



We Serve

Lions Clubs International District 315A2, Bangladesh 5th Annual Convention 2000

Date: May 12 & 13

Venue: Hotel Sheraton, Dhaka

Special Supplement



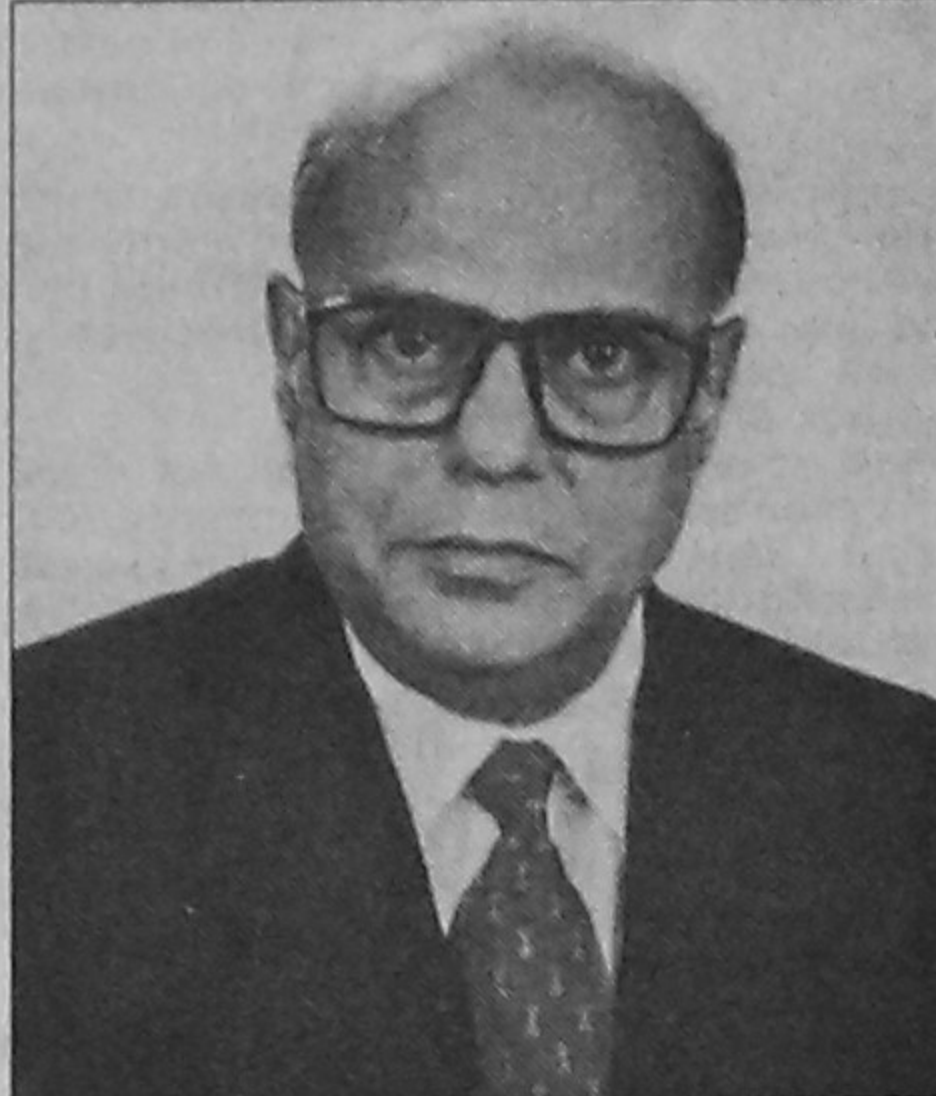
May 12, 2000

The Daily Star

Message

I am glad to hear that Lions Clubs International, District 315A2, Bangladesh will hold its 5th Annual District Convention 2000 on 12th May, 2000 at Sheraton Hotel, Dhaka. It is, of course, well-known that the endeavours of the members of the Lions Clubs are to improve the quality of life of the poor and disadvantaged people in our country. Bringing about improvements in the fields of health care, adult education, and in the condition of women and children and helping the slum-dwellers are indeed worthy objectives. It is gratifying to note that the members of the Lions Clubs International are planning to enlarge their humanitarian activities through this Convention. The members of the Lions Clubs believe in friendship and togetherness which prompted them to carry for the noble mission to improve the quality of life of people in our country. Members of the Lions Clubs International are citizens of the World, and I am confident that they would continue to engage themselves in the constructive work of helping the less fortunate people of our society.

I wish this Annual District Convention a great success and Godspeed.



Justice Latifur Rahman
Chief Justice
Bangladesh

Message

It is indeed a great pleasure for me that 5th Annual District Convention of District-315 A2 of which I am the District Governor is going to be held on 12th & 13th May, 2000 in a befitting manner. The convention is the venue where different Lion members with different views and new ideas come close to each other. There may be difference of opinion regarding ways and means, but we all agree to the fact that we have become members of the largest service organisation of the world with a motive to serve the distressed and less fortunate people of the society.

It is to be mentioned here that in Lionism, we always use the term "we" and not "I"; whenever any good work is done by District or any club, the work is done by us collectively. Many programmes have been successfully performed in our District. As we have collectively done, the credit for these goes to us all. A congenial atmosphere exists in our District where we have developed fellowship and friendship among all of us. More good things are there still, to be done in the future.

May I hope, all participating Lion members shall enjoy every moment of the convention. I hope they will carry

with themselves sweet memories for their fellow Lion members to induce them to do more service works.

I wish a grand success of this convention. May Allah bless us with kindness and goodness.



Ln Alhaj Adv. Md Saukat Ali
District Governor

বাণী

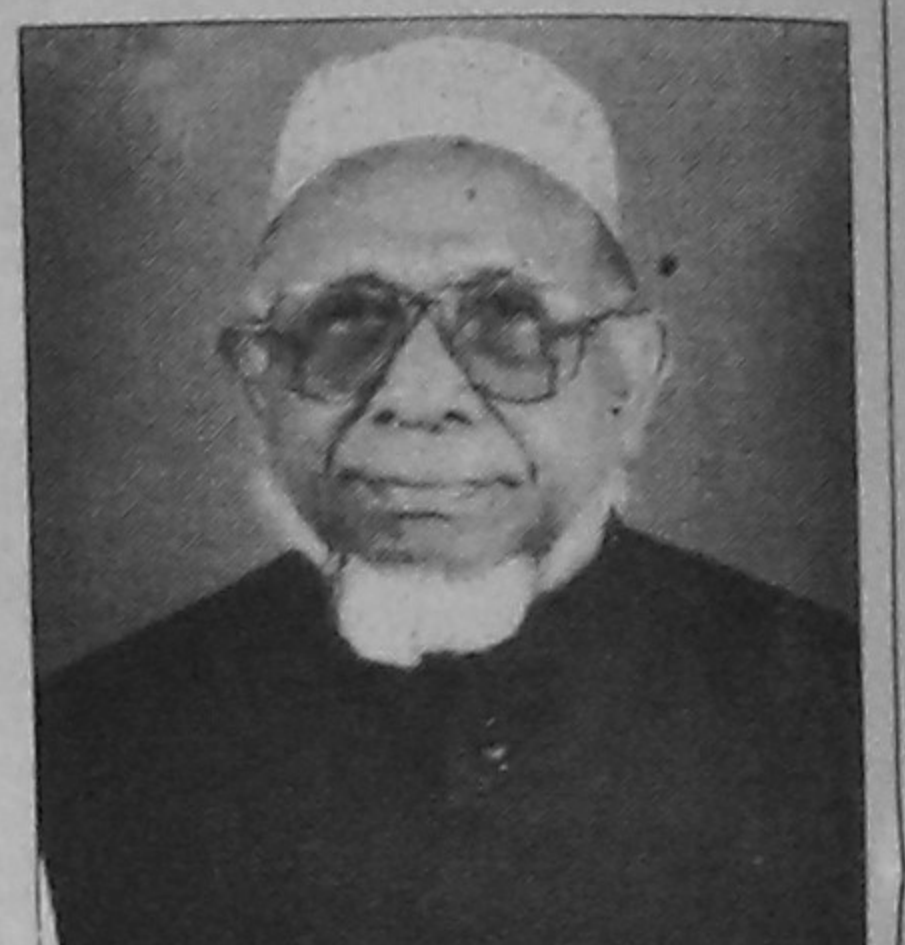
লায়ন্স ক্লাবস ইন্টারন্যাশনাল, জেলা-৩১৫এ২, বাংলাদেশ-এর ৫ম বার্ষিক জেলা সম্মেলন অনুষ্ঠিত হচ্ছে জেনে আমি আনন্দিত হয়েছি।

লায়ন্স সংস্থা একটি সেবামূলক প্রতিষ্ঠান। আন্তর্জাতিক লায়ন্স সংস্থা বিশ্বের ১৮৫টি দেশে ১৪ লক্ষেরও অধিক সদস্যের মাধ্যমে দুঃস্থ ও অর্ধমানবতার সেবায় যে কাজ করে যাচ্ছে তা প্রশংসার দাবী রাখে। বাংলাদেশেও লায়ন্স সদস্যগণ দুঃস্থ মানুষের সেবা করার পাশাপাশি আর্থ-সামাজিক উন্নয়নে বিশেষ ভূমিকা পালন করছেন। লায়ন্স এর সেবামূলক কার্যক্রম সমাজের প্রশংসা অর্জন করতে সক্ষম হয়েছে। আমি আশা করি আমাদের দেশের লায়ন্সগণ সমাজ সেবায় আরও সক্রিয় ভূমিকা পালন করবেন।

জাতির জনক বঙ্গবন্ধু শেখ মুজিবুর রহমানের পুত্রের সোনার বাংলা গঠনে মাননীয় প্রধানমন্ত্রী শেখ হাসিনার সরকার নিরলসভাবে কাজ করে যাচ্ছে। এই মহা কাজে সমাজের সকলের মিলিত প্রয়াস আবশ্যিক।

আমি লায়ন্স জেলা-৩১৫এ২, বাংলাদেশ এর ৫ম বার্ষিক জেলা সম্মেলনের সফলতা কামনা করি।

জয় বাংলা, জয় বঙ্গবন্ধু
বাংলাদেশ চিরজীবি হোক



আলহাজ্ব আব্দুল সামাদ আজাদ
পররাষ্ট্র মন্ত্রী
গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

Message

It gives me immense pleasure to learn that a colourful Souvenir will be brought out on the occasion of your Annual District Convention. I take this opportunity to extend my warm greetings to the members of District 315A2 Bangladesh. Annual convention provides a unique opportunity to exchange views, share ideas and promote friendship and fellowship. I am sure that the participating Lions will avail this opportunity and enrich their knowledge and abilities to work better. And it will help them greatly to work in partnership for a comfortable world. We have our proud past, we shall do our best to make our future Bright and Brighter. We can do it if we work in Harmony.

District Governor Lion Al-haj Md Shaukat Ali has given very successful leadership to run the activities of the District efficiently and smoothly. I congratulate him and his Cabinet colleagues for the wonderful work they have done during 2000-2001.

Wish you an enjoyable Annual District Convention.



Moslem Ali Khan
Chairman
Convention Committee

Message

I feel greatly honoured to have the privilege of conveying this goodwill message for the supplement to be published on the occasion of 5th Convention-2000 of Lions Clubs International, District-315 A2, Bangladesh.

District-315 A2 is enriched with many dedicated Lions. I sincerely hope that the members of this District will maintain their tradition of services and uphold the image of Lionism in this part of the globe through various service activities especially sight related activities and uphold the motto "We Serve".

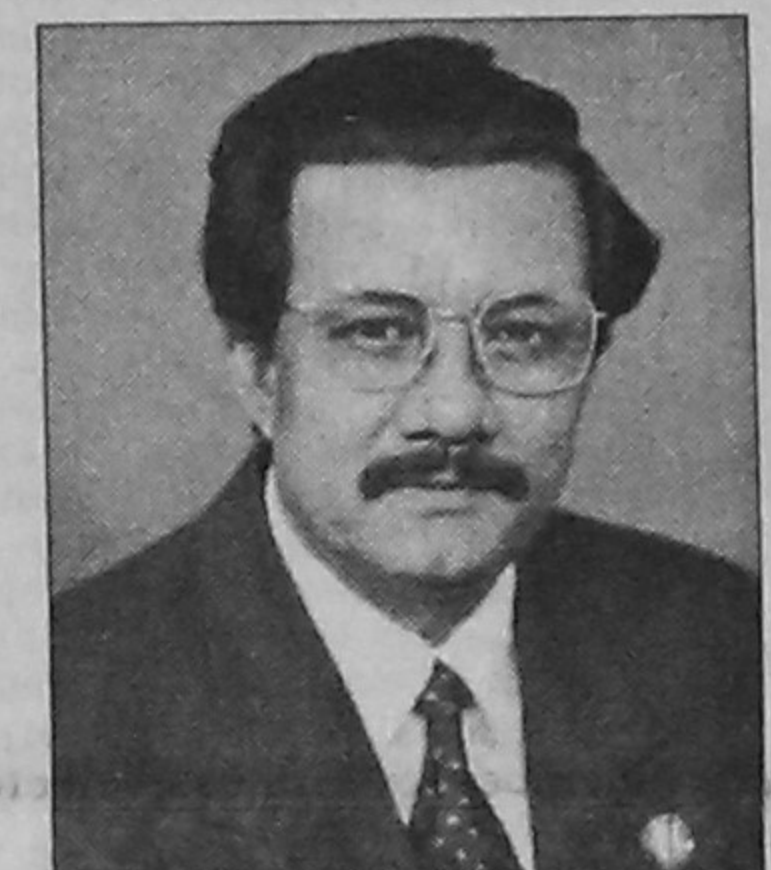
You are aware that Bangladesh Lions Foundation (BLF) is rendering valuable services through its various projects such as BLF Lions Eye Hospital, Rural Eye & Screening Camps, Autorefractometer, Bio-Metry department, Spectacle department, Glaucoma Screening Unit, Pharmacy department, Pathology department, ECG department, Radiology department, Pediatric Unit, Mother & Child Care Centre, EPI, Family Planning, Education Fund etc. to the people of the country.

We have taken necessary steps to upgrade the Lions Eye Hospital into an Eye Institute from this year which will add to the quality of service in the Hospital and raise the image of Lions effort to a new dimension.

I would request all the Lion members

of Bangladesh to come forward with their whole hearted support, active participation and generous contribution to make the programmes of BLF a grand success.

I also express my best regards and offer my felicitation to all the delegates and participants in the District Convention of District 315 A2 and wish the convention a grand success.



Ln. Bodiul Islam
Chairman
Bangladesh Lions Foundation &
Immediate Past District Governor

Message

I am extremely pleased to learn that Lions Clubs International District-315 A2 Bangladesh will hold its 5th Annual District Convention 2000 soon.

It is heartening to note that Lions have kept up and maintained the tempo of humanitarian service, against all odds. Their commitment to service and devotion to the welfare of the people is highly appreciated today by our community and the society.

I wish the District and its leaders all success and hope that the Lion members will be able to maintain their high tradition for all times to come.

Long Live Lionism
Long Live Bangladesh



A K Faezul Huq
Minister of State
Ministry of Jute
Govt of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Message

I am happy to learn that 5th Annual District Convention 2000 of District-315 A2, Bangladesh will be held on May 11-13, 2000 at Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, and on this auspicious occasion a colourful Souvenir will be published.

I am in firm conviction that the Annual District Convention will stimulate all the Lion members of District-315 A2 and will create far reaching positive impact to uphold the image of Lionism in Bangladesh and also to fulfil our motto "We Serve".

District-315 A2 has carried out commendable services to the community, and has upheld the image of Lionism under the dynamic leadership of District Governor, Ln. Adv. Md Saukat Ali. We are confident that the District-315 A2 will continue to render more intensive and valuable services for the cause of Lionism and for fostering fellowship and friendship among the Lion members through imparting dedicated service to the "less fortunate" in the society.

I wish the 5th Annual Convention of District-315 A2 a grand success.



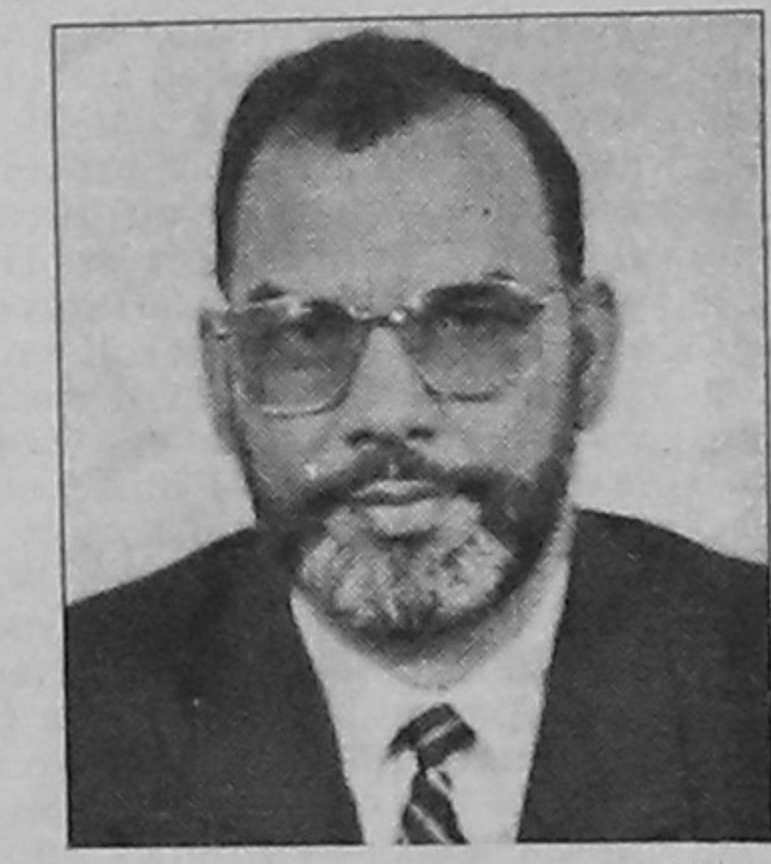
Ln. Sk Kabir Hossain
Past Council Chairman
ID Nominee and Chairman
Bangladesh Red Crescent Society

Message

I am pleased to know that a special supplement is going to be published on the occasion of 5th Annual District Convention of Lion District-315 A2, Bangladesh. I being the Convention Chairman, offer my sincere thanks to the publisher of this supplement.

Convention offers a great opportunity to share fellowship and discuss accomplishments and plan for the future by facing the challenges that exist in today's world. It is my earnest desire that all the Lions and Leos of our District will achieve the cherished goal of service to humanity.

I wish the Convention every success.



Ln A Wahab Sikder, MJF
Convention Chairman

Message

I am pleased to know that the 5th Annual District Convention of District 315 A2 Bangladesh is going to be held on May 12-13, 2000 and to commemorate the occasion a colourful and informative souvenir will also be published.

Annual convention of any organisation creates a wider opportunity for their members to meet with each other for exchanging their views and opinion to develop the fellowship among each other and open a new gateway to elevate the service activities. On this occasion you will also elect your new leaders and undertake an effective year planning for the coming year with a great hope and expectation to expedition the overall activities to uphold the image of the organisation.

Lions Clubs International is the largest service organisation of the World and your District 315 A2 is a pertinent part of it. I hope that the Annual Convention of your district will establish the dynamism of the leadership of your District Governor Ln. Adv. Md. Saukat Ali during his tenure.

I hope with the able leadership of your

Convention Chairman Ln. A Wahab Sikder MJF, other committee members and the leaders of your district, this 2-day long convention including the publication of the Souvenir will be ended with grand success.

Long Live Lionism
Long Live Bangladesh



Ln Engr Iqbal H Khan
Council Chairman

THE International Association of Lions Clubs began as the dream of a Chicago insurance man Melvin Jones. Melvin Jones' idea struck a chord within his own group, the Business Circle of Chicago, and they authorized him to explore his concept with similar organizations from around the United States. His efforts resulted in an organizational meeting at a local hotel on June 7, 1917. The 12 men who gathered there overcame a natural sense of reluctance to their parent clubs, voted that the "Association of Lions Clubs" into existence, and issued a call for a national convention to be held in Dallas, Texas, USA in October of the same year. Thirty-six delegates representing 22 clubs from nine states heeded the call, approved the "Lions Clubs" designation, and elected Dr William P Woods of Indiana as their first president. Guiding force and founder Melvin Jones was named acting secretary. Thus began an association with Lionism that only ended with his death in 1961.

The Emblem throughout the World: Lions are recognized by the emblem they wear on their lapels. It consists of a gold letter "L" on a circular purple field. Bordered this is a circular gold area with two lion profiles at either side facing away from the centre. The word "Lions" appears at the top and "International" at the bottom. Symbolically, the lions face both past and future — proud of the past and confident of the future. Lions wear their emblem with pride.

The Motto: The motto of every "Lions" is simply "We Serve." What better way to express the true mission of Lionism?

The Slogan: The slogan of the association is "Liberty, Intelligence, Our Nation's Safety (Lions)."

Official Colours: The royal

colours of purple and gold were selected as the official colours when the association was organized in 1917. Purple stands for loyalty to friends and to one's self, and for integrity of mind and heart. Gold symbolises sincerity of purpose, liberality in judgement, purity in life and generosity in mind, heart and purpose toward humanity.

Community leaders soon began to organize clubs throughout the United States. This Lions Association did not become International until 1920, when the first Lions Club was organized in Canada outside America. The third Lions Club country was China where Lionism became prohibited after the revolution in 1948. The fourth Lions Club country is Mexico, Central America, where Lionism was established in 1926. In 1927 Lions Club was formed in Cuba but with the establishment of communist government in 1960's Lionism was prohibited in Cuba. In 1935, Panama became home to the first Central American club, with the first South American club being organized in Colombia the following year. Lionism reached Australia in 1947 and Europe in 1948, as clubs were chartered in Sweden, Switzerland and France. In 1952, the first club was chartered in Japan.

The International Association of Lions Clubs is today the largest service organization in the world with over 1.4 million members in more than 44,500 clubs in 740 Districts covering 185 countries and geographic areas. The first International Headquarters was in Michigan and at present the International Headquarters is at 200 22nd Street, Oak Brook, Illinois, USA. The first Chief Executive Officer of Lions Clubs International is International

History of Lionism and Bangladesh

by Ln M A Hassan, MJF

Vice-District Governor (1999-2000)
District 315A-2, Bangladesh



President. There are two Vice Presidents and 32 International Directors in the executive body. The term for Int'l President is for one year and the term for Int'l Directors is for 2 years. Lions Clubs are not social clubs, although there are social benefits to membership. Lions Club members give their time, skills and resources to raise funds for charitable activities both in their communities and internationally.

The major focus of Lions fund raising activities is sight conservation, although other projects are pursued such as drug awareness programmes in high schools, diabetes awareness programmes and other programmes that are specific to individual Clubs and Districts. Lions took up sight conservation as their major goal after a speech given by Helen Keller at the Lions International Convention held at Cedar Point, Ohio, in 1925. At that time, Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become "Knights of the Blind," a challenge that has become a rallying cry for Lions projects around the world.

Lions work in the area of sight conservation is carried out at many levels. Individual Clubs sponsor free eye screening programmes using mobile eye clinics. In many countries, Clubs sponsor eye surgery camps where cataract surgeries are performed at no charge for those that can't afford the cost of this medical care. Many clubs collect old eye glasses for distribution to the needy in other countries.

The International Association of Lions Clubs began a programme of fund raising that they called "Campaign Sight First" in order to cure/prevent 40 million cases of blindness worldwide. Over \$14.86 or have been raised by Lions all over the world for this programme. Eye hospitals are being built in the places that most need them.

There are 8 Lions Code of Ethics
To Show: To show my faith in the worthiness of my vocation by industrious application to the end

that may merit a reputation for quality of service.
To Seek: To seek success and to demand all fair remuneration or profit as my just due, but to accept no profit or success at the price of my own self-respect lost because of unfair advantage taken or because of questionable acts on my part.

To Remember: To remember that in building up my business it is not necessary to tear down another's to be loyal to my clients or customers and true to myself.

Whenever: Whenever a doubt arises as to the right or ethics of my position or action towards my fellow men; to resolve such doubt against myself.

To Hold: To hold friendship as an end and not a means. To hold that true friendship exists not on account of the service performed by one to another, but that true friendship demands nothing but accepts service in the spirit in which it is given.

Always: Always bear in mind my obligations as a citizen to my Nation, my state and my community and to give them my unwavering loyalty in word, act and deed. To give them freely of my time, labour and means.

To Aid: To aid my fellow men by giving my sympathy to those in distress, my deed to the weak and my substance to the needy.

To Be Careful: To be careful with my criticism and liberal with my praise, to build up and not destroy.

There are 6 Lions Clubs Ob-

jects
To Create: To create and foster a spirit of understanding among the people of the world.

To Promote: To promote the principles of good government and good citizenship.

To Take: To take an active interest in the civic, cultural, social and moral welfare of the community.

To Unite: To unite the clubs in the bonds of friendship, good fellowship and mutual understanding.
To Provide: To provide a forum for the open discussion of all matters of public interest; provided, however, that partisan politics and sectarian religion shall not be debated by club member.

To Encourage: To encourage service-minded men to serve their community without personal financial reward, and to encourage efficiency and promote high ethical standards in commerce, industry, professions, public works and private endeavours.

At present there are about 140,000 Leo members in 5600 Clubs in 138 countries and geographical areas who work together with Lions. There are five major youth programmes of Lions Clubs International:-

1. Leo Clubs, (2) International Youth Exchange, (3) International Youth Camps, (4) Lions Youth Outreach (Lions Quest, Youth Video Programme, Drug Awareness, Street Children Programme and Scouting), (5) Lions International Peace Poster Contest.

Lionism in Bangladesh
Lionism came to this country in 1958 through Lions Club of Dhaka. Lions Club of Dhaka and Lions Club

of Chittagong the first two clubs of the then East Pakistan were organized and sponsored by the Lions Club of Karachi. Growth and expansion of Lionism had been very satisfactory, till 1970, it suffered a great setback during the war of liberation in 1971. The clubs of the then East Pakistan were under the jurisdiction of Multiple District 305 having its HQ in Karachi.

Late Ln M R Siddiqui was the father of Lionism in Bangladesh who reorganized Lions Clubs during 1972-73 in Bangladesh. Late Ln M R Siddiqui was the first District Governor in Bangladesh for two consecutive years in 1972-74 period. Since then there has been rapid growth of Lionism which led to the formation of Multiple District 315 in 1987. In the Lions family of Bangladesh we have at present six Sub-districts namely District 315A-1, 315A-2, 315B-1, 315B-2, 315B-3 and 315B-4. There are approximately 300 Clubs in six Sub-districts and 12,000 Lions and Leos are active to run major service projects and activities. The Chief Executive Officer of each Sub-district is District Governor. Every year District Governor and Vice-District Governor are being elected in the delegate session of each Sub-district's Annual Convention. The term for District Governor and Vice-District Governor is one year. District Governor nominates his Cabinet members including Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Treasurer.

We are doing our best to uphold the image of Lionism through our activities. Services rendered by our Lions Clubs have been both nationally and internationally praised and recognized. Lions International Regional Forum was held in Dhaka in December 1989 with representa-

tives and participants from 57 countries of the world. In the history of Lions International Forum it was the largest and well organized forum.

In 1995-97 for the first time in the history of Lionism we got a Lion leader to take the office of the International Director in our region. He is our beloved leader Ln Moslem Ali Khan, MJF.

In Bangladesh we are again the largest of all the service clubs. It's a great honour for us. We have our National HQ and Service Complex at Agargaon, Dhaka where Bangladesh Lions Foundation (BLF) is rendering valuable services through its various projects such as BLF Lions Eye Hospital, Rural Eye and Screening Camps, Glaucoma Screening Unit, Pathology Deptt, Mother & Child Care Unit, Education Scholarship Fund etc. to the people of the country. We have another full-fledged Eye Hospital run by CLF by District 315B-4 in Chittagong, Progressive Lions Eye Hospital at Narsingdi run by District 315B-2, Kapotkha Lions Eye Hospital at Jessore run by District 315A-1, Rajshahi Lions Eye Hospital, Pabna Diabetic & Eye Hospital, Bogra Shah Sultan Lions Eye Hospital run by our District 315A-2.

We have our achievement and we have also our failures. We are happy with what we have achieved and take lessons from what we could not do due to our limitation of resources. What we do is out of our human feelings, social and moral obligations for the people of our society. This is why we say, Lionism is a commitment — commitment of service through friendship and fellowship.

Long Live Lionism
Long Live Bangladesh

Felicitations to the 5th Annual District Convention of Lions District 315A2, Bangladesh

Ln. Shamsun Nahar Bhuiya, Chairman, Gawsia Corporation, Bhulta, Rupganj, Narayanganj