

STATE OF TEXAS OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Greetings:

As Governor of Texas, I welcome all in attendance to the 23rd Federation of Bangladeshi Associations in North American Annual Conference, hosted by Bangladesh Association, Houston.

The United States often is called a "melting pot" of cultures, and no state epitomizes that description more than Texas. The Lone Star State is a diverse land with residents of all races, religions and backgrounds. And while we all are proud to be Texans, individual heritage and history are sources of pride, too.

You all enjoy a unique bond of Bangladeshi ancestry, and the continued success of this annual convention is evidence of the immense pride you all have in your heritage. Knowing this, I have no doubt this event will only grow in the years to come, and I hope you will continue to choose Texas as a hospitable destination for the Bangladeshi community.

To those from out of town, I invite you to explore Houston. This large, diverse metropolis is filled with a variety of attractions, including world-class shopping, fine dining and professional sports. No matter your interests, I know you will find Houston has something to offer you.

First Lady Anita Perry joins me in hoping you all have a wonderful convention.

Sincerely, ICK PERRY

Rick Perry Governor