



# Bangla Hope

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

Special Edition

August 2007

## Crisis in Bangladesh

... From Dave's Desk



Some reports say flooding is worsening. Other reports indicate some rivers are beginning to recede while some remain static as they flow above the danger level. There's no chance to dry out since there's still at least another month left in the monsoon season.

By the time you receive this, the condition may have changed significantly or maybe only slightly for the better or for the worse, but the aftermath of flooding where open sewers are the norm is always disastrous. Hunger, exposure, diarrhea, and typhoid are only a few of the challenges faced by the people. The total future impact of the flooding in this small delta nation is unknown.

I cringe. The sheer numbers and desperate situations are more than I can get my mind around. I visualize this small country about the size of Washington state with half the population of the entire United States squeezed inside its borders. Every year at least one-third of the land is covered by floods, but this year some fear it could reach two-thirds. What can we do to relieve some of this suffering? Where do we even begin?

The reports we receive from office personnel

in Dhaka confirm the seriousness of the situation and the need to act quickly. Food prices are escalating. A few days ago we could feed a nutritious meal for 16¢, now it's 25¢. That may not seem like much to us, but consider your options when you have nothing.

Though our village schools have been raised so the buildings are above floodwaters for normal years, this is not a normal year. Two of the schools are closed temporarily because of the flooding, but we want to continue helping with food. The home where our Bangla Hope Handicraft ladies do cross-stitch is flooded. They cannot work. The earnings they depend on to survive are cut off. Rice and dahl for the feeding program in the village schools will cost more since the present rice crop was destroyed. Many of these children survive because of the meal they receive at school. We can't stop or decrease these meals. We'd like to help some of the villagers where our schools are located. This is where we want to begin.

You can join us in making it happen. Whether your donation is \$5 or \$5,000, it will be used to help relieve the suffering of the people in Bangladesh. Mark it "flood relief" and 100% of it will be used to help .



Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

### I WOULD LIKE TO DONATE USING MY CREDIT CARD

(You may also donate with your credit card on our web site.)

Name on card \_\_\_\_\_ Type of card \_\_\_\_\_

Number \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration date \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Monthly Quarterly Yearly One-Time Only (Circle One)

° Tax Receipts will be mailed in January, 2008 for the 2007 tax year »

# Monsoon rains cause unprecedented human suffering in Bangladesh.

- . . . 38 out of 64 districts partially submerged, 1.2 million acres of cropland damaged
- . . . 9.5 million people displaced
- . . . 3,000 villages cut off for over two weeks
- . . . Snakebites and resulting deaths
- . . . Waterborne diseases and hunger



Bangla Hope/BCSSA



509-586-4259



[www.banglahope.org](http://www.banglahope.org)