

Bangla Hope



Bangladesh Christian School Sponsorship America Newsletter

No. 43

April—June 2005

Bangla Hope Receiving Center is open! Walls are painted, floors scrubbed, faucets repaired, and sinks, washer, and dryer installed. The rooms are filled with activity and the sounds of children enjoying life.



Finding an entire building for rent in the Uttara district just outside of Dhaka was almost impossible. We believe, without a doubt, God saved this building for his little children.

I wish I could take each of you on a walk-through tour, but since I can't, I'll guide you on a verbal tour. The first floor has the kitchen, dining room, one bedroom, and laundry room for the receiving center. Meal times are exciting and humorous! There is also room for a dental clinic we hope to open in October of this year. Second floor is a large living room, three bedrooms, and guest room for us when we are there. Third floor is a guest room and an apartment for our director, Simson Biswas, and his wife. Fourth floor has a guest room, large office areas, and an apartment for our treasurer. All this for \$1300 a month! Saying we are thrilled is an understatement!

Our first baby was little Kokoli. Her former harelip is replaced with a mischievous smile and she seems to be in perpetual motion. Seven more babies, each with a unique and tragic story, have come. We are eager for them to learn about Jesus who sees them, knows them, and loves them.

Marc is our youngest baby—just 23 days old when his teen-aged mother asked us to take him. Marc's mother was raised in one of the villages near Dhaka. About a year ago she and one of the village boys started seeing each other and before long she realized she was preg-



nant. She tried to hide it from everyone, but soon the truth was out and her family and the villagers kicked her out of the village. Though fearful and timid, she went to Dhaka where an older beggar lady found her and helped her. After the baby was born, the young girl did not know how to care for him.



When I saw Marc, his eyes were swollen shut from infection and he was wrapped in a bundle of rags with a dirty black string around his neck. A bath, trip to the doctor, medication, and adequate food is turning Marc into a healthy baby. Marc is one of the babies who needs a sponsor.

Five young ladies help care for the children. Each of the ladies also has a story. Two are orphans with no family. One Dave saved from an arranged marriage and one escaped from an abusive marriage. These young ladies are thankful to be with us and we are happy to have them. The children with these young ladies are shown below. One older



woman, who is a teacher and mother of three children, supervises while I am gone.

Many things are still needed for the receiving center. We are especially looking forward to a hot water

heater. We are humbled, thankful, and thrilled how God has provided this building for babies in Bangladesh—unwanted by some, but treasured by Jesus.

If you have baby clothes that are used but still LIKE NEW, we could use them for our receiving center. Please, only send LIKE NEW ones for we are taking them over in our baggage and want only EXCELLENT quality.



KMMS ORPHANAGE

While helping in the receiving center one day I received a phone call from a teacher out by our BASC College. She



told me of a one-year-old girl who needed a home. The father was sickly and totally blind. The mother had no education so had to work out in the fields. There was no way either of them could care for their

little girl. I said we would take her and proceeded to get ready for her arrival. When she came, I realized she was not one but more like four. I felt so sorry for little Anita for the separation from her parents was heartbreaking for her. She cried all the time and yelled words I could not understand. I asked the girls what she was saying and they told me, "Mommy, I know you are out there! Mommy, I know you are out there!" I remembered what Mrs. Thomas, our home mother at KMMS had told me. The orphans come and they cry for three days and then they cry no longer. I knew little Anita would have to go to our KMMS Orphanage and I also knew in time she would adjust. We took her to KMMS in about a week and there she has boys and girls her age to play with and go to school with. She needs a sponsor to help with her education and care. Call to sponsor Anita today!

FROM THE DESK OF DAVE WAID

We are living in perilous times—floods, earthquakes, tsunamis, starvation, and personal tragedies abound. We have also seen God's hand working everywhere we go. In the last year we've had many of His blessings in Bangladesh. Over a year ago we decided to try to get our own NGO (non-government organization) which is equivalent to non-profit status in the United States. Many said it couldn't be done, but God blessed and after seemingly mountains of paperwork, the Bengali government granted the NGO status to Bangla Hope. We proceeded with a new receiving center to care for "unwanted" babies. When we left Bangladesh a few weeks ago we had six baby girls and two baby boys. Capacity is forty.



The babies at Bangla Hope Receiving Center will grow and by the time they are about four years old we want to have an orphanage and school ready for them. We believe the best place for the orphanage and school is in the country. We will need to find suitable property and build a high wall around it. Safety is always an issue we must consider.

We are planning to open a dental clinic in October, 2005 on the first floor of our present facility. Dr. Lorna Dass, a Bengali who studied in the Philippines, is eager to work for her people. Presently she is at Loma Linda University School of Dentistry taking additional classes for the next six months. Many Muslim women want a female dentist. We are looking forward to meeting the needs of these people.

The next four phases of this Bangla Hope project are:

1. Equip the dental clinic
2. Purchase land for orphanage and school
3. Build orphanage
4. Build boarding school

We are eager to start all these projects as the Lord supplies the funding. I estimate the cost for these four phases will be about \$300,000. Our oldest baby will be old enough to go to the orphanage in about three years so we hope to move ahead quickly.

I also want to get these projects started while I am still able to work in Bangladesh. I am now 76 years old and will continue going to Bangladesh as long as I can and the country is open. This could change anytime. The political situation is so bad the country could erupt into civil war anytime.

I used to wonder what would happen after we could no longer go to Bangladesh, but God has provided staff in our offices in the States and in Bangladesh that we trust. I have no doubt that they will continue to help the children.

I just received additional information that we can rent the building next to Bangla Hope Receiving Center for about \$300 monthly. It would provide needed storage space, staff housing, and dental clinic parking.

I believe Jesus is coming sooner than we may realize. We need to share the message of Jesus' love and His plan to put an end to pain. Though we can't do open evangelism in the Muslim communities, we can be His hands to relieve suffering for some of His children. As God opens doors, we can also share more of His love.

God has a thousand ways to provide the money needed for these projects. He has not failed us yet. Join Him today to help build a home and school for these little "unwanted" babies. An extra \$10 a month would mean \$360 in three years. I'm thrilled with the way God is leading and eager to move forward as a team member with you.

We received and were inspired by the following letter from one of our sponsors.

“Dear BCSS,

I just wanted to share with you a little about how God answers prayer. In the past (I began sponsoring Shathi in 2001 and now am having the privilege of doing the same for her daughter, Martina) there would be times when funds would come in a little late to my bank account, or I was a little short. Sometimes I had to send my check a little later, several times my mother wrote the check from her offerings money. But God helped me to pay every single month.

Until the summer of this year, 2004. I am a foreign student, and while I don't have to pay for my college education because my mother is a staff at the institute, I do not have any way to make extra money except during the holidays. (I'm 24, so I'm past the age of pocket money!) God has worked it out before so that I always had enough money to pay my monthly BCSS check. Until this summer—when He began to teach me about trust. It was coming time to pay my June check, & I had no money. Then, I was able to withdraw a little from my student account. When it came time to pay for July, I was able to clear out my student account & pay. But it was the beginning of July and I needed the August money by July 26 so I could send it in on time to BCSS. I kept reminding God, “You have to give me the money,” and trying not to worry about it. I was almost ready to email BCSS and tell you that you needed to find another sponsor for Shathi. Then God gave me a job—being a companion to an elderly lady for an hour a day. She paid me on July 19 in advance for this week—July 18-24—and now I have enough for August and September! I know I am confident that God will continue to supply the money, because it is not for myself that I ask. Not only did I receive the money, it was early!!

Oh, one neat thing I realized. The cost of a cell phone—a luxury I do not enjoy nor want to—is about \$40 a month. I think it's far better to feed and clothe one of God's children, than to have a cell phone just for the luxury of it. (of course, there are cases when cell phones are necessary!)

May God continue to bless you all.”

NEWSLETTERS VIA E-MAIL

If you are interested in receiving our newsletter via e-mail instead of snail-mail, contact our office with your e-mail address and we'll be happy to start that service for you.

SPECIAL PEOPLE HELPING CHILDREN



Thank you

~ Pamela for donating each time a client opens a new account at the Bon.

~ Mrs. Cordis for arranging for her student's sponsorship when she can no longer do it.



IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Gordon Harris
By wife, Nan Harris

Harold Ottman
By Gene & Carol Miller

Vivian Zaugg
By her friend, LoVina Bliss

Dan Kennedy
By Geneva & Richard Kelps

Helen Johnson
By Ivy Jones

~ ~ PROJECT UPDATES ~ ~

Website: Check out our updated site—www.banglacss.org or www.banglahope.com. You will find new pictures and information. Are you interested in sponsoring a student? You can do that on the website too! Just look through the photos of students who need sponsors, select one, and follow the easy directions given there. Soon you will also be able to donate through our secure website.

Pollywog: Thank you to all who have been ordering cross-stitch items to keep the ladies working in Bangladesh. There are about fifty ladies stitching the beautiful cards, bookmarks, and wall hangings. To view some of the items available, go to www.tagnet.org/pollywog. If you would like to sell items, contact our office for more information.

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>AMOUNT NEEDED</u>	<u>AMOUNT RECEIVED</u>
KMMS—school room and computer lab	\$ 9,000	—
KMMS—computer lab equipment	\$ 15,000	\$ 100
Gopalganj—girl's dorm and beds	\$ 38,000	\$ 9,295
Gopalganj—boy's squats and showers	\$ 4,000	\$ 423
New (to us) Van in Bangladesh	\$ 15,000	\$ 5,775
Books for schools	\$ 50,000	\$ 1,276
Bangla Hope Receiving Center/Orphanage	\$270,000	\$ 39,393