



NEWS

PROJECT FUNDS UPDATE

February 29, 2020

GIRLS' DORM

\$371,173.89 received of \$432,426

MULTI-PURPOSE BUILDING

\$162,193.50 received of \$270,819

16 PASSENGER VAN

\$10,143.99 received of \$52,000

SPECIAL PEOPLE HELPING CHILDREN—*Thank you*

- **Mirtes Miers Schmelling** •
25 lbs clothing and blankets

IN HONOR OF—*Thank you*

- **Donation to Girl's dorm given in honor of Ken and Cindi Wright** •*By Nancy Teale*
- **Donation to "As Needed" given in honor of Carol Young** •*By Cheryl Gallant*

IS MY NAME WRITTEN THERE?

There was much rejoicing on December 30th as the results were posted for the 5th & 8th grade government exams. *All had passed!*

Please remember in your prayers the 10th graders who are still taking their exams and will not receive their results until the end of May.

I Want a Christian Education By Robyn Griffin

Building two new buildings in this country requires a lot of workers. Men of all ages answered our call ... from youth to seniors. Our own 7th to 9th grade boys spent long days during their Christmas holiday working on the two projects to earn extra spending money. It was not long before the older workers were working together, and the young men were working together as well.

Hurichrom, a young man who had just completed 8th grade in a nearby public school, began working alongside David, one of our 8th graders from Bangla Hope. Before long they became friends. One day Hurichrom told David, "I want a Christian education...what do I need to do?"

Hurichrom's father had recently died, and he and his mother were barely able to sustain themselves. When Hurichrom heard about the work available at Bangla Hope he jumped at the opportunity not fully realizing that perhaps God was calling him for a higher purpose. When I heard that he was seriously interested in attending an SDA Christian school, I decided that money was nothing when a soul was at stake. Word of this opportunity quickly spread and by the end of Christmas vacation, Hurichrom and three other young construction workers were enrolled at Seventh-day Adventist Missionary Seminary (SAMS).

Though the young men are currently at SAMS, they will need help so they can remain there. The school year in Bangladesh begins in January. If I had waited until we found sponsors the school year might have been half over and they would have already been enrolled in another school making it very difficult to transfer. While we are in the process of constructing buildings...God is in the business of constructing characters. What a joy to be a part of this mission...one to change lives for eternity.

If the Holy Spirit speaks to your heart and you wish to help these boys fulfill their dreams, please consider sponsoring one of them to attend Christian school. Fifty dollars a month could forever change a life.



Sufol Akka, 9th



Koilash Mahaly, 9th



Bappy Roy, 8th



Hurichrom Tigga, 9th

Another Dream Fulfilled By Robyn Griffin



The new generator was delivered to our campus in January 2020.

Funds have been coming in for years to purchase a new generator. God has richly blessed through your donations. Thank you for your support in making this dream become a reality! May we be a light shining on a hill for all to see the love of God.

Just last week, while walking to the kitchen for dinner, I spied the concrete stairway leading to the second floor of the new girls' dormitory which is in its fifth month of construction. What a joy it is to see something that we drew on a piece of paper becoming reality! Turning, I saw the walls going up on the Multi-purpose Building which is located immediately to the left of the girls' dorm. Have you ever experienced an overwhelming feeling of being richly blessed? That is what I felt.

Our need for a girls' dormitory has been sorely felt as our children have grown older and have remained on our campus for schooling through grade 10. Building plans were passed by the Non-governmental Organization (NGO) and construction began in mid-September 2019. Plans were also approved at the same time for our Multi-purpose Building which will be used for various programs including worship services. Construction began on this building in late November 2019. Both buildings need to be finished by July 2021 to meet our NGO requirements. At the present time we are a little ahead of schedule, but we are pushing hard to have the roof on the first floor girls' dorm before the rainy season sets in. As you can see by the photos, we should be ready to pour the concrete for that within the next few weeks, Lord willing. It takes 28 days for the concrete to cure prior to progressing. Having the two buildings in close proximity to each other has facilitated progress. During

Christmas vacation and Sundays, the older students have found employment which has put spending money in their pockets and has taught them valuable work skills.

Thank you for your faithful prayers and support for these two buildings. If you are moved by the Holy Spirit to aid in finishing the construction of these two essential buildings, please mark your donations "Building Projects". You will note the status of the project funds for both buildings on the front page of this newsletter.



Our builder, Mozibar



Left: Multi-purpose building, Right: Girls' dorm

Joab Pollob's (Joab is his American nickname and Pollob is the name given him at birth) family was very happy to welcome him, their very first baby boy, into the family. Not long after Pollob was born, the family realized that the mother was suffering some type of mental illness. The mother was taken several times to the local village healer, but with no improvement.



One day something tragic happened. Baby Pollob was on the bed sleeping that morning when his Mother tried to take her own life by burning herself in their small kitchen. Soon afterwards, a neighbor came to visit the new baby and discovered the horrible scene. They immediately took the mother to the closest hospital. Sadly, she died on the way.

The father didn't know how to handle this crisis. He was not able to raise and care for Pollob, and still be able to work long days to provide for the family. The father decided he had no option but to entrust his precious baby son to Bangla Hope Children's Home. Upon hearing this bad news, our Bangla Hope team visited the family to show them support and offer some comfort. They promised the father they would provide loving care to Pollob who has now joined the Bangla Hope family and is thriving.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

—Village School Students

Village school students receive tuition, books, supplies and a uniform. You will receive a photo, name, grade level and perhaps a bit of personal information as available. The tuition rate is \$20/month or \$220/ year.



Prince Sikder
Male—1st
Ramshil Village School



Barnoba Barikder
Male—5th
Dharabashil Village School

Ever since first arriving at the Bangla Hope campus nearly five years ago, I have had a dream of using a set of handbells to both teach music and to use for outreach. About two years ago I began praying for a set, knowing full well that I was praying for a \$20,000 project. However, I thought that perhaps there was a church or school that had lost their interest in bells and were willing to donate them to our orphanage. I posted notices but nothing materialized.

In January of this year I returned to the States to visit my family. One Saturday night I was struck with the inspiration to check on eBay for a set of handbells. This was nothing new...I had looked there before, but never found any possibilities. Within minutes I was looking at a 3-octave set of Schulmerich bells which looked practically brand new. Upon further investigation I found the set included top-of-the-line bell cases used for traveling, upgraded tables with adjustable legs, acrylic music stands, 4 inch foam and foam covers, foam traveling cases, two sets of table covers, a set of bell mallets, bell polish, polishing rags, three boxes of handbell gloves, bell music binders, and at least six boxes of music most of which was brand new. The asking price was \$10,000. I knew...I knew that that was a bargain, figuring the cost would be somewhere between \$18,000 to \$20,000.

The post also stated that they were for "local pickup only." Scanning the listing I found they were located in

Erlanger, Kentucky, just five hours north of Chattanooga where we were visiting.

As we were preparing for bed, I casually mentioned to Myrna about what I had found online stating that perhaps we should purchase it ourselves with a credit card and pay it off a little at a time.

As we closed the day with prayer, we gave the bells to God asking for His direction and went to sleep.

The next day I received an email from eBay stating that the owner was now willing to take offers. Immediately I offered \$7500. Moments later I received a counteroffer of \$9000. I counteroffered \$8000...they responded at \$8500. That same night the American board at Bangla Hope had a conference call meeting. During the meeting I shared with the group the bell possibility. A few of the members became seriously interested in starting a fund to acquire the bells. A few days later, Ruth Squire, the board chairperson, called me on the phone to ask whether the bells were still for sale. I told her that they were. She said that we should get them...she had called a number of people who were interested in purchasing them. She immediately pledged \$2500 and instructed me to get the set by card and we would raise the remainder of the funds.

The following weekend Myrna and I traveled to Erlanger, Kentucky, just below Cincinnati to pick up our handbells, tables, music, etc. The next concern was how to get them to Bangladesh? We held that question up to God in prayer and before long the answer came. Remove the adjustable legs from the plywood tops, remove the covers from the foam pads and pack all these things in our suitcases and purchase plywood tabletops and foam in



Handbells

Bangladesh on which to attach the legs.

God never lets us down when we sincerely request His wisdom. The plan worked perfectly. Everything has arrived safely in Bangladesh and we are now waiting for March 15 when the new tabletops and foam will arrive on our campus and the handbell choirs will begin rehearsal. To my knowledge, this is the first set of handbells in Bangladesh so the response will be interesting.

One note regarding this trip to Kentucky...we made the ten-hour trip to acquire the bells...the very next day while driving five miles to the post office our water pump went out. We were close enough so we could nurse the car home...had the operation that night...and were back on the road the next day. God saved us a lot of money by being able to do the job ourselves. Praise the Lord! God is so remarkable...what a joy to serve Him.

If you feel inspired to aid us in this purchase, then please mark your donation "Handbells". Once again...thank you for your love, prayers and support!

If you are interested in sponsoring a student, please give us a call or visit our website for more information.

*(509) 586-4259
www.banglahope.org*

“He guides the humble in what is right and teaches them His way.”

Psalm 25:9

Bangla Hope Handicrafts By Debi Axford

Spring is in the air. It is the season that heralds blue skies, budding trees, and longer days. It also brings holidays and special occasions for which one needs greeting cards and perhaps a gift or two. Many of you are aware that our ministry has had a cottage industry for a number of years. Originally it was for the purpose of providing employment for impoverished women who needed to generate income for their families. Over the years, as the economy in Bangladesh has changed, our handicraft industry has become less needed by village women. However, we are always looking for avenues to teach our children skills and a work ethic.

For the past year or so, we have allowed our older kids to earn some extra spending money if they wished by helping with the embroidery on our tea towels. We initially involved only the girls, but some of the boys felt that was unfair, and they are now involved in the industry as well. In addition to our tea towels, we offer embroidered pillow cases with crocheted lace edges. These items make wonderful Mother’s Day, birthday or wedding shower gifts.

Shop Handicrafts Online!
www.banglahope.org/handicrafts

In addition to our tea towels and pillow cases, we have cross stitch bookmarks and greeting cards for various occasions.

We recently went through our stock of greeting cards and did some quality assurance. They now all come with lovely new envelopes that have good adhesive, and they look great!

We have been blessed with a number of supporters who are self-employed and have purchased larger quantities of our bookmarks and greeting cards to resell in their offices. That has been such a wonderful support to our handicraft industry. To those supporters we say a heartfelt **“Thank you.”**

If you are interested in doing this in your business, we would be happy to send you display material with photos to explain to your customers where the items come from. You may purchase our handicraft items online at our website or by calling our office.



Bookmark



Pillowcase



Greeting Cards



Tea Towel

Bangla Hope Office Hours

Monday—Thursday 9am—3pm

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Student Correspondence Only

BANGLA HOPE
Student Name & Number
Village—Hazrapur
Post Office—Mazina (Uchai)
Upozila—Panchbibbi, District—Joypurhat
Bangladesh

IN LOVING MEMORY OF *—Thank you*

Mr. and Mrs. George Chappell
(Mother and Father)
Myrtle Chappell
(By Bev Holland)

Arlene Wiggins (Wife of 50 years)

Dougie Wiggins

Del Wiggins

Elmer & Ruth Wiggins

(By Al Wiggins)

Vic & Connie Purvis

(By Tony Purvis)

Paul Zabolotney & Grizzly Zabolotney

(By Arla Zabolotney)

Cory Galloway

(By Mary Galloway)

Chery Gallant

(By Carol Young)

Hazel Graham

(By James and Betty Lemos)

Summer 2020 Travel Schedule

- April - ASI NorthWest
Walla Walla, WA
- August - ASI International
Orlando, FL