashed—Assistant General Secretary  
Md Abdul Mannan—Finance Secretary  
Khurshida Shabnam—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Nusrat Jahan Smrity—Assistant Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Ahasanul Hoque Dipu—Public Relations Secretary  
Abu Tauhid Alam—Student Affairs Secretary  
Faiza Sahabuddin—Executive Member  
Mostofa M Sayeem—Executive Member

## 2011-2012

Dr. Naquibul Islam—Chairperson  
Dr. Mohammad Ahmedullah—Vice Chairperson  
Engr. Kamal Ahamed—General Secretary  
Abdul Mannan—Finance Secretary  
Mrs. Khurshida Shabnam—Cultural Secretary  
Ziaul Khan (Jewel) - Public Relations Secretary  
Iffat Ara—Student Affairs Secretary  
Kazi Roni—Assistant General Secretary  
Nusrat Jahan Smrity—Assistant Cultural Secretary  
Mahabub Alam—Executive Member  
Iffat Jarin Khan—Executive Member

## 2010-2011

Md. Rashidul Haque—Chairperson:  
Dr Naquibul Islam—Vice Chairperson  
Dr Mahamudur Hassan—General Secretary  
Alamgir Hussain—Finance Secretary  
Imtiaz Bahar Choudhury—Public Relations Secretary  
Sayeeda Sultana Shathi—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Md Masudur Rahman—Student Affairs Secretary

## 2009-2010

Kazi Sakhawat Hossain—Chairperson  
Dr Mahfuz Aziz—Vice Chairperson  
M.M.Naushad Ameen—General Secretary  
Alamgir Hussain—Finance Secretary  
Ahsan Habib—Public Relations Secretary  
Habibur Rahaman—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Masudur Rahman—Student Affairs Secretary  
Md Masudur Rahman—Student Affairs Secretary

## 2008-2009

Md Rashidul Haque—Chairperson  
Kazi Sakhawat Hossain—Vice Chairperson  
Maushad Ameen—General Secretary  
Shamim Joarder—Finance Secretary  
Anis Ahmed—Public Relations Secretary  
Sayeeda Sultana Shathi—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
M M Hossain—Student Affairs Secretary

## 2007-2008

Md. Rashidul Haque—Chairperson  
Kabir Ahmed—Vice Chairperson  
Nayamat Ullah—General Secretary  
Kazi Shakawat Hossain—Finance Secretary  
Dr. Arifur Rahman Majumder—Public Relations Secretary  
Sayeeda Sultana Shathi—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Angshu Rahman—Student Affairs Secretary

## 2006-2007

Dr Abul Hossain—Chairperson  
Kabir Ahmed—Vice Chairperson  
Alamgir Hossain—General Secretary  
Shamin Joarder—Finance Secretary  
Azi Miah Bradbury—Public Relations Secretary  
Sabbir Gaffar—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
Nayamat Ullah—Student Affairs Secretary

## 2005-2006

Dr Abul Hossain—Chairperson  
Dr Mahfuz Aziz—Vice Chairperson  
Khandaker Azad—General Secretary  
Ranjit Kumar Das—Finance Secretary  
Azi Miah Bradbury—Public Relations Secretary  
Naushad Ameen—Cultural Affairs Secretary  
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Dr Abul Hossain



Md Rashidul Haque



Kazi Sakhawat Hossain



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Abdul Mannan



# SABCA

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**Happy New Year  
and Happy 15<sup>th</sup> Anniversary to the  
South Australian  
Bangladeshi Community Association**



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**Wishing everyone in the  
South Australian Bangladeshi Community  
Good Health & Prosperity  
“Shubho Naba Barsho!”**



## Message from Principal, **Bangladeshi Community School(BCS)**

My heartiest congratulations to South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association(SABCA) on occasion of 15th Anniversary. Bangladeshi people acquired the Bangla language and the independent Bangladesh after the long battle, huge death penalty and loss of tons of blood. The myrters who Sacrificed their life for the shake of Bangla language ( mother tongue )and soil of Bangladesh ( mother land), we did not forget them at all and we will never and ever forget them instead we respect them throughout life indeed. That is why we are always carrying Bangla and Bangladesh in our memories even we are living in abroad. In South Australia like the other communities, South Australia Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA) has also got its own shelter and formed in 2004 along with a School named Bangladeshi Community School (BCS). BCS is governed and run by Non-Government Schools Unit of Department of Education and Child Development and also by Ethnic School Association, South Australia. The aims and objectives of this School are pretty straight forward which describes as to retain our language, protect our tradition and culture, our heritage as a whole our roots, while living abroad such a mixed generations. BCS have got the seven teachers and five school committee members who are actively involved in nourishing the Bangladeshi children those who born and brought up here and also those who come to Australia in young ages. All teachers and committee members has got the relevant training for example Teachers Accreditation, Child Neglect And Safe Environment, Screening Test, First Aid Training, given by DECD and the new recruited teachers are scheduled to train by DECD. Unlike mainstream school BCS also follows the set curriculum for Bangla language and others- including songs, recitation .dance, drawing , drama and digital projection .Students of this school are learning and the same time they get the opportunity to focus the outcome through different traditional and cultural programme of Bangladesh held in every year in BCS Campus at Goodwood Primary School and other venue. Apart from language every year BCS arrange for Spring celebration, International Mother Language Day(21st February), Independent Day celebration and participation in International Children Day, Adelaide Multicultural Events to encourage and provide support for kids to learn and to focus them with the rich and diverse Bangladeshi Culture as we strongly believe that it is still difficult to nourish our language and culture living in a country like Australia. In conclusion my heart felt support, encouragement and best wishes for this magazine for which I pray and hope it will be come to the light with a great success.

**Kind Regards,**  
**Mostak Ahmed Chowdhury, Principal ,Bangladeshi Community School(BCS)**



### **Bangladeshi Community School(BCS)**

BCS Academic Personnel  
Principal : Mr. Mostak Ahmed Chowdhury  
Teacher: Mrs. Farhana Mahmud  
Mrs. Zeenat Jahan  
Mrs. Sakila Be Nazir  
Mrs. Ratna shaha  
Mrs. Shaty Chowdhury  
Mrs. Nurrunahar Nupur  
Committee members of BCS  
Principal : Mostak Ahmed Chowdhury  
Secretary : Mr. Tozammel Hossain  
Treasurer : Mrs. Farhana Mahmud  
Member : Dr.Mahfujara Begum



BCS



FATHERS DAY CELEBRATION

ARTS FESTIVAL







**INDEPENDENCE DAY**

**MESSAGE FROM  
PETER MALINAUSKAS MP**

LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION

**15th Anniversary of the South  
Australian Bangladeshi Community  
Association and Pôhela Boishakh**

শুভ নববর্ষ

On the special occasion of Pôhela Boishakh, I extend my best wishes to the South Australian Bangladeshi community for the celebration of the Bangla New Year.

This year also marks the 15th Anniversary of the South Australian Bangladeshi Community Association (SABCA) and I commend those that have contributed to the establishment and growth of this thriving association. Since 2004, SABCA has continually been active in the wider community through cultural and social events such as organising seminars, participating in the Australia Day Parade and the Bijoy Mela Multicultural Festival which I attended last year.

Importantly, SABCA has proudly maintained Bangladeshi culture and language in South Australia for generations to come by teaching young students at its Bangladeshi Community School at Goodwood.

On behalf of the Parliamentary Labor Party, I wish your community a year of prosperity, peace and progress to you and your families.

**Happy Bangla New Year 1426!**



**Peter Malinauskas MP**  
Leader of the Opposition

🏠 Parliament House, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000

☎ (08) 8237 9137

✉ laborleader@parliament.sa.gov.au

📱 PMalinauskasMP

Authorised by P. Malinauskas, Parliament House, North Terrace, Adelaide SA 5000.



## MENTAL HEALTH OF MIGRANT POPULATION

**Dr Mohammed Wazid MBBS, FRACGP**

General Practitioner

Clovercrest Family Practice, Modbury



Australia has a multicultural population with about 30% of its population being born overseas. This figure has been increasing. It is certain that increasing diversity will continue in the future. People tend to migrate to countries of higher socioeconomic status for permanent settlement. Better and more secure life, children's education, joining family members, study and starting job are the main reasons behind the migration.

The process of resettlement is not very easy and it can place a new migrant's mental health at risk. Grief, loss and continuing anxiety over family and friends left behind can make it difficult to establish a new life.

### **The hurdles and barriers a new migrant can face are:**

- 1. Language**
- 2. Unemployment**
- 3. Lack of recognition of qualification**
- 4. Difficulty in obtaining registration in own profession resulting in change of profession**
- 5. Dropped socioeconomic status**
- 6. Lack of community support**
- 7. Financial issues**
- 8. Home sickness**

Adapting to a new culture is difficult and can impact mental health and put them at risk of suffering from various mental health conditions eg depression, anxiety, adjustment disorder etc. Parent distress and mental illness influences the mental health of children and young people. This age group can develop behavioural issues, developmental/educational issues, attention difficulties as well as symptoms of anxiety and depression. People from our cultural background have a tendency to remain reluctant to talk about their mental health concerns. They bottle things up until the extreme, which can make the situation difficult. Language and cultural barriers are the main factors that prevent them from seeking help. Non-English speaking migrants are reported to be less likely to communicate that they have a mental health issues compared to Australian born residents. The various differences in stigma relating to mental health issues across different cultures may influence the presentation and be a barrier for migrants in accessing information and assistance. Social isolation and lack of community support in an appropriate way make the situation worse. Mental health issues can be presented in various ways such as feeling of hopelessness, lack of motivation and energy, feeling very low, lack of concentration and interest, difficulty in initiating sleep or early awakening, social isolation, low self-esteem, difficulty in anger control, loss of appetite or increased appetite, social isolation, hypervigilance, suicidal thoughts etc. We should be aware that immigrant's mental health issues are very common and you are not alone. If you think that you have symptoms like those mentioned above please seek for help without any delay. Early intervention can make a big difference. There are groups/professionals in place for help and support with sincere privacy and confidentiality. The only thing you need to do is to find out your primary health care provider (GP) of your choice and talk to them, raising your issues and concerns. They can make a difference by an appropriate management planning. Your GP can arrange appropriate professional therapy, which is found to be very helpful. It will help make you think positively, convert negative thoughts to positive ones and make you learn how to fight the odds. Even in some occasions you may need some medications for your mental wellbeing. Apart from that try to make your own social network even if it is a very small one. Spend some time with them on regular basis, try to involve yourself with the local activities, go to the parks and playgrounds with families and kids. These will make you think positively and make you feel better. There are ample opportunities for sports and other activities. Use it for your physical and mental wellbeing. Mental health issues in migrant population are very common. Ask for help immediately before it is worse. Your mental wellbeing is very important for your family, for your community and for your country.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**  
**AND HAPPY 15TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE**  
**SOUTH AUSTRALIAN**  
**BANGLADESHI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION**



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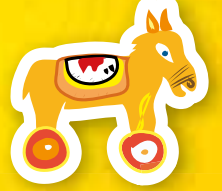
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Migration, food diversity and  
Australian economy: A blend of deliciousness  
Dr. Jesmin Ara Rupa (Economist)



**Academic Staff (Research),  
Centre for Global Food and Resources,  
University of Adelaide**

What comes to your mind first when you think about the multiculturalism in Australia?

To me, it's a very simple word "Food". Australian migrants from all around the world, perhaps, have the most substantial impact on Australian culture through food diversity. Food has become an important part of Australian culture and lifestyle, starting from cooking shows and competition on the television to tasting and enjoying diversified food in different cultural occasions and events. The thriving migrant population of Australia has brought with them a wide range of gourmets. For example, delicious pizza, pasta and desserts from Europe, kebabs and yiros from Middle-east, pad-thai and pho, laksa and tom yum soups from Southeast Asia, and of course, aromatic curries and biryanis from South Asia. So many more world-class cuisines are offered to put on our tables! The more we explore new food and recipes from different cultures, the better we get the opportunity to socialise, and to build stronger relationships than ever. The benefits of food diversity from migration do not end here only having positive social impacts. The economic impact is even larger. A study conducted in 2017, compiled results from 921 online surveys, and reported that more than 620,000 migrant-owned small businesses in Australia are responsible for the employment of 1.41 million people around the country (CGU Study Report, 2017). The same study further revealed that one-third of these migrant-owned small businesses including 35,000 restaurants in Australia, have plans to grow their businesses by employing new staff, leading to the creation of an estimated 200,000 new jobs over the next 5-10 years. Now, let's focus on the consumer side: A recent research report by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES, 2018) on Australian food demand states that the most notable feature of Australia's changing household food expenditure patterns since the late 1980s is the increase in expenditure on meals out in restaurants and fast food outlets. Moreover, the increasing demand for the services from Uber-eats, Deliveroo, Menulog etc. has opened more options to explore diversified food and find the food Australians love from local restaurants and chain favourites. Therefore, there is no doubt that Australia's increasingly growing multicultural food environment is one of the key drivers of Australian Economy, resulting from the inventive spirit of migrants with astounding cooking skills. Around 64 per cent of Australians think migrants have made the country stronger because of their work and talents (Sydney Morning Herald, 15 March 2019). Food diversity in Modern Australia, is one of the many ways that brings the happy moments of making new friends, finding love and even helping to end hostility; a blend of deliciousness indeed!



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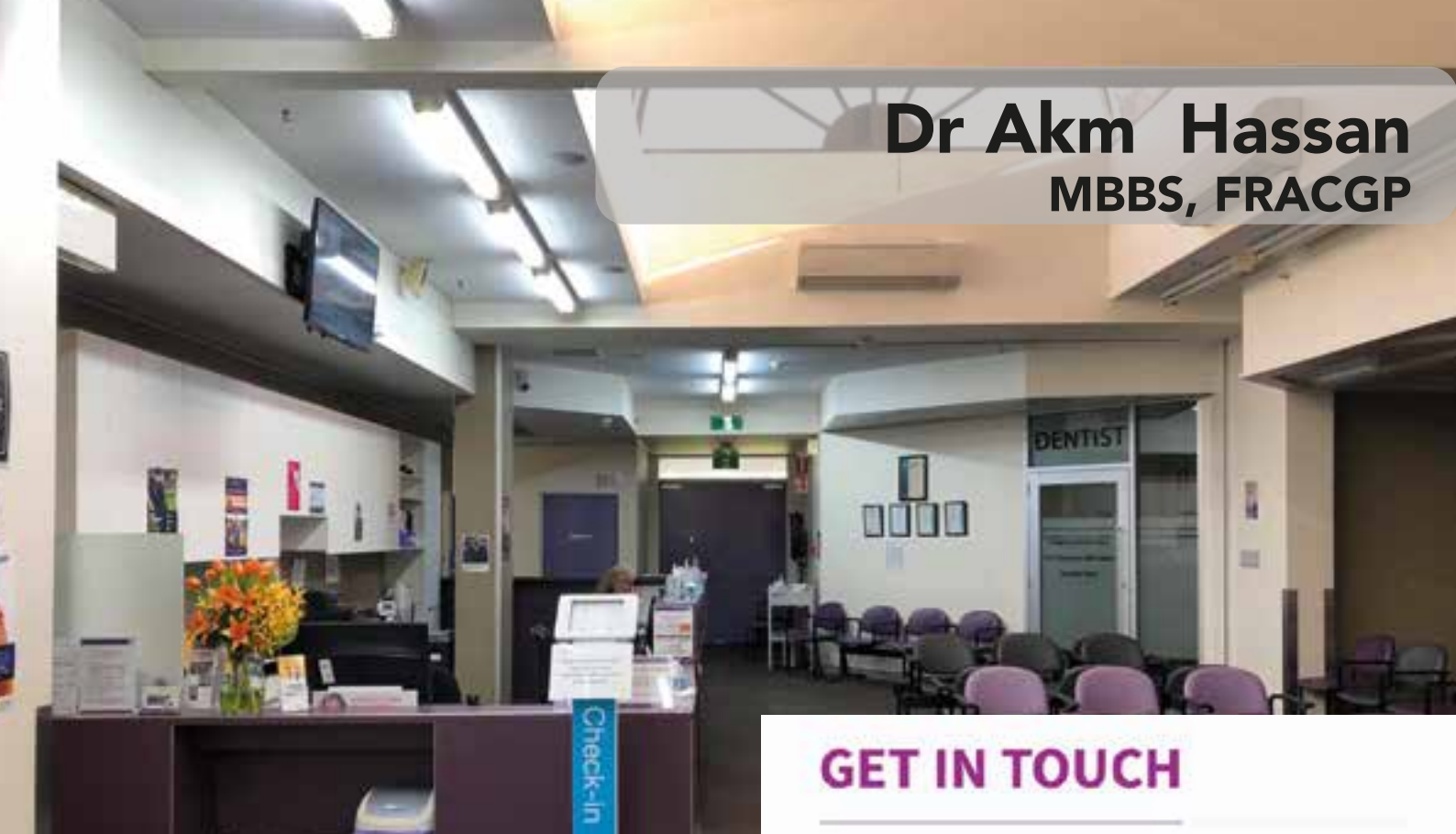
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- 

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- 2 Houses in Margitich Street , Croydon Park
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**Dr Akm Hassan**  
**MBBS, FRACGP**



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# AUSTRALIA DAY



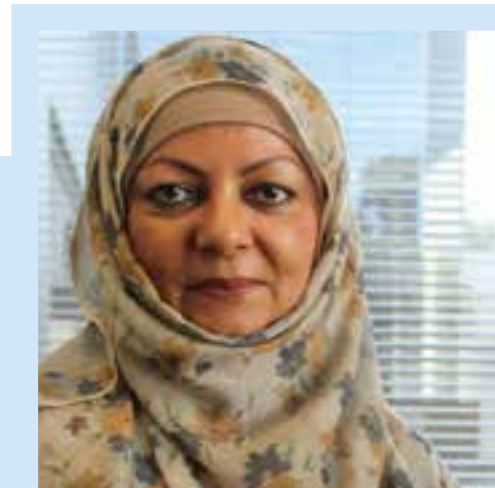
# HOME BUYERS SEMINAR





## TOWARD REALISING OUR DREAM

Mahjabeen Ahmad, independent researche & Advocate,  
winner of Governor's Multicultural Award



We have a common dream-- to make a better life for ourselves and our families. Realising this dream in our adopted country requires us to put in our best efforts to integrate just as it requires our host country to do its best to help provide us with a sense of belongingness and to facilitate our full participation in the community and in the workplace. We know that migrants face multiple challenges in setting up a new life in a new country; we also know that women face additional migration-related challenges. Let us look at some of these hurdles and how we can help ourselves to overcome them. Gaining access to the labour market is a major stressor for most of us. Starting or re-establishing careers or recredentialling can be a frustratingly long and delayed process; women may have to wait even longer until their husbands find suitable work. It is not enough to have just the right qualifications though; familiarity with the Australian labour market and labour laws, workplace culture and communicative customs (these are very different to our own cultural patterns), job search techniques, résumé writing, and interview preparation are critical to help us get the right job, negotiate over our entitlements, and protect us from workplace exploitation. Language problem is a significant barrier in integration. It prevents us from getting or retaining a job, getting a pay increase, or securing a promotion. The workplace offers us the opportunity to meet new people and make new friends. However, limited knowledge of English can hamper our social interaction with workmates as well as meaningful social participation in the wider community. Participation in mainstream society is essential for integration. It aids in expanding our network, in increasing our knowledge of Australian customs and practices, and in gaining confidence to engage and participate fully as citizens. We need to get out and interact with other groups and other cultures. Knowledge is empowering and we need the right information for making good decisions. Our migration decisions may sometimes have been based on inadequate or incorrect information and the fallout from that adds to the stress of a newly-arrived migrant. It is not always wise to rely too much on information circulating within the same limited network. We need to seek out reliable sources and updated information, whether it is regarding our citizenship process, housing, employment, child care, schooling, health care, or other matters. Having accurate information will help us enormously in navigating an unfamiliar and complex system in a new environment. We also need to have a general awareness of institutions and legal matters pertaining to everyday life. Volunteering our time can be a deeply rewarding experience. Through volunteering activities, we can not only help others, but also further expand our personal network, and gain valuable exposure and experience. As we continue with our family responsibilities while also learning new skills and adapting to the new surroundings, our ability to cope may be overstretched which, in turn, can put us at greater risk of social isolation and jeopardise our physical and mental well-being. That is why, it is important to set aside time for catching up with family and friends and have some quality "me time" to recharge and bounce back. There is no quick-fix to ease the transition into our new lives. However, there is a range of things we can attempt to do, some of which are outlined above. The important thing is to keep our hopes up and continue chasing our dreams.

## Special Prayers for Christchurch Victims



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**Dr Nusrat Nadia**  
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**Pohela Boishakh 1425**





Bijoy Mela Multicultural Festival



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Bijoy Mela Multicultural Festival



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# PICNIC

*Our heartiest gratitude to the Honourable Jing Lee MLC for her heartfelt support to Multicultural Community*

— SABCA



**ART | MUSIC | MOTION**

FROM PHOTOGRAPHY TO CINEMATOGRAPHY, EVERYTHING OF CAMERA IS MY PASSION. MY NAME IS RESHAN AKA SLICEWOLF. I WOULD LIKE YOU TO REMEMBER ME AS DIGITAL CONTENT MAKER. I CAME TO ADELAIDE ONE YEAR AGO WITH MY BEAUTIFUL WIFE RIMI & SUPPORTING SABCA FOR MEDIA WORKS.

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# SABCA

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN BANGLADESHI COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

SABCA is committed to developing awareness of Bangladeshi culture, language, tradition and lifestyle among our Australian friends and neighbors to build a homogeneous and harmonious multicultural Australian society. At the same time this magazine is designed to pass information to new Bangladeshi migrants, permanent or temporary residents, students and workers in South Australia.

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