

Bangladeshi Culture

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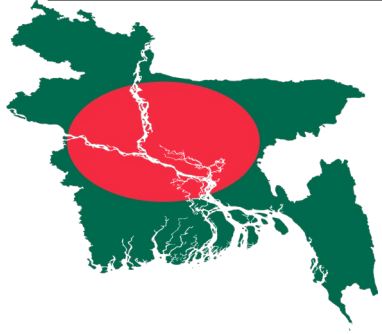
CLDV 100 [Cultural Diversity]

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National symbol of Bangladesh



↑
The National Flag of Bangladesh, Otherwise known as the Bangladesh flag map.

It is the national symbol of Bangladesh.



↑
It is a national monument in Dhaka, Bangladesh, established in memory of the victims in the Bengali language movement protests in 1952.

Some common values, norms, and beliefs

- The young are brought up to show great respect to their elders. If a person does not show respect to their elders it is looked at as being rude.
- Women often do not work outside, they take care of their children and other family members and prepare meals.
- People usually eat using their right hand.
- People have to take off their shoes before entering the mosque and home.
- People have to eat Halal (permitted) food. For example, people can't eat pork.
- It is generally considered socially unacceptable for people of the opposite gender to touch each other.
- There is no god except Allah.
- We believe in the evil eye but we do not believe that anything or object can protect us from the evil eye. We follow certain religious rules to protect ourselves from the evil eye.

Greetings

- The traditional greeting for Muslims is Asalamu alaikum (peace be upon you) to which the response is wa alaikum salam.
- The way people address each other depends on the age difference between them. When people are the same age, they use their first names.
- People are not addressed by personal names, but rather by the use of the title of kinship within the community, whether or not there is a formal bond of blood. If someone communicates with someone little older than them, then they are referred to them as an older sister, or, older brother. If someone is a generation older, then they are referred to as aunty or uncle.
- 'often among friends, colleagues, neighbors, relatives, and family members.
- In general, people of the opposite gender do not shake hands or hug each other.





The official Language is Bangla.

Verbal

- Language style: Bangladeshis tend to communicate in long and rich sentences. They are quite modest in their communication style.
- Refusals: For questions and requests that require a yes or no answer, Bangladeshis tend to phrase their responses in such a way that their counterpart may need to consider what is being implied. for example, “I have to give it some thought’ may mean ‘this cannot be done”.
- Soft Voices: Bangladeshis are often softly spoken and tend to avoid loudly expressing themselves. People y come across as being heated or angry if they speak loudly, thus causing the speaker to lose face.

Non-Verbal

- Personal Space: Bangladeshis tend to stand or sit close together during same-gender conversations.
- Physical Contact: For those of the same gender, holding hands, touching arms, embracing, or putting hands around shoulders are common and acceptable. The more familiar people are with one another, the more common physical contact is during the conversation.
- Eye Contact: In Bangladesh, Eye contact is generally held during conversation and it acts as a sign of sincerity.

Traditional Dress



Panjabi



Lungi



Salwar kameez



Saree

The National dresses for Bangladeshi men are Lungi and Panjabi and for Women are saree. but People usually prefer to wear other clothes besides those, Girls are seen to wear Salwar kameez and other types of dress. Youngs are seen wearing jeans pants, T-shirts, shirts.

Bangladesh food culture

Bangladeshis have a strong tradition of food. Rice, pulses, and fish continue to be the staple food of Bangladeshis. Meat is eaten including goat, chicken, mutton, and beef. Generally, people in Bangladesh eat homemade food almost every day, such as rice, various vegetables, fish, meat curry, and different types of mashed. people usually take rice two times a day with delicious dishes and curry.





Dating and Marriage

In Islam, dating Muslims before marriage is not permissible. Islam gives the right to choose a spouse. In Bangladesh, arranged marriages were more common and acceptable than love marriages, but now love marriages seem to be normal and acceptable to people. Arranged marriages usually take place when parents decide that their child should be married.



Muslim festival

The majority of the Bangladeshi population is identified as Muslim (89.1%), then Hinduism is the second-largest religious group (10.0%). The remaining 0.9% of the population is affiliated with another religion (including Buddhism and Christianity), but Many Bangladeshis prefer their religious identity to their national identity. There are two main Islamic religious festivals of Bangladesh are Eid-al-Fitr and Eid al-Adha. These include the two Eids (one after Ramadan and one after the Hajj).

On both occasions, families and friends exchange visits to each other's houses and make various types of dishes. Hindu influences festivals include Durga Puja and Kali Puja etc.




Hindu Festival

Culture shock experiences



When I came to America almost everything was new to me such as language, religion, dress, etc.

There are some the culture shocks that I have experienced in the united states those are:

- LGBT is legal in NYC but I never heard of it in my country, and it is illegal in my country.
 - Alcohol is legal here but it is illegal in my country.
 - In our culture, it is considered rude for adults to call them by their names, for example, you can't call the teachers by their names, you have to call teachers sir/madam. But it is normal to call adults by their names here.
 - There isn't much difference between men's and women's clothing.
 - Everything is provided to schools, including subsidized meals, school buses and metro cards.
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Why cross-cultural understanding is important ?

- Understanding cross-cultural helps people to Embracing Cultural Diversity
- Learning about different cultures helps people's personal and societal development.
- Understanding cross-cultural help people to better socialize.
- Understanding different people and their cultures are one of the best ways we can learn from each other.
- Understanding cross-cultural will help us to prevent discrimination.



How will understanding intercultural help us to prevent discrimination?

There are many cultures of people in the world, some cultures have some customs, beliefs, lifestyles that seem strange to us because we are not familiar with these customs but those whose culture makes them feel normal. While some people do not react negatively to unfamiliar customs of a culture, but some people react badly and begin to hate. So when people learn about cross-cultural, people will be familiar with those customs, rules, values, and beliefs from different cultures and it prevents discrimination.

References



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