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পঞ্জা কলাম

## The Bangladesh Observer

### PM donates Tk 2 lakh to Islamic Edn Centre in NY

The Prime Minister, Begum Khaleda Zia, donated Taka two lakhs to an Islamic Education Centre in New York city, where children of Bangladeshi expatriates receive their first lessons of the Holy Quran and in Islam, says BSS.

Ambassador Reazul Rahman, Permanent Representative of Bangladesh to the United Nations handed over the cheque on behalf of the Bangladesh Prime Minister to Moulana Muhammad Golam Hossain, the General Secretary of Brooklyn based multipurpose American Islamic Education Centre, at a simple ceremony at the Permanent Mission of Bangladesh to the UN in Dhaka on Thursday, a message from New York said.

The multipurpose American Islamic Education Centre was founded by the Bangladeshi expatriates in Dhaka to provide religious education to the children of Bangladeshis living in New York city.

Many non-Bangladeshi children are also receiving Islamic education in Dhaka now.

The students of the centre met the Bangladesh Prime Minister during her visit to New York last year and appealed for help to improve the facilities of the centre.

The Bangladesh Prime Minister assured the students that she would try to help the centre.

During the Prime Minister's visits

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### PM

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to USA in 1992 and 1993, Bangladeshi expatriates also requested for Biman to operate service upto New York and for opening a branch of a Bangladesh Bank in New York to facilitate remittances.

Both the requests were duly followed up by Prime Minister on her return to Dhaka.

Biman is now operating twice a week flights between Dhaka and New York and Sonali Exchange is being opened next week.

Present at the ceremonial handing to the cheque to the Islamic Centre, were Mr. Faroque Bakht Chowdhury, President, BNP, USA, Mr. Ehsanul Hoque Milan, General Secretary, BNP, USA, Mr. M. M. Rezaul Karim, former Ambassador and a member of Bangladesh delegation to the current UN General Assembly session, and other representatives of Bangladesh community and the officers of Bangladesh Mission.