



VOLUNTEER

Vol-3, Issue-3, September-2001,
Published By: Forum for Culture and Human Development
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Editorial

In my boyhood, I lived in a far -flung remote village. There was only a primary school. During the time of harvesting, our Head teacher moved door to doors of farmer houses with a team of student for collecting corns for development of our school and mobilize farmer parent and the family members to send their offspring to the school.

That our primary school is now became a big educational institute of the locality. Still to date I feel proud with that great memories.

Very recent I disseminated an Idea of Virtual Shadow Session of UNGASS on Children. A number of organisations through out world have expressed their keen interest about shadow session and huge number of children from Shishu Parishad took part in the process of implementation Shadow Session in Bangladesh. Mr. Shah Kamal is moderating whole process with great efficiency and dedication as like as our head teacher.

I believe this great memory will be positive driving force of the children to go forward.

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Shadow Session of UNGASS on Children

The Idea of Shadow Session of UNGASS on Children Created and globally disseminated by Prof. Sultan Muhammad Razzak, Ph.D. Executive Director of Forum for Culture and Human Development. At present Shadow session going to be implemented from 19 September-22 September 2001 at the Shishu Academy Premises, Dhaka. Child representatives from different parts of the country will take part in the session.

The Shadow Session of UNGASS on children jointly arranged by Bangladesh Shishu Academy and Shishu Parishad in assistance with Save the Children, Australia, Technical Supported by Save the Children Alliance and Mr. Shah Kamal is moderating the session from its very beginning.

The Shadow Session and related programmes all round the country is being Co-ordinated by Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum- A National Child Rights Network of the Country.

Other related creative programmes of the children along with Round Table sessions going to be held in Rajshahi, Khulna, Chittagong, Barishal and Sylhet from 15-16 of this month. Children's recommendations from the round table sessions of 5 Divisional City will be placed in the main shadow session for discussion.

The Executive Board of Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum constituted a Co-ordination Team for Shadow Session lead by Prof. Sultan Muhammad Razzak, Ph.D.

Discussion Meeting of Amnesty International

Amnesty International Bangladesh has conducted a discussion meeting on VOLUNTEER at its Section office: 86/1, North Adabar, Shymoli, Dhaka-1207, Bangladesh on 21 August 2001. Mr. Khairuzzaman Kamal, President of AI-Bangladesh has presided the function.

Mr. Fazlul Haq Chowdhury, Executive Director of SEEP-Bangladesh has presented an important speech of Volunteer & Volunteerism. Ms. Anisa Haq, Vice President, Mr. Abdul Halim, Treasurer, Mr. Prodip K. Paul, AI-Bangladesh, Prof. Omar Faruk, Editor DHAKA POST, Syed Shafi, Journalist took part in the discussion.

Volunteer activities Good Neighbours Inc. Bangladesh

Realising the importance of volunteer activity for social development, GNIB is emphasising to empower the youth for social development works. GNIB would like to ensure their leadership in order to establish a poverty free society.

GNIB organised a program jointly with South Korean University visitors team from 28th July to 14th August 2001.

Team leader Pro. Cheon Cheol Lee is the director of Korean Volunteer Forum. Among other of the team are one Professor, one Doctor, one Nurse, Co-ordinator of Good Neighbors Korea and 22 university students of Korean University. The visitors took part in voluntary activities with GNIB's local volunteers.

A sharing meeting took place between Prof. Lee met and Prof. A . K . Azad Chowdhury, Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University on 8th August in order to develop a relation between Dhaka University and the Association of South Korean Universities.

Cross Cultural Program at Janhangirnagar University

GNIB in assistance with the Drama & Dramatics Department of Jahangirnagar University (JU) arranged a meeting to set up a cross cultural program between Bangladeshi Student and Korean Student.

Volunteer Camp-2001 (Year of Volunteer)

GNIB arranged a volunteer work camp along with Local Volunteers & Visitors from Korea on 13th August at Rajendropur for linking volunteer spirit at the local level society for sustainable development.

The IYV co-ordinator Mr. Golam.Rabbany Hiru was attended the work camp and addressed on Volunteerism in Bangladesh as the key speaker.

Mr. Lawrence Suphal Sarker a veteran NGO activist presented his speech on the activities of NGO for Social development.

The Korean team leader 'Pro. Lee' shared the effect of volunteer activity in the context of South Korea. He also emphasis the role of volunteer in South Korea and how the local volunteer may apply in their own country context.

Symposium for Volunteer Promotion for Social Works –2001

A symposium on Promotion of Volunteerism was held at Civic Inn Hotel, Gulshan, Dhaka on 14th August moderated by Mr. Golam Rabbany Hiru IYV co-ordinator of Bangladesh. Four other resource persons presented their valuble speech in the symposium. The Korean team leader Pro. Lee shared the development of Korean volunteer's spirit. He emphasised that the volunteer's empowerment depend continuing involvement in the voluntary works.

The General Secretary of YWCA and Chairperson of the Committee of Volunteer Organizations on IYV 2001 ' Mrs. Asrukana Das gave her speech on power of volunteerism. She focused on different important working fields for volunteering in the country context.

Director General of Rotary International ' Mr. Hussain Moniruzzam' presented his speech on volunteer activities of Rotary Club in Bangladesh.

Prof. Muazzam Hussain Nilu discussed the Volunteering Scope in the social structure for

volunteer works and its potentiality in perspectives of the present time and the days are coming forward.

The local volunteers have been oriented about long-term program through this process and they expressed commitment to apply positive volunteering role in order to develop their own community.

AWARD

If you think, you are serving Humanity. You have an outstanding contribution to the society as the volunteer. Please nominate yourself, or nominate other person if you think he or she has an outstanding contribution for Humanity. Please send nomination within 25 of October 2001 attached the followings.

1. Cover letter
2. Justification
3. Action and output
4. Resume
5. Two recommendations

Award Committee
Forum for Culture and Human Development
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News from IYV Team

UN Volunteers assist voters at East Timor polling centres Link:
<http://www.unv.org/prerels/2001/300801.html>

DILI, East Timor, 30 August 2001-- Teams of Timorese polling staff and their UN Volunteer partners opened 248 polling centres throughout East Timor where more than 400,000 Timorese men and women were expected to have cast their ballot to elect 88 representatives who will, in turn, form a Constituent Assembly.

At 6 a.m., Geanino Popovici, a UN Volunteer district electoral officer from Romania, arrived at a school building in Komoro, a bustling neighborhood of East Timor's capital Dili. The school will serve today as one of the territory's 248 polling centres.

While putting out the ballot boxes and organizing the polling set up with his Timorese colleagues,

Popovici is confident. "I hope that at the end of the day we will have achieved our task in East Timor," he said.

"It is clear that East Timorese are willing to vote and are willing to have the democracy through voting for their option," he said as residents lined up to vote. He is one of 284 UN Volunteers attached to the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) of the United Nations Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET).

"The UN Volunteers have been essential in all the elections I have been involved in," said Carlos Valenzuela, the UN's Chief Electoral Officer.

"They are the ones who organize and conduct the elections at the local level along with the East Timorese staff they have trained."

The total of all UN Volunteers in East Timor currently exceeds 900, making it the largest operation of the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) in both size

and scope in the programme's 30-year history. Serving with UNTAET, they are working within more than 160 functional categories under 40 different sections or units.

"Today's the big day that makes all the work in Bonn and here over the past year and a half worth it," said Kevin Gilroy, UNV Coordinator in East Timor.

"We see the pride in the smiles of thousands of Timorese exercising the right to determine their own future," he added. "At the same time, we have hundreds of equally proud and happy UN Volunteers seeing the results of their outstanding work. And it's peaceful. So that's as good as it gets."

At 8:30 a.m. a large crowd has already covered Komoro school's front yard. While running from one polling room to another, Popovici said: "We had some technical problems but we solved them one by one. Now it starts -- I'm tired and happy.

"East Timorese seem not to complain about this

delay. One of the persons lined up in one of several long queues is Bosko Soares. "My family, myself and the people you can see are here to prepare the future of East Timor."

Later in the afternoon, after the polling centres close, all ballot boxes will be transported to one of the territory's 13 district capitals where they will remain overnight under the custody of UN Civilian Police (CIVPOL).

The counting of votes will start tomorrow and the results on a district level should be known within days.

The ballots will then be transported to the Dili counting headquarters where the national counts will be calculated. The final results are to be announced not later than 10 September. By 15 September, reflecting the final results, those elected to the new Constituent Assembly will have 90 days to write and adopt a constitution for an independent and democratic East Timor.

UN Volunteers were here exactly two years ago when on 30 August 1999, the majority of East Timorese voted for independence from Indonesia.

Carina Perelli, Director of the Electoral Assistance Division of the UN's Department of Political Affairs in New York, commended the role of UN Volunteers in East Timor elections. "Without the UN Volunteers, these elections would have not occurred," Perelli said. "As in many previous UN sponsored electoral missions, they again are demonstrating their deep commitment and expertise."

UNV is the volunteer arm of the UN system. It extends hands-on assistance for peace and development in nearly 150 countries. Created by the UN General Assembly in 1970 and administered by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNV works through UNDP country offices to send volunteers--two-thirds of them from developing countries--and promote the ideals of volunteerism around the world. UN Volunteers have extensive experience in 115 professional fields.

