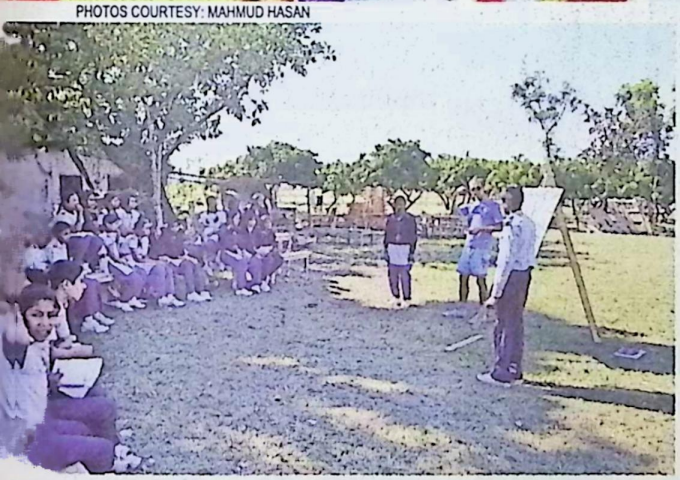


PHOTOS COURTESY: MAHMUD HASAN

Interactive learning sessions during the class.



Open air learning sessions.

cans in and around the school. Together they cleared the pond beside the school which was normally clogged by garbage. Besides participating in cleanup activities, the students also accompanied their teachers to the countryside and even to their homes where the latter got the taste of Bangladeshi hospitality.

Coordinated by Mahmud Hasan, the Team Bangladesh also spent a fruitful time in Child Development Centres. In these centres, Mahmud, Rene, John and Jonas interacted and taught some of the least privileged children of our country. These young activists brought a message to these children: Yes, we the youths are with you and we will help you with our maximum effort to ensure education, your very basic right.

These young activists have formulated a new definition of education to these students. Now the students don't get bored in the class. Rather they are lively and in each and every class they get the joy of discovering new things. Besides interacting with students, Team Bangladesh also holds sessions with the teachers of the school. They interacted with the teachers about the new ways of joyful learning and its effectiveness, and also about the alternative method of education where students are engaged in community activities besides their formal classes. In Amena Baki Residential Model School, teachers are now seen playing badminton with the students in the school playground while students are submitting their home tasks spontaneously and regularly.

Two and a half months of energetic and innovative initiative of Team Bangladesh has redefined education for the students to whom learning is now a matter of joy. The initiative is really exemplary and it defines volunteerism to its fullest sense. Mahmud's dream, Rene, John and Jonas' participation, Dr Amjad's guidance and AB foundation's support have made the programme a success and have been a catalyst in bringing about a positive change in our society. Following Mahmud's footsteps, if our youths can come forward with their fresh ideas and energy to bring about a positive change, who can stop us from having a bright future?

The writer can be contacted at shahnawaz.khan@thedailystar.net