



Celebrating Platinum Jubilee of Rotary in Bangladesh

Rotary International District - 3280, Bangladesh, Pan Pacific Sonargaon 8 June, 2013



PRIME MINISTER
GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
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4 June 2013

Message

I am happy to learn that Rotary International District 3280 Bangladesh is celebrating its Platinum Jubilee and organizing a Peace Seminar on 21 March 2013 to promote Rotary's theme for this year "Peace Through Service". I congratulate the Rotarians for their spirit of humanitarian service.

Rotary is a well known global organization dedicated to build peace through various services like poverty alleviation, health, education etc. Rotary's global polio eradication campaign is praiseworthy.

I welcome the Rotarians to take part with the government agencies in I wish the platinum peace seminar a grand success.

Joi Bangla, Joi Bangabandhu
May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Sheikh Hasina



Message from Chief Advisor RID-3280 IFTEKHARUL ALAM

In celebrating 75 years of Rotary in Bangladesh, we glorify Rotarians' selfless service to humanity. We have set a milestone by eradicating Polio in Bangladesh. We would continue our untiring efforts to meet the basic needs of people in need. We are justifiably proud of our achievements. Let Rotary soar to new heights. Wishing you all, all the best.

Iftekharul Alam, phf,b,md

Chief Advisor & Past District Governor-3280 Bangladesh



Message from TRF Trustee ASHOK MAHAJAN

Congratulations on the 75th anniversary of Rotary in Bangladesh

BELIEVE IN YOURSELF

A famous trapeze artist was instructing his students how to perform on the high trapeze bar. Finally, having given full explanations in this skill, he told them to demonstrate their ability.

One student, looking up at the insecure perch upon which he must perform, was suddenly filled with fear. He froze completely. He has a terrifying vision of himself falling to the ground. He couldn't move a muscle, so deep was his fright. "I can't do it!" he gasped.

The instructor put his arm around the boy's shoulder and said "Son, you can do it, and all you need to do is to throw your heart over the bar and your body will follow."

"Our belief at the beginning of a doubtful undertaking is the one thing that ensures the successful outcome of our venture" says William James. To transform a dream/goal into reality, we have to believe in ourselves and in our capacity to attain it. The presence of such strong faith in the heart intensifies the emotion towards the achievement of the same. The intense emotion then becomes the driving force that will propel us to surmount all obstacles, both the expected and the unexpected.

Living each day with faith in ourselves will bring many unexpected surprises on our way. It will enable us to turn problems into procedures, to recognize responsibility as opportunity and to see equal benefit in adversity. Therefore, believe that you are as an active volcano and give your best shot!

Ashok Mahajan
Director - Rotary International (2007-09)
Trustee - The Rotary Foundation (2009-13)



Message from RAJENDRA K. SABOO

Rotary came 75 years back to the city of Dhaka which is now the capital of the great country Bangladesh, also known as "Sonar Bangla". On this occasion, I send my warm greetings to the Rotarians of the country and congratulate them for not only sustaining the Rotary movement but also for the growth in multiple folds and truly making Rotary as domicile of the country and translating the Rotary's spirit of "Service Above Self" into action.

Starting with a small beginning, Bangladesh has witnessed Rotary's dynamic expansion both in terms of membership and participation in Rotary's programmes. Bangladesh was one of the first South-Asian countries to achieve Polio-free status. It is credited for innumerable service projects and also became significant contributor to The Rotary Foundation. It did not remain just a receiving country but also became a giving country. It even participated in reaching out to countries in Africa as part of the medical missions to provide treatment to the needy people there.

The theme for the year "Peace Through Service" given by Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka has a special meaning for the South Asia region which has seen great turmoil, violence and disturbances. In a situation like this Rotary has played an important part in extending service and through that making herculean effort to bring about peace. Thus, when the country is celebrating 75 years, this is truly an occasion to offer our salutation to the country, its people and particularly to the Rotarians. I have no doubt that the Rotarians of Bangladesh will celebrate this event and year by committing themselves to the richness of the world of tomorrow.

I wish the 75th anniversary celebrations a great success.

Rajendra K. Saboo
Past President (1991-92), Rotary International



Message from PRIP KALYAN BANERJEE

I am delighted to know Rotary in Bangladesh is Celebrating its 75th year. In the life of an institution as in the life of our individual this is a very special occasion when you celebrate the past and rejoice in the present. But there the similarity ends because in the instance of the Institution it is also time to prepare for the future.

Our founder Paul Harris had said many years ago. This is a changing world. And Rotary must change with it. And Rotary is indeed changing as the world today changes to a fast forward need. And despite all this, despite opening ourselves to new horizon old concerns remain. As the physical distance between people reduces, the distance between minds seem to grow bigger and more laden with obstacles.

Rotary therefore has much to do. And I do believe that in the coming decades, it still becomes one of most important Agents for Peace.

So my friends in Bangladesh, on this special day, Rotary Celebrate and Envision and secure the world of tomorrow.

Kalyan Banerjee
Past President, (2011-12), Rotary International



Rotary Bangladesh Celebrates its 75th year of service By District Governor Ishtiaque A Zaman, PhD, RID 3280

Introduction:

Bangladesh, as it stands today as an independent state, saw the light of Rotary with the formation of Rotary Club of Dhaka on 22 December 1937 during 1937-38 Rotary Year. In the backdrop of Rotary's ongoing journey of Building Peace- in its Second Century of service- Rotary Bangladesh marks its 75th Anniversary – a legacy of dedicated leadership, service and high ethical standard. The year is also marked as the last year of 'One Rotary District One Country- Bangladesh.'

The members of these Rotary Clubs in Bangladesh are varied and represent a cross- section of professions. Today, Bangladesh is proud to have over 197 clubs and around 6,000 Rotarians. Following the RI President's call for inducting new members into the world of Rotary, during the current Platinum Rotary year (2012-13) nineteen new clubs have been organized and chartered, a zonal record.

The area of Bangladesh was served by 31 District Governors at different times since 1955-56, and 6 incoming governors are ready to take over.

Rotary's work dignifies Humanity:

Rotary has etched its name as a pioneer in service delivery to the suffering humanity in Bangladesh. For example, the first bus passenger stand-with-shade was made by the Rotary Club of Dhaka in front of the National Press Club at Topkhana Road in 1952. Later, the Government picked up the concept and introduced this throughout the country. Likewise, schools for adult literacy, HIV/AIDS advocacy programmes, construction of low-cost shelters for the homeless, multi-purpose cyclone shelters, providing tube-wells and sanitary latrines, were all initiated by the many Rotary clubs and later picked up by the Government and other service clubs. The most noteworthy contribution was the establishment of a four-storied Rotary Cancer Unit. Rotary clubs organized several walkathons over a span of several years to raise funds for this initiative. The Cancer Unit, the first of its kind in Bangladesh, has since been handed over to the Government of Bangladesh. In addition, Rotary has set up centres to provide safe blood transfusion, free medical and dental care, eye camps for elimination of blindness, distribution of sleeping kits to the street children, heart camp with foreign and renowned national cardiac surgeons, etc. Through its untiring efforts, Rotary Clubs in Bangladesh emphasize community service activities that enhance the quality of life and human dignity.

The Rotary Foundation (TRF):

Bangladesh may be a developing country, but Rotarians here have shown their commitment in supporting The Rotary Foundation, Rotary's permanent fund, in a big way through their financial contributions as well as participating in the Foundation's many programs. During this Platinum (75th year of Rotary service) year, Rotary Bangladesh has created a new record in TRF contribution. It is currently over \$700,000 and is nearing the magical million dollar mark in a single year. This year, we have also inspired a record 50 new Major Donors, and for the first time in 75 years an Arch Klumph Society member in the person of Rtn. Sufi Mizanur Rahman who generously made a contribution of \$250,000.

Polio Initiative in Arch:

Rotary started its 'PolioPlus' initiative in Bangladesh in collaboration with Bangladesh Government and other GPEI partners - WHO, UNICEF and CDC. By 2000, the nation succeeded in eradicating the indigenous wild virus. For risk minimization, Rotary, in collaboration with the Government, continues to spearhead the National Immunization Days (NIDs). Till now twenty NIDs have been staged with several rounds in each phase. The Rotary clubs in the country remain active. Thousands of Rotarian volunteers participate in the NIDs, contributing men and materials in the campaign. In addition, local clubs and Rotarians make contributions amounting to millions of taka. To quote Ban Ki- Moon-

"When the last chapter on polio eradication is finally written, it will tell one of the most spectacular success stories in public health. It will describe one of the world's most remarkable partnerships. And it will highlight the Rotarians' personal service to humanity. I know Rotarians will go the distance. And I will be with you every step of the way." – Ban Ki- Moon, UN Secretary General

The Rotary Year 2012-13 is very significant, both for Rotary International and our district as well. Globally, Rotary International is in the final stage to 'End Polio Now' campaign. Hopefully "Lisbon Convention" in June 2013 will find shift in Rotary's focus- Launching of new plans and programs. In our country, we are celebrating a decade of polio free Bangladesh, thanks to the wonderful leadership of the Rotarians and of the Government of Bangladesh and the work of other Partners. End polio now is Rotary's signature project, and it has earned the respect of everyone around the world for the leadership that Rotarians have shown. It is a promise that we have made to the children of the world and we hope that we live up to that promise.



Hon'ble former President of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Late Mr Md. Zillur Rahman unveiling a commemorative stamp on Rotary on the inaugural day of 2012-13 Rotary year in recognition of Rotary's glorious service to the socio-economic development of Bangladesh for the past 75 years.

District Governor Ishtiaque Zaman, PhD
E-mail: ishtiaquezaman@gmail.com



Message from RI Director YASH PAL DAS

I am very glad to learn that Rotary in Bangladesh will be completing 75 years and that they will be celebrating to mark their Platinum Jubilee on 8th June 2013 by convening a Peace Seminar in Dhaka.

I compliment and congratulate District Governor Ishtiaque Zaman for taking up the initiative to celebrate this historical milestone in the history of District 3280 as from July 2013 the district will be bifurcated into two districts.

I know Rotary to be very strong in Bangladesh and they make their presence felt in all international events particularly the RI Conventions and the ones in South Asia. In the recently concluded South Asia Summit, the largest contingent from South Asia was that from Bangladesh!

I have had the opportunity to interact with several Rotary Senior Leaders from Bangladesh and find them bubbling with energy and enthusiasm.

I convey my greetings and good wishes to all the Rotarians of Bangladesh wish them a very joyous celebration in their 75th year and encourage them all to continue their effort of achieving world peace through their dedicated service to humanity.

Yash Pal Das
Director (2011-13), Rotary International



Message from JOHN HEWKO

To the Rotary Family in Bangladesh

Dear Fellow Rotarians and Friends:

It is my pleasure to congratulate you on the 75th anniversary of Rotary in Bangladesh. Seventy-five years ago, the charter members of that first club felt that Rotary's ideal of service to the community was worthy and credible, and for this reason they laid the foundation for a Rotary club in Bangladesh. As you begin writing the next chapter of your history, it is important to remember that it is through hands on service and active participation by each Rotarian in each club that our work continues to be meaningful and successful.

Service organizations like Rotary International play a vital role in today's society and will play an even more important role in the future. Two words will be key words – cooperation and continuity.

Rotary has set a standard on how cooperation and continuity can work among society, the private sector, other foundations and service organizations through its PolioPlus program. For more than 25 years, Rotary International has worked in cooperation with the United Nations, WHO, UNICEF, national governments and many other, including most recently the Gates Foundation, in this program and we are now looking forward to a giant success story.

All the fields in which Rotary is working are huge – health, hunger, literacy and water, just to mention a few. None of these issues can be solved over a short period of time. If that had been possible, the problems would already have been solved. This is why continuity is so important.

As you continue toward a century of service, let us together continue to show the world the great leadership of Rotary International through Service Above Self.

Sincerely,
John Hewko
General Secretary



Message from RI Director SHEKHAR MEHTA

Dear Governor Ishtiaque,

I am glad to learn that Rotary District 3280 is celebrating its 75 year of Service to the Mankind.

Congratulations on attaining this milestone! It is indeed a matter of pride and sense of fulfillment for your District, which has made a good image of Rotary in the field of voluntary services to the community and social commitment.

Rotary in Bangladesh has thrived really well. Not only has its membership grown but its service activities have been exemplary. The Rotarians in Bangladesh are very enthusiastic, sincere and committed to the cause of service. They are among the front runners as far as participation in international events is concerned. Over the years they have produced some exemplary leaders and now is the time to compliment each and everyone who has ensured to bring Rotary in Bangladesh at this stage.

My special compliments to Bangladesh for having been at the front of the corporate program of Rotary – that of eradicating polio. In the history of Mankind we have only eradicated one disease – Small Pox. With 99% success already achieved eradicating polio is not too far. The Rotarians in Bangladesh have played their special role in working hard with the government to ensure that Bangladesh is polio free now for quite some time.

This is indeed an extraordinary accomplishment and epitomizes the will, determination and lasting success of all Rotary Clubs in Bangladesh that has worked tirelessly towards serving mankind over the years and I hope you will keep serving the community for years to come.

With best wishes,
Yours truly,
Shekhar Mehta
Director (2011-13), Rotary International



Message from Committee CHAIR RTN PP F H ARIF

Congratulations!! Rotary in Bangladesh has been in an wonderful incessant march of service towards humanity for last long 75 years. We had been striving a lot to cater to humanity round the year--throughout the country.

Rotary taught us to join hands in fellowship--- a unique bond of 'Fellowship Through Service' --- 'Service Above Self'. Many remarkable service projects were implemented, along with producing good many good leaders in the society.

Rotary is our century old beloved unique global service movement --- a wide open universe --- to learn how to lead, to lead to promote everything around us --- round the clock --- throughout the world.

My best gratitude to all the people concerned in this historic events. We are very grateful to the honourable Chief Guest, Special Guest and the dignitaries from home and abroad present among us.

Rotary District has entrusted Rotary Clubs of Dhaka to organize events of Platinum Jubilee of Rotary in Bangladesh. In spite of our utmost efforts and sincerity, we had to shift the events time and again. We offer sincere apology for the inconvenience caused to all. Best gratitude to the District Governor, respected PDGs, DGE & DGNs Club Presidents of the Rotary Clubs in Dhaka, RCD members and all concerned.

Lets be in 'Peace Through Service' to 'Engage Rotary --- Change Lives'. Thanks with love.

Best Regards, Yours in Rotary
Rtn PP F H Arif, PHF
Lieutenant Governor and Chairman, Platinum Jubilee Committee



Message from SAKUJI TANAKA

75th Anniversary of Rotary in Bangladesh

Dear Friends:

I am pleased to send my best wishes to all Rotarians and friends of Rotary as you celebrate 75 years of Rotary in Bangladesh. Throughout these 75 years, the Rotarians of Bangladesh have seen and experienced many significant changes in the world, including the remarkable growth and development of our own Rotary organization. You have also had the opportunity to make your own important contributions to Rotary service and fellowship. I urge you to continue this involvement and dedication as you work to improve the quality of life in your community and around the world.

Peace is a major emphasis for Rotary in 2012-13. The theme I have chosen for this year is Peace Through Service. We hear the word, "peace" every day. But most of us spend very little time thinking about what peace is, and what that word means.

The truth is that "peace" means different things to different people. No definition is right or wrong. No matter how we use, or understand, the word, peace, Rotary can help us to achieve it. Rotary helps us, to meet the basic needs of others: to provide health care, sanitation, food, and education, when and where it is most needed. It helps to meet the inner needs, as well, for friendship, connection, and caring.

Rotary helps to build peace in its most traditional sense, by reducing the causes of conflict. It builds bridges of friendship among people and nations. It helps us to understand one another. That is what is being done here today.

Through our Rotary service, we know that cooperation is more productive than conflict. We learn to value each other. We know that every one of us has something to give and everyone has something to learn.

Thank you for demonstrating your commitment to building a more peaceful world through Rotary. I am confident that Bangladesh has benefited greatly from Rotary service over the last 75 years. I send you my congratulations on reaching this important milestone, and my best wishes for many more years of Peace Through Service.

Sincerely,
Sakuji Tanaka
2012-13 President, Rotary International



Message from RON D. BURTON

To the Rotarians of Bangladesh

Dear Fellow Rotarians

Congratulations on the 75th anniversary of the charter of the first Rotary Club in Bangladesh. I share your pride in reaching this significant milestone.

Just as every Rotarian is different, so too is every Rotary club and Rotary country. Each club discovers for itself how best to serve its community, and its members. Every club has the opportunity to strengthen its community. Your community has been given a great gift for the past 75 years. Bangladesh is a better place because of each one of you, as is our world.

Additionally, each of the 192 clubs in Bangladesh adds its unique character to the Rotary International family. This diversity is a part of Rotary's strength, and it is what will keep Rotary vital as we face a rapidly changing future.

I look forward to working with each one of you as we Engage Rotary—Change Lives.

Sincerely,
Ron D. Burton
President 2013-14, Rotary International



Message from RI President (N) GARY C K HUANG

Dear fellow Rotarians and Friends

Congratulations on the 75th anniversary of Rotary in Bangladesh

I send you warm greetings on behalf of all the world's Rotary clubs as you celebrate this milestone of fellowship and service. This year, as you commemorate this special anniversary, I ask you to celebrate your 75 years of service by continuing to work to improve the quality of life in your communities, your nation and across the globe.

Three-quarters of a century ago, someone dreamed of starting a Rotary club in Bangladesh. All the good that has been accomplished by the Rotarians of Bangladesh has evolved from that single dream -- a dream that has been enlarged and enriched over the past 75 years. I look forward to working with you in the future to build on that dream and expand the good that is done by Rotary in Bangladesh.

I appreciate the excellent work that is being done by District 3280 and the individual Rotarians and club throughout Bangladesh. Congratulations on your many successes and best wishes for many more years of service and fellowship in Rotary.

Best regards,
Gary C K Huang
President 2014-15, Rotary International



Message from Club President T I M Nurul Kabir

I am very happy to be a part of the platinum jubilee celebration of Rotary Club of Dhaka. It is my great honor that I am representing an organization that is 75 years old, and which has undertaken numerous acts of kindness and charity for the people of this country. Starting with a small beginning in 1937, Bangladesh has witnessed Rotary's dynamic expansion both in terms of membership and participation. Today, Bangladesh is proud to have over 197 clubs and around 6,000 Rotarians.

The theme for the year "Peace Through Service" given by Rotary International President Sakuji Tanaka has a special meaning for the South Asia region. Despite great turmoil, violence and disturbances, South Asian region has played an important part in extending service and bring about peace. So, this is not a co-incidence that Rotary International has chosen our Honorable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina for the Rotary Peace prize this year which is a very prestigious prize in the whole world. As a Rotarian, I feel much honored to see this.

We Rotary Club of Dhaka extremely delighted for calibrating Platinum Jubilee together with all the clubs of Dhaka Zone. This has expressed the solidarity of Friendship, Fellowship and Banding with an excellent team work. In this journey of 75 years of service to humanity through Rotary I would like to remember all the members of Rotary Club of Dhaka since 1937; every one of their contribution towards this journey to the service Above Self. On behalf of the Club I would like to Congratulate Past & Present Leaders and members of Rotary Club of Dhaka for their great service, leadership and bring this club as the most dynamic club of the Country.

I wish the platinum jubilee celebration a great success.

Rtn T I M Nurul Kabir PHF
President 2011-12, Rotary Club of Dhaka



DG Ishtiaque A Zaman, PhD



PDG Iftekharul Alam PHF, B, MD



PDG Habibullah Khan PHF



PDG Abdul Mannan PHF



PDG Mustafa Zaman Abbas PHF



PDG Prof. Jafar U Ahmed PHF, B, MD



PDG L K Siddiqi, PHF



PDG Nayyar Uddin Aramee PHF, B, MD



PDG Dr. M. Mosharraf Hossain PHF



PDG M. Ali Marub PHF, B, MD



PDG M. Jamaluddin PHF, B, MD



PDG Mohammed A Anwar PHF, B, MD



PDG Abdul Aftab PHF, B, MD



PDG K. M. Ziaul Abedin MPHF, B, MD



PDG Dr. Mir Anwarul Haque PHF, B, MD



PDG A.K.M. Shamsuddin PHF



PDG Salm Raza PHF, B, PHF, MD



PDG M. Anwarul Haque PHF, B, MD



PDG Rafiq Ahmed Siddiqui, PHF, B, MD



PDG Md. Hafizullah MPHF



PDG AKM Shamsul Huda PHF



PDG Dr. Moinul Hossain Chowdhury, PHF, MD



PDG A H M Zaker MPHF

