



ACEF News letter



↑ Scene from the general assembly meeting held on May 21, 2023.

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※The PDF version of this newsletter is available on our hp.
 ►URL https://acef.or.jp/mail_mag_2023may/
 ※English version available on the homepage!

Thank you for your continuous 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 11 articles on our recent activities/projects and upcoming events, along with updates on what is currently happening in Bangladesh.

Foreword: Medium-term Plan Working Group

Tetsuro Oda

Foreword

“Immediately after I was inaugurated as the director of ACEF, I was given two tasks to complete. Firstly, to strengthen the organisation, and secondly to reconsider the structure of ACEF in respect to its 30th founding anniversary. To work on these two tasks simultaneously, in January 2020, we organised a workshop with people who have previously crossed paths with ACEF to collect their voices and ideas. As a result, we were able to create ACEF’s new vision and mission, which was officially announced in June 2021.

The first task of commemorating the 30th anniversary of ACEF was completed through this new vision and mission. However, I was unable to build the medium-term plan for ACEF to further strengthen the organisation. There are various reasons for this, but most importantly, because our sole partner is BDP in Bangladesh- therefore, their future action plan becomes our future action plan as well. Through the discussions with BDP, we recognised how our relationship should be an “equal partnership” and not a “giver and receiver” relationship. We agreed to envision the future self-reliance of BDP by formulating the medium-term plan.

Now at the beginning of the new fiscal year, I hope ACEF crystallises the new vision and mission, which will build a society where every person’s dignity is respected, and to create a place where children and youth are able to learn together.” (Tetsuro Oda, board of Trustees)



ACEF Community

Masato Ooki & Sayaka Ema
from the Board of Trustees

Through ACEF's Study Tour

“It was a long time ago when I visited Bangladesh via ACEF’s study tour, along with students from the Yamanashi Eiwa Middle/High School. I still remember how that experience moved and surprised me so vividly. I felt the rushing power of the words from the Bible. After the rich and blessed two weeks, I thought it was now my duty to contribute wherever I am sent. I have only contributed in simple ways, such as introducing ACEF and the handicrafts from Bangladesh to churches or Yamanashi Eiwa Gakuin. The reason why I share about the handicrafts is because I want more people to experience Bangladesh through these “objects”. I hope more people will taste a little bit of Bangladesh through ACEF’s Bengal Tea sets. Moreover, I hope that when we see the letter “B” of Bangladesh, that we remember the people in our prayers. Through these passions, I have continued to work with ACEF. I believe that prayer and action come hand in hand. Let us continue to remember ACEF, and pray for the expansion and deepening of the ACEF movement.” (Masato Ooki, board of Trustees)

On ACEF's Mission

“When I think of my experience at the ACEF study tour, I remember the special time where people from various backgrounds came together in thought, conversations, laughter and tears. These two weeks were a rich experience. The reason why we were all able to share our thoughts and feelings were because of the generous welcoming of the BDP staff and the people we met in Bangladesh. Experiences such as the study tour remain important and rare, especially in this age where generosity is often overlooked. It has continuously influenced me in my personal life, too. When we do something “together”, it is crucial to respect the “dignity” of one another. Without it, we cannot work or live “together”. I believe that ACEF’s mission reflects a goal relatable to everybody. I hope to remember ACEF’s mission in my own life, and hope that through ACEF’s activities, more people will learn to experience joy.” (Sayaka Ema, board of Trustees)

ACEF General Assembly was held on May 21!

The 2023 ACEF member meeting was held on Saturday, May 21, 2023. At the Members Meeting (Kaiin no tsudoi), we welcomed a very special guest, Ms. Mitu Rani Das, a graduate from BDP school. She shared about her experience at BDP school and the trajectory of her following education and career. We shared a sweet time of fellowship and were blessed abundantly from this event.





Information on payment system change and request to resubscribe to GOEN!

Along with the change in our membership management system, we are changing the membership payment system from “Syncable” to “GOEN”. The new payment system “GOEN” is directly linked to the membership system. Thus this change will allow us to reach out to our supporters even more efficiently and without any fallouts.

For the current members who are subscribed to Syncable, we ask you to re-subscribe to GOEN. Please refer to the website for detailed instructions ↓
<https://acef.or.jp/news/re-entry-and-cancel/>



Please also unsubscribe from Syncable from here ↓
<https://help.syncable.biz/hc/ja/articles/115003542393>

We deeply apologise for the inconvenience. Please let the ACEF office know if you have any questions. Thank you for your understanding and your support!

BDP Speech Competition

Invitations

BDP is hosting a Speech Competition for its students on **June 13, 2023**. Let's join this event together online and cheer for the precious students of BDP school!

- Date: Tuesday, June 13, 2023. 18:00-
- Place: Bangladesh venue (BBCS/YMCA Hall room), YouTube
- Organized by: BDP, partnered by Kazuko Bhuiyan Trust & ACEF
- Sign up to receive the YouTube URL:
<https://forms.gle/3XC5PzcxmJW8cpQC9>

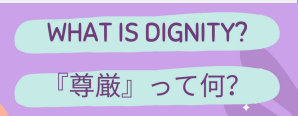


ICU Service Learning Events

Here is information about the events planned in the service learning program of ICU, 2023. Please cheer us on as we prepare and host these events! If you wish to participate, please let us know via email or phone call. → public@acef.or.jp / 03-3208-1925

そのモヤモヤを
尊厳カフェで
一緒に考えましょう!

- ① **Tuesday, May 30, 12:50~13:50 Bangladesh Handicraft Event**
@ICU Seabury Chapel, please bring your own lunch.
There will be Bengal Tea prepared.
- ② **Tuesday, June 6, 17:00~18:00 Dignity Cafe**
@ICU Momi 1F, Wisteria Hall, please bring your own cup for the Bengal Tea. Please check our Instagram for further information!
▶ <https://www.instagram.com/acef.ngo/>





Messages from ICU and AGU Service Learning students

“I am Minagi Tsuhi, 2nd year at ICU. I am interested in the development of education in developing countries, so I chose to work with ACEF. Currently, I am preparing to host an event- the Dignity Cafe-. Through these activities, I hope to share the topic of “dignity” to more people.” (Minagi Tsushi)

“Hello, I am Eri Ito from ICU, currently in my first year. In this service learning program, we are planning an event where we can learn about Bangladesh together. There is a lot for me to learn and sometimes I feel quite challenged, but I will do my best and learn as much as I can!” (Eri Ito)

“My name is Yuto Onagi from ICU, year 1. I am interested in international relations, so I hope to learn more about how international cooperation should be, through this service learning program at ACEF. More specifically, I hope to ask questions and be critical as I approach the topic of supporting Bangladesh.” (Yuto Onagi)

“My name is Rei Negishi from ICU, year 2. We are planning a Dignity Cafe at ICU as a part of our service learning program. I hope to meet many people, to exchange ideas, and absorb various knowledge through this experience.” (Rei Negishi)

“Hi, I am Nagisa Ishimoto, year 2 at ICU. I was originally interested in development studies and education, so I’ve chosen ACEF as the service learning program organisation. Here, we are planning a Dignity Cafe. I will do my best to share to more people about ACEF and its activities!” (Nodoka Ishimoto)

“I am in my 2nd year at the School of International Politics, Economics, and Communication at Aoyama Gakuin University. In this service learning program, I will learn about Bangladesh through the interactions with the people at ACEF, then do a lecture at the Aogaku Elementary school. I hope to become a bridge between Bangladesh and Japan! (Mikina Takeda)

“Hi, I am Ayana Murata, year 2 from Aoyama Gakuin Department of Law. We are gathering resources for our lecture about Bangladesh, planned to be conducted at Aogaku Elementary school. My wish is that students will be able to have more interest in the outside world through this lecture. Also, I myself, hope to gain a deeper understanding of Bangladesh.” (Ayana Murata)

“I’m Fuka Sato from Aoyama Gakuin University School of International Politics, Economics, and Communication. We are doing interviews and meetings in preparation for doing a lecture at the Aogaku Elementary school. It is my first time to collaborate with NGOs, so I hope to gain new experiences and learn more about things I would otherwise not be able to!” (Fuka Sato)





Call for donation: Youth Education at ACEF

One of ACEF's goals this year is to focus on supporting Youth Education/activities. We have supported the connection building between the children in Bangladesh and youths in Japan through our study tours and various activities. Now as we face the rapid globalisation of the world, we have become more aware of the need for the people in Bangladesh and Japan to "live together". We will continue to support the education of the youths in Bangladesh and Japan, and we ask for your support and donations to make it happen.

Click here for more information ► <https://acef.or.jp/news/supportyouth/>



Announcement: BDP magazine (April 2023 issued)

BDP began the issue of their magazine to share more about their activities with the world. The next issue is planned to be in April. This month's magazine is available in Japanese as well! We hope to share about the situation at BDP, and am hoping for you to feel more connected with the staff and students at BDP.

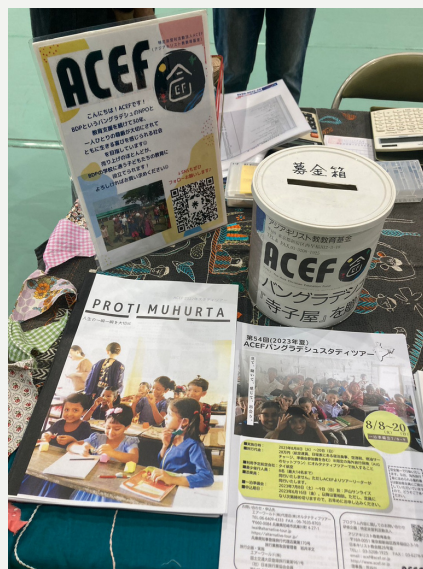
Please check the HP for the PDF file.

► PDF is available on our HP: <https://acef.or.jp/mail-magazine/>



ACEF participated in the Tokyo Women's University Festival Bazaar

On Saturday, April 29th, ACEF participated in the Tokyo Women's University Festival Bazaar (Enyuukai, hosted by alumni) and contributed through our Bangladesh handicrafts shop. The Handicraft working group member and ACEF Youth volunteers worked together, and it was a great success!





ACEF Youth

ACEF YOUTH: fourth meeting

What is ACEF Youth?→ ACEF youth is a group of youth -students and workers- from various backgrounds, who contribute to the ACEF movement through their talents, passions, and field of interests. For example education, development, resolving poverty, etc. At ACEF Youth, everyone's passion and skills are used, whether it is updating social media, working with handicrafts from Bangladesh, etc... If you are interested in participating at ACEF, please feel free to contact us at the email below!

▶ email: public@acef.or.jp

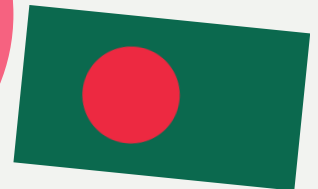
[Mini Bangla lesson and workshop]

- Time: June 3, Sat. 16:00-17:00
- Place: ZOOM online
- Sign up: <https://forms.gle/BjyN78FMmvygn9Bg7>
- Preparation: Please do a simple research on one of the five topics (more detail in the sign up form).
- Fees: free
- Organiser: ACEF Youth
- Bangla lecturer: Yuko Fukushima, ACEF cooperater



- ① Traditional Clothing
- ② Food culture
- ③ Traditional handicrafts
- ④ History
- ⑤ Popular Siteseeing

Please choose one topic and research about it! We will have a short group work.



find us on social media!



follow us → <https://linktr.ee/acef.ngo>



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