BENGALI ASSOCIATION SINGAPORE 1 Scotts Road # 24-10 SHAW CENTER Singapore 228208 www.bas.sg (UEN No. S56SS0020D)



Subject: Urgent Appeal for Payment of Membership Dues and Pujo Overhead Donations

4 Aug 2023

Dear Esteemed Members,

I hope this letter finds you in good health and high spirits. I have been entrusted this year with the job of Hon. Treasurer of the Bengali Association Singapore, which is both an honour and a task full of responsibilities. As we approach our auspicious flagship festival, <u>Durga Puja 2023</u>, I am writing to humbly request your immediate attention to an important matter concerning the current year's financial stability of our beloved association.

As you all are aware, BAS has been an integral part of our community for 67 years, fostering cultural harmony and promoting the rich heritage of Bengal. However, like many other organizations, we faced significant challenges due to the global pandemic that shook the world not too long ago. The COVID-19 pandemic has left a lasting impact on our lives, and as a consequence, the costs of organizing events and maintaining the association have escalated considerably.

In order to continue our noble pursuits and ensure a grand celebration of Durga Puja this year, it is imperative that we collect membership dues for 2023 and settle any outstanding amounts from previous 2 years. We understand that the past year has been challenging for all of us, and we deeply appreciate your continued support and commitment to our association during these trying times. <u>Memberships</u> which are automatically "Lapsed" due to 3 years of inactivity can be applied as "New" by clearing the current year's dues only, as per the provision declared in our constitution.

The membership, pujo overhead & other donation payment options are listed below:

- Membership & Pujo Overhead
- Pujo Samogri Donations
- Other Sponsorship Options

Your generous contributions not only help sustain the association's operations but also play a pivotal role in organizing cultural events, educational programs, and community initiatives that enrich our lives. With your support, we can continue to celebrate our traditions and uphold the values that bind us together as a community.

Apart from PayNow or Bank Transfers, to ease the payment process and to offer more convenience, we are proposing the introduction of two new <u>payment options</u>:

WhatsApp Payment: This will allow you to make your membership payments directly through WhatsApp using our official mobile number [+65 9655 1463]. Hope you would find this mode of payment secure, quick, and hassle-free.

Standing Instructions for Bank Transfers: For those who prefer annual recurring payment setup, we now offer the option to set up standing instructions for bank transfers. You can authorize your <u>DBS</u>, <u>UOB</u> or other local banks to automatically transfer the membership amount on an annual basis, ensuring your membership remains active without any manual intervention.

In an effort to modernize and embrace a <u>cashless</u> approach, we are encouraging all members, to adopt the aforementioned digital payment methods. This transition will streamline our financial operations and allow us to focus more on meaningful community initiatives. As such, our Pujo Registration desk will be enabled with **QR codes for PayNow** payments apart from having the **Nets** payment terminals.

We acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our senior members and understand that some may prefer traditional payment methods. Therefore, cash payments will still be accepted from our respected senior members, ensuring they can continue their association with us seamlessly.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all the members who have already cleared their dues promptly. Your proactive support is immensely appreciated and serves as an example for others.

If you encounter any difficulties or have questions on membership dues or payment matters, please feel free to reach out to our dedicated 2023 MC team and anyone us will be more than happy to assist you: Email: $\underline{mc@bas.sg}$ | WhatsApp: $\underline{+65\ 96551463}$

I also invite you to be part of our <u>BAS MEMBER CONNECT WhatsApp Group</u> to stay abreast of all communications around Pujo, other events & member-engagement programs throughout the year.

Thank you for your attention to this appeal. Your continued support is instrumental in the growth and prosperity of Bengali Association Singapore. Let us make 2023 Durga Puja a celebration to remember!

With warm regards,

Mr. Prasun Saha Hon. Treasurer on behalf of MC 2023 Bengali Association Singapore

Email: finance@bas.sg

