

Mission Vision

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BANGLADESH MISSION REPORT: DECEMBER 2012

From John N Biswas, Missionary to Bangladesh

Because of the culture and poverty, mission trips to Bangladesh are never routine. No matter how much one may plan, the unexpected happens. However, this time, by God's grace, things went quite well. For that I am thankful.

On the way to Bangladesh, I stopped in Singapore to renew contact with some Christians who support our work in Bangladesh. In Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, I met with some of our gospel workers and with Christian leaders from other fellowships who have been helpful to us over the past few years. I had also arranged to meet a representative of the Bible League International who wanted to visit our mission center and to see our projects. He accompanied me on my journey to some of our village churches. He was impressed by the fact that so many villagers would like to have Bibles, which we are able to give them as funds allow.

I thank God and am grateful to the many churches that make mission trips like this one possible. On this trip I tried to visit as many of our churches as possible. The photographs show some of our activities. The photo at right shows us unloading Bibles after crossing one of the many rivers on our way to the village of Bagdha where we have one of our largest churches. I take Bibles to as many churches as I can, for there is always a need. Because there are no roads in many of these places, we transport the Bibles using rickshaws and boats.



We try to make these gatherings festive, so here we rented a colorful tent. Doing so attracts many new people to our fellowship. They feel included.



Some of the young men who helped us in many ways.



Our church service in Anondopur. I am standing, and onstage with me are village elders.



Monju, one of our key gospel workers, hands a Bible to a new person who requested one.



Because many walk several miles to get to our meetings, we usually provide a small fellowship meal following the service, as shown in the photo below. The meal gives our members opportunity to serve the visitors.

10

The Alzheimer's Association has developed a list of the common warning signs of Alzheimer's disease:

1. Memory loss that disrupts daily life
2. Challenges in planning or solving problems
3. Difficulty completing familiar tasks
4. Confusion as to time and place
5. Trouble understanding visual images and spatial relationships
6. New problems with words in speaking or writing
7. Misplacing things and losing the ability to retrace steps
8. Decreased or poor judgment
9. Withdrawal from work or social activities
10. Changes in mood and personality

For more information on Alzheimer's disease, visit alz.org

Mission Vision Newsletters

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MISSION

Bengali Evangelical Association (BEA) ministry serves to make the truth of the Scripture simple and to assist in developing the application of Biblical principles among men and women within their own culture and lifestyle.

BEA Thanks You...

We are grateful to the contributors for their generous support and sincere prayers for BEA ministry. You are welcome to help us share the message of hope to the hopeless.

FREE Health Seminar

Dr. Susan Nzanzi
DrPH, MCHES, ACSM, FRSPH

Respond by:
February 10

“LIFESTYLE FOCUS ON HEALTH”

SUNDAY, February 17th 2013 @ 5:00 PM

Loma Linda Civic Center Community Room

25541 Barton Road, Loma Linda, California

Health and Diabetes Educational Update. What you can do to control diabetes and live a healthy life! Learn more about the role exercise and a balanced diet play in living a healthy lifestyle.

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The Bible and Muslims

Islam has had a tremendous impact on the world, but, spiritually, it is not a great religion. Claiming to build upon biblical truth, it denies the very center of that revelation—Jesus Christ as true God and true man, the Savior of the world. It does no one any good to gloss over the vast differences between Christianity and Islam. The point is not that Christians are better than Muslims—all people are sinners in need of a Savior. Rather, the point is that Christianity offers a Savior, while Islam merely offers more rules by which people must try to save themselves. At a time when Muslims spokesmen are flooding every channel of communication available to discredit the Bible, undermine the doctrine of the Trinity, and deny the saving work of Christ, Christians are compelled to ‘content for the faith’ (Jude 3) and ‘take....the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God’ (Ephesians 6:17).’

BEA conducts a wide range of programs—all geared to demonstrate the love of God.

- Distribute Bibles and gospel literature
- Child sponsorship
- Goats for the poor families
- Food & clothes for the needy
- Community development program
- Computer job training
- Nurses'-assistant training
- Gospel worker training
- Church planting
- Bakery training and more...

Old Multipurpose Mission Center
*severely damaged,
deemed unfit for use*



There is a serious situation concerning our old Multipurpose Mission Center. We have recently had a report from an engineering firm that the building is unsafe and dangerous to use. They felt that the initial damage was due to an earthquake or frequent cyclones and periodic floods leading to slippage before the recent inspection.

The engineer's report says that because the main support structure has been so damaged, the building has to be dismantled. A local government inspector gave us a warning that the building needs to be condemned or a fine will be posted.

For many years, this building has played a vital part in preaching the gospel in the villages of Bangladesh. This is where we had our larger fellowship gatherings and bible studies. It was the focus of many mission related activities, including the nurses' training school with their dormitory rooms, etc..

All this confirmed the importance of making a start on the reconstruction project as soon as possible. We are temporarily using other ways of accommodating the nurses training program, but we will have to close that program due to lack of dormitory facilities which are in the damaged building.

Proposed **NEW** Multipurpose
Mission Center



Total cost to rebuild—Approximately \$158,000

\$57,000 PLEDGED SO FAR

The replacement building will look very much like the one in the above photo.

The first phase would be to construct a single story building for large fellowship gatherings, and function as a base for our nurses' training course. This building would be constructed so that it could support one or two extra floors as funds become available.

The final cost of the three story building which would fully replace the old damaged building is about \$158,000. It would have a raised foundation and would be of steel reinforced construction to withstand any future earth quakes or natural disasters, etc.. Rebuilding is indeed a big undertaking, but together we will be able to re-build this very important asset for the gospel work.

Thank you in advance for your help in this very important rebuilding project to glorify Christ's name in Bangladesh. We greatly appreciate your laborious endeavors for God's work worldwide, to serve Him.

Nurse's Assistant Training

Sathsumulia, Bangladesh

As of July 2012, a total of 320 girls received nurse's assistant training.



A new batch of nurse's assistant students soon to complete the program

All these students were chosen from small local villages. After completion of their training, 95% were employed in different hospitals of the country and their respective village based clinics.

Before receiving the training, they did not have jobs, but a hopeless life and were a burden to their families. After completing the training, they received good jobs that pay well and have become as living witnesses for Jesus among their people and country.

Twenty students still need stipend to complete their nurse's assistant program. The approximate cost, \$150.00 per nurse's assistant student to complete the three month course - including tuition, books, travel, lodging cost, etc.

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Celebration of the 400-year Anniversary of the King James Bible

Redlands, CA: On October 21, the Bengali Evangelical Association (BEA) hosted a public lecture in Redlands, California in celebration of the 400-year anniversary of the publishing of the King James Bible.



The event, which was attended by 80 people, opened with worship. John and Naomi Biswas welcomed the guests and explained the purpose of the event to the attendees.



Pastor Neil Earle presented a lecture focused on the story of the great men and events leading up to publication of the King James Bible in 1611.

Neil began by showing a video of the King James Bible being read from moon orbit in December 1968.

He then went on to show from history how the King James translation of the Bible had impacted the speech and culture of the English speaking world and how it had helped bring the gospel to the common people of all the cultures worldwide.

Many reference books and articles were on display and BEA offered each guest a King James Bible and a book of Bible promises, paid for by a generous donor.

The participants came from various walks of life and cultural backgrounds. They enjoyed the message as well as the fellowship meal at the conclusion of this educational event.

Surprising Facts About America's Poor

- **80% of poor households have air conditioning**
- **Nearly three-fourths have a car or truck, and 31% have two or more cars or trucks**
- **Nearly 2/3 have cable or satellite tv**
- **2/3 have at least one DVD player and 70% have a VCR**
- **Half have a personal computer, and one in seven have two or more computers**
- **More than half of poor families w/children have a video game system, such as an XBOX or PlayStation**
- **43% have Internet access**
- **1/3 have a wide-screen plasma or LCD tv**
- **1/4 have a digital recording system, such as TiVo**

Source: The New American Sep. 2011

