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EMBASSY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH

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Press Release

Expatriate Bangladesh Community in the USA joins "Sonar Bangla by Millions" initiative

As part of the Government of Bangladesh's initiative to sing Bangladesh national anthem by millions of voices together across the globe under the banner "Lakho Konthe Sonar Bangla" marking the country's 43rd Independence and National day, the Embassy of Bangladesh encouraged leading Bangladesh community organizations all over the USA to be a part of this history-making event. Spirited and motivated as Bangladesh communities have always been to uphold Bangladesh's history and culture, a large number of community members including the younger generation expatriates living in New York, Houston, Texas, Chicago land, Illinois, and Los Angeles gathered to join their voices and sing their beloved national anthem together. As Bangladesh Diaspora all over the USA started resonating "Amar Sonar Bangla" simultaneously, a song that has always remained an intimate part of any Bangalee soul anywhere in the world, it appeared as if Bangladesh is making a proud statement to the world as it steps into its 44th year of independence.

In greater Washington area, Friends and Family, a renowned cultural organization of Bangladesh origin organized the program which attracted a huge number of participants. The Ambassador of Bangladesh to the USA, H.E. Mr. Akramul Qader and Madam Rifat Sultana Akram, lady wife of Ambassador Qader joined the community members along with all his Embassy colleagues and their family members. In his remarks to the audience, Ambassador Qader said that all the Bangalees across the world are held together by a unique sense of patriotism. Terming "Lakho Konthe Sonar Bangla" as a unique and unprecedented initiative to create and recreate the patriotic connections all across the globe among Bangalees, he said that Bangladesh made a special place in world stage by taking this initiative for the first time in known-human history. He added that the significance of the event primarily lies in its impacts on the society as a great equalizer while bringing on board people from all walks of life including freedom fighters, students, garments workers, lawenforcing members, cultural personalities and people in general under the

same platform, singing in the same tune, and dreaming for the same "Sonar Bangla" together.

He thanked the enthusiastic Bangladesh Diaspora members, particularly the younger generation living abroad for their initiatives and hard work for organizing this event all over the USA.

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