Rongdhonu

Club ID No: 72098
Organised: 03 January 2006
Chartered: 22 February 2006

UNITE FOR GOOD 2025 - 2026

Rotary Club of Baridhara

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28 September 2025



Basic Education & Literacy Month

Rotary
Club of Baridhara



জাতীয় সংগীত

আমার সোনার বাংলা, আমি তোমায় ভালোবাসি।
চিরদিন তোমার আকাশ, তোমার বাতাস, আমার প্রাণে
বাজায় বাঁশি॥
ও মা, ফাগুনে তোর আমের বনে ঘ্রাণে পাগল করে,
মরি হায়, হায় রে–
ও মা, অঘ্রানে তোর ভরা ক্ষেতে আমি কী দেখেছি
মধুর হাসি॥
কী শোভা, কী ছায়া গো, কী স্নেহ, কী মায়া গো–
কী আঁচল বিছায়েছ বটের মূলে, নদীর কূলে কূলে।
মা, তোর মুখের বাণী আমার কানে লাগে সুধার মতো,
মরি হায়, হায় রে–
মা, তোর বদনখানি মলিন হলে, ও মা, আমি
নয়নজলে ভাসি॥

Rotary Invocation

We, the Rotarians are dedicated to the ideal of service to maintain a high ethical standard in our business and profession and to dignify our vocation by enhancing international understanding, goodwill and peace through people united in the ideal of service

Rotary Club of Baridhara, D-64, Bangladesh
Club ID No. : 72098
Chartered on : 22 February 2006
Website : www.rotaryclubbaridhara.org

Vision Statement

Together, we see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change-across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

Mission Statement

We provide service to others, promote integrity, and advance world understanding, goodwill, and peace through our fellowship of business, professional, and community leaders.

The Four-Way Test

Of the things we think, say or do

1) Is it the TRUTH?
2) Is it FAIR to all concerned?
3) Will it build GOODWILL and BETTER FRIENDSHIPS?
4) Will it be BENEFICIAL to all concerned?

Rotary Motto

1) Service Above Self
2) One Profits Most Who Serves Best Service Above Self is the principal motto of Rotary.

"Literacy is a bridge from misery to hope." – Kofi Annan

Editorial Note

Dear Rotarians,

Assalamu Alaikum.



September marks Basic Education and Literacy Month, a time when Rotarians worldwide reaffirm their commitment to one of Rotary's most transformative causes: empowering communities through education.
At the Rotary Club of Baridhara, we believe that literacy is more than the ability to read and write, it's the foundation for dignity, opportunity, and sustainable development. In Bangladesh and beyond, millions of children and adults still lack access to quality education. Rotary's global initiatives aim to change that by supporting teacher training, building schools, providing learning materials, and promoting adult literacy programs.
This month, we celebrate the progress made and renew our pledge to do more. Whether it's sponsoring a child's education, organizing book drives, or mentoring young learners, every Rotarian has a role to play in lighting the path to knowledge.
Let us continue to be champions of change, because when we teach one, we uplift many.

With best regards,

Rtn. Aleya Ferdous Diptee
Editor, Rongdhonu
Rotary Club of Baridhara

Meeting Minutes

Minutes of the Fortnightly Regular Club Meeting of
Rotary Club of Baridhara (RCB)
Meeting No: 690
Date: 07 September 2025 | Time: 6:30 PM | Venue: The Westin Hotel, Dhaka
(Draft for approval)

1. The meeting was called to order by Club President Rtn. Meherun Nessa Islam at 6:30 pm.
2. The Rotary Invocation was read by Rtn. Dr. Kazi Nawshad Hossain.
3. Rtn. Aleya Ferdous announced the birthday greetings for Rtn. Md. Yusuf and the marriage anniversary of Rtn. Md. Mahmudur Rahman and Ms. Shahnaz Rahman.
4. Club Secretary Rtn. PP Ambassador Mosud Mannan ndc MPHF B requested Rotarians present to read and confirm the minutes of the last regular meeting held on August 24, 2025, held at the Westin. The minutes were approved by the proposal made by Rtn. PP Dicon seconded by IPP Rtn. Javed Kareem.

5. Mr. Wahid introduced the guest speaker, Dr. Ranjan de Silva of Sri Lanka after he was called to the dais by Club President. Dr. Silva holds a PhD in Organizational Change from Holt and an MBA from the University of Sri Lanka Jawaharlal Nehru. He is the author of two books, "Mind Programming for Sales Success" and "Better Way to Sell Sales". In his Rotary career, he served as President and Chartered Member of the Rotary Club of Colombo Reconnections.

6. Dr. Ranjan de Silva in his speech focused on "Purposeful Leadership and Rotary Leadership". He explained that purpose is not a goal but a bigger reason for being, like a mango tree producing mangoes or a honeybee pollinating. He defined purposefulness as finding one's place in the world to add value and make it a better place. He shared his personal story of being a workaholic until he realized something was missing after he attended a workshop called "Mastery of Self". He suggested a self-assessment to determine a purposeful life by asking three questions: 1) Are you enjoying what you are doing? 2) Is it based on decent human values? 3) Are you contributing to making the world a better place? Dr. Silva stated that a leader's challenge is to create an environment where people enjoy coming to work and feel engaged. He also argued that in the long run, autocratic leadership is not effective, and good leaders create other leaders, not followers.

7. Finally, Dr. Silva recited a poem titled "Anyway" associated with Mother Teresa, which encourages people to continue being kind, happy, and honest despite possibilities of receiving negative reactions from others.

8. Rtn. PP Saiful Huq gave the vote of thanks to the guest speaker and provided a brief summary of the club's recent projects for club members and visitors. He mentioned about the global project worth of $79,000 to supply a kidney treatment machine to the children's hospital in Dhaka and RCB's signature projects like cataract surgeries annually carried out in Tangail and micro-financing for physically challenged people of Dinajpur.

9. An announcement was made by Rtn. PP Ali Ashfaq about a new project to provide 16 limbs to disabled individuals, funded jointly by an overseas club and RCB. Club President Rtn. Meherun Nessa Islam and Rtn. PP Ashfaq had already pledged Taka One lac each. Special request was made to all other members of RCB to contribute Tk.100,000 more to raise the total amount to Tk. Three lac which is required to match the foreign contribution.

10. The Club Meeting's statistics were announced by Club Secretary -
    - Total Member - 49
    - Members present - 19
    - Members absent - 30
    - Make up by Member - nil
    - Guests present - 2
    - Percentage of attendance - 38.78

11. The next meeting will be held on September 28 at 6:30 p.m. at the same venue.

12. The meeting concluded with a cake-cutting ceremony for celebrating birthday and wedding anniversaries of Club members where the guests were invited to join. A Crest and two special gifts were also presented to the Guest Speaker Dr. Ranjan de Silva. Club Banners of RC Baridhara and RC Colombo Reconnections were also exchanged.



Founder - Rotary International

Rtn. Paul Percy Harris
(1868-1947)

Paul Percy Harris (1868-1947) was an American attorney who founded Rotary International.

He established the first Rotary Club in Chicago in 1905 with the aim of fostering fellowship and mutual helpfulness among business and professional men. He envisioned a club where members could form meaningful connections and engage in service to their communities.

Founding of Rotary:

Inspired by the friendly relationships his lawyer friend had with local shopkeepers, Harris conceived the idea of a club that

could recapture that sense of community among business professionals.

On February 23, 1905, he met with three other businessmen – Gustavus Loehr, Silvester Schiele, and Hiram Shorey – to form the first Rotary Club.

The club was named "Rotary" because they initially met in rotation at each member's place of business.

Harris served as the third president of the Chicago Rotary Club and later as President Emeritus.

Rotary's Growth and Legacy:

Under Harris's leadership, Rotary grew from a single club in Chicago to an international organization.

He played a key role in shaping Rotary's core values, including fellowship, integrity, diversity, service, and leadership.

His belief in "Service Above Self" became Rotary's motto, emphasizing the commitment to humanitarian work and positive impact.

The Paul Harris Fellow recognition, established in his honor, celebrates individuals who contribute significantly to The Rotary Foundation.

Harris's vision of a global network of service-oriented professionals continues to inspire Rotarians worldwide.

He passed away on January 27, 1947, in Chicago.

Club Secretary's Column

Rotary's role in education in Bangladesh



Secretary 2025-26
Rtn. PP Mosud Mannan MPHF B

Rotary clubs play an active role in promoting education in Bangladesh through various initiatives aimed at improving literacy, supporting schools, and empowering students. Their efforts are particularly focused on basic education and literacy, recognizing its importance for development and poverty reduction.

Key areas of involvement -

1. Supporting schools: Local clubs provide aid to educational institutions by providing educational materials, repairing infrastructure, and offering support to students. For example, after flooding, the Rotary Club of Eco Dhaka distributed educational materials to students whose studies had been affected.
2. Promoting literacy: A core focus for Rotary is basic education and literacy. In Bangladesh, clubs work to improve reading and writing skills in communities, recognizing that this is key to unlocking opportunities and combating poverty.
3. Girl's education: Rotary clubs actively work to reduce gender disparity in education. They have initiatives designed to empower girls by supporting their education, which contributes to a more just and developed society.
4. Youth development: Rotary operates Rotaract clubs for young adults and Interact clubs for younger students. These organizations foster leadership, professional development, and community engagement through service activities.
5. Vocational and skills training: Rotary International and local clubs facilitate skills transfer and vocational training programs. In Bangladesh, this has included initiatives to provide cancer care training to medical professionals and apprentices.
6. Empowering communities through education: Rotary believes that strengthening a community's capacity to support education is crucial for long-term development. Their projects are designed to create sustainable solutions that leave a lasting positive impact.
7. Collaboration with other organizations: To maximize its impact, Rotary collaborates with other aid and development partners. For example, it worked with the Red Crescent Society of Bangladesh on education and other projects in coastal areas.

Rotary Education Fund

Rotary education fund refers to the educational support programs provided by Rotary International and its local clubs, through financial aid, mentorship, and leadership training. Rotary also offers global scholarship programs, like the Rotary Foundation Global Scholarship Grants, to fund students' studies in Master's degree programs in peace and development, and other specialized fellowships for areas like peace.

Specific Examples of Rotary Education Funds:

A. Rotary Education Award (REA): This program focuses on nurturing high-potential youths from 15-19 years old in low-income families, providing multi-year support including financial assistance, mentorship, leadership training, and values education.
B. Rotary Foundation Global Scholarship Grants: These global scholarships, available through Mastersportal, support Master's level studies for students interested in peace and development issues.
C. Rotary Peace Fellowships: Rotary International offers fellowships for Master's degree programs focused on peace and development, which include field study and research opportunities.
D. Global Reach: Rotary's global scholarships are available for studies in a vast network of countries, providing opportunities for students worldwide to pursue advanced degrees.
E. Focus on Impact: The overarching goal is to make a positive difference in young lives, empowering individuals to improve their futures and contribute to society.

Rotary

WHO IS A ROTARIAN

A Rotarian is a person who...

Digs wells from which he/she will never drink;

Vaccinates Children he/she will never meet;

Restores eyesight for those he/she will never see;

Builds housing he/she will never live in;

Educates Children he/she will never know;

Plants trees he/she will never sit under;

Makes crawlers into walkers halfway around the world;

Knows real happiness that "Can Only Be Found By Helping Others"

Rotary Club of Baridhara Launches Prosthetic Project 1

Restoring Mobility and Hope in Tongi:

In a country where road traffic accidents and congenital conditions continue to leave many physically disabled, the demand for artificial limbs grows each year. Yet, access remains painfully limited, especially for the poor, due to high costs and scarce supply. Recognizing this urgent need, the Rotary Club of Baridhara is proud to launch Prosthetic Project 1, a targeted initiative to provide artificial limbs to underserved individuals in Tongi.

Strategic Partnerships:

This project is being implemented in collaboration with the Visually Impaired Education and Welfare Foundation (VIEW Foundation) and the Employment and Rehabilitation Centre for the Physically Handicapped (ERCPH), a government entity in Tongi that, despite its vital role, suffers from chronic underfunding.

Project Scope:

Rotary Club of Baridhara will distribute 16 artificial limbs to poor disabled persons:

Item	Unit Cost (BDT)	Quantity	Total Cost (BDT)
Below Knee Prosthesis	30,000	10	300,000
Above Knee Prosthesis	50,000	6	300,000
Total	—	16	600,000

Each recipient will also receive 4–5 days of training, including food and accommodation, facilitated by ERCPH.

Funding Support:

This life-changing initiative is made possible through generous contributions:

Contributor	Amount (USD)	Rate	Amount (BDT)
Rotary E-Club Global Travelers	2,500	120	300,000
Rotary Club of Baridhara	—	—	300,000
Total Funding	—	—	600,000

Oversight and Monitoring:

Rotary Club of Baridhara and VIEW Foundation will jointly monitor all aspects of the limb distribution, training, and accommodation to ensure transparency and impact.

Conclusion:

Prosthetic Project 1 is a testament to Rotary's unwavering commitment to service and inclusion. By restoring mobility, we restore dignity, and by working together, we build a more compassionate society. Rotary Club of Baridhara remains dedicated to creating lasting change, one limb, one life at a time.

Rotary Club of Baridhara Launches Prosthetic Project 2

Empowering Lives in Dinajpur Through Mobility and Dignity:

Rotary Club of Baridhara is proud to announce the launch of Prosthetic Project 2, a humanitarian initiative aimed at restoring mobility and dignity to underprivileged individuals living with physical disabilities in Dinajpur. This project reflects Rotary's enduring commitment to service above self and the belief that every person deserves the opportunity to live a full and independent life.

Project Overview:

In collaboration with LAMB Hospital and the Danish Bangladesh Leprosy Mission, the project will identify and support individuals in need of prosthetic limbs and related medical services. The initiative includes:

- Distribution of basic and modular prosthetic limbs
- Fitting and physical therapy for recipients
- Financial assistance to cover prosthetic costs
- Identification and support for children with Club Foot, including corrective procedures and therapy

Timeline:

- Application Completion: 31 July 2025
- Project Launch: 1 October 2025
- Project Completion: 30 June 2026

Budget Breakdown:

Category	Amount (USD)
Basic Devices for 20 Patients	$7,000
Modular Prosthesis for 8 Patients	$7,200
Rotary Recognition & Publicity	$300
Total Budget	$14,500

Funding Partners:

This impactful project is made possible through generous contributions from Rotary Clubs in the USA:

- RC of Global Travelers – $2,000
- RC of Alexandria – $1,000
- RC of Bloomington – $1,000
- RC of Brooklyn Park – $500
- Collaborating Clubs Total: $4,500
- District Grant (USA): $10,000
- Total Funding Secured: $14,500

Conclusion:

Prosthetic Project 2 is more than a medical intervention; it's a promise of hope, mobility, and renewed purpose. Through international collaboration and local action, Rotary Club of Baridhara continues to uplift lives and build bridges of compassion. We look forward to sharing stories of transformation as this project unfolds.

Wedding Anniversary

22 September
Rtn. Kabir Ahmed
&
Azra Ahmed

26 September
Rtn. Mamunur Rashid PHF
&
Kaniz Fatema

Profile of the Esteemed Guest Speaker



Pranjit Lal Shil
Quantum Foundation

Completed B. Sc. Engineering at Electrical and Electronics Engineering (EEE) from Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET) since 2003 Former President of Satyan Bose Science Club at BUET He completed Quantum Method Graduation and Masters' Course and now working as an Organizer and Counselor at Quantum Foundation and also conducted meditation program at Dhaka Central Jail for years.

He gave speech on Quantum Method, Meditation, Power of Mind and Brain, Humanity and Benefits of Blood Donation at different Government, Semi-Government, Non-Government Institutions, Corporate Offices, Banks, Different Universities, Colleges and Educational Institutions.

Name of some institutions are given below.

Prime Minister's Office (Investment Board), Office of National Parliament, Rail Ministry (Rail Vaban), BPAPTC, BCS Cadre training academy, Audit Vaban, AGB Office, Supreme Court Laweyers Association, NAEM, Teachers' Training College, Police Staff College, Rajarbag Police Line, Central jail, Narayanganj Jail, Dhaka University, Jagannath University, Chittagong University, Rajshahi University, BUET, Dhaka Medical College, Chittagong University of Engineering and Technology, Shahjalal University of Engineering and Technology, East West University, North South University, Darul Ehsan University, Brac University, South East University, Northern University, Green University, UIU, Independent University, University of Asia Pacific, Ahsanullah University, Presidency University, Notre Dame College, Dhaka College, Viqurunnisa Noon School & College, Adamji Cant. Public School & College, Titumir College, Tejgaon College, Milestone College, Cambrian College, Imperial College, Govt. laboratory High School & College, Ideal School, Motijheel Govt. Boys High school, Saint Joseph School & College, BIAM School & College, Aktel, ATN Bangla, Bangla Vision, Ekushey TV, DRIK Gallery, Grameenphone, Janata Bank, Dutch Bangla Bank, Brac Bank, AB Bank, City Bank, IFIC, Fedex etc.

Short Bio of Speacial Guest
Rtn Engr Khondokar Abu Nur Ashfaq Ahmed Lord



Born January 01, 1975 at Pabna. He studied at Pabna Zila School, Govt Edward College & then he earned his BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1998 from Khulna University of Engineering & Technology. He started his career as project engr in HUANDAI, after he joined in Chottogram Airport Development Project under HITACHI, then he switched at bag plant project, Shah Cement. Last 7 years, he was GM & Head of bag plant, BASHUNDHARA GROUP. 22 years more expertise in PP BAG LINES, he is doing consultancy in his own engineering firm. He is involved in many social activities. He is Life Fellow of IEB-Bangladesh, Life Member of Pabna Development Foundation, Founder Life Member & Ex-President of Pabna'89, Founder Life Member of Club Zila School, Founder Life Member of Multi District Rotary Foundation Bangladesh. He is the Charter member of RC of Gulshan North in 2016. He served as Club Treasurer for 21-22, as Club Secretary for 22-23, as Club President for 23-24, 24-25, as Asstt Co-ordinator for 25-26 in RIPSA TEAM. He married to Engr Nahid Parveen in 2004. She is working as Procurement Head of Dairy Projects, BRAC. They are blessed by two daughters, Aantara Samiha, student of class 12 in Bir-Sreshtho Noor Mohammad College & Aajija Shafia, student of class 3 in Mohammadpur Preparatory School & College. For professional event, religious purposes & family affairs, Engr Ashfaq visited many countries including China, Nepal, India, Maldives, Sri-Lanka, Malaysia, Saudi Arab, Thailand, Tanzania, South Korea, UAE, Indonesia, Vietnam, Singapore, USA etc. His dream about ROTARY, "Rotary-Bangladesh will be reached at a unique height of Rotary International soon in sha Allah"

The History of the Rotary Bell



In 1922, U.S. Rotarians organized an attendance contest; the challenge was that the losing clubs would join in giving the winning club a prize. The Rotary Club of New York City was declared the winner and to them was awarded as a prize a bell from a popular patrol boat, which was placed on wood that came from HMS "Victory", Admiral Nelson's vessel at the battle of Trafalgar. Since then, the bell used in Rotary meetings started to represent, as on the ships, order, discipline and the time to guide us through the weekly hour and a half meetings. The bell informs us with its sound the beginning of the Rotary meeting, at which time people present should stand, same as at the end, in order to salute the national and Rotary flags. The gavel symbolizes the authority invested in the Rotarian elected to the highest position in Rotary, and through him, reminds those present of his authority. When presidents transmit their positions to their successors at the end of their mandate, they give the bell their last hit turning the gavel over to their successor, symbolizing the transfer of authority.



Club Activities

Glimpses from 690th Fortnightly Regular Club Meeting











A Vital and Encouraging Update

From now on, the National Institute of Cardiovascular Diseases (NICVD) in Bangladesh will offer Primary PCI, the most advanced treatment for heart attacks, free of charge every day from 8 AM to 8 PM. Not only that, the stents (rings) are being provided by the government, also at no cost.

What is Primary PCI?

Primary Percutaneous Coronary Intervention (PCI) is a life-saving procedure performed within 12 hours of an acute STEMI heart attack. It involves taking the patient to a catheterization lab and opening the blocked artery, usually by placing a stent.

This is not just a breakthrough in cardiac care—it marks a transformative shift in Bangladesh's healthcare system.

While I cannot speak for other super-specialties, I can confidently say that Bangladesh now offers nearly all types of heart treatments, and the quality is comparable to India.

My humble request:

Please help spread the word about this remarkable and timely initiative by NICVD. Many people may miss out simply because they don't know this service exists. Some may die. Others may suffer lifelong complications due to incomplete treatment. Everyone deserves to know that there is a place they can trust and that if they arrive within 12 hours of a heart attack, they can receive world-class care. In some cases, Primary PCI can be done within 24 hours.

The biggest relief:

There's no financial burden. Everything is completely free. In private hospitals, this same service typically costs 2 to 4 lakh BDT.

Dr. Maruf Raihan Khan
39th BCS
Cardiologist

Rotary Club of Baridhara

Unite for Good

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IPP 2024-25
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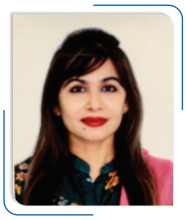
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Service Projects
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