

## Title of the Assignment

### “Describing three different festivals I have celebrated”

Bangladesh is a country of all the colors, cultures and festivals. Numerous occasions are held throughout the year. The country is full of diverse cultures, religions and races. Here, describing three different festivals I have celebrated.

#### **Religious Festivals (Eid Ul Fitr:)**

This is the most joyful occasion of all Muslims across the country. Even, the non-Muslims like to join the celebration of Eid with everyone. The holy day comes after the month of Ramadan where the Muslim believers performed fasting for 30 days. It is believed that the Eid day is the blessing from Allah to enjoy the achievement after Salat. 30 days' fasting. In the morning, all the mosques and fields are filled with people to perform the Eid Salat. Prior to that, they take shower, get ready wearing new Pajama-Panjabi and apply perfume. After finishing Eid prayer, they embrace each-other and finally leave the Eidgah compound. Next, everyone visits their families, neighbors and relatives and have delicious foods. Sweet desserts like Kheer, Payesh and also heavy items like Biriyani, korma are served throughout the day. In the evening, people go out and crowd the

recreational places like Cinema, Wonderland, Bowling or Laser Tag. People enjoy a 3 days Government holiday for Eid.

### **National Festivals (Pohela Boishakh):**

One of the cultures that Bengali people have been following with zeal for centuries, is Pahela Baishakh. This is the 1st day of Bengali New Year and the most popular occasion of Bangladesh. Both men and women are dressed in red and white. Girls wear Saree with colorful bangles and boys wear Panjabi. Various activities are held in many places throughout the day. Bengali foods like Panta ilish (Hilsha fish and rice), various Pithas (cakes), Candy floss etc are presented in front of the visitors in the fair. Nagordola (Ferris wheel) is set up for amusement. Meanwhile, folk songs are played under Bot-tola (Banyan tree). Over 10 thousand people march at 'Mangal Shobhajatra' (Procession for well-being) - a very old tradition that takes place in the Dhaka University area. This rally reflects the Secularism of Bangladesh and the unity and indifference that bring all the races and religion together. Students of Dhaka University carry colorful handmade banners, festoons and massive art faces decorated with cock-sheet and paint.

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## **International festivals (international mother language day):**

Mother tongue means a language through which the people of a country express their ideas, thoughts, feelings, and emotions clearly. 21st February is International Mother Language Day. This day has been declared as the International Mother Language Day by UNESCO to pay due respect to the existing mother tongues of different countries. In reply to a proposition of Bangladesh Govt. the declaration has come to reality. It is very unfortunate that the then rulers of Pakistan tried to impose 'Urdu' as the state language on us instead of Bengali. Before the independence of our country in 1952, the then Pakistani ruler Jinnah declared in the public meeting that "Only Urdu and Urdu shall be the state language of Pakistan". The people of our country burst into protestation against this unjustified decision. Some of the heroic sons of this-soil came forward and sacrificed their valuable lives for the cause of their mother tongue on the 21st February 1952. The day is important for the people of Bangladesh. Now it is a matter of great pleasure and prestige that this day got international recognition in 1999 as International Mother Language Day.