



The Church of Bangladesh

NEWSLETTER

● Newsletter ● March–April Issue 2023 ●

Volume 20

Message from the Moderator ...

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As we reflect on the recently concluded Lent season and Easter, we are reminded of the importance of our faith and the power of God's love and mercy. The season of Lent offered us the opportunity to reflect on our lives and renew our commitment to God, through prayer, repentance, and self-denial. We were challenged to examine our hearts and minds and seek forgiveness and reconciliation with God and with others.

The culmination of the Lent season was the celebration of Easter, where we rejoiced in the resurrection of Christ and the new life that He brings to us. Despite the many challenges, our community came together to celebrate this important event, and to remember the hope and promise of eternal life that Christ offers to us.

As we look back on these events, we are grateful for the faith and resilience of our community, and for the support and encouragement that we have received from one another. We have continued to spread hope and positivity in the face of adversity and to support those in need in our community.

As we move forward into the coming months, let us continue to draw strength from our faith and work together to make a positive difference in the world. Let us be a source of inspiration and hope to those around us, and let us continue to spread the love and mercy of God to all whom we encounter.

I had the privilege of attending the South Asia Mission Partner's meeting in Stuttgart, Germany, where I had the opportunity to meet with other church leaders and discuss ways to further strengthen our partnership. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Mission and Development partners for their continued support and collaboration.

I am pleased to share that all the Deaneries had their spiritual revival meetings, which were a great success. These meetings helped us to deepen our faith and



spiritual commitment to God.

I am happy to report that we are running an Anti-Human Trafficking pilot project with the help of USPG. This project is aimed at preventing human trafficking and protecting vulnerable individuals from exploitation.

We recently organized a workshop for new church members to orient them about the work and ministry of the Church of Bangladesh. Additionally, we conducted a training program for deans, priests, catechists, and lay leaders to enhance their skills and

knowledge.

I am also pleased to report that CMCY has continued to provide care for children, and has distributed blankets and school bags to those in need. All projects of Shalom are progressing well, and we are grateful for the efforts of our dedicated team of volunteers.

As we continue to face uncertainty and challenges in our world, let us turn to God and seek His guidance and strength. We are blessed to be part of a community that is committed to serving others and spreading the love of God. Let us continue to support one another in our faith journeys, and to encourage one another to grow in our relationship with God. May the lessons and blessings of Lent and Easter continue to inspire us and guide us in the days ahead. Let us strive to be instruments of peace and reconciliation in our world, and to work towards a more just and compassionate society. Thank you to all who have contributed their time, talents, and resources to support our church and its ministries during the holy week and Easter. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Finally, I want to thank all of you for your dedication and support to our church and its mission. May God bless us all abundantly, and may His peace be with us always. Yours in Christ,

May God bless us all!

Message from Barishal Diocese



Dear in Christ,

Happy Easter.

We just celebrated Easter which is a time of hope, renewal and new beginnings. It is a time to reflect the ultimate sacrifice that Jesus made for us, and to celebrate his resurrection and the triumph of good over evil. Easter is a time to reflect on our lives and the many blessings that we have been given. Let us strive to be kinder, more compassionate, and more loving towards one another.

In a world that often seems dark and uncertain, Easter reminds us that there is always hope in Jesus Christ for a brighter tomorrow. It reminds us that even in the darkest moments, there is a light that can never be extinguished.

I believe and hope this Easter has renewed our faith has given us peace and joy.

Let the spirit of Easter fill our hearts with joy, hope and happiness.

With best regards and prayers –

Rt. Revd. Shourabh Pholia.





Dear all in Christ,

“He is not here; He has risen!” - (Luke 24:6-7). Wishing you all the love and happiness that only Easter can bring. On behalf of Kushtia Diocese, I would like to express my profound gratitude and deepest thanks for your prayers and kind support.

The main theme of the Kushtia Diocese during the entire Lent season was, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest” (Mark 6:31). According to the Theme, followed by a series of events took our pastoral work to a Spiritual higher level. I have participated in a total of 5 Parishes and spent the whole day in solitary meditation with the people of the church which was a soothing experience for all.

This Good Friday I went to one of our small churches in Bogura city and partook in their lively worship. I was so pleased with their active presence which was encouraging and inspiring to all of us. However the sad thing is that they have no church building of their own. Last couple of years they have been using one of our church member’s residences. Therefore, we are very grateful to him who for many years made it possible to make his own house as a church building. But now his house is in dire need and he can no longer afford it. In these circumstances we are trying various ways and praying that we can make a good arrangement.

This Easter Sunday will be memorable for me for one reason and that is in collaboration with Rajshahi Mission Hospital the opening of a small clinic (Mobile MClinic for Mother and Child) at St. Mark’s Church, Naogaon District. This church is small in terms of population, but there is a lot of unused land. Already we have started some developmental work over there. By the grace of God, this year’s Lent collection was quite satisfying. With this money we will repair the priest’s house in Saidpur.

I thank God that I was able to hold the Kushtia Diocesan Executive Committee Meeting and followed by the “Annual Pastoral Conference” just the week after Easter Sunday. The theme of the Conference was “What are you doing here” (1 Kings 19:9b)? For all of us this theme was really thought provoking as well as contemporary. In the whole seminar, we tried to renew our obligations and we seriously tried find out “where we are? Are we doing the right thing at the right time? If not then what should we do? We found many answers and decided to correct our mistakes. At the same time we regrettably noticed that, in the Church today we have many highly educated people, rich people and even some are celebrities but very few servants for the church! To sum up, we took an oath that being up-to-date with the current world affairs we will open our eyes, do the right things at the right time and go through the foot-steps of our Lord Jesus Christ with humility and prayers.

Thank you to all the friends of the Dioceses and partners who have helped us with prayers and other support. May God be with us.

Right Reverend Hemen Halder.

Pastoral Visit of Bishop of Barishal Diocese



On April 2, Sunday, in every parish of the Barishal Diocese, with solemnity, the 'Palm Sunday was

celebrated. Bishop Shourabh Pholia of the Barishal Diocese conducted the Lord's Supper at the Holy Name Church in Shuagram and delivered the sermon. He explained the significance and purpose of Jesus Christ's entry into Jerusalem, which was to offer His life for the forgiveness of all our sins. We learn from the life of Jesus Christ and should also sacrifice our lives for the good of others.

After the worship, Bishop Pholia discussed various initiatives and interviewed local personalities from different parishes of the diocese.

On April 5, Bishop Pholia visited the retired priest Reverend Nirod Boron Biswas. Reverend Biswas was very pleased to see Bishop Pholia and thanked God for His grace. He expressed his gratitude to God the Father for His blessings. During this time, some priests and leaders of the local parishes were with the bishop.

On the same day, Bishop Pholia also visited Golden Citizen Kakoli Mazumder and prayed for her and her family. She was very happy to see the Bishop and showed her handwork to Bishop since she sells her handwork in the local market.

Kushtia Diocese Pastoral Seminar held



The Pastoral Seminar of Kushtia Diocese was held from April 14th to 16th, 2023. The main theme of the seminar was "What are you doing here?" (1 Kings 19:9). All the priests and catechists of Kushtia Diocese participated in the seminar. The keynote speaker at the seminar was the Right Reverend. Hemen Halder. He also spoke and reminded everyone that the diocese has entrusted us with this responsibility, and we must fulfill it correctly. He also raised awareness about the responsibilities of the pastoral and encouraged everyone. As a

guest speaker at the pastoral Seminar, Mrs. Jessica Suporna Halder, Diocese Secretary Mr. Richard Bappy Baroi, and Dr. Martin Hirak Chowdhury were present. Mrs. Jessica Suporna Halder highlighted the good qualities of those who are appointed for pastoral work in her speech. Dr. Martin Hirak Chowdhury discussed "The people's expectations from the pastors" and then Mr. Peter Mondol, the diocesan accountant, advised on the budget of the Church.

South Asia Forum Meeting, Stuttgart March 8, 2023

Thank God: Before we begin our presentation at the South Asia Forum meeting today, we would like to take a moment to express our gratitude. First and foremost, we thank God for this opportunity to share our work and vision with you all.

Thank the EMS: I am immensely grateful to the Evangelical Mission in Solidarity (EMS) for providing us with the wonderful opportunity to be a part of this platform today. I appreciate the efforts made by the EMS in organizing this event, which has enabled us to share our thoughts and experiences with a wider audience. This platform has been instrumental in fostering greater cooperation and understanding among various churches and organizations, and we hope that it will continue to serve as a valuable forum for exchange and collaboration in the future. Once again, I express my deepest gratitude to the EMS for their support and commitment to promoting unity and solidarity within the Christian community.

We also express our profound gratitude to all the mission partners for their unwavering support in our mission to serve and empower the communities in Bangladesh.

We are grateful for our present government, which allows us the freedom to practice our religion and care for our fellow citizens. We recognize that not all countries have the same situation, and we feel blessed to be able to carry out our work with peace, unity, integrity, and harmony.

Once again, we thank you all for joining us today, and we look forward to sharing our progress and plans for the future.

The history of COB: In 1965, the Church union plan of North India and Pakistan resulted in the formation of the Church of Pakistan on November 1, 1970, which merged the Anglican Church, United Church, United Methodist, and Lutheran Church in Pakistan. Prior to 1951, the Anglican Church in East Pakistan was under the Diocese of Calcutta, but after 1952, Dhaka became a Diocese of the Church of North India, Pakistan, Burma, and Ceylon. The first Bishop of Dhaka Diocese was Rev. James D. Blair, an Oxford Mission brother. The Church of Bangladesh was established as a result of separation from Pakistan,

which was initially a language-based movement and ultimately took shape through the liberation war in 1971 that created a free and independent Bangladesh. Due to the impossibility of maintaining a relationship with Pakistan, the Synod of the Church of Pakistan declared and endorsed the free and independent status of the Church of Bangladesh on April 30, 1974. This process brought together the Anglican and English Presbyterian Churches under the umbrella of the Church of Bangladesh. The Church of Bangladesh acknowledges and remembers the contributions of missionaries and devotees who established congregations throughout the country and provided education, health services, and pastoral care, even in the remotest villages. The Church pays homage to their memory and holds them dear in their hearts and minds.

- The Cob now has current three bishops and three dioceses.
- 22,000+ church members.
- We are small but blessed.
- There is peace, unity, integrity, and harmony.
- We have 45 clergies including 2 female priests.
- The good news is that we ordained two women after two decades in COB.
- We have completed the strategy for COB visioning 2021-2030. Thanks to USPG, MC GB, and ACF for funding us, and to all the mission partners for their feedback, which we have included in our ideas and suggestions. Copies are available, and you may take them with you.
- There are ten major strategic ministries of COB, with pastoral ministry and self-sustainability (both economically and spiritually) as the main focus. Other ministries include those for children, youth, women, elderly people, physically disabled people, social development, child care, health care, mission evangelism and new church plantations, and theological training and education/school programs.

Through the generous contributions of Bread for the World, Kirk in Actie the Netherlands, the Tear Fund, and the MCC, we have been able to carry out various social ministry projects that have had a positive impact on the lives of many people. From providing education and training programs to implementing sustainable development projects, these partnerships have been instrumental in helping us achieve our goals and make a meaningful difference in the communities we serve. We are truly grateful for their support and partnership in this important work.

The United Society Partners in the Gospel (USPG) has been a crucial supporter of our Church in the areas of healthcare and self-sustaining projects. Their contributions have been instrumental in allowing us to carry out these important initiatives to benefit our community. In addition, we are thrilled to announce that the USPG will be partnering with us and the Diocese of Durgapur in a joint effort to combat Anti-Human Trafficking (AHT) in the region. This new collaboration will undoubtedly provide us with the resources and expertise we need to effectively address this critical issue and make a meaningful difference in the lives of those affected by it. We are grateful to have the support of the USPG in these important endeavors.

The Kirk in Actie Netherlands and the Church of Scotland have been supporting our SATC for theological education. We will follow up on their suggestions and advice for self-sustainability.

MC GB has been supporting us in our work for children, youth, women, evangelism, and the underprivileged community and new congregations. Sheila Norris will be visiting COB soon, and Martin visited last month. USPG visited last year. We would like to have more partnerships in terms of friendship and linkage.

We have achieved sustainability in running Rajshahi Mission Hospital and Nursing Training Institutes by the grace of God. Sister Gillian is doing fine and is still very active in Ballavpur Mission Hospital. Furthermore, we have been able to expand our services to reach even more patients in need, thanks to the dedication and hard work of our medical staff. With our focus on providing high-quality care and education to our community, we are proud to say that Rajshahi Mission Hospital and our Nursing Training

Institutes have become beacons of hope and healing for many who would otherwise have limited access to healthcare. We remain grateful to God for his blessings and to all those who have played a part in our success.

The good news is that we have achieved financial self-sustainability to run the pastoral ministry and provide salaries to bishops, clergy, and staff. This is a significant milestone for our Church, and we are thrilled to have reached this point. It means that we can focus our efforts on expanding our ministry and reaching more people in need, without having to worry about financial constraints. With this achievement, we can now invest in new projects, programs, and outreach initiatives, and continue to spread the message of love and hope to communities across the region. We are grateful for the ongoing support of our donors, volunteers, and partners, who have helped us to get to where we are today. Together, we will continue to make a difference in the lives of those we serve, and bring about positive change in our communities.

We have been sending clergy to do higher studies in the Philippines, with around ten about to complete their D. Min after their B. Th. from the Senate of Serampore. Some will be doing doctoral studies in the Senate of Serampore and the USA online.

Thank God for CNI and CSI; we have a good friendship with them that has allowed us to work together toward our shared mission of spreading the love and message of Christ to all corners of the world, and their support and guidance have been invaluable in our efforts to provide pastoral care, and social services to the people of Bangladesh.

Thanks to God and all of you for supporting us during COVID through your kindness and prayers. We are truly grateful for your unwavering support during these challenging times, which have tested us in unprecedented ways. Your kindness and generosity have been a source of strength and comfort, helping us to overcome the obstacles that we faced during the pandemic. With your prayers and support, we were able to provide essential services and care to those in need and make a positive impact in the lives of countless individuals and families. We cannot express enough how much we appreciate your steadfast commitment to our cause, and we look forward to continuing to work together to build a brighter future for all.



Thank you for your love, compassion, and support for COB, and we hope it will continue in the future. Thanks for journeying with us and witnessing Christ Jesus with us in the beautiful country of Bangladesh.

We thank CMD Germany and CMS Switzerland have been supporting CMCY after the para of Shalom. We are deeply grateful and appreciative to CMD Germany and CMS Switzerland for their unwavering support of CMCY even after the para of Shalom. Their generous contributions have enabled us to continue our mission of providing education, healthcare, and other essential services to the most vulnerable communities in our region. Their partnership has been invaluable in helping us navigate the challenges presented by the ongoing pandemic and we look forward to continuing our collaboration in the future. May God bless them abundantly for their kindness and compassion toward us.

Thank you all for your time and attention today. We are grateful for this opportunity to share about our work and ministry, and we hope that it has been informative and inspiring. We want to express our



sincere thanks to all our supporters, partners, and collaborators who make our work possible. We are also grateful to God for His guidance and provision. May we continue to work together towards building a better world for all. Thank you again, and God bless you all.

We request your continuous prayers and support for COB.

With Blessing

The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin
*The Moderator & Bishop of Dhaka Diocese
 The Church of Bangladesh.*

CHRISTIAN MINISTRY TO CHILDREN AND YOUTH (CMCY)



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May 6, 2023

To,
Dr. Horst Kowski
Founder, CMD-Germany.



Subject: Hearty thanks for your tremendous supports for Bangladesh.

Respected Dr. Horst Kowski,

Wishing you a season of Christ's peace, joy and blessings! We humbly memorized that the Christian Ministry to Children and Youth (CMCY) under the leadership of the Church of Bangladesh started functioning its child care activities to mitigate the sufferings of the children, who were the victims of the Liberation War in 1971 under your great leadership through the then honorable Bishop late B.D. Mondal. Since then we gratefully acknowledge your tremendous support and dedication towards the activities of the COB and CMCY, which are so full of bright, achievement and success. It is full with glittering memories. You are great in your leadership! You are such a hard-worker of a time of transition, neither summer nor winter, a time of rest, a moment to complete, which have helped our poor children to get bright and prosperous future. It also have ensured peace, justice and development in the state, community and as well as to the individual life.

Honorable Dr. Kowski, you are a true great leader, who following Jesus have carried on worldwide Children Ministry with due integrity, self-awareness, courage, respect, empathy, and gratitude. Through your tremendous hard works you have helped many to become self-supported and happy in life. Through serving the poor and needy you have changed the fact and dishonor of the poor and have pulled them up in life from the garbage. You had wisdom to make weak students self-supported through the vocational skills. Apart from the children development, as a well known engineer, you also have presented us with nice buildings and infrastructures. Your wisdom, confidence and dedications were marvelous. You are man of letters! You are a true Godchild!

We have nothing to evaluate you with due respect and a befitting manner. But, from our belief and faith upon the Holy Bible, we must say, " Whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Mt. 25.40. Almighty God surely will bless you abundantly and give you His peace and good health for the rest of your life and heaven, finally.

Once again, thank you for your valuable donations and loving prayers for Bangladesh.

With Prayers and good wishes,

Regards,

On behalf of the COB, CMCY- BOT and Executive Members, CMCY Director and staff and loving ex-sponsored and existing children,

The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin
Moderator, Church of Bangladesh &
Chairperson, CMCY

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Dear Mr. Sandy Sneddon

**Associate International Partnership Support Manager, Faith Action Team
The Church of Scotland**

I am writing as the Moderator of the Church of Bangladesh, to express our deepest appreciation and thanks for the 37 years of service that you have given to the Church of Scotland.

It is with a heavy heart that we learned of your resignation from the Church after 20 years in the national office, which was preceded by 16 years as a mission partner. We want you to know that your dedication, passion, and hard work have been an inspiration to all of us in the Church of Bangladesh. Your tireless efforts to build relationships, your commitment to supporting the Church's mission, and your love for the people of Bangladesh have left an indelible mark on our hearts and in our Church.

We are especially grateful for the time you spent serving in Bangladesh. Your presence and leadership have had a profound impact on the lives of many, and we are grateful for the friendships and partnerships that you have helped to foster between our two churches.

We want you to know that you will always be remembered as a dear friend of the Church of Bangladesh. We wish you all the best for the future and pray that God will continue to bless you and guide you in all your endeavors.

As you embark on a new chapter in your life, we hope that you will continue to stay connected with us and our work in Bangladesh. We are confident that the relationships you have built and the contributions you have made will continue to bear fruit in the years to come.

Once again, we express our deepest gratitude for all that you have done for the Church of Scotland, and for the Church of Bangladesh in particular. Your legacy will continue to inspire us and guide us as we seek to serve God and our communities.

May God bless you and your family abundantly, and may you continue to experience His love and grace in all your endeavors.

With deepest gratitude and warmest regards,

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The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin

Moderator, Church of Bangladesh.





USPG Tanzania

The USPG recently traveled to Dar-es-Salam, Tanzania, for their international consultation on human trafficking, with the theme “Set My People Free: The Call of the Church Against Human Trafficking.” The Moderator actively participated in the conference, which brought together a diverse group of religious leaders, community members, and human rights advocates from around the world.

The consultation focused on the urgent need to address human trafficking, a global problem that affects millions of people every year. The Moderator highlighted the church’s role in promoting social justice and advocating for the rights of those who have been victimized by human trafficking. He emphasized the importance of interfaith dialogue and cooperation in addressing this issue, stating that “this is not a problem that any one person, organization, or religion can solve on their own.”



Executive Board Meeting of the Christian Conference of Asia

This photo was taken during the Executive Board Meeting of the Christian Conference of Asia, which was hosted by the National Council of Churches in Bangladesh (NCCB) in Dhaka. The meeting included a visit and discussion with the President of the NCCB The Most Revd. Samuel Sunil Mankhin and the all executive committee member of the NCCB, and this particular photo was taken during an evening event as part of the conference proceedings

New Churches in Khagrachhari



There are 9 new churches in the mountainous district of Khagrachhari in Bangladesh, The members are all indigenous, such as Marma, Chakma, and Tripura indigenous people. The new churches are located in a hilly area, so transportation is very difficult and risky.

Development opportunities and facilities are not easily accessible. The indigenous people here are very backward in education, hygiene, and economics. Church of Bangladesh is running primary schools in several new churches. Education, healthcare, and clean water supply are very important. Recently, two priests have been appointed for the continuous care of the new Churches of the indigenous people in Khagrachhari by the Church of Bangladesh. They are Reverend Ripon Roy and Reverend Ajoy Ritchil. In addition, several catechists from this area are also providing impeccable care to these new Churches. Regular worship, religious festivals, Sunday school, women's programs, and youth programs are conducted in each Churches. It should be noted that the Church of Bangladesh has been working on evangelism and the economic development of the indigenous brothers and sisters in the Khagrachhari hill district for nearly 15 years. Prayer is needed for the care of the new Churches in Khagrachhari.

St. Andrew's Theological College

Revival Meeting & Lent Prayers



This year our students along with me attended Revival Meeting in Modhupur Boro Shova and also Dhonno Budhbar Boro Shova of Bollovepur Deanery in Ratanpur Church. We got opportunity to preach the Word of God. We also got opportunity to Lead and attend "Way of the Cross" at St. Andrew's Church Mirpur.



BTh Final Exam

It started on 12 April 2023 and finished on 26 April 2023 under the Senate of Serampore College and University (SSCU). This Year 3 BTh Internal students completed their 4 years Course successfully. Thanks God for all His Blessings we have received through our Church Partners, Board Members, Lecturers, Staffs and different well-wishers and continue to prepare Church Leaders to give spiritual and theological formation.

Brief Report of Christa Sevika Sangha (CSS)

Attending various meetings and preaching the word of the Lord



Thank God that he has given our sisters the opportunity to preach his word. Sister Agnes and Sister Shalomi, at the invitation of Dhaka Diocese, Moghbazar Deanery, St. Thomas Church, attended the Boro Shobha (big meeting) where Sister Agnes preached and sang. She had also preached at Chabikharpar, a village next to Jobarpar. Sister Kalyani was invited by Bishop Hemen Halder to preach at the Bollavepur Deanery's St. Peter's Church during the spiritual awakening meeting on Holy Wednesday and conducted a meditation session at St. Mary's Church of Jobarpar. Glory be to God. Besides, we also attend fasting (lent time) and family prayer meetings as well. We thank the Almighty God for such wonderful opportunities in our lives.

Worship of light

Every year on the eve of Easter we worship light. This year, Bishop Paul S. Sarker and Mrs. Sarker were with us. Right Rev: Paul S. Sarker and our parish priest Reverend Santi Mondol led the light worship. This year many worshipers were present with us, as well as our sons and daughters were also present in worship. Everyone got a lot of satisfaction. Praise be to the Lord.

Our guests

After the last report many guests visited the CSS family, including our Visitor, Right Reverend Samuel Sunil Mankhin, Bishop Richard William Atkinson, Director of World Concern and his team, Bishop Hemen Halder and his wife, Bishop Paul S. Sarker, Synod Secretary's wife and her relatives, Bishop Paritosh Canning, Bishop Subrata Chakrabati and their team (from CNI), India's famous preacher Reverend Dilip Jana and his team amongst many others. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the great God for all their lives. Guest service is the second major activity of Christa Sevika Sangha (CSS). We strive to serve our guests with utmost hospitality.

May God Bless and protect all the people!

Sister Dorothy CSS





Shalom

... a development organisation of Church of Bangladesh



Climate resilient sustainable program is being implemented in Mongla area

Climate Resilient Sustainable Livelihood Program for Vulnerable Peoples (CRSLPVP) project is being implemented in Mongla area supported by Tearfund. The project working with 2,500 beneficiary families. Several activities like 46 hygiene promotion sessions have been conducted through this project in the last two months.

Disaster Preparedness Day has observed with Mongla Upazila Nirbahi Administration. 12 organization along with Shalom of Mongla area participated in the disaster preparedness day.

47 people have received support for organic manure demonstration, 1500-liter plastic water tanks have distributed to 45 families for rainwater storage, 27 families have received hygienic latrines, solar lights have distributed to 22 families by the project.

By the support of Bread for the World (BftW), the Poverty Reduction and Community Resilience Project Phase II has started in Jobarpar and Netrakona area. The project design has changed in some of the issues and local beneficiaries and some old groups have been closed and new groups have formed.

Two days' workshop on project monitoring system development/monitoring platform was conducted by Mr.

Albert Eiden from Bread for the World, Germany. The workshop held at Jobarpar and all staff of the Jobarpar, Mr. Sudorson Mankhin, Ruth Sebika Raksam, Senoy Sarkar and Mr. Ronan Gomes attend the program. Mr. Albert Eiden visited the working area as part of the monitoring system development.





CoB-CMCY

Christian Ministry to Children & Youth

The director visits the project with his staff



From March 5-9, 2023, Mr. Shyamal Sarker, Director of CMCY, along with Liaison Officer Mr. Harun Mondal and Program Monitoring Officer Ms. Shila Kisku, visited several projects including Uttar Bango Child Development Project (Babuldang BD0240 and Khamarmaria BD 0268), CMS Girls Hostel, Rajshahi, Nobokoli Craft Center Rajshahi, Paitapukur Boys Hostel, and Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi. In addition, from March 31 to April 2, 2023, the CMCY Director,

Liaison Officer, and Accountant visited St. George College Hostel, Mymensingh, Community Intervention Project- Thanarbaid, and Usha Children Village, Edilpur. During these visits, the CMCY personnel had separate discussions with the children, youth, colleagues, and respected committee members of the projects. They provided valuable advice on the interests of the children and beneficiaries of the project and encouraged and motivated the colleagues to work more spontaneously in project management.

Attendance at New Partnership Workshops

From March 11-13, 2023, Compassion Bangladesh organized a new partnership workshop at the BRAC Learning Center, Shumvugonj, Mymensingh. Reverend Benedict Bhanu Chishim, Reverend Mridul Chambugong, eight church members from Burujani and Telekhali Parish, and Mrs. Ruth Sebika Raksam, Accountant, and Program Monitoring Officer Ms. Shila Kisku from CMCY Central Office attended the workshop. It is expected that with the kind funding of the CIB, CMCY might be able to open two Child Development Sponsorship Programs at Burujani and Telekhali Parishes within this year, 2023.



CoB Education Program



Independence day was observed

On March 26, 2023, Independence Day was observed with due respect at the St. Thomas Mission Primary School and St. Thomas Community School by the coordination of their teachers and students. The esteemed Moderator, Right Reverend Samuel Sunil Mankhin, was present along with Mrs. Monita Mankhin and Reverend Simson Mazumder, the parish priest.

and Madhupur areas. During this time, she discussed teaching, curriculum, various opportunities, and facilities in the schools, and provided guidance.

Workshop on the new curriculum was organized

A workshop on the new curriculum was organized for the junior schools on March 19 and 20, 2023. The workshop was held at St. Mary's Girls' High School in Haluaghat. Teachers from Katalmari Secondary School, Dhorati Junior High School, and Thanarbaid Junior School participated in the workshop.

Education Director of Synod and school supervisor visited

On March 21, 2023, Mrs. Monita Mankhin, the education Director of Synod, visited Telekhali Saint Paul's Mission School, Barujani St. Stephan Mission School, Panihata Saint Andrew's Mission School, and Katalmari St. Peter Mission School in the Haluaghat



CoB-Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi



The hospital has been actively conducting meetings of the Board Members, and the most recent one was held on March 24 and 25, 2023. During the meeting, reports, development activities, and plans of the hospital were discussed.

The hospital is playing an important role in creating public relations with the community and increasing awareness about disease prevention through primary healthcare. The hospital is currently preparing to open two mobile clinics in Nimghutu Parish and Naogaon Parish. Medical teams have been sent to the mobile clinic in Nimghutu on Wednesdays every month for testing, and many patients have started joining Mission Hospital from these areas. The hospital plans to start a mobile clinic in Naogaon from June 1st.

To enhance the quality of indoor and outdoor patient care, the hospital has connected with good doctors in Medicine, Orthopedics, Pediatrics, Dermatology, and Gynecology. Additionally, the hospital has purchased advanced technology

machines for treatment and general operations such as pathology machines, ultrasonogram machines, laparoscopy machines, new beds, and portable x-ray machines for the dental unit. The doctors' chambers have also been modernized.

The hospital has been developed from 20 beds to 100 beds with infrastructure and manpower development. Seven more cabins with tiles and AC have been added, and a pharmacy is being built along with an outdoor patient canteen next to it and an indoor patient canteen that has been opened. The OT has been converted into two with modern appliances. The hospital has removed all the old electric lines and power lines and installed two electric power lines capable of carrying the load with thick and good cable connections. Digital billboard has also been installed in the hospital for advertisements and publicity.

The hospital has provided medical concession and assistance worth 29 lakh Takas to poor patients, especially for the poor santal community, through the Malakar Memorial Fund in the last year.

There are currently 201 officers and employees working in the hospital, including consultant doctor and both the BOT and Committee members. Out of this workforce, there are 84 Christians, 92 Muslims, and 25 Hindus.

It is worth noting that a Christian doctor has recently joined as a Medical Officer from April 2023. Additionally, last year, the hospital provided direct medical care to 22,306 people.

One of the weaknesses of the hospital is that many patients need to be referred to other facilities in Dhaka due to a lack of ICU unit in Mission Hospital.

Assistant High Commissioner of India visited Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi (CMHR).

On 29th April 2023, Assistant High Commissioner of India Shri Manoj Kumar visited Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi (CMHR). During the visit, he said that the hospital and the nursing school in the campus have been doing great philanthropic work for the society and the humanity not only by giving medical treatment for free or at a highly economical rate but also by spreading a message of love, affection and harmony. Delighted to witness the well-equipped facilities including operation theaters, specialized wards and highly motivated doctors and nursing staff, the highly dedicated team of the nursing school of the hospital established in 1926. The hospital aspires to have a Cardiac surgeon and cardiac surgery facility.



The team CMHR highly appreciated the first ever visit of a representative from AHCI Rajshahi. Indian Diplomacy Ministry of External Affairs, Government of India in Bangladesh (High Commission of India, Dhaka) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Government of India.

CoB-Nursing Institute, Rajshahi

The Nursing Institute has been providing to the students training for Diploma in Nursing Science and Midwifery for 3 years course. After 3 years course completion they need to complete their 6 months Internship at Christian Mission Hospital. The Nursing Institute follow the Curriculum and syllabus from the Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council. NI students status: 44 students in 1st year, 52 students in 2nd year, 49 students in 3rd year and internship students was 40 . NI had a total 185 students. Currently 1st and 2nd year 96 students are present in hostel. Our 40 students who was completed their internship on 10th February and went home. These 40 students attended their Licentiate or comprehensive examination on 31th March under the Bangladesh Nursing and Midwifery Council. it was same date their result out and they all passed in successfully. Now they are waiting for form fill up for Registration Card. Our NI 3rd year 49 students has attended their year final examination on 13.03.2023 and ended 05.04.2023. Our 1st and 2nd year students internal test examination has been completed.



NI students and teachers celebrated and remembered International Women's Day and National event of Independence Day.

Sulota Drong,
Principal, Nursing Institute, Christian Mission Hospital, Rajshahi.

CoB-Bollobhpur Hospital

March and April, and the church's calendar take us through Lent and into the glorious celebration of Easter, And any visitor to Bollobhpur Hospital would find us all together in our hospital chapel each morning for a time of worship together before the day's work begins.

And the extra special element of our daily worship is that we are all there together, Christian, Hindu, Muslim, Buddhist, Animist, and not only there, but all singing together over & over again the beautiful Bengali hymns, until hymn books are no longer needed all have them off by heart.

We now have 8 languages in the hostel, and five faith backgrounds, and the Christian students come from various backgrounds, Roman Catholic, Lutheran, Baptist, the church of Bangladesh, etc. But all spend the three years of training together, surrounded by Christian worship, teaching and tradition, and occasionally a student is baptized and confirmed during her time with us here. For example, Tumpa Roy whose photograph is included.

We now have 90 girls in Nursing & Midwifery training, also 17 young men, and 2 girls in the laboratory training course.



Tumpa Roy, baptized and confirmed

Please keep them all in your prayer.

Sr. G M Rose
Director
Bollobhpur Hospital