



# Diversified Educational Foundation

## A New Way to Education for Orphans and Poor

Tax ID 501(c)(3): 26-1265335

P.O. Box 1453, Novi, MI 48376, USA

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**Volume 2**  
**Issue 1**  
**Ramadan 2013**

### Students Performances

The criterion of cognitive development of the students is multi-faceted and immeasurable in the reality of the scheme. Still we try to measure the students' academic progress by their grades.

In that respect, we would like to state that our strategy is working. Eleven of our students appeared in standardized examinations conducted by Board of Education in Grades 5 and 8. All of our students received A grades and among them, three were placed in the highest category of achievement, the Golden A.



**Students at our facility in Sirajganj, Bangladesh**

### Our Vision

A comprehensive approach to educating the orphans and poor children in order to help them break from the cycle of poverty and illiteracy. We will provide them with opportunities for either education or vocational training so they are able to reclaim their human dignity and become productive members of the global society.

The negative effect of young children experiencing poverty and deprivation from basic human conditions can be seen everywhere in our society. We are dedicated to providing the unwanted with a stable, nurturing, and enriching environment in order to help create a better future for them.

### Students Body

The total number of students under our care is currently forty five. They have made great strides not only academically, but recreationally as well. The students participate in various sports at the school, engaging in friendship, sportsmanship, and physical activity. Their academic progress is something we would like to share with you.

### Our Facility

A land has been purchased for the foundation to provide accommodation and extra curriculum activities.

### Schools

Govt. B.L. High 6  
Govt. Multilateral High 12  
Shawarati Primary 9  
Dhanbandi Primary 22

### Grades

9 <sup>th</sup>	1
8 <sup>th</sup>	3
7 <sup>th</sup>	3
6 <sup>th</sup>	9
5 <sup>th</sup>	7
1 <sup>st</sup> – 4 <sup>th</sup>	22



### Did Not Give Up on Jamal

Jamal is about fifteen years old and a student of the 5th grade. He is lagging in academic progression that corresponds with his age because of his late start. Like many other poor children, his education was left to chance and in all probability he would have grown up as an illiterate as his parents.

Then he came to us. But his struggle was far from over. Attending lower grades with much younger classmates was not easy for him. Sometimes he would skip classes and would openly express his dislike for the class room. With all that said he is not disengaged boy; In fact, he is too engaged and full of restive energy. If there is something that needs to be done he is the first to volunteer. One day, the tube well broke and mechanics were called to fix it. Due to the tardiness of the mechanics, Jamal took the initiative to glean tools from

the neighbors and attempt fixing it on his own. He actively wants to do things but doesn't realize that he isn't ready for them yet.

So we thought hard to figure out to how to harness his youthful energy and channel it in the right direction. After exhausting all means of persuasion we came up with a plan to find an apprenticeship position for him to train him as a mechanic in an Engineering workshop. At that point something happened inside him. Jamal finally realized that our concern for this future wellbeing is real and he decided not let us down.

Jamal is going to school again and showing all the sign of a serious student. We did not give up on Jamal.



*Tutor Time*

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## Teachers

We have one full-time teacher and mentor who always stays with the students, and two part-time teachers who instruct them in math, science and English.

## Library and Computer Lab

A library with computer lab facility is under developed. Any sponsored will be welcome to provide modern education for less fortunate students.

## A Common Thread to Binds Them All

All the boys under our care have many things in common: they are poor, they were not immunized, they never saw a doctor, and pangs of hunger are not that few and far between in their young lives. So it was not a big surprise to find that none of the boys' mothers could read or write, except one. This mother worked for a famous NGO and under their auspices, she learned the rudimentary skill of writing her name while collecting her remunerations for her service to that NGO.

So why has a mother who is earning money through a job at the NGO sent her child to us? The boy divulged the answer in the most mechanical way and without any emotion in his voice: "My new step father does not want me around."



## Achievements

Several competition awards were received for essay, inter-mural sport, and gazal. It is pretty excited to see successes for those less fortunate kids.

## Annual Picnic / Field Trip

Annual picnic trip has been arranged so that they can see historical places and enjoy outside time like normal kids.

In 2013, they visited Natore Rajbari (also known as Natore Palace, built by Rani Bhawani during 1716-1795, second capital). In 2012, a field trip was arranged for Mahastan Gar in Bogra, one of the earliest urban archaeological sites so far discovered in Bangladesh.



*Group photo in front of an ancient archaeological site, Mahastan Gar - 2012*

## Sports Activities

Some snapshot of the student's sport related activities.



## Work Together to Solve Problems



*With teachers at prestigious B.L. School*

All 45 of our students can tell us stories about their young lives which would become a newspaper fodder in the hands of reputed columnists. DEF would like to see them tell their own stories one day by becoming journalist, or teachers, or whatever their destiny leads them to. The possibilities for these youngsters are endless if they are given opportunities to pursue their dreams.



### Our Garment Industry Connection

The state of the affairs of the garments factories in Bangladesh is known more than anyone would like to know. It is also true that those desperate souls who die and struggle have no better alternatives. For many illiterate women, earning a wage with a job they can do and can do efficiently is a real break from their otherwise impossibly cruel situations, especially if they have young children. Their mobility is restricted regarding where they can go and what they can do.

About five widowed or divorced mothers had started working in the garments industries after they found a place like ours to take care of their children. DEF have mixed feelings about this and hope and pray that these mothers are safe and having their children in our custody would give them some dignity in their lives.

#### Sponsor an Event or Occasion

Anyone can sponsor any special occasion like Eid celebrations, clothes, medicals, books, library, extra-curriculum activities, picnic, etc.

#### Sponsor a Child

Anyone can sponsor a child for a year with **\$520**. No overhead expenses.

## Pledge Form

Name

Amount

Phone

E-mail

Address

Tax ID 501(c)(3): 26-1265335. Please donate your Zakat/Sadaquah/Charity

Mail to: P.O. Box 1453, Novi, MI 48376 Phone: 248.476.8695. Please make your check payable to: Diversified Educational Foundation

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## The Genesis of Poverty and Desperation

“My father, Sir, was born in debt, grew up in debt and died in debt. I have inherited my father’s debt and my son will inherit mine.” - A peasant in British Colonial period.

This quote illustrates a picture of desperation in British colonized rural Bengal. No doubt that the situation has improved in many ways, however according to the UN report, a third of the rural and slam populace still live under the poverty line.

The Bengal province of India where modern day Bangladesh has been carved out was an active participant in globalization since time immemorial. In the Mughal time Bengal became the bread basket for India and other Indian Ocean polities. Textile industry flourished and the New World silver flowed in to Bengal in exchange of its fine textiles. The Mughals did not like Bengal and its people but they did everything to make it flourish so they could tax its prosperity. Also, during the Mughal period, Eastern Bengal peasants became overwhelmingly Muslim.

In the middle of eighteenth century, on the eve of East India Company takeover Bengal was one of the three most prosperous industrialized places on the earth. However, since the East India Company conquered the area the process of globalization was not kind to the residents of the Bengal Delta. Armed with the blue print of the Enclosure Movement, the East India Company became land owners and land revenue collectors of Bengal. And collecting they did. A devastating famine killed a third of the population of Bengal in 1770 (Bengali year 1176). All the peasants became landless laborers. The land ownerships went to absentee Zaminders who lived in Calcutta and were super-efficient in collecting taxes from the poor cultivators though the middlemen and private militia. And then there were also the money lenders who greased the gears of the rural economy by lending



Money at usurious rates. The textile industries were gone when India became the captive market for the British Industrial Revolution. The historical quote at the beginning should be understood with this background in mind. In India, the Indo Aryan Caste System was rooted in the division of labor. When the Aryans from Central Asia settled in Ganges Valley, they wanted to perpetuate their dominance over the indigenous Indians. Their brilliance was in establishing a strict division of labor whose legacy is still felt in modern India, even among Muslims. The Turk and Afghan Muslim warriors who came later to India did not change much. They themselves became a class of their own and called themselves Ashrafs.

In present day Bangladesh and in other part of Indian Subcontinent, poor, illiterate segments of the population are still struggling to overcome that age old legacy. This segment of the poor, illiterate Bangladeshis is the ones who are risking their lives in those garment factories and other hazardous professions created at the peripheries of modern day globalization. The only option out there is to provide education to the children of those illiterate masses so they have a chance to change their lives for the better in a globalized labor market. Until that happens, these hazardous working conditions will keep massacring the illiterate, landless men and women.

**Please help us to break this cycle of poverty, illiteracy and desperation for these forty five and future students. We cannot do it without your help.**

**Please Donate Your Zakat / Sadaquah / Charity**

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