



# VOA Broadcasting in Bangla (and Rohingya)

VOA's Bangla Service provides millions of listeners, viewers and readers relevant news and information on radio, television, mobile and the Internet daily. While the press in Bangladesh is becoming less restrictive, targeted violence occasionally limits the freedom of journalists. VOA's main broadcasts reach Bangladesh, and the Bangla-speaking Indian States of West Bengal, Assam and Tripura, as well as several Arab and Muslim countries in the Middle East, Southeast Asia and Africa, where Bangladeshi workers live. VOA Bangla programs also reach the diaspora community in the U.S. The service's radio programs on medium wave and local FM affiliates reach an estimated 16 million listeners weekly. VOA Bangla also manages the radio programming in the Rohingya language for the refugee camp dwellers in eastern Bangladesh. In addition to radio, VOA Bangla has five weekly television programs, as well as a presence on the Internet and mobile. The service is also engaged in community outreach through its Fan Clubs. There are more than 1,100 active VOA Fan Clubs in Bangladesh and the Indian state of West Bengal.

## Quick Facts

<b>Date Established:</b>	January 1958
<b>Target Area:</b>	Bangladesh and the Bangla-speaking Indian States of West Bengal, Tripure, Assam, and the diaspora
<b>Weekly Audience:</b>	16 million
<b>Radio Programming:</b>	One hour a day, 7 days per week. Ten minutes news daily on local FM affiliate Radio Today. Weekly 15 minute feature on FM Dhoni.
<b>TV Programming:</b>	30 min per week

**Programs and features available at:**  
[www.voabangla.com](http://www.voabangla.com)

## Facebook:

[VOA Bangla](#)

## Twitter:

[@VOABangla](#)

## YouTube:

[voabangla](#)

## Programs and Features

### Radio

**VOA Bangla** – This daily one-hour radio program at 16:00 UTC includes news, feature stories, and stringer reports from the Bangla-speaking areas of South Asia on important international, regional, and U.S. stories. This popular show also includes five weekly features on youth, health, science, technology, sports and VOA Fan Clubs activities.

**Hello Washington** – VOA Bangla's weekly flagship radio call-in show provides in-depth analysis of major social and political issues in the U.S., Bangladesh and South Asia. *Hello Washington* airs live every Wednesday from 12:00 to 12:55 p.m. EDT.

**Alapon** – A 40-minute call-in show on current affairs, sports, arts and entertainment. It airs twice weekly on Mondays and Fridays.

**Daily Newscast for Radio Today** – A 10-minute newscast jointly produced with affiliate station Radio Today in Dhaka, focusing on international news. The service also produces weekly 15-minute segments on science, technology and the environment for the same radio station.

**Lifeline** – A 30-minute news and music program in the Rohingya language airs on short wave and medium wave at 7:30 a.m. EDT. Content is produced in both Washington, D.C. and from the Rohingya camps in Bangladesh.

### TV

**Hello America** – A weekly glimpse on international issues, as well as interviews with prominent Americans and Bangladeshis. It provides a bridge between two cultures, depicting real life experiences of ordinary Americans and Bangladeshi/South Asian immigrants in the U.S. It airs every Saturday at 11:20 p.m. and repeats Sundays at 11:40 a.m.

**Straight from America** – A 6-minute version of *Hello America*, featuring interviews and segments about life in America. It airs every Friday at prime time on affiliate station ATN Bangla.

**VOA 60 USA** – A fast-paced one-minute weekly TV roundup of the latest news from the U.S. It airs four days a week at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. local time during affiliate station DESH TV's prime time newscast.

**U.S. Political Round Up** – A weekly 10-minute feature on U.S. politics and international developments for affiliate RTV. It airs every Tuesday at 5:30 and 11 pm.

**Radio/Web**

*English Learning* – A weekly 10-minute program.