

“Education support project in aid of dalit community”



Reporting Period: January- December, 2019

**Funded by: Ashar Gan
Onlus**

Implemented by: Dalit

Foreword

'Education support project in aid of dalit community' has been playing a leading role related to education and social awareness-raising activities among the projects of Dalit. This project is operating under the goals of the United Nations declared SDG-4 (Ensure inclusive and quality education for all and promote lifelong learning) and SDG-5 (Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls).

In this year's program, emphasis has been placed on raising social awareness by targeting youth groups through motivating them. Inspiring programs are being implemented to increase the self-confident of adolescent girls by arranging special events for them. All the activities implemented in 2019 are presented through this report.

Working areas

District	Upazila/ locality	No. of direct beneficiaries
Khulna	Khulna City Corporation, Dumuria, Digholia	1,034
Jashore	Keshabpur	326

Status of Major Activities

Activity title	Scheduled	Completed	Remarks'
School based tuition program and study materials distribution	12 Schools	12 Schools	-
Stipend & exam. fees distribution	2 times	1 time	Lack of fund
Medical support to school students	-	11 students	-
Higher education support to dalit students	12 times	9 times	Lack of fund
Inspiring gathering of S.S.C passed students	1 time	1 time	-
Financial support to SSC examinee	65 students	45 students	Lack of qualified students
Drawing & cultural competition	1 time	-	Lack of fund
Training for teachers	1 time	1 time	-
Teachers' orientation	12 times	12 times	-
Monthly meeting with the guardians at village level	144 times	139 times	Due to bad weather
Annual guardians meetings	12 times	12 times	-
Annual coordination meeting with SMC (School Managing Committee) members	1 time	1 time	-
Coordination meeting with HSC passed married dalit girls	1 time	1 time	-
Coordination meeting with dalit people involved in a job	1 time	1 time	-
Observation of elimination of racial discrimination day	1 time	1 time	-

Observation of human rights day	1 time	1 time	-
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Narrative part (Education & skill development)

School & Students:

No. of School	Name of Schools	Nursery		Primary		Secondary		Total
		Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	Girls	Boys	
1	Sholgatia	4	0	16	12	12	23	67
2	Mikshimil	7	1	18	26	25	15	92
3	Madhugram	5	7	29	36	28	26	131
4	Sahos	6	6	21	21	14	23	91
5	Chingra	4	7	16	19	22	18	86
6	Arong ghata	4	4	24	23	20	10	85
7	Sonadanga	3	3	21	16	15	16	74
8	North Kashipur	3	1	7	10	6	7	34
9	Banorgati	6	2	9	10	4	8	39
10	Sarutia	4	6	33	31	17	36	127
11	Burulia	7	1	26	29	20	16	99
12	Sujapur	4	5	27	19	20	21	96
Sub-total		57	43	247	252	203	219	1021

Info of dropped out students:

During this year, 10 girl students dropped-out from secondary classes due to early marriage and 6 others dropped out due to migration to other villages.

No. of Teachers:

Full-time		Part-time	
Male	Female	Male	Female
1	9	17	7
10		24	



Distribution of study materials, tuition & exam fees

Dalit distributed exercise books, pens, pencils, scales, slates, nursery books, etc to school students during the year 2019. Distributed materials were as follows: Nursery books 100 pieces, Slate 100 pieces, Exercise books (large) 7,096 pieces, Exercise books (small) 9,974 pieces, Pen 7,502, Pencil 927, Scale 927, Chalk 212 boxes to 927 students. Dalit also distributed stationary materials to all schools.

In the month of June, Dalit has paid monthly tuition fees to 626 students to guarantee their attending classes in other schools. Students from grade IV to X were received



BDT 93,120 as monthly stipend. Dalit also provided 10,500 Taka as medical support to 11 sick students.

Distribution of Grammar books: In order to increase proficiency in English language, Dalit provided financial support among the students of class VI to X to purchase grammar books. The program was arranged on April 18 at Dalit head office, April 23 at upazila parishad auditorium, Keshabpur, Jashore and April 28 at upazila parishad

auditorium, Dumuria, Khulna. Executive officer of the upazila's were participated as Chief Guest and handed over 1,59,614 taka to 428 students.



Higher education support to dalit students

This activity has responded very well in the project areas for providing financial support to young girls and boys for higher education. However, Dalit's main purpose behind this assistance is to eliminate child marriage and women empowerment. So every month Dalit arranged motivational seminar with college and university going students to raise-up their voice against early marriage and establish women rights in the society. During the reporting period; Dalit arranged 09 seminars and distributed 2,69,492 Taka to 35 girl and 15 boy students.



Inspiring gathering of S.S.C passed dalit students

Dalit arranged a guidance seminar on May 23 for SSC passed 50 dalit students at Dalit Hospital Auditorium (Chuknagar, Khulna) providing them guidelines to prepare their future study plan and information to get admission in local and national institutions.



Related informations are as follows:

Students attended		Invited Guests
Girls	Boys	1. Upazila Secondary Education Officer, Dumuria, Khulna (Chief Guest); 2. Upazila Education Officer (Special Guest); 3. Upazila Youth Development Officer (Special Guest);
23	27	

It is noted that, 58 students participated in the examination and rate of pass was 86.21%. Facilitators and invited guests provided guidelines to achieve success in future life. At the end of motivational session Chief Guest of the program handed over some gifts to the most meritorious students.

Guidance seminar to S.S.C examinee

Dalit arranged a guidance seminar to the SSC examinee (of 2020) on November 20th 2019, providing them guidelines to achieve good result. 45 examinees were participated in the seminar, where facilitators and invited guests guidelines to them. At the end of motivational session Chief Guest of the program handed over 59,941 Taka to them.



Skill development training for Teachers

In order to update the teachers with the changing education system, a qualitative training was organized to develop teacher's skill with 10 full time teachers under this project. Through the training, teachers were oriented on teaching strategy, question making strategy, proper use of school register, reporting, case study writing, arranging meeting, creative education system etc. The training was held from 19th to 21st June 2019. Upazila Education Officer along with Govt. school teacher were facilitated the training.



Monthly orientation for Teachers

Dalit has been arranged monthly orientation session for the teachers to develop monthly study plan, giving them motivational guidelines and review the progress. During the reporting period Dalit arranged 12 orientation sessions for them, where 34 teachers (10 full-time & 24 part-time) under this project were participated.



Narrative part (Social awareness)

Monthly meeting with the Guardians

Guardians meetings have been arranged in 12 villages through the facilitation of Community Development Organizer. Several issues like presence of students in schools, demerits of child marriage, human rights and environmental cleanliness, home based earning etc.



During the reporting period Dalit arranged 139 meetings, where 3,265 female and 465 male guardians were participated at these meetings.

Annual meeting with the guardians

Dalit arranged annual meeting with the guardians of 12 school students separately during December to encourage the students and guardians through conversation & cultural events. After the discussion session, Dalit organized sports competition for students and for their guardians. A total of 630 parents and students participated in these events. Villagers of Dalit school area also enjoyed various cultural events that day.



Annual meeting with the members of School Managing Committee

Every year Dalit arranges a coordination meeting with the members of school managing committee to run Dalit schools properly. Because locally they are the school authorities and they offer recommendations to Dalit for various development of the school. For this purpose an annual coordination meeting was organized on July 18, 2019 at Officers Club hall room, Dumuria Upazila, Khulna. Total 32 participants of 12 committees were participated at the meeting and expressed their opinions and recommendations.



Coordination meeting with HSC passed married dalit girls

Through this experience sharing meeting Dalit wants to create awareness on importance of women education. In this program, HSC passed married dalit women are invited to the meeting of college going girls. Where married girls share their experience to other girls, what kind of problems they are facing after getting married without make them earnable. In addition, they also provide awareness raising messages to the girls attending the event about the physical problems they are having due to having children at a young age.



Dalit arranged the coordination meeting on April 25, 2018 at Dalit Hospital Auditorium (Chuknagar, Khulna). In response to Dalit's call, 10 married girls took part in the meeting and expressed their experience. Dalit's invited guests also provided encouraging speech to the girl students to continue their study and said they should get married after establishing themselves in the society.

Coordination meeting with dalit people involved in a job

Since people from other communities ignore the people of dalit community, this coordination meeting was organized so that the people of dalit community can play a role in their own development. Because many of dalits are employed in various organizations, they can contribute to the community in different ways if they wish. Dalit wants to bring the employed people of dalit community in a platform, so that they can be encouraged to play a role in the development of their own community. Following the aim, Dalit arranged a coordination meeting on October 05, 2019 at Dalit Hospital Auditorium (Chuknagar, Khulna). In response to Dalit's call, 76 service holders took part in the meeting and expressed their views. The participants welcomed Dalit's initiative and expressed their desire to cooperate with Dalit for development of their community.



Observation of elimination of racial discrimination day

Dalit is always eloquent in eliminating hidden discrimination among the society. Besides of raising awareness among dalit and underprivileged people, Dalit is advocating with stakeholders to play an effective role in preventing discrimination. In continuation of this, Dalit arranged a discussion meeting on observance of 'International day for the elimination of racial discrimination' on 21st March 2019 at Upazila Parishad auditorium, Dumuria, Khulna. Dalit invited Govt. Officers and village leaders involving them to support the people of disadvantaged communities on rights and dignity issues. Total 40 participants including local journalist, Union Parishad Chairman and Teachers were attended in the discussion session.



Observation of Human Rights day

What is human rights? As it is still unclear to dalit people; similarly, upper class people are depriving them of human rights. Under the constitution of the country, dalits have equal rights and privileges, but the upper class people do not want to admit that. So enhancing awareness on rights of dalit people among the civil society, members of U.P, religious leaders, local leaders and teachers, Dalit has been arranged a rally followed by discussion meeting on observance of World Human Rights Day on 10th December 2019 at Dumuria Upazila hall room, Khulna. Total 50 participants including Upazila Executive Officer were participated in the program. It is to be noted that, the administration of Dumuria Upazila and Dalit jointly took part in the celebrations.



Conclusion

Dalit was able to complete the activities of the project within the scheduled period. We have tried to ensure maximum participation in each program. Dalit hopes to respond to the public through more innovative activities in future. As the project workers and facilitators have been able to understand their responsibilities well and have been well-directed about the objectives of the project.

Dalit would like to pay all the credits to the honorable donor **Ashar Gan Onlus**, because without their support our beneficiaries couldn't get these facilities on education, skills development and enhancement of social awareness. We hope our relationship with Ashar Gan will continue to increase our ability more effective and achievable.

Case study:

Emon Das and Kajol Das got A+ in SSC Examination

Emon Das is a student of Banorgati Dalit School. He is a son of Khokon Das and Bijoli Das. He came from a very poor family. His father works as a cobbler and his mother is a housewife. Emon took part in the SSC exam in 2019 and achieved a good result. He got A+ (G.P.A 5) from Vocational group. There were 3 students participated in the SSC examination from Banorgati Dalit School and all of them achieved good result. Emon's parents are very happy for his result and they thanked to Dalit for supporting him. Emon wants to be a skilled technician in future.



On the other hand Kajol Das lives in Sarutia village under Keshabpur upazila of Jashore district. He is a student of Sarutia Dalit School. His father Mohadev Das is a rickshaw-van puller and mother Lotika Das is a housewife. The number of his family members is seven, including 3 sisters 2 brothers and parents. It would not have been possible for his father to earn so much money, so his mother occasionally worked as a day laborer. Despite all the poverty, Kajol continued his study.



Kajol took part in the SSC exam in 2019 and achieved a good result. He got A+ (G.P.A 5) from Science group. Kajol and his parents are very happy for his result and they

thanked to Dalit for supporting him. He dreamed to be a Doctor in future.

Priya Das wants to be a skilled Nurse

Priya Das is a girl from Sahos village belonging to Dumuria upazila of Khulna District. She is from a destitute family. Her father Haripado Das is a day laborer and mother Sumitra Das is a housewife. Without being beaten by poverty she continued to carry on her study. Her family is comprised of 1 elder brother and parents. Priya Das is a brilliant student. She passed SSC exam in the year of 2016 with A+ grade in science group and HSC exam in 2019. After passed the HSC exam she was trying to get admit in nursing course. One day she got a Govt. circular for the admission of Diploma in nursing course was published in the newspaper. She applied for the training course. After successfully passing the written and practical test she has been admitted in Bagerhat (a district) Nursing Institute. Till June 2019, the cost of her study was managed with the stipend she received from Dalit. Priya expressed her gratitude to Dalit and said, she could dream of bright future due to cooperation of Dalit.



Nayan Das got a job

Nayan Das is a sponsored (2/102) student of Mikshimil Dalit School. He is son of Sukumar Das and Usha Das, lives in Mikshimil village of Dumuria upazila under Khulna district. Since nursery class Nayan Das is supported by Mikshimil Dalit School. His father is a van puller and mother is a housewife. They are three brothers. Nayan passed SSC exam in 2017. This year (2019) he participated in HSC exam but failed. Then he decided to find a job to complement the family earning. After few days he got a job in Khalishpur (Khulna) Jute Mills as a security guard. He was receiving monthly stipend under higher education support program. But since joining the job, his monthly stipend has been discontinued as he is no longer a student and he is living in Khulna city.



Mitu's life was ruined

Mitu Das is a daughter of Brihospoti Das and Jostna Das lives in Sonadanga Horijon (professional toilet cleaner) colony, Khulna. She is the youngest child of her parents. Her father is day laborer and mother is housewife. This year she has passed Primary School Certificate exam and admitted in class VI. She is supported by Dalit through Sonadanga Dalit School. The horijon society is extremely illiterate and superstitious; they think that when the girl's age is 12-14 years, they become matured. If they are late to marry at this time, they can elope and get married. That is what happened to Mitu.



Mitu's parents decided to give her marriage. When the teacher of Dalit School knew this matter, she went to Mitu's home and tried to convince her parents about the consequences of early childhood marriage. But it didn't work. On 19/02/2019 Mitu's marriage was completed with Shimul Das, who lives in Khulna. The people of the Horijon community are so intricate that it is very difficult to manage them. Not only Mitu but also other girls of this colony are victim of superstition. Mitu's life was ruined in this way.

Papiya Das got married secretly

Papiya Das is a sponsored student (2/068) of Dalit School; she lives in the village of Mikshimil under Dumuria Upazila of Khulna district. Her father's name is Prem Das and mother is Sabita Das. Her father is a rickshaw-van puller and mother is a housewife. She has two younger sisters. Papiya Das is supported by Mikshimil Dalit School since nursery class. She reads in class VI. Her date of birth is 23/05/2003, according to her birth certificate. At this stage, her parents decided to give her a marriage. Her mother told that Papiya is not meritorious and did not want to go to



school. Because of that, the teacher of Mikshimil Dalit School tried to ensure her attendance regularly in the school. But her parents did not send her to school. Also the Program organizer and the Sponsorship officer tried to convince her parents to send her to school. But it did not work. Finally, her parents gave her marriage on 21st June. Papiya's marriage was arranged very secretly with Pobitro Das who is a barber. The marriage was arranged in another village. Because of that no one knew about this matter. Adolescent Papiya is now carrying the burden of her father-in-laws house.

Basonti Das is now a housewife

Basonti Das is the sponsored student of Sholгатia Dalit School and her sponsor ID is (2/229). She lives in Sholгатia village under Dumuria Upazila of Khulna district. Her father's name is Sahok Das and mother is Nomita Rani Das. Her Father is a rickshaw-van puller and mother is a housewife. She has two sisters and a brother. Her elder sister is married and her younger sister is read in class VII. Her brother Prokash Das reads in class IX. All of them are supported by Sholгатia Dalit School and they are sponsored child. Basonti participated in SSC (Secondary School Certificate) exam this year and her date of birth is 18/09/2000, as per her birth certificate. She was a good student.



But suddenly her father decided to give her a marriage. On 19/03/2019 she got married with Mintu Das. When Mintu Das came to marry her, the Chairman of his own Union interrupted him.

But the groom came to get married in a hidden way. At the midnight Basonti's marriage was finished and they leaved the village very quickly. The matter was reported to UNO (Upazila Executive Officer), Dumuria. But as per the birth certificate Basonti is 18 years old, that's why UNO could not take any action against it. And now Basonti Das is staying her husband's house.