



OBATHELPERS

Empowerment through community development

ASPIRE

A Quarterly OBAT Helpers Publication

January 2016

In This Issue

[President and COO visit the camps!](#)

[Mobile Dental Clinic conducts check ups](#)

[JSC candidates plow ahead](#)

[OBAT Media Productions](#)

[What's been happening at OBAT](#)

[About OBAT](#)

[OBAT gets registered in Bangladesh](#)

[Global hand washing day observed](#)

[Diabetes awareness camp](#)

[Camps benefit from Dr. Baig's visit](#)

[Another valued partnership](#)

[JSC candidates don't waste time](#)

[Chittagong teachers hone life skills](#)

[Can you be our matchmaker?](#)

[Shop at Amazon and help OBAT](#)

[How can YOU Help?](#)

President and COO visit the camps!

OBAT gets registered in Bangladesh

We are happy to report that OBAT is now registered in Bangladesh with the NGO (non governmental organization) bureau. This will make it easy for OBAT's operations in Bangladesh to receive funding from anywhere in the world.

Global Hand washing day



Think Tank members who executed the project

October 15th is designated as global hand washing day to promote awareness of the benefits of hand washing with soap. The day was observed throughout all the OBAT educational projects across Bangladesh by demonstrating to the children the proper way to wash their hands in order to stay healthy and germ free. We are so proud of the young crew that comprises our Think Tank for also spending a day in the CRO camp, creating awareness of proper hand washing to stay healthy.

Watch a student at Haliaher School learning to wash her hands properly: <http://bit.ly/1USCUGG>

Diabetes awareness camp at Rangpur



2nd from right: Immad Ahmed, OBAT's COO

OBAT's COO, Immad Ahmed spent the month of November visiting all of OBAT's projects. During his visit, he instituted new processes that would improve impact measurement and standardize reporting all across the cities where OBAT's projects are located. He will be returning to Bangladesh in January to continue his work and training of the staff.

Mr. Anwar Khan, OBAT's president's three week trip starting in December, involved meetings, trainings, project evaluations and much more. His visit is best described in his own words.

[Please click here to read about his trip.](#)



Mr. Anwar Khan, with a student at Rangpur School

Mobile Dental Clinic



A doctor checks the sugar level of a camp resident

OBAT's Health clinic in Rangpur observed the International Diabetes Day on November 4th. A discussion about diabetes took place in a meeting of the clinic's doctors with the camp residents. Residents were also checked for the disease by the doctors.

Camps benefit from Dr. Ayesha Baig's visit



Dr. Baig with the Chittagong School Students

Learned visitors are always a boon for the camp residents. They bring an outsider's vision and insight to their problems. Dr. Baig who visited the camps in November from Canada was one such visitor. She visited most of OBAT's projects in Syedpur, Rangpur and Chittagong. Her visit was focused on observing the health clinic practices and cataract program's operations as well as touring the Diabetic hospital which is our partner for cataract surgeries. She has submitted a report to OBAT based on her observations and has made some recommendations for future course of actions in the light of these observations.

Another valued partnership



A student's teeth get examined

With the partnership of Rangpur Community Medical College, a mobile dental clinic visited the Rangpur School students on November 16th. As a part of the program, 127 students were registered and checked for dental issues. In some cases, the mobile dental clinic referred them to Rangpur Community Medical College Hospital for further diagnosis and treatment. We are very thankful to the RS Foundation and HCI for supporting this project.

JSC students plowing ahead



JSC candidates from the BLS High School

A total of 224 students from OBAT's 7 tutoring centers and 2 high schools took the J.S.C (Junior School Certificate) exam. This is a public exam in Bangladesh required to be taken by all grade eight students to progress to the next grade.

OBAT Media Productions!



Muslim Aid staff with a BLS teacher

Muslim Aid, a local NGO has extended a hand of partnership to OBAT. It has recently set up a hospital in the BLS School area and provided a health card to all the school teacher who along with their family members can use this facility by paying a nominal fee of forty Takas per doctor visit. Some medicines and pathology tests can also be done by them for free. Muslim Aid has earlier worked with the BLS students on Global Handwashing Day and has also distributed oral hygiene products amongst the students.

JSC candidates don't believe in wasting time!



Students learning to embroider

A pilot program was introduced for JSC (Junior School Certificate) exam students who finished taking their exams in November. To make their time after the exams productive, the students were taught hand embroidery for two months. The instruction and training materials was provided by OBAT. If this program is met with success, a similar program will be initiated for the SSC and HSC exam candidates as well.

Chittagong teachers hone life skills





Snippets from the OBAT media training

A three hour long training was held by Immad Ahmed, OBAT's COO, on the fundamentals of Media Production, Photography, Video Production and Story boarding for the youth in Geneva camp.

The youth were taught ethical principles of journalism and how to develop and produce a production, based on their own stories. The training marks the creation of OBAT Media Productions whose goal is to create a team, that can create and produce content on a regular basis, not only for OBAT, but also for themselves as a possible source of income.

What's been happening at OBAT?



Mr. Anwar Khan (middle) flanked by OBAT Ambassadors of St.Louis

Ambassadors of St. Louis annual meeting: Thank you to the OBAT Ambassadors of St. Louis for organizing a fundraiser for the SB Nagar School on December 6th. SB Nagar is the largest of the eight schools run by OBAT in terms of student strength. We are grateful for their continued support of this initiative. A special note of gratitude to Dr. Helal Ekramuddin and Dr. Azfar Malik for organizing this event.

Board meeting: On December 13th, OBAT held its second board meeting of 2015. During this meeting, four new members were added to the board: Ms. Brette Smith, Mr. Mohammad Masum. Mr. Cyrus Suleman and Dr. Shahid Mansoor.

The Bangladesh Center for Communication Program (BCCP) invited OBAT's Chittagong School teachers for training on children's rights and protection. A total of twenty NGO's participated on this training that focused on topics such as child abuse and other issues related to children and how to address them using skills such as creative thinking, problem solving and interpersonal skills.

Can you be our matchmaker?

Do you work for any of these great companies?
Boeing | British Petroleum | CarMax | ExxonMobil | Gap | General Electric | Johnson & Johnson | Microsoft | Soros Management Fund | State Street Corporation

The above companies are all top matching gifts companies (not a complete list). You can double your donation to us when your employers match your donation. Check with your employer if they have a matching gift program and double your impact!

Shop at Amazon

OBAT is a part of Amazon Smile. You can combine shopping and giving when you shop at Amazon. Amazon will make a donation to OBAT Helpers if you designate it as the charity of your choice. <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-0946122>

How can YOU Help?

[Buy our book, "Forgotten," to support our projects](#)

[Watch and share our new documentary](#)

[Review us here to show your support](#)

Volunteer

Intern

Spread the word

[Donate!](#)

We are excited to work with the new board members and extend a very warm welcome to them.

About OBAT

OBAT Helpers is a U.S. based non-profit, 501(c)3 organization committed to providing aid, support, education and economical empowerment to suffering and displaced people. Our immediate focus is the forgotten and ignored Urdu speaking community, commonly known as stranded Pakistanis/Biharis, who have been suffering silently in the many shanty camps across Bangladesh for the past 43 years. OBAT was formed ten years ago to empower the camp residents through its various projects related to health, education and micro finance.

We hope that you will continue your generous support and create hope for these unfortunate and forgotten people. Together, we are making a difference in their lives as we help them fulfill their hopes and dreams.

Please share this message with your friends and families and invite them to join us on this journey!

We value and appreciate your support tremendously. For questions and concerns, please email us at contact@obathelpers.org

Spread the word
&
[Donate!](#)

Connect with Us

[Find us on Facebook](#)

[Follow us on Twitter](#)

[Visit our website](#)

[Find us on YouTube](#)

[Connect on LinkedIn](#)

[Follow us on Pinterest](#)