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### **PRESS RELEASE**

August 14, 2016

#### **Bangladesh envoy expresses condolence to the families of the Queens-incident victims**

Bangladesh Ambassador to the United States of America, Mohammad Ziauddin, has sent condolence messages to the bereaved families of the victims of Saturday's fatal incident in Queens, New York. "On behalf of the people and Government of Bangladesh, I express our deepest sympathies," writes the Ambassador.

H.E. Ambassador also prays for the salvation of their departed souls noting that the victims of the August 13 incident, Mr. Alauddin Akonjee, ex-Imam of the Al-Furkan Mosque and his friend Mr. Thara Uddin, were known for their simplicity, humbleness and devotion.

Mentionable, both the victims hailed from Bangladesh, a society that traditionally embraced peace and harmony as its way of life and rejected violence of all kinds.

Bangladesh and the USA enjoy best of relationships and share the liberal values of pluralism and inclusiveness. Ambassador notes that this loss of lives symbolizes why it is important for our Governments and societies to work together in fighting the menace of hatred.

Noting that concerned diplomatic Missions of Bangladesh in the USA are in close touch with the US authorities, Bangladesh envoy expresses his hope that the perpetrators would be brought to justice. Mohammad Ziauddin also remarks that the Government of Bangladesh is ready to offer any possible assistance that might be required in investigating the incident.

The condolence messages were signed on August 14, 2016.