



ACEF Newsletter

June, 2022

Thank you for your avid support for the ACEF mail news. We are happy to update you about our activities in Japan and Bangladesh. Today, we hope to share with you 5 articles on our most recent updates, along with news on what is currently happening in Bangladesh.

✨ What's New! ✨

- ① Foreword: "Providing education regardless of where you're born" (Akiko Anzai)
- ② Bangladesh Curry party was held on June 27, 2022.
- ③ Message from university students who participated in the Service Learning program
- ④ Call for 2022 summer donations
- ⑤ Updates on national flooding in Bangladesh

※The Japanese PDF version of this newsletter can be downloaded from our homepage.

URL→ https://acef.or.jp/mail_mag_2022june/

Foreword: "Providing education regardless of where you're born" (Board Member: Akiko Anzai)

"Children are born into this world, unable to choose where. Today, children in Japan are unlikely to face life threatening dangers in their ordinary lives. In Japan, there is no war, most children are not starving to death even if their financial situation is far from wealthy, and most children have a home to sleep inside at night. Children are able to spend their days safely and protected in kindergarten and day cares if both parents are working. Children of registered Japanese citizens most definitely receive an entrance letter from schools. The literacy rate is 100%. After primary school, students continue their education into secondary and higher education, they acquire certificates and gain jobs, some take over their parents' businesses. Countless opportunities are open to them, whatever career they want to pursue. This is the ordinary life for children in Japan, and we expect children from other countries to have similar experiences. In reality, however, life is very different. Children from some countries have no choice to work to support their families, many are unable to access education or choose to receive education due to their environment. Recognizing this reality shows us that there are many sorrows outside of what we see from our perspective. Unless children are able to access and receive education equally regardless of where they are born, this world will not experience

complete peace. As a mother myself, I am hoping to reach out to those who are in need, for a brighter and peaceful future.” (Akiko Anzai)

The Curry Event was hosted on June 27!

On Monday, June 27, a cooking event was hosted by the service learning students. It was a special opportunity, especially since it has been difficult to spend time together in person due to covid for the past few years. Students together with special guests from ACEF cooked the spicy and flavorful Bangladeshi curry together. Participants also tried on salwar kameese and had a Q&A time learning about Bangladesh. It was a successful and joyful time for all participants!



Message from participants in the Service Learning Program: 2022 Spring

ACEF welcomes several students every year for the Service Learning program, where students study about service through hands-on experience in cooperating organizations. For this spring term, we welcomed 4 students from International Christian University and 2 students from Aoyama Gakuin University. Although it was only a month long experience, each of the students worked diligently and learned about Bangladesh, about ACEF and our cooperation with BDP, and worked together with ACEF. Today we will share the messages from the students at Aoyama Gakuin University!

(Aoyama Gakuin University, Year 2: H. Toyoda)

“I chose ACEF since I was interested in the practical teaching program. When the actual program began, I was surprised by how difficult it is to build a whole classroom lesson. I was unsure if we could really do it, and was very nervous about it. However, the staff from ACEF helped us by giving us hints and advice that we could not come up with, and thankfully, we were able to do the lesson as planned. I want to continue searching for ways I can relate to and work with people who live in far away lands with different environments, just as we have taught the students.”

(Aoyama Gakuin University, Year 2: M. Ishii)

“In the beginning, I had never heard of the organization ACEF, nor did I have any knowledge about the country Bangladesh. I was very worried about having to teach and share with students about ACEF’s vision. However, I was introduced to many people I have never imagined I would be in contact with, such as those who worked in the Japan Overseas Cooperation Volunteers, and the BDP school teachers. Through these encounters, I was able to learn about Bangladesh from a new perspective aside from the stereotypical ideas I had before. In the classroom lesson, we did an activity where students in Japan write letters to the students in Bangladesh. Seeing the students write the difficult Bangla letters with such liveliness inspired me. Although it was a short experience in the limited class time, I feel like I have contributed somehow through my own studies and preparation about Bangladesh and ACEF’s vision such as “dignity” and “co-existence”, as well as this rare opportunity of actually teaching the younger generation.”

Call for 2022 summer donations

The 42 schools and approximately 4,000 students in Bangladesh are supported by your donations. Due to the drastic devaluation of yen and global increase of living costs, ACEF is in a very financially difficult situation. **Please continue to support us**, even after the devastating spread COVID. The summer donations are open until September, through credit card payments, Amazon Pay, and bank transfers. The URL below will direct you to the donation page. Thank you for your continued support!

<https://syncable.biz/associate/ACEF1990/donate>

Updates on national flood disaster in Bangladesh

The flooding which has caused severe damage in North-Eastern India and Bangladesh are **said to be the worst in twenty years**. According to the June 27 report by UN Bangladesh, 7,200,000 people in 9 districts have suffered from this flooding, 1,680,000 families are experiencing flooding in their homes, and 480,000 people are currently evacuating. 1,520,000 people from 5 districts are said to need support in the upcoming days, and the Netrokona district which BDP operates is also included in those areas.

According to the BDP report, 2 BDP schools are out of use due to the flooding, and **170 students are affected by this disaster. BDP is asking for your help.**



Donations can be made through credit card payments, Amazon Pay, and bank transfers. The URL below will direct you to the donation page. (Please leave a message as “flood relief donations”) Thank you for your support.

<https://syncable.biz/associate/ACEF1990/donate>

Introducing our SNS platforms

We want to let you know of our newest activities, so we have various SNS pages!

【Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, LINE】

We cover a wide range of contents, starting with emergency announcements, prayer requests, daily scenes from Bangladesh and ACEF’s projects in Japan. Follow us from our home page!

ACEF Homepage↓

<https://acef.or.jp/>

Thank you for your continuous support.

We look forward to keeping connected with you!

(Specified NPO) The Asia Christian Education Fund (ACEF)

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