

Mr Tanvir Rahman
Secretary
Wikimedia Bangladesh
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May 29, 2012

Dear Mr. Rahman,

Thank you very much for our fruitful discussions on organizing Wiki Loves Monuments 2012 in Bangladesh. Vereniging Wikimedia Nederland (Wikimedia Netherlands) is, as initiator and official organizer of the international Wiki Loves Monuments contest, glad to see that the chapter-in-founding Wikimedia Bangladesh is joining us in 2012 to organize Wiki Loves Monuments in your country. Wikimedia Bangladesh was already recognized by the Wikimedia Foundation Inc. in October 2011 provisionally recognized as a chapter, pending registration with authorities and we're happy to see that the members are now joining us in this highly successful contest.

Wiki Loves Monuments was organized for the first time in the Netherlands in 2010, and was successful with 12,500 submitted photos. In 2011 we were joined by 17 other European countries from Portugal to Russia and altogether over 165,000 images were submitted by more than 5,000 participants. With such numbers, Wiki Loves Monuments was most likely the largest photo contest ever.

In 2012, we expect to have more than 25 countries throughout the world participating in this federative contest where the organization in every participating country is taken care of by a local Wikimedia organization - in your case Wikimedia Bangladesh. With the help of your organization and our sister organizations in other countries, we hope to make Wiki Loves Monuments in 2012 even more of a success!

The contest not only resulted in many new free photos for public use, but also in more people who are aware of the concept of free knowledge and sharing of information, and more people (both in the neighborhood and online) who are aware of the richness of the heritage in the participating countries. The availability of knowledge and visual material about cultural heritage in your country can only lead to increased interest of your own citizens and potential visitors.

We trust that you will be able to organize a successful Wiki Loves Monuments Bangladesh and would like to ask other organizations in your country to support you in any way possible to achieve high participation and increased awareness of free knowledge and cultural heritage of Bangladesh.

With kind regards,

Sandra Rientjes
Director, Vereniging Wikimedia Nederland

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