



Embassy of the of United States of America

## INSTRUCTIONS FOR MARRIAGE CERTIFICATES

According to Bangladeshi civil law Muslim marriages can only be registered by a Muslim Marriage Registrar (AKA Kazi) and the registration of Muslim marriages is mandatory.

**Muslim Marriages:** The applicant should contact the Kazi office who registered the marriage to obtain the Muslim Marriage Deed AKA Nikah Nama (Bengali and English version). Both the Nikah Namas (Bengali and English version) must be submitted during the visa interview.

- Section 5(1) of the Muslim Marriage and Divorce Registration Act, 1974, “Where a marriage is solemnized by the Nikah or marriage registrar himself, he shall register the marriage at once”.
- Section 5(2) “Where a marriage is solemnized by a person other than the Nikah Registrar, the bridegroom of the marriage shall report it to the concerned Nikah Registrar within thirty days from the date of such solemnization”.
- Section 5(3) “Where solemnization of a marriage is reported to a Nikah Registrar under sub-section (2), he shall register the marriage at once.”

More information on Muslim Marriage Registration can be found at -

[http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd/print\\_sections\\_all.php?id=476](http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd/print_sections_all.php?id=476)

**Hindu/Christian/Buddhist Marriages:** According to the Hindu Marriage Registration Act, 2012, a Hindu marriage performed in Bangladesh may be registered with the Hindu Marriage Registrar, who has jurisdiction over the locality of the applicant’s residence.

For other religions, including but not limited to Christians or Buddhists, applicants should contact their appropriate Marriage Registrar over the locality of the marriage area or the priest who solemnized the marriage or the administration of the Church/Temple where the marriage was solemnized. The format for these documents may vary but all will contain the similar information pertaining to the concerned parties, the wedding ceremony and the information concerning the identity of the marriage registrar or priest who solemnized and/or registered the marriage.

For information about the Special Marriage Act, 1872, which governs marriages for those who profess no faith, please visit <http://bdlaws.minlaw.gov.bd>.

**IMPORTANT: Affidavits of marriage from applicants, relatives or family members will not be accepted.**