



# Bangla Hope

Devoted To Changing The Lives Of Orphans, Destitute Women & Children

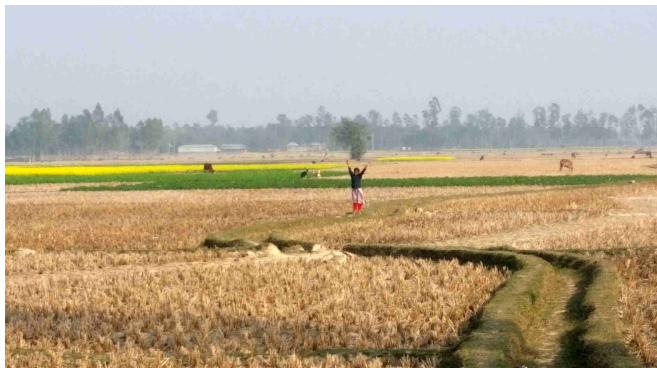
No. 95

Spring 2018

## A Golden Opportunity

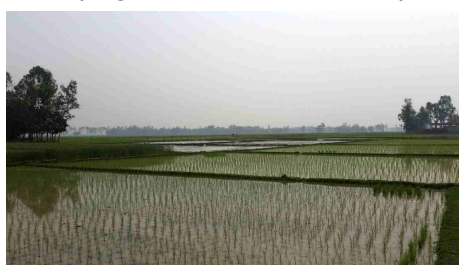
By Robyn Griffin

"Would you like to purchase my land?" This question is asked often particularly by people asking a sale price in excess of the value of their land, and typically regarding small parcels of land. This time the question was asked by a police officer who owned nearly three acres separated from our campus by only a narrow piece of land. If purchased by Bangla Hope, it would double the size of our campus. The asking price is \$72,000 including taxes and fees which is a bit high due to the fact that it is a large parcel of land.



After negotiations, here is the agreement Bangla Hope leadership developed with the owner: Bangla Hope is now leasing the land for the next four years with the option to buy. The asking price will remain frozen for two years while we raise the funds to purchase the land. If we do not raise the funds after two years the owner will be free to sell the land to someone else. Monies given for the leasing of the property will be applied to the purchase price.

Opportunities of this nature do not come along often in Bangladesh where land is at a premium. I personally believe that this is an opportunity given to us by God. Already rice is being planted on this land which will be a great asset. Above all else, we desire to do God's will. If you sense God's leading in this as well, please consider helping us raise the funds to purchase this property.



With our students getting older, having land to cultivate will be an added blessing. May God lead you as you consider partnering with us in this pursuit.

## We Say "Goodbye" To Our Roxy

By Hazel Burns

I walked through the door of the Bangla Hope "office" (a small bedroom in the Waids' home) in September 2000. There was a table for my desk. I had to stack books on a folding chair so I was high enough to reach my work, and brought my own pens and pencils from home. With just one month until the Waids left for Bangladesh, I had to cram all I could into my brain about what I was supposed to be doing.

It was not long before I realized I could not do everything myself. The Waids returned home in the spring, and we decided to place a notice in the bulletins of local churches for a part-time employee. Beverly called the office of her church to speak with the secretary about the notice. After a pause, the secretary responded, "I could do that."

Roxy Lenz joined our team in September 2001. There were real desks and chairs by then, and even pens and pencils! Dave, Roxy, and I shared the compact office which allowed only one-lane traffic. It's good we all got along!

Over the next sixteen plus years, if you called the Bangla Hope office in Kennewick, you likely spoke with Roxy for she generally answered. She has a gift for connecting with people on the phone. Though I only heard one side of the conversations, the laughter which sometimes erupted made it obvious Roxy was sharing a joyful moment with one of our Bangla Hope family. Her quick wit often provided us in the office with a chuckle or, perhaps I should say, uncontrollable laughter!



Roxy drew on her experience and creativity to improve office procedures. She worked to seek ways to enhance communication between child/student and sponsor. Roxy was tireless in her efforts to ensure you received pictures and letters from those you sponsored. She says it is time for her to retire. While we wish her all the best, and will miss her a lot, she will remain in our hearts as one of the Bangla Hope team.



## BLESSINGS FROM HEAVEN



### New Babies Born To Our Workers



**Robi & Nayomi Ritchil**  
Robi is our accountant and Nayomi teaches play class. In July 2017 they had a baby girl, Nora.



**Nathaniel & Papri Tudu**  
They adopted Aungkita Joleen. She was born on August 25, 2012.

### Luis & Martha Soren

Luis is Purchasing Manager for the cafeteria, and Martha is Secretary to the Principal. On July 26, 2017 they had a son, Mlanix Prohor Soren.



### Anil & Helen Soren

Anil works on the farm and Helen is in charge of sewing the handicrafts. On November 9, 2016 they had a son, Arpon.



### Albert & Lotika Baskey

Albert is the head tailor and Lotika is an assistant to Papri. On August 29, 2017 Albert and Lotika had a daughter, Omisha Smily Baskey.



## OUR PAPRI'S STORY

By Beverly Waid

Papri is like a daughter to me. She was cooking and cleaning for Dave and me while I was doing teacher workshops at all our major SDA boarding schools in Bangladesh, and she quickly worked her way into our hearts. I would like to share a bit of her story to help you see how life-changing sponsorship can be.

In Bangladesh grades 11 and 12 are classified as college classes, and the tuition is much higher and was beyond the means of Papri's family. Her father told her to give up on her dreams of a college education. Papri chose to take a job in Dhaka at the Seventh-day Adventist Headquarters, again as a housemaid. It was at this point that I first met Papri and was immediately drawn to her sweet spirit. Papri eventually learned of Jesus and His love for her. She decided to give her heart to Him and be baptized.

Eventually a sponsor stepped forward and offered to cover the cost of Papri's college education at Spicer College in India where she earned a degree in education. After graduation, Papri was hired by Bangla Hope as the third grade teacher on our orphanage campus. She was a natural educator. Because of her wonderful way with children and her skill in the area of implementing loving discipline, we later hired her as Supervisor over the children in the orphanage. What a blessing she is.

During this time, an arranged marriage joined Papri to Nathaniel who came to work in our maintenance department. Their wedding ceremony took place on the Bangla Hope campus. Their family was made complete when they recently adopted a little girl.

Papri believes that if it were not for sponsorship she would still be a housemaid in someone's home, and might never have met Jesus. Sponsorship makes a tremendous difference for many children in Bangladesh. Thank you so much sponsors. You are changing lives!



## Talpukuria Bangla Hope School

By Robyn Griffin

**The blessings of the Lord have been so abundant to Bangla Hope that we are overwhelmed with His love!** In each of the past three issues of our newsletter, we have highlighted one of our Bangla Hope Village Schools in an attempt to bring awareness to much needed repairs for these schools. Most of the Village Schools are simple bamboo structures with mud floors and tin roofs.

About an hour southeast of the city of Gopalganj is the small Village School of Talpukuria. The only way for the students to get to the school has been by boat. Two years ago, we were blessed with the funds needed to purchase a large school boat in order to get the children to and from school. However, the boat is too large to be easily used by the teachers for grocery shopping and other errands. A small boat for teachers is needed and would cost \$300.

Talpukuria is almost completely surrounded by water which makes it a real challenge during the rainy season. It has been decided that raising the level of the field around the school will aid in keeping the water at bay especially during the wet time of year. This would cost \$1200. Other needs at Talpukuria include repairs to the classroom (\$1200), kitchen (\$450) and toilets (\$250).

Talpukuria is currently under the leadership of Manuel Biswas and his wife Swapna. Enrollment currently stands at 40 students, the majority of whom are from a Hindu background. Our Village Schools are a true mission field. The current needs of Talpukuria and the related costs combined equal \$3400. Thank you for your support of our commission to bring the love of God to the precious people of Bangladesh!





## We Need Water!

By Robyn Griffin

One of the most rewarding joys in the Christian experience is being the hands and feet of Jesus to help meet the pressing needs in the lives of people. The shrieks and screams that you hear at an amusement park cannot compare with the grateful cries of thankfulness that one receives from people in need.

I would like to share with you a touching story that occurred during our twice annual visit to all of our village schools. In the childhood village of Nishikanto or Nishi (our Village School Superintendent) we were invited by Nishi's father to share a meal with the village members. During that delicious meal we learned that the only well available to the village contained high levels of arsenic making it unusable. The village members had tried to seek help from the government and private organizations, but to no avail. We learned that the well would need to be drilled 850 feet, and would cost around \$1,000.

After saying goodbye to the dear people of the village, a still small voice spoke clearly to my heart..."you must do something to help this village." I had recently read that currently in the world a child dies every 15 seconds because of unclean water...one child every five seconds due to hunger...**and that there is enough money in the Christian churches of the world to remedy those situations.** I knew in that moment it was time to act...not just listen.

"Nishi...it's time!" I said. "Time? Time for what?" he asked. "Can you get that well-drilling company that has recently been in the area to get on this project immediately? God will supply the means!" By the time we reached Gopalganj plans were formulating and practically before the Christmas season was over the village was experiencing the joy of pure water from their own well.



"What I can't believe," Nishikanto said recently, "is that what larger organizations couldn't do, a little NGO did!" No, Nishi...it wasn't a small NGO...it was God's money...and that's the largest organization ever!

**Thank you  
for helping  
to make a  
difference...  
you are  
changing the  
world!**



## SPRING 2018 Travel Schedule

Robyn Griffin will be traveling to churches and events to raise awareness about the work that Bangla Hope is doing. Here is a list of his appointments so far:

- April 14: Kennewick SDA Church Service
- April 20—23: ASI Northwest Convention
- May 27—Jun 2: Carolina Conference Camp Meeting

### *Special People Helping Children Thank You*

- \* **M. McGauley** for 3 fleece outfits & 4 dresses
- \* **L & H Burns** for 1 dress, 3 shirts, 2 pr pants & a onsie
- \* **M. Miers** for 6 hand-crocheted blankets & 1 hand-crocheted scarf
- \* **E. Novac** for 10 handmade quilts
- \* **J. Stevenson** for schools supplies, 6 used dresses, 1 jacket & 1 pr sandals
- \* **R. Squier** for school supplies and a new computer
- \* **R. Squier & B. Holland** 89 dresses, 5 sweaters, 8 pr pants, 2 jackets, 24 shirts, 2 new outfits
- \* **D & L Griffin** for 2 shirts and 2 pr shorts
- \* **Grandma Val** for 37 dresses
- \* **Mannatech** for 96 lbs. powder nutritional supplement

### *In Honor Of*

**Hazel Burns**  
**Stan and Shelem Flemons**  
**Dick Thorp & Delores Garrett (Former Classmates)**  
**Julie Hagelle**  
 By Al Wiggins

**Carol Young (Birthday)**  
 By Cheryl J. Gallant

### *In Loving Memory Of*

**Leonard Squier**  
 By Nancy & Floyd Sippel

**Gary Holland**  
**Leonard Squier**  
**Donna Miller**  
**Lynn Chappell**  
 By Bev Holland

**Wilfred and Elsie Steingas**  
 By Robert and Catherine Steingas

**Tom Hinton**  
 By Naomi Matteson

**Paul Zabolotney**  
 By Arla Zabolotney

**Arlene Reiswig (Former UCA classmate)**  
**Warren Heintz (Former UCA classmate)**  
**Kathy Fisher (Former UCA classmate)**  
**Dale Hollis (Former UCA classmate)**  
 By Al Wiggins

### Financial Update

Through **February 22, 2018**, we have received funds for the following projects in the amounts shown:

Multipurpose building (Church)	\$93,691.50 of \$130,000
Girl's Dorm/Ed. Complex	\$164,650 of \$350,000
Security Wall	\$63,913.23 of \$80,500
New Generator	\$7,122 of \$25,000

Isaiah 65:24 NKJV