

Rotary



YEAR LAUNCHING CEREMONY 2017

Rotary International District 3281, Bangladesh

1 July, 2017

BICC, Dhaka, Bangladesh



ROTARY:
MAKING A
DIFFERENCE



PRESIDENT
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH
BANGABHABAN, DHAKA

MESSAGE

I am delighted to know that the Year Launching Ceremony of the Rotary International District 3281 Bangladesh is going to be held on July 01, 2017. On the eve of the occasion, I extend my sincere thanks and felicitations to the members of Rotary International at home and abroad.

Rotary International, a philanthropic organization, has been playing a complementary role in the achievement of overall socio-economic development of the people particularly the have-nots sections of the society around the world since its inception. Today, I recall with deep reverence, the founder of Rotary Club Attorney Paul P. Harris who ignited the light of Rotary in 1905 in Chicago. Rotary members are engaging themselves through the Clubs to promote peace, prosperity and socio-economic development activities being inspired by the motto 'Service Above Self'.

When the better off section of society comes forward to contribute to the upliftment of the "not so fortunate" section of society, it contributes to the greater effort of nation building. It also imbibes the ideals of integrity and compassion for fellow human being. It is certainly commendable as people come forward with their time and money to do this voluntary service to their fellow countrymen.

I am happy to know that Rotary International has been a remarkable role in eradicating Polio from our country along with fighting against blindness and protecting environment. I hope Rotarians would extend their area of noble activities for the sake of human being imbued with spirit of patriotism.

I wish the Year Launching Ceremony 2017 all success.

Khoda Hafez. May Bangladesh Live Forever.

Md. Abdul Hamid
Md. Abdul Hamid



STATE MINISTER
Ministry of Social Welfare
Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

MESSAGE

It's always a happy matter to know that like many other organizations, Rotary International, the great global service network of qualified professionals and leaders are celebrating 80 years of service to community in Bangladesh since 1937. On this occasion of the Year Launching Ceremony on 1 July 2017.

I sincerely thank all the thousands of dedicated Rotarians of Bangladesh and felicitate the new District Governor F H Arif and his team of International district leaders, along with the Club Presidents of all the 204 Rotary Clubs with their board of directors and members for their new role in 2017-18.

Hope Rotary Year 2017-18 will be a vibrant year in contributing for the community to the suffering community and mankind. I am inspired to know the motto 'Service Above Self' and the global theme 'Rotary: Making A Difference' for 2017-18.

Indeed, real happiness is to make others happy. All the able and willing citizens of society must be committed for doing good to the society. A fast moving developing country like ours, must be able to put in use the available time, talent and treasure of the affluent portion of community, to achieve goals to appear as a developed on time.

Bangladesh is now the role model for development to many countries and our own volunteers around the country can accelerate the pace of development by their dedicated contribution. I wish all successes of the Year Launching program, which to be a get set for good run ahead by the Rotary leaders. May Allah help them in achieving their all dreams of good deeds for people needed support, around us.

Nuruzzaman Ahmed
Nuruzzaman Ahmed, MP



Rotary
DISTRICT GOVERNOR
MESSAGE

It's wonderful that Rotary International in Bangladesh has stepped in its ninth decade of service. Rotarians are the unique professionals who volunteer their time, talent and treasure for the development of their community. We had been trying our best to serve with skills and knowledge we have in various diversified fields.

Rotary International in last 112 years since 1905, could set up a mark in the world as a catalyst for peace and developments, while it was proactive in establishing UNESCO, got written charter for UNO by 49 Rotarians, helped in eradicating measles from the world, succeeded in almost eradicating polio from the world, sponsored thousands of ambassadorial peace scholarships, developing thousands of experienced volunteers across genuine fields, introduced the largest social trust of world ..TRF, developed excellent partnership with UNO bodies, tested world charities and GOs and NGOs of around 250 countries and regions.

Millions of Rotarians throughout the globe working round the clock with a motto of **Service Above Self**. Dozens of successful Rotary leaders had been recognised by Nobel and other global awards for unique contribution for community and mankind. While working in six vital areas of focus of peace and conflict resolution, water and sanitation, disease prevention and treatment, maternal and child health, basic education and literacy and economic and community development, members from all caste, creed, colours, gender, vocation do cater in a bond of **Fellowship Through Service**.

I congratulate and welcome all Rotarians, Rotaractors, Interactors, Rotary Let's, RCC and club members, partners in Rotary, organisations and individuals we work together for mankind... Goal of Goals. Let's all try together in 2017-18 to look in to reach out, strive together to serve best to see Rotary International' President Ian H S Riseley's call to prove **Rotary: Making A Difference**.

F H Arif
F H ARIF phf

80 YEARS OF ROTARY IN BANGLADESH 1937-2017

'SERVICE ABOVE SELF'

Rtn Khandker Badrul Hasan, PHF
President (2006-07)
Rotary Club of Dhaka

Background Historyb : Rotary in Bangladesh was introduced with the founding of Rotary Club of Dhaka in 1937 as the first Rotary Club, in the then East Bengal under the British Raj, now Bangladesh.

Dhaka, in the 1930s, was a burgeoning city of 120,000 people mostly living in and around the present 'old town' along the Buriganga river. A major city in the then East Bengal under the British Raj, Dhaka was growing in importance due to the rapid socio-economic and political changes. The economy was based on trading mostly jute, cotton, tea and spices based on riverine communication. The gentry comprised of officers of the Raj, educationists, professionals, businessmen and aristocrats who mixed well socially.

Against this background a group of 17 people with Mr H R Wilkinson, the Charter President, in the chair, met at a meeting held in the Imperial Bank of India Building opposite Victoria Park (now Bahadur Shah Park) on Wednesday, 22 December 1937, founding the Rotary Club of Dhaka. The Club, sponsored by Rotary Club of Calcutta, was chartered on 26 February, 1938 admitting it to Rotary International (RI) founded in the industrial city of Chicago of USA on February 23, 1905 by Paul Percival Harris, an attorney, and three of his business acquaintances' – GUSTAVUS LOHRE, SILVESTER SCHIELE AND HIRAM SHOREY. It is the largest international organization of volunteers serving the humanity.

Growth of Rotary in Bangladesh : Starting with 17 charter members in 1937, Rotary in Bangladesh has made phenomenal growth in the last 80 years. Rotary Clubs of Chittagong (1952-53), Narayanganj (1953-54), Khulna (1957-58), Mymensingh (1957-58), Dhaka North (1967-68) and Comilla (1968-69) were the first six Rotary Clubs sponsored by RC Dhaka, which pioneered the growth of over 325 Rotary Clubs, 324 Rotaract Clubs and 109 Interact Clubs in the two Rotary Districts – 3281 and 3282, with a membership of over 9,200 Rotarians, 6,700 Rotaractors and 900 Interactors serving the community.

Projects and Programs : Bangladesh Rotary in the last 80 years has executed thousands of projects and programs as Rotary was founded with an idea that businesses and professional people could join together in fellowship and service to the community, changing the lives of hundreds and thousands of people mainly from the underprivileged community. The major projects and programs of Bangladesh Rotary include the following-

- **Improvement of Dhaka Railway Station in Fulbaria:** It was the first Rotary project in the then East Bengal initiated in 1939 by RC Dhaka with the Assam-Bengal Railway.
- **Distribution of Relief during Bengal Famine:** RC Dhaka organised relief centres jointly with government for distribution of free food and fuel during the infamous Bengal famine in 1943-44. (Continued to next page)



Rotary
RRFC Zone 6B, 2017-18
MESSAGE

Dear DG F H Arif,
Congratulation from Bangkok !

I am excited by the opportunity to write down the message to all of you in the Year Launching Ceremony on 1 July 2017.

This is an incredible time to be a district leader in this wonderful year.

I congratulate DG F H Arif and his team who worked together for serving Humanity. Through teamwork and by being proactive in all that you do, you acted a great leader in your district, I hope that you are proud in your role in 2017-18 and you will be key person to support your district leaders in future.

Thank you, my friend, you made awareness in Rotary Serving Humanity for Rotary: Making A Difference in 2017-18.

Yours in Rotary,

Wichai Maneewacharakiet
RRFC Zone 6B, 2017-18



Rotary
Chair, Year Launching Ceremony 2017
MESSAGE

READY. SET. GO.

It's a New Year for all of us, the Rotarians around the world. The new year is a time to reflect on what has passed and to look ahead to the opportunities to come. The New Year is a time for setting new dreams and making resolutions to achieve them. But, for us, there is one 'single' resolution, that is to deliver what we are promising, **MAKING A DIFFERENCE**.

The RIP Ian H.S. Riseley believes that every single Club will make a difference this year through its own decisions, but teamwork on a global scale will take to move Rotary forward and secure its future.

He has challenged every Rotary club to make a difference by planting a tree for each of its members between the start of the Rotary year on 1 July and Earth Day on 22 April 2018. Trees remove carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases from the air, which slows global warming. He has a hope that the result of this effort will be far greater than the environmental benefit that those 1.2 million new trees will bring. This greater result will be a Rotary that recognizes our responsibility not only to the people on our planet, but to the planet itself.

I believe, in RID 3281, we all are taking this challenge as achievable through disciplined efforts and diligent works, as we did in past years and keep contributing in bringing glories to Rotary.

The way, we have started this year with some significant marks, had already been made by our new leader DG FH Arif, I strongly believe that we are making a new history this year.

Let's celebrate today hard, and get going towards that history.

PP Rubayet Hossain



SPEAKER
BANGLADESH PARLIAMENT

MESSAGE

I am delighted to know that Rotary International District 3281 Bangladesh is going to arrange Year Launching Ceremony of Rotary Year 2017-18 on 01 July 2017. I offer my warmest felicitation and best wishes to all Rotary leaders of Rotary International District 3281 Bangladesh on the eve of this auspicious event.

Rotary as I know, is a global network of 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders and problem solvers, who work together to make positive, lasting change in different communities across the globe. I am informed that, Rotary members have used their passion, energy and intelligence to take action on sustainable projects relating to literacy, peace, water and health.

Rotarians are always working hard for the betterment of our world. As we know, one of Rotary's most successful contribution to the world is a 'Polio Free World' initiative. Rotary has been contributing for the last 80 years of dedicated service with a membership of about 10,000 Rotarians through more than 300 clubs in Bangladesh. They responded to the need of the community in Bangladesh and achieved many milestones.

I wish the Year Launching Ceremony 2017, along with the new leadership for the year 2017-18, a grand success.

Shirin A. Chaudhury
Dr. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, MP



Rotary
RI PRESIDENT
MESSAGE

Dear DG F H Arif,

I congratulate you on your installation to the office of 2017-18 district governor.

I hope the upcoming year will be challenging, yet fulfilling. You and your team will collaborate to build strong, engaged clubs dedicated to strengthening communities. You will use your year of experience as a Rotarian and as a leader to provide inspiration, motivation, and guidance as we work together to achieve our goals for Rotary.

In Rotary, we are not afraid to confront some of the world's most critical and widespread humanitarian issues. When we vaccinate an infant against polio, teach a young adult how to read, or bring water to a village by building a well, we are creating a better world for future generations. We serve the global community, and we're just getting started.

It is honor to work beside you as we guide our fellow Rotarians to another successful year. I am relying on you to help bring Rotary: Making A Difference to reality in 2017-18.

Sincerely,

Ian H S Riseley
Ian H S Riseley

President, Rotary International 2017-18



Rotary
RI Director 2017-19
MESSAGE

Dear DG F H Arif,

Greetings to you.

I am very happy to note that District 3281 under the leadership of District Governor F H Arif is going to organize the Year Launching Ceremony on 1st July 2017.

I am happier to note that you are inviting the Honorable Speaker of Bangladesh Parliament as Chief Guest, that will enhance the Rotary's Public Image and will also encourage more participation from corporate leaders, Government Officials, NGO besides Rotary leaders from Clubs and District.

Dr Martin Luther King, Jr, once said, "Everyone can be great because everyone can serve. You don't have to have a college education to serve. You don't even have to make your subjects and verbs agree to serve. You only need a heart full of grace."

I am sure your efforts will carry your team with you to achieve the Rotary's Goals to serve the community. Let us show the world, Rotary: Making A Difference.

With kind regards,

C. Barker

Basker Chockalingam
Director 2017-19
Rotary International