



BANGLADESH BIBLE SOCIETY

NEWSLETTER

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In this world there are many who are living without hope. When there is no hope then there is no desire to live. But we know and believe that there is Living hope in God and in His Word. His son Jesus Christ who is resurrected and ascended into heaven has given us hope to live, to live eternal. But unless this Good News received by all the people in the world, they will not have that hope or eternal life. Therefore, it is our responsibility to share the Word of God so that everyone in this world can have the living hope which is given by Jesus for all. Through the Word of God, people will have the opportunity to learn and experience the love, grace and kindness of Jesus. Therefore, the Bangladesh Bible Society is always keen to translate, publish and distribute the scripture to all here in Bangladesh and abroad so that all can have the living hope.

This year UBS is going to have its World Assembly, where the theme is "Word of God; Living Hope for All." We the Bangla-

desh Bible Society also has chosen the same theme for next couple of years. So, we like to share the Word of God with as many as we can through our programs and with our partnership with UBS, other Bible Societies, local churches, parachurches and organizations. We believe there is no other alternative to bring peace and living hope in this world except by the Word of God.

Therefore, requesting you all to pray and support the work of BBS to translate, publish and distribute the Word of God in Bangladesh. Also like to thank all who are kindly supporting us with their presence, prayer and finance. Specially like to thank all the Societies who are always kind to support our activities here in Bangladesh for His glory.

Rev. Shourabh Pholia
General Secretary
Bangladesh Bible Society

BBS FOUNDATION DAY



February 16, 2016 the Bangladesh Bible Society celebrated its 63rd Foundation Day. We specially thanked God for His grace. On the day the Word of God was shared by Rev. John S. Karmakar, Assistant Secretary of Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha. Special greetings were brought by General Secretary Rev. Shourabh Pholia, Rev. Asha. M. Kain, Chairman, Assemblies of God Church, Rev. Nathaniel S. Munshi, Assemblies of God Church and Mr. William Proloy Samaddar, Vice-President of Bangladesh Baptist Church Sangha. Media and Marketing Secretaries of BBS shared about BBS' activities and history on the day. Fellowship tea was served for the guests from different churches.

BBS BOARD MEMBERS RETREAT



A retreat of our Honorable Board Members held at Holy Cross Pastoral and Retreat Centre, Vadun, Dhaka on February 18-20, 2016. Our main Speaker was Dr. Julian Sunder Singh. He shared about the UBS Strategic Planning. This retreat gave all an opportunity to think together for the betterment of the BBS and also helped us to work on the strategic planning for the BBS. It is the second retreat of BBS Board.

Trauma Healing Training



The training held on Bangladesh Bible Society from 29 March to 1 April, 2016. 27 participants came from different denominations from all over the Bangladesh. Participants from few Christian organizations also participated at the training. World Renew and American Bible Society helped and supported us to make it a grand success. We are glad to them for their kind support and cooperation. Mary Crickmore and Megan Reeder lead the sessions. Hope in future we will have follow up meetings a training too.

FUND RAISING PROGRAMME



January 21st, 2016 a Fellowship Meeting for fundraising was organized by the BBS at Heed International Bangladesh Center. 92 members were present at the fellowship meeting. The BBS' activities were presented and people were challenged and encouraged to support the work of BBS for extending the Kingdom of God here in Bangladesh. Rev. Bairon P. Bonik, Pastor, Immanuel Fellowship Church, Dhaka and Vice-Chairman of BBS shared the Word of God on "Giving". We had responses from the attendees who contributed to BBS' activities. We are glad that many Church leaders, lay leaders and people came for the meeting.

BIBLE AMAR PRIYO SHATI AND JISHU AMAR ADARSHA PROGRAM



Children and youth program of Bangladesh Bible Society know as Bible Amar Priyo Shathi (BAPS) and Jishu Amar Adarsha, were held with students in many places. Recently on 6th March 2016, we had a BAPS program at Prime Evangelical Church, Gazipur where nearly 200 children and youth were present. They were from Muslim Background Believers and also from Roman Catholic Church and all were needy, some were orphans as well. We distributed Holy Bible, Children Kitabul Mukaddas and other resources to every Participant. They all were excited to have their first Scripture for their own. They all were happy and promised to read the Word of God every day in their lives. We prayed for them and had fellowship lunch with all. Here our Ex-chairman Pastor Anwar Hossain and present Chairman Pastor Monwar Hossain Pintu both were present along with our GS Rev. Shourabh Pholia.

MARKETING DEPARTMENT



By the grace of God all activities of this department is going well. We are thankful to God for that. We distributed scriptures and Christian resources to Savar, Dhamrai, Khulna, Malumghat, Chittagong, Birgonj, Ghoraghat, Rongpur, Golla, Vadun, Koromtola, Kustia, Gobindopur, Dhandoba, Borishal etc. areas. We reach out to all the people in Bangladesh with our van and distribute the Scriptures. Unfortunately the Van, which we are using, had an accident in 2006. We repaired it and using it till today though it breaks up often on the way when we go for a long tour to distribute Scriptures. Please pray so that we can get a new Van to reach out many in safe way.

WOMEN SEMINAR



In last 3 months we were able to organize women seminars at National Council of Churches Bangladesh, Moghbazar, St. Andrew's Church, Mirpur and at St. Thomas' Church, Moghbazar, Dhaka. There were 50 to 100 participants in every seminars. We distributed scriptures to them for their use and also to use them in their families. It is a new program for us but we are happy to have response from the churches and it is encouraging women to grow in spiritually for His glory.

SCRIPTURE DISTRIBUTION



We are thankful to Churches and Parachurches for their Support, to help us to distributes selections, portions, Holy Bible, TAZI Bible, Portions, Gospels and etc. We are grateful to them. We will have their kind support and cooperation in future too. To distribute selections is always a challenge for us as here majority people are Muslim (90% of the population) and we the Christians are only 0.6%. Therefore, we request you all to pray for the team and our volunteers who always goes out with risk to distribute the selections and portions to share the Word of God.

BOOKSTALL



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Translation Workshop



Translation workshop held at Bangladesh Bible Society from 4 to 9 April, 2016. We are so happy to DR. SUEEYAN YU, DR. SIMON WONG, and DR. STEVEN MARK VOTH for leading the training workshop. 22 participants from Nepal, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh joined the training. From Bangladesh participants from Bangladesh Bible Society, Scripture Partner, and Association of Baptists participated and we are glad to join the training workshop. We are glad to UBS and Translation team.

MEDIA DEPARTMENT

Song Album CD

We are happy to release an audio album named "Hrid-Mondirey" (In Heart's Temple). There are 18 Songs. One of the renowned music director in Bangladesh Ali Akbar Rupu gave his input in the audio CD.



Bapon Magazine



We have published BBS Magazine "Bapon-2016" Easter edition. Also we published scripture portions in two of our National News Papers named Daily Jonokantha and Daily Jugantor. More than 3,55,000 copies were circulated all over the Bangladesh and people had an opportunity to have the truth to know.

Faith Comes By Hearing (FCBH)

We have distributed Proclaimer and visited churches in Mymensingh, Dinajpur, Joypurhaat and Faridpur District. People got the opportunity to hear the Word of God by this program.

Area	Church/Team	Number of Proclaimer Distributed
Naoga	160	160
Faridpur	155	155
Mymensingh	155	155
Dinajpur	152	152
Total	622	622

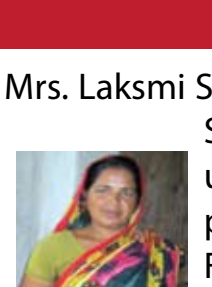
Literacy Program



This year we have 1000 students who are accessing the program. Through which they are developing their reading and writing skills. Along with that they are learning Bible and developing their faith. We like to develop the course and also want to have an evaluation of the Literacy programme. Please do remember us so that we can have enough financial strength for the evaluation and development of the course.

Testimony

Mrs. Laksmi Sarker(33), a member of JGLMB Church. She did not have any idea on Bible. She used to think that Bible Study is only pastor's job. So, she had lack of faith. From the time FCBH program started in their church, she got the opportunity to listen to the Word of God. She regularly started coming to the Church. She listened the Great Commandments of Christ, and wished to hear the Word of God. Now she has received the Lord as her personal savior, she have already listened to many books including the Gospel. She is also able to tell parables of Jesus Christ.



TRANSLATION DEPARTMENT (SCRIPTURE TRANSLATIONS)

Work of Translation Department is going on by the grace of God. Now we are working on four ethnic languages along with revised two Bengali version's and a study Bible (New).

Garó Bible Translation:
OT is almost done. Format Marking and Revision work is going on. We had a reviewers meeting on January 25th, at Haluaghat, Mymensingh.

Shantali Bible Translation:
Translation work has completed on Isaiah. On February 13-14 we had a review meeting at Rajshahi Pastoral Center. Rev. Shourabh Pholia, GS, BBS was present at this review meeting.

Chakma Bible Translation:
Chakma Translation on Book of 1 & 2 Thessalonians is going on. Revision work on Book of Isaiah is continuing.

Marma Bible Translation:
Translation Work on John's Gospel going on.

Bengali Study and Common Old Version Bible:
Computer correction work is going on. Work collected from the reviewers and computer work is continuing.