

United States Embassy, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Security Message for U.S. Citizens

Court Appearance for BNP leader Khaleda Zia

(March 3, 2015)

Media reports indicate that BNP opposition leader Khaleda Zia is due to appear in court on March 4. Since some past court appearances have turned violent, U.S. Embassy Dhaka is taking a cautious approach to ensure the safety of U.S. citizens. Please remain vigilant, avoid crowds and be aware of your surroundings at all times. You should avoid areas of demonstrations, and exercise caution if in the vicinity of any large gatherings, protests, or demonstrations. Even demonstrations intended to be peaceful can turn confrontational and escalate into violence.

U.S. Embassy Dhaka will limit its operations on March 4 to essential services only. All visa and consular appointments for March 4 have been cancelled. Clients who had March 4 appointments are advised to check their e-mail for further instructions. The Embassy expects to resume normal operations on Thursday, March 5.

We strongly recommend that U.S. citizens traveling to or residing in Bangladesh enroll in the [Department of State's Smart Traveler Enrollment Program \(STEP\)](#) at [www.Travel.State.Gov](http://www.Travel.State.Gov). STEP enrollment gives you the latest security updates, and makes it easier for the U.S. embassy or nearest U.S. consulate to contact you in an emergency. If you don't have Internet access, enroll directly with the nearest U.S. embassy or consulate.

Regularly monitor the State [Department's website](#), where you can find current Travel Warnings, Travel Alerts, and the Worldwide Caution. Read the [Country Specific Information](#) for Bangladesh. For additional information, refer to our [Travelers Checklist](#).

You can visit the U.S. Embassy Dhaka web page ([dhaka.usembassy.gov](http://dhaka.usembassy.gov)) for up-to-date information on travel restrictions or call the Embassy directly at (88) (02) 5566-2000. You can also call 1-888-407-4747 toll-free in the United States and Canada or 1-202-501-4444 from other countries. These numbers are available from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Eastern Time, Monday through Friday (except U.S. federal holidays). Follow us on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

The U.S. Embassy, Dhaka is located at Madani Avenue, Baridhara, Dhaka, Bangladesh 1212 and is open Sunday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (88) (02) 5566-2000. If you are a U.S. citizen in need of urgent assistance, the emergency number for the U.S. Embassy, Dhaka is (88) (02) 5566-2000 and press "0" and ask for the duty officer.

American Citizen Services  
U.S. Embassy  
Dhaka, Bangladesh