

## **A Special Announcement**

It is with profound sadness I share the following facts relating to the Bangabandhu Parishad of Australia Inc. with our Bangladeshi friends now living in Australia. This organization has been subjected to many attempts from outside to destabilisation and even destruction almost from its inception. But with a team of dedicated workers we foiled all those attempts. We are grateful to them for that.

Attacks against us revived and even intensified after we successfully moved the Baisakhi Mela to the Sydney Olympic Park. Initially all kinds of letters faxes and emails were sent to all relevant departments of Australian and NSW Government. When this failed to work, a particular group tried to destroy this Mela financially – by organizing another Mela on the same day in The Randwick Racecourse. Our brothers and sisters from Bangladesh empathetically rejected it.

But we didn't know that by now a group from inside our organization was casting a greedy look on now financially profitable Baisakhi Mela. The symptoms first appeared when a few of them started disrupting our regular Executive Committee meetings. There were frequent uses of abusive language and personal attacks, which never existed before. This group's desperation became evident when their leader sent us a legal notice to stop a regularly convened AGM. We disregarded the meritless legal notice and proceeded with the AGM – without any follow up action on the legal notice from its initiators.

This group's main goal is to take over the control of the Baisakhi Mela in the Olympic Park – they don't want to kill the goose that has started producing golden eggs on a regular basis. The conspiracy that was initially hatched by a few was subsequently joined by the Treasurer of our organization. They were soon able to recruit our inactive General Secretary who now wants to control things from Canberra. The General Secretary and Treasurer have, among many other responsibilities, the duty to regularly report to the Department of Fair Trading to maintain continued registration of our organization. The execution of the conspiracy was brilliant for its simplicity – they simply didn't do anything necessary to maintain our registration. When we were busy in organising this year's Baisakhi Mela our registration was cancelled. I came to know about it only when I received a letter from the department of Fair Trading. In my efforts to restore the registration I learned that the name of our organization has been booked in the name of one of the conspirators, with himself as Public Officer. Do we need any further proof their complicity in the matter? The conspirators now possess the name: The Bangabandhu Parishad of Australia Inc.

But let me emphatically assert here the fact that the conspirators got only the organization's name, not its soul. Its soul belongs to our selfless dedicated workers who made wonderful things happen to our community in Sydney. We are blessed to have earned and enjoyed the trust of our community in Australia and we are not going to allow some evil usurpers to trample upon it now or in future. We are soon going to reorganise under a new name and new banner. We will be there to welcome you again for Baisakhi Mela 2010.

DR. ABDUR RAZZAQUE

President

(Now defunct) The Bangabandhu Parishad of Australia Inc.