



## Statement from SABA North America on Historic South Asian Wins in the 2025 U.S. Elections

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### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SABA North America proudly recognizes and congratulates the historic victories achieved by South Asian candidates in elections across the United States this week. These milestones mark a defining moment for our community and for the broader American story of inclusion and representation.

Notably, **Zohran Mamdani** was elected **Mayor of New York City**, becoming the first South Asian and first Muslim to hold the office; **Ghazala Hashmi** was elected **Lieutenant Governor of Virginia**, making her the first South Asian American and first Muslim to win statewide office in the Commonwealth; **Aftab Pureval** was re-elected as **Mayor of Cincinnati**, continuing his trailblazing leadership as one of the few South Asian mayors in the nation.

We also celebrate the many other South Asian Americans elected to office across the country this week—at the local, state, and federal levels—whose achievements collectively represent a growing wave of civic engagement and leadership within our community.

A core mission of SABA North America is to promote and support qualified South Asian attorneys in federal, state, and local elections. These historic wins reaffirm that South Asian voices not only belong in public service but are shaping policy, justice, and leadership at the highest levels.

We hope these achievements inspire the next generation of South Asian individuals—and all underrepresented communities—to see their lived experiences as powerful assets in the pursuit of public service.

SABA North America President **Nishi Kothari** provided her insight on this week's election:

“This election marks a profound moment of both recognition and responsibility for our community. The recent electoral successes by South Asian candidates are not simply milestones—they are affirmations that our voices, our lived experiences, and our perspectives belong in the halls of power. As the President of SABA North America, I am inspired by how far our community has come, and I acknowledge how much farther we must go. These wins open doors, but they also demand that we walk through them—with integrity, with purpose, grounded and rooted in our core mission and purpose. Representation matters. Access matters. Justice matters. Let us use these victories to uplift not just our own—but to strengthen our democracy.”



SABA North America looks forward to continuing to uplift, mentor, and advocate for South Asian professionals who strive to make meaningful impact in their communities and across the nation, aligned with SABA North America's core mission and purpose.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact **Mona Shah** at [executivedirector@sabanorthamerica.com](mailto:executivedirector@sabanorthamerica.com).