



Paul P. Harris  
Founder of Rotary

# CONFERENCE OF SERVICE TO MANKIND

## 18th Annual DISTRICT CONFERENCE 2001-2002

### SERVICE ABOVE SELF: MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS

“SHOUHARDO-25”: 11-12 JANUARY 2002

ROTARY INTERNATIONAL DISTRICT 3280 BANGLADESH

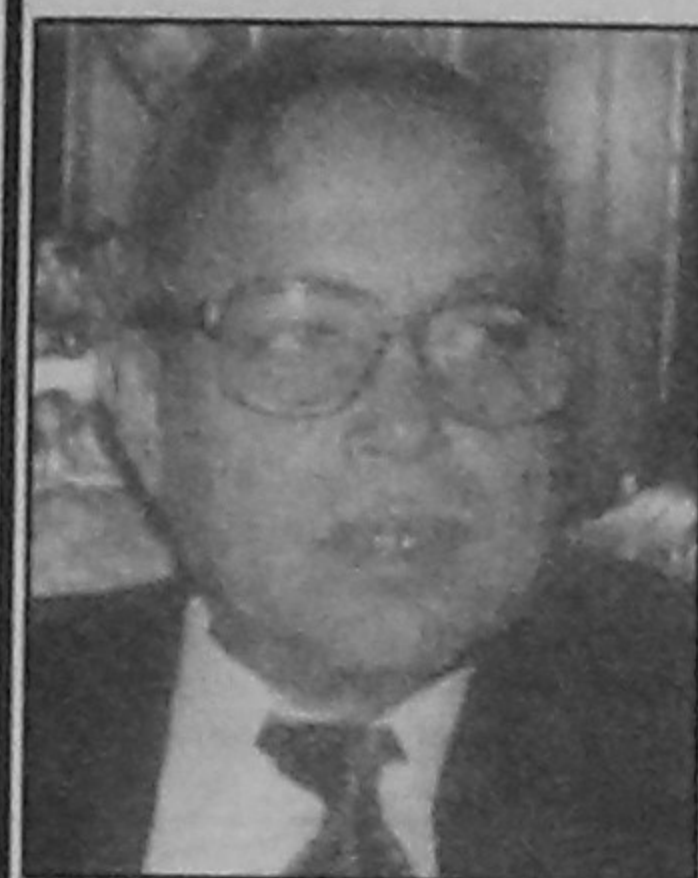


Message



PRESIDENT

People's Republic Of Bangladesh



Professor A.Q.M. Badruddoza Chowdhury

Bismillahir Rahmanir Rahim

I welcome the two-day Annual District Conference of Rotary International District-3280, Bangladesh at Chittagong.

Rotarians are committed to mitigate the sufferings of the distressed humanity. Rotary's effort in the eradication of the dreadful disease Polio has been appreciated by various UN agencies and the World. Its activities relating to primary health education, nutrition, cataract surgery and providing winter clothes to the Poor people are highly appreciated by all. Rotary in Bangladesh has provided nearly five hundred low cost shelters for the homeless people in addition to providing funds for diversified nature of humanitarian service projects. I appreciate such noble efforts of Rotary in Bangladesh.

I wish all success of the Conference.

Message

Rtn. RICHARD D. KING  
R.I. PRESIDENT 2001-2002



To all Rotarians and Guests attending the District 3280 Conference. Cherie and I send warm greetings and heartfelt good wishes to everyone attending this 2001-02 District Conference. We also take this opportunity to express our appreciation for the dedication and hard work of Governor Abdul Ahad and Rosy, who along with the conference committee, has put together a comprehensive program of Rotary information, fun and fellowship. This event provides a unique opportunity for you to learn more about Rotary and to share with friends new and old in gaining a deeper understanding of what it means to be a part of this organization. I urge you to take full advantage of all that this event has to offer. Unfortunately it is not possible for Cherie and me to visit all the conferences taking place this year, so I have invited an outstanding Rotarian to represent me at your conference. Please welcome Heather I. Yarker and her spouse, Ian as our personal representatives. I'm sure you will enjoy their company during your conference. I've asked Heather to share with you my special concerns, including the importance of increasing our membership and strengthening our clubs. We are at a critical time in Rotary's history and I am counting on each of you to help in demonstrating to people everywhere that for Rotary International in the 21st century--- **MANKIND IS OUR BUSINESS!**

Message

Rtn. PDG HEATHER I. YARKER  
R.I. President's Personal Representative



Ian and I send warm greetings to everyone attending this 2001-02 District Conference. We extend greetings on behalf Rotary International President Rick King and Cherie and also from District 9640 Australia. We wish to express our great appreciation for the dedication of Governor Abdul Ahad and Rosy, who, along with the conference committee, have put together a comprehensive program of Rotary information, fun and fellowship. You have a unique opportunity to make new friends and expand your Rotary Horizons through many shared experiences. I urge you to take full advantage of this exceptional event to meet with your fellow Rotarians in a spirit of fellowship and service. As our Rotary International theme is "Mankind is our Business" and your conference theme is "Service to Mankind". We look forward to sharing service aspirations with you as we come together in an atmosphere of goodwill, peace and friendship. We are particularly impressed with your outstanding achievements with the "Global Quest" and look forward to meeting many new Rotarians who have joined or formed new Clubs this year and who will be keen to further discover the opportunity of service which Rotary offers. We all need a challenge and Rotary Membership provides the challenge to serve mankind. Ian and I are enthusiastically looking forward to meeting and sharing with the many wonderful Rotarians and Partners of District 3280.

Message

Rtn. ABDUL AHAD  
DISTRICT GOVERNOR R.I. DISTRICT 3280



District Conference is the most important event for a Rotary International District. In Bangladesh this is going to be the 18th District Conference and the 3rd one being held in Chittagong. It is a fact that compared to Dhaka, facilities in Chittagong are limited and hence organizing such a huge function requires lot of management skill and organizing capability. Rotarians of Chittagong are therefore doing a splendid job to have accepted such a big challenge to host the District Conference and I compliment them

for this effort.

Rotary is a unique organization. Despite difference in creed, colour and culture, religion, age and personality there is a deep genuine and constant flow of warm fellowship in Rotary. District Conference of Rotary is one of such a platform and finest example of unity, sincerity and activity emerging out of diversity.

The most far reaching form of power is not command of great army or possession of nuclear war head-it is the command of an idea. Ninety six years ago at the dawn of the 20th century, four men met to pursue an idea. And from that idea formed that night on 23rd February 1905 Rotary was born and by now this organization of men and women has firm footing in nearly 200 nations and almost in nearly 30,000 communities around the world. They meet under the banner of a non-religious, non-political and non-governmental organization known as Rotary. Rotary has since then been spreading everywhere in this world and will continue to grow as long as leaves will turn green, as long as water will flow downhill and so long as sun will rise in the East and set in the West.

On being totally frustrated on the conflict of civilization and its survival, one great man Nobel prize winner in the name of Albert Schweitzer who ultimately became a Rotarian said, "And the first time I heard of a movement such as Rotary, it was a great consolation and I said to myself, now they are beginning to do what is necessary for the future". We are therefore proud to become Rotarians and can only claim ourselves to be successful when pointing at us others will say, they are Rotarians they can be trusted, they can do nothing wrong.

We are a major partner in the eradication of the dreadful disease Polio from the world by the year 2005. Kofi Annan, Secretary General of the United Nations said, "Rotary's Polio program is a shining example of the achievement made possible by cooperation between the United Nation and non-governmental organization". Mentioning on Rotary's contribution in the eradication of Polio, Dr Bruce Aylward, Coordinator of the World Health Organization said, "This tremendous initiative would never be where it is today without Rotary and most importantly, the ultimate success of this initiative will never be realized without the leadership, advocacy and energy of Rotarians everywhere"-we are proud for their faith in us.

Rotarians do not suffer from complacency. Rotarians always keep in mind that there is always great deal more to be done. I believe Rotary is necessary for the future and best days of Rotary lie ahead. This year-the next year-the beginning of a new millennium and a new century-will require the very best of the Rotarians. Rotary is of great value, it is worthy of the time that we spend, the best of means, energy, enthusiasm, commitment and the best of everything that we can give for the cause of Rotary.

Rotarians through their humanitarian service have to prove that they are a bunch of uncommon men and women who believe in Service above Self. Let this District Conference of "Service to Mankind" and let today, tomorrow and as we travel the Earth through the year to come and the rest of our lives, may we uncommon men and women known as Rotarians proclaim loudly and proudly and practice in our deeds and actions the truthfulness of the theme of the World President Richard D King given to us, "Mankind is our Business".

of tomorrow. Now what do we need most, so that we can feel successful as leaders? We are judged by the standards we show. We should never compromise on standards and regard excellence as an absolute, and strive to reach it. We must remember, more than anything else people want their leaders to be someone who they can use as an example. Once former US President Dwight D. Eisenhower said, "Leadership is the art of getting someone else to do something you want done because he wants to do it". Most of the leaders who have already made plans, dreamed dreams and worked out the goals, and objectives for the year to come. Whatever these plans and dreams may be, it is essential that we share them with the members of the club. We should also remember that we are serving with fellow volunteers. As volunteers they neither need nor expect contracts. But they do need covenants. A covenant just means they too have a joint commitment to the ideas and their value which we are putting forward. Our dreams must be their dreams, our plans must be their plans and goals and values they receive from us must be ones they can share and appreciate. In this way, the whole work of the club with the leader has meaning and fulfillment.

Because of the leadership, because of the standing among fellow members, because of their recognition of the leader as person of power and drive, a new life will come to the club's service. Here is the challenge of the leadership. The leader should accept it gladly. When the year begins, the leader should go forward and tread his/her own way. May the leaders have the joy in the journey on the new road of Rotary and not to be daunted by the task. They should lead well, lead bravely, lead in love.

The leaders should be true to their mission and find their destiny. Help is always at hand, and the leaders are never alone. They are to give their talent and time. Time has no alternative, and this can reach them to the greater heights of glory as a successful leader, a leader with a difference - a leader in Rotary.

### THE GIFT OF THE CENTURY

Rtn. PDG IFTEKHARUL ALAM



1. Rotary will create a new history when it achieves its goal of a polio-free world in 2005, the centennial year of Rotary. Gro Harlem Brundtland, WHO Chief and Carol Bellamy, Director, UNICEF issued the following statement in 2000 : "We are on the verge of an historic public health victory-the eradication of poliomyelitis, a disease which has caused untold suffering to millions of children in all parts of the world". Indeed, Rotary has given Rotarians and their partners an opportunity of a lifetime to eradicate polio from the world. Perhaps the biggest and the noblest gift the new century will receive from Rotary will be a polio-free world.

2. Polio is an infectious viral disease caused by poliovirus. The virus is spread from person to person, usually through close (fecal) contact, with more than 95% of cases occurring in children younger than five years of age. Transmission is most intense in densely populated areas with poor sanitation. In one in 200 cases, the virus kills the nerve cells that activate the muscles. The dead nerve cells can not be replaced and the result is usually lifelong paralysis or in some cases, death.

3. There are three types of polio virus. These viruses affect only humans. People infected with polio can experience fever, fatigue, headache, vomiting and constipation or diarrhea, stiffness in the neck, pain in the limbs and paralysis. Almost 90% of polio infections, however, produce no symptoms or symptoms so mild that they are not recognized.

4. Polio is one of the few diseases that can be eradicated. The virus can not survive outside human body and an effective vaccine is available. The Oral Polio Vaccine can protect a child for life. With repeated immunization of all children under the age of five, the wild poliovirus can be eradicated from the community and from the world.

5. In 1985, PolioPlus, a 20-year commitment to eradicate polio was launched by Rotary. PolioPlus is one of the most ambitious humanitarian undertakings ever made by a private entity. With the progress of polio eradication program, Rotary's involvement and commitment grew. By 1990, Rotary moved from providing polio vaccine to children in developing countries to assisting health care workers in the field, providing training for laboratory personnel to track the polio virus and working with Governments around the world in supporting the historic health drive.

6. In 1985, World Health Organization recognized Rotary as a non-governmental organization working in the field of international health. In the same year, Rotary set a goal to raise US\$ 120 million to provide oral polio vaccine to newborns in the developing world. When the campaign for funds ended, Rotary had doubled its goal by collecting more than US\$ 247 million. Rotary has spent more than US\$ 373 million for protection of about 2 billion children. By 2005, Rotary's financial involvement would surpass US\$ 500 million.

7. The World Health Organization estimates that US\$ 1 billion is needed in external aid in the years 1999-2005, considerably more than what was estimated when Rotary began its advocacy efforts in 1995. Rotary expects to meet over US\$ 100 million of this need through the PolioPlus program.

8. A new initiative-PolioPlus Partners - has been launched to inspire Rotarians in polio-free countries to assist immunization activities in polio-endemic countries. PolioPlus Partners have been providing items that preserve or help distribute oral polio vaccine, T-Shirts, caps, balloons, social mobilization materials i.e. billboards, and TV and radio broadcasts.

9. Once polio is eradicated, the world will save at least US\$ 1.5 billion annually in routine immunization costs alone. In the US, over US\$ 230 million a year will be saved once polio immunization is no longer necessary. In the European Union, it is estimated that US\$ 333 million will be saved on routine immunization costs once polio is eradicated. Since 1979, the US has been recouping its entire contribution to small pox eradication every 26 days.

10. Significant progress toward the goal of polio eradication

### Welcome to District Conference

RTN. PP M. AMINUZZAMAN BHUIYAN  
Conference Chairperson



Very rarely our district conference are held outside Dhaka due to lack of adequate facilities. We have had only three previous instances of having Conferences outside the Capital. This year, our District Governor Rtn. Abdul Ahad who believes in doing things with a little difference, has given me the honor of organising the most important event of the Rotary year 2001-2002 in Chittagong. I am proud to have been appointed to Chair the 18th Annual District Conference of R.I. District 3280, A Conference of Service to Mankind.

Chittagong does not have the affluence of the luxury of Dhaka but the Rotarians of all the Host Clubs in Chittagong will endeavour to make up these shortcomings by the warmth of their hearts and we sincerely hope that all Rotarian from home & abroad will enjoy the Conference and their stay in Chittagong.

It takes a tremendous amount of work by a great many people to plan and organise a conference of this magnitude. Nearly 1500 delegates from 101 clubs of the district is participating in the Conference. I am proud of the diverse program in the colors of Chittagong being offered this year to suit the interests of the Rotarians whose business is Service to Mankind through Rotary program and projects. Rotarians will have the opportunity to welcome and interact with R.I. President's Personal Representative PDG Heather Yarker. The deliberations of the distinguished speakers of the conference will not only enrich the knowledge, but also will help create awareness in the community and spread the word peace and peace through service across all national territories. Let us join hands together today to say that Rotarians, wherever we may be, are committed to peace, service, human concern and compassion. Let that resolution begin right from this great Conference of Service to Mankind and carry across all boundary.

Let Mankind Be Our Business

has been achieved in the South East Asia Region (SEAR). In 1997, the Region reported just 12% of the number of polio cases it had in 1988. Four countries in the region - Bhutan, Maldives, DPR Korea and Sri Lanka reported zero cases of polio in 1997. In Indonesia, immunization coverage reached 100% of 22 million children during National Immunization Days in 1997/1998.

11. In 1999 in Bangladesh, a total of 324 polio cases were detected clinically. However, wild polio virus was detected in 29 cases out of 324. In 2000, there has been detection of only one case. In 2001, no case of polio has been detected in Bangladesh. This has been possible due to excellent teamwork and harmonious cooperation among Government authorities, Bangladesh Rotary National PolioPlus Committee, WHO, UNICEF, USAID, Government of Japan, Centre for Disease Control, IOCH and numerous non-governmental agencies.

12. The strategy for eradication of polio in Bangladesh has been:

- Maintenance of high routine coverage among infants.
- Implementation of National Immunization Days
- Achievement of certification-standard Acute Flaccid Paralysis surveillance
- Child to child search

13. Bangladesh has implemented nine National Immunization Days. In the 9th NID, the coverage was 97.2% in the first round and 96.1% in the second round and 94.8% in both rounds (individual child vaccinated in both rounds). The 10th National Immunization Days will be observed on 27 January and 10 March, 2002. In the 1st round, Vitamin A capsules will be given to children over one year. The Government of Bangladesh is totally committed to eradication of polio. Rotarians in Bangladesh would play a key role in maintaining widespread communication through mass media and interpersonal communication. Polio eradication program in Bangladesh is on course. Rotary is nearing victory in the war against Polio.

### Leadership & Management in Rotary

RTN. PDG PROF. JALAL U. AHMAD



For all of us, there is a time now and then when an opportunity comes along. A chance for us to influence the course of events.

The Rotary Club Presidents, the Club Secretaries and other leaders have one of those chances. They take the responsibilities of the leadership in the club and the district. They are to guide and direct the affairs of the Club in a unique way. What a privilege this is, and what a challenge! What a glorious way to spend a year or life, serving to secure a place in the destiny of their Rotary club and making a mark on tapestry of the club's programs and history.

For one short year, the Club President will be the person - the Leader - the Guide and Counselor. So, what kind of a leader will he/she be? Will he/she be a Caesar, a Churchill or a Gandhi? Will the stars rise quickly, burn brightly, and then fade away forever at the end of the year?

Will he/she be a leader by force, or a leader by persuasion? A leader by example, or a leader by command? A leader by inclusion or a leader by love? Will he/she be a piper playing attune that compels others to follow?

When we look at history, we see that Julius Caesar was at the head of his legions crossing the Rubicon so that the die is cast. There was Sir Winston Churchill standing firm refusing to give in and inspiring by words of courage and determination. Mahatma Gandhi was leading and conquering by strength of purpose and love. We should now, look at ourselves.

Where do we fit in? Where do we begin? Each day gives us a new combination of chances. Not "If only". Not "Perhaps". But simply "Here it is".

Leadership in Rotary, differs quite considerably from leadership in a professional organization, or governmental organization. In an organization, be it a professional, business or governmental - the subordinates are paid to obey the superiors by way of chain of command and protocol. But, in Rotary, all are volunteers and leaders in their own arena. Therefore, utmost caution should be observed to deal with them. Any one of them could be at place of the leader. It is only a different year that one is placed with the same responsibilities that the other is having now. The leader is the first among the equals.

The past is not negotiable, and the future is a mystery. Where we are now, is the only reality. This is the point where we begin. We should use it with wisdom because it is an opportunity for progress. The leaders have to try to carry everyone upon its tide, and make the day his/her own. Victor Hugo once said, "He who every morning plans the transactions of the day and follows out that plan, carries a thread that will guide him through the labyrinth of the most busy life".

All great persons have one thing in common. They all have an absolute sense of mission. Their goals are clear and defined, and their eyes are fixed firmly on their destination. We must remember that if we don't know where we are going, we should not be surprised if we end up somewhere else. Therefore, we must build with vision and vigor on the rich heritage we have received. There is no road too long if we move ahead deliberately, and no honors too remote if we patiently prepare. The leader who inspires and motivates, his/her fellows yet transmits authority and confidence, does so only from the firm base of preparation and mission. As a leader, our task is to bring out the best in people by stimulating them to achieve what they thought was impossible.

A question may be asked to a leader. What is his/her vision of Rotary? Where does he/she fit in with the Rotary's progress. That becomes more evident with each passing year. Our destiny as the world's premier service organization is eventually to create a climate of peace. Peace of mind to those in need.

Today, we are merely at the threshold of our potential. We have stepped into the new century and also into the new millennium. The next few years will determine whether we become a major force in society. Whatever visions we have are part of this march to the future. We are also the leaders