



6th INSTALLATION Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga

BELIEVE
IN WHAT
YOU DO

DO WHAT
YOU
BELIEVE IN

THE ROTARY INTERNATIONAL THEME
1993-94

The Daily Star

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Buriganga in the Service to Humanity

by Rtn Atiqul Alam

Poor Mahfuza Khanam knew she was dying. Her heart-valve was damaged and she was counting her days by minutes. Gloom and despondency had long overshadowed her youthful charm. She needed an expensive and rare treatment if she were to survive. Her valve was to be replaced or repaired. But there was no way her middle class family could foot the bill. So this girl, a first year BSc student at Ishurdi college, had reconciled to the inexorable death, described by an English poet as the 'poor man's dearest friend' — the kindest and the best.

She would have been dead by now, but for the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga. The club adopted her as an appropriate case for community service and went all they way to see that she virtually triumphed over the jaws of death. It mobilised funds for her treatment and then arranged her surgery at the Bangladesh Institute of Cardio Vascular Disease. Professor Nabi Alam Khan, a surgeon of great repute, repaired her valve. Mahfuza is now back to her daily chore as a normal human being. She is planning to marry now to consummate her fuller life.

Mahfuza was not the solitary example of humanitarian help. Fired by a spirit of altruism, the club organised financial assistance and logistics for the treatment of two more girls. One of them, Rukhsana Parveen Mukti, had her valves replaced following two major time-consuming and expensive surgeries. The third girl, Lucky Akher, had a much more complicated ailment. The club arranged to take her to the Birla Heart Centre in Calcutta, where doctors said she was suffering from juvenile arteritis, a rare disease with a very a low rate of

survival. Her treatment had been successfully coordinated and, if all goes well, she may undergo surgery at the Birla some time in August.

Saving a life is worth millions of charity. It is a mission synonymous with the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga. This was the spirit which had propelled a group of 14 Rotarians into founding this club five years ago. At least eight of them were old Rotarians with rich experience in the four avenues of services of this great international organisation. Others were new but imbued with the ideals of Rotary.

There are now more than 2,000 Rotarians all over Bangladesh. But the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga represents a group of like-minded people drawn from various professions. Fellowship and an urge to help the suffering humanity have since been the hallmark of this club.

The club's journey had actually begun on 27 April, 1988, when this group first met to decide on how to bring it about. There was a bit of initial flexibility in fixing the name. It was first thought that Rotary Club of Dhaka Rajdhani should be the most appropriate one. It spawned some subsequent internal problems. So, the members decided to finally accept Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga as the name.

The Rotary International awarded the charter to the club on 27 June, 1988. Ever since, the Club has played its effective role in the District 3280. Today, with 40 members on its roll, it prides itself as one of the high-profile clubs in the country.

Rotary is known as the world's first service club. The first club, the Rotary Club of

Chicago, Illinois, came into being in 1905 with its founder, Paul Percy Harris, and three of his other friends as members.

Rotary today has flourished beyond all frontiers. It is now an organisation of more than 1.16 million business and professional men and women united worldwide. Its main task is to provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build good will and peace in the world. Rotary International is the association of more than 26,000 clubs worldwide.

The idea behind this voluntary pursuit is to bring the various nations closer through participation in Rotary's international humanitarian and exchange programmes. Through Youth Exchange, Rotary Foundation Ambassadorial Scholarships, Group Study Exchanges of professionals, and other programmes, thousands each year travel to other countries as ambassadors of goodwill under the auspices of Rotary International.

Rotary Clubs meet weekly to build friendships and discuss service goals. Membership is by invitation and is on the basis of one representative from each type of business, profession and institution to ensure a cross section of community leadership.

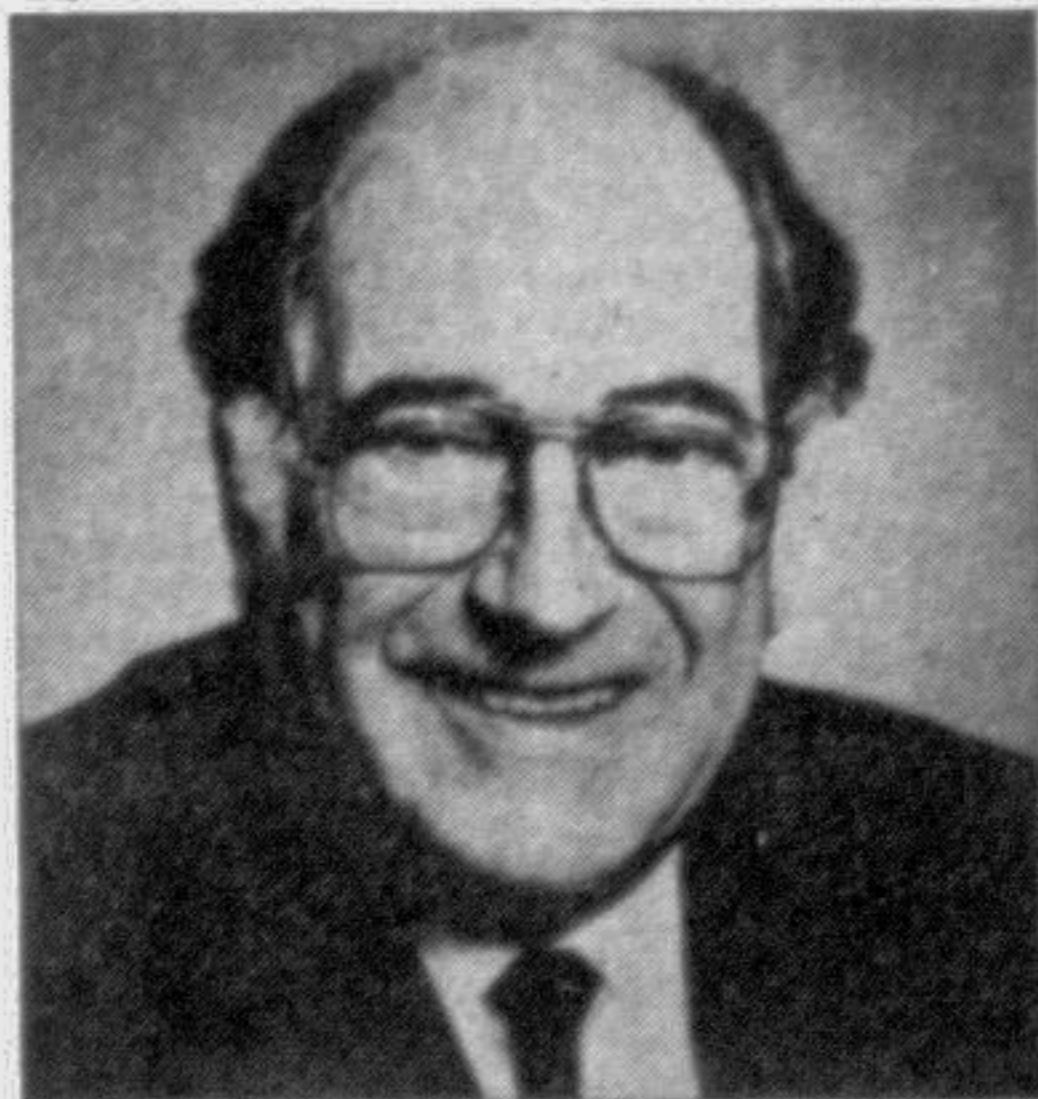
Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga's strong point is the community service and the cultivation of fellowship and international understanding and men and women of all shades and persuasion.

The Club donated Tk 100,000 to BIRDEM to help them set up a new Blood Transfusion Centre in Dhaka. Once established, it is expected to be a unique centre of its

kind. It also donated more than Tk 500,000 for constructing a primary school cum-cyclone relief centre in Sitakund in Chittagong. This centre would enable hundreds of people to take temporary shelter in it should they ever hear of severe cyclone or tidal wave about to hit their coast.

Another community service project of the club will emerge in the Angorputa-Dahagram enclave for the 12,500 people who have lived in that five sq km of area without much knowing their national identity. As it was a forbidden land for nearly 40 years, the area has no schools, medical centres, markets, post offices or police stations. The Dhaka Buriganga Rotarians have committed themselves to helping them in as many ways as possible. This is going to be the club's state-of-the-art community project.

The club has also made a laudable efforts to seek international fellowship. It won the first prize of the District for its contribution to the Rotary Foundation. It was the only club from Bangladesh to respond to a call by Rotary International President Cliff Dochterman to contribute to a special fund for the refugees of Bosnia-Herzegovina, the victims of a brutal attack by Serbs. Cliff has recognised the contribution through a personal letter of appreciation.



Message

To All The Club Officers, Committee Members, and Fellow Rotarians of the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga, Bangladesh

Dear Friends,

I appreciate this opportunity to extend to you my best wishes on the installation of your club's officers for 1993-94. The members and officers, both past and present, are crucial factors in making Rotary what it is today, and what it will be in the future.

Rotarians are volunteers who share a common belief in the high standards and ideals of Rotary. These ideals are so universal that they transcend culture, language, religion, and race. Rotary itself represents the simple idea of people sharing a common belief in what has to be done, and acting on that belief. BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU DO — DO WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN.

The Rotary wheel is an emblem whose meaning has been defined by four generations of Rotarians. It is now your turn. Define the needs, set your goals and work to achieve them for your community.

The best of luck to all of you in writing this new instalment of Rotary history.

Cordially,

Robert R Barth
President
Rotary International



বাণী

রোটারী ক্লাব অব ঢাকা বৃষ্টিপাশ নতুন রোটারী বছরের কর্মকর্তাদের অভিনন্দন জানিয়েছে। নিরঙ্করতা দূরীকরণ, বৃক্ষরোপণ, পরিবেশ উন্নয়ন এবং সেবামূলক অন্যান্য কর্মসূচী বাস্তবায়নে এই ক্লাবের তৎপরতা প্রশংসনীয়।

রোটারী একটি আন্তর্জাতিক সংগঠন। কাজেই শুধু দেশের ভেতরের কর্মসূচী নয়, আন্তর্জাতিক সৌহার্দ্য ও সম্প্রীতি বৃদ্ধি করতেও রোটারী ক্লাব যথেষ্ট অবদান রাখতে পারে। আমি আশা করি, রোটারী ক্লাব অব ঢাকা বৃষ্টিপাশ আগামী দিনগুলোতেও এর ঐতিহ্য বজায় রেখে সেবা ও কল্যাণমূলক কাজের পরিধি আরো বাড়াতে সক্ষম হবে এবং বিদেশেও বাংলাদেশের সমান বৃদ্ধি করতে পারবে।

আমি ক্লাবের কার্যনির্বাহী পরিষদের নতুন কর্মকর্তাদেরকে এবং সকল ক্লাব সদস্যকে আমার শুভেচ্ছা জানাই।

খালেদা জিয়া

প্রধানমন্ত্রী

গণপ্রজাতন্ত্রী বাংলাদেশ সরকার

Message

Dear Rtn President S M Al-Husainy, PHF,

I am glad to learn that you are publishing a souvenir marking the installation of the new office-bearers of the club for the year 1993-94.

I would like to convey my heartfelt felicitations to the incoming leadership and my profound appreciations to the outgoing Board and the distinguished members of your club.

R I President R Barth has called upon us to cultivate a congenial Club life culture and to promote balanced club achievements. The President has given a clarion call to the members of Rotary around the globe, "BELIEVE IN WHAT YOU DO — DO WHAT YOU BELIEVE IN."

As a worthy constituent of R I and the District, Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga under the dynamic and inspiring leadership of the new Board will, I trust, work untiringly to the fulfillment of this year's R I theme and add to the laurels of the Club.

May Allah bless and guide us all.
With kind regards and best wishes.

Yours-in-Rotary,

Rtn Magfur Uddin Ahamed, PHF

District Governor
RI District 3280



BOARD OF DIRECTORS-1993-94



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Dr Majeed Khan President Elect
Makris R Choudhury Vice-President
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ROTARY INTERNATIONAL

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1560 Sherman Avenue
Evanston, ID 60201-3698 USA

CLIFF DOCHTERMAN
President, 1992-93

Mr Atiqul Alam
President, The Rotary Club
Dhaka Buriganga, Bangladesh

Dear Atiqul,

Thank you so very much for your club's response to the refugees in Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina. The response by Rotarians such as you to this club-to-club action appeal for help is heartening and I appreciate your prompt action. You truly are demonstrating the meaning of our theme that "Real Happiness is Helping Others." Thousands of refugee children and their parents, orphans, and elderly people will be able to face the cold winter with hope rather than with fear and despair, because Rotarians are willing to help.

I am proud to be a Rotarian and proud of you. When Rotarians marshal their resources, whether through World community service or direct action in a club-to-club activity, they are really expressing their care and concern for improving and sustaining the lives of people who need help.

In closing, all I can say to you again is "Thank you" for joining in this project to help others who will soon learn that Rotary means service.

Sincerely,
Sd/ Clifford L. Dochterman
President

Help in Bosnia and Croatia

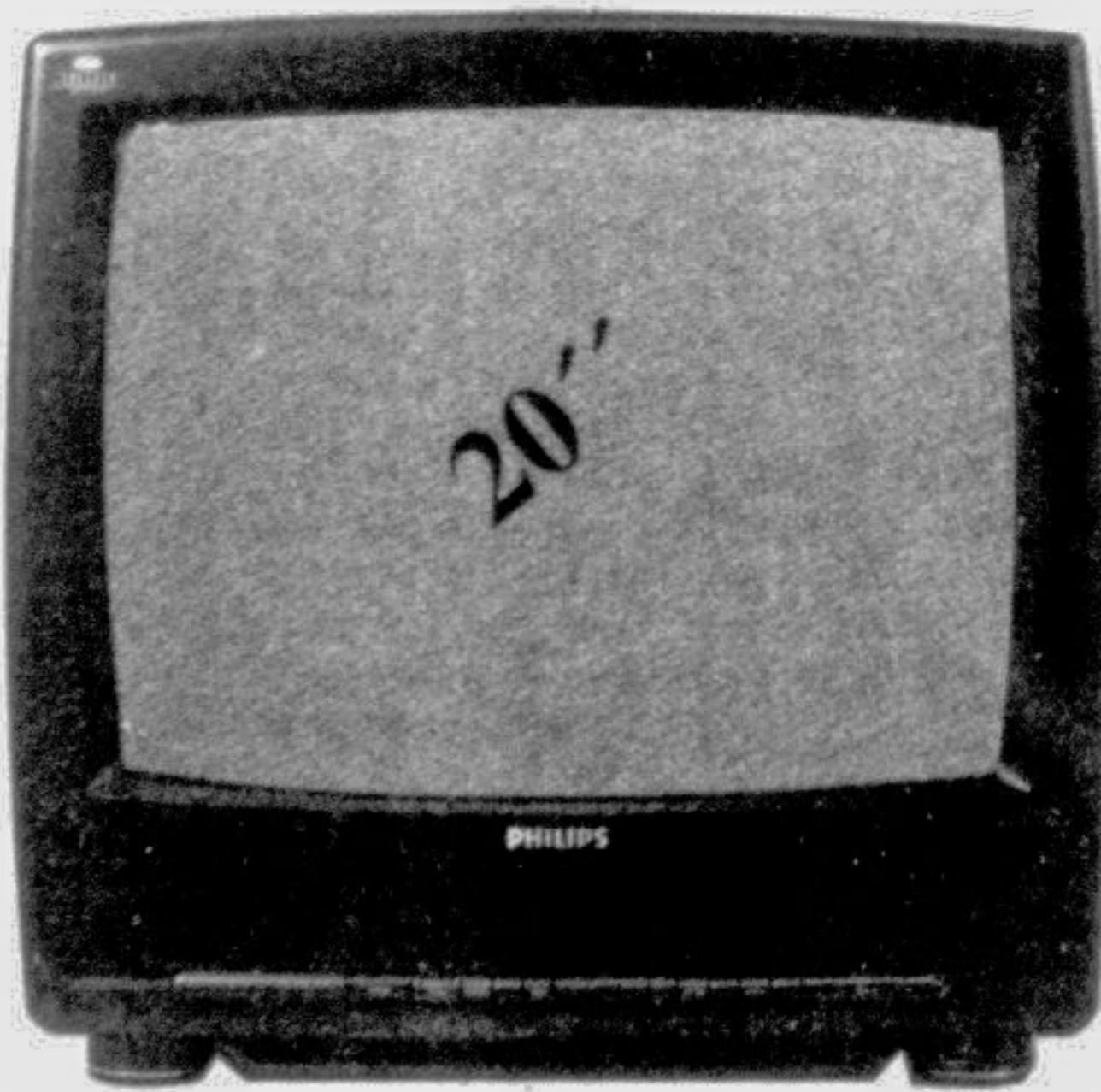
In response to a call for help for refugees in Bosnia and Croatia by RI President Clifford L. Dochterman in the January 1993 issue of "The Rotarian" the Rotary Club of Dhaka Buriganga has raised a donation of US \$ 2601.00 (US dollar two thousand six hundred one) only equivalent to BD Tk 101,439.00 (Tk hundred one thousand four hundred thirty nine) only. The above amount has been sent to the R I President through the R I Fiscal agent in Bangladesh.

Heart Patients Receive Help



From left to right: Mahfuza underwent open-heart surgery two years ago; Rukhsana Parveen Mukti also underwent open-heart surgery in May '93 and Lucky Akhtar awaiting operation for juvenile arteritis in Calcutta in Sep. '93.

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ফ্রেশ জেল

টুথপেস্ট আরও উন্নত ফর্মুলায়

● মেরিল ফ্রেশ জেল টুথপেস্ট দাঁতের ঘর্ষে একটি নির্ভরযোগ্য মাঝ। এতে রয়েছে সেরিফ্রাক্স মনোফ্লো ক্যালসিয়াম। দাঁতের ক্ষয় রোধে যা সারা দুনিয়ায় পরিচিত উপাদান।

● মেরিল ফ্রেশ জেল এ আপনি পাসেন্ট নু ধরনের টিউবগুলির সঠিক সমন্বয় করে সর্বোত্তম কলা দাঁতের এনামেলকে সুস্থ করে ও উজ্জ্বল রাখে।

● এছাড়াও অনেকটা দিনব্যবে সূক্ষ্ম ও তিনটি আকর্ষণীয় ডিজাইন এর টিউবে মেরিল ফ্রেশ জেল আপনাকে বিশেষ পছন্দেই বেছে নেবার সুযোগ।

প্রতিবেশীর কল্যাণে মানে উন্নত পরিচালনা সমন্বয়।
১০০ গ্রাম, কৃপা করে ২০-০০ টাকা।



ফ্রেশ জেল
টুথপেস্ট