

Bangladeshi Traditions

-Tasfia Chowdhury

Bangladeshi traditions are very unique; Bangladesh has different cultural and religious traditions than America. Americans majority are Christians where as Bangladeshi majority are Muslims.

Hello my name is Tasfia Chowdhury. I love being in a Bangladeshi Muslim family. But sometimes I don't like being different, like whenever I say I don't celebrate Christmas, Kwanza or Hanukkah people look at me funny. But then I realize we do have a Christmas but it is called Eid. Eid is a celebration no Christian celebrates. For Eid day my family buys me new clothes to wear. I love wearing salwar kamezzes and lehengas and my most favorite accessories are bangles and jewelry. Every time I wear these clothes I feel like I'm different but unique from Americans. When I went to Bangladesh I really enjoyed it. Dhaka was a busy city. But Gaibandha was a city that was quiet and had lots of trees and lakes. Both cities had signs and those signs were written in Bangla. I don't know how to read or write Bangla. I always joke and say if we went to school in Bangladesh I'd go back to kindergarten may be even pre-school. In Nashville we have a huge Bangladeshi community. I like going to their parties because I can talk to people who are from the same place as I am. I like to have some Bangladeshi friends to talk and play with. Some of my Bangladeshi friends are Nuha, Maiysa, Kristi and Bibu. I play with them at parties. At Eid time I love putting henna on my hands. But when I go to school everyone thinks I got a real tattoo on my hands. Then I explain to them what it is? They always listen because it is new to them. I also love mishti. My favorite kind is rashgolla. My mom tries to make rashgolla and when it works its really good. It turns into something called sponge mishti. It's absorbing like a sponge that's why they call it sponge mishti.

We the Bangladeshi people have lots of good traditions, that's why in our own way Bangladeshis have two worlds one Bangladeshi and one American.

Tagore Poem Translation

-Zak Mohyuddin

What song could I render as eloquent homage to your joyous wonder
 I summon humanity to come forth witness your immortal splendor
 Your description transcends words I can gather
 How do I narrate your vast kindness far, near and all over
 Your love is sweet as honey, and soothes the heart aching for a meager share
 The stars in the heavens stand testament to your universe of grandeur
 The sun and moon race across in quest for your embrace
 As do planets along celestial paths for a share of your grace
 The radiance of your glow bathes the blue hue of the endless sky
 Floating with grace on surface of oceans that never die.
