

News Letter



<http://bdp.org.bd>

December, 2024

Since-1999

A Message From Yuu Ishikawa - Chairman of Minatomonokai



Greetings from Japan to you all. I am Yuu Ishikawa, chairman of Minatomonokai. It has been a quarter century since I started my involvement with Bangladesh.

I have visited Bangladesh three times so far and have visited BDP's elementary school, vocational school, and hear school. I am always encouraged by the sight of children and young people studying hard at each facility. Working towards one's dreams means having hope, and hope is the power to live.

Now, we at Minatomonokai have been walking together with BDP for 30 years. We have more than 200 supporters. Minatomonokai provides financial support to the vocational school and the Hear Project, helping to support the learning of children and young people.

BDP contributes to Bangladeshi society by providing educational opportunities to people who are in despair due to poverty and disabilities, so that they can live with hope. We at Minatomonokai empathize with the mission of BDP and would like to continue to support it.

May God bless you all. We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Teachers & Staff & Principal along with Director & Chief of Akishima Kindergarten



*Hand Crafted to be cherished by you.
Touch and feel the intricate design and work of Bangladesh.*



For More Information about BDP Vocational School Visit http://bdp.org.bd/program_vocationaleducationprogram.html

BDP Education Program Activities

Our primary goals are to provide education to individuals who cannot afford to attend school or who live far away from schools. BDP establishes schools in isolated rural locations without government or schools. BDP also operates certain schools in cities, where many pupils and their families live in slums. They are very poor because their parents work a casual job. We also have some co-curricular activities in schools, such as boosting health awareness among students, annual sports, and discussions on the significance of various national days. BDP also organize eye camps for students to inspect their eyes and offer them adequate treatment, including glasses (optical) and medicine if necessary. Our resources are restricted. We cannot assist every kid in furthering their studies after graduating from BDP primary school. We pick certain intelligent but low-income students and give them with financial aid to continue their study.



Every human being has an intrinsic entitlement to an education. This right is recognized in the Bangladesh Constitution, which mandates the state to "adopt effective measures for removing illiteracy". "Education is the backbone of a nation". Education is crucial for long-term growth. Basic Development Partners (BDP) noticed this and prioritised it. Our students come from very low-income households, which we understand. They will be dropped shortly after completing primary school. Because they need to work and earn money for themselves. So BDP organized vocational education for them. So that they can enter the employment market as skilled workers and benefit financially.

CASE STUDY - Alomony Bepary



Alomoni Bepary is a story which always remains hidden under the cloud of poverty & discrimination. Still, this time BDP newsletter case study was able to unearth the jewel as it was shining through murky water. Alomoni's and her mother are all alone in this entire world as her father left them and got married five (5) hers back, and were all alone without friends and relatives. Alomoni's mother worked as a housemaid in seven (7) homes from Dawn to dusk. Alomoni was a student of BDP City Colony primary school from 2008 – 2013 (feeder to grade V). The story starts when she was studying in her fourth grade, she was approximately 13 years old, and a proposal was made to her mother for Alomoni's hand in marriage which is common among poor Muslims in third-world countries as they get married at a very early age. So Alomoni's mother came to talk to BDP city colony's school headmistress about Alomoni's marriage proposal which she was getting often and she was lost in what she was supposed to do now with Alomoni's dailema.

.....(Continued to page four(4) Column:2 upper)



BDP Program Activities in brief From July - Dec, 2024.

July 17th: A meeting was arranged with Maria Arai san & Michiro san (ALAP group, Japan) at BDP head office. In the meeting BDP director, vice-president & BDP treasurer. In the meeting matters that was discussed about the future Strategy planning for smooth running of BDP Hear Schools for Deaf and Dumb children.

September 4th: A meeting with Peter Macharia, Senior Director Operation, World Concern HQ, Seattle, USA, and Glorious Das, Country Manager, WCB with BDP Director at BDP Head office Mirpur, Dhaka. It was a fruitful meeting hoping working two organization together as a co-partner in the upcoming years.

September 18th - 21st: A four day training was conducted in BDP Pubail training center to the BDP primary school teachers of Pubail & Mirpur primary schools. The training was conducted by FiLC organised by ACEF & BDP. From FiLC Kubota Sensai, Nishio Sensai, Sohei Sensai was the trainers of this training along with Alam Sensai of Dhaka University.

September 16th - 21st: ACEF director visited Bangladesh to organise with FiLC teachers training in BDP Pubail training center. Satsuki-San also organised a training regarding school based gardening (sweet potato) in Netrokona school teachers with Mizu-San and agriculture expert.

September 16th - 26th: ACEF director visited Bangladesh to organise with FiLC teachers training in BDP Pubail training center. Satsuki-San also organised a training regarding school based gardening (sweet potato) in Netrokona with BDP primary school teachers with Mizu-San an agriculture expert. This initiative is focused to children coming from low income families to improve their health who are suffering with malnutrition. This projects aims to improve health among school aged children in the selected project areas.

November 10th - 13th: BDP distributed relief foods in Kagrachari districts in four (4) upazillahs among 4000 families. 10th november in Sajek Upazilla, 11th november in Dighinala Upazillah, 12th in Mohalchori Upazillah and on 13th in Matiranga Upazillah.

November 15th - 18th: BDP distributed relief foods in Noakhali sadar districts in four (4) Union among 4000 families. 15th november in Ahwadiya Union, 16th november in Binodpur Union, 17th in Char Motuya Union and on 18th in Kaladorap Union.

November 21st: Noriko Atsuata Mallah director of JAFS, JAFS board of director Haruhiko Watanabe & Yuko Kawamoto visited BDP lalkuthir primary school (slum school).

30 Primary Schools. Two Vocational School. Three Special School for (Autistic / Hear Impaired / Down Syndrome). Covering Six (6) Districts with nine (9) working area. Over 30 years of Experience.



BDP Relief Effort (Khagrachari & Noakhali)

Background: In August 2024 heavy rain severely impacted the Comilla, Feni, and Noakhali districts in Bangladesh. The floods, triggered by continuous heavy rainfall and exacerbated by the release of water from dams in neighbouring India, have submerged vast areas, displacing over 1.5 million people. The flooding has disrupted daily life, destroyed crops, and compromised food security in these regions. In Comilla alone, six deaths were reported within three days, highlighting the severity of the crisis. As rivers such as the Gumti and Muhuri overflowed, thousands of families lost their homes and livelihoods. The need for immediate food assistance is critical as many affected families have no access to adequate food supplies due to the destruction of local infrastructure and markets. A total of 11 districts have been inundated by recent fresh floods in Bangladesh. The districts are; Feni, Cumilla, Chattagram, Khagrachori, Noakhali, Moulvibazar, Hobiganj, Brammonbaria, Sylhet, Luxmipur and Cox's bazar. The total casualties are 18. The total number of affected people is 4,938,169. (Ref. The Daily Ittefaq, 24th August 2024.)



BDP took the initiative for immediate distribution of emergency food supplies relief of 8000 flood-affected families in the Feni(-Noakhali) & Khagrachari districts to prevent hunger and malnutrition. This ensured that vulnerable populations, including children, pregnant women, the elderly, and people with disabilities, receive priority access to BDP food reliefs. BDP collaborated with local authorities (members/chairman/TNO/UNO) and organizations (churches/schools) to streamline the distribution process and ensure that assistance reaches the most affected areas by the flood promptly. BDP conducted a relief in four (4) upazila (Matiranga, Sajek, Mohalchori & Dighinala) of Khagrachari district to four thousand (4000) families. In Noakhali sadar upazila to four thousand (4000) families. The BDP relief & emergency effort was covered in the local newspaper and television media.



Reference:

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Since-1999

Gallery



ALAP Group & BDP Board members meeting.



World Concern Director & HQ Director meeting with BDP Director.



Gallery



School Based Gardening Training In Netrokona.



ACEF Director Satsuki Yanagihara with BDP HQ Staffs



Relief Distribution at Dighinala(Upper) & Matirangha(Bottom).



Relief Distribution at Sajeck(Upper) & Mohalchari(Bottom).



Relief Distribution at Ahwadiya(Upper) & Binodpur(Bottom).



Relief Distribution at Char Motuya(Upper) & Kaladorap(Bottom).





A Message From ACEF Director: Satsuki Yanagihara



As the year of 2024 comes to end, I would like to extend my year-end greetings to everyone at BDP. The biggest news this year was the sudden political upheaval in Bangladesh and the subsequent cancellation of the study tour in August, which was very disappointing as we had been looking forward with the 10 members, but even more so, everyone at ACEF was worried very much with the internet connection was totally shut down. It was a very serious

incident that the Prime Minister left the country, but fortunately our dear friends, BDP staff, BDP school teachers and children were all safe and we felt relieved. Then, in mid-September, when the situation in Bangladesh had calmed down, with the support of the Love and Grace Foundation and with the cooperation of FiLC, we conducted a capacity building training for BDP school teachers in Pubail area this year. We hope to keep up the training to improve the quality of BDP schools, so that the children could learn better. ACEF continues to face financial difficulties. I have to admit that it is depressing at times, but I believe there are many ways to achieve our goal of providing primary education to all children and nurturing young people. I believe that both BDP and ACEF can find ways to do this, and with the collective wisdom of BDP and ACEF, we will continue to work together in the coming year. Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to all of you!!

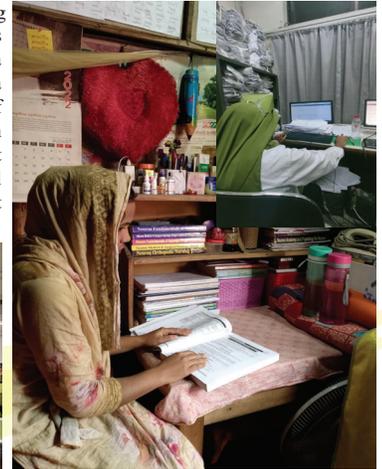
Thank you!

30 Primary Schools. Two Vocational School. Three Special School for (Autistic / Hear Impaired / Down Syndrome). Covering Six (6) Districts with nine (9) working area. Over 30 years of Experience.



CASE STUDY - Alomony Bepary.....(Continued from P-1,col:2)

The BDP school headmistress advised Alomoni's mother not to give up on Alomoni as she was doing well in her studies, so let her finish her school studies and if she did well and continued her high school and higher secondary studies, BDP could help her with that. After which if she selects a vocation and also the completion of that vocational training if and when she decides to select a life partner and if she decides to get married then only let her decide on a marriage proposal, or else it might be a big mistake and all the efforts will go in vain. After listening to these suggestions Alomoni's mother decided not to make the same mistake twice in her and daughter's lives again. So Alomoni's mother decided that she would let her daughter complete her studies at BDP primary school education as it was free. Alomoni is now studying in nursing vocation and is in her second year of studies she is also doing a part-time job in a hospital as an intern. BDP is happy that a soul is saved from the vicious cycle of poverty and early marriage and also from social discrimination and wishes all the best in her life endeavours to come. BDP will stand beside her as long she needs support from BDP.



Sonchoy D Rozario - A Father, A Friend, A Colleague:

Sonchoy Da a name very much popular name in BDP, attached with dependence & trust. Known for his reserved nature, he passed away in his sleep on his way home from the hospital. (Jan27, 1969 - ,2024) R.I.P.

Sonchoy Dominic Rozario was born on January 27, 1969, in Bhasania, Mathbari Mission. The youngest of five siblings, he was a beloved son, brother, and uncle who selflessly helped others.

Sonchoy excelled academically, skipping Grade 1, SSC from St Nicholas High School, HSC from Notre Dame, bachelor's degree from Dhaka University. He married his long-time sweetheart and ensured their daughter received highest quality education.

He began working early to support his family, starting with tuition. In 2000, he joined Basic Development Partners (BDP), where he dedicated 25 years of his life to community development. He retired in July 2024 due to health issues.

Sonchoy also served at various Christian credit organizations, including Dhaka Credit, where he held leadership roles, and Mathbari Credit, ensuring profits even during the pandemic. (Source Labano Rozario).



You can be a friend to these childrens and help them to persue their dreams.

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