

Bangla Hope



Bangladesh Christian School Sponsorship America Newsletter

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JASMIN

by Beverly Waid

We've been home from Bangladesh about three months. My heart becomes more intertwined with the people there every year. I've watched Lina, who was hired out as a servant girl at age six, successfully complete her education. She married Suman and together they are doing a wonderful job overseeing the receiving center and the care of all the children. Shephali was an infant when a chicken pecked her eye and she lost sight in that eye. Her life became even sadder when both parents died from TB. Shephali also completed her education and last year, Dave walked her down the aisle to marry Mark, a serious, conscientious young man who was sponsored by BCSS. The first time I saw him, I knew he desperately needed surgery for his crossed eyes. It took me three years to convince him to have surgery, but now he's so grateful for his improved eye sight. Mark is skilled with computers and is now teaching at the college.

The lives of thousands of children and young people have been filled with so much pain even at their relative young ages; but when I go to schools and see happy students of all ages and hear them calling enthusiastically to me, "Mommy, Mommy," I am thrilled with the impact all of us together have made on the lives of these students. This couldn't have been done without you. You are an inspiration to me.

When I go to the villages to meet the babies/toddlers who need a home, I wonder what would happen to them if there weren't a safe place for them. What would happen to Konny, whose father injected her mother with pesticide and then fled, or the twins, Raquel and Rashel, whose mother died in childbirth? What about Danny whose mother died of liver cancer or Sharmi whose father left and her mother committed suicide? And Jasmin, she seemed so small, frail, and vulnerable.

Jasmin's father brought her to the village where we were interviewing families and guardians. He stood on the outskirts of the activity but observed intently. Eventually Jason, our sponsorship director, engaged him in conversation. Jasmin's father was hesitant because he'd heard stories about people taking children to sell in India. After much talking, he seemed assured we wanted to help him and his little girl, and he shared his story with us.

He spent his days operating a small ferry boat. He used the long bamboo pole to push the boat across the river. It was always hard work, but the thickness of the plants growing in the water could increase the difficulty substantially. He didn't make a lot of money, but he, his wife, and their six children were surviving.

Difficulties compounded when Jasmin was born, and the mother became paralyzed. It was soon evident they needed help. Jasmin's hair and ears were full of sores. She didn't look well.

Jasmin's father seemed to shrink at the thought of letting his precious little girl go with us, but he also seemed to sense it was the best thing for Jasmin. When I removed Jasmin's dirty clothes for a bath, I caught my breath as I looked at her tummy. The string that Hindus typically put around their babies' tummies had been left on too long. It was embedded in her skin and was infected.

Good care soon resulted in a much healthier-looking Jasmin. The infection is gone and her smile just does something to my heart when she shares it.

As I look at Jasmin, and all the others, I wonder what special plan God has for them. There's so much potential for good in the children at the receiving center and in the students at the schools. Together, we have the opportunity to impact the world for God's kingdom.



HANNAH AND RACHEL

One day Sumon Sircar, Director of our receiving center, received a call from his brother regarding two sisters that needed placement in our receiving center. He went to visit the family to find out what the situation was. The father was asleep in their home while the mother was waiting in front of their home watching for Sumon to arrive. When asked about the children, she burst into tears and asked



that we take their two youngest babies ages 4 months and 3 years to our receiving center. He asked why she would want to give up her babies, she said her husband is very sick and weak and unable to work. The village doctor does not know what is wrong with him but he needs medicine every day, so she must find a job so she can buy his medicine and supplies to fix their house. It is impossible for her to work and care for their young children too. So she must go to work while her husband stays home and cares for their 5 year old son.

If you would like to sponsor one of these precious babies, just contact our office. Hannah is only 4 months old and her sister, Rachel, is 3 years old.



From Dave's Desk:

YOUR FORMERLY SPONSORED STUDENTS MAY NOW BE AVAILABLE!

Dear Friends,

I rejoice in each one of you and feel very grateful for your support of the children. I know many of you are worried about your sponsored children. So are we! There has been some new information that we believe will help. We are doing everything we can to get the children at KMMS (LKM & LOR), and Gopalgonj (LGG), back into school. We pray you will continue to send money to support these children. If we cannot get them back into school, we will use the money to get the new orphanage and school opened. We need the help of each one of you to make this happen. We truly appreciate your financial support and your prayers.

I have had the privilege of talking with some of you and I know by your responses that you were going to just wait and see what happens before you send more donations. Please do not give up on us or the kids. We are doing our very best to see these children are taken care of. We have found some ways to get money to the parents in some cases and to the older children in other cases, and we are accomplishing this as fast as we can. Some students are already back in school and we are grateful for this!

The one thing we need for sure is to get the new orphanage built as soon as possible. We appreciate whatever you can do to help with this project for our Receiving Center babies. We will be sending you a DVD of pictures of our babies at the Receiving Center and

life in Bangladesh. We hope you will share this with your friends and families! If you didn't receive a DVD, contact our office and we will be happy to send you a copy! We will also be happy to send you extra newsletters for you to share. It is such a good way to be a missionary here at home. If you have a computer, please send for our newsletter by e-mail and then forward it to everyone that you think may be interested in helping our children. We would like to expand our base of supporters. You are the best, but we need more just like you!

We also have need of a motor home. We have the office in our home which makes it difficult to house people for board meetings, etc. We would use it as extra bedroom space, and also for presenting programs in outlying areas. When we no longer have need of it, we will sell it and donate the funds for the care of the children.

-David Waid

President of Bangladesh Christian
School Sponsorship

CLOTHES NEEDED

Sundresses sizes 1—6; boys shirts sizes 2—6. We can purchase clothes in Bangladesh, but often the quality is not as good as what we take. We are very selective about what we take. Each of us can take two 70-pound bags. Any additional bags can cost about \$1 per pound. We can afford to take only clothing that is new or in like-new condition.



CROSS-STITCH PRODUCTS

Bangla Hope Cross-stitch cards, bookmarks, magnets, and pictures made by impoverished village women are available to purchase. You may call the office for more information on what is available. Proceeds are their only means of survival.

PICTURES OF BANGLADESH AND BABIES AT RECEIVING CENTER

DVDs of photos of life in Bangladesh and Bangla Hope Receiving Center babies will soon be available. We plan to mail them in July. If you would like one and do not receive your copy, contact the office.

LETTERS FROM BANGLADESH??

Occasionally we hear from a sponsor who received a letter from someone in Bangladesh asking for money. We take every precaution possible to guard your addresses from getting into the hands of irresponsible people. Office personnel try to make certain your addresses are cut out or marked out on any communication you send to your student. Letters from our office in Bangladesh should have "Bangla Hope" included in the return address. If you receive a

letter from someone you've never heard of requesting funds, we recommend you throw it away as you probably already do with many requests for funds you receive in the mail.

BANGLA HOPE DENTAL CLINIC UPDATE

The first Sunday in June, Dr. Lorna had two new patients arrive for treatment. A man brought in his wife and daughter, each dressed in their burkas (an all-enveloping cloak worn by Muslim women of Central and South Asia). They wanted to know if there were any men around because they wanted to uncover.



They do not go to men doctors, but the husband and father had learned from a foreigner (Beverly) about our dental clinic where there is a female dentist. We hope to meet many needs of women in Bangladesh who would otherwise be unable to access dental care because of their beliefs or inability to pay for services.

Dr. Lorna is preparing oral healthcare lectures to present at schools in the vicinity of the dental clinic.

A visiting dentist from North America would be a wonderful help to the people of Bangladesh and to the dental clinic. If there is a dentist who could do a short-term mission trip Bangladesh, please contact our office at (509) 586-4259.

SPECIAL PEOPLE HELPING CHILDREN

Thank You

~Shelley Kanomata for teaching the Primary Class at 3ABN Campmeeting about Bangladesh and creating the opportunity for them to make twenty-five fleece blankets for children in Bangladesh. Each blanket will remind the orphans repeatedly "Jesus Loves Me" as they look at the words flowing across the blankets.



Primary class at the 3ABN Campmeeting

~ Provo Church Primary Class for over \$400 to feed hungry children

Myrtle Cook, primary leader, and Dave Waid with the industrious primary class



~Susan B. for diapers & pins for babies and funds to help with the cost of getting them to Bangladesh.

~Heddy F. for knitting beautiful blankets for babies and her friend Marion C. for shipping them to us.

~Hesper C., a probation officer, who encouraged the kids she works with to make hats and blankets for children in Bangladesh.

~Margaret M. who did some childcare for a family, then asked the father to make the check payable to BCSS to help children in Bangladesh.

~Anita M. for the lovely hand-sewn dresses.

IN LOVING MEMORY



Johnnie Kuest
By Ivy Jones

Barbara Carlin Hendrix
By Jann Paul

Julie Miller
By Bryce & Jean Hickerson & family

Julie was passionate about helping children in Bangladesh. I talked with her several times as she gathered information for her family's Christmas project. Last year was her year to choose a project and she decided on cribs for the receiving center. Today ten children each have a bed, mattress, bedding and mosquito netting because of Julie's compassionate planning and her family's generosity. I didn't get to meet Julie in person, but she touched my life and I'm grateful for it. —Hazel

<u>PROJECT</u>	<u>AMOUNT NEEDED</u>	<u>AMOUNT RECEIVED</u>
New (to us) Van in Bangladesh	\$ 15,000	\$ 6,300
English Reading Books	\$ 50,000	\$ 1,826
Bangla Hope Receiving Center/Orphanage	\$270,000	\$125,590