

Moanoghar Kamala Devi Chakma Memorial Scholarship



MOANOGHAR

Rgd No. Ranga-18(871)/80 (9/12/1980)

NGO Affairs Bureau Reg: 1673 (14/04/2001)

Founder: Shaddharmaditya Ven. Jnanasree Mahathera

Rangapani, Rangamati, P.O.Box 4500. Bangladesh

About the Scholarship

The Scholarship is set up by Mr. Triratan Chakma, son of late Kamala Devi Chakma, in whose memory this scholarship is named. The initial endowment vested to Moanoghar by Mr. Chakma for the scholarship, will be kept in the fixed deposit account in a scheduled bank in Bangladesh and the interests will be disbursed for a poor and meritorious student from the CHT indigenous communities for tertiary level studies.

Mr. Triratan Chakma spent more than a decade as Resident Engineer at Moanoghar and the experience has given him keen awareness about the state of affairs on education and socio-economic conditions of the current CHT society. This is out of this realization that on the occasion of the 1st death anniversary of his mother, he proposed to set up the scholarship which was strongly supported by those present in the ceremony. This included his personal friend and a long-time benefactor of Moanoghar, Dr. Parash Khisa. Indeed, the amount for the endowment is made from savings for the anniversary ceremony.

About Kamala Devi Chakma and family

Ms. Kamal Devi Chakma was born on 10 August 1915 in Jhagarabill village near Rangamati town. The original village is currently submerged under Kaptai Lake and following the erection of the Kaptai dam, the family migrated to Baghaichari.



Ms. Kamala Devi Chakma with son Triratan Chakma and his family

Ms. Chakma received no formal schooling in her youth as there was no school nearby her village. As was custom in her time, she married Mr. Bangu Chakma at young age and had 5 children, 3 sons and 2 daughters.

Ms. Chakma was a keen religious person till the end of her life. However her religious devotions were deeply rooted in the humanist traditions of the Buddhism. She always helped the poor and young people in particular within her means, and always encouraged the young people to take education. She passed away on 26 December 2018 in Jhagarabill village of Baghaichari upazila.

Triratan Chakma, endower of this scholarship, is the youngest son of Ms. Chakma. He passed SSC in 1978 from Rupali High School, Baghaichari and subsequently, obtained Diploma in Civil Engineering from Kaptai Swedish Polytechnic Institute in 1988. He has long association with Moanoghar as mention at the beginning. He currently runs a private business in Rangamati as entrepreneur.

He is married with Ms. Dipali Chakma and together, they have 2 sons and a daughter. The family lives in the Rangapani area in the vicinity of Moanoghar.

Administration of the Scholarship

The scholarship will be managed under the current 'Higher Education Loan Programme' (HELP) of Moanoghar and the overall terms and conditions of the HELP will be applicable to the recipient of the scholarship. As per the conditions, the recipient of the scholarship will be obliged to refund to Moanoghar the amount s/he received after entering into income generating employment upon completion of his/her studies. Thereafter funded amount will be used for future candidates for their tertiary level studies. The selection of the candidate will be carried out through a competitive process as laid down in Moanoghar's HELP Policy (*available at www.moanoghar.org*).

About Moanoghar Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP)

Moanoghar launched a Higher Education Programme in mid-1980s to provide students with stipends/scholarships to pursue tertiary level studies in universities or technical institutes. The initiative was a success with an estimated 400 students having completed their education under the scheme. All of these recipients are now professionally established both at home and abroad and currently lead the alumnae association "The Moanogharians".

The initiative was stopped in late 1990s when Moanoghar passed through a critical period with severe financial crisis. It was resumed from 2011, albeit with a revised name: HELP. The programme is run with contributions from the Moanogharians, various well-wishers from the CHT Diaspora. But, the most important is a number of scholarships, set up by endowments from generous individuals such this scholarship, that pay for the education of a meritorious student.

The HELP, so far, has proved to be a very effective initiative. Currently, 120 students are studying with HELP's support and more than 80 have completed their studies and are engaged various professional career. All of them are members of the Moanogharians and contribute to HELP and other Moanoghar activities.

Further details on HELP are provided on the Moanoghar HELP Policy.
