



# DHAKA AHSANIA MISSION

## E-Newsletter

<http://www.ahsaniamission.org.bd/>

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## Beggar Ramzan turns an Entrepreneur

Like any other children of his age, Md. Ramzan Ali wanted to go to school, but he never could sit in a classroom. Poverty forced him to work with his father from very early age. He was born in Kaliganj Upazilla in Shatkhira in a poor family and only hardship was his fate. He got married at an early age and became a father of a son. Life was going on just fine but one day his father died. Ramzan Ali became the sole bread earner of the family of five. He vowed that whatever happens his son will not be deprived of schooling.

In 2012, while cutting bamboo to repair his home, Ramzan fell down and hurt his leg badly. He was unable to walk properly. Doctor advised a major surgery to fix his leg. Poor Ramzan could not afford the treatment and was unable to walk properly still now. Since he became lame he could not find work at people's houses anymore. Unwillingly though, his circumstances forced him to become a beggar. But the amount he got from begging was not enough to support his family. His wife and son were also against his dishonourable profession. At a point of time, his wife went away to her father's house with their son. Ramzan spent his time in terrible hardship with his mother.

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# Dhaka Ahsania Mission receives AGFUND International Prize



DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam received the prize at Assembly Hall of United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG)

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) has been awarded with 2015 Arab Gulf Programme for Development (AGFUND) Prize for its outstanding contributions to the field of alleviation of unemployment among youths in Bangladesh.

DAM President Kazi Rafiqul Alam received the prize at Assembly Hall of United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG) recently.

The award was allocated for projects implemented by NGOs. DAM is the only recipient of 2015 award - in this category - for its Technical and Vocational Education and Training project.

With its prize money of US \$ 150000, the Prize was announced on 29 March 2016 in Abu Dhabi, UAE, by the Prize Committee under the Chairmanship of Dr Ahmed Mohammed Ali, President of the Islamic Development Bank Group, on behalf of HRH Prince Talal Bin Abdul Aziz, President of AGFUND.

DAM has been implementing Technical and Vocational skills training programme for poverty alleviation for more than 16 years through its nine vocational training institutions.

The Prize Committee was comprised of a number of renowned international figures, namely: Queen Sofia (Kingdom of Spain), Executive President of the Queen Sofia Foundation; Mercedes Menafra, (former First Lady of Uruguay), President of Honour, HECHO ACA - Todos Por Uruguay; Dr Ahmed Mohammed Ali, President of IDB Group; Professor Mohammad Yunus, Founder of Grameen Bank & Noble Peace Prize Laureate; and Dr YS Abdulai, former Director General of the OPEC Fund for International Development (OFID).

# PKS gets Chand Sultana Award



Pratibandhi Kalyan Sangstha (PKS), an organization for the persons with disabilities, secured Chand Sultana Award- 2016 for its outstanding contribution in education, life skill development and treatment of the persons with disabilities.

Director of PKS Khairuzzaman Munnu and its Advisor Prof Dr Hossain Monsur received the award at a ceremony at Dhaka Ahsania Mission Auditorium in the capital's Dhanmondi on Sunday, 30th April.

Prof Dr Shamser Ali, founding Vice-Chancellor of Bangladesh Open University, was present at the programme as the chief guest while ADD Country Director Shafiqul Islam as the special guest.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM) President Kazi Rafiqul Alam presided over the ceremony where DAM Executive Director Dr M Ehsanur Rahman delivered the address of welcome.

Chand Sultana Award was introduced in the name of Material Developer and Literacy Expert late Chand Sultana in 2001. DAM has awarded nine noted persons and six organisations so far.



## Beggar Ramzan turns an Entrepreneur

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DAM Foundation for Economic Development (DFED) came forward to change his life. DFED is an institution of Dhaka Ahsania Mission. They started their Beggars Rehabilitation Project in 2015. DFED did a survey in Kaligonj, Shatkhira to understand the situation of beggars in that region. There DFED came across Ramzan and got to know that he truly did not want to beg. Ramzan told them, if given opportunity, he'd like to leave begging and earn his own living.

On 16 February 2015, following Ramzan Ali's wish, he was given an one-time grant of Tk. 15,000 to open a tea stall. Ramzan opened a stall on Kaliganj-Shyamganj road with a monthly rent of Tk. 300. In his shop he sells tea, paan and 10-15 types of bakery items. His net income everyday is Tk. 1,500-2,000 with daily profit of Tk. 350-500. His sales figure is increasing every month.

Ramzan Ali is very happy now; and in the near future he wants to set up a grocery shop.

Till now, DFED has rehabilitated 389 beggars with a grant distribution of Tk. 79 lakh. In the years 2017-18, DFED plans on rehabilitating 1,140 new beggars and bring them back to mainstream life.

To know more click to visit: <http://www.ahsaniamission.org.bd/dfed-provides-financial-support-to-beggars-for-rehabilitation/>



## Nira is back to track

Nira(16) got admitted to AMIC Female drug treatment center after her third suicide attempt. The only daughter, Nira was extremely attached to her father and after his sudden death (two years ago) she started suffering from heavy depression. It led her to taking alcohol and sleeping pills secretly. Nira stopped attending her music classes and her grades dropped significantly. She started avoiding her mother and stopped contacting her friends. Nira made a new friends circle, all of whom are older than her age and also drug addicts. Gradually, she became attached to them and started staying outside at nights. She lost all hopes in life and became a cause of constant anxiety to her mother.

Exhausting all the other options, her desperate mother brought her to AMIC Female Drug Treatment Center in Iqbal Road, Mohammadpur. Here Nira underwent 14-day detoxification followed by 2.5 month rehabilitation program. After completing the process Nira was also provided with follow-up care. She is now completely recovered and wants to live a drug free life with her mother. Nira is going to participate in her school cultural program and also making preparation for her O' level exam. Now life is beautiful to her.

To know more click to visit: <http://www.amic.org.bd>



## Self-reliance from Mushroom Farming

House wife Hafsa from Nakla Upazilla in Sherpur has now become self-reliant thanks to mushroom farming. Her success using minimum capital and nominal labor has encouraged many people to take up mushroom farming.

In 2015, taking part in a training workshop in Baneshardi Union organized by Mushroom Upakendra Mymensingh Horticulture, Hafsa's husband decided to start mushroom farming. In 2016, National Mushroom Development and Extension Center jointly with Economic Empowerment of Women Entrepreneurs Development Project 3 organized a mushroom farming workshop in Nakla Upazilla. Since then, using nominal labor Hafsa became famous supplying mushroom from each spawn. This has been possible due to the use of Dhaka Ahsania Mission book on Mushroom Farming.

As a starter and an initial investment Hafsa and her husband used four thousand taka. In the very first month they made a profit of Tk. 3000.

Mushrooms are a good source of selenium, an antioxidant mineral, as well as copper, niacin, potassium and phosphorous. Additionally, mushrooms provide protein, vitamin C and iron. From each spawn, 250 grams of mushroom can be produced which is valued at 150taka. From only 60 spawns, seven thousand 800 taka can be earned.



DAM-Dhaka Divisional Coordination Meeting at Ganoshasthaya kendra, Savar, Dhaka



Sohan & Naim - two children from Ahsania Mission Children City secured Board Scholarship for their outstanding performance in Primary School Certificate (P.S.C) Examination



Programme titled, "Zakat Koruna Noi, Odhikar", organised by Dhaka Ahsania Mission (DAM), was held at The Daily Star Centre in the capital.

# Pohela Baishakh Celebration by Health Sector, DAM

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