

Church of the Nazarene Bangladesh
Report of Child Development Centers
Funded by Argabrights (South Asia Partnership)
April–June 2011

Introduction:

Bangladesh is a third world country, and a large portion of the people, especially children (about 26.5 million), live in poverty. Many children have to start working at an early age; they are deprived of their rights and do not have access to education, basic health care, sufficient food, and many other necessary things. Observing all this, the Church of the Nazarene Bangladesh decided to help the underprivileged children.

To support the work of CON Bangladesh, the Argabrights and the South Asia Partnership are reaching out to help these children. Through this support, we are helping 13 underprivileged communities in Bangladesh. A total of 1,123 children are receiving support from these 13 centers in Bangladesh North, North-West and South Districts.



Statistic from January–June, 2011

Name of Area	Name Of CDC	Total
Narail	Paikpara CDC	93
	Arifpur CDC	144
	Dhapkhali CDC	93
	Ramnagarchor CDC	96
Total	4	426
Khulna	Joymoni CDC	80
	Holdibunia CDC	70
	Sirajshingha CDC	75
	Kumarkhali CDC	75
Total	4	300
Satkhira	Hatbash CDC	75
Total	1	75
Birol	Vatpara CDC	121
Total	1	121
Birgonj	Baharpur CDC	76
	Bolaya CDC	75
Total	2	151
Naogaon	Bishnupur CDC	50
Total	1	50
Grand Total	13	1,123

Education:

In all these centers the children stay from 8.30 am to 1.00 pm. During this time they have their regular classes as well as art & craft class and general knowledge class. Once a week the children participate in a quiz contest. As children learn in a variety of ways and different learning styles need to be explored, all the centers have different flip charts with alphabets, numbers, etc. that help the children learn more easily.

This quarter the children wrote their 1st exam and they did very well. The centers also conducted parents' meetings this quarter, where teachers and facilitators talked with parents about the importance of education and encouraged them to send their children to the center regularly.



Students of Dhapkhali CDC doing physical exercise



Children learn to wash their hands properly.

Health and Nutrition:

This quarter the centers observed World Health Day, where all the children received health lessons on different topics. The health workers also taught them how to wash their hands properly and the children of the center demonstrated this to other children in the community and to their family members. The centers arranged a health campaign; all the children had a rally in the village and carried slogans about health awareness. The centers also distributed de-worming tablets to the children.



Children of Ramnagarchor CDC receive a nutritious lunch.



CDC children are performing an action song.

Spiritual Development:

Kindness is one of the greatest things that the teachers of the centers teach their children. Through kindness children develop who they are, and they come to understand that the door through which you give and receive is the same door. Throughout the whole quarter the children were praying for David Argabright and for the bike ride. The children understood the kindness of the Argabright family and are very grateful to him.

In the centers, the children have regular spiritual training. The teachers sometimes use Bible Story cloths to teach them biblical stories. In this way the children in the centers grow up with Christian education.

Social and Cultural Activities:

The children of the centers celebrated Bengali New Year on 14th April. On that day they wore colorful clothes and performed songs, dances, skits and jokes in a cultural program. This quarter, the centers helped the children to observe Family Day. On this day the children and parents attended a small workshop, where they learned about the family, about children's responsibility to the family and also the family's responsibility to the children. The Family Day helped the parents to be more concerned about their family and children.

The centers also observed Environment Day. The teachers encouraged the children to plant at least one tree in their home yard.

Self-Help Groups:

The children's mothers' groups are going well. They are doing different kinds of micro business. Currently there are 26 SHGs in existence. In these groups the mothers save money and take a loan for a micro business that helps them to support themselves and their families. The SHG members already took loans and are doing different kinds of micro business, for example a poultry farm, livestock raising, or a small shop. The CDCs encouraged the women to become more empowered in the community and family.



We would like to thank the South Asia Partnership
for their support for all the CDCs!

Success Story:

Name: Urzomoni Sarder

CDC: Bishnupur, Naogaon



Urzomoni Sarder is a girl in Bishnupur CDC. She is studying in class one. She started coming to the center when the center first started. She attends classes regularly and is very good in her studies.

Urzomoni has two brothers. Her father is an agricultural laborer. His earnings are not enough to support the family. So the mother is working as a helper in other people's houses. There was a kindergarten school in the community, but Urzomoni's parents could not afford to send her there. They were very upset about it.

One day Urzomoni's father heard about the Bishnupur CDC from one of his neighbors. He was so interested in the center that he went to the house of the Nazarene church pastor. The pastor explained about the CDC and invited Urzomoni's father to register his daughter in the CDC. So he took her to the center and registered her.

After being registered in the CDC, Urzomoni's life changed. She is learning alphabets, rhymes, timetables, and general knowledge. Besides this she is also learning about good habits and manners and receives a nutritious meal every day. She has also heard about Jesus Christ. Urzomoni is from another religion but she attends Sunday School regularly. She likes singing and she recites Bible verses. She likes drawing and playing with her doll.

The pastor regularly visits Urzomoni's home. He has been sharing God's word with her family and has been encouraging them to come to church. Please keep praying for Urzomoni and her family so that they will see the Light of GOD through the CDC program.

