



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20515

JOSEPH CROWLEY
7TH DISTRICT, NEW YORK

July 2, 2010

Dear Friends:

It is my pleasure to send you my greetings as you celebrate the International Bangla Festival. I wish you all well as you celebrate the Bengali New Year.

I commend you for bringing people of all different communities together united by the common thread of the Bengali language. Bengali speaking members of not only the Bangladeshi and Indian communities living in the United States but also those from Canada and other parts of the world will be participants in the festivities. I would also like to welcome all of the distinguished guests – from notable authors, poets and intellectuals to government officials, who have travelled near and far to take part in the event.

I would also like to commend Muktaadhara for not only hosting the week's festival but also for being one of the largest promoters of the Bengali culture and its Bengali-speaking communities in North America through eighteen years of programming. As you are all aware, these programs include book discussions, seminars and literary debates with key-noted scholars from Bangladesh, India, the United States of America and Canada.

I am proud to represent a district that includes so many Bangladeshi-Americans. The great culture and vibrant community of the Bangladeshi people have an integral impact on the United States and on my own district. These attributes have made my district a place of great diversity and given all the opportunity to share the vast history and culture of Bangladesh. Best wishes!

Sincerely,

Joseph Crowley
Member of Congress