

Bangladesh High Commission  
Canberra.

PRESS RELEASE

The 35<sup>th</sup> Independence and National Day of Bangladesh was celebrated by this Mission in a befitting manner. In the morning the National Flag was ceremonially hoisted at the Chancery premises by H.E. Mr. Ashraf-ud-Doula, High Commissioner of Bangladesh, in the presence of officials, members of their family and representatives of Bangladesh community in Canberra followed by a special munajat for the salvation of the departed souls of the martyrs of our Liberation War and for peace, progress and prosperity of the country. Messages received from the Hon'ble President, Hon'ble Prime Minister and Hon'ble Foreign Minister were read out.

Afterwards the High Commissioner chaired a discussion. He highlighted the significance of the Independence and National Day of Bangladesh in different ways. Officials of the Mission and members of the community including former Ambassador Barrister Harun ur Rashid, Dr. Abed Chaudhury, Dr. Sadequr Rahman, Dr. Shamsul Khan, Mr. Mainul Haque, President of Bangladesh-Australia Association Canberra Inc. and Mr. Borhanuddin Shafi took part in a lively discussion highlighting the background and significance of the day. They also expressed their happiness on the progress and development of the country. A documentary on Bangladesh titled "Discover Bangladesh" was also screened on the occasion.

On 27<sup>th</sup> March, 2006, the High Commissioner and Mrs. Ashraf-ud-Doula hosted a reception at Great Hall, High Court Building, Canberra on the occasion of Independence and National Day of Bangladesh. A large number of government officials from the host government, members of diplomatic corps, businessmen, media and members of the Bangladesh community attended the reception. During the reception a dance drama performed by the local Bangladeshi artists spanning our history from 1757 to 1971 captivated the audience.

Senator the Hon. Amanda Vanstone, Minister for Immigration and Multicultural and Indigenous Affairs of Australia attended the reception and handed over Certificates of Appreciation to 10 Bangladeshi- Australians living in Canberra for their contribution in promoting the image of Bangladesh in different sphere. A list of the names is attached.

With the support of local sponsors, a Souvenir has been published by the High Commission to commemorate the 35<sup>th</sup> Independence and National Day of Bangladesh.

29 March 2006

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## List of Eminent Bangladeshis recognized on the 35<sup>th</sup> Independence & National Day of Bangladesh.

Name	Category
Barrister Harun ur Rashid	For his contribution in promoting the image and national interest of Bangladesh through his writings.
Mr. Zillur Rahman	For his contribution in teaching the Bangla language to the new generation of Bangladeshi-Australian children by establishing and running a Bangla School.
Dr. Abed Chaudhury	For his contribution in agricultural development in Bangladesh through scientific research, and taking science to the grassroot level in the country.
Mr. Ehsan Ullah	For his contribution in giving a voice to the Bangladesh community in Canberra by establishing a Bangla Radio.
Mr. Farhadur Reza	For his unique creativity in promoting Bangladeshi culture, tradition and history through different events.
Ms. Habiba Ahmed	For her active contribution in projecting Bangladeshi cultural heritage in Australia.
Ms. Sakiba Rahman	For her devotion in preserving and promoting pure Bangla Music.
Mr. Mainul Haque	For his commitment in inculcating traditional values to the Bangladeshi-Australian children.
Mr. Shahadat H Manik	For his contribution in launching a web portal dedicated to augmenting connectivity among the Bangladesh community in Australia and sharing news and views.
Mr. Avijit Sarkar	For his contribution to popularize Bangladeshi Music and establishing a Music & Dance School for the Bangladeshi-Australian children.