FOBANA

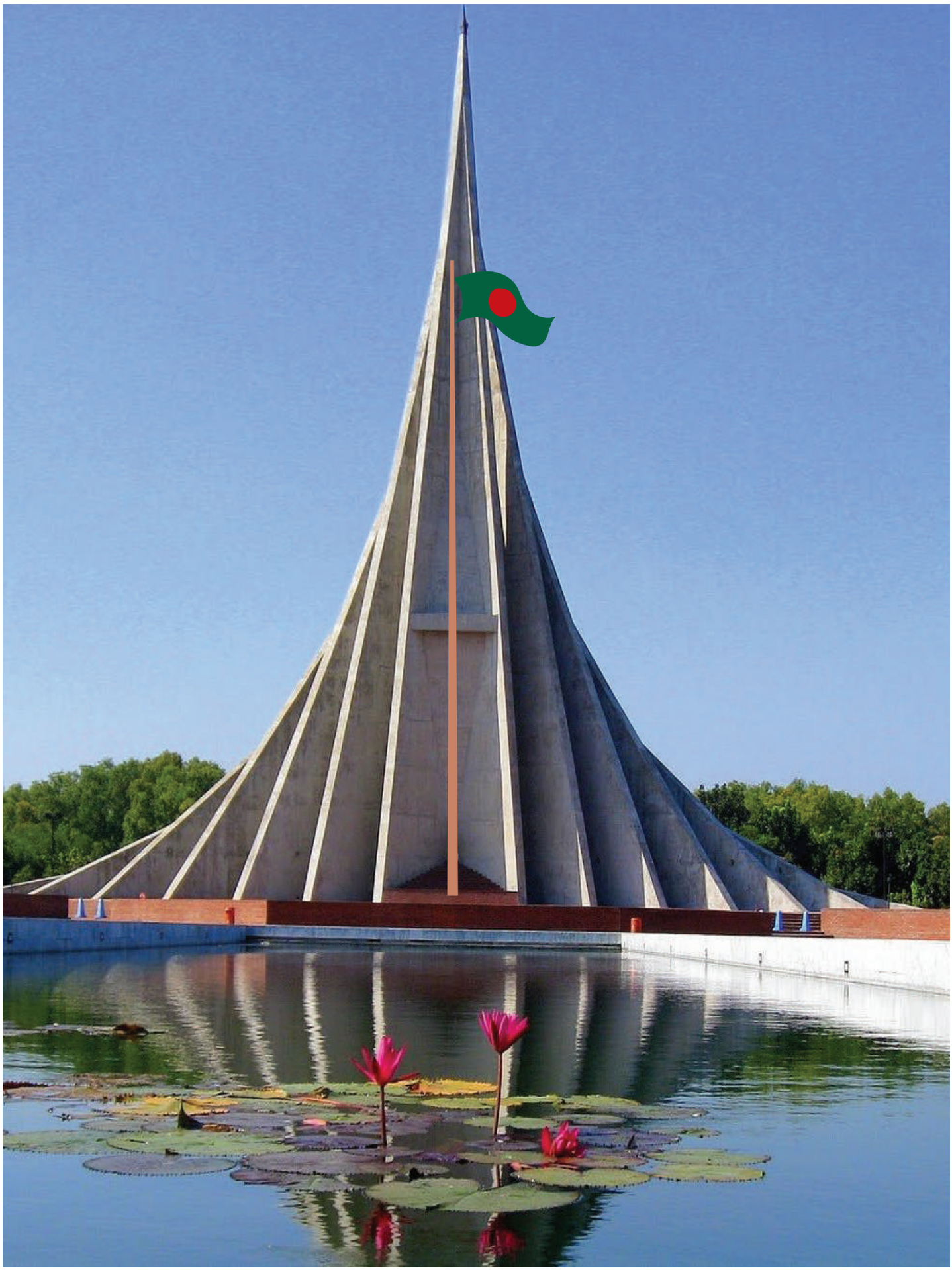
Annual Report 2025-2026

40th FOBANA Convention 2026

Hollywood, Los Angeles, California



Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America



Front Inner

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Compiled by:
Anthony Pius Gomes

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

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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 বুকে বাজে।।।
দরদিয়া, রাখালিয়া, গেয়ে যাব আজ সবার হৃদয়ে তা।
ফোবানা, ফোবানা।।।।

About FOBANA

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

Message From the Chairperson



Dear FOBANA Leaders, Members, and Well-Wishers,

It is my great privilege to have had the opportunity to lead the FOBANA Executive Committee for the 2025–2026 term. Throughout the year, despite various challenges, the Executive Committee worked collectively to strengthen the organization, improve coordination, address pending matters, and support the successful organization of the historic 40th FOBANA Convention.

We maintained close communication with the Host Committee and assisted with convention planning and coordination. We sincerely appreciate the dedication of the Host Committee, volunteers, participating organizations, sponsors, performers, and community leaders who helped make this milestone convention possible.

Among our key accomplishments was developing an organizational structure, operational guidelines, and management rules for the Host Committee. These initiatives were designed to clarify roles, responsibilities, accountability, coordination, and decision-making. We hope they will support more effective convention management and serve as a valuable resource for future Host Committees.

We also developed the **FOBANA Vision 2040**, providing strategic direction toward building a stronger, more inclusive, transparent, and forward-looking organization. This vision reflects our commitment to preserving Bangladeshi history, culture, heritage, and values while promoting collaboration, community engagement, professional networking, and meaningful opportunities for our younger generation.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Executive Committee, Central Executive Committee, standing and subcommittee leaders, member organizations, advisers, volunteers, sponsors, supporters, and well-wishers. Our progress was possible because of your cooperation and shared commitment to FOBANA's mission.

As we conclude our term, we recognize that organizational progress is an ongoing journey. We hope our work will help future leaders strengthen FOBANA's governance, institutional structure, operational effectiveness, and community relationships.

We wish the 40th FOBANA Convention a grand success and look forward with confidence to the next generation of FOBANA leaders. May they carry forward our proud legacy and continue building a stronger, more united, and prosperous Bangladeshi diaspora community.

Together, let us honor our past, strengthen our present, and inspire our future.

With sincere gratitude and best wishes,

Rabiul Karim Belal
Chairperson
FOBANA Executive Committee 2025–2026

ভাইস চেয়ারপারসন



উত্তর আমেরিকায় বসবাসরত বাংলাদেশিদের সবচেয়ে বৃহৎ মিলনমেলা ও সাংগঠনিক ঐক্যের প্রতীক ফেডারেশন অব বাংলাদেশি অ্যাসোসিয়েশনস ইন নর্থ আমেরিকা (ফোবানা) চার দশকের গৌরবময় যাত্রার এক ঐতিহাসিক মাইলফলকে পৌঁছেছে। আগামী ৪-৬ সেপ্টেম্বর ২০২৬, ক্যালিফোর্নিয়ার ইউনিভার্সাল সিটির হিলটন লস অ্যাঞ্জেলেস হোটেলে অনুষ্ঠিতব্য ফোবানার ৪০তম সম্মেলন শুধু একটি বার্ষিক আয়োজন নয়; এটি উত্তর আমেরিকায় বসবাসরত বাংলাদেশিদের ইতিহাস, ঐতিহ্য, সংস্কৃতি, নেতৃত্ব এবং ভবিষ্যৎ প্রজন্মের জন্য নতুন স্বপ্ন নির্মাণের এক অনন্য উপলক্ষ।

ফোবানার এই দীর্ঘ পথচলা কখনোই মসৃণ ছিল না। নানা সময়ে মতপার্থক্য, সাংগঠনিক চ্যালেঞ্জ এবং প্রতিকূলতার মধ্য দিয়েও সংগঠনটি তার অগ্রযাত্রা অব্যাহত রেখেছে। প্রতিটি অভিজ্ঞতা আমাদের আরও পরিণত করেছে, আরও দায়িত্বশীল করেছে এবং আমাদের শিখিয়েছে–ঐক্যের বিকল্প নেই।

আমাদের সাংগঠনিক কার্যপ্রণালী অনুযায়ী, টানা দুই মেয়াদে নির্বাচিত সহ-সভাপতি হিসেবে আমি চলতি বছর এবং গত বছর ফোবানার ২০টি স্ট্যান্ডিং কমিটির নেতৃত্ব দেওয়ার সুযোগ পেয়েছি। অত্যন্ত আনন্দের সঙ্গে বলতে চাই, প্রতিটি স্ট্যান্ডিং কমিটি নিষ্ঠা, আন্তরিকতা ও কঠোর পরিশ্রমের মাধ্যমে তাদের নির্ধারিত লক্ষ্য অর্জন করেছে এবং উল্লেখযোগ্য অগ্রগতি সাধন করেছে। তাদের এই নিষ্ঠা, দায়িত্ববোধ ও সাফল্যের জন্য আমি প্রত্যেক সদস্যের প্রতি আন্তরিক কৃতজ্ঞতা ও ধন্যবাদ জানাই

এই বিশ্বাস থেকেই আমি দায়িত্ব গ্রহণের পর ফোবানার স্ট্যান্ডিং কমিটি এবং হোস্ট কমিটিকে নিয়ে সাংগঠনিক উন্নয়ন, সমন্বয় বৃদ্ধি এবং ভবিষ্যৎ কর্মপরিকল্পনা নিয়ে দুটি সফল আলোচনা সভার আয়োজন করি। অত্যন্ত আনন্দের সঙ্গে বলতে চাই, উভয় আলোচনা সভায় সংশ্লিষ্ট নেতৃবৃন্দ গঠনমূলক আলোচনা করেছেন এবং ফোবানাকে আরও শক্তিশালী ও কার্যকর প্রতিষ্ঠানে রূপ দেওয়ার লক্ষ্যে আন্তরিক ও ইতিবাচক সাড়া দিয়েছেন। এই সহযোগিতামূলক মনোভাব আমাদের ভবিষ্যৎ পথচলার জন্য অত্যন্ত আশাব্যঞ্জক।

আমি বিশ্বাস করি, একটি সংগঠনের প্রকৃত শক্তি তার নেতৃত্বে নয়, বরং তার সদস্য, সহযোগী সংগঠন এবং কমিউনিটির সম্মিলিত অংশগ্রহণে নিহিত। তাই আমাদের লক্ষ্য হওয়া উচিত এমন একটি ফোবানা গড়ে তোলা, যেখানে উত্তর আমেরিকার প্রতিটি বাংলাদেশি নিজেকে এই পরিবারের একজন গর্বিত সদস্য হিসেবে অনুভব করবেন।

দীর্ঘ এক বছর ধরে বাংলাদেশ অ্যাসোসিয়েশন অব ক্যালিফোর্নিয়া (বাক)-এর নেতৃবৃন্দ, আহ্বায়ক কমিটি, হোস্ট কমিটি, স্বেচ্ছাসেবক এবং অসংখ্য শুভানুধ্যায়ী নিষ্ঠা, শ্রম ও আন্তরিকতার সঙ্গে এই সম্মেলনের প্রস্তুতি গ্রহণ করেছেন। তাদের নিরলস প্রচেষ্টা নিঃসন্দেহে প্রশংসনীয়। আমি তাদের প্রত্যেককে আন্তরিক অভিনন্দন জানাই এবং একটি সাফল্যমণ্ডিত সম্মেলন আয়োজনের জন্য শুভকামনা জানাই।

ফোবানা আমাদের প্রবাসজীবনের একটি আবেগ, একটি পরিচয় এবং একটি দায়িত্ব। এই সংগঠনের মাধ্যমে আমরা শুধু নিজেদের সংস্কৃতিকে ধারণ করি না, বরং নতুন প্রজন্মের হাতে তুলে দিই আমাদের ভাষা, মুক্তিযুদ্ধের চেতনা, ঐতিহ্য এবং বাংলাদেশকে ভালোবাসার প্রেরণা।

আসুন, ফোবানার ৪০ বছরের অর্জনকে শক্তির ভিত্তি হিসেবে গ্রহণ করে আগামী দিনের আরও সমৃদ্ধ, আধুনিক ও ঐক্যবদ্ধ ফোবানা নির্মাণে সবাই একসঙ্গে কাজ করি।

ফোবানার ৪০তম সম্মেলনের সার্বিক সাফল্য কামনা করছি। মহান আল্লাহ আমাদের সকলের প্রচেষ্টা কবুল করুন এবং এই সম্মেলনের মাধ্যমে উত্তর আমেরিকার বাংলাদেশি কমিউনিটির মধ্যে সম্প্রীতি, ভ্রাতৃত্ব ও পারস্পরিক সহযোগিতার বন্ধন আরও সুদৃঢ় হোক–এই প্রত্যাশা ব্যক্ত করছি।

ঐক্যই আমাদের শক্তি,

ফোবানাই আমাদের পরিচয়।

মোহাম্মদ রহমান জহির
ভাইস চেয়ারপারসন, নির্বাহী কমিটি
ফেডারেশন অব বাংলাদেশি অ্যাসোসিয়েশনস ইন নর্থ আমেরিকা (ফোবানা)

FOBANA Executive Committee (2025-2026)



Rabiul Karim Belal (PA)
Chairman



M. Rahman Zahir (FL)
Vice Chairman



Khaled Ahmed Rouf (IL)
Executive Secretary



Anthony Pius Gomes (VA)
Joint Executive Secretary



Mohin Uddin Dulal (GA)
Treasurer

FOBANA Executive Committee (2025-2026)

Outstanding Members



Masud Rob Chowdhury (CA)



Nahidul Khan Sahel (GA)



Mahbubur Bhuiyan (GA)



Dr. Mohammad Ali Manik (GA)



Mohammed Arefin Babul (GA)



Jashim Uddin (GA)



Sham Sudduha, Shagor (TX)



Nurul Amin (VA)



Abu Rumi (VA)

FOBANA Executive Committee (2025-2026

Executive Member Organizations



Dr. Zainul Abedin (CA)
Bangladesh Association California



Imtiaz Ahmed Pavel (TX)
Bangladesh American Society of Greater Houston



Nurul Amin Nuru (VA)
Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington DC (BAGWDC)



Abir Alamgir (NY)
Drama Circle



Shafiqul Islam Jewel (FL)
Bangladesh Association Of Florida Inc. (Fl)



Mohammed Kazal (MD)
Maryland Friends and Family



Nahida Naser Yasmin (TX)
Bangladesh Theater Houston (BTH), TX



Akter Hossain (VA)
Friends and Family DMV (VA)



Nadim Bhuiyan Apu (TX)
Friends and Family Houston



Rehan Reza (KS)
Bangladesh Association of Greater Kansas



Kazi Nahid
U S Bangla Association of Georgia (GA)



Jabed Chowdhury (MI)
Bangladesh Association of Michigan (BAM)



Azmal A Khan (TX)
Bangladedh Association, Houston (TX)



Hashmat Mobin (TX)
Outstanding Member



Tawfiq S. Khan Tuhin (CA)
Bangladesh Mela INC. (CA)



Babul Hai (FL)
Bangladesh American Foundation of Central Florida



Dilshad Chowdhury (DMV)
Bangladesh Association of America, Inc. (BAAI)

FOBANA Advisory Committee (2025-2026)



Mohammed Alamgir



Duke Khan



Mahbub Rahim Reza



Golam Faroque Bhuiyan



Nargis Ahmed

40th FOBANA HOST COMMITTEE



Dr. Zainul Abedin
Convenor



Engr. Mohammed Iqbal
Member Secretary



Moazzem H Chowdhury
Host President



Habib Ahmed Tia
Co-convenor



Lasker Al Mamum
Chair, Media & Publication



Mohammed S. Hoq
Chief Coordinator



Shahid Ahmed Mithu
Secretary, Cultural



Shafiq Rahman
Chair, Registration



Dr. Mushfiqul Hoque
Treasurer



Mo Showkot Anjim
Chair, Business and Booth



Allen Eliyas Khan
Chair, Guest Welcome



Mehedi Hassan
Chair, Guest Accommodation



Mohammed A. Munim
Chair, Business Lunch



Mukhles Bhuiyan
Chair, Awards & Guest Selection



Dr. Yunus Rahi
Chairman, Scholarship



Mahabub R Rahim
Chair, Constitution Committee

40th FOBANA HOST COMMITTEE



Wahid M Rahman
Chairman, Auditorium Logistics



Ziaur Zahid
Chairman, Accounts & Finance



Saptarshy M. Chowdhury
Chairman, Youth



Prof. Salma Khan
Chairman, Women Empowerment



Babul Hai
Chairman, Membership



Dr. Priolal Karmakar
Chairman, Digital Content,
Marketing, Goodwill & Social Networking



Twafiq Khan Tuhin
Chair, Mainstream Liaison



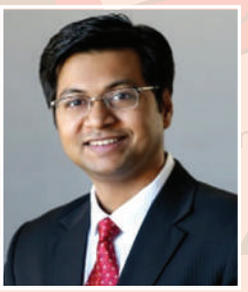
Bashir Ather
Chairman, Poetry Seminar



Shazia Hoq Mimi
Chairman, Women Affairs



Saiful Ansari Chopol
Chairman, Seating & Safety



Dr. Shams Tanvir
Chair, Seminar

Kanta/Kamrul
Chairman
FOBANA Ambassadors

Dr. Aboo Naser Shumohair
Chairman
Medical Seminar & Clinic

Mohammed Khosru
Chairman
Business & Investment



Shiper Chowdhury
Chief Patron



Masud Rob Chowdhury
Chief Advisor

Executive Secretary's Yearly Report



The Executive Committee has executed its organizational tasks this year with outstanding coordination and efficiency. There were five Executive Committee meetings and one general members meeting, and many members attended on their own initiative. They actively participated in the decision-making process by offering perceptive viewpoints.

Members presented a variety of FOBANA-related, issue-based agendas at each meeting, and debates were carried out in a rational, considerate, and productive way. In March 2026, the host organization for the 40th FOBANA Convention held a Meet & Greet event in Los Angeles, attended by a noteworthy number of Executive Committee members.

They assessed the venue's suitability for the upcoming convention. Earlier, in January 2026, a press conference was conducted in Dhaka, Bangladesh, with participation from the host committee and executive committee officials to update the media in Dhaka, Bangladesh to help us promote the largest Bangladeshi organization in North America for the upcoming 40th FOBANA Convention.

This year, we had 20 Sub-Committees collaborating effectively to meet our annual objectives. FOBANA leaders engaged in extensive promotional efforts for the upcoming 40th FOBANA Convention through various media channels by utilizing promotional videos with electronic and print media. Each Sub-Committee created its own annual work plan and operated accordingly. We partnered with member organizations to incorporate qualified ones and help them achieve full pledge rights, alongside welcoming new organizations. Coordination with the Host Committee was essential as preparations for the convention progressed.

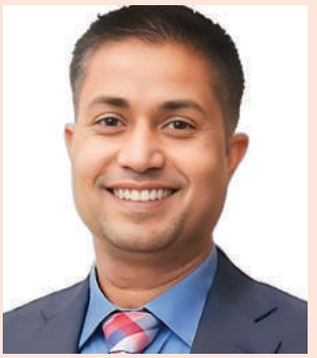
As Executive Secretary and the Chairman of the media and public awareness committee, I called two meetings with the electronic and print media members to discuss this year's goals and plans. Our meetings were very productive as we discussed various tactics and strategies for the most effective ways to promote our FOBANA convention during our highly productive meetings.

Host Committee officials traveled to different cities to fundraise, supported actively by Executive Committee members in those areas to secure numerous sponsors. During their visit to Los Angeles, Host Committee officials met with local media at the Meet & Greet event, which was organized with complete backing from the Executive Committee.

The five-member Executive Team demonstrated outstanding teamwork throughout the year, and the entire Executive Committee contributed significantly with their thoughts and recommendations. I want to sincerely thank everyone for helping to make this year a success.

Khaled Ahmed Rouf
Executive Secretary
FOBANA EC 2025-2026

FOBANA Treasurer's Report



During the 2025–2026 tenure, the Treasurer's Office focused on maintaining financial transparency, accountability, and responsible management of FOBANA's resources.

Key Highlights

* Prepared and monitored the annual budget and financial activities.
* Maintained accurate records of income, expenses, and financial transactions.
* Provided regular financial updates to the Executive Committee.
* Ensured proper documentation, including receipts and invoices, for expenditures.
* Supported fundraising, membership revenue, and timely fee collection.
* Monitored convention and Host Committee finances.
* Maintained compliance with state and tax requirements.
* Supported secure and transparent handling of approved international funds.

I sincerely appreciate the support and cooperation of the Executive Committee, Host Committees, and Honorable members. We remain committed to strong financial stewardship and transparency for the continued growth of FOBANA.

Operating Acc.	
Beginning balance	$56,112.54
Membership registration	56*100 = 5600
Host registration	54*250 = 13500
Late fee	100
41st convention fee	2000
Silver package	9000
Zelle tested	4.66
Business Network	1000
Youth Fouram	1500
SubTotal =	88817.2
Scholarship	10997.57
Disaster fun	4314.19
Total Income	**104,128.96**

Expenses	
IRS payment	2423.5
Check mail fee	6.08
Website renewal	386.37
Check order fee	89.68
Zoom fees	18.52*11 = 203.7
FOBANA ads for Host/EC committee	200
Website maintenance	450
PayPal fees	290.35
Sabeth sathi	
media and cultural committee	450
Table Flags & Stands (Anthony Pius)	650.46
Polo Shirts & Gifts (Anthony Pius)	3626
AGM videography	2000
Gift Items Shipping (Anthony Pius)	2270.45
Canvas Gift Bags (Anthony Pius)	1390.5
Mahabub Bhuiyan	1000
Pay to Host for silver package	8878.98
PayPal fee for silver package	121.02
Host registration	7500
Total Expenses =	**31937.11**

Mohin Uddin Dulal
Treasurer
FOBANA EC 2025-2026

FOBANA Standing Committees 2025-2026

Alumni Committee 2025-2026



Dr. Abdus Sattar (VA)
Chairperson



Babul Hai (FL)
Co-Chair



Nahida Naser Yasmin (TX)
Co-Chair



Dr. Pryalal Karmakar (VA)
Co-Chair

Awards and Guest Selection Committee



Jashim Uddin (GA)
Chairperson



Mahabub Rahim Reza (AZ)
Member



Hasmat Mobin (TX)
Member



Rehan Reza (KS)
Member

Bangladesh Liaison Committee 2025-2026



Nahidul Khan Sahel (GA)
chairperson



Duke Khan (GA)
Co-Chair



Rehan Reza (KS)
Co-Chair



Tamanna Rabbani (BD)
Member



Kazi Nahid (GA)
Member



Bipu Chowdhury (BD)
Member



Ismail Chowdhury (BD)
Member



Musa Mohammad (BD)
Member

Budget, Finance & Fundraising Committee



Mohin Uddin Dulal (GA)
Chairperson



Dr. Mohammad Ali Manik (GA)
Co-chair



Rashel Bhuiyan (GA)
Co-chair



Nurul Amin (VA)
Co-chair



Abu Rumi (VA)
Co-chair



Parveen Patwary (VA)
Co-chair



Mohammed Kazal (MD)
Co-chair



Nadim Bhuiyan Opu (TX)
Co-chair



Shafiqul Islam Jewel (IL)
Co-chair



Russel Buyan
Co-chair



Suzud Khondoker Omi (GA)
Co-chair

Business & Investment Committee 2025-2026



Mahbubur Rahman Bhuiyan (GA)
Chairperson



M Mowla Dilu (GA)
Co-chair



Nahidul Khan (GA)
Co-chair



Duke Khan (GA)
Co-chair



Enamul Haque Enam (TX)
Co-chair



Kazi Nahid (GA)
Co-chair



Moazzam H Chowdhury (CA)
Co-chair



Raju Mahajan (DC)
Co-chair

Business & Investment Committee 2025-2026


Lasker Al Mamun (CA)
Co-chair


Mohammed Munim Ahmed (CA)
Co-chair


Sanjid Rahul Khan (BD)
Member


Mahrufur R Bhuiyan (GA)
Member


Md Mahbubul Alam (GA)
Member

Constitution and Procedure Review Committee 2025-2026


Rabiul Karim Belal (PA)
Chairperson


Duke Khan (GA)
Co-Chair


Dr. Mohammad Ali Manik (GA)
Co-Chair


Mahbub Reza Rahim (AZ)
Member


Rehan Reza (KS)
Member


Jashim Uddin (GA)
Member


Hasmat Mobin (TX)
Member


Mohammad Alamgir (VA)
Member


Anthony P Gomez (VA)
Member


Priyo Lal Kormakar (VA)
Member


Syed Ahsan Koko (IL)
Member

Convention Liaison Committee: 2025-2026


Hashmat Mobin (TX)
Chairperson


Rehan Reza (KS)
Co-Chair


Farhad Hossain (TX)
Co-Chair


Masud Rob Chowdhury (CA)
Co-Chair


Duke Khan (GA)
Co-Chair

Convention Review Committee 2025-2026



Farhad Hossain (TX)
Chairperson



Nahidul Khan Sahel (GA)
Co-chair



Pavel Ahmed (TX)
Co-chair



Shagor Shamsuddoha (TX)
Co-chair



AZ Asif Iqbal Khan (MO)
Co-chair



Anthony Pius Gomes (VA)
Co-chair

Cultural Committee 2025-2026



AZ Asif Iqbal Khan (MO)
Chairperson



Jashim Uddin (GA)
Co-chair



Imtiaz Ahmed Pavel (TX)
Co-chair



Akter Hossain (VA)
Co-chair



Masud Chowdhury (CA)
Co-chair



Farhad Hossain (TX)
Co-chair



Anthony Pius Gomes (VA)
Co-chair

Legal Committee: 2025-2026



Mohammad Alamgir (VA)
Chairperson



Rubina Wadwah, Esq (VA)
Co-Chair



John Kapoor, Esq (VA)
Co-chair



Raju Mohajon, Esq (VA)
Co-chair



Zubaida Iqbal, Esq (FL)
Co-chair

Rasheda Haq Generous, Esq
Co-chair



Rehan Reza (KS)
Co-chair



Jashim Uddin (GA)
Co-chair



Mahabub Rahim Reza (AZ)
Co-chair

Membership Review Committee 2025-2026



Rehan Reza (KS)
Chairman



Hasmat Mobin (TX)
Co-chair



Zainul Abedin (CA)
2026 Convener



Jashim Uddin (GA)
Co Chair



Golam Faroque Bhuyian (NJ)
Co-chair



Masud Chowdhury (CA)
Co Chair



Maqbul Ali (IL)
Co Chair



Duke Khan (GA)
Co Chair



Mohin Uddin Dulal (GA)
Treasurer

Media & Public Awareness Committee 2025-2026



Khaled Rouf (IL)
Chairperson



Farhad Hossain (TX)
Co-chair



Abir Alamgir (NY)
Co-chair



Pulak Mahmud (NY)
Co-chair



Lasker Al Mamun
Co-chair



Jewel Sadat (FL)
Co-chair



Sabet Sathi (CT)
Co-chair



Foysol Ahmed Munna (MI)
Co-chair



Bodruzzaman Ruhel (NY)
Co-chair



Nurullah Syed (GA)
Co-chair



Khairul Mamun (CA)
Co-chair

Mainstream Liaison Committee 2025-2026



Towfiq khan (CA)
Co-chair



Masud Chowdhury (CA)
Co-chair



Rehan Reza (KS)
Co-chair



Hashmat Mobin (TX)
Co-chair



Duke Khan (GA)
Co-chair

Scholarship Committee 2025-2026


Dilu Mowla (GA)
Chairperson


Rehan Reza (KS)
Co-chair


Mohammad Alamgir (VA)
Co-chair


Masud Chowdhury (CA)
Co-chair


Jashim Uddin (GA)
Co-chair


Golam Faruque Bhuiyan (NJ)
Co-chair


Abir Alamgir (NY)
Co-chair


Anthony Pius Gomez (VA)
Co-chair


Shamsuddoha Sagor (TX)
Co-chair


Mahbub Bhuiyan (GA)
Co-chair


Kazi Nahid (GA)
Co-chair


Mohin Uddin Dulal (GA)
Co-chair


Mohammad Kazal (MD)
Co-chair


Sazia Hoq Mimi (CA)
Co-chair

SOCIAL NETWORK COMMITTEE


Abir Alamgir (NY)
Chairperson


Anthony Pius Gomes (VA)
Co-chair


Farhad Hossain (TX)
Co-chair


Lasker Al Mamun
Co-chair


Foysol Ahmed Munna (MI)
Co-chair

Seminar Committee 2025-2026



Anthony Pius Gomes (VA)
Chairperson



Dr. Nazrul Islam
Member



Hashmat Mobin (TX)
Member



Dr. Rasha Ahmed (GA)
Member



Duke Khan (GA)
Member



Abir Alamgir (NY)
Member



Mahbubur Bhuiyan (GA)
Member

Unification Committee 2025-2026



Maqbul M. Ali (IL)
Chairperson



Rehan Reza (KS)
Co-Chair



Jashim Uddin (GA)
Co-Chair



Masud Rob Chowdhury (CA)
Co-Chair



Golam Faruque Bhuiya (NJ)
Co-Chair

WEB AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE



Masud Rob Chowdhury (CA)
Chairperson



Anthony P Gomes (VA)
Co-chair



Shafiqul Islam (VA)
Co-chair



AZ Asif Iqbal Khan (MO)
Co-chair



Farhad Hossain (TX)
Co-chair

Youth Forum Committee: 2025-2026


Mohammed Kazal (MD)
Chairperson


Anthony P Gomes (VA)
Co-chair


Mahbubur Bhuiyan (GA)
Member


Mohin Uddin Dulal (GA)
Member


Farhana Islam (MD)
Member


Iftishamul Nihal (FL)
Member


Simon Chowdury (CA)
Member


Adiba Mobin (TX)
Member


Noshin Khan (NY)
Member


Sezan Khan (NY)
Member


Mukta Bain (VA)
Member


Tareque Mehdi (VA)
Member


Fariba Haider (GA)
Member

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT COMMITTEE


Nahida Naser Yasmin (TX)
Chairperson


Subarna Duke


Sabina Chowdhury Lubna


Samia Azad Alee


Mahabuba Sultana Lipi


Masuda I Popy


Noorun Khan Mim

FOBANA Past Chairpersons



Dr. Nuran Nabi
New Jersey (2001-2004)



Rabiul Karim Belal
Kansas (2009-2010)



Nurul Amin Chowdhury
Texas (2004-2005)



Jashim Uddin
Georgia (2010-2011)



Atiquer Rahman
Florida (2005-2006)



Bedarul Islam Babla
New York (2011-2012)



Mahabub Reza Rahim
Arizona (2006-2007)



Dr Zainul Abedin
California (2012)



Mir Chowdhury
New Jersey (2007-2008)



Rehan Reza
Kansas, (2012-2013)



Hashmat Mobin
Texas (2008-2009)



Mohamed Alamgir
Washington, DC
(2012-2013)

FOBANA Past Chairpersons



Mahmud Musharraf Hussain
Washington, DC
(2013-2014)



Shah Haleem
Texas (2019-2020)



Duke Khan
Georgia (2014-2015)



Zakaria Chowdhury
New York (2020-2021)



Nahid Chowdhury Mamun
New Jersey (2015-2016)



Rehan Reza
Kansas (2021-2022)



Azadul Haq
Texas (2016-2017)



Mohamed Alamgir
Washington, DC
Washington (2023-2024)



Atiquer Rahman
Florida (2017-2018)



Masud Rob Chowdhury
California (2024-2025)



Mir Chowdhury
New Jersey (2018-2019)



Rabiul Karim Belal
Pennsylvania (2025-2026)

FOBANA ELECTION COMMISSION 2026



MD Mahabub Reza Rahim
Chief Election Commissioner



Duke Khan
Election Commissioner



Mohamed Alamgir
Election Commissioner



Avishek Chakraborty
IT Consultant

Important FOBANA Election Dates 2026

Election Schedule:

Nomination Call – August 8, 2026

Nomination Paper Submission Last Date – August 21, 2026

Preliminary Candidate List Release – August 23, 2026

Finalized Voter List from Executive Committee to Election Commission – August 15, 2026

Withdrawals or changes with a penalty- August 28, 2026

Final Candidate/Voter List Release – August 31, 2026

Election Date – September 6, 2026 (After AGM)

Nomination Form and Fee:

Fobana 2026 Election Form

All Executive positions & Outstanding Member: $200

Executive Member Organization: $ 100

You can submit nominations for only two positions.

Please pay your nomination fee through online payment on the FOBANA website.

FOBANA – Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America

For more information, please Contact : MD Mahabub Rahim

email – cec.fobana@gmail.com; Phone – 602-367-3963

FOBANA Voter List 2026

SL.	Executive Members	Positon
1.	Rabiul Karim Belal	Chairperson
2.	M Rahman Zahir Vice	Chairperson
3.	Khaled Ahmed Rouf	Executive Secretary
4.	Anthony Pius Gomes	Joint Executive Secretary
5.	Mohin Uddin Dulal	Treasurer
6.	Masud Rob Chowdhury	Outstanding Member
7.	Nahidul Khan	Outstanding Member
8.	Mahbubur Bhuiyan	Outstanding Member
9.	Dr. Mohammed Ali Manik	Outstanding Member
10.	Arefin Babul	Outstanding Member
11.	Jashim Uddin	Outstanding Member
12.	Sham Suddhoha Sagor	Outstanding Member
13.	Nurul Amin	Outstanding Member
14.	Abu M Rumi	Outstanding Member

SL.	ORGANIZATIONS NAME	PERSON NAME
15	Atlanta Cultural Society	M. Mowla Dilu
16	B. D. Sur Chanda Shilpy GoUSthy	Esmat Haque
17	Bangali Boys Cultural Association Inc.	Rashel Bhuyan
18	Bangladesh Assocition, Houston TX	Azmal Khan
19	Bangladesh American Association of GA (BAAG)	Jashim Uddin
20	Bangladesh American Foundation of Central FL	Babul Hai
21	Bangladesh American Society of Greater Houston	Imtiaz Ahmed Pavel
22	Bangladesh Association of America, Inc. (BAAI)	Dilshad Chowdhury
23	Bangladesh Association of California	Zainul Abedin
24	Bangladesh Association of Chicagoland	Maqbul M Ali

SL.	ORGANIZATIONS NAME	PERSON NAME
25	Bangladesh Association of Florida	Shofiqul Islam Jewel
26	Bangladesh Association of Georgia	Arefin Babul
27	Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington-DC	Saiful Islam
28	Bangladesh Association of North Texas (BANT)	Hashmot Mobin
29	Bangladesh Association of Phoenix (BAP)	Rashedul Monsur Palash
30	Bangladesh Asssociation of Greater Kansas City	Rehan Reza
31	Bangladesh Community of Grater Chicago	Khaled Rouf
32	Bangladesh Community of Los Angeles	Masud Chowdhury
33	Bangladesh Cultural Society of Georgia	Mamunur Chowdhury
34	Bangladesh Foundation of Georgia	Dr Mohammed Ali Manik
35	Bangladesh Mela	Towfiq S. Khan
36	Bangladesh Theater Houston (BTH), TX	Nahida Nasser
37	Bangladeshi American IT People's Organization	Shamsudin Mahmud
38	Bangladeshi American Society	Mohammed S Hoq
39	Bangladesh Association of Pennsylvania	Rabiul Karim
40	Bangladhara	Mahrufur R. Bhuiyan
41	Drama Circle, New York	Abir Alamgir
42	Friends and Family, Houston	Nadim Bhuiyan Apu
43	Friends and Family, DMV	Akther Hossain
44	Friends and Family, Inc	Abu Rumi
45	Karigor Production & Clutural Society	Tipu Alam
46	Manchitro Foundation	Mohammed Khan Rasel
47	Maryland Friends and Family, Md	Mohammed Kazal
48	Oporajeo Bangla ,Inc	Shompa Banik
49	Ora Egarojon	Dr. Abdus Sattar
50	Prio Bangla	Pryalal Karmakar

SL.	ORGANIZATIONS NAME	PERSON NAME
51	Shadhin Bangla Cultural Org.	Mojnu Mia
52	Shurubitan, Inc.	Kamrul Islam
53	Sundarban	ATM Alam
54	Torongo of California	Shiper Chowdhury
55	US Bangla Association of Georgia	Kazi Nahid
56	US Bangladesh Foundation of Florida	Mohammed Mujibuddin
57	Bangladesh Association of Michigan - BA	M Jabed Chowdhury
58	Dhaka Club of Florida Inc.	Noorun khan
59	Bangalir Pran	Shahid Alam
60	Love Share BD US	Fazle Bhuiyan
61	Shopnobuzz	Rezwan Ansari
62	Bangladesh Community of Indiana (BCI)	Shohidul Islam
63	Bangladesh Community of Pennsylvania	Alauddin Liton
64	Bangladesh Association Florida, USA, Inc.	M Rahman Jahir
65	PeopleNTech Foundation, Inc	Ariful Islam
66	Georgia Bangladesh Society, LTD	Nahidul Khan
67	Washington Univ. of Science and Tech Foundation	Mamun Rahman

(Subject to change at the AGM 2026)

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

Alumni Forum Committee Report



It's a great privilege and honor for me to share the annual report of our Alumni Forum Standing Committee for year 2025-2026. As the FOBANA Alumni Forum continues to serve as an important program for strengthening unity, friendship and meaningful connections among the alumni members, we feel proud to be able to organize this great program.

Significance of the FOBANA Alumni Forum

FOBANA is more than an annual convention. It is a platform that brings together Bangladeshi Americans from different generations, professions, institutions, cities, and backgrounds under a common identity and purpose. Within this larger platform, the Alumni Forum has a unique roleso help develop individual relationships into a much broader network of friendship, cooperation, and community service.

Bringing Back a Successful Tradition

We have organized our Alumni Committee meeting and all members agreed that the FOBANA Alumni Gathering had historically been one of the popular and successful programs of the convention. It provided an enjoyable opportunity for alumni groups to reconnect while also introducing their organizations and networks to the wider FOBANA community.

After extensive discussion, the Alumni Committee unanimously agreed that this valuable tradition should be brought back. We therefore decided to organize a **FOBANA Alumni Live Gathering** at this year's convention.

Committee members shared many valuable thoughts and recommendations regarding the structure, promotion, participation, and execution of the program. Our objective is to make the revived Alumni Gathering welcoming, interactive, and purposeful—not only as a reunion, but also as a platform for building new relationships and creating opportunities for future cooperation.

Looking Toward the Future

Our vision is to establish the FOBANA Alumni Forum as a continuing and important component of the annual convention. A successful Alumni Forum can become a bridge between generations, professions, institutions, and communities.

Ultimately, our goal is simple but significant: **to bring people together, strengthen friendship, expand networking, build unity, and use these relationships to make FOBANA stronger and better for generations to come.**

I sincerely thank all members of the Alumni Committee for their valuable participation, ideas, enthusiasm, and commitment. I also seek the support and cooperation of the FOBANA leadership, alumni members, and the entire community as we work together to make it successful and continue the legacy in the future.

Together, we can make the FOBANA Alumni Forum a lasting platform for **connection, collaboration, friendship, and unity.**

Sincerely,

Dr. Abdus Sattar
Chairman, Alumni Committee
FOBANA 2025–2026

Award Sub-committee Report



The **FOBANA Award Sub-Committee** plays an important role in recognizing individuals and organizations whose achievements, leadership, and service have made a meaningful impact on **FOBANA, Bangladesh, and Bangladeshi communities around the world**.

Each year, the Award Sub-Committee meets to review and establish appropriate guidelines and selection criteria. The committee has unanimously agreed that FOBANA should recognize **three to four deserving recipients or organizations each year, when applicable**, in the following categories:

1. Lifetime Achievement Award

Presented to an outstanding FOBANA individual in recognition of a lifetime of distinguished achievement, leadership, dedication, and significant contributions to FOBANA, society and the Bangladeshi community.

2. Best FOBANA Member Organization Award

Presented to a FOBANA member organization that has demonstrated exceptional leadership, organizational excellence, community involvement, and continued commitment to the mission and values of FOBANA.

3. Outstanding Service Award – Organization

Presented to an organization, anywhere in the world, whose humanitarian, social, educational, cultural, or community service has made a significant and positive impact on **Bangladesh and/or Bangladeshi communities globally**.

4. Outstanding Individual Achievement Award

Presented to an exceptional individual whose accomplishments and contributions have demonstrated excellence and leadership in **Science, Technology, Business, or Medicine** and have brought distinction to the Bangladeshi community.

Award Sub-Committee Members

Jashim Uddin
Chairman

Committee Members:
M. Rahman Zahir
Rabiul Karim
Rehan Reza
Mahbub Reza Rahim
Hasmat Mobin
Dr. ZainalAbedin
M. Khaled Rouf

Through this annual recognition program, the FOBANA Award Sub-Committee strives to honor excellence, celebrate meaningful contributions, and inspire future generations of Bangladeshis and Bangladeshi Americans to pursue leadership, service, innovation, and positive impact throughout the world.

Budget, Finance & Fundraising Committee Report



The Budget, Finance & Fundraising Committee continued its commitment to financial transparency, responsible planning, and sustainable fundraising to support FOBANA's growth and activities.

Key Activities & Accomplishments

* Annual Budget: Reviewed and approved the annual budget, including projected income and planned expenditures.
* Financial Oversight: Monitored EC and Host Committee finances, including convention-related income and expenses, and provided timely updates to the EC.
* Fundraising: Supported coordinated fundraising efforts between the EC and Host Committees and encouraged effective use of digital marketing and community outreach to attract sponsors and donors.
* Financial Transparency: Emphasized proper documentation, including invoices and receipts, for all EC expenditures and maintained accurate financial records.
* Compliance & Tax: Monitored FOBANA's state corporate compliance and recommended professional assistance for annual tax filings when needed.
* International Transfers: Explored secure and transparent processes for international fund transfers supporting scholarships, disaster relief, and other approved initiatives.
* Membership & Revenue: Encouraged timely membership renewals and fee payments and supported consistent application of registration deadlines and applicable late fees.
* Financial Management: Recommended reliable online accounting software to strengthen financial tracking, reporting, and auditing.

Closing

The committee remains committed to strong financial stewardship, transparency, and strategic planning. We appreciate the continued support and cooperation of FOBANA members, leaders, and stakeholders as we work toward a stronger and more sustainable organization.

Mohin Uddin Dulal
Chairman
Budget, Finance & Fundraising Committee

Business & Investment Committee



This Business and Investment Committee 2026 tried to complete the following things per our plan to uplift the FOBANA value & image to the global audience:

Create NRBA (Non-Resident Bangladeshi Americans) databases step one to prepare and maintain all professional NRB database globally.

Hold seminars at main FOBANAConference and/or elsewhere to keep the Global NRB inform about business &investment in Bangladesh & USA, and other similar activities.

Work together to assist the FOBANA Conference Host Committee with any Business and Investment related activities, plans, and ideas that they plan to do at the Conference. If necessary, help them raising fund for the Seminars.

Arrange on site and/or virtual meeting, interview, and discussion forum for open communication, leading and guiding on NRB issues, liaising with Bangladesh Embassy and Government at home.

Arranging Business Network Lunch named as **"Hollywood Red Carpet Business Lunch"**, is one of the most important accomplishments of the committee. The **FOBANA 2026 Business & Investment Networking Lunch**, named the **"Hollywood Red Carpet Business Lunch"**, is taking place during the **40th FOBANA Convention** at the Universal Hilton, Universal City, California, on **September 5, 2026**, brings together business leaders, entrepreneurs, investors, professionals, and community leaders from the USA, Canada, Bangladesh, and around the world to connect, exchange ideas, and explore new business and investment opportunities. There are several special guests and dignitaries including Ariful Haque Chowdhury, the Hon Ministry of Labor and Employment, Ministry of Expatriates Welfare &Overseas Employment of Bangladesh made this eventa great success.

Mahbubur Rahman Bhuiyan
Chairperson
Business & Investment Committee 2026

Bangladesh Liaison Committee Report



FOBANA, one of the largest and influential platforms representing the Bangladeshi diaspora in North America, has long been dedicated to celebrating our cultural heritage, strengthening community bonds, and passing our proud legacy to future generations.

It's a proud moment to celebrate the glorious journey of FOBANA for 40 years! For decades, it has played a significant role in promoting Bangladesh's rich history, cultural heritage, and national identity on foreign soil.

The Bangladesh Liaison Committee recognizes the importance of promoting Bangladesh within mainstream North American society while also sharing FOBANA's activities, vision, and achievements with the people of Bangladesh. Strengthening this connection helps bridge Bangladesh and its diaspora around the shared goal of preserving and advancing our history, culture, and traditions.

With this vision in mind, the Committee organized a press conference in Dhaka in January. This milestone initiative provided an important opportunity to reach the people of Bangladesh and share FOBANA's programs, activities, and long-term goals. Leaders from the Executive Committee and Host Committee also participated in national television broadcasts to promote FOBANA. These appearances represented an outstanding effort to reach a wider audience and strengthen FOBANA's presence in Bangladesh.

Engaging the younger generation remains one of our most important priorities. By encouraging their participation, we can inspire them to embrace their heritage and carry the proud legacy of Bangladesh and FOBANA forward for generations to come.

As Chairman of the Bangladesh Liaison Committee, I sincerely appreciate everyone who contributed to these initiatives. I am confident that the upcoming convention will be a grand success and add another memorable chapter to FOBANA's distinguished history.

Together, we will continue building bridges, preserving our heritage, and inspiring future generations. Let us continue to uphold the spirit of unity, cooperation, and cultural pride that defines FOBANA.

Nahidul Khan Sahel
Chairman, Bangladesh Liaison Committee
FOBANA EC 2025 - 2026

Convention Liaison Committee Report



I am pleased to present this report on behalf of the Convention Liaison Committee for the 2025–2026 term. I feel privileged to serve as the Chairman of this committee and look forward to continuing my contributions toward making FOBANA stronger and more successful in the years ahead.

The Convention Liaison Committee plays an important role in maintaining effective communication and coordination between the FOBANA Executive Committee and the Host Committee. As Chair of the Convention Liaison Committee, I have sincerely endeavored to keep both committees connected, encourage mutual understanding, and extend my wholehearted cooperation in support of the convention's preparation.

Organizing an event of this magnitude requires collaboration, dedication, and a shared sense of responsibility. My ultimate purpose has been to help foster a cooperative environment in which both committees can work together toward our common goal—organizing a memorable and successful FOBANA Convention. Each of us is an integral part of this collective journey, and our combined efforts make the convention possible.

I am delighted to see the convention taking place in all its grandeur. I am confident that it will be a tremendous success and add another glorious chapter to FOBANA's proud history.

Hashmat Mobin
Chairman,
Convention Liaison Committee 2025-2026

Convention Review Standing Committee Report



It's feel honored and privileged serving as the chairman of the Convention Review Committee for this year and have been eagerly looking forward to do a comprehensive review of the convention to come up with the review results to help upcoming conventions down the line. The ultimate purpose is to take FOBANA convention to the next level.

The Convention Review Standing Committee was formed with the following members:

Farhad Hossain — Chairperson
Nahidul Khan — Co-Chair
Pavel Ahmed — Co-Chair
ShagorShamsuddoha — Co-Chair
Asif Iqbal Khan — Co-Chair
Anthony Pius Gomes — Co-Chair

Purpose & Mandate:

The Convention Review Standing Committee was established to provide an objective, constructive, and systematic evaluation of the 40th FOBANA Convention in Los Angeles. The Committee's primary responsibility is to observe the convention from an organizational, operational, and attendee perspective and document both its successes and areas requiring improvement.

The Committee's goal is to answer three fundamental questions:

What worked well? What could have been better? What lessons can we carry forward?

Review Framework:

The Committee will evaluate the convention across key areas, including:

Convention Management & Governance, Registration & Attendee Experience, Programs, Stage Management & Scheduling, Technical, Audio/Visual & Production, Venue, Facilities & Accessibility, Hospitality, Food & Guest Services, Volunteers & Workforce Coordination, Communication& Public Information, Sponsors, Vendors & Exhibitors, Cultural & Community Engagement, Safety, Security & Contingency Planning, Overall Convention Experience.

Committee members will use a standardized observation and evaluation framework to document significant successes, challenges, incidents, and opportunities for improvement. Where appropriate, observations will include supporting details, impact, contributing factors, and practical recommendations.

Guiding Principle

The Committee will approach its work with objectivity, fairness, confidentiality, and a spirit of continuous improvement. The purpose is not to assign blame or focus on individuals, but to identify processes, practices, and decisions that can help FOBANA and future host organizations improve convention planning and execution.

Goal & Expected Outcome

The Committee will consolidate its observations and findings into a Convention Review Report identifying:

Success& Best Practices • Challenges & Gaps • Lessons Learned • Areas for Improvement • Actionable Recommendations. The ultimate goal is to help establish stronger institutional knowledge and best practices so that each future FOBANA convention can build upon the experience of the previous one.

"Review not to criticize, but to learn, improve, and build a stronger FOBANA for the future."

Regards,
Farhad Hossain, Chairperson
Convention Review Standing Committee
FOBANA | 2025–2026

Cultural Committee Report



As Chairman of the Cultural Standing Committee, I am pleased to present this report. It has been a privilege to serve FOBANA and work toward advancing its mission of promoting Bangladesh's rich cultural heritage. Our committee remained committed to assisting the Host Cultural Subcommittee in organizing meaningful and successful cultural programs for the 40th FOBANA Convention.

Committee Formation: The Cultural Standing Committee was among the first standing committees to be formed and submitted to the FOBANA Executive Committee. A structured agenda and step-by-step action plans were also prepared to guide the committee's activities.The committee initially consisted of five members, with two senior leaders added later. Members included.

Meeting and Planning: The committee convened several meetings to discuss the proposed cultural programs and determine how best to support the Host Cultural Subcommittee. Our discussions focused on collaboration, program planning, organizational participation, and the effective presentation of Bangladesh's history, traditions, and cultural heritage through the FOBANA platform.

Coordination with the Host Cultural Subcommittee: Following an extended period of limited communication, the Chair of the Host Cultural Subcommittee contacted me seeking approval to distribute cultural performance-slot notifications to participating organizations. In the interest of cooperation, we jointly resent the performance-slot request notices.

However, because similar notifications had previously been distributed by the Host Cultural Subcommittee, our committee received limited responses. Some replies were also directed to other FOBANA Executive Committee officers rather than to the Cultural Standing Committee.

Communication Challenges: Several attempts were made to follow up with the Chair of the Host Cultural Subcommittee regarding program development, scheduling, and performance arrangements. Unfortunately, those efforts did not result in consistent communication or meaningful coordination. Consequently, no further Cultural Standing Committee meetings could be held to advance the convention's cultural planning.

Performance Schedule and Organizational Concerns: Recently, several participating organizations contacted our committee seeking information about their allotted performance dates and time slots. However, as of August 27, 2026, the Cultural Standing Committee had not received the finalized cultural program lineup or performance schedule from the Host Cultural Subcommittee.

This lack of information made it difficult for our committee to respond to the organizations or provide the intended assistance. It is unfortunate that, although a capable and experienced Cultural Standing Committee was ready to contribute, the committee did not receive the necessary cooperation to participate fully in the cultural planning process.

Recommendation

For future conventions, the FOBANA Executive Committee should establish and enforce clear policies governing communication, cooperation, responsibilities, and accountability between FOBANA standing committees and convention host committees. Regular coordination meetings, defined reporting procedures, and timely sharing of program information should be required.

Stronger collaboration will enable FOBANA to make the best use of its experienced leaders and committees while ensuring the successful presentation of Bangladesh's rich cultural heritage at future conventions.

AZ Asif Iqbal Khan
Chairman,
FOBANA Cultural Standing Committee 2025-2026

Membership Review Committee Report



It is my privilege to present the annual report of the Membership Sub-Committee for the Year 2026.

FOBANA membership committee held 6 meetings and set up criteria to verify all the organization, their documents and cultural activities based on that this year 11 organization qualified for FOBANA voting members. Membership committee congratulate all the organization become a members of FOBANA 2026.

FOBANA always looking for new organization from different states to join our team. Our Goal to have a 10 more socio culture organization from 10 different states to become a FOBANA members next few years.

This initiative has been a meaningful tradition, and with your continued support, we hope to make this year's effort even more impactful.

Let's come together to make a positive impact—because good deeds never go in vain, and your support truly matters.

With gratitude,

Rehan Reza
Chairman,
Membership Subcommittee

Scholarship Committee Report



"Empowering Today's Students, Inspiring Tomorrow's Leaders."

It is my privilege and honor to present the **Annual Report of the FOBANA Scholarship Committee for 2025–2026**.

The **FOBANA Scholarship Program** has become one of the most meaningful and signature initiatives of FOBANA. Our scholarship journey began in **2015 at the FOBANA Convention in New York**. Over the past eleven years, this initiative has grown significantly, and to date, FOBANA has provided approximately **$80,000 in scholarships to nearly 80 students**.

I am particularly pleased to report that FOBANA has been extending educational support to deserving students at some of Bangladesh's renowned universities, including **the University of Dhaka and Jagannath University**. In addition, FOBANA has **signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Comilla University**, further expanding our commitment to supporting deserving students in pursuing their educational goals.These partnerships represent an important step toward establishing a more structured and sustainable scholarship program in Bangladesh.

We firmly believe that **today's young generation will become tomorrow's leaders**. By supporting their educational journeys and engaging them with FOBANA, we hope to inspire and encourage them to become active participants in our community, assume leadership responsibilities, and carry forward the values, vision, and legacy of FOBANA for generations to comewhile building a lasting connection between them and FOBANA.

Activities During 2025–2026

I assumed the responsibility of leading the Scholarship Committee a little over three months ago. During this period, despite experiencing an accident and going through a challenging recovery, I remained committed to carrying forward the responsibilities entrusted to me.

During my tenure, I convened **five meetings of the Scholarship Standing Committee**, which resulted in productive discussions, ideas, and collective efforts toward strengthening and expanding the Scholarship Program.

We have also continued reaching out to FOBANA Executive Committee members, member organizations, community leaders, friends, and well-wishers, encouraging them to support this important initiative through their generous contributions.

A Shared Responsibility

I strongly believe that every FOBANA member organization should consider participating in and supporting the Scholarship Program as part of our collective commitment to FOBANA's mission and legacy.

If our member organizations, Executive Committee members, community leaders, businesses, and individual well-wishers come together, we can significantly expand the reach of this program. Together, we can provide greater opportunities to talented and financially challenged students.In this way, a scholarship becomes much more than financial support—it becomes an **investment in education, leadership, community engagement, and the future of our next generation**.

An Appeal to Our Community

I would like to humbly appeal to all FOBANA members, organizations, community leaders, professionals, businesses, and well-wishers to come forward and support this worthy initiative.

Every contribution, regardless of its size, can help change the course of a student's life!

Your generosity can provide a deserving young person with an opportunity to continue their education, pursue their dreams, and ultimately contribute positively to society.

We warmly invite you to become part of this transformative journey and help us build a stronger and more sustainable FOBANA Scholarship Program for the years ahead.

Those wishing to contribute may please visit the **FOBANA website** and make their donation through the designated **FOBANA Scholarship Donation Account**.

Your support truly matters. Together, we can educate, inspire, empower, and build the leaders of tomorrow.

With sincere gratitude,

Dilu Mowla
Chairman
FOBANA Scholarship Committee
2025–2026

Seminar Committee Report



I feel honored and privileged to present the Seminar Committee report for this year. Seminars have always been an important component of the FOBANA Convention, providing a meaningful platform for scholars, professionals, community leaders, and members of the younger generation to exchange ideas, share knowledge, and discuss issues relevant to our diaspora community and Bangladesh.

During this term, the FOBANA Seminar Committee convened a planning meeting with committee members and EC leadership. The meeting was highly productive, with extensive and fruitful discussions regarding seminar topics, format, scheduling, and ways to make the convention seminars more meaningful, engaging and impactful even beyond the convention.

As part of our original plan, the Committee intended to organize several virtual seminars prior to the 40th FOBANA Convention in Los Angeles. Unfortunately, due to challenging circumstances, scheduling difficulties, and the extremely busy professional and personal commitments of committee members, we were unable to implement those pre-convention virtual seminars.

Nevertheless, throughout the preparation period, the Central Seminar Committee has remained actively engaged and has maintained close coordination with the Host Seminar Committee. We have extended our wholehearted cooperation and support toward developing and organizing meaningful seminar sessions and are committed to working together to make the seminar program at the Los Angeles Convention a great success.

One of the Committee's important initiatives has been organizing a special seminar led by renowned Bangladeshi journalist and television talk show host Khaled Muhiuddin. This session is designed to create meaningful dialogue on the role of the Bangladeshi diaspora, its connection with Bangladesh, and how our collective knowledge, experience, ideas, and resources can contribute toward positive change and development.

We look forward to successful and thought-provoking seminar sessions at the 40th FOBANA Convention. Our goal is to provide a platform where knowledge and experience can be shared, constructive ideas can emerge, and meaningful discussions can contribute to the continued progress and betterment of our diaspora community for generations to come.

I sincerely thank all members of the FOBANA Seminar Committee, the Host Seminar Committee, FOBANA leadership, speakers, moderators, and everyone involved for their cooperation, dedication, and continued support.

Anthony P. Gomes
Chairman
FOBANA Seminar Standing Committee 2025–2026

Social Media & Goodwill Promotion Committee



Introduction

The Social Media & Goodwill Promotion Committee of the Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America (FOBANA) remained actively engaged throughout the year in promoting FOBANA, strengthening its goodwill, and expanding its visibility across social media and community networks.

A major focus of our activities was the promotion of the 40th FOBANA Convention, scheduled for September 4, 5, and 6, 2026, at the Universal Hilton in Los Angeles, California. Throughout the year, our committee worked to increase awareness of the convention while highlighting FOBANA's mission, leadership, community involvement, and its important role in connecting Bangladeshi communities across North America.

Committee Meetings & Coordination

During the year, the committee held two meetings to discuss social media strategies, goodwill initiatives, and promotional plans for the 40th FOBANA Convention. Committee members also remained connected throughout the year to coordinate various promotional activities.

Social Media & Goodwill Promotion

Our committee maintained an active presence across various social media platforms, regularly sharing convention updates, promotional materials, leadership messages, video content, and other relevant information. Special emphasis was placed on reaching the Bangladeshi diaspora across the United States and Canada and encouraging broader community participation.

As part of our goodwill campaign, we also produced and promoted short video clips and messages featuring FOBANA leaders, convention organizers, community leaders, and supporters. These videos highlighted FOBANA's spirit of unity, cultural connection, community engagement, and cooperation while creating greater awareness and excitement surrounding the 40th Convention.

"FOBANA Talk" Weekly Program

One of our major initiatives was the launch of the regular social media program "FOBANA Talk." Beginning approximately one month before the convention, the program was presented every weekend under the direction and coordination of our committee.

FOBANA leaders, convention leadership, organizers, and other key individuals participated in the program, providing updates on convention preparations, activities, and FOBANA's

broader vision. The program also created a valuable opportunity for FOBANA leadership to communicate directly with the community.

Media & Community Outreach

Our promotional efforts extended beyond social media. Throughout the year, committee members promoted FOBANA through community programs, cultural events, meetings, media appearances, and other outreach opportunities. We consistently encouraged community organizations, professionals, cultural activists, and younger generations to become more connected with FOBANA.

Looking Ahead

Moving forward, we believe FOBANA can further strengthen its digital presence through a coordinated year-round communication strategy. Regular video interviews, short-form digital content, archival materials highlighting FOBANA's history, profiles of member organizations and community leaders, and youth-focused content can help maintain community engagement between annual conventions.

Conclusion

The Social Media & Goodwill Promotion Committee is proud to have contributed to FOBANA's positive visibility and the promotion of the 40th FOBANA Convention. We sincerely appreciate the cooperation of our committee members, FOBANA leadership, convention leadership, community organizations, media professionals, and everyone who supported our activities throughout the year.

We look forward to continuing our efforts to strengthen FOBANA's goodwill, digital presence, and connection with the Bangladeshi community across North America.

Respectfully submitted,

Abir Alamgir
Chairman
Social Media & Goodwill Promotion Committee
Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America (FOBANA)

Unification Sub Committee Report



Purpose and Goals: Establish Criteria, Open Dialogue, Evaluate Partnerships.

Executive Summary: The Unification Subcommittee held two meetings during this tenure. The committee successfully established baseline criteria for evaluating unification opportunities and initiated preliminary discussion with an interested group. Due to the conclusion of the current tenure these discussion remain ongoing.

First Meeting: Committee members reviewed and discussed the specific criteria required for unification. The committee reached an unanimous agreement to initiate a formal dialogue with any external group that actively approaches the subcommittee.

Second Meeting: Near the end of the tenure, an external group formally approached the subcommittee. The committee convened its second meeting to explore and discuss all structural and operational possibilities of a potential unification with this group. Due to the limited time remaining in the current committee's tenure, deep structural progress could not be finalized.

The committee strongly recommend that the next committee will pick up the dialogue with the external group precisely where this tenure concluded. Continue using the established criteria to welcome other incoming requests.

Chairperson: Maqbul M. Ali (IL)
Co-Chair: Rehan Reza (KS)
Co-Chair: Jashim Uddin (GA)
Co-Chair: Masud Chowdhury (CA)
Co-Chair: Golam Faruque Bhuiya (NJ)

Web & Technology Subcommittee Annual Report



As Chairperson of the FOBANA Web & Technology Subcommittee, I am pleased to present a summary of the committee's activities, discussions, and recommendations for the year.

The subcommittee convened several times throughout the year to assess FOBANA's website and digital footprint, exploring ways to leverage technology more effectively. We recommend enhancing the website's activity and informativeness by frequently updating it with organizational news, announcements, historical data, convention updates, community events, and other pertinent content.

We recommend that other FOBANA subcommittees and leadership teams regularly collect updates on their activities and forward them to the Web & Technology Subcommittee for publication. This strategy will ensure the website remains up-to-date and effectively highlights the organization's continuous efforts and accomplishments throughout the year.

The committee also discussed reestablishing the FOBANA electronic newsletterto highlight FOBANA activities, member organizations, upcoming events, convention updates, community news, and important announcements.

Another area of focus is the continued digitalization of FOBANA documents, records, photographs, publications, and historical artifacts. Creating an organized digital archive will help preserve FOBANA's history and make important organizational information more accessible to future leadership and members.

In addition, the committee is exploring opportunities to better integrate FOBANA's website with its social media platforms. Stronger integration can help expand FOBANA's reach, improve communication, increase engagement, and ensure that website updates and social media communications complement one another.

Going forward, the subcommittee recommends continued investment in technology, digital communication, content development, document preservation, and stronger coordination among FOBANA committees. Our goal is to continue improving FOBANA's digital presence while making information more accessible, organized, timely, and useful to our members and the broader community.

On behalf of the Web & Technology Subcommittee, I thank all members for their participation, ideas, and support during the year.

Respectfully,

Masud Rob Chowdhury (CA)
Chairperson
2025-2026 Web & Technology Subcommittee

Youth Forum Committee Report



It has been a privilege and an honor to have had the opportunity to work as the Chairman of the Forum Standing Committee and collaborate with the members of the FOBANA Youth Forum Committee. Their dedication, commitment, ideas, and leadership have been vital in shaping our collaborative efforts toward strengthening FOBANA's youth programs and advancing the development of our greater diaspora community.

During the year, we convened a virtual meeting with the Youth Forum Committee members and engaged in an extensive, interactive, and productive discussion. A major focus of our discussion was the importance of developing and empowering our younger generation, creating opportunities for their personal and professional growth, and encouraging their active participation in FOBANA leadership as well as in the broader Bangladeshi diaspora community.

We also planned to organize several virtual Youth Forum seminars and interactive programs throughout the year. However, due to various challenges, including the busy schedules of our members and difficulties in coordinating suitable times—we were unfortunately unable to execute those programs as originally planned.

Despite these limitations, the FOBANA Youth Forum Committee has remained closely engaged and has continued to coordinate and collaborate with the Host Youth Forum Committee in supporting its programs and initiatives. We strongly believe that the Youth Forum is one of FOBANA's most important milestone programs, providing a meaningful platform to inspire, engage, and prepare the next generation of leaders.

Our young generation represents the future of FOBANA and our community. By providing them with opportunities to participate, lead, exchange ideas, build relationships, and develop their talents, we can help create a stronger foundation for the future of our organization and the Bangladeshi diaspora.

As we move forward, we look at our young leaders with great hope and confidence. We encourage them to carry forward the legacy of FOBANA, embrace greater leadership responsibilities, and use their knowledge, talents, and commitment to make a positive and lasting impact on our community and society.

We are proud of our young generation and look forward to seeing them grow as leaders, strengthen our community, and continue a legacy that will make all of us proud.

With sincere appreciation, I thank all members of the Youth Forum Committee, the Host Youth Forum Committee, and everyone who has supported our efforts throughout the year. Together, we remain committed to inspiring and empowering the next generation of FOBANA leadership.

Mohammed Kazal
Chairman
FOBANA Youth Forum Standing Committee 2025-2026

FOBANA HISTORY (1987-2025)
39 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 Edision 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

FOBANA HISTORY (1987-2025)

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

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: Radission Plaza Hotel & Convention Center, Miami
Convener: Shameem G. Khan
Member Secretary: Atiquer Rahman

20. ATLANA
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

FOBANA HISTORY (1987-2025)

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

26. FLORIDA
Host: Bangladesh Foundation of Florida
Date: August 31, September 1-2, 2012
Venue: Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida
Convener: Atiquer 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

38. WASINGTON DC
Hosted by: Bangladesh Association of Greater Washington DC (BAGWDC)
Date: August 30, 31, September 01, 2024
Crystal Gateway Marriott
1700 Richmond Highway, Arlington, VA 22202
Convener: Rokshana Perven
Member Secretary: Abu Rumi

39. ATLANTA
Hosted by: Bangladhara
Date: August 29, 30 & 31, 2025
Gas South Convention Center
6400 Sugarloaf Parkway, Duluth, Georgia 30097
Convener: Nahidul Khan (Sahel)
Member Secretary: Mahbubur Rahman Bhuiya

40. LOS ANGELES
Hosted by: Bangladesh Association Of California (Bac)
Date: September 4, 5, 6, 2026
Universal Hilton
555 Universal Hollywood Drive
Universal City, CA 91608
Convener: Dr. Zainul Abedin
Member Secretary: Engr. Mo Iqbal

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:

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

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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, of 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

Amended on September 2, 2012

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.

Amended on September 2, 2012

Witnesses

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

Name	Signature
BEDARUL ISLAM BARI	
Duke Khan	
Maqbul M. Ali	
Rabiul Kaorim Belal	
Bashir Ahmed	
Aliquer Rahman	
Mujib uddin	
KHALED AHMED ROUF	
RUBEL CHOWDHURY	
Shah Haleem	
Mahmud Mushaeat Hussain (BAAI)	
ARIF AHMED ASHRAF	
JASHIM UDDIN (Bangladeshi American Association of LA)	
MAHAMUD RAHMAN (Bangladesh Association of LA)	
MOHAMMED MOWLA DILU	
Abdul Chowdhury (Shahin)	
Iqbal Ahmed	
ZAHID HOSSAIN	
JANET BISWAS	

Witnesses

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

Name	Signature
Md. H. Choudhury	
Golam Farogue Bhuiyan (BAN)	
Dr. FARUQUE AZAM (BTA, President)	
SHAH MOJAMMEL (BCC) President Bangladesh Commu of Chesapeake	
MUSHARRUF SHAH (BCC) (BCC) musharruf@gmail.com	
NAHIDA NASER Yasmin (BAH) Nahida Naseryasmin	
RANA WADUD (BANT)	
HASHMAT MOBIN (Outstanding)	
AZADUL HAQ	
Mahabub Reza Rahim	
AHSAN CHOUDHURY	Ahsan Habib Choudhury
SARKER Hasan	
Obayedur Khan Bangladesh Association of Southwest Florida	
ZAHID REZA BANGLA INSTITUTE OF PERFORMING ARTS & MEDIA	

Operating Procedure of

FEDERATION OF BANGLADESHI ASSOCIATIONS IN NORTH AMERICA (FOBANA)

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(For revision history, please see the last page)

For Destails, Please visit our website:
www.fobanaonline.com

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Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America
Established in 1987
FOBANA®

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) Two Canadian member organizations are guaranteed to hold an EC seat uncontested, provided they meet all other membership eligibility requirements. If more than two Canadian

c) If more than two organizations request the EC position, then two Organizations will be elected from the group. They need to participate in the regular Executive Member Organization election, and the highest-voted Canadian organizations will be selected to hold two seats.

d) 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.

e) 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.

f) The head of the member organization or his/her representative shall represent the organization in the Executive Committee.

g) 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.

h) The outgoing Chairperson and Executive Secretary will automatically become outstanding members of the FOBANA Executive Committee in the following year.

i) The Convener and Member Secretary of the current FOBANA convention shall automatically become outstanding members of the FOBANA Executive Committee in the following year. However, they shall not be qualified to run as Chairperson or Member Secretary that year.

j) The term of office bearers shall be for one year.

k) The top five positions of the Executive Committee include Chairman, Vice Chairman, Executive Secretary, Joint Secretary, and Treasurer, who shall be eligible to run for a second term for their office. This privilege shall be limited to 2 consecutive years. If any candidate is running for a second term, he or she must declare his or her intent 45 days prior to the Election Commission appointed by the Executive Committee.

l) Any Outstanding Member shall not be eligible to run for the same position beyond two consecutive years.

m) Any member organization that has served as the Executive Member Organization for three consecutive terms is ineligible to participate in the EC election for the fourth term. However, organizations that have previously hosted the FOBANA convention are exempt from this rule and may participate in consecutive terms.

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

o) The Executive Committee shall form as many committees as necessary to carry out FOBANA's functions.

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

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

r) The elected host organization shall automatically become a member of the FOBANA Executive Committee out of 17 (17) member organizations.

s) An individual can't represent more than one organization in EC. However, he or she can occasionally cast a proxy vote for another EC member in his or her absence.

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 provided both EC and Advisory agree and approve the individual

c) All ex-chairpersons of FOBANA will have the 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 advise and guide the Executive Committee and ensure participation in meetings as needed.

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

f) The Advisors shall avoid conflicts and participate directly 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 Advisor post.

Section 4: Restriction on Powers and Duties:

a) 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 parties in the USA or Canada.

b) Key FOBANA Official Chairman, Executive Secretary, Convenor and Member Secretary shall not post any politically biased comments in any social media including FOBANA shared social media groups.

Article IV: Membership

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

Section 2: Except for those organizations prohibited in the Articles of Incorporation, any organization may apply for membership in FOBANA. In addition to the above, no political, religious, sports, regional, business, charity, professional, privately held foundation, or company shall not qualify as a member of FOBANA. However, FOBANA may offer non-voting Associate or student membership to organizations that may positively impact the common goal of FOBANA. This includes specific nondiscriminatory socio-cultural-focused branches in existing organizations that would otherwise not be accepted for membership.

Section 3: Prospective member organizations must have a minimum of 5 (Five) documented officers on file when applying for membership. Organizations are welcome to include additional officers or members so long as a minimum of five (5) is reached. Proof of this needs to be provided to the executive body of FOBANA as per their prescribed method.

Section 4: Prospective member organization must elect their officials democratically. Proof of this could be a A written list of members' names, an online video, and a photo of a meeting or event showing members.

Section 5: Prospective member organizations must be involved in community activities serving people of Bangladeshi origins in North America.

Section 6: A membership application must be submitted to the executive body of FOBANA using the prescribed form.

Section 7: The membership application must be recommended by at least one member of the FOBANA organization. The Membership Reviewed Committee can waive this 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: The membership application shall accompany the application fee and yearly dues.

Section 10: The application processing fee shall be non-refundable.

Section 11: The amount of the 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 is made, the charges of the immediately previous year shall prevail. The late fee for EC members is $50.00 and will be effective from the beginning of the current tenure. The top executives (5 (five) Officers and 9 (nine) Outstanding Members) must pay a $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 that the membership be accepted.

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: If a membership application is not accepted, the General Body, through the Chairman of FOBANA, will inform the organization and explain the reason for the denial. Membership dues will be refunded, but not the application fee.

Section 15: When the General Body accepts the membership applications, the organization shall become a member of FOBANA beginning the next business year.

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; the membership can be renewed with a late fee by the date set by the Executive Committee. Suppose 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. The executive committee can change this provision for any natural disaster or exceptional circumstances.

Section 17: A suspended member shall not have any privilege to participate in the organizational matter, including exercising the right to vote in any decision-making.

Section 18: An organization may withdraw its membership by a written request signed by the majority of 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.

Section 22: Family Representation Rule - In the same city, husband, wife, and children cannot establish more than one organization to become FOBANA members

Section 23: Family Leadership Restriction - Within a single organization, a husband, wife, and children cannot hold all officer positions.

Section 24: Application Requirements –

a) New member applicants must submit all documents within 30 days of applying along with a $100 nonrefundable processing fee.
b) New Member Organizations must demonstrate their socio-cultural activities from the start and have them verified.
c) Failing to meet these requirements may delay the application to the next year.

Section 25: Naming Restrictions - A nonprofit organization's name should be broad and neutral. Names specific to a single cause or agenda should not be accepted to maintain inclusivity and prevent bias.

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 in the third (3rd) year. This must be in compliance with sections 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 be 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 a 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 registration fee for the participating organization(s) each year to enable them to perform cultural programs on the convention stage.

a) The participating organization(s) shall be required to register with the Host Committee on a prescribed form indicating their interest in performing on the convention stage. The registration fee must be paid directly to the EC within the established time frame. The EC will provide the Host Committee with a complete list of the registered organizations along with the amount of the registration fee so collected 15 days prior to hosting the Convention.

b) 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- 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. A 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 guidelines 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 of the simple majority of the Executive Committee members shall have final authority on any matters not explicitly covered by 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 the 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-thirds (2/3) members of the Executive Committee.

Section 3: Amendments to the By-Laws may be proposed by any member organization of FOBANA and must be submitted to the Executive Committee thirty (30) days before the yearly general meeting, 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 also be accomplished via teleconference calls and/or e-mails.

Section 6: All amendments to the Operating Procedure approved by EC throughout its tenure need to be presented at the AGM for notification to the General Body of FOBANA and their approval.

Article IX: Activities

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

Section 2: The FOBANA shall either 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 host the convention.

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

Section 4: FOBANA shall conduct a continuous fundraising program, such as the ***FOBANA Emergency Disaster Relief Fund (FEDRF)***. This program aims to collect money exclusively for FEDFR throughout the year for FOBANA to quickly help any humanitarian emergency disaster situation at any time in the community.

FOBANA must ensure that any funds raised exclusively for FEDRF have been distributed through FOBANA Emergency Disaster Relief Fund (FEDR) operation to the disaster victims in North America and Bangladesh.

Section 5: To properly manage/upgrade on a regular basis, the FOBANA website shall be maintained by a professional 3rd party vendor with limited security access to the site. The FOBANA Logistic Chairperson should be the point of liaison between the site vendor and EC. The vendor should maintain all changes and updates while Logistic Chairperson will monitor and hold the vendor accountable for content accuracy and site sustainability.

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 and represent FOBANA to outside bodies and the Committee to the General Body members. The chairperson shall maintain liaison and coordination with the Bangladesh Embassy and the Government and contact 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 Chairperson's absence or when authorized by the Chairperson. The Vice Chairperson shall oversee the function of all subcommittees, including providing guidance and making decisions needed for their operation.

Section 3: **Executive Secretary:**

The Executive Secretary shall be responsible for all organizational matters and oversee the functions and operation of the Organization's Mainstream, media, and Youth wings. The responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to, all administrative matters, developing strategic plans both long and short term, developing a marketing plan, keeping minutes of the meeting, distribution of the minutes of the meeting, maintaining official files, including an updated list of members 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 I also prepare and present the annual report, assisting in forming the Election Committee and any other sub-committees.

Section 4: **Joint Executive Secretary:**

The Joint Executive Secretary shall assist the Executive Secretary and act 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 local development.

Organizations and becoming a member of FOBANA Organizations; assist the organization in reaching the youth, mainstream arena, and neglected areas.

Section 5: **Treasurer:**

The Treasurer shall hold the funds, manage all financial matters, including maintaining up-to-date records of all financial transactions, submit statements of receipts and expenses to the Executive Committee, prepare accounts and budgets, collect dues, be responsible for preparing the annual balance sheet, and income statement for audit, prepare the Tax Return to the IRS, maintain the annual registration status current, deal with insurance matters, and market. 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. Any release of funds above $499 (Four Hundred Ninety-Nine) would require the approval of the Executive Secretary, the Chairman, and the Treasurer. The Chairperson may empower the Executive Secretary or Joint Executive Secretary to operate the account in the absence of the Treasurer. The treasurer shall liaise and coordinate with the 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 a present or past Executive member who served two terms, including the current term or a past chairman, and will have at least one other member.

Section 2: If there is more than one Chairman candidate applying for the same standing committee position and each applicant meets the required criteria, then the final selection /election will be made by EC voting.

Section 3: Standing committees shall have the right to co-opt any number of members of the Executive Committee or 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 4: Standing committees shall be required to give a progress report on the Executive Committee meetings.

Section 5 The Chairman, Vice-Chairman, and Executive Secretary will be officio members of all standing committees.

Section 6: Standing Committee Chair term limit – Standing Committee Chairpersons cannot serve as the Chairs for more than two consecutive years for the same committee

Article XII: Roles and Responsibilities of the Standing Committees

Section 1:

Roles and Responsibilities of the Constitution and Procedure Committee

The Committee is responsible for reviewing the Articles of Incorporation, By-laws, and its Operating Procedures, as well as all official forms and guidelines, and reporting 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 and revise the forms, 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 the 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 FOBANA's operation, consult with experts, select and hire an on-call Attorney, initiate action to promote and protect FOBANA's interests, represent FOBANA and handle all legal issues, guide the resolution of disputes, mediate variances, and review important letters and documents before they are issued as needed.

Section 3: Roles and Responsibilities of the Unification Committee

The Committee is responsible for coordinating all matters related to unification efforts between different groups who would like to join FOBANA.

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

The committee will create a proposal and then present it to EC for approval before giving it to the negotiating parties.

Section 4: Roles and Responsibilities of the Media and Public Awareness Committee This Committee will be

responsible for all Media and public-facing matters. It will create all press releases and send them to

media outlets. This committee will write articles and publish them on the FOBANA website to create public

awareness of FOBANA.

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

The core mission of this Committee is to provide service, promote, and facilitate business opportunities between the 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 the USA.

Explore retirement planning and retirement investment, as well as investment in real estate and/or properties, by providing advice, seed money or start-up capital, pre-IPO funds, or franchising finance.

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

The committee will be responsible for open communication, leading and guiding on NRB issues, liaising with the Bangladesh Embassy and Government at home, liaising with the US and Bangladesh Business Council, holding seminars, and sharing 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, as well as all official forms and guidelines, and reporting 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 an 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 to their daily lives and the benefit of the community to which they belong.

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

Find talents among the young generations from across the nation and highlight them on the FOBANA website, Facebook, and Newsletter.

Encourage young writers to write to FOBANA Newsletters and be contributors to the FOBANA website.

Section 8: Roles and Responsibilities of the Health and Wellness Committee

The Committee provides guidance and recommendations on healthy living, nutrition, homemaking, mental health, and general wellness.

Invite and work with other local and national agencies and industry-leading experts in this area so that we can provide the necessary support on a national level.

Publish useful papers in easy-to-read Bangla, create powerful messages in the video, and distribute via YouTube, FOBANA Facebook page, and website.

Provide written articles about the nutritional values of our everyday ethnic foods. Highlight risks among men of Bangladeshi origins supported by research.

Invite physicians of Bangladeshi origins to help build a network of support in the healthcare area.

Section 9: Roles and Responsibilities of the Social Networking Committee

The Committee is responsible for leveraging online tools such as Facebook, Twitter, Google+, etc., to promote FOBANA and its activities.

The Committee will actively seek young volunteers who are visible and frequent visitors on social media and groom them to become FOBANA promoters.

The committee will educate the young generation about FOBANA's history so that they can spread the news.

The Committee will ensure that FOBANA is visible in the cyber world. However, all messages will be in tune with FOBANA's goals and mission.

Section 10: Roles and Responsibilities of Newsletter Committee

The Committee will be responsible for developing a periodic Newsletter and will actively seek writers to write articles for it.

Section 11: Roles and Responsibilities of Bangladesh Liaison Committee

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

The committee works with the media and engages with professionals in arts and culture, business, banking, education, industry, government, manufacturing, and media to promote FOBANA's 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 the Host Committee.

Maintain a Bangladesh contacts database and share it 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.

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

Participate in talk shows, interviews, and roundtable discussions to promote FOBANA positively and debunk any myths and misconceptions about it.

Open dialogue with relevant parties in Bangladesh and recommend to EC how FOBANA can make a tangible impact on 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, and technical professionals to review papers and presentations submitted to FOBANA for Seminar presentation.

Presenters will be allowed to submit their papers online via the FOBANA website. These papers will then be sent to this Committee's mailbox.

The Committee members will review and catalog the papers.

All papers will be in a database so anyone can research 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 from the submitted series and invite them to attend the FOBANA Convention. The list will also be presented to the host committee, which will decide who will pay for tickets 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 fields of arts, business, social, politics, 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 FOBANA's cultural aspects and maintaining coordination with the Host Committee on cultural affairs.
The Committee will help member organizations promote their cultural events, dramas, dance groups, and singers to other member states.
The Committee will lead and guide the Host Committee and its cultural committee in organizing cultural events at the convention.
The Committee will actively seek talents across North America and recommend them to the 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 arrange promotional tours or events leading up to the convention. The Committee will actively promote the FOBANA Artist Database.
The Committee may help the host committee recruit artists from Bangladesh, but FOBANA will not be engaged in any business or financial dealings with the 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 is to invite, show proper respect, and keep in touch with FOBANA Alumni. The Committee will develop and maintain a database with the contact information of all FOBANA alumni.

All alumni will be formally invited to the convention and to their special breakfast event. A FOBANA pin will be presented to these Alumni (depending 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 pictures, which will be permanently archived and promoted on the FOBANA website.
FOBANA EC will provide a special lanyard for the FOBANA Alumni, distinguishing them from all other guests. Alumni will be invited to participate in the Committees.

Section 15: Roles and Responsibilities of Membership Verification Committee

a) The Committee is responsible for verifying the membership applications of both new and existing organizations.

b) To ensure that their registration is current with the State and with the IRS, verify if they have Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws.

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

d) 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.

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

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

g) To ensure fairness and impartiality, the outgoing Chairman will lead this committee, as they are ineligible to contest any position and have no personal stake in the election's outcome.

h) The Vice Chairman, Executive Secretary, Joint Executive Secretary, and Treasurer will serve as Officio members of this committee, providing support for document and payment verification. However, any Officio member who decides to run for any positions will forfeit their voting rights in the Membership Review Committee.

i) Any member of the Membership Review Committee, other than 5 Officio members, who intends to run for any Executive Committee position must resign from this sub-committee.

Section 16: Roles and Responsibilities of Mainstream Liaison Committee

The Committee is responsible for communicating with mainstream personalities and open dialogue with them. This Committee will invite mainstream politicians and prominent people to the FOBANA convention.

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

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

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

The Committee will work closely with the host committee to suggest and help contact guests for the FOBANA convention. 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, at which the FOBANA Chairperson will present the award.

The Committee will coordinate with the Host Committee to preserve the time slot for the 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 fundraising, selecting, and finally awarding annual scholarships to talented students of Bangladeshi origin.

The Committee will prepare guidelines 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.

Donations 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 are tax-exempt to the maximum limit allowed by law.

Money donated to the FOBANA scholarship fund should only be used for the committee's objectives. All

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

The students from the host city/state of the Convention will receive the financial awards for the respective year. The

financial award will be a one-time financial award of $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 and 4.0 in the given year of the Convention.

Applicants must have community involvement.

A properly filled-out Application form and a color photo must be submitted two months before the convention of each year. The Scholarship Committee can change this date.

The recipients must agree to allow FOBANA to publicize their photo and 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 academics to review the essay.

The Scholarship Committee will then shortlist the candidate and submit it 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 the current FOBANA Executive Committee or Advisers can participate in the scholarship

program. This committee will have at least three past FOBANA Chairpersons as members.

The current Chairperson and the Executive Secretary will be the official 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 a 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 and to maintain a 24-hour telephone hotline where the victim can leave messages in Bangla or English if necessary. Calls will be directed to the WEC-designated person, who will then reroute them 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 organizations of FOBANA.

To manage and update the WEC Facebook page, publish useful papers in easy-to-read Bangla, create powerful video messages, and distribute via YouTube, the FOBANA Facebook page, and the 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 on the FOBANA website and invite them to the Annual FOBANA convention.

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

To organize WEC informational seminar in cooperation with the 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 Procedures and managing/delegating technical tasks related to the FOBANA website, Facebook, etc.

This committee is also responsible for managing/delegating all FOBANA-related posters, banners, annual reports, videos, etc.

Section 22: Roles and Responsibilities of Convention Liaison Committee

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

This committee members must have a good understanding of the 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 contradict 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 standards of the FOBANA convention in detail.

This committee shall have a 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 and justify its findings through videos, pictures, public testimony, etc.

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

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

Section 24: Roles and Responsibilities of the Fundraising Committee.

This committee reviews FOBANA's current and future yearly budget and evaluates its financial needs.

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

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

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

Section 25: Roles and Responsibilities of the Following Year Convention Committee.

This committee must work closely with the organization that is awarded the following year's convention.

This committee's goal is to ensure that the host organization continues to work towards preparing for a successful FOBANA Convention the following year.

This committee must thoroughly understand 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 that desires to host a FOBANA Convention shall be required to present to EC at the AGM a proposal highlighting its intent, organizational strength, and financial soundness, including an operating budget, experience, probable location, possible venue, date, and action plan to prove its ability to host an event like FOBANA successfully.

Based on the consensus reached by 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, the 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 the 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 in the following year prior to AGM for review by EC.

EC reserves the right to safeguard its interests and take any action against the Host Committee for its failure to comply with its requirements. The action could contemplate terminating the award made for hosting the Convention. The EC may decide to award the convention to another willing organization or host the convention itself.

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 expenditure 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 a 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 candidates 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. When a member organization is not elected or selected, the check will NOT be refunded, and the agreement will be voided. EC will keep a $2000 deposit from all organizations competing in the election unless the application is withdrawn before the deadline. This deposit received from the organization that 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. If they do not have the status, FOBANA shall receive the corporate checks, and within seven days, the 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 an 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, Member Secretary, and Treasurer.

Section 3: The Convener or Member Secretary may not hold any position within a political party based in Bangladesh, nor under any local or affiliated authority of such parties in the USA or Canada

Section 4: Convener and Member Secretary of the Host Committee may attend the FOBANA EC meeting as non-voting attendees to provide updates on the Convention as needed.

Section 5: The Host Committee can have as many co-conveners, assistants, committees, or members as necessary to carry out its responsibilities; 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 6: The Host Committee shall not create or designate any official position with the title that the leadership in the hierarchy holds in the FOBANA EC, so it creates any confusion for having two Chairmen in the FOBANA Convention oron any publication materials that Host Committee will circulate.

Section 7: If the Executive Committee raises any funds for the convention, the host committee shall give 20% to the Executive Committee.

Article XV: Guideline for Organizing a FOBANA Convention

Section 1: The Host Organization must follow this guideline while organizing a FOBANA convention.

Section 2: Use of name: The proper name for the organization and the convention must be used. The organization is called the Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North America or FOBANA. FOBANA is also synonymous with 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, the correct logo must be used 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: The FOBANA archive contains a collection of templates and very useful information. The Host Organization shall review these files before creating any new version. However, if a new version is needed 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 material that the host organization produces. This is especially necessary for posters, Television commercials, newspaper advertisements, 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 of all media communication. The Executive Committee can then be prepared to answer the media's questions about the organization. The host organization will handle all Convention-Related Questions.

Section 7: Official Letterhead: The Host Organization shall use an official letterhead template that references 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 ceremonies. They may also play it throughout the convention. The theme song is available on the website or will be provided to them by the Chairperson or Executive Secretary.

Section 9: Flags: During the opening ceremony, the host organization must display the flags of three countries, equal in size and with proper mounts (Bangladesh, USA, and Canada).

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 and 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. If, for any unforeseen reason, such a session can't be organized, then the Host Organization shall spend the funds allocated for this session on 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: During the three-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, announcing their names and the organizations to which they belong, or a courtesy may be extended to allow a 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 copies 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) A meeting room that can hold up to 100 people for all three (3) days of the convention.

b) Either serve food or provide food coupons to all Executive Committee members on the day of the FOBANA Annual General Meeting

c) 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-upon date and time to witness the convention's progress. 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 is not limited to any sitting ministers, the head of the opposition party, and the head or senior members of any political or religious parties. The Host Organization must select the Chief Guest in 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 other incidental expenses shall be at the discretion of the Host Organization.

a) Ambassador, Government of Bangladesh, Washington DC

b) Consul General, Government of Bangladesh, New York

c) Consul General, Government of Bangladesh, Los Angeles

d) Minister for Information and Cultural Affairs, Government of Bangladesh

e) High Commissioner, Government of Bangladesh, Canada

f) Minister for Commerce, Government of Bangladesh

g) Minister for Education, Government of Bangladesh

h) Minister for Labor & Employment & Expatriate Welfare& Overseas Employment, Government of Bangladesh

i) 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). 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 www.fobanaYEAR.fobanaonline.com.

Section 20: In the case when the name of the host organization changes due to any reason, the 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 to 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.

Section 24: The EC may consider hosting the FOBANA convention in a selected city as a pilot program, with a local organization from that city serving as the Co-host for that year's convention. No decision has been made regarding the timing of this initiative.

Article XVI: Election Procedure and Handover of Office and Accounts

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 the Executive Committee of FOBANA and assists in the election of a Host Organization that wishes to host the FOBANA Convention each year at the respective State where it belongs.

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 previously served as Chairperson of FOBANA.

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 to become a candidate for any elective position. The appointment of the ECC and the term of the Election Commission body will be decided at the last Executive Committee (EC) meeting, which takes place before the Annual General Meeting (AGM) through majority consensus based on the selection process by the EC members.

Section 5: ECC shall function under the 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 and 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 all the member organizations on time.

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

Section 8: ECC shall secure and work with a list of current members from the Membership Review Committee. 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, Executive Secretary, Joint Executive Secretary, and Treasurer must meet at least one of the following two conditions (a or b below):

a. 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 one (1) year.

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

c. Prospective candidate for the position of Chairperson needs to meet the following additional requirement: The candidate remained a chairperson Vice-Chairperson or Executive Secretary for at least one (1) year, or the candidate at any time in the past was a Convener and served as either Joint Executive Secretary or Treasurer at least total of two (2) years. This doesn't apply to the current Convener.

Member(s) willing to contest 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: A candidate for Chairperson may not be eligible to run if they are from the same city where the convention is scheduled to be held.

Section 11: Prospective candidate for the position of Outstanding Member must meet at least one of the following three conditions:
a. The candidate at any time in the past was either a chairperson, 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 a 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.

Section 12: Organizations intending to host the FOBANA Convention must meet the eligibility requirement as stipulated under Section XIII of the 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 an organization profile, a List of Board members including their contact

numbers, a Bank statement showing financial stability, a working budget, a proposed venue and its location, Hotels, and transportation availability, and furnish evidence of the organization's healthy operation and activities, including meeting minutes of the AGM for the last three (3) years. All this information needs to be furnished to the EC no later than eight (8) weeks before the election date.

Section 13: As per the 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. A non-refundable nomination fee will be required for submission for each position, as determined by the EC.

Section 14: 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 15: ECC shall review all nominations received within the deadline date, scrutinize them for eligibility, certify them for validation, and prepare a list for use.

Section 16: 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 to another elective position by paying an additional $100 fee. This must be done no later than two (2) weeks before the election date.

Section 17: Membership Review Committee will release the final valid membership list to ECC, which will, in turn, be the voters in the election. This must be done two (2) weeks before the election date.

Section 18: ECC will release the final list of candidates along with the voter's list to member/organization(s)ten (10) days before the election date. ECC will also release brief information on the Host Committee contenders.

Section 19: 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 the General Body to vote will take place in 'one-shot' through a single electronic ballot with a 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 - ECC will only know the vote count for each candidate through this electronic voting process.

A person is eligible to cast only one vote for one elective position – no proxy voting will be allowed.

Section 20: The general body election will be held remotely within the seven days preceding the AGM, with the exact date jointly decided by the CEC and the FOBANA EC. This ensures that election activities do not coincide with the AGM and other FOBANA activities.

Section 21: The CEC shall announce the election result at the AGM. To make it official, the CEC shall sign and stamp the official election result printout, which will be derived through an electronic process.

Section 22: In the case of a tie for any position, ECC will make its decision on the appropriate method to break the tie, such as a run-off election, coin toss, or any other method deemed practical at that time.

Section 23: 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 interests of the FOBANA organization first and fulfill my duties as an elected executive member with the highest integrityand honor. Long live FOBANA.*'

Section 2: CEC shall get all the elected members of the Executive Committee, including the Chairperson, to sign a Code of Conduct that 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 The income and expenses of the Host Committee are duly certified, audited, and submitted to the new Executive Committee within the next month after the remitting office.

Article XVII: Corrective Action

Section 1: In case a current or past member organization, members of the Executive Committee, or any member of the Standing Committees violates any provisions of the Constitution, Bylaws, or Operating Procedures, the Executive Committee shall have the right to take corrective action 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 EC's discretion.

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 conflict with other measures if mentioned in the Constitution, 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, 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, and No one can post a personal link or personal matter in FOBANA groups, the Chairman and Executive Secretary should be compulsorily added as Admin to all groups. If any member commits any such offenses, the following corrective action may be taken:

a) FOBANA members 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 offense.

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 offense.

c) EC may ask the elected organization to send a replacement member to FOBANA, depending on the severity of the offense.

Section 6: Reentry pathway for suspended FOBANA Organizations and Individuals.

FOBANA has established three (3) categories of suspension and corresponding reentry pathways for suspended individuals and/or organizations.

I. Categories of Suspension Eligible for Reentry Consideration

Suspended individuals and/or organizations may be considered for reentry if the suspension arose from one or more of the following actions:

a) Hosting an event in the same metropolitan area as a FOBANA convention during the same timeframe as the convention.
b) Using the FOBANA name and/or logo for any event held during the same timeframe as a FOBANA convention, regardless of location.
c) Actively participating in events and/or activities described in items (a) and/or (b) above.

II. Reentry Pathways

a) Eligibility for Reentry

A suspended individual or organization may be considered eligible for reentry if one or more of the following conditions are met:

I. The full term of suspension has concluded, **or**
II. The individual or organization has demonstrated substantial corrective actions that adequately address the conduct that led to the suspension.

b) To be considered for reentry.

The following requirements and procedures must be satisfied:

I. Waiting Period:
Individuals or organizations suspended for two (2) years or longer are not eligible to apply for reentry until a minimum of two (2) years has elapsed from the effective date of suspension.

II. Letter of Intent:
The suspended individual or organization must submit a formal Letter of Intent to the FOBANA Executive Committee through designated FOBANA Office Bearers. The Letter of Intent must:
   a. Acknowledge the actions that resulted in the suspension.
   b. Express sincere regret for those actions; and
   c. Include a clear and unequivocal commitment to refrain from similar conduct in the future.

III. Compliance Commitment:
The applicant must explicitly agree, in writing, to fully comply with the FOBANA Constitution, Code of Conduct, and all applicable policies and guidelines going forward.

C. Post-Approval Conditions (If Reentry Is Granted)

If reentry is approved by the FOBANA Executive Committee, the following conditions shall apply:

I. The reentering organization shall be treated as a new member organization.
II. The re-entered individual or organization shall be ineligible to participate in any FOBANA elections for a period of two (2) years following reinstatement.

D. Additional Documentation

The FOBANA Executive Committee reserves the right to request additional documentation or supporting materials at any time during the review and evaluation process.

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: For these purposes, vendors will deal directly with FOBANA, and there will be no agents in Bangladesh.

Section 4: These letters will be sent directly to the vendors or to the host committee for dispatch.

Section 5: The 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 and submit them 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.

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 conduct an interview to ensure that these are legitimate vendors.

Section 10: The EC may request additional documents from the vendors or engage third-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 seven days prior to the convention. After that date, no refund will be issued because the stalls can't be allocated to any new vendors.

Section 15: Refunds will be issued within 90 days of the convention or a date set by the EC every year.

Section 16: 50% refund minus any bank transfer and/or PayPal fee if they notify within seven 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 seven days left of the convention.

Section18: No refund will be issued to vendors who will receive US VISA but will not attend in FOBANA. They will be reported to the US Embassy about their absence in FOBANA.

Section 19: A list of invited guests and vendors will be published on the FOBANA website. Unpublished names will be called counterfeit, and FOBANA will not be responsible for them.

Section 20: There will be multiple ways to pay the vendor deposit

a) Pay to FOBANA EC via wire transfer, ACH, check
b) Pay FOBANA HC via wire transfer, ACH, check
c) Pay online
d) Pay to a bank in Bangladesh set by EC or HC

Revision **History**

Version	Date	Updated By	Change Description
1.0	12-01-2020	Vice Chairman	1. Additional requirement for voting rights 2. Zero tolerance to maintain civilly 3. Website management via 3rd party vendor 4. FOBANA Emergency Disaster Relief Fund program
2.0	12-06-2021	Executive Secretary	1. Added Article III Section 2 (b) 2. Added Article III Section 3 (b) 3. Updated Article XI Section 1 4. Added Article XI Section 2 5. Updated Article XVI: Section 9 6. Updated Article VIII: Section 6
3.0	10-01-2022	Nahidul Khan (Executive Secretary)	1. Article III Section 2. (h) (Amendment passed in 2022 AGM) 2. Article IV Section 2 (Amendment Passed in 2022 AGM) 3. Article IV Section 3 (Amendment Passed in 2022 AGM) 4. Article IV Section 16 (Amendment passed in 2022 AGM) 5. Article XVI Section 10 (Amendment passed in 2022 AGM)
4.0	12-18-2023	Nahidul Khan (Outstanding Member)	1. Article IV Section, 16 Updated (passed 2023 AGM) 2. Article X Section, 5 Amended (passed 2023 AGM) 3. Article III Section, 2 (b) Added (Amendment passed 2023 AGM) 4. Article XVII Section, 5 Updated (Amendment passed 2023 AGM)
4.1	11-15-2024	Masud Chowdhury (Chairman 2024-2025)	1. Article III: Section 4 (b) Added (Passed in 2024 AGM) 2. Article XII: Section 15 (g,h,i) Added (Passed in 2024 AGM) 3. Article XIV: Section 3 Added (Passed in 2024 AGM) 4. Article XV: Section 24 – Added (Passed in 2024 AGM) 5. Article XVI: Section 10 & 19 - Added (Passed in 2024 AGM
5.0	01-23-2026	Masud Chowdhury (Chairman 2024-2025)	1. Article IV: Membership -Added Section 22,23,24,25 (Passed in 2025 AGM). 2. Article XVII: Corrective Action – Added Section 6 (Passed in 2025 AGM).

40th FOBANA
CONVENTION 2026



Date : September 4, 5, 6, 2026

Venue : Universal Hilton
555 Universal Hollywood Drive
Universal City, CA 91608



Established in 1987

FOBANA®