



Moanoghar News Bulletin

(July - December 2017)

(Founders: Ven. Shaddamaditya Jnanasree Mahathero, Ven. Bimal Tissya Mahathero, Ven. Prajnananda Mahathero, Ven. Sraddha Lanker Mahathero)

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Recipients of Award Ceremony at Moanoghar

Moanoghar Annual Reception for Community Leaders

Moanoghar holds an annual reception ceremony to honour CHT community leaders to celebrate their contribution to society, particularly their service to poor children. This year Moanoghar chose seven such outstanding individuals:

1. **Nandit Roy**, former UN official and renowned social worker. (Unfortunately, he passed away on 24 March 2018. Moanoghar wishes him peace.)
2. **Dr. Bhagadatta Khisa**: first MBBS doctor from CHT and a writer
3. **Dr. Pradanendu Bikash Chakma**: currently serving as Vice Chancellor of Rangamati Technological University
4. **Mr. Nripati Bhushan Chakma**, retired government official
5. **Ven. Tilokananda Mahathero**: founder of Kassalong Children's Home and a renowned religious leader

All five served in the ad-hoc committee formed during a difficult time to run Moanoghar in late 2000. On this occasion, Moanoghar also paid homage to Rotarian **Ahmed Farooque** and **Prof. Haroon-ur Rashid**, former dean of the Independent University, Bangladesh for their association with and support of Moanoghar.

Prof. Mong Shanu Chowdhury, well-known educationalist, was the Chief Guest and Mr. Sukumar Dewan, President of Moanoghar Executive Committee, presided over the event.

Inauguration of the New Dormitory Building in the Girls' Sections

The new dormitory in the girls' section – Bishakha Bhavan – was inaugurated on 17 October 2017 amid much fanfare. The building was constructed with donations from COMGEST, France, Mr. Emil Wolter and colleagues. Mr. Jan Peter DOLF and Mr. Emil Wolter inaugurated the building which will accommodate 90 girls and will improve their studies as the other hostels are so crowded. It is also to be noted that COMGEST and Mr. Wolter have expressed their commitment to constructing upper floors to the building.

Following the inauguration, there was a lively cultural function, performed by the children of Moanoghar. *(see on the first page too).*



Inauguration of the Girls' hostel



Cultural performance by the children

Coordination meeting of Rangamati NGOs held at Moanoghar

A coordination of the NGOs working in Rangamatiupazilla was held at Moanoghar on 24 July 2017. It was organized at the initiative of the office of the Upazilla Nirbahi Officer (UNO) of Rangamatiupazilla. All the NGOs active in Rangamatiupazilla attended the meeting.

Ashok Kumar Chakma, Executive Director, Moanoghar, made a presentation of the activities of Moanoghar to all the participants. Ms. Sumani Akhtar, UNO, Rangamati, was the Chief Guest and after the meeting, visited the Moanoghar campus. She also met with some children and saw some of the activities of Moanoghar.

Moanoghar School included in the Government's Secondary Education Quality Access Enhancement Program (SEQAEP)

Moanoghar Residential School has been included in the government's SEQAEP, implemented by the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education. The project aims at improving teaching standards in participating schools by providing training to the teachers and extra-curricular activities, including reading, to the students.

Students from classes VI to X are included in the project. Moanoghar School has already received reading materials and books from the Education Ministry as part of the project.

NGO Coordination meeting at Moanoghar



Construction of the new Girls' Hostel



Miscellaneous News

- A general knowledge competition of classes VI to X was held on 26 September 2017 at Moanoghar School. The students were divided in two groups; Group A for classes VI to VIII and B from classes IX and X. The winners will receive their awards at the school's Annual Prize Giving Ceremony.
- A drawing competition was organized on 15 August 2017 on the occasion of National Mourning Day commemorating the brutal assassination of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibar Rahman, father of Bangladesh. The winners will receive their prizes at the Annual Prize Giving Ceremony of the school.
- The results of the Primary School Certificate (PSC) and Junior School Certificate (JSC) were announced on 31 December 2017. In total 83 students attended the PSC examinations from Moanoghar School; 47 boys and 36 girls; 79 students passed which amounts to a success rate of 93.34 %.
In the JSC exam, 257 students took part; 138 boys and 119 girls; 210 students passed and 47 failed which amounts to success rate of 82 %.
- The district administration of Rangamati distributed 1,500 liters of bottled drinking water to the students of Moanoghar on 19 November 2017. The donation was made following the devastating landslide in June 2017 when Moanoghar campus area suffered terrible losses with several deaths.
- The Bangladesh Girl Guides' Association camp was held in Chittagong on 18 December 2017. Four girls from Moanoghar School participated under the guidance of Ms. Nishan Chakma, assistant teacher. The students received first prize for (1) discipline, (2) dance and (3) making of gazette and wallpaper.
- Moanoghar Pali College students, under the Bangladesh Sanskrit and Pali Education Board, took the Pali and Buddhism examination in December 2017. In total 186 students participated from Addya, Madhya and Upadhi grades.
- Renowned women activist Ms. Kamla Vasin visited Moanoghar on 18 December 2017 and gave a talk to the students.
- Moanoghar gratefully acknowledges the support for the construction of Shanti Bhavan (Residence of Peace) by Buddhist Global Relief. The new building will accommodate 120 children. Moanoghar also acknowledges the continued support of AJHA, France; Peoples des Collines, France and as well as COMGEST for their continued helps.
- Moanoghar is planning to start the Moanoghar Technical School, renamed as "Moanoghar Institute of Technology" from January 2019. Small batches of training on a number trades will start in late 2018.

Profiles of Children at Moanoghar

Riya Chakma comes from Baradam village of Dighinala upazilla. She was born in 1997 to Mr. Bulton Chakma and Ms. Jeni Chakma. Her father died from an undiagnosed disease in 2008 when Riya was in class five.

Following his father's death, Riya's mother was left without any help from her extended family as all are equally poor. At that point, Moanoghar received both her and her daughter, Riya, who took admission in Moanoghar School in class V.

Riya proved herself a brilliant student and regularly received distinction in examinations. She passed SSC in 2014 and HSC in 2016 from University Women Federation College in Dhaka.

She is currently studying Public Health at the Asian University for Women in Chittagong for which she has been offered a full scholarship based on her academic and extra-curricular distinctions.



Riya Chakma



Dweo Tui Mro

Dweo Tui Mro was born in 2000 in Sing Chong village in Bandarban. He is the second son of Mr. Kaichit Mro and Mrs. Mendi Mro. His parents are landless jhum cultivators and daily wage labourers. Due to poverty, his sister could not continue her studies and she was married off to a local boy. Dweo Tui was given admission in 2012 to class V. He has proved to be a very diligent student.

His parents are too poor to support Dweo Tui's schooling and so Moanoghar came forward to help him. He passed the Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination in 2017 and is currently, studying in Rangamati Government College at the Higher Secondary (HSC) level.

Dweo Tui is a lively and vivacious boy and likes sports very much; his favourites are football and cricket. He aims to pursue higher studies in university and after that, he'd like to work for the development of the Mro people.



Examination at Moanoghar Pali College



Construction of Bishakha Bhavan (Girls' section)

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