



HIGH COMMISSIONER

High Commission for the People's
Republic of Bangladesh
57 Culgoa Circuit, O'Malley
ACT 2606, Australia.

Date: 24 December 2012

Message

On the auspicious occasion of Christmas, my wife and I convey our heartfelt felicitation and warm greetings to our nationals living in Australia, New Zealand and Fiji. Christmas is the most important religious event celebrated by Christians worldwide to commemorate the birth of Jesus Christ. It is also celebrated by an increasing number of non-Christians worldwide. This is a festival which transcends language, culture and even religious beliefs. Christmas is an occasion for not only enjoyment as it reminds us that we are here for something else besides ourselves. It gives us an opportunity to recall the true messages of Jesus Christ, which are peace on Earth and goodwill to all mankind.

Whilst all around the world and throughout Australia, New Zealand and Fiji, people will be celebrating in their own way during Christmas, our thoughts will always go out to those who cannot find peace in their homes, or those who are far away from their loved ones. On this occasion, I would also like to call upon all, whatever their culture or religion, to try to do something to help make the world a better and more peaceful place.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy, peaceful and prosperous New Year. May Peace be your gift at Christmas and may the year ahead be full of contentment & joy.

**Lieutenant General
Masud Uddin Chowdhury**