



# FOBANA

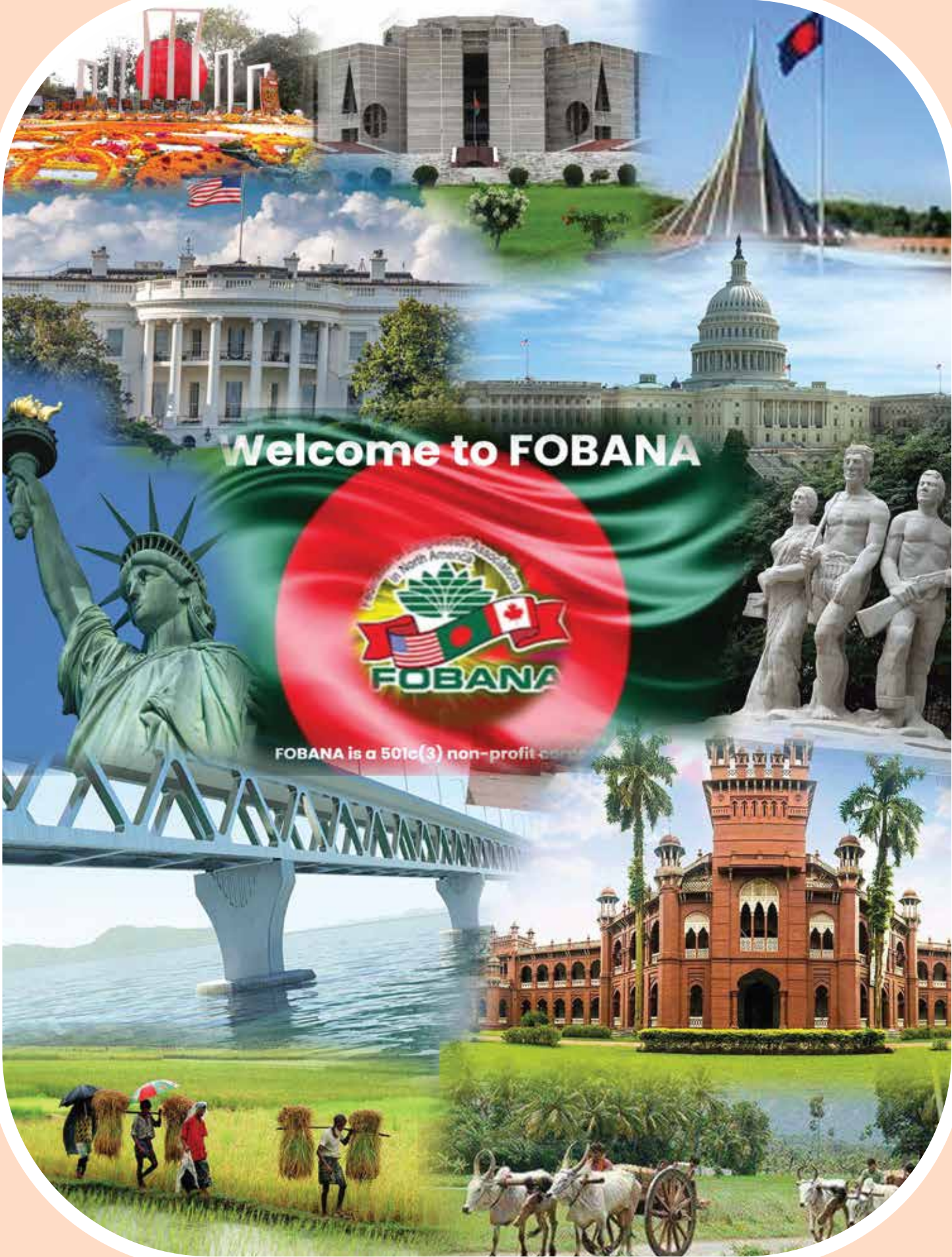
Annual Report 2022-23



**37<sup>th</sup> FOBANA Convention 2023**

Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, Dallas, Texas





Welcome to FOBANA

FOBANA is a 501c(3) non-profit corp





## Fobana Annual Report 2022-2023

**Published by:**  
FOBANA Executive Committee  
2022-2023

**Compiled by:**  
Anthony Pius Gomes  
Masud Rob Chowdury  
Nahidul Khan

**Graphics Design & Compose:**  
M. M Afzal Baky  
Ph : 880 1705 184749  
Email : sazdigital4@gmail.com

**37th FOBANA Convention 2023**  
Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas  
500 W Las Colinas Blvd. Irving, TX-75039  
Date: September 1-3, 2023  
Hosted by: Bangladesh Association of  
North Texas (BANT)

### Table of Contents

Title	Page
FOBANA Theme Song	4
About FOBANA	5
FOBANA Greetings	6
Message from the Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina	7
Message from the Foreign Minister Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP	8
Message from the Chairperson Dr Ahsan Chowdhury (Hiro)	9
Message from the Vice-Chairperson Masud Rob Chowdhury	10
Message from the Executive Secretary Nahidul Khan	11
ফোবানা ২০২৩ সম্মেলন আহ্বায়কের বাণী	12
Message from the Member Secretary Sham Sudduha Shagor	13
Message from the Chief Coordinator Sied Chowdhury	14
FOBANA Executive Committee-2022-2023	15
Executive Secretary's Year End Report	19
Treasurer's Report	20
FOBANA Standing Committees	21
FOBANA Advisor Committees	37
FOBANA Past Chairpersons	38
FOBANA Election Commission 2023	40
FOBANA Voter List	41
FOBANA Host Committee – 2023	43
FOBANA Programs Schedules	44
Standing Committee Reports	45
FOBANA History	57
FOBANA Constitution & Bylaws	60
The Houston Accord	67
FOBANA Operating Procedures	70
Photo Album-Fobana Activities	95





## Official FOBANA Theme Song

ফোবানা, ফোবানা  
প্রতি রক্ত কনিকা উঠল নেচে ফোবানার গানে  
উঠল জেগে বাঙালীর চেতনা  
এই মুক্ত আকাশ প্রান্তরে, প্রতি বাঙালীর অন্তরে,  
উঠল জেগে বাঙালীর চেতনা ।।।।  
বাংলাদেশ আমার প্রেরণা, বাংলাদেশ আমার সাধনা  
স্বাগত জানাই ফোবানায়, স্বাগতম ফোবানা ।।

অনেক কষ্টে এনেছি আমরা দেশের স্বাধীনতা,  
প্রবাসে পাড়ি দিয়েও আমরা ভুলতে পারিনি তা ।  
তিরিশ লক্ষ প্রাণ দিয়েছে, যুদ্ধ করেছে জয়,  
অত্যাচারীর উদ্ধতশির লুটিয়ে পড়েছে পায় ।  
স্বাধীনতার চেতনা, বিশ্বকে আজ জানিয়ে দেব তা ।  
ফোবানা, ফোবানা ।।।।

রবি ঠাকুরের গীতি মালার সুরের মূর্ছনায়,  
আমি চলে যাই মেঠ পথ ধরে দূরের কোনো গায়..  
নজরুলের কবিতা আমায় আজ দেয় সাড়া,  
বিদ্রোহী হতে শিখিয়ে দেয়, মনটাকে দেয় নাড়া ।  
এ আমার চেতনা, এ যে আমার বাঙালী চেতনা ।  
ফোবানা, ফোবানা ।

জীবনানন্দের রূপসী বাংলা, কোথাও খুঁজে না পাই,  
সবুজে ঘেরা আমার স্বপ্ন বাংলাতে খুঁজে পাই ।।  
লালনের সেই একতারাটা আবার বেজে ওঠে,  
বাউলের সুর, রাখালের বাঁশি, আমার বুক বাজে ।।।  
দরদিয়া, রাখালিয়া, গেয়ে যাব আজ সবার হৃদয়ে তা ।  
ফোবানা, ফোবানা ।।।।





FOBANA®, is a non-profit, non-political and non-discriminatory, IRS 501c(3) taxexempt (Tax ID 26-1747615) organization, established 1987. Only qualified Bangladeshi Associations in North America can be the members of FOBANA. One of the most important goal of this organization is to preserve and promote the language, culture and heritage of Bangladesh. This organization of Bangladeshi Associations in North America has been recognized as an umbrella, where all the Bangladeshis living in North America can gather to celebrate their successes and deliver cultural talents through stage performances. Since its inception in 1987, FOBANA® has been working tirelessly in this land far away from our ancestral homeland to keep our indigenous culture and commence it to our next generation growing in North America, primarily.

In addition, FOBANA® has recently received appreciation for its work to assimilate our people with the mainstream of North American people and culture. Those of us who are working in spite of all obstacles in different communities all over the continent are getting recognition from this organization. In other words, FOBANA® is a symbol of our hope and aspiration and a unifying force for bringing our communities together and for moving it in forward direction.

Please join us if you haven't already done so and encourage other organizations to join FOBANA too!

Website: [www.fobanaonline.com](http://www.fobanaonline.com)



## ফোয়ানার পক্ষ থেকে শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন

ফোয়ানার পক্ষ থেকে উত্তর আমেরিকা প্রবাসী সকল বাংলাদেশীদের জানাচ্ছি আন্তরিক প্রীতি ও শুভেচ্ছা। বাংলা ভাষা, স্বদেশী সাহিত্য-সংস্কৃতি এবং কৃষি ও ঐতিহ্য, স্বদেশের প্রতি ভালবাসা আমাদের প্রাণ... আমাদের অস্তিত্বের শেফড়া প্রবাসের মাতিতে আমাদের কৃষি ও সংস্কৃতি এবং দেশাত্ববোধ বুকের গভীরে ধারণ করে নতুন প্রজন্মের কাছে তা তুলে দেয়ার অদম্য অভিলাসে ফোয়ানার প্রত্যয়ী পথচলা। আপনাদের ভালবাসাই আমাদের পথচলার পাথর, আগামীদিনগুলোতেও আপনাদের সাথে নিয়ে আমাদের এগিয়ে যাওয়ার দৃষ্ট অঙ্গীকার।

Established in 1987

এবং ফোয়ানা সম্মেলনের স্বাগতিক সংগঠন এবং সবাইকে জানাচ্ছি আন্তরিক শুভেচ্ছা ও অভিনন্দন।

ফোয়ানা নির্বাহী কমিটি  
২০২২-২০২৩



بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



**PRIME MINISTER**  
**GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF**  
**BANGLADESH**

17 Bhadra 1430  
01 September 2023

## Message

I convey my heartfelt felicitation to all participants of the 37th Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America (FOBANA) convention to be held in Dallas, Texas, from September 1-3, 2023. I also take the opportunity to extend my best wishes to the Bangladeshi diaspora in North America.

The Greatest Bengali of all time, the Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, spent his whole life leading our struggle for freedom and the war of independence. He made us a victorious nation and created the opportunity to act in the world with self-esteem and dignity. Within a short period- in only three years, seven months, and three days- he laid the foundation of almost all institutions for the statecraft and achieved remarkable progress in the economy of a newly-born nation. After the most abhorrent assassination of our Father of the Nation, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, the progress of the country halted for the next 21 years under the rule of military dictators and their allies.

During our 1996-2001 term, Bangladesh witnessed an unprecedented golden era regarding socio-economic growth and development. We also have achieved significant progress in every sector in the last 14 and half years since the formation of the Government in 2009. We have already transformed the country into 'Digital Bangladesh' and fulfilled all criteria to be a developing country. Now, Bangladesh is set to become a developed country by emerging as 'Smart Bangladesh' by 2041.

We gratefully recognize the fundamental role of non-resident Bangladeshis in our Government's ongoing development stride. Over the past 37 years, FOBANA has been upholding the history, culture, and heritage of our beloved motherland Bangladesh in North America. Texas has become a home to a significant number of NRBs who are also continuously building the image of our country in the United States. I feel happy that the 37th FOBANA convention will take place in this city. I note with satisfaction that each year, FOBANA organizes a convention in North America to promote Bangladesh through organizing colorful events, seminars, and workshops. This organization has also been encouraging the youth in social, cultural, educational, scientific, and charitable activities.

I believe FOBANA will continue to brand Bangladesh as a land of peace, prosperity, harmony, social justice, and opportunity in North America in the days to come.

**Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu**  
**May Bangladesh live forever.**

**Sheikh Hasina**





পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রী  
FOREIGN MINISTER

بِسْمِ اللَّهِ الرَّحْمَنِ الرَّحِيمِ



GOVERNMENT OF THE  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH  
DHAKA



### Message

I am delighted to know that the 37<sup>th</sup> Convention of the Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America (FOBANA), organized by Bangladesh Association of North Texas (BANT), would take place in Dallas, Texas on 01-03 September 2023. On this occasion, I would like to extend my warm felicitations to all Bangladeshi expatriates in North America.

FOBANA Conventions can play an important role in building closer ties among the Bangladeshis across North America. It celebrates our history, our culture and heritage. Through this, our young generation living abroad gets an opportunity to know their motherland Bangladesh, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, Bangabandhu's struggle and sacrifice for independence, our liberation war, and our developments, challenges and achievements plus our heritage, and culture.

Bangladesh achieved an exemplary socio-economic stride in the last 14 years under the visionary leadership of our Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina. Continuity of the government, peace and stability, innovation and investment in the economy and special focus on digital Bangladesh, agriculture, and women empowerment were the keys to the meteoric success. Bangladesh is set to be graduated from LDC to a middle-income developing country by 2026 and we are on our way to becoming a developed country by 2041. I am confident that with the concerted efforts from all quarters, we would be able to materialise Bangabandhu's dream of 'Sonar Bangla' – a prosperous country.

I had the privilege to attend the 5<sup>th</sup> FOBANA convention in Dallas in 1990. Holding of the 5<sup>th</sup> FOBANA convention in Dallas was decided in Boston in 1989 when I was its chairperson. On those days, FOBANA was one and only one. Let me hope that FOBANA will achieve the visions that we had in the formation of it in 1987.

I wish the 37<sup>th</sup> FOBANA Convention in Dallas, Texas a grand success.

**Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu,  
May Bangladesh live forever.**

(Dr. A K Abdul Momen, MP)



## Message From Chairperson



Welcome to the 37th FOBANA Convention at Irving Convention Center in Dallas, Texas, one of the grandest Convention venues of the history of FOBANA. This year we gather with special happiness and complacency as the pandemic is behind us, and the joyful aspiration of Dallas community is fulfilled as they couldn't the celebrate this coveted event in 2020 due to dire pandemic, where BANT was awarded to host the 34th FOBANA Convention at Dallas.

My heartfelt gratitude and congratulation to the Host, Bangladesh Association of North Texas (BANT) and the Bangladeshi community of Dallas to take the challenge of this huge undertaking to present such an extravaganza to entertain us. As always, thanks to FOBANA Executive Committee for lending its hand to make this Convention successful.

In this year's tenure, we have made quite a few improvements of FOBANA operational procedures. We have launched fully redesigned brand-new website -membership and host registrations process is enabled through online, executed a MOU with prestigious entity Dhaka University to provide FOBANA scholarship for the four years of undergraduate study to the meritorious students of the University, continuing scholarship program with the Jagannath University, raised and disbursed money for multiple humanitarian helps in Bangladesh and more. And as always, run the organization throughout the year as per book, following the democratic process in every step. FOBANA has become a prestigious brand-name throughout the globe – thus, many people/entities want to counterfeit and copy our FOBANA name without any genuine organizational basis. FOBANA has grown over the years beyond the scope envisioned at its inception. We all worked hard to make our beloved FOBANA a fine organization!

Sincere gratitude to everybody who worked tirelessly both behind and in front of the scene to make the 37th Convention 2023 at Dallas a grand success. We welcome you to watch this grand Convention for the next three days along with millions of audiences throughout the globe.

Cheerfully

**Dr. Ahsan Chowdhury (Hero)**

Chairperson

FOBANA (2022-2023)







## Message From Executive Secretary

Welcome to FOBANA 2023. This year the 37th annual FOBANA convention will be taking place in the Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas, Dallas, Texas. After a yearlong of hard work by the host & the central committee, for the next three days, September 1, 2 & 3, 2023, Bangladeshis in North America will gather here to witness the 37th annual FOBANA convention. I sincerely thank & congratulate the host, executive committee, and all the volunteers who have worked hard to organize this grand event! It was my pleasure and privilege to serve in this great organization, and I am proud to be a part of the largest NRB organization in the world.

FOBANA is the leading organization to uphold Bangladeshi socio-cultural heritage, which was established in 1987 to unite the Bangladeshi Associations in North America. Our executive leadership team, subcommittee members, donors, and sponsors have worked to promote FOBANA's mission and vision throughout the years. The FOBANA established its strong foundation and critical infrastructure that can support and promote our culture and heritage in North America and globally. FOBANA is transforming to adapt to the digital era and is determined to make it a global brand. We emphasize family values, maintain a high organizational ethical standard, and continue working to achieve higher goals.

FOBANA provides various services to our community and can expand to Business & Investment services, establishing a credit union to provide financial services, engaging our next generation for leadership development, etc. We have greater opportunities and also challenges. We need resources to secure funding to support such programs sustainably. Hence, we must develop strategies and execute those very diligently. Let's move forward together with our conscience and obligations to help our fellow Bangladeshi-American and our beloved Country.

We hope that you come forward and support FOBANA in whatever ways possible. FOBANA is a nonprofit organization, and we are all volunteers. On behalf of the FOBANA Executive team, I thank each of you for allowing us to serve you and wish all the best for the FOBANA 2023 host committee for uniting us here in Dallas for a more robust, bigger, better, and dynamic FOBANA for tomorrow.

Sincerely,

**Nahidul Khan**  
Executive Secretary  
FOBANA 2022-2023





## ফোবানা ২০২৩ সম্মেলন আহ্বায়কের বাণী

প্রিয় সুধী,

৩৭তম ফোবানা মহাসম্মেলনে আপনাদের সবাইকে স্বাগত জানাচ্ছি।

গত বছর সেপ্টেম্বর মাসে শিকাগো থেকে ফোবানার যে যাত্রা শুরু হয়েছিল, পরম করুণাময় আল্লাহর রহমতে আজ তা পরিপূর্ণ হতে চলেছে। এই যাত্রাপথে ছিল অনেক বাঁধা, অনেক অনিশ্চয়তা। কিন্তু সব বাঁধা-বিঘ্ন অতিক্রম করে আজ আমরা পৌঁছেছি এক শুভ লগ্নে, যেখান থেকে আমরা আপনাদের উপহার দিতে পারব একটি সুন্দরতম ডালাস ফোবানা মহাসম্মেলন। এই কঠিন পথযাত্রায় যাঁরা আমাদের সঙ্গী ছিলেন তাঁদের সবার প্রতি আমি কৃতজ্ঞতা প্রকাশ করছি। চতুর্থবারের মতো ফোবানা সম্মেলন আয়োজন করে আমাদের সংগঠন বাংলাদেশ এ্যাসোসিয়েশন অফ নর্থ টেক্সাস, তার সম্মানিত সকল সদস্যবৃন্দ ও বিভিন্ন উপ-কমিটিতে কঠোর পরিশ্রমী সবাইকে ধন্যবাদ জানাচ্ছি। ডালাস ফোর্টওয়ার্থের বাংলাদেশিরা এই ইতিহাসের সাক্ষী হয়ে থাকবেন।

বাংলাদেশের অতীত, বর্তমান ও ভবিষ্যত আমাদের এবারের সম্মেলনের প্রতিপাদ্য বিষয়। এবারে আমাদের বিষয়বস্তুর ব্যাপ্তি অনেক বড়, অনেক বিশাল। বাংলাদেশ এ্যাসোসিয়েশন অফ নর্থ টেক্সাস পরিচালিত ৩৭তম ফোবানা সম্মেলন উপলক্ষে বাংলাদেশের মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী ও পররাষ্ট্রমন্ত্রী শুভেচ্ছা বাণী পাঠিয়েছেন। ডালাস ফোবানা পরিচালনার দায়িত্ব পাওয়ার পর থেকেই বিভিন্ন উপ-কমিটি গঠন করে ফোবানাকে সার্থক করে তোলার জন্য সকলেই অক্লান্ত পরিশ্রম করেছেন। এবারের কনভেনশনে বাংলাদেশ থেকে এবং স্থানীয় বিশেষ অতিথিদের উপস্থিতিতে কনভেনশনের শুভ উদ্বোধন করা হবে। নর্থ আমেরিকার বিভিন্ন সংগঠন এবং বাংলাদেশ থেকে আগত বিশিষ্ট শিল্পীবৃন্দ কর্তৃক দর্শকদের মনোরঞ্জন করা ছাড়াও থাকছে বইমেলা, কাব্যজলসা, ফিল্ম ফেস্টিভ্যাল, ইয়ুথ ফোরাম, বাজার, সেমিনার, টেলেন্টশো ইত্যাদি। এবারের সম্মেলনে আমাদের উদ্দেশ্য থাকবে নতুন প্রজন্মের সবার কাছে বাংলাদেশের কৃষ্টি, কালচার এবং ঐতিহ্যকে তুলে ধরা এবং তাদের কাছে পরিচিত করে তোলা।

৩৭তম সম্মেলন উপলক্ষে আপনাদের ডালাসে অবস্থান এবং সম্মেলনে অংশগ্রহণ আনন্দময় ও সার্থক হোক। আমাদের সর্বাঙ্গিক প্রচেষ্টা সত্ত্বেও এত বড় একটি সম্মেলনের কিছু অনিচ্ছাকৃত ভুলত্রুটি থাকতে পারে এবং তার দায় স্বীকার করে আশা করছি আপনারা বিষয়টা ক্ষমাসুন্দর দৃষ্টিতে দেখবেন।

আমাদের সকলের প্রচেষ্টায় ৩৭তম মহাসম্মেলন সার্থক, সুন্দর ও সফল হওয়ার আশা রেখে সবার মঙ্গল কামনা করছি।

বিনীত,

হাসমত মবিন

কনভেনর, ৩৭তম ফোবানা সম্মেলন ২০২৩

সভাপতি, বাংলাদেশ এ্যাসোসিয়েশন অফ নর্থ টেক্সাস, ডালাস



## Message From Member Secretary

Welcome to the 37th FOBANA Convention, a remarkable symbol of Bengali culture and heritage on the global stage. I am filled with pride to serve as the Member Secretary of the Organizing Committee for this year's convention, held in the dynamic and warmhearted Dallas, Texas.

As I write this welcome message, my heart overflows with excitement and anticipation for the privilege of welcoming you all to an event that signifies more than a convention – it's a meeting of hearts and minds, united by our profound appreciation and love for the rich, diverse, and timeless Bengali culture.

For decades, it has been my honor and joy to work towards unifying our vibrant Bengali community here in Texas. This journey has been nothing short of incredible, filled with unforgettable moments of cultural growth, unity, and a shared sense of pride. It is this essence that we intend to capture and celebrate at the convention, as we exhibit the captivating beauty and profound depth of our Bengali heritage.

The convention is not just a reflection on our shared history but also a platform to inspire our path forward. It is a space where our cherished traditions meet new creative expressions, where the wisdom of our past fuels the innovations of our future, and where we celebrate our cultural heritage as a living, evolving entity.

So, join us in this celebration of unity and culture. Immerse yourself in the rhythm of Bengali folk music, savor the unique flavors of Bengali cuisine, and experience the warmth and camaraderie that is at the heart of our shared Bengali roots. Together, let us rejoice in our heritage, remember our roots, and embrace the splendid future that we are shaping for ourselves and future generations.

Together, let's make the 37th FOBANA Convention an event to remember, a celebration that inspires pride in our culture and provides motivation for our future endeavors. On behalf of the organizing committee, I extend my warmest welcome to you all to Texas, a place where the spirit of Bangladesh is alive and thriving, and where the essence of Bengali culture is deeply cherished.

Looking forward to seeing you at the convention,

**Sham Sudduha Shagor**

Member Secretary

37th FOBANA Convention Organizing Committee





## Chief Coordinator

On behalf of the Bangladesh Association of North Texas (BANT) and FOBANA 2023 Host Committee I would like to welcome every one of you to the 37th FOBANA Convention to be held on Sept 1, 2 & 3, 2023 at Irving Convention Center, Las Colinas Irving, Texas. The FOBANA convention is the largest annual gathering of Bangladeshi in North America. As the FOBANA Convention moves around different cities every year, it helps bridging the Bangladeshi Communities in North America.

FOBANA provides various services to Bangladeshi communities including a popular scholarship program, and can do more. FOBANA also need to maintain strong tie to our origin, Bangladesh. In order to do that the Executive leadership of FOBANA and the leadership of FOBANA Convention Host Committee should refrain from publishing any political statements related to situation in Bangladesh during their tenure.

BANT has been a Member of FOBANA since 1987. This is the 4 times BANT hosting the FOBANA Convention. BANT hosted 4th Convention in 1990, 16th Convention in 2002, 22nd Convention in 2008 and now 37th Convention in 2023. I am proud to be a member of BANT since its formation in 1987.

I sincerely thank all the Sponsors, Donors, BANT advisors, BANT Executives, all the committee chairpersons and all the volunteers who have worked hard to organize this grand event. I am also very humbled by the overwhelming support for our FOBANA Convention from the whole community. It was my pleasure and privilege to serve as Chief Coordinator for the 37th FOBANA Convention.

Sincerely,

**Sied Chowdhury**

Chief Coordinator FOBANA 2023

General Secretary BANT 2022, 2023



## FOBANA Executive Committee (2022-2023)



**Ahsan Chowdhury (Tx)**  
Chairperson



**Masud Rob Chowdhury (Ca)**  
Vice Chairman



**Nahidul Khan Sahel (Ga)**  
Executive Secretary



**Abir Alamgir (Ny)**  
Joint Executive Secretary



**Dr. Mohammad Ali Manik (Ga)**  
Treasurer





## FOBANA Executive Committee (2022-2023)

### Outstanding Members



**Rehan Reza (KA)**  
(785)-554-0586



**Maqbul M. Ali (IL)**  
(773) 552-1373



**Syed Ahsan (IL)**  
773-837-6884



**Rabiul Karim (PA)**  
+96 667 5888



**Jashim Uddin (GA)**  
(770) 882-1293



**M Rahman Jahir (FL)**  
(561) 876-2255



**Babul Hai (FL)**  
407-300-3885



**Nurul Amin (VA)**  
(703) 930-2490



**M. Mowla Dilu (GA)**  
(770) 912-9169

# FOBANA Executive Committee (2022-2023)

## Executive Member Organization



**BANGLADESH ASSOCIATION  
OF NORTH TEXAS (TX)**  
HASHMAT MOBIN  
(972) 935-4750



**BANGLADESH ASSOCIATION  
OF GREATER WASHING-  
TON-DC (BAGDC)**  
ROKSHANA PERVEN  
(571) 436-8297



**NBANGLADHARA, GA**  
MAHBUBUR BHUIYA  
(404) 202-6484



**BANGLADESH COMMUNITY  
OF GREATER CHICAGO  
(BCGC)**  
KHALED ROUF  
773-507-8801



**BANGLADESH ASSOCIATION,  
HOUSTON, TX**  
AZMAL A KHAN  
832 235-4181



**BANGLADESHI AMERICAN IT  
PEOPLE'S ORGANIZATION  
(BAITPO)**  
SHAMSUDDIN MAHMUD  
703-332-5003



**BANGLADESH ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICA, INC. (BAAI), MD**  
SHAFIQL ISLAM  
(301)755-8592



**BANGALI BOYS CULTURAL  
ASSOCIATION INC.**  
MOHIN UDDIN DULAL  
+96 667 5888



# FOBANA Executive Committee (2022-2023)

## Executive Member Organization



**BANGLADESH AMERICAN  
SOCIETY OF GREATER  
HOUSTON (TX)  
IMTIAZ AHMED  
(281) 827-7980**



**BANGLADESH ASSOCIATION  
FOR GREATER KANSAS CITY  
(KS)  
ASIF IQBAL  
+96 667 5888**



**FRIENDS AND FAMILY INC. (VA)  
ABU RUMI  
(703) 861-1606**



**US BANGLADESH FOUNDATION  
OF FLORIDA (FL)  
MOHAMMAD MUJIB UDDIN  
561-985-6344**



**BANGLADESH THEATER  
HOUSTON (BTH), TX  
NAHIDA NASER YASMIN  
(281) 467-8777**



**BANGLADESH CULTURAL  
SOCIETY OF GEORGIA  
MOHAMMAD AREFIN  
(404) 552-3241**



**BANGLADESH CANADA ASSO-  
CIATION OF CALGARY  
KOIS CHOWDHURY  
+96 667 5888**



**BACHONIK  
MAK AZAD  
+96 667 5888**



**BANGLADESHI AMERICAN  
WOMEN ASSOCIATIONS OF  
TEXAS (TX) (Suspended)  
NAHIDA ALI  
(972) 333-3286**



## Executive Secretary's Report

It was a great pleasure to serve FOBANA during the 2022-2023 tenure as the Executive Secretary. It has been a great year with many successes and a few minor grievances as well. This year, we have accomplished a lot in many areas. We also have lost two organizations because of their unlawful act and disciplinary actions taken by FOBANA Executive Committee. I sincerely congratulate and thank the Executive Committee for their continuous input and for making important decisions to uphold the FOBANA flag and its constitution and bylaws.

For the last few years, we have been going through a transitional period, which consisted of expanding the organization and firmly executing policies and procedures to establish the executive committee's authority. Last year there were five new organizations that applied for membership. It's an exciting time for FOBANA as we continue to grow. On the other hand, the EC suspended two member organizations and two of their officials for their anti-FOBANA activities. It is important to understand that FOBANA is the largest democratic NRB organization in the world, and the EC is determined to take this organization to the next level where it belongs and to maintain its high ethical standards.

We constantly remain adaptable, motivated, and engaged with the Bangladeshi communities across North America and Bangladesh. Notably, fifty-seven member organizations have renewed and registered for the convention this year. FOBANA took on the task of updating the website to digitize the entire application and membership process to better adapt to the 21st century. With the help of our vice chairman Mr. Masud Chowdhury, the logistics team accomplished a lot last year. 30+ organizations renewed their memberships through our website (about 50%), and our goal is to bring that number to 100% within the following year. We intend to make our website a one-stop digital service center.

FOBANA's philanthropic and socio-cultural activities are an exciting area to work on, to learn from and bond with one another, and we'll continue to bring people together in forums like this to ensure FOBANA remains at the cutting edge.

Below, I have listed some notable philanthropic projects FOBANA has undertaken. 1987

- 1) FOBANA signed a five-year MOU with Jagannath College University last year and another five-year MOU with Dhaka University this year to provide scholarships to ten students of each university for the next five years while continuing to offer scholarships in the USA since 2015
- 2) FOBANA Provided deep tube wells to prevent arsenic poisoning in different areas where arsenic poisoning is a prevalent and severe issue. (Pictures of the project are attached below)
- 3) During covid, we established the FOBANA Emergency Disaster Relief Fund (FEDRF). Since then, in North America and especially in Bangladesh, we used this fund to help the community post-natural disasters. We have also provided homeless children food, educational aid, and clothing in partnership with different NGOs.

In conclusion, I congratulate the incoming executive committee and hope that they will continue working to improve our beloved organization and continue the process of making FOBANA the finest socio-cultural and philanthropic organization in North America and abroad.

Sincerely,

**Nahidul Khan**

Executive Secretary 2022-2023







# FOBANA Standing Committees 2022-2023

## Bangladesh Liaison Committee



**Rehan Reza (KS)**  
Chairperson



**Kazi Habib (BD)**  
Convener



**Duke Khan (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Shahnaz Belly (BD)**  
Co-chair



**Professor Masud A Khan (BD)**  
Co-chair



**Afsana Ritu (BD)**  
Co-chair



**Sumitro D Dev (BD)**  
Co-chair



**Tamanna Rabbani (BD)**  
Co-chair



**Eliza Parveen (BD)**  
Co-chair



**Tasik Ahmad (BD)**  
Co-chair



**MMR Faruk (BD)**  
Co-chair



**Anisul Kabir Jasir (BD)**  
Co-chair





## Legal Committee: 2022-2023



**Mohammad Alamgir (VA)**  
Chairperson



**Rubina Wadwah. Esq (VA)**  
Co-Chairperson



**John Kapoor, Esq (VA)**  
Co-Chairperson



**Zubaida Iqbal, Esq (FL)**  
Co-Chairperson



**Shah Haleem - (TX)**  
Member



**Jashim Uddin - (GA)**  
Member



**Rabiul Karim Belal (PA)**  
Member



**Pryolal Karmakar (VA)**  
Member



## Business & Investment Committee



**Mohammed Mowla Dilu (GA)**  
Chairman



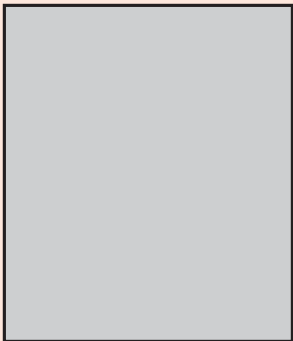
**Mahbub Bhuiyan (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Duke Khan (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Enamul Haque Enam (NY)**  
Co-chair



**Rana Wadud (TX)**  
Co-chair



**Mohin Uddin Dulal (GA)**  
Co-chair







## Constitution and Procedure Review Committee



**MD. Mahabub Reza  
Rahim (AZ)**  
Chairperson



**Rabiul Karim Belal (PA)**  
Co-chair



**DR. Zainul Abedin (CA)**  
Co-chair



**Jashim Uddin (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Rehan Reza (KS)**  
Co-chair



**Mohammad Alamgir (VA)**  
Co-chair



**Duke Khan (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Shah Haleem (TX)**  
Co-chair



**Syed Ahsan Koko (IL)**  
Co-chair



**Mahbubur Bhuiyan (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Abir Alamgir (NY)**  
Co-chair



**Pryalal Karmakar (VA)**  
Co-chair





## Media & Public Awareness Committee



**Nahidul Khan Sahel (GA)**  
Chairperson



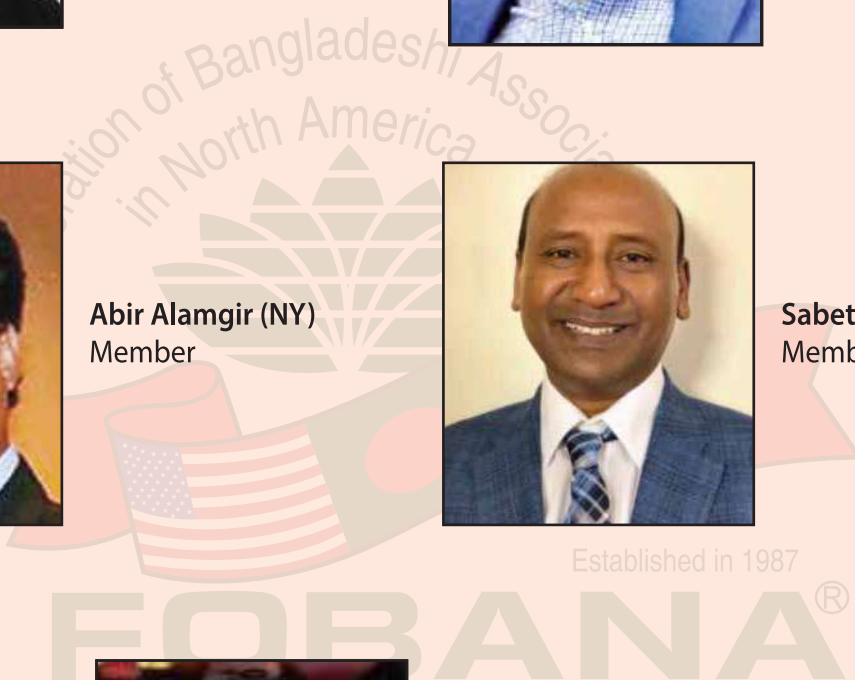
**Anthony Gomes, Pius (VA)**  
Member



**Abir Alamgir (NY)**  
Member



**Sabet Sathi (Bangla Press) NY**  
Member



**Mahfuzur Rahman (Bornomala News) NY**  
Member





## Seminar Committee: 2022-2023



**Nahida Naser Yasmin (TX)**  
Chairperson



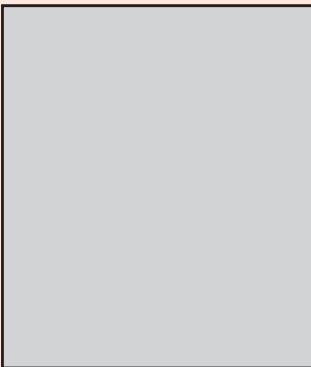
**Babul Hai (FL)**  
Member



**Syed Ahsan Koko**  
Member



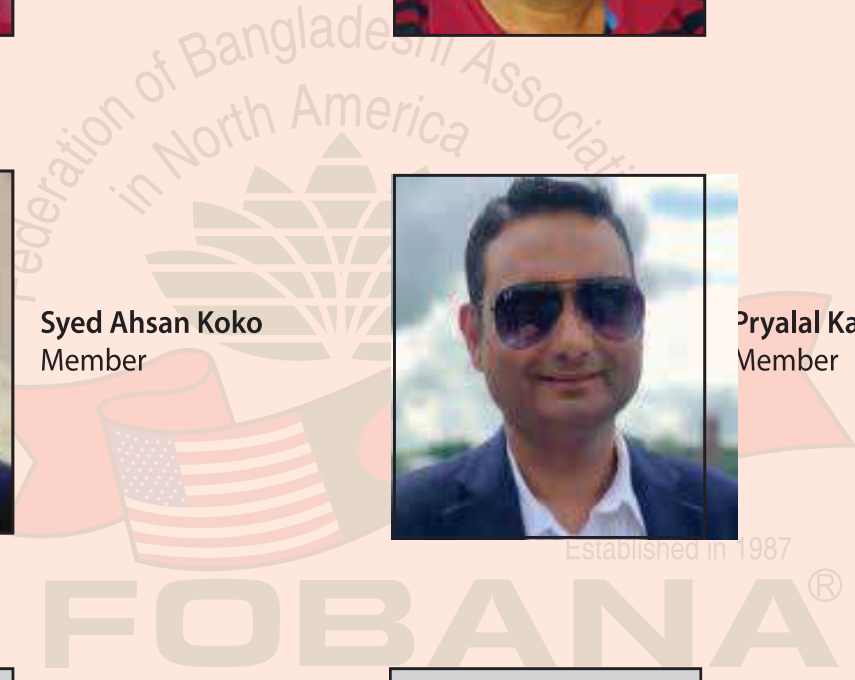
**Pryalal Karmakar (VA)**  
Member



**Humayan Kabir Hira**  
Member



**Ismot Jahan Suporna (TX)**  
Member

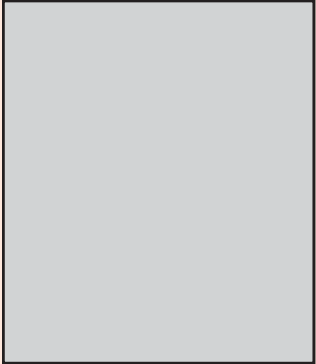




# Women Empowerment Committee 2022-2023



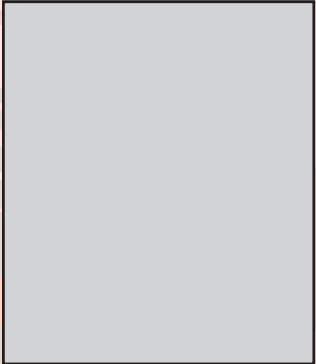
**Nahida Ali Daisy (TX)**  
Chairperson  
(Suspended)



**Tanjina (GA)**  
Member



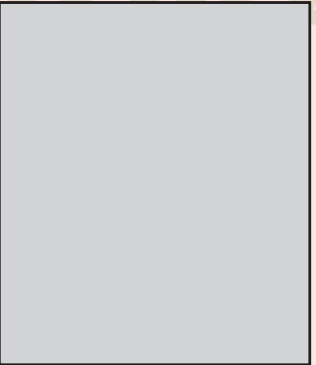
**Dr. Rafia Rasu (TX)**  
Member



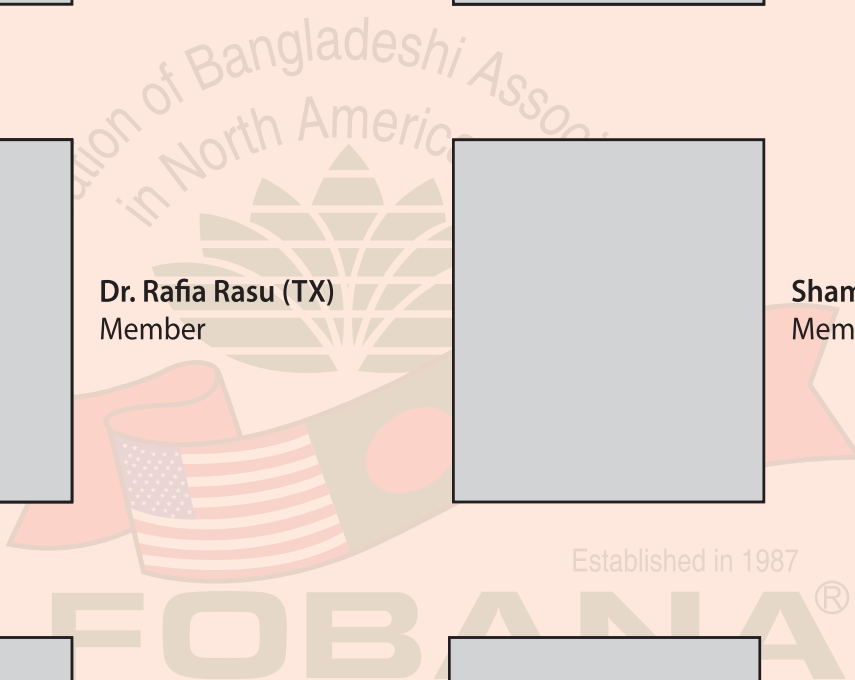
**Shampa Banik (DC)**  
Member



**Tahmina Chowdhury (TX)**  
Member



**Saadia Ahmed (TX)**  
Member







## Cultural Committee: 2022-2023



**Pryalal Karmakar (VA)**  
Chairperson



**Abu Rumi (VA)**  
Member



**Khaled Zulfiqar Khan (TX)**  
Member



**Nahida Naser Yasmin (TX)**  
Member



**Babul Hai (FL)**  
Member



**Imtiaz Ahmed, Pavel (TX)**  
Member



**Khaled Rouf (IL)**  
Member



**Dr. Mashiur Rahman**  
Member



**Damian Dias (MD)**  
Member



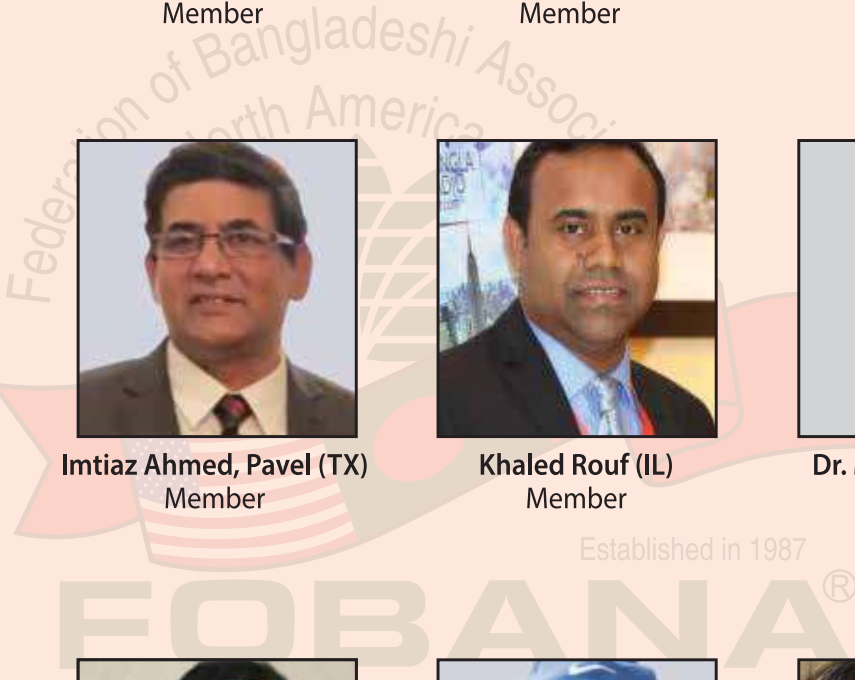
**Avishak Syam (GA)**  
Member



**Farhad Hossain (TX)**  
Member



**AZ Iqbal Khan Asif (KS)**  
Member



## Mainstream Liaison Committee 2022-2023



**Saleh Ahmed (VA)**  
Chairperson



**Jashim Uddin (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Rehan Reza (KS)**  
Co-chair



**M Mowla Dilu (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Dr. Rabbi Alan (MI)**  
Co-chair



**Anthony Pius Gomez (VA)**  
Co-chair



**Radwan Chowdhury (MD)**  
Co-chair



**Biplab Datta (VA)**  
Co-chair





## Membership Review Committee 2022-2023



**Nahidul Khan Sahel (GA)**  
Chairperson



**Abir Alamgir (NY)**  
Member



**Dr. Muhammad Ali Manik (GA)**  
Member



**Mahabub Rahim Reza (AZ)**  
Member



**Jashim Uddin (GA)**  
Member



**Duke Khan (GA)**  
Member



**Hashmat Mobin (TX)**  
Member



**Syed Ahsan Koko (IL)**  
Member





# Youth Forum Committee: 2022-2023



**Mahbubur Bhuiyan (GA)**  
Chairperson



**Rehan Reza (KS)**  
Member



**Mohin Uddin Dulal (GA)**  
Member



**Duke Khan (GA)**  
Member



**Nahidul Khan (GA)**  
Member



**Masud Khan (BD)**  
Member



**Dr. Shahidul Khan**  
Member



**Attorney Raju Mhajan (GA)**  
Member



**AZ Iqbal Khan Asif (KS)**  
Member



**Mohammad Mowla Dilu (GA)**  
Member



**Dr. Muhammed Ali Manik (GA)**  
Member







## Goodwill & Promotion Committee: 2022-2023



**Abir Alamgir (NY)**  
Chairperson



**Farhad Hossain (TX)**  
Member



**Tanveer Azhar**  
Member



**Fazle Rabbi Rajib**  
Member

## Awards and Guest Selection Committee 2022-2023



**Jashim Uddin (GA)**  
Chairperson



**Shah Haleem (TX)**  
Member



## Convention Liaison Committee: 2022-2023



**Duke Khan (GA)**  
Chairperson



**Rehan Reza (KS)**  
Member



**Mahabub Reza Rahim (AZ)**  
Member



**Hashmat Mobin (TX)**  
Member

## Alumni Committee 2022-2023



**Maqbul Ali (IL)**  
Chairperson



**Khaled Zulfiqar Khan (TX)**  
Co-chair



**Nurul Amin (VA)**  
Co-chair





# FOBANA Scholarship Committee: 2022-2023



**M Rahman Jahir (FL)**  
Chairperson



**Rehan Reza (KS)**  
Co-chair



**Dilu Mowla (GA)**  
Co-chair



**Golam Faruque Bhuiyan (NJ)**  
Co-chair



**Tamanna Ahammed (FL)**  
Co-chair



**Nur Uddin Sheikh**  
Co-chair  
in 1987



**Babul Hai (FL)**  
Member



## Executive Logistics Committee 2022-2023



**Nahidul Khan Sahel (GA)**  
Chairperson



**Farhad Hossain (TX)**  
Member



**AZ Iqbal Khan (KS)**  
Member



**Syed Ahsan Koko (IL)**  
Member



**Shamsuddin Mahmud (VA)**  
Member

## Convention Review Committee: 2022-2023



**Babul Hai**  
Chairman



**Pryalal Karmakar**  
Co-Chairman



**Khaled Rouf**  
Co-Chairman





## Budget, Finance & Fundraising Committee 2022-2023



**Dr. Mohammad Ali (GA)**  
Chairperson



**Rehan Reza (KS)**  
Member



**Nahidul Khan Sahel (GA)**  
Member



**M. Rahman Zahir (FL)**  
Member



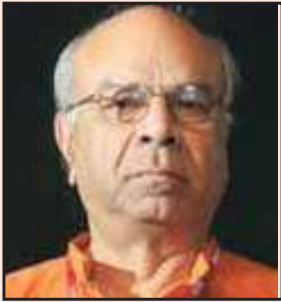
**Duke Khan (GA)**  
Member



in 1987  
**Mohiuddin Dulal (GA)**  
Member



## FOBANA Advisory Committee 2022-2023



Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury (MD)



Nurul Amin Chowdhury (TX)



Mahabub Reza Rahim (AZ)



Shahjahan Mahmood (VA)



Mohammad Alamgir (VA)



Duke Khan (GA)



Shah Haleem (TX)



Nahid Chowdhury Mamun (NJ)



Azadul Haq (TX)



Nargis Ahmed (NY)



Mir Chowdhury (NJ)





## FOBANA Past Chairpersons



**Dr. Nuran Nabi**  
New Jersey (2001-2004)



**Hashmat Mobin**  
Texas (2008-2009)



**Nurul Amin Chowdhury**  
Texas (2004-2005)



**Rabiul Karim Belal**  
Kansas (2009-2010)



**Atiquer Rahman**  
Florida (2005-2006)



**Jashim Uddin**  
Georgia (2010-2011)



**Mahabub Reza Rahim**  
Arizona (2006-2007)



**Bedarul Islam Babla**  
New York (2011-2012)



**Mir Chowdhury**  
New Jersey (2007-2008)



**Dr Zainul Abedin**  
California (2012)



**Rehan Reza**  
Kansas, (2012-2013)



## FOBANA Past Chairpersons



**Mohamed Alamgir**  
Washington, DC  
(2012-2013)



**Azadul Haq**  
Texas (2016-2017)



**Mahmud Musharraf Hussain**  
Washington, DC  
(2013-2014)



**Atiquer Rahman**  
Florida (2017-2018)



**Duke Khan**  
Georgia (2014-2015)



**Mir Chowdhury**  
New Jersey (2018-2019)



**Nahid Chowdhury Mamun**  
New Jersey (2015-2016)



**Shah Haleem**  
Texas (2019-2020)



**Zakaria Chowdhury**  
New York (2020-2021)



**Rehan Reza**  
Kansas (2021-2022)



# FOBANA ELECTION COMMISSION 2023

Election Commission of Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America (FOBANA) has declared detail election schedule of FOBANA Election 2023.



**MD Mahabub Reza Rahim**  
Chief Election Commissioner



**Duke Khan**  
Election Commissioner



**Avishek Chakraborty**  
IT Consultant

## Important FOBANA Election Dates 2023

Membership Last Date – July 9, 2023

Nomination Call – July 12, 2023

Nomination Paper Submission Last Date – July 25, 2023

Finalized Voter List from Executive Committee to Election Commission – July 25, 2023

Preliminary Candidate List Release – July 27, 2023

Withdraw or changes with a penalty- July 29, 2023

Final Candidate/Voter List Release – August 10, 2023

Election Date – September 3, 2023 (Same day of AGM).

### Nomination Fee:

All Executive positions & Outstanding Member: \$200

Executive Member Organization: \$ 100

Please pay your nomination fee at Online Payment at FOBANA website.

**Contact :** [cec.fobana@gmail.com](mailto:cec.fobana@gmail.com)

Please use the below link to submit your nomination form

### FOBANA Nomination Form 2023



## FOBANA Voter List 2023

S/no	EC and Organization Voter	Contact Person
1	Chairman	Dr. Ahsan Chowdhury, Hero
2	Vice Chairman	Masud Chowdhury
3	Executive Secretary	Nahidul Khan
4	Joint Executive Secretary	Abir Amamgir
5	Treasurer	Dr. Muhammad Ali Manik
6	Outstanding Member	Rehan Reza
7	Outstanding Member	Maqbul Ali
8	Outstanding Member	Syed Ahsan Koko
9	Outstanding Member	Rabiul Karim
10	Outstanding Member	Jashim Uddin
11	Outstanding Member	M Rahman Jahir
12	Outstanding Member	Babul Hai
13	Outstanding Member	Nurul Amin
14	Outstanding Member	M Mowla Dilu
15	Bangladesh Association of Nort Texax (BANT)	Hashmat Mobin
16	Bangladesh-American IT Professionals Organization	Shamsuddin Mahmud
17	Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington DC (BAGWDC)	Rokshana Perven
18	Friends and Families Inc:	Abu Rumi
19	Atlanta Cultural Society	Mohammed Mowla
20	Texas Bengali Cultural Alliance (TBCA)	Dr. Ahsan Chowdhury, Hero
21	Bangladesh American Foundation of Central Florida	Babul Hai
22	Bangladesh-American Society of Greater Houston (BASGH)	Pavel Ahmed
23	Bangladesh Association of Houston	Azmal A Khan
24	Prio Bangla Inc	Pryalal Karmakar
25	US Bangladesh Foundation of Florida	Mohammed Mujib Uddin
26	Bangladesh Association of Phoenix (BAP)	Hamid Kazi
27	Bangladesh Association of California (BAC)	Dr. Zainul Abedin
28	Maryland Friends and Family Inc.	Mohammed Kazal
29	Bangladesh Cultural Society of Georgia	Mohammed Arefin
30	Sundarban Inc	Nurul Amin
31	Bangladesh Foundation of Georgia	Dr. Muhammad Ali Manik
32	Bangladesh American Association of GA (BAAG)	Jashim Uddin
33	Bangladhara	Mahbubur Bhuiyan
34	Bangladesh Association of Florida (BAF)	M. Rahman Jahir
35	Bangladesh Association of Missouri	AZ Asif Iqbal





Sno	EC and Organization Voter	Contact Person
35	Bangladesh Association of Missouri	AZ Asif Iqbal
36	Bangladesh Association of Georgia	Mohammad Ali Khan Lodi
37	Taranga of California	Shiper Chowdhury
38	Karigor Production & Cultural Society	Tipu Alam
39	Bangladesh Association of Pennsylvania, Inc.:2020072	Karim Rabiul
40	Bangladesh America Association INC	Safiqul Islam
41	Bangladesh Association of Chicagoland	Salma Ahmad
42	Bengali Boy's Cultural & Sports Association	Mohin Uddin Dulal
43	Drama Circle:	Shamsul Alamgir Abir
44	Ekattor Foundation, Inc.	Parveen Patwary
45	Bangladesh Community of Los Angeles	Masud Chowdhury
46	Friends and Family DMV	Akther Hossain
47	B. D. Sur-Chanda Gousthy, Inc	Esmat Haque
48	Bangladesh Association for Greater Kansas City (BAGKC)	Rehan Reza
49	Shurubitan Inc	Kamrul Islam
50	Bangla Group dallas	Farhad Hossain
51	Bangladesh Theater Houston (BTH)	Nahida Naser Yasmin
52	Bangladesh Association og Georgia Inc	Duke Khan
53	OPORAJEO BANGLA INC	Babul Banik
54	Bangladesh Community of Greater Chicago	Khaled Rouf
55	Bangladeshi American Society	M Sayedul Hoq Sentu

## ACTIVE NON VOTER ORGANIZATION'S: 2022-2023

Sl no	Contact Person	Organization Non Voter	Comment
1	Md Zamal Hossain	Bangladesh Mala	
2	<u>Pradip Ghosh</u>	Surangan Music School, Houston, Texas	Non Voter Stage performance only
3	Mohammad Chowdhury	<b>Utshob Austin</b>	Non Voter Stage Performance only
4	Moznu Mia	Shadhin Bangla Cultural Org	
5	Kazi Nahid	US Bangla Association of Georgia	
6	Mohammad Sattar	Ora Egaro Jon	
7	Dr. Ruby Hossain	Bonoful Cultural Association:2020066	
8	Hashan Chowdhury	Bangladesh American Cultural Society Inc	
9	Noorun Khan	Dhaka Club	
10	MD Belal	Bangladesh Mela	
11	Faisal Altaf Joy	Oklahoma Deshi Youth Association	
12	<u>Md zamal Hossain</u>	Bangladesh Mela	
13	Shuvro Das	Bangladesh Association of Calgary-Canada	
14	Nahida Ali	Bangladeshi American Women Association of Texas	Suspended
15	Kazi Choudhury	United Bangladesh American Community of Texas	Suspended



37th  
**FOBANA**  
 CONVENTION 2023  
 01-03 Sep. 2023

# FOBANA Host Committee-Chairs



**Shagor Sam Suddhuha**  
 Fund Raising



**Farhad Hossain**  
 Boimela/Magazine



**Adiba Mobin**  
 Youth Forum



**Faez Areef**  
 Finance



**Farhanaz Reza**  
 Emcee



**Dina Samad**  
 Kids Talent



**Tasriqul Islam**  
 Stage Management



**Adnan Khan**  
 Sound & Graphics



**Humayun Kabir**  
 Transporation



**Mriza Sajid**  
 Chair Marketing



# 37th FOBANA CONVENTION 2023

## Programs Schedules

### Day-1: Schedule (Sept. 01, 2023) Friday

- 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM** : Black Tie Dinner @ Grand Ballroom of Irving Convention Center (4th floor) \$100 per person to attend
- 7:00 PM – 7:45 PM** : Official Ribbon cutting and Inauguration of 37th FOBANA  
Chief Guest: Rick Stopfer, Mayor of Irving and Dr. Professor Hanif.
- 8:00 PM** : FOBANA History Video
- 8:15 PM – 8:40 PM** : Signature Dance Drama on Bangladesh (Theme: the rise of Bangladesh will be depicted through six season) Dance director- Ms. Lipa
- 8:45 PM – 9:00 PM** : Guest Artist: Nirjhor Chowdhury
- 9:00 PM – 10:30 PM** : Host Committee BANT's cultural presentation
- 10:30 PM–12:00 PM** : Guest Artist: Rizia Parveen and Arjeen.
- 11:30 PM–12:01 AM** : Guest Artist: Shafin Ahmed

### Day-2: Schedule (Sept. 02, 2023) Saturday

- 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM** : All seminars on 3rd floor (Chaired by Dr. M. Nasir Uddin, PhD, FAHA)
- 12:00 PM (Noon)** : Business Luncheon (For Business professionals and invited guests only)
- 1:00 PM – 3:00 PM** : Talent Show on 3rd floor Chaired by Dina Samad
- 1:00 PM – Midnight** : Boimela on 3rd floor full coordination by Farhad Hossain
- 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM** : Kabbo Jalsha on 3rd floor, Chaired by Taskeer Ali Khan
- 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM** : BANT's performance
- 4:30 PM–6:00 PM** : Out of state FOBANA organizations' cultural performances.
- 6:00 PM–6:30 PM** : Guest Artist MoMo
- 6:30 PM–8:30 PM** : Out of state FOBANA organizations' cultural performances
- 8:30 PM–8:40 PM** : Dallas prominent artist
- 8:40 PM–9:00 PM** : Romel Khan feedback
- 9:00 PM–9:30 PM** : FOBANA Executive Committee on stage

- 9:30 PM–9:40 PM** : Fashion Show/Dance
- 9:45 PM–10:45 PM** : Guest Artist: Mitali Mukherjee
- 10:50 PM–10:30 PM** : Guest Artist: Konak Chapa
- 11:30 PM–12:45 PM** : Guest Artist: Muza and Chayachando performance (Adiba Mobin)

\* Other activities like Film Festival, BAZAR on 4th floor (organized by Sharmin Hossain), Business investment seminars, BUET Alumni reunion & Media booth will operate for all 3 days.

### Day-3: Schedule (Sept. 03, 2023) Sunday

- 9:00 AM** : Seminar Committee- Only invited guests. Chaired by Dr. M. Nasir Uddin, PhD, FAHA
- 10:00 AM– 3:00 PM** : Seminars on women empowerment on 3rd Floor, Chaired by Ismat Jahan Suporna
- 11:00 AM** : FOBANA AGM (for electoral and voting members and organizations only).
- 2:00 PM – 4:00 PM** : Kabbo Jalsha (2nd Day)
- 4:00 PM – 4:30 PM** : Drama Theater on main stage
- 4:30 PM–5:00 PM** : Performances by BANT's Local / Out of state organizations
- 5:00 PM–5:45 PM** : Guest Artist: Shahnaz Belly's performance
- 5:45 PM–7:45 PM** : Out of state organizations' performances
- 7:45 PM–8:30 PM** : Prominent artists of Dallas
- 8:30 PM–9:00 PM** : Shwapnil Shojib's performance
- 9:00 PM–9:30 PM** : FOBANA Executive Committee on stage (Transfer of FOBANA flag to next Host Committee)
- 9:30 PM–9:45 PM** : Dallas Prominent Band
- 9:45 PM–10:00 PM** : Fashion Show choreographed by International Fashion Designer.
- 10:00 PM–10:20 PM** : Shauqat Ali Imon's performance
- 10:30 PM–1:00 PM** : Imran & Kona and their band. Guest appearance Shafeen

\*\* BANT will not take responsibility for any performers slot skipped / missed if they are absent during performers check-in.

\* Other activities like Film festival, BAZAR on 4th floor, business investment seminars, BUET Alumni reunion & Media booth will operate for all 3 days.



## STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

### Business Network Report



**Business Networking Event Report: 37th Annual FOBANA Convention.** The Business Networking event during the 37th Annual FOBANA Convention in Dallas, Texas, on Saturday, September 2, 2023, was a resounding success, bringing together business owners, entrepreneurs, and delegates from around the world.

**Preparation and Planning:** The groundwork for this event began in the early months of 2023, with meticulous planning that involved a series of three meetings. The team worked diligently to ensure every detail was considered, from venue selection to scheduling.

**Promotion and Outreach:** To ensure the success of the event, the team utilized the power of social media. Through well-crafted posts, the team announced the participation of key individuals, building anticipation and excitement within the business community.

**Global Participation:** Through rigorous efforts, the team managed to extend invitations to over 80 delegates from various corners of the globe. This diverse group of attendees brought a wealth of perspectives and experiences, enriching the networking opportunities.

**Enhancements for Engagement:** In a bid to enhance attendee engagement, the team introduced significant improvements. Notably, Silver package members were offered an exclusive opportunity to take part in the networking luncheon for a nominal fee of \$100. This addition not only increased participation but also contributed to the overall success of the event.

In conclusion, the Business Networking event held during the 37th Annual FOBANA Convention proved to be a testament to the power of meticulous planning and dedicated execution. By leveraging social media, extending global invitations, introducing engaging enhancements, and organizing fund collection efforts, the event achieved its objectives of facilitating meaningful connections and honoring the entrepreneurial spirit. The teamwork and dedication invested in this event undoubtedly left a lasting impact on the attendees and the broader business community.

Mohammed Mowla Dilu  
Chairperson  
Business Network Committee





## Membership Review Committee



For 2022-2023, tenure the membership review committee consisted of the following ten members:

1. Nahidul Khan. Chairperson
2. Dr. Ahsan Chowdhury. Member
3. Masud Chowdhury. Member
4. Abir Alamgir. Member
5. Dr, Muhammed Ali Manik. Member
6. Mahabub Rahim Reza. Member
7. Jashim Uddin. member
8. Duke Khan. Member
9. Hashmat Mobin. Member
10. Syed Ahsan Koko. Member

This year the membership review committee has had two meetings, the first on February 17, 2023, and the second on July 1st, 2023. We sent recommendations to EC to make some changes to the operating procedures under the membership section, and those are as follows:

**Article IV: Membership: Section 16:** Yearly membership dues must be paid by the due date set by EC. For example, membership dues for 2022 must be paid by May 31, 2022. If not paid by May 31, the membership shall be suspended beginning June 1; however, the membership can be renewed by June 12, but a late fee charge shall be applied. Suppose the membership is renewed after June 12, 2022. In that case, the organization's membership shall automatically be canceled, and the organization shall have to apply as a new Member if it would like to be reinstated in FOBANA. The executive committee can change this provision for any natural disaster or exceptional circumstances.

**Recommendation by the Membership Committee:** "If the membership is not renewed with the late fee by the due date set by the Executive Committee, in that case, the organization will lose its active status. However, an organization can be reinstated as an active status with all due fees and payments. However, the organization cannot be a voter for that year."

We sent these recommendations to EC for review and approval on April 24th, 2023 (during the 4th EC meeting).

The EC reviewed and discussed the recommendation and approved it unanimously.

I believe membership compliance should be assigned to the joint secretary permanently so that this can be put into the operating procedure. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at 770-722-5369 or khannahidul@gmail.com.

### Nahidul Khan (Sahel)

executive secretary 2022-2023

Chairperson

Membership Review Committee



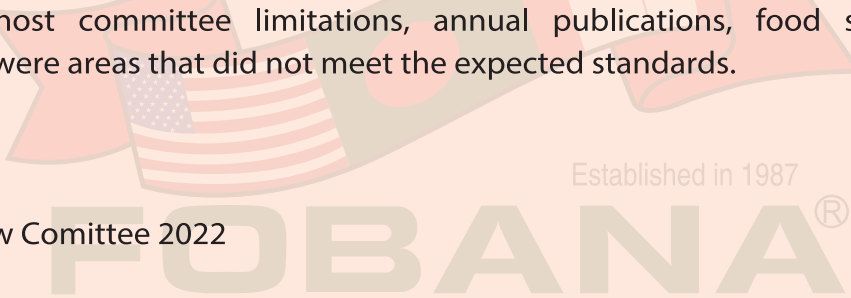
## Chicago Fobana Convention Annual Report 2022

The 2022 Chicago FOBANA Convention sought to unite members of the Bangladeshi community residing in North America for an unforgettable cultural and networking experience. This report aims to provide a comprehensive evaluation of the convention, highlighting both its strengths and weaknesses. By conducting a critical analysis of various aspects such as organization, logistics, program quality, and audience satisfaction, we can identify areas that both had redeeming qualities as well as in need of improvement and offer recommendations for future conventions. Evaluating these factors will contribute to enhancing the overall quality, effectiveness, and enjoyment of future FOBANA Conventions, fostering a stronger sense of community and cultural celebration among participants. There were instances in which the convention demonstrated admirable qualitative procedures. From seminar, business lunch, and the overall influx of funds. However, the convention also encountered numerous challenges and deficiencies that impacted the overall satisfaction of attendees. From the opening ceremony and performances to seating arrangements, communication, host committee limitations, annual publications, food services, and promotion, these were areas that did not meet the expected standards.

Babul Hai  
Chairman  
Convention Review Committee 2022

Pryalal Karmakar  
Co-Chairman  
Convention Review Committee 2022

Khaled Rouf  
Co-Chairman  
Convention Review Committee 2022







## Convention Liaison Committee



This year, this committee worked hard as a bridge between FOBANA EC and Host Committee. Earlier this year, I visited Bangladesh with EC and HC to promote the 37th FOBANA Convention. Together we worked hard in promoting by doing press conference, attending tv interviews/talk shows, meet and greets with FOBANA sponsor, etc. Aside from promoting, we also worked in meeting new sponsors for FOBANA as well as helped in selecting the guest/artist for the Dallas FOBANA. While in Bangladesh, we also accomplished to meet with Dhaka University Alumni and FOBANA EC to confirm the scholarship program with Dhaka University students.

By visiting Bangladesh, FOBANA has gained the support of the media, journalists, and many other important personalities and business icons which helps us in our efforts to implement FOBANA's mission and objectives. We were able to promote FOBANA in a positive manner by participating in talk shows, interviews, and round table discussion.

Throughout the whole year, this committee worked hard with HC Co-Chairs to help create and guide a successful convention. We worked very closely with various other committees such as BD Liaison, Cultural, Business Investment, Youth, and Scholarship. Because of everyone's teamwork and effort, we were able to build a solid foundation for FOBANA. Thank you to all the committee members for all their time, effort, and hard work during the year.

Convention Liaison Committee welcomes all of you to the 37th FOBANA Convention in Dallas and wish for a very memorable successful Convention.

Sincerely,

Duke Khan  
Chairman  
Convention Liaison Committee



## Seminar Committee Report



It's a great honor to work as seminar committee chairman. Our committee members are so passionate and supportive to make this committee successful.

Our first committee meeting with the FOBANA chairman and Vice Chairman was excellent and successful with their good and positive ideas. Most of the time seminar committee core members communicate with each other's and try to do things properly and make it easier and more effective.

We are still doing our best to help Dallas FOBANA be successful. We are bringing all Keynotes speakers from around the world and local universities Teachers Researchers and students.

I am so grateful to my committee members who give their valuable time and resources and talents to make this seminar committee over the Boundaries.

This year we are fortunate to hold quite a few important seminars by a few renowned subject matter experts:

- How can we modernize Bangladeshi Universities to align with the 21st Century?
- Role of NRB professionals for the sustainable development of health, agriculture, and technology in Bangladesh.
- Contemporary Literature in Bangladesh.
- Public Health.
- Women Empowerment.
- Mother Language Lover of the World Society (MLLWS)
- The Language of Literature.
- IT, Cloud, Database, Telecom & Cyber Security.

including Bangladesh University of Electrical and Engineering (BUET),

**Nahida Naser Yasmin**  
Chairperson  
SEMINAR COMMITTEE





## Cultural Committee Report

The cultural team has continued its work from last year, with a focus on the following activities:

- Creation of an online data entry form for the North American Artists' Profile (NABAP) database. The project was announced and promoted through social media and email distribution lists to collect data from the North American artist community. Artists' Professional profile will be published on the FOBANA website and social media platforms for public viewing as we collect. The form link is as follows: <https://nabap.us/>
- The cultural committee met several times to discuss the proposed items from last year and their implementation.
- The committee discussed and provided guidance to the host committee for their convention for artists, including technical setup, promotion, and other logistics.
- The team updated all template forms for award criteria, scoring for judges, and tabulating sheets for final selection by the jury board. They also created a better process for completing these tasks from start to finish.
- After collecting a list of active members from the executive committee, the team sent out a notice to all active paid member organizations requesting that they submit their interest in booking cultural slots, which they are entitled to.
- The team collected and forwarded a complete list of interested organizations and their contact information to the host committee.
- The team engaged with and coordinated with the host committee to improve, organize, and streamline the cultural program for the upcoming convention. The central cultural team was available to provide any assistance needed.
- The team created a short- and long-term implementation plan for how the proposed items can be implemented in the future. This will help the FOBANA to fit into the modern social arena and promote its cultural activities more effectively. The plan also includes recommendations for future cultural committees.

### The Committee Members

- Chairperson-Pryalal Karmakar (VA)
- Members -Abu Rumi (VA), Khaled Zulfiqar Khan (TX), Nahida Naser (TX), Babul Hai (FL), Imtiaz Ahmed (TX), Khaled Rauf (IL), Dr. Mashiur Rahman Faruque (Dhaka, Bangladesh), Damian Dias (MD), Avishak Syam (GA), Farhad Hossain (TX), AZ Iqbal Khan Asif (KS), Duke Khan (GA), Mahbub Rahim Reza (AZ), Sheikh Rashid Leemon (TX)
- FOBANA Officio:Ahsan Chowdhury Hero, Chairman,Masud Chowdhury, Vice Chairman, and Nahidul Khan, Executive Secretary

#### **Pryalal Karmakar**

Chairperson  
FOBANA Cultural committee



## Social Media & Goodwill Committee Report:

Social Media and Goodwill Committee of FOBANA is an important committee of FOBANA. After our team took charge of this committee, we have done several works.

We conducted an online seminar on how to enrich the goodwill of FOBANA, where various leaders of FOBANA participated and gave their views.

Our team has been active on social media throughout the year, creating various video content to spread the goodwill of FOBANA's activities globally.

Our team has done a lot of work promoting the FOBANA Convention, interviewing the host committee and central committee leaders, creating promotional video content, and spreading it globally through social media.

To speed up the activities of the convention and to highlight the progress of all the work of the convention in front of everyone, our team conducted several online live events on social media, Senior leaders of the FOBANA Central Committee and leaders of the host committee participated in those live events and they presented the detailed progress of their work.

FOBANA is the largest federation of Bangladeshis in North America and worldwide. FOBANA has achieved a lot in the last 37 years. FOBANA's Social Media and Goodwill Committee can play an important role in spreading the reputation of these achievements to the world. Our team has tried their best to promote FOBANA's Goodwill to the world this year. We believe that those who will take over the responsibility of this committee in the future will also continue the work in the same way. We always hope that FOBANA's goodwill will spread more globally in the future.

**Abir Alamgir**

Chairperson

Social Media & Goodwill Committee





## Youth Forum Committee Report

Youth forum committee has taken few extra ordinary step and activities to attract our youth of North America. This was an exceptional for the Youth forum committee. We have tried to complete the following the following things per our plan to uplift the FOBANA value & image to the local & global audience.

Designed seminars at main FOBANA Conference to keep the FOBANA Youth Form active which allows fulfilling the following goal:

- Connect with Bangladeshi Americans in your community and around North America
- Take action to help your Bangladeshi community and make a difference
- Discover a variety of international cultures intertwined with Bangladeshi's across the world
- Develop important leadership skills so you can become a leader in FOBANA one day
- Develop a greater international understanding of the world and help hone your knowledge on worldly events
- Have a distinguished role at annual FOBANA conventions
- Can help bridge the gap between older and younger Bangladeshi generations for a greater international community.
- And most importantly: have fun and learn more about the world and your culture

Working together to assist the Fobana Conference Host Committee with any Youth activities, plan, and ideas that they plan to do at the Conference were main tasks. If necessary, help them raising fund for the Seminars.

Arranging FOBANA Youth Seminar 2023, one of the most important event, is completed. FOBANA 2023 Convention is taking place in Dallas, TX, USA. FOBANA Convention 2023, being held in Dallas, TX, is going to organize the Youth Seminar on Sunday, September 03, at 12:00 PM. There are three very special youngster guests speakers will make the seminar a very special one. They are Nabilah Islam, Bagngladeshi born State Senator of Georgia State, Anik Khan

Bangladeshi born rapper, singer & songwriter, and Shihan Chowdhury, Bangladeshi born Chili Pepper Cook.

Mahbubur Rahman Bhuiyan  
Chairperson  
Business & Investment Committee



## Bangladesh Liaison Committee Report



It has been a great honor to be a part of FOBANA, the largest Bangladeshi Organization in North America, and I feel privileged to have had the opportunity to serve in the Bangladesh Liaison Committee. The Committee has done a great job during its tenure and met virtually 5 meetings and physically 4 meetings in Bangladesh.

The committee had worked very hard to have a successful FOBANA Bangladesh liaison 2022 & 2023.

FOBANA Bangladesh liaison Committee 2022-2023 Co-Chair are as follows:

Duke Khan  
Kazi Habib (BD)  
Professor Masud A Khan (BD)  
Shahnaz Belly (BD)  
Afsana Ritu (BD)  
Sumitro D Dev (BD)  
Tamanna Rabbani (BD)  
Eliza Parveen (BD)  
Tasik Ahmad (BD)  
MMR Faruk (BD)  
Anisul Kabir Jasir (BD)

The committees, organized "Meet & Greet" on January in Ghulsun club, Dhaka and invite dignitaries, journalists, artists, and sponsors. It was huge successful and get good coverage in national media.

FOBANA is a great platform for the Bangladeshi diaspora in North America bring the communities together.

We are wishing all the best for the 36th FOBANA Convention this year in Irving Convention center in Dallas, Texas.

Sincerely,

**Rehan Reza**  
Chairperson  
Bangladesh liaison committee





## Annual Report of Logistics Committee



It was an exciting year of 2022-2023 for the FOBANA logistic team; we accomplished a lot and set a significant milestone for the organization.

For 2022-2023, tenure the membership review committee consisted of the following six members:

1. Nahidul Khan. Chairman
2. Masud Chowdhury. Co-Chairman
3. Farhad Hossain. Member
4. AZ Iqbal Khan. Member
5. Syed Ahsan Koko. Member
6. Shamsuddin Mahmud. Member

We had our committee meeting on February 17, 2023, and we set some important goals to achieve this year; with the help and oversight from our vice-chairman Mr. Masud Chowdhury, our committee accomplished most of those goals; I believe it was significant steps forward for the digital transformations of FOBANA which is in process.

I want to thank Mr. Syed Ahsan Koko for his help in digitizing our membership and renewal application. Now everyone can fill up those applications in pdf format and sign them through our website. And special thanks to Mr. Masud Chowdhury for his outstanding work in upgrading our website; for the first time this year, more than thirty organizations have renewed and submitted their membership application through the website which is more than 50% of the total, and our goal is to make that 100% next year.

In my opinion, our website needs more improvement, and we must continue digitizing it and start working on improving other areas; I think we have much more room to enhance it. We need to upgrade the FOBANA foundation to align with the 21st century. Ultimately, the dream should be to make FOBANA one of the world's finest Bangladeshi-American socio-cultural and philanthropic organizations.

**Nahidul Khan**  
Chairperson  
**Logistics Committee**



## Award Committee Report



The Award Sub-committee met and unanimously agreed on the following guidelines and criteria.

Each year, FOBANA should have 3 awards, if applicable and they are as follows:

1. Lifetime Achievement Award.
2. Best organization award.
3. Outstanding service award.

The Committee decided to give a Lifetime Achievement award to Syed Hossain of NTV for his outstanding support for FOBANA since 2005. The awards celebrate media that have had a profound impact on culture, societal conversations, and attitudes

The Committee also decided to give an Outstanding Service Award to DR. MD Sabur Khan for his exceptional contributions to the field of Education. This award acknowledges their dedication, innovation, and positive impact on students, educators, and the education system.

This Committee will finalize the Best FOBANA Organization award.

Committee members are

Jashim Uddin (Chairperson)

Ahsan Chowdhury

Masud Chowdhury

Nahidul Khan

Rehan Reza

Duke Khan

Hasmat Mobin

Shah Haleem

Established in 1987  
**FOBANA**®



## Media & Public Awareness Committee Report



The FOBANA Media & Public Awareness Committee met with the host committee on May 24, 2023, and discussed how to reach out to more people and spread the FOBANA convention-related and central Committee's activities news and build awareness about FOBANA in North America and abroad. The committee members also set up their expectations, guidelines, and goals for this year as follows:

- a. The Committee agreed to set up a WhatsApp group to communicate among the host & central Committee to feed on HC activities, news, etc., so that the media personnel can publish those in their print & digital newspapers.
- b. Our two journalist members agreed to publish the FOBANA news weekly or every ten days in their newspapers.
- c. The Central Committee requested the host committee to regularly report their activities and information to the WhatsApp group for newspaper publication.

The Media & Public Awareness Committee of 2022-2023 consisted of the following members:

1. Nahidul Khan                      Chairman
2. Anthony P. Gomes              Member
3. Abir Alamgir                      Member
4. Sabet Shathi                      Member (Bangle Press)
5. Mahfuzur Rahman              member (Bornomala news)

In conclusion, I would like to express my dissatisfaction with working as the committee chairman this year. We could not achieve our goals and objectives for the year! We need to have more focus on this critical Committee. Media & public awareness play a crucial role in promoting FOBANA. Moving forward, I believe we should parentally include at least two members from the host committee to continue providing related news and informations for our enlisted newspaper.

Sincerely,

**Nahidul Khan**

Chairperson

Media & Public Awareness Committee





## Mainstream Liaison Committee Report



FOBANA Mainstream Liaison Committee is dedicated to foster our political and civic empowerment. Here at FOBANA we are committed to deliver bi-partitioned political values to our Bangladeshi American community. We are a colored-minority and a law-abiding community. We have doctors, professors, engineers, business owners and professionals are representing our Bangladeshi-Americans values. We hope and expect to create a sustainable platform where our next generation can practice and participate in the Political and Electoral process. American is a country of melting pot and here opportunities are limitless so we must take actions to be part of Main stream politics.

This year 2023 we conducted six zoom meetings that were chaired by Saleh Ahmed and the committee members anonymously delegated Co-Chir Dr. Rabbi Alam to communicated with the U.S. Foreign Affairs Congressional Committee as well as the house appropriate committee. We established a line of communication with the U.S. Governor Associations. We are here to report our email communication with the Congressional Small Business Committee.

FOBANA Mainstream Liaison Committee welcomes you and we are open for new ideas and your advices and opinions. As part of our action-plan we are expecting your Engagement and active participation in our future meetings and training through educational zoom-sessions scheduled all year round. In the year of 2022-2023, we are very successful to reach out our goals and objectives. We held our bi-quarterly meetings and training-sessions and it was conducted via zoom platform. Our FOBANA Main Stream Committee is chaired by Saleh Ahmed, and co-chaired by Jashim Uddin of Georgia, Rehan Reza of Kansas, M Mowla Dilu of Geirgia, Dr. MD Rabbi Alam of Michigan, Anthony Pius Gomes of Virginia, Radwan Chowdhury of DC and Biplab Datta of Maryland.

We focus on active training and education of elections in Mainstream. Our goals are clear and we want our next generation to be part of the decision-making process. We are focusing on electing our 2nd generation to be elected in the city, County, State-wide offices. We hope to elect our own candidates in the judicial and legislative branches. It is substantial to acknowledge our paradigm shifting and we must be the Ambassador of our motherland Bangladesh as well as our new homeland the USA.

FOBANA Main Stream Committee members through critical analysis careful observation and informed decision we suggest the following reconsiderations:

1. Allocation, retention and application of a Seminar at the convention annually.
2. Establishing the "FOBANA CAUCUS" to foster our youth leadership.
3. Monthly streaming of "Web seminar" under the "FOBANA CAUCUS"
4. Recruit youth talents in the "FOBANA CAUCUS" and
5. Engage the "FOBANA CAUCUS" in Local, State and National platform.

God bless you; God bless FOBANA.

**Saleh Ahmed**  
Chairperson  
FOBANA Mainstream Liaison Committee



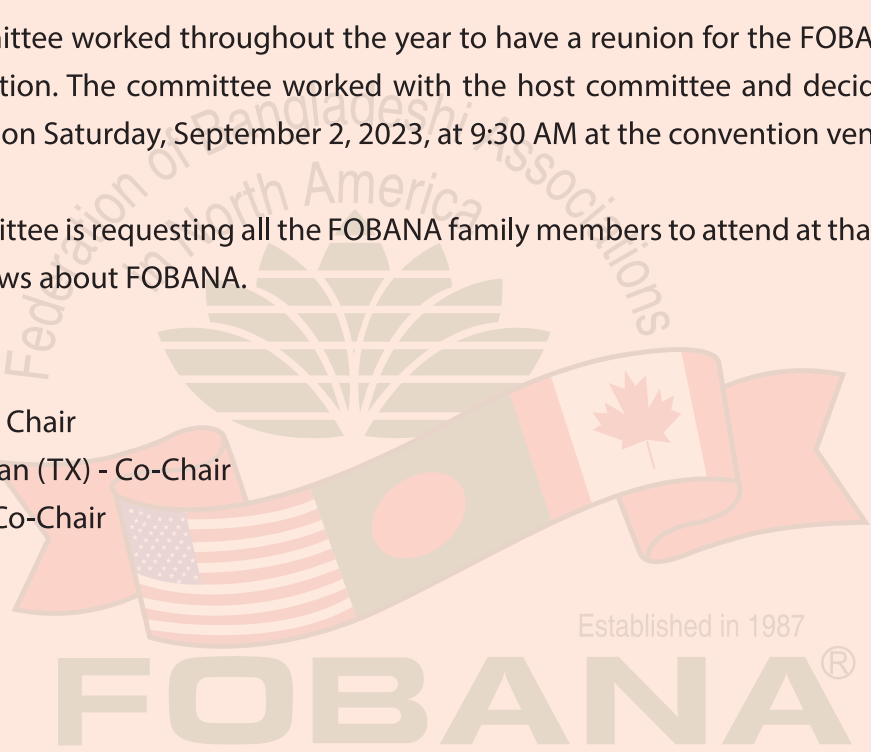
## FOBANA Alumni Committee Annual Report



The Alumni Committee worked throughout the year to have a reunion for the FOBANA alumni at the Dallas Convention. The committee worked with the host committee and decided to have a reunion gathering on Saturday, September 2, 2023, at 9:30 AM at the convention venue.

The Alumni Committee is requesting all the FOBANA family members to attend at that reunion and exchange their views about FOBANA.

- Maqbul M. Ali (IL) - Chair
- Khaled Zulfiqar Khan (TX) - Co-Chair
- Nurul Amin (VA) - Co-Chair





## Legal Committee Chair's Report 2022-2023



I am pleased to present the annual report of the Legal Committee for the year 2022-2023. The committee comprised two esteemed attorneys, attorneys Rubina Wadhwa and John Kapoor, as well as several ex-chairmen, all of whom brought their extensive experience and knowledge to the table. The collaborative efforts of the team members led to a productive year of valuable contributions and discussions.

### **Committee Activity:**

Throughout the year, the committee members demonstrated remarkable dedication and participation. The scheduled meetings were well-attended, and each member actively engaged in the discussions. The committee held three formal meetings, where crucial matters were deliberated upon, and multiple informal meetings were organized exclusively for attorneys, facilitating open dialogue and collaborative problem-solving.

### **Legal Opinions and Show Cause Notices:**

A significant portion of the committee's work revolved around the review and issuance of legal opinions regarding Fobana members who were served show-cause notices and subsequently expelled. Under the leadership of the Legal Committee Chairman, the committee undertook thorough examinations of the cases at hand, drawing upon legal expertise to make informed decisions.

In addition to our core responsibilities, the Fobana Legal Committee took robust action against unauthorized and detrimental use of the trademarked Fobana name. The committee initiated the drafting and sending of cease and desist letters to both individuals and organizations that were unlawfully exploiting the Fobana name for financial gains, thereby tarnishing our reputation. These actions were taken to safeguard the integrity of the Fobana brand and protect it from misuse.

### **Conclusion:**

The Legal Committee's endeavors during the 2022-2023 term were marked by proactive engagement, thoughtful analysis, and a commitment to upholding the highest legal standards within FOBANA. The efforts of the committee members and their dedication to fair and just proceedings underscore the importance of the Legal Committee in maintaining the integrity of the organization. We look forward to another year of fruitful collaboration.

Sincerely,

**Mohammad Alamgir**  
Chairperson  
FOBANA Legal Committee





## Scholarship Committee Report 2023



I am pleased to present the FOBANA Scholarship Committee's Annual Report for the year 2023. This report outlines our committee's activities, accomplishments, and financial status during this year. The FOBANA scholarship committee is dedicated to providing educational opportunities to deserving students of Bengali origin residing in the US and abroad. Our mission is to promote academic excellence, cultural awareness, and community engagement among young Bangladeshi Americans.

Throughout the year the Scholarship Committee met a few times to finalize application soliciting dates, cut-out dates, and amount to disburse. In April of 2023 scholarship committee members visited Dhaka and signed an MOU with Dhaka University, we agreed to support a few qualified students based on criteria set by Dhaka University officials. This was the second major milestone after signing a similar MOU last year with Jagannath College and University in Dhaka.

In 2023 FOBANA scholarship committee successfully raised \$17500 through various donors and sponsors. This year we awarded four students from Dallas, TX, and handed over funds to be awarded to Dhaka University and Jagannath College University students.

This year we updated our scholarship application process, Starting immediately, applicants will no longer need to mail or email us instead, we have streamlined the process to make it more convenient and accessible. Applicant can now apply online, read the eligibility criteria, and submit their applications electronically.

**Mohammad Jahir**

FOBANA Scholarship Committee 2022-2023



# FOBANA HISTORY (1987-2023)

## 37 YEARS OF PROUD HERITAGE

### 1. WASHINGTON D.C.

Host: Bangladesh Association of America,  
Washington D.C.  
Date: October 31, November 1, 1987  
Venue: World Bank H Building Auditorium  
Chairperson: Iqbal Bahar Chowdhury/Rashida Alam  
Secretary: Wahed Hossaini

### 2. NEW YORK

Host: Bangladesh Society of New York & Bangladesh  
Society of New Jersey  
Date August 27 & 28, 1988  
Venue : Thomas Edison Vocational High School  
Auditorium  
Convener : Dr. M Yusuf  
Member Secretary : Syed Tipu Sultan

### 3. BOSTON

Host : Bangladesh Association of New England  
Date September 1-2, 1989  
Venue : Kresge Auditorium, MIT  
Convener : Prof. A.K. Abdul Momen  
General Secretary: Prof. Nasir Ahmed

### 4. DALLAS

Host : Bangladesh Association of North Texas &  
Bangladesh Association of Houston  
Date : September 1-2. 1990  
Venue : Dallas Convention Center  
Convener : Abul Kalam  
Member Secretary Abdullah Hasan

### 5. NEW YORK

Host : Bangladesh Society of New York  
Date : November 30, December 31. 1991  
Venue : P.S. 131 Jamaica, New York  
Convener : Awlad Hossain  
Member Secretary : Dr. Moinul Islam Miah

### 6. CHICAGO

Host : Bangladesh Association of Chicagoland  
Date : September 5-6, 1992  
Venue Northeastern Illinois University  
President : Dr. Mohammad Sirajullah  
Executive Secretary : Zafar S. Ashraf

### 7. TORONTO

Host : Bangladesh Association of Toronto  
Date : September 4 -5 , 1993  
Venue: Skyline Airport Tower & Hotel  
Convener: Shamsul Huda

### 8. NEW JERSEY

Host : Bangladesh Society of New Jersey  
Date September 2-4, 1994  
Venue : Brunswick Hilton & Tower  
Convener : Dr. Siddiqur Rahman  
Executive Secretary: Mir H. Chowdhury

### 9. MONTREAL

Host : International Society of Bangladesh &  
Bangladesh Association of Quebec  
Date : September 1-3, 1995  
Venue : Sheraton Laval Convention Center  
Convener: Dr. Abu Lais Sher  
Secretary: Masum Rahman / Niranjan Sarker

### 10. FLORIDA

Host: Bangladesh Association of Florida  
Date: August 30 September 1, 1996  
Venue: Hyatt Regency Hotel, Miami  
Convener: Dr. Abdus Sattar Khan  
Member Secretary: Rashid A Sheikh

### 11. LOS ANGELES

Host: Bangladesh Association of California  
Date: August 29-31, 1997  
Venue: Burbank Airport Hilton  
Convener: Dr. Zainul Abedin  
Executive Secretary: Duke Khan  
FOBANA History (1987-2020)

### 12. NEW YORK

Host: Bangladesh Society of New York  
Date: September 1-3, 1998  
Venue: Madison Square Garden  
Convener: M. Akhtar Hossain  
Member Secretary: M. Hossain Khan

### 13. ATLANTA

Host: Bangladesh Association of Georgia  
Date: September 3-5, 1999  
Venue: North Atlanta Trade Center  
Convener: Mintu Rahman  
Member Secretary: Abu Liakat Hossain



## FOBANA HISTORY (1987-2023)

### 14. NEW YORK

Host: Bangladesh League of America, NY. Inc.,  
Date: September 1-3, 2000  
Venue: Madison Square Garden  
Convener: Rani Kabir  
Acting Convener: Emad Chowdhury  
Member Secretary: Bedarul Islam Babla  
Chief Coordinator: Saidur Rabb

### 15. MONTREAL

Host: Bangladesh Association of Montreal  
Date: August 31 September 1-2, 2001  
Venue: Renaissance Hotel  
Convener: Mokbul Hossain Mukul  
Member Secretary Iqbal Kabir

### 16. DALLAS

Host: Bangladesh Association of North Texas  
Date September 1-3, 2002, Venue: Dallas Expo Center  
Convener: Nurul Amin Chowdhury  
Member Secretary: Hashmat Mobin

### 17. DETROIT

Host: Bangladesh Association of Michigan  
Date: August 29-31, 2003  
Venue: Detroit Opera House  
Convener: Akikul Hoque Shamim  
Joint Member Secretary: Kamrul Huda Russel & Shafqat Chaudhury

### 18. WASHINGTON D.C.

Host: Bangladesh Association of America, Inc. (BAAI)  
Date: September 3-5, 2004  
Venue: Dulles Expo Center, Chantilly, Virginia  
Convener: M. Abu Solaiman  
Member Secretary: Golam M. Farooque

### 19. FLORIDA

Host: Bangladesh Foundation of Florida  
Date: Labor Day Weekend, September 2-4, 2005  
Venue: Radisson Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, Miami  
Convener: Shameem G. Khan  
Member Secretary: Atiqer Rahman

### 20. ATLANTA

Host: Bangladesh Association of Georgia  
Date: Labor Day Weekend, September 1-3, 2006  
Venue: Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, GA  
Convener: Jashim Uddin  
Member Secretary: Mohammed Arefin Babul

### 21. KANSAS

Host: Midcontinental Bangladesh Association & Bangladesh Association of Greater Kansas City  
Date: Labor Day Weekend, August 31-September 2, 2007  
Venue: Century II Convention Center, Wichita, KS  
Convener: Rabiul Karim Belal  
Member Secretary: Rehan Reza

### 22. DALLAS

Host: Bangladesh Association of North Texas (BANT)  
Date: July 4th Weekend, July 3rd, 4th and 5th, 2008  
Venue: Dallas Convention Center Theatre Complex, Downtown Dallas, Texas  
Convener: Hashmat Mobin  
Member Secretary: Sarwar Kamal

### 23. HOUSTON

Host: Bangladesh Association, Houston  
Date: July 4th Weekend, July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 2009  
Venue: George R. Brown Convention Center, Houston, Texas  
Convener: Afzal Ahmed  
Member Secretary: Azadul Haq  
FOBANA History (1987-2020)®

### 24. LOS ANGELES

Host: Bangladesh Academy of Performing Arts  
Date: July 4th Weekend, July 2nd, 3rd, and 4th, 2010  
Venue: Pasadena Convention Center, Los Angeles, California  
Convener: Zahid Hossain  
Member Secretary: Tawfiq Khan

### 25. NEW JERSEY

Host: Bangladesh Association of New Jersey  
Date: July 1-3, 2011  
Venue: Meadowlands Exposition Center, Secaucus, New Jersey  
Convener: Mir Chowdhury  
Member Secretary: Nahid A Chowdhury





## FOBANA HISTORY (1987-2023)

### 26. FLORIDA

Host: Bangladesh Foundation of Florida  
 Date: August 31, September 1-2, 2012  
 Venue: Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida  
 Convener: Atiqer Rahman  
 Member Secretary: Mujib Uddin

### 27. ATLANTA

Host: Bangladesh American Association of Georgia  
 Date: August 30, September 1, 2013  
 Venue: Cobb Galleria Centre, Atlanta, Georgia  
 Convener: Duke Khan  
 Member Secretary: M Mowla Dilu

### 28. LOS ANGELES

Host: Bangladesh Association of California  
 Date: August 29-31, 2014  
 Venue: Marriott Burbank Airport Convention Center  
 Convener: Dr. Zainul Abedin  
 Member Secretary: Belal Mustafa Syed

### 29. NEW YORK

Host: Bangladesh League of America  
 Date: September 4, 5, 6, 2015  
 Venue: York College Campus, City College of New York  
 Convener: Bedarul Islam Babla  
 Member Secretary: Zakaria Chowdhury

### 30. WASHINGTON DC

Host: Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington DC  
 Date: September 2, 3, and 4, 2016  
 Venue: Sraton Pentagon Hotel  
 Convener: ATM Alam  
 Member Secretary: Nurul Amin Nuru

### 31. FLORIDA (2017)

Host: Bangladesh Association of Florida  
 Date: October 6, 7, 8, 2017  
 Venue: Hyatt Regency Miami, Florida  
 Convener: M. Rahman Zahir  
 Member Secretary: Ali Ahmed Ashraf

### 32. GEORGIA (2018)

Host: Bangladesh American Association of Georgia  
 Date: July 26, 27, and 29, 2018  
 Venue: CNN Convention Center, Atlanta, Georgia.  
 Convener: Jashim Uddin  
 Member Secretary: Nahidul Khan (Sahel)

### 33. NEW YORK (2019)

Host: Drama Circle  
 Date: August 30, 31, and September 1, 2019  
 Venue: Nassau Coliseum, Long Island, NY  
 Convener: Nargis Ahmed  
 Member Secretary: Abir Alamgir

### 34. VIRTUAL (2020)

Host: FOBANA Executive Committee  
 Date: November 28-29, 2020  
 Venue: fobana.tv  
 Chairperson: Shah Haleem  
 Executive Secretary: Ahsan Chowdhury Hero

### 35. WASHINGTON DC

Host: American Bangladesh Friendship Society (ABFS)  
 Date: November 26-28, 2021  
 Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, Maryland.  
 Convener: ZI Russel, Co-Convener: Ms Parveen Patwary  
 Member Secretary: Shibbir Ahmed.

### 36. CHICAGO, IL

Host: Bangladesh Association of Chicagoland (BAC)  
 Date: September 2-4, 2022  
 North Shore Center for The Performing Arts, Chicago, IL  
 Convener: Maqbul M. Ali  
 Executive Secretary: Syed Ahsan

### 37. DALLAS, TEXAS

Host: Bangladesh Association of North Texas (BANT)  
 Date: September 1-3, 2023  
 Irving Convention Center at Las Colinas  
 500 W Las Colinas Blvd. Irving, TX-75039  
 Convener: Hasmot Mobin  
 Executive Secretary: Nahidul Khan



## Constitution and Bylaws

### ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION FEDERATION OF BANGLADESHI ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA (FOBANA)

#### Article I: Name

Section 1: The name of the corporation shall be **FEDERATION OF BANGLADESHI ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA**. The abbreviated name shall be **FOBANA**.

#### Article II: Definition of the Organization

Section 1: **FOBANA** shall be a non-profit, non-political, non-religious and non-discriminatory corporation which was established in 1987.

Section 2: **FOBANA** shall be organized exclusively for one or more of the purposes as specified in Section 501 (c)(3) of Internal Revenue Code, including, for such purposes, the making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organizations under section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

#### Article III: Goals and Objectives

Section 1: The objectives of **FOBANA** shall be but not limited to:

- Organize periodic Bangladesh Convention in North America. This period shall be determined by the Operating Procedures of the Corporation.
- Assign responsibility and provide guidance to a member organization to organize convention in North America.
- Organize activities to create awareness to help fight discrimination and prejudice against people of Bangladeshi origin in North America.





- d. Strengthen ties between North America and Bangladesh.
- e. Be the central contact point of Bangladeshi organizations in North America.
- f. Promote ethnic Bangladeshi culture enriching the multiethnic traditions of the communities living in North America.
- g. Work towards protecting interest of people of Bangladeshi origin especially women, seniors and alumni and assist them on social issues through member organizations.
- h. Promote participation of youths in social, cultural, educational and scientific activities in North America and Bangladesh. Encourage and assist the youths for future leadership role.
- i. Promote and assist NRB Investment and business opportunities in USA, Canada and Bangladesh.
- j. Promote charitable activities and conduct such programs, but not limited to, the power to accept money or property, whether real or personal, or any interest wherever situated and making of distributions to organizations that qualify as exempt organization under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.
- k. No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation (except as otherwise provided by Section 501 (h) of the Internal Revenue Code), and this corporation shall not participate in, or intervene in (including the publishing or distribution of statements), any political campaign on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.
- l. No part of the net earnings of this corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to, its members, directors, officers, or other private persons, except that this corporation shall be authorized and empowered to pay reasonable compensation for services rendered and to make distributions in furtherance of the purposes set forth in these articles.
- m. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under Section 170 (c) (2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code.
- n. All references to sections of the Internal Revenue Code shall include such sections as of the date hereof and the corresponding section of any federal tax code.





## Article IV: Membership

- Section 1: The Corporation shall have members who subscribe to the above objectives and abide by the provisions of the Articles of Incorporation and the Operating Procedures of the corporation, and pay membership dues.
- Section 2: Members shall have the right to vote, contest elections, and hold office.
- Section 3: The Corporation reserves the right to deny membership to any organization who is considered to have not met the requirements outlined in the Articles of Incorporation and the Operating Procedures of the Corporation or have been involved in any activity detrimental to the Corporation's interest.

## Article V: Organization

- Section 1: The General Body of the corporation shall meet at least once a year to elect the officers of the Executive Committee following the guidelines outlined in the Operating Procedures of the Corporation.
- Section 2: The Executive Committee of the Corporation shall include at least 21 but no more than 25 members as the Office Bearers. There shall be one (1) Chairperson, one (1) Vice Chairperson, one (1) Executive Secretary, one (1) Joint Executive Secretary, one (1) Treasurer, (7) seven Outstanding Members, and at least (9) nine, but no more than (13) thirteen Member Organizations.

## Article VI: Management

- Section 1: The Executive Committee shall manage the activities and affairs of the corporation. The activities and business of the corporation shall be managed and conducted in accordance with the Operating Procedures of the Corporation, provided the procedures are not inconsistent with the provisions of these Articles of Incorporation or contrary to the Laws of the USA or Canada.
- Section 2: Detail explanation of terms mentioned in the Constitution shall be provided in the Operating Procedures of the Corporation. If a detail explanation is not provided for a particular term, then the decision taken by a simple majority of the Executive Committee shall prevail.
- Section 3: The office bearers of the Executive Committee shall be responsible for the preservation and safe keeping of basic documents pertaining to the corporation and for maintaining books of minutes and other operational records.



Section 4: The FOBANA general body shall elect host organization for FOBANA convention. In the case of the emergency or unavoidable circumstances or inability of the host elect organization, FOBANA Executive committee shall elect a new host organization or itself for the FOBANA convention.

#### Article VII: Amendment Process

Section 1: The constitution can be amended by following the guideline stated in the Operating Procedures of the Corporation.

#### Article VIII: Indemnification

Section 1: The corporation shall indemnify any member of the Executive Committee, Office bearer, former member of the Executive Committee or any person who may have served at its request against expenses actually incurred by him/her in connection with the defense of any action, suit or proceeding in which he/she is made a party by reason of being or having been such member or office bearer, except in relation to matters as to which he/she shall be adjudged in such action, suit or proceeding to be liable for negligence or misconduct in the performance of duty.

#### Article IX: Tenure

Section 1: The tenure of the Executive Committee shall end on the day of the termination of FOBANA Convention immediately after the new committee is sworn in and take over the charge from the outgoing Executive Committee.

Section 2: The tenure may be extended depending on the hosting of FOBANA Convention.

Section 3: The fiscal year of the corporation shall be from January 1 to December 31.

#### Article X: Dissolution of the Organization

Section 1: Upon the dissolution of this corporation, its assets remaining after payment, or provision for payment, of all debts and liabilities of this corporation shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of Section 501 (c) (3) of the Internal Revenue Code or shall be distributed to the federal government, or to a state or local government, for a public purpose. Any such assets not so disposed of shall be disposed of by a court of competent jurisdiction of the county in which the





principal office of the corporation is then located, exclusively for such purposes or to such organization or organizations, as said court shall determine which are organized and operated exclusively for such purposes.

**Section 2:** Provisions for the regulation of the internal affairs and the distribution of the final assets upon dissolution of the corporation shall be set forth in the Operating Procedures of the Corporation.

**Article XI: Address**

**Section 1:** The address, including street and number of the initial registered office of the corporation is 1090 Vermont Avenue, N. W., Suite 190, Washington, DC 20005 and the name of the initial registered agent at such address is National Registered Agents, Inc.







## Witnesses

We, the following members of the FOBANA hereby sign as witness to this historic document.

Name	Signature
BEDARUL ISLAM BAKH	[Signature]
Duke Khan	[Signature]
Masbub M. Ali	[Signature]
Rabind Karim Beldi	[Signature]
Bashir Ahmed	[Signature]
Aliqver Rahman	[Signature]
Muzib Uddin	[Signature]
KHALED AHMED ROUF	[Signature]
RUBEL CHOWDHURY	[Signature]
Shah Saleem	[Signature]
Mahmud Musharraf Hussain (BAAT)	[Signature]
ARIF AHMED AHMED	[Signature]
JASHIM UDDIN (Bangladesh American Association of LA)	[Signature]
MAHAMUD RAHMAN (Bangladesh Association of LA)	[Signature]
MOHAMMED MOWLA BILU	[Signature]
Rabul Chowdhury (Shahin)	[Signature]
Iqbal Ahmed	[Signature]
ZAHED HOSSAINI	[Signature]
JANET BISWAS (	[Signature]



## Witnesses

We, the following members of the FOBANA hereby sign as witness to this historic document.

Name	Signature
Mir H. Chowdhury	
Lolam Faroque Dhuy (BAN)	
Dr. FARUQUE AZAM (ISTA, President)	
SHAH MOJAMMEL (BCC) President (of Bangladesh Community of Chesapeake)	
MUSHARRUF SHAH (BCC) (BCC) musharrufe@gmail.com	
NAHIDA NASER Yasmin (BAH) Nahida nasyamin	
RANA WADUD (BANT) Ranawadud	
HASHMAT MOBIN (Outstanding)	
AZADUL HAQ	
Mahabub Reza Rahim	
AHSAN CHOUDHURY	
SARKEE Hasan	
Obayedur Khan Bangladesh Association of Southwest Florida	
ZAHID REZA BANGLA INSTITUTE OF PERFORMING ARTS & MEDIA	

BOB





## Memorandum Of Understanding "The Houston Accord"

June 8, 2013, Houston, TX

We, the undersigned agree to the following:

1. That effective as of June 8, 2013 FOBANA will be declared as united.
2. That there will be only one FOBANA convention this year and all of us will join the 27<sup>th</sup> FOBANA convention also known as FOBANA 2013 to be held in Atlanta, GA from August 30-September 1, 2013. There will be no concurrent FOBANA convention in another venue this year but a consecutive FOBANA convention in Los Angeles, CA in 2014.
3. That on principle we will support the host organization from Los Angeles for their effort to host the FOBANA 2014 in LA. We agree that we will cast our personal votes for the host organization from Los Angeles if there is any election and we will pursue others to vote for them.
4. That the host organization will follow the due process and guidelines as stated in the governing document of the organization.
5. That both the Central Committee and the Steering Committee will remain unchanged till the general body meeting to be held at FOBANA 2013. During the general body meeting a new Executive Committee will be formed for the next term. Till then both committee will work together.
6. That all incoming organizations will follow the due process and go through the review process. However, they will not be considered as new organizations and will have voting power.
7. That both committees will explore how to combine and come up with one governing document.





8. That all media and press releases will go through a review process by both the Central Committee and Steering Committee or by a media committee having representation from both committees.
9. That this accord is binding upon the Central and Steering Committee.

We sign below on our own will on the Eighth day of Sixth month of the Christian year of Two Thousand and Thirteen.

Rehan Reza

Mohammed Alamgir

Mahmud Musarrat Hossain

Qudrot E Khuda

Azadul Haq

Dr. Zaimul Abedin

Mir Chowdhury

Babul Hai

Duke Khan

MD Nuron Nabi

Maqbul Ali

Mahabub Reza Rahim

Page 2 of 3



Hashmat Mobin

*Hashmat Mobin*

Rabiul Karim Belal

*Rabiul Karim Belal*

Jashim Uddin

*Jashim Uddin*

Ahsan Chowdhury

*Ahsan Chowdhury*

M Mowla Dilu

*M. Mowla Dilu*







## Operating Procedure of FEDERATION OF BANGLADESHI ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA (FOBANA)

**Updated: November 28, 2020**

**Revision History: 1. Additional requirement for voting rights 2. Zero tolerance for to maintain civility 3. Website management via 3<sup>rd</sup> party vendor 4. Inclusion of FOBANA Emergency Disaster Relief Fund program 5. Resolution passed in 10<sup>th</sup> EC meeting, 2020 (see Article XVI)**

Article I:	Geographical Location.....	2
Article II:	The Business and Fiscal Year.....	2
Article III:	Organization.....	2
Article IV:	Membership.....	3
Article V:	Voting Rights.....	5
Article VI:	Authority.....	5
Article VII:	Annual Meeting.....	6
Article VIII:	Amendment Process.....	6
Article IX:	Activities.....	6
Article X:	Roles and Responsibilities of Officers.....	6
Article XI:	Standing Committees.....	7
Article XII:	Roles and Responsibilities of the Standing Committees.....	7
Article XIII:	Eligibility to be a Host Organization.....	16
Article XIV:	Host Committee.....	17
Article XV:	Guideline for organizing a FOBANA Convention.....	17
Article XVI:	Election Procedure.....	19
Article XVII:	Corrective Action.....	22
Article XVIII:	Policy for Vendors Requiring Invitation Letters for Visa Purposes.....	22



**Article I: Geographical Location**

Section 1: FOBANA shall be a North America wide organization. It shall not be limited to a particular state, province or city. The mailing address of the Registered Agent, Chairperson or any of the authorized Office Bearers can be used as the permanent address for official business.

**Article II: The Business and Fiscal Year**

Section 1: The business year of the FOBANA shall be from one FOBANA convention to the next FOBANA convention.

Section 2: The fiscal year of the FOBANA shall be from January 1 through December 31.

**Article III: Organization**

Section 1: The General Body:

- a) The General Body of FOBANA shall consist of all member organizations in good standing and all individual members of the Executive Committee.
- b) The General Body shall meet at least once a year.
- c) The General Body of Members shall have the authority to modify or annul any decision made by the Executive Committee.

Section 2: The Executive Body:

- a) The Executive body of FOBANA shall consist of no more than 31 (Thirty-one) members and shall be called the FOBANA Executive Committee.
- b) There shall be 1 (One) Chairperson, 1 (One) Vice Chairperson, 1 (One) Executive Secretary, 1 (One) Joint Executive Secretary, 1 (One) Treasurer, 9 (Nine) Outstanding Members and 17 (Seventeen) Member Organizations as the Office Bearers.
- c) The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Executive Secretary, Joint Executive Secretary, Treasurer, 9 (Nine) Individual members (respected individuals who have outstanding contributions to FOBANA) and up to 17 (Seventeen) members representing FOBANA Member Organizations shall be elected each year by the General Body of FOBANA.
- d) The head of the member organization or his/her representative shall represent the organization in the Executive Committee.
- e) Each member representing an organization shall be elected for a period of one year. If the person's term of office (in his/her organization) expires, the person replacing the outgoing person in that office shall complete the rest of the one-year term.
- f) The outgoing Chairperson and Executive Secretary shall automatically become members of the FOBANA Executive Committee as outstanding members in the following year.
- g) The Convener and Member Secretary of the current FOBANA convention shall automatically become members of the FOBANA Executive Committee as outstanding members in the following year. However, they shall not be qualified to run as Chairperson or Member Secretary in that year.
- h) The term of office bearers shall be for one year.
- i) The top five positions of the Executive Committee that include Chairman, Vice Chairman, Executive Secretary, Joint Secretary and Treasurer shall be eligible to run for second term for their office. This privilege shall be limited to 2 consecutive years. If any candidates running for second term, he or she must declare his or her intent 45 days prior to the Election Commission appointed by the Executive Committee.
- j) Any Outstanding Member shall not be eligible for running for the same position beyond 2 consecutive years.





k) Any member organization who served FOBANA as the Executive Member Organization three (3) consecutive terms in a row cannot participate on the EC election on the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) term as a candidate for the Executive Member Organization. However, no restriction is applicable to those member organizations who hosted FOBANA convention in the past and can participate on the EC election regardless of the number of consecutive years they served in a row. All member organizations must be elected through the FOBANA annual election process.  
**(Resolution Passed at the FOBANA 2018 (Atlanta, GA).**

l) The Executive Committee shall meet at least once a year. The presence of one-third members shall make a quorum.

m) The Executive Committee shall form as many committees as required in order to carry out the function of FOBANA.

n) Each committee shall have a Chairperson who shall report to the Executive Committee upon completion of the task or as directed otherwise.

o) The Executive Committee shall assign its members the roles and responsibilities to manage each functional area identified in the By-Laws.

p) Elected host organization shall automatically become a member of the FOBANA Executive Committee out of 17 (Seventeen) member organizations.

Section 3: The Advisors

a) There shall be at least 3 Advisors to be nominated and selected by the Executive Committee for a term of one year.

b) Individuals who have made an excellent contribution to FOBANA in the past and/or served FOBANA shall be eligible for this position.

c) All ex-chairpersons of FOBANA will have an option to be automatically selected as Advisors after serving one year as outstanding members. This will not be valid for any chairperson or persons designated as "persona non grata".

d) The Advisors shall provide advice and guidance to the Executive Committee and ensure participation in meetings as needed basis.

e) The responsibilities shall include but not limited to, involve on broader aspects relative to legal matters, hearing grievances and conflict resolution, and mediate variances.

f) The Advisors shall avoid any conflicts and direct participation in the election process or its operational matters.

g) Advisors shall have no voting rights, shall not openly support any candidate and shall not influence the election. However, if an Advisor represents an organization, then the Advisor shall be entitled to all the rights and privileges including voting rights. In that special case, the Advisor will be requested to resign from the post of the Advisor.

Section 4: A member shall not be eligible for election as the Chairperson or Executive Secretary if he or she holds any Executive Office or Title of any political party from Bangladesh or under any local or other authority subject to the control of any of the said party in USA or Canada.

**Article IV: Membership**

Section 1: FOBANA shall be an organization of organizations. Individuals cannot be a member of FOBANA.

Section 2: Except those organizations prohibited in the Articles of Incorporation, any organization may apply for membership of FOBANA. In addition to the above, no political, religious, regional, business, charity, privately held foundation or company shall not qualify to be a member. FOBANA, however, may offer non-voting Associate



or student membership to organizations that may have a positive impact towards the common goal of the organization.

- Section 3: Prospective member organization must have at least 50 documented members on file when applying for membership. Proof of this could be a written list of members' names, an online video, a photo of a meeting or event showing members.
- Section 4: Prospective member organization must elect their officials democratically. Proof of this could be a written list of members' names, an online video, a photo of a meeting or event showing members.
- Section 5: Prospective member organization must be involved in community activities serving people of Bangladeshi origins in North America.
- Section 6: Membership application, in prescribed form, must be submitted to the Executive body of FOBANA.
- Section 7: The membership application must be recommended by at least one-member organization of FOBANA. This can be waived by the Membership Reviewed Committee if they can verify it verbally.
- Section 8: The application must be submitted at least thirty days (30) before the scheduled meeting of the General Body of FOBANA or before any other deadline decided by the Executive Committee.
- Section 9: Membership application shall accompany application fee and yearly dues.
- Section 10: The application fee shall be non-refundable.
- Section 11: The amount of application fee, membership dues and late fee charge shall be decided every year at the annual general meeting of the General Body. In case no decision was taken, the charges of the immediately previous year shall prevail. The late fee for EC members is \$50.00 and it will be effective from the beginning of the current tenure. Top 14 executives (5 (five) Officers and 9 (nine) Outstanding Members) must pay \$200.00 nomination fee. The nomination fee for the Executive Organization Membership is \$100.00.
- Section 12: The Executive Body or its duly appointed subcommittee shall examine the application and if no irregularities are found, it shall recommend to the Executive Body to accept the membership.
- Section 13: In case any objection is raised at the Executive Body, it shall be placed for review by the General Body and the majority members' decision shall be accepted.
- Section 14: In case a membership application is not accepted, the General body shall, through the Chairman of FOBANA, inform the organization explaining the reason for denial. Membership dues shall be refunded but not the application fee.
- Section 15: When membership application is accepted by the General Body, the organization shall become a member of FOBANA beginning the next business year.
- Section 16: Yearly membership dues must be paid in advance. For example - membership dues for the year 2006 must be paid by November 30, 2005. If not paid by November 30, the membership shall be suspended beginning January 1. However, the membership can be renewed by March 31, but a late fee charge shall be applied. If the membership is not renewed by March 31, the membership of the organization shall automatically be canceled. The organization shall have to apply as a new member.
- Section 17: A suspended member shall not have any privilege such as to participate in the organizational matter including exercising the right of vote in any decision making.
- Section 18: An organization may withdraw its membership by a written request signed by majority members of the Executive Body of the membership organization.
- Section 19: An organization that withdrew its membership may apply again. However, it shall be considered as a new applicant.
- Section 20: No two member-organizations shall have the same name.





Section 21: In the case where a member organization breaks up and two or more parties claim to be the inheritance of the parent organization, the head of the organization immediately before the break up shall identify the inheritance of the parent organization. To become a member of FOBANA, the other party or parties must come up with a different, not confusing name and shall have to apply as a new member.

**Article V: Voting Rights**

Section 1: Only member organizations in good standing shall be allowed to vote. The Membership Review Committee shall submit the list of potential voting members to the Executive Committee at the last EC meeting. The EC then shall finalize and approve the list. The Election Commissioner or Committee shall not have the right to make any changes to this list.

Section 2: New member organizations shall not be allowed to vote in the first two (2) years of their membership period. New members can vote on third (3<sup>rd</sup>) year. This must be in compliance with section 2a, 2b and 2c of Article III of the Operating Procedure.

Section 3: An organization must be a member in the immediate past two years to be eligible to vote.

Section 4: To eligible to vote, each member organization must fulfill the following conditions:

- a) Need to organize at least one successful socio-cultural community event in the last year. The event must be non-political, non-religious, non-profit, open to the general public and have large enough audience.
- b) The organization must have a current operational bank account in North America
- c) Submit proof of the above two requirements to the Membership Review Committee for its review and approval.

Section 5: Each EC member shall have an individual vote, but then they shall not be allowed to cast another vote as the head or a representative of a member organization. In that event, there has to be another person voting for it who has written authorization and met the approval of the Election Commissioner.

Section 6: The following rules shall apply for registration:

- a) The FOBANA EC shall determine the amount of registration fee for the participating organization(s) each year to enable them to perform cultural program on the stage of the convention.
- b) The participating organization(s) shall be required to register with the Host Committee on a prescribed form indicating their interest to perform on the stage of the convention. The registration fee must be paid directly to the EC within established time frame. The EC will provide the Host Committee a complete list of the registered organizations along with the amount of registration fee so collected 15 days prior to hosting the Convention.
- c) A valid member organization must also pay the registration fee to the EC to be eligible to vote in the AGM even if their organization decides not to perform.

**Article VI: Authority**

Section 1: The General Body of FOBANA, consisting of its members, shall have the authority to remove any or all the members, including office bearers of the Executive Committee by a resolution of vote of no- confidence passed by 2/3 (Two-thirds) majority of members present at the meeting or by 2/3 (Two- thirds) majority of members in a mail ballot or by resolution adopted by a 2/3 (Two-thirds) majority of members present at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose. Special General Meeting could be arranged via teleconference. However, impeachment, ousting or abolishment of the entire Executive Committee can only be done in a face to face general meeting.

Section 2: The Executive Committee shall have the right to revoke the privilege of the Host Organization to host the



annual convention and override the decision taken at the annual general meeting if the Host Organization does not adhere to the guideline set forth in the By-Laws for preparing for the convention.

Section 3: The authority of the Host Organization or Host Committee shall be limited to organizing the annual convention as defined in the By-Laws.

Section 4: The decision taken by the simple majority of the Executive Committee members shall have the final authority on any areas not explicitly mentioned in the Constitution or By-Laws.

**Article VII: Annual Meeting**

Section 1: There shall be at least one FOBANA General Body meeting.

Section 2: The simple majority of the member organizations (not a number of persons representing various organizations) shall make the quorum.

Section 3: The following businesses shall be conducted at the Annual General Body Meeting:

- a) Review the activities of the past year.
- b) Review the audited financial report of the past year
- c) Elect Officers for the following year
- d) Elect Host Organization for the next FOBANA Convention
- e) Miscellaneous matters included in the agenda
- f) Any other matters from the floor

Section 4: Proxy: Any member of a decision-making body such as FOBANA EC may delegate his or her voting right to any member of the "same body" to vote in his or her absence. As such, no member of FOBANA EC can designate another member from outside FOBANA EC to attend and vote during his or her absence during AGM or any EC meetings or teleconferences.

**Article VIII: Amendment Process**

Section 1: Amendments to the Article of Incorporation shall be jointly proposed in writing by at least two (2) member organizations and submitted to the Executive Committee at least forty-five (45) days in advance. Requests from an individual or single member organization shall not be entertained.

Section 2: Any amendments to the Articles of Incorporation shall require the consent of a simple majority of the General Body of FOBANA and/or two-third (2/3) members of the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Amendments to the By-Laws may be proposed by any single member organization of FOBANA and must be submitted to the Executive Committee at least thirty (30) days prior to the yearly general meeting or Executive Committee Meeting or teleconference.

Section 4: Any amendment to the By-Laws shall require a simple majority of the General Body of FOBANA or members of the Executive Committee.

Section 5: Any amendments to the Operating Procedure shall require only the simple majority of the Executive Committee and that can be also be accomplished via teleconference calls and/or e-mails.

**Article IX: Activities**

Section 1: The main activity of the FOBANA shall be, but not limited to, hold an annual convention.

Section 2: The FOBANA shall either itself host the annual convention or give the responsibility to one of its member organizations to host the convention. The practice should be to choose an organization to be the host of the convention.

Section 3: FOBANA shall promote and uphold the interest of the Bangladeshi Community in North America.





Section 4: FOBANA shall conduct continuous fundraising program as **FOBANA Emergency Disaster Relief Fund (FEDRF)**. The goal of this program is to collect money exclusively for FEDRF throughout the year for FOBANA to be able to quickly help any humanitarian emergency disaster situation any time in the community.

FOBANA must ensure that that any fund raised exclusively for FEDRF are distributed through FOBANA Emergency Disaster Relief Fund (FEDR) operation to the disaster victims in North America and in Bangladesh. (Resolution passed on April 13, 2020 via email approval by EC)

Section 5: To properly manage/upgrade on a regular basis, FOBANA website shall be maintained by a professional 3rd party vendor with limited security access to the site. FOBANA Logistic Chairperson should be the point of liaison between the site vendor and EC. All changes, updates should be maintained by the vendor while Logistic Chairperson will monitor and hold the vendor accountable for content accuracy and site sustainability. (Resolution Passed on November 2, 2019 in 2<sup>nd</sup> EC meeting)

#### **Article X: Roles and Responsibilities of Officers**

##### **Section 1: Chairperson:**

The Chairperson shall be the Chief Executive Officer of this Organization. The chairperson shall lead, guide and Chair the Executive Committee meetings, represent FOBANA to outside bodies and the Com ittee to the General Body members. The chairperson shall maintain liaison and coordination with the Bangladesh Embassy, the Government, and contact with Advisors to seek guidance when needed.

##### **Section 2: Vice-Chairperson:**

The Vice Chairperson shall be the second person in the order of precedence to the Chairperson and shall carry out the Chairperson's function in the Chairpersons' absence or when authorized by the Chairperson. Vice Chairperson shall oversee the function of all sub-committees including providing guidance and making decisions needed for its operation.

##### **Section 3: Executive Secretary:**

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for all organizational matters and shall oversee the functions and operation of Mainstream, Media and Youth wings of the Organization. The responsibilities shall include but not limited to, all administrative matters, develop strategic plans both long and short term, develop marketing plan, keeping minutes of the meeting, distribution of the minutes of the meeting, maintain official files including updated list of membership and their contact addresses and telephone numbers, coordination in the execution on EC decisions, assisting Host Organizations, and communicating with media. The Executive Secretary shall also prepare and present the Annual report, assist in the formation of Election Committee and any other su b- committees.

##### **Section 4: Joint Executive Secretary:**

The Joint Executive Secretary shall assist the Executive Secretary and acts as the Executive General Secretary in his/her absence. The Joint Executive Secretary shall record minutes and prepare and submit draft copies to the Executive General Secretary for his/her attention. The Joint Executive Secretary shall assist in the development of local organizations and to become a member of FOBANA Organizations; assist the organization in outreaching the Youth, Mainstream arena, and neglected area.

##### **Section 5: Treasurer:**

The Treasurer shall hold the funds, manage all financial matters including maintenance of up -to- date records of all financial transactions, submit statement of receipts and expenses to the Execut ive Committee, preparation of accounts and budget, collection of dues, responsible preparation of annual balance sheet and income statement for audit, Tax Return to IRS, maintain annual registration status current, deal with insurance matters, and marketing. The treasurer shall also prepare and present the Annual Report to the General Body Meeting.



The account shall be maintained in a reputed banking institution; the account shall be operated by the Treasurer. The Chairperson may empower the Executive Secretary or Joint Executive Secretary to operate the account in the absence of Treasurer. The treasurer shall liaise and coordinate with Host Committee in tracking matters and seek information related to financial status in accordance with the policy guidelines of FOBANA.

**Article XI: Standing Committees**

- Section 1: Each standing committee shall be chaired by one of the presents or past Executive Committee members and will have at least one other member.
- Section 2: Standing committees shall have the right to co-opt any number of members of the Executive Committee, Member Organizations to be a part of their subcommittee. They may also co-opt technical experts, subject matter experts or consultants to carry out their responsibilities.
- Section 3: Standing committees shall be required to give a progress report on the Executive Committee meetings.
- Section 4: The Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Executive Secretary will be officio members of all standing committees.
- Section 5: Standing Committee Chair term limit – Standing Committee Chairpersons cannot serve as the chairs more than 2 years for same committee.

**Article XII: Roles and Responsibilities of the Standing Committees**

Section 1: Roles and Responsibilities of Constitution and Procedure Committee

The Committee is responsible for reviewing the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, and its Operating Procedures, all official forms, and guidelines and report their recommendation to the Executive Committee.

The Committee will periodically review the policies and procedures and draft revised versions to be presented to the Executive Committee for ratification.

The Committee will periodically review the forms used and revise them if necessary, before presenting them to the Executive Committee for ratification.

The Committee will solicit input from other EC members and include their suggestions in the draft proposal.

The Committee will propose any new amendment to the Executive Secretary before the stipulated deadline for Annual General Meeting so that the Executive Secretary can inform the members.

Section 2: Roles and Responsibilities of Legal Committee

The Committee is responsible for handling all legal aspects of the organization.

The Committee will handle all legal issues affecting the operation of FOBANA, consultation with experts, select and hire and on call Attorney, initiate action to promote and protect FOBANA interest, represent FOBANA and handle all legal issues, guide to resolve disputes, mediate variances, and review important letters and documents before they are issued as needed.

Section 3: Roles and Responsibilities of Unification Committee

The Committee is responsible coordinating all matters related to unification of forts between different groups who like to join FOBANA.

The Committee will initiate dialogues with any individual, organization or group of organizations to a part of FOBANA.

The committee will create proposal and then present them to EC for approval before giving it to the



negotiating parties

**Section 4: Roles and Responsibilities of Media and Public Awareness Committee**

This Committee will be responsible for all Media and public facing matters This Committee will create all press release and send them to media outlets.

This Committee will write articles and publish them in FOBANA website to create public awareness for FOBANA

**Section 5: Roles and Responsibilities of Business and Investment Committee**

The core mission of this Committee is to provide service, promote and facilitate business opportunities between USA and Bangladesh by American, NRBA (Non-Resident Bangladeshi Americans) and Bangladeshi businessmen. As a non-profit organization, FOBANA will not engage itself in any for profit business.

The committee will not engage in any business directly on behalf of FOBANA

The committee is responsible for making contacts with potential NRBA (Non-Resident Bangladeshi Americans) looking for investment opportunities in both Bangladesh and USA.

Explore Retirement Planning and Retirement Investment, Investment in Real Estate and or properties by providing advice, and seed money or start-up capital, pre-IPO funds or franchising finance.

The committee will maintain contact with Bangladeshi Business Organizations, prepare and maintain all professional NRB database, prepare and maintain NRB investment database and formulate policies.

The committee will be responsible for open communication, leading and guiding on NRB issues, liaising with Bangladesh Embassy and Government at home, liaise with the US and Bangladesh Business Council, hold seminars and share information.

**Section 6: Roles and Responsibilities of Budget and Finance Committee**

The Committee is responsible for reviewing the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, and its Operating Procedures, all official forms, and guidelines and report their recommendation to the Executive Committee.

The Committee will develop policies and procedures and present them to the Executive Committee for ratification.

The Committee will handle all legal issues affecting the operation of FOBANA, consultation with experts, select and hire and on call Attorney, initiate action to promote and protect FOBANA interest, represent FOBANA and handle all legal issues, guide to resolve disputes, mediate variances, and review important letters and documents before they are issued as needed.

**Section 7: Roles and Responsibilities of Youth Forum Committee**

The Committee is responsible for all youth matters affecting their interest.

Help to meet their basic personal and social needs to be valued and useful, and build skills and competencies that will encourage them to function and contribute not only to their daily lives but also for the benefit of the community they belong.

Establish contacts and create a database, develop youth chapter, encourage leadership, participation in education, access to computers, learn languages and culture, educate in communication, guide to work with diversity in mainstream, host seminars, participate in volunteer service, assist necessary training and job search in local businesses which employs youth in meaningful and relevant work.







The Committee will actively seek writers to write articles for the newsletter

Section 11: Roles and Responsibilities of Bangladesh Liaison Committee

The Committee will work as a bridge between contacts in Bangladesh FOBANA EC in USA on all matters related to FOBANA interest.

The Committee will work with media, keeping contacts with professionals engaged in arts and culture, business, banking, education, industry, government, manufacturing, and media to project FOBANA mission and objectives and gain their support.

Assist in the selection of guests and artists for participation in the FOBANA Convention. However, the final decision will be made by Host Committee.

Maintain a database of all contacts in Bangladesh and share with FOBANA EC.

Hold press events at the Press Club or other suitable venues.

Promote and encourage Universities to participate in Seminars and other activities at the FOBANA convention

Help to set up meetings for FOBANA EC visiting Bangladesh with media, journalists and important personalities to gain their support and promote partnership in our effort to implement FOBANA mission and objectives.

Promote FOBANA in a positive manner and debunk any myths and misconception about FOBANA by participating in talk shows, interviews, and round table discussion.

Open dialogue with relevant parties in Bangladesh and recommend to EC how FOBANA can make a tangible impact to Bangladesh in an unbiased and non-political manner.

Seek sponsorships for FOBANA from prominent business entities.

Section 12: Roles and Responsibilities of Seminar Committee

The Committee will be responsible for inviting prominent academicians, scientists, research experts, subject matter experts, technical professionals to review papers, presentations submitted to FOBANA for Seminar presentation.

Presenters will be allowed to submit their papers online via FOBANA website, these papers will then be sent to a mailbox of this Committee.

The Committee members will review and catalog the papers.

All papers will be in a database so that anyone can do research on these valuable papers.

Invite Bangladeshi students in all major North American and Bangladeshi universities to submit papers.

All papers will be published online after the review process.

The Committee will pick the best papers among the submitted series then invite them to attend the FOBANA Convention. The list will also be presented to the host committee. The host committee will decide whom they want to pay for ticket and accommodation.

Liaise with the Host Committee and work with them closely to organize seminars and provide the topics



selected by the Committee for presentation at the convention

Recommend prominent individuals who have made an extraordinary contribution in the field of arts, business, social, political, medicine and science & technology for recognition by the FOBANA EC at the convention.

#### Section 13: Roles and Responsibilities of Cultural Committee

The Committee is responsible for promoting the cultural aspects of FOBANA and maintain coordination with the Host Committee on the cultural affairs.

The Committee will help member organizations to promote their cultural events, dramas, dance groups, singers to attend other member states.

The Committee will lead and guide the Host Committee and its cultural committee to organize cultural events at the convention

The Committee will actively seek talents across North American and recommend them to Host Committee for inviting them to the convention.

The Committee will select judges during the convention to pick the best performer award

The Committee will help the host committee to arrange promotional tours or events leading to the convention.

The Committee will actively promote the FOBANA Artist Database.

The Committee may help the host committee to get artists from Bangladesh, but FOBANA will not be engaged in any business contract or financial dealing with Host Organization or the artist.

The Committee will not be responsible for any artist payments during the convention

The Committee will collaborate with the Media and Public Awareness Committee to publish FOBANA Newsletters.

#### Section 14: Roles and Responsibilities of Alumni Committee

The core mission of this Committee will be to invite, show proper respect and keep in touch with the FOBANA Alumnus.

The Committee will develop and maintain a database with the contact information for all FOBANA alumni

All alumni will be formally invited to the convention and to their special breakfast event. An

FOBANA pin will be presented to these Alumni (depends on budget approval)

All alumni will receive a Certificate of Appreciation for their contribution to FOBANA

All alumni will be requested to send their complete bio data and picture which will be permanently archived and promoted in FOBANA website.

FOBANA EC will provide special lanyard for the FOBANA Alumni distinguishing them all other guests.

Alumni will be invited to participate in the Committees.

#### Section 15: Roles and Responsibilities of Membership Verification Committee





The Committee is responsible for verifying the membership applications of organizations both new and old.

To assure that their registration is current with the State and also with IRS, verify if they

have Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws

Verify if they have minimum number of paid members, held elections according to their Articles of Incorporation, paid membership dues,

Verify if they paid their registration fees with the Host Organization and validate their membership status so they can vote in the annual election held by the Executive committee.

Retain a database for a membership organization, maintain documentation with necessary registration forms including copies of Registration with state and IRS, identify deficiencies, provide opportunities to make a correction, and recommend any modification of processes and policies.

This Committee will present the membership application to the EC monthly meetings and recommend that their membership is granted to the organization. Once EC accepts the application, then the membership package will be sent to the organization.

Section 16: Roles and Responsibilities of Mainstream Liaison Committee

The Committee is responsible for communicating with the mainstream personalities and open dialogue with them

This Committee will invite mainstream politicians and prominent people in FOBANA convention

Section 17: Roles and Responsibilities of Awards and Guest Selection Committee

The Committee is responsible for coordinating FOBANA awards and help select guests for FOBANA Convention.

The Committee will prepare guideline and criteria to select candidates for FOBANA award and then present the list to FOBANA EC for final approval

The Committee will suggest and help in contacting guests for the FOBANA convention by working closely with the Host Committee. The Host Committee will have the final say on who they want to invite.

The Committee will order awards ahead of time, keep them and coordinate the award presentation ceremony when the FOBANA Chairperson will present the award.

The Committee will coordinate with the Host Committee to preserve the time slot for presentation The Committee will work with the Cultural Committee for the best cultural performance awards

Section 18: Roles and Responsibilities of Scholarship Committee

The Committee is responsible for fund raising, selecting and finally awarding annual scholarships to talented students from Bangladeshi origin

The Committee will prepare guideline and criteria to select candidates for FOBANA Scholarships and present the list to FOBANA EC for final approval

This committee will raise funds for the scholarship



Donation for the scholarship program can be received from individuals and/or organizations in the USA and/or Bangladesh

Each scholarship will be for the amount of \$500. Donors can contribute in multiples of \$500. There is no maximum limit.

All donations to are tax-exempt to the maximum limit allowed by law

Money donated towards the FOBANA scholarship fund should only be used for the objective of the committee

All donations collected for a given year will be given away as scholarships for that given year.

The financial awards will be given to the students from the host city/state of the Convention for the respective year

The financial award will be a one-time financial award \$1000 per student

The Host Committee will work with the Scholarship Committee and Central Committee to seek and select the recipients

The awards will be personally presented to the recipients by the donors themselves during the FOBANA Convention

Each Donor will be given a Certificate of Appreciation from FOBANA for their contribution

The applicants must be Bangladeshi Americans residing in the State where the Convention is being held.

High School Graduates who have a cumulative GPA between 3.5 - 4.0 in the given year of the Convention.

Applicants must have community involvement

A properly filled out Application form, a color photo must be submitted by two months before the convention of each year. This date can be changed by the Scholarship Committee.

The recipients must agree to allow FOBANA to publicize their photo, name for promotion. Each

year the Scholarship Committee will come up with a topic for the essay

The essay (500 words or less) will be submitted to the Scholarship Committee

The Scholarship Committee may invite other members of the community or academic to review the essay.

The Scholarship Committee will then short list the candidate and submit to FOBANA EC for final ratification

After the ratification, the award recipients will be officially notified

The awards will be given on the last day of the convention on the main stage

No members of current FOBANA Executive Committee or Advisers can participate in the scholarship program

This committee will have at least 3 past FOBANA Chairperson as members

The current Chairperson and the Executive Secretary will be the officio members

Section 19: Roles and Responsibilities of Goodwill and Promotion Committee



The Committee is responsible for promoting FOBANA's mission and vision to our communities in North America and Bangladesh

The committee must clarify and correct any misconception that people may have due to social propaganda or negative publicity through the electronic, print media or any other ways

The committee must attend local programs and TV channels to express positive image of FOBANA

**Section 20: Roles and Responsibilities of Women Empowerment Committee**

To create a support portal with relevant contact information for abused women and children To create and maintain a 24 hours telephone hotline where the victim can leave message in Bangla or English if necessary. Calls will be directed to WEC designated person who will then re-route it to the right agency.

To invite and work with local and national women support agencies and industry leading experts in respective areas so that WEC can provide the necessary support to all member organization of FOBANA

To manage and update WEC Facebook page and publish useful papers in easy to read Bangla and create powerful messages in video and distribute via YouTube, FOBANA Facebook page and website.

To continue educating women about their rights and list resources where they can go for help To encourage women to higher education and financial independence

To create guidelines for women entrepreneurs who want to open a business (Dos and don'ts of how to do a business, how to form a company, run a business etc.), and build an exchange portal where they can get in touch with vendors from Bangladesh for products.

To highlight successful Bangladeshi women entrepreneurs and activists in FOBANA website and invite them to Annual FOBANA convention.

To encourage, promote and support women participation and leadership among the member organizations of FOBANA

To organize WEC informational seminar in cooperation with host committee at every FOBANA convention

**Section 21: Roles and Responsibilities of Executive Logistics Committee**

The Committee provides logistic and technical support to all FOBANA related activities.

The tasks include preparing and editing formal FOBANA documents like Operating Procedure, manage/delegate technical tasks related to FOBANA website, Facebook etc.

This committee is also responsible to manage/delegate all FOBANA related posters, banners, annual reports, videos etc.

**Section 22: Roles and Responsibilities of Convention Liaison Committee**

This committee is responsible to for communicating with the FOBANA Convention Host Committee and maintain a transparent/healthy relationship between the Host Committee and the FOBANA Executive committee.

This committee members must have good understanding about FOBANA Convention and must educate the Host Committee regarding the convention related bylaws written in the FOBANA operating procedure to ensure that the HC closely follows the convention guidelines





This committee must inform the FOBANA executive committee immediately if the HC conducts any unethical activities and engages in any activities that contradicts with the rules outlined in the FOBANA Operating Procedure

This committee must provide a monthly report outlining activities related to the progress of the FOBANA Convention

Section23: Roles and Responsibilities of Convention Review Committee

This committee reviews the quality and standard of the FOBANA convention in a detailed manner

This committee shall have thorough understanding of the convention related bylaws documented in the FOBANA Operating procedure and thoroughly review and document whether the bylaws are followed accurately to execute the convention

The committee must inspect all aspects of the Convention by taking videos, pictures, public testimony etc. to justify their findings.

This committee must tabulate all aspects of the Convention and grade the performance from 0 – 5 (0 being unacceptably poor and 5 being Excellent)

A written monthly report must be provided to the FOBANA Executive committee

Section24: Roles and Responsibilities of Fundraising Committee

This committee reviews FOBANA's current and future yearly budget and evaluate the financial needs

This committee must pay attention to FOBANA's funding needs in all sectors of the operation including the general fund, scholarship fund, legal fund, emergency fund etc.

This committee must develop a plan at the beginning of term presenting how the funds will be realistically raised

A written monthly report must be provided to the FOBANA Executive committee

Section25: Roles and Responsibilities of Following Year Convention Committee

This committee must work closely with the organization who is awarded with the following year convention

The goal of this committee is to make sure that the following year host organization continues to work towards preparing for a successful FOBANA Convention.

This committee must have thorough understanding of the Convention related section of the FOBANA bylaws written in the FOBANA Operating Procedure.

This committee must tabulate all the important tasks to be completed by the Host committee and gather monthly updates. A written monthly report must be provided to the FOBANA Executive committee



**Article XIII: Eligibility to be a Host Organization**

Section 1: The member organization shall be required to have prior experience to host at least a mini convention.

Any Member organization desires to host a FOBANA Convention shall be required to present to EC at AGM a proposal highlighting their intent, organizational strength, financial soundness including an operating budget, experience, probable location, possible venue, date and action plan to prove their ability to successfully host an event like FOBANA

Based on consensus reached at the AGM, the upcoming convention is awarded to a successful member organization known as the "Host Committee" to host it at their State of origin two years in advance under an agreement signed by both parties.

Host Committee shall coordinate and work with the EC in the initial planning and execution of hosting the event. In the process, Host Committee shall seek guidance from the EC from time to time in order to meet compliance with FOBANA guidelines and the requirements stipulated in the agreement or as directed by EC.

Host Committee shall be required to submit a comprehensive report confirming the formation of a full-fledged committee, acquisition of a venue, hotel and funding strategy at the following year prior to AGM for review by EC.

EC reserves the right to safeguard its interest and take any action against the Host Committee for their failure to comply with their requirement. The action could contemplate the termination of award made for hosting the Convention. The EC may decide to award the convention to another willing organization or hosting convention by themselves.

Host Committee must prepare a budget or estimates of income and expenditures for the tenure of the event. They must maintain accounts, prepare financial statements showing income and expenditures statements and perform their audit. A copy of the audited report must be submitted to the EC.

Section 2: The member organization shall be an active member of FOBANA for two (2) years.

Section 3: The same member organization shall not be qualified to become a Host Organization again within five (5) years of hosting an FOBANA Convention.

Section 4: The member organization shall be required to sign an agreement with FOBANA to the effect that they shall abide by the FOBANA Constitution, By-Laws, and Guidelines for Organizing FOBANA Convention without any reservation and pay by a certified check of the amount of \$2000.00 (two thousand dollars) non-refundable in advance as Security Deposit. Member organizations will not be considered as a candidate and will not be allowed to participate in the election or selection process unless the agreement is signed, and a \$2000.00 check is submitted to the Election Commissioner. In the case when a member organization is not elected or selected, then the check will NOT be refunded, and the agreement will be voided. EC will keep \$2000 deposit from all organizations who compete in the election unless the application is withdrawn prior to deadline. This deposit received from the organization who wins the election/selection shall also not be refunded to the Host Committee.

Section 5: It is preferred that the member organization have IRS 501 (c) 3 status. In case that they do not have the status, FOBANA shall receive the corporate checks and within 7 days FOBANA Treasurer shall disburse the check to the Host Organization

Section 6: The member organization must have a sound organizational and adequate financial strength to function effectively.

Section 7: The member organization must submit proof that they are duly registered in their State as active organization/corporation.

Section 8: The member organization must certify that they have duly paid federal and local income taxes and any other required papers are currently in their said state.



**Article XIV: Host Committee**

- Section 1: The Host Organization must form a Host Committee for the preparation of the convention.
- Section 2: The Host Committee must have one Convener, one Member Secretary, and one Treasurer.
- Section 3: Convener and Member Secretary of the Host Committee shall be included as members of FOBANA EC and attend all meetings during the term of the FOBANA Convention.
- Section 4: The Host Committee can have as many co-conveners; assistants, committees or members to carry out their responsibility, however, only the Convener and the Member Secretary will be allowed to act as the liaison between the Executive Committee and the Host Organization.
- Section 5: Host Committee shall not create or designate any official position with the title that the leadership in hierarchy holds in the FOBANA EC so it creates any confusion for having two Chairmen in FOBANA Convention or on any publication materials that Host Committee will circulate.
- Section 6: If the Executive Committee raises any fund for the convention then the host committee shall give 20% to Executive Committee.

**Article XV: Guideline for organizing an FOBANA Convention**

- Section 1: The Host Organization must follow this guideline while organizing an FOBANA convention.
- Section 2: Use of name: The proper name for the organization and the convention must be used. The name of the organization is Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America or FOBANA. FOBANA is also synonymous to the convention. Hence, FOBANA followed by the year of the convention can also be used.
- Section 3: Use of logo: FOBANA is a registered trademark; therefore, it is necessary to use the correct logo in all communication. The Chairperson or Executive Secretary shall provide the official logo to the Host Organization. No other version of the logo shall be allowed.
- Section 4: Orientation Documents: A collection of templates and very useful information are stored in the FOBANA archive. The Host Organization shall review these files first before creating any new version. If however, a new version is needed to be created for a creative reason, the structure and content should be similar.
- Section 5: Inclusion of EC names in Communication: The contact information of the Chairperson and Executive Secretary shall be included in every communication and promotional materials that the host organization will produce. This is especially necessary for posters, Television commercials, newspaper advertisement, press releases, a fund-raising campaign and invitation letters. This will be the only way to prove that the host organization is approved by the Executive Committee.
- Section 6: Keeping Executive Committee informed: The Host Organization shall inform the Executive Committee for all media communication. Executive Committee can then be prepared to answer from the media about the organization. All convention related questions will be dealt by the Host Organization.
- Section 7: Official Letterhead: The Host Organization shall use an official letterhead template that has a reference to the Chairperson and Member Secretary of FOBANA.
- Section 8: FOBANA Theme Song: The Host Organization must play the FOBANA theme song during the opening and closing ceremony. They may also play it throughout the convention. The theme song is available on the web site or will be provided to them by the Chairperson or Executive Secretary.
- Section 9: Flags: The Host Organization must display flags of three countries in equal size and with proper mount (Bangladesh, USA, and Canada) during the opening ceremony.
- Section 10: Joint Meet the Press session: The Host Organization shall organize at least one “Meet The Press” session in New York or any other suitable venue about 2-3 months before the convention. FOBANA Executive Members, Advisors will join at their own expense. The venue, food, a 4’x10’ banner, media packets and other expenses shall be the responsibility of the Host Organization. The Chairperson, Vice Chairperson, and the Executive Secretary shall be seated at the head table along with the other officers from the Host Organization. In for any unforeseen reason, such session can’t be organized, then the Host Organization shall spend the fund allocated for this





session in television and newspaper promotion.

- Section 11: EC members in the opening ceremony: The Chairperson and the Executive Secretary shall be allowed to give a brief speech at the opening ceremony. The Host Organization shall allocate at least 3 minutes each. The Host Organization may invite additional Executive Members or Advisors at their own discretion.
- Section 12: All EC members on stage: Anytime during the 3-day convention the Host Organization shall invite all EC members (including the member organizations) on the stage and introduce them to the audience. This may be a simple introduction by announcing their names, organizations they belong to, or courtesy may be extended to allow few of them to speak. The latter would be at the discretion of the Host Organization.
- Section 13: Updates and statuses: The Host Organization shall provide periodic status on the progress of the convention to the Executive Committee. These updates can be in the form of e-mail or verbally in the teleconference.
- Section 14: Sponsorship Packet: The Host Organization shall send hard copy of sponsorship packets and posters to all member organizations as soon as they are prepared.
- Section 15: Convention Requirement: The Host Organization shall provide the following amenities to the Executive Committee during the convention:
- A meeting room that can hold up to 100 people for all three (3) days of the convention.
  - Either serve food or provide food coupons to all Executive Committee members on the day of the FOBANA Annual General Meeting
  - Provide specially marked Lanyard for the Executive Members, Advisors and FOBANA Alumni members
- Section 16: Executive Committee visit: The Executive Committee members will visit (at their own expense) the host city at least once before the convention at a mutually agreed date and time to witness the progress for the convention. The Host Organization shall provide a meeting room, food and if possible a tour of the venue. The Executive Committee members will meet with the members of the Host Committee and share their experience and wisdom.
- Section 17: Selection of Chief Guest: The Host Organization shall not invite any political or religious figure as the Chief Guest. This includes but not limited to any sitting ministers, head of opposition party, head or senior members of any political or religious parties. The Host Organization must select the Chief Guest with consultation with the Executive Committee.
- Section 18: Invitation of dignitaries: The Host Committee shall invite the following dignitaries maintaining their official protocol to attend the convention. Providing travel, room, and board and other incidental expenses shall be at the discretion of the Host Organization.
- Ambassador, Government of Bangladesh, Washington DC
  - Consul General, Government of Bangladesh, New York
  - Consul General, Government of Bangladesh, Los Angeles
  - Minister for Information and Cultural Affairs, Government of Bangladesh
  - High Commissioner, Government of Bangladesh, Canada
  - Minister for Commerce, Government of Bangladesh
  - Minister for Education, Government of Bangladesh
  - Minister for Labor & Employment & Expatriate Welfare & Overseas Employment, Government of Bangladesh
  - Minister for Tourism, Government of Bangladesh



- j) Senators of the state where the convention will be held
- k) Local Congressman of the city where the convention will be held
- l) Governor of the state where the convention will be held
- m) Mayor of the city or any Elected Officials of the County where the convention will be held

Section 19: Website: The Host organization shall be a sub-domain to the main FOBANA website ([www.fobanaonline.com](http://www.fobanaonline.com)). A pre-formatted template shall be provided to the Host Organization as soon as they are selected as per the Web Site Guideline. In return, the Host Committee shall pay a one-time fee of \$500.00 to the Executive Committee. If the Host Committee decides to purchase any additional domain names, they will have to be pointed to this central location. The address of the website for the convention shall be like [www.fobanaYEAR.fobanaonline.com](http://www.fobanaYEAR.fobanaonline.com).

Section 20: In the case when the name of the host organization changes due to any reason, FOBANA Executive Committee shall go by the Registered Charter number, 501 (c) (3) certificate number (if any), number of incorporation or any other indicative number that would prove beyond doubt that the previous member organization is the sole owner of the organization and only the name has changed.

Section 21: In the case of a situation as explained in Section 9 above, the member organization shall appeal to the Executive Committee in writing to change the name on record. The name of the member organization on record shall be changed upon verification of all documents and ownership.

Section 22: The Executive Committee reserves the right refuse a name change if there is a potential dispute. In that case, the convention shall be held under the name of the Executive Committee.

Section 23: The Host Committee must make special efforts to promote and give special preference to artists of Bangladeshi origin living in North America.

**Article XVI: Election Procedure and Handover of Office and Accounts (Resolution passed at the 2019 Convention AGM in New York)**

**A. Election Procedure:**

Section 1: The Election Commission Committee (ECC) of FOBANA is an independent body under its constitution that will operate the election process of FOBANA.

Section 2: The body administers elections to all elective positions of Executive Committee of FOBANA, and assists in the election of a Host Organization who wishes to host FOBANA Convention each year at their respective State where they belong.

Section 3: The Election Commission shall consist of not more than five members. One person will be the Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) and the remaining four members will be the Election Commissioners. To be eligible for appointment, the CEC must have served as Chairperson of FOBANA in the past.

Section 4: The term of office for CEC or any Election Commissioner is one year or more from the date on which they take their oath to function in office. Any member of this body is not eligible for becoming a candidate for any elective position. The appointment of ECC and the term of the Election Commission body will be decided at the last Executive Committee (EC) meeting, that takes place before Annual General Meeting (AGM), through majority consensus based on the selection process by the EC members.

Section 5: ECC shall function under FOBANA constitution and any other law enacted by the Executive



Committee to act appropriately in the conduct of a free and fair election. Their function is to provide code of conduct guidelines, election schedule, maintain coordination, hold the election, administer ballots, count the votes, perform issue/validity resolutions, and announce the results under the conditions stipulated in the By-Laws.

Section 6: ECC shall announce the election schedule at least 120 days before the expiry of the term of the current Executive Committee, and formally notify it to all the member organizations on time.

Section 7: ECC shall maintain effective liaison with the Executive Committee in the performance of their activities to avoid any conflict with the Executive Committee agenda.

Section 8: ECC shall secure a list of current membership from the Membership Review Committee and work with it. Only members in good standing duly certified by the Treasurer shall be qualified for participation in the Election.

Section 9: Prospective candidate for the position of Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, and Executive Secretary must meet at least one of the following two conditions:

a. The candidate at any time in the past was either a Convener or Member Secretary of a FOBANA Convention.

b. The candidate remained a member of the Executive Committee for at least two (2) years.

Member(s) willing to contest on any other elective position(s) must have served at least once as an office-bearer of his/her organization. The organization itself must be registered, functional and have a valid membership with FOBANA.

Section 10: Prospective candidate for the position of Outstanding Member must meet at least one of the following four conditions:

a. The candidate at any time in the past was either a Chairperson or Vice-Chairperson or Executive Secretary.

b. The candidate at any time in the past was either a Joint Executive Secretary or Treasurer for at least total of two years in these two Officer positions.

c. The candidate at any time in the past was either a Convener or Member Secretary of a FOBANA Convention plus remained a member of the Executive Committee for at least two (2) years. (resolution passed on November 22, 2020, 10<sup>th</sup> EC Meeting)

Section 11: Organizations intending to host FOBANA Convention must meet the eligibility requirement as stipulated under Section XIII of Operating Procedure. In addition, they will be required to complete and submit a proposal in the prescribed form. In support of their submission, the proposal must include organization profile, List of Board members including their contact numbers, Bank statement showing financial stability, a working budget, proposed venue and its location, Hotels and availability of transportation, and furnish evidence of organization's healthy operation and its activities, meeting minutes of AGM for the last three (3) years. All these information needs to be furnished to EC by no later than eight (8) weeks before the election date.

Section 12: As per election schedule, ECC shall invite nominations from members of the valid organization(s) registered with FOBANA for all elective positions forty-five (45) days before the election date. Nomination forms will be provided by ECC. There will be a non-refundable nomination fee required for submission for each position to be determined by the EC.

Section 13: Interested candidate(s) must complete and submit their nomination forms to ECC within the





deadline date established on the form. One candidate can run for only one EC position.

- Section 14: ECC shall review all nominations received within the deadline date, scrutinize them for eligibility, certify for validation, prepare a list for use.
- Section 15: ECC shall release this list as in Section 13 to the candidates with options for withdrawal and or switching to another Executive Committee position. This must be done three (3) weeks before the election date. ECC allows candidacy withdrawal without forfeiting the nomination fee. Also, they allow candidate(s) to switch off to another elective position by paying an additional \$100 fee. This must be done by no later than two (2) weeks before the election date.
- Section 16: Membership Review Committee will release the final valid membership list to ECC who will, in turn, be the voters in the election. This must be done two (2) weeks before the election date.
- Section 17: ECC will release the final list of candidates along with voters list to member/organization(s) ten (10) days before the election date. ECC will also release brief information on the Host Committee contenders.
- Section 18: General Body election will be held electronically. Election for all elective positions is one term of EC, Host Committee for the second year, and any proposition/amendment for General Body to vote will take place in 'one-shot' through a single electronic ballot with unique link provided to each eligible voter through their official email address. All elections will be decided by a simple majority of voting members. Voting shall be conducted by secret ballot electronically, nobody including ECC will not be able to see who voted for whom - each candidate through this electronic voting process. (resolution passed on Nov.22, 2020 in 10<sup>th</sup> EC meeting)
- The voter must be present at the election date to vote. A person is eligible to cast only one vote for one elective position – no proxy voting will be allowed. It's mandatory for any candidate (running in the ballot) to be present at the voting center on the election date. (resolution passed on Nov.22, 2020 in 10<sup>th</sup> EC meeting)
- Section 19: Section 19: CEC shall make an announcement of the election result at AGM. CEC puts his signature and stamp on the official election result printout, derived through electronic process, to make it official. (resolution passed on Nov.22, 2020 in 10<sup>th</sup> EC meeting)
- Section 20: CEC shall make an announcement of holding the Election, distribute officially signed ballots among the eligible voters, read the final list of candidates for positions they are contesting, CEC gives them a time frame to complete their casting of votes free from any interference. Once the given time is up, ECC will collect cast ballots, count them, note down any variance and review them for resolutions, finalize the election result and submit them to CEC. Immediately thereafter, CEC makes a review of the result, put his signature and stamp on it to make it official. CEC then announces the election results.
- Section 21: In the case of a tie for any position, ECC will make their decision on the appropriate method to break the tie, such as run-off election, coin-toss, or any other method deemed practical at that time.
- Section 22: The decision of the CEC shall be considered final and binding for all election matters.



**B. Handover of Office and Accounts:**

Section 1: CEC shall, after the elections, invite the Chairperson and the elected members of the new Executive Committee to take office. EC shall conduct oath-taking of the newly elected members of the Executive Committee on stage at the Convention. All the elected members must take the following FOBANA oath of allegiance:

*'I pledge allegiance to the Federation of Bangladeshi Association in North America (FOBANA) organization which I am elected to serve. I solemnly swear to uphold the FOBANA constitution, bylaws and operating procedures to carry on my duties. I will always put the interest of FOBANA organization first and fulfill my duties as an elected Executive Member with the highest integrity and honor. Long live FOBANA.'*

*(Resolution passed on Oct. 9, 2019 via email by the EC)*

Section 2: CEC shall get all the elected members of the Executive Committee including the Chairperson to sign a Code of Conduct which would guide their actions during their term.

Section 3: The outgoing Executive Committee would exercise their responsibility to hand over to the new Executive Committee all the completed accountings, books, and related documents including income and expenses within the date of remission of office.

Section 4: The outgoing Executive Committee would have the responsibility to get the returns of all income and expenses of the Host Committee duly certified, audited, and submit them to the new Executive Committee within the next one month after remitting office.

**Article XVII: Corrective Action**

Section 1: In case a current or past member organization or members of the Executive Committee or any member of the Standing Committees violates any provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws or Operating Procedures then the Executive Committee shall have the right to take corrective actions against them.

Section 2: The Executive Committee may send a Show Cause Notice to the member asking to respond within 30 days. Consecutive notices may be sent at the discretion of the EC.

Section 3: If no satisfactory response is received from the member within that specified period then further measures may be taken including but not limited to revoking the membership privileges, removing the names from the website or making the member 'persona non grata' for any specified period as decided by the EC.

Section 4: These corrective measures will not be in conflict with other measures if mentioned in the Constitution or By-laws or other procedures. The EC will have the right to choose any or all measures against a member.

Section 5: "Zero Tolerance" to establish basic decency and civility within FOBANA. Executive Committee members/subcommittee members must NOT personally attack other members via including but not limited to via email, messenger/text at the FOBANA official forums and during meetings that can cause disturbance and conflict within the organization. If any member commits any such offences, the following corrective action may be taken:

- a) That FOBANA member may be expelled from attending any future EC, Standing Committee, Advisory Committee meetings and AGM for an indefinite period of time depending on the severity of the offence.



- b) That FOBANA member may be expelled from any/all official FOBANA forums such as EC, Standing Committee, Advisory Committee and General Body member email/text or any such forums for an indefinite period of time depending on the severity of the offence.
- c) EC may ask the elected organization to send a replacement member to FOBANA depending on the severity of the offence.

(Resolution passed on Dec 4, 2019 via email)

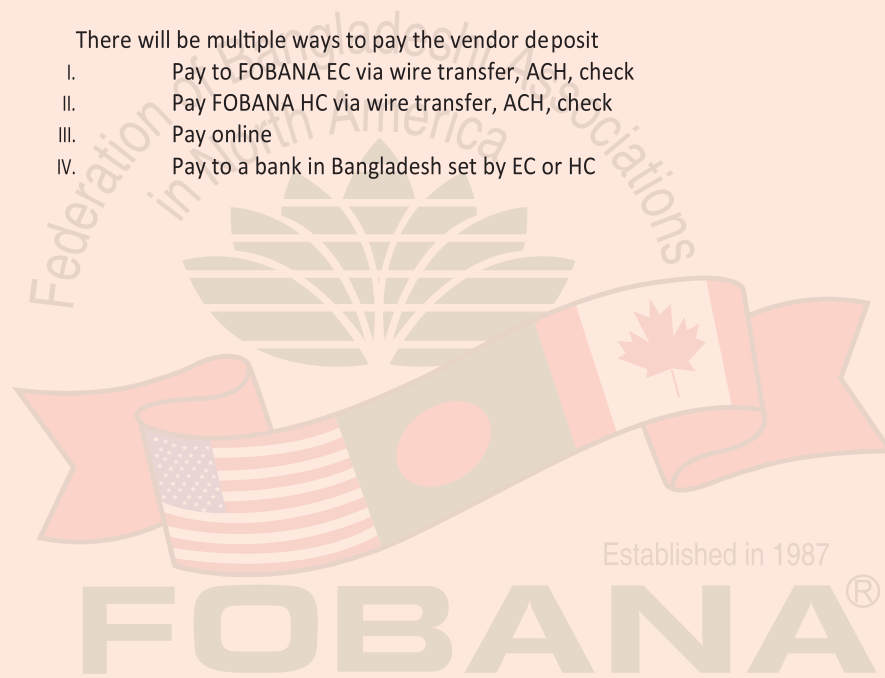
#### Article XVIII: Policy for Vendors Requiring Invitation Letters for Visa Purposes

- Section 1: All invitation letters will be issued by the Executive Committee signed by the Chairman, Executive Secretary, Convener and Member Secretary of the host committee
- Section 2: Only two invitation letters per vendor will be issued.
- Section 3: Vendors will be dealing directly with FOBANA and there will be no agents in Bangladesh for these purposes.
- Section 4: These letters will be either sent directly to the vendors or sent to host committee for dispatch.
- Section 5: Default dispatch method will be e-mail. However, vendors may pay the extra shipping cost (Fed-EX, UPS, DHL) if they would like to receive the original letters to submit to the US Embassy. The US Embassy may want to see the original letter.
- Section 6: The original letters will be embossed with the FOBANA seal to prevent any counterfeiting.
- Section 7: A record will be kept to track who was invited.
- Section 8: The EC or HC may independently verify if a vendor is legitimate. Established in 1987
- Section 9: The EC may engage its own committees such as the Business & Investment Committee or the Bangladesh Liaison Committee to gather information and/or take the interview to ensure that these are legitimate vendors.
- Section 10: The EC may request additional documents from the vendors or engage any 3rd party companies such as IBFB to verify their documents.
- Section 11: The EC may decline the request to send an invitation if they deem a vendor illegitimate. The host committee will have to comply.
- Section 12: Vendors must deposit the stall reservation fee (set every year by the host committee – for instance: premium stalls \$2000, standard \$1500 and general \$1000) before an invitation letter can be sent to them.
- Section 13: A Vendor Stall Agreement form must be signed.





- Section 14: The Vendor must notify the FOBANA Executive Committee or Host Committee in writing about their intention to cancel the reservation no later than 7 days prior to the convention. After that date, no refund will be issued because the stalls can't be allocated to any new vendors after that date.
- Section 15: Refunds will be issued within 90 days from the convention or a date set every year by the EC.
- Section 16: 50% refund minus any bank transfer and/or PayPal fee if they notify within 7 days prior to the convention. Vendors applying for a US Visa must show proof of visa cancellation for a refund.
- Section 17: No refund will be given if there are less than 7 days left of the convention.
- Section 18: No refund will be issued to vendors who will receive US VISA but will not attend FOBANA. They will be reported to the US Embassy about their absence in FOBANA.
- Section 19: A list of invited guests, vendors will be published in FOBANA website. Names that are not published will be called counterfeit and FOBANA will not be responsible for them.
- Section 20: There will be multiple ways to pay the vendor deposit
- I. Pay to FOBANA EC via wire transfer, ACH, check
  - II. Pay FOBANA HC via wire transfer, ACH, check
  - III. Pay online
  - IV. Pay to a bank in Bangladesh set by EC or HC





# FOBANA PHOTO ALBUM

36th FOBANA Convention, Chicago, IL

























**FOBANA AGM 2022**  
**36th FOBANA Convention, Chicago, IL**











**FOBANA donated deep-tubewells in arsenic-affected areas in Faridpur through the BUET philanthropic work team, organized by our chairman, Mr. Ahsan Chowdhury.**



# আন্তরিক ধন্যবাদ ও কৃতজ্ঞতা জ্ঞাপন

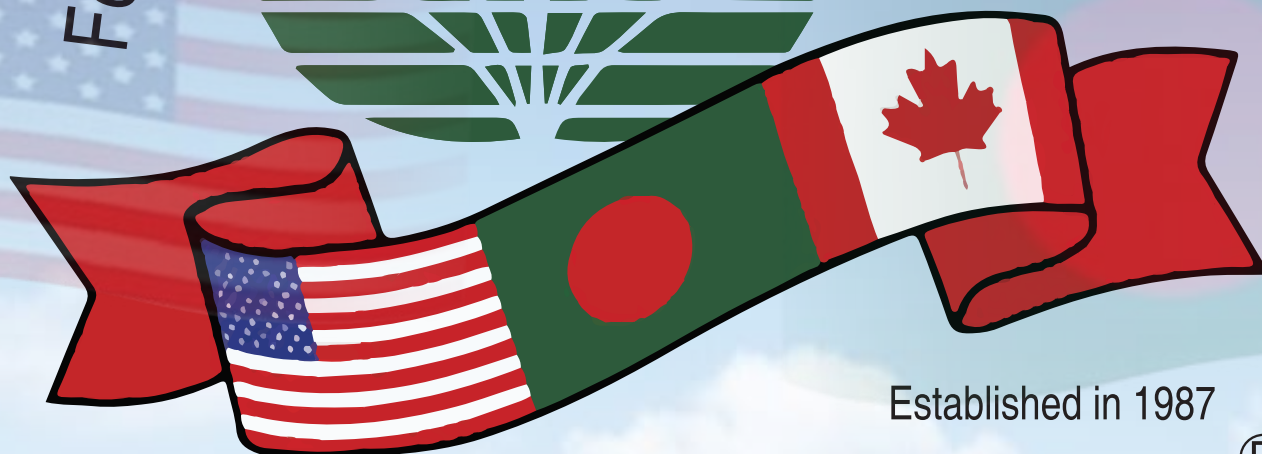
ফোবানা উত্তর আমেরিকার সবচেয়ে বড় সংগঠন। প্রবাসের মাটিতে বাংলাদেশের গৌরবান্বিত ইতিহাস, কৃষ্টি ও সাংস্কৃতিক ঐতিহ্য তুলে ধরার প্রয়াসে এবং নতুন প্রজন্মকে সম্পৃক্ত করার লক্ষ্যে সুদীর্ঘ তিন দশকেরও বেশী সময় ধরে কাজ করে যাচ্ছে ফোবানা। বিভিন্ন কার্যক্রমের পাশাপাশি মানবিক কার্যক্রমেও ফোবানা এগিয়ে গিয়েছে সাহায্যের হাত বাড়িয়ে দেশে এবং প্রবাসে। আর এই সব কার্যক্রমের পেছনে রয়েছে অসংখ্য মানুষের আন্তরিক সহযোগিতা, সহভাগিতা, শ্রম, মেধা, সম্পৃক্ততা এবং ত্যাগস্বীকার। তাই আজকের এই পরিসরে আমরা আপনাদের সবাইকে ফোবানার পক্ষ থেকে অশেষ ধন্যবাদ ও কৃতজ্ঞতা জানাচ্ছি, যারা প্রত্যক্ষ বা পরোক্ষভাবে ফোবানার সাথে সম্পৃক্ত এবং ফোবানার পথচলায় সাথে রয়েছেন। ধন্যবাদ সকল কর্মী, স্বেচ্ছাসেবক, পৃষ্ঠপোষক, দাতা, মিডিয়া কর্মীসহ সকলকে, যারা ফোবানাকে ভালোবেসে সব সময়ই ফোবানার পাশে থেকেছেন। কৃতজ্ঞতা তাদেরও, যারা সারা বছরের কার্যক্রম ছাড়াও বিশেষ করে ফোবানা সম্মেলনে বিভিন্নভাবে অবদান রেখেছেন। আমাদের বিশেষ ধন্যবাদ এবং কৃতজ্ঞতা এবারের হোস্ট কমিটি “বাংলাদেশ এসোসিয়েশন অফ শিকাগোল্যান্ড” এবং তাদের নেতৃবৃন্দ ও কর্মীদের প্রতি আমাদের একটি সুন্দর ও স্বার্থক ফোবানা সম্মেলন উপহার দেয়ার জন্য। আপনারা আমাদের সকল সাফল্য ও অর্জনের অংশীদার। সবার জন্য ফোবানার পক্ষ থেকে অনেক অনেক শুভকামনা রইল।



ফেডারেশন অফ বাংলাদেশী এসোসিয়েশন ইন নর্থ আমেরিকা  
Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America



Federation of Bangladeshi Associations  
in North America



Established in 1987

**FOBANA**®