



## Fortnightly Bulletin

Rotary year 2018-19

Meeting No-1901 Volume: 17  
March 19, 2019

কৃষ্ণচূড়া  
*Krishnachura*

**Rotary Club of Ramna**  
Club ID 16135 | RI District 3281 | Bangladesh



*Bangladesh National Anthem*

আমার সোনার বাংলা, আমি তোমায় ভালবাসি  
চিরদিন তোমার আকাশ, তোমার বাতাস,  
আমার প্রাণে বাজায় বাঁশি ॥  
ওমা, ফাগুনে তোর আমের বনে ঘ্রাণে পাগল করে,  
মরি হায়, হায় রে, -ও মা, অঘ্রাণে 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 মত,  
মরি হায়, হায় রে-  
মা তোর বদনখানি মলিন হলে  
আমি নয়ন জলে ভাসি ॥

*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.**



In 1932 Rotarian Herbert J. Taylor created the Four-Way Test, a code of ethics adopted by Rotary 11 years later. The test which has been translated into more than 100 languages, asks the following questions:

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?

*Board of Directors 2018-19  
Rotary Club of Ramana*

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IT rotary.org Coordinator

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Adviser (Dist Coordination)

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Rtn AKM Nozmul Haque MPH  
Sr. Adviser

Rtn Taleya Rehman PHF  
Adviser (Int'l Affairs)

Rtn Alauddin A Majid PHF  
Adviser

*Greetings for the Month 15 Mar up to 31 Mar 2019*



**Birthday** : Nil

**Anns Birthday:** Dr. Syed Jahangeer Haider spouse of  
Rtn Shirin Jahangeer, 23 March  
Ann Sumaiya Islam W/o Rtn Asheq UI  
Islam 29 March



Rtn M A Hashem & Ann Farida Hashem 21 March  
Rtn AKM Nozmul Haque & Ann Hasina Afroz Haque  
26 Mar 19  
Rtn Sarwar Kamal & Ann Roshni Kamal 27 March

*Club Statistics Tue 05 Mar 2019 Meeting No. 1900*

Total Members	: 49
Members Attendance	: 22
Percentage Attendance	: 45%
Last week's attendance	: 41%
Guest	: Prof Dr Sayeba Akhter
Visiting Rotarian	: x
Sunshine Collection	: Tk: 2,150



### President's Message

A. E. M Sarwar Kamal PHF  
President



The 1971 liberation war of Bangladesh against Pakistan continues shaping the mindset of Bangladeshi people until present day. This bloodstained historical event has constructed Bangladeshi sense of nationalism and has forged their contemporary Constitution. The Bangladesh we see today is essentially the fruit of the liberation war of 1971. In order to understand ongoing Bangladeshi politics and the socio-economic sphere, we should go through the history of Pakistani colonialism and the events surrounding the 1971 liberation war that turned Bangladesh into an independent sovereign State.

The history of colonialism from both the British and the Pakistani era still haunts Bangladesh. However, amid all the struggle, Bangladesh strives to hold onto its democratic and secular path. Democracy in Bangladesh still needs improvement, yet Bangladesh seems determined to improve the quality of its democracy. In the post-independence era, the father of the nation of Bangladesh, Sheikh Mujibur Rahman made substantial efforts to design a state, which would follow a divergent political path in comparison with Pakistan.

Regardless of the vast number of socio-economic and political obstacles existent in Bangladesh since independence, the state has achieved a remarkable progress in terms of social development. The Bangladeshi society has evolved impressively in terms of access to education and women empowerment, which are both vital requirements for its healthy social development.

Bangladesh is rapidly urbanizing. The annual rate of urbanization in Bangladesh is 3.55% (estimates from 2010-2015). With such speedy urban development, its unplanned rapid nature has also increased the number of informal settlements. As more and more people flood the cities with the aim of getting access to better opportunities, particularly poor families from rural areas, the problem of illegal establishments or slums has increased manifold in recent years. Access to safe water and proper sanitation facilities have improved in Bangladesh over the years, but Bangladesh is still in need of amelioration.

Social, Economic and Political inferiority can never bring prosperity to a nation. Undoubtedly, Bangladesh has been substantially better off after its liberation from Pakistan. Developmental problems across all socio-economic and political sectors still exist. Nevertheless, a remarkable achievement is that Bangladesh has managed to acquire its sovereignty and independence, and therefore, it has the power to resolve its problems without the domination or interference of a superior political authority, which was the case before the Liberation War.



On the occasion of 49th Independence Day of Bangladesh we, the Rotarians, pay tributes to the war heroes who fought for the liberation of Bangladesh. On this day in 1971, Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman declared independence of Bangladesh following the crackdown by the Pakistani occupation forces on the unarmed Bangalees on the black night of March 25.

### ***Minutes of the 15th meeting of RC Ramna***

The 15th meeting of RC Ramna for the Rotary Year 2018-19; was held on 05 March 2019, at the Westin Hotel, Dhaka. The meeting was called to order by the President Rtn AFM Sarwar Kamal at 6:00 pm. After invocation and national anthem, the President welcomed all.

Rotary club of Ramna celebrated International Women's Day (08 March) through inviting renowned Dr Professor Sayeba Akhter, Former Professor department of Gynae and Obstetrics of BSMMU to give a presentation on "Obstetric fistula-An injustice to motherhood: MAMM's Institute of Fistula and Women's Health-an initiative to address the issue".

Before presentation of Guest speaker, Rtn Tahamin Banu PHF, the club Secretary introduced guest speaker with the audience-the members of RC Ramna. She mentioned speaker's background, position in different Society, about the awards achieved by the speaker and her innovation. Professor Dr. Sayeba's innovation on control of massive PPH made a big impact in reduction of maternal death and preservation of reproductive life of women in developing world she added.

In her speech, Dr. Professor Sayeba Akhter told that obstetric fistula is a devastating condition, affecting between two and three million girls and women across sub-Saharan Africa and Asia. Obstetric fistula occurs when a woman has a prolonged, obstructed labor and cannot get medical help. The constant pressure of the baby's head in the birth canal causes a hole to form between the woman's bladder and vagina and/or rectum. To speaker, a woman with fistula is often rejected by her husband and pushed out of her village due to her foul smell. She acknowledged that fistula is associated with poverty, poor medical services and social discrimination against women. Fistula is both preventable, and treatable through surgery. She opined that women had right to get treatment of obstetric fistula, but in most cases, it did not happen due to lack of knowledge and money. In nearly every case, the baby dies.

To support the poor women and to alleviate social discrimination against women due to fistula problem, the speaker Dr. Professor Sayeba Akhter established a hospital named MAMM's Institute of Fistula and Women's Health(MIFWH). She told about the hospital. It treats poor fistula patients free of cost. This hospital consists of 22 beds and is managed by 20-25 staff including Doctors, paramedical staff/nurse and other honorary specialists. It receives referral support from BRAC and LAMB hospital. She disseminated some success story of patients who treated in the hospital. This institute provides training on Sayeba's method and fistula treatment to other doctors too. Finally, guest speaker mentioned some challenges of the hospital and lack of fund was one of them.

The speech of Professor Dr Syeba created enthusiasm among the members. Interest was on Sayeba's method, MAMM's fistula hospital and on fistula problem. In response speaker told about the genesis of innovation and how this method could reduce maternal mortality. PDG Ali Mahboob offered her a flower bouquet as a token of respect from the club.

At the end Club Secretary announced club statistics of the meeting. Out of 49 members, 22 were present and the percentage rate was 45%. On behalf of Rotary Club of Ramna, she conveyed greetings to those members whose birthday and marriage ceremony fell during 01-15 March 2019.

The meeting ended with a vote of thanks from the chair.





### Meet the Guest Speaker Prof Dr Celia Shahnaz



A Professor at Bangladesh University of Engineering & Technology (BUET), Celia Shahnaz has been an inspiration to the female community of technology enthusiasts. After completion of her high School studies she pursued higher studies, B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees in Electrical and Electronic Engineering at the BUET in 2000 and 2002 respectively. She obtained her PhD in Electrical and Electronic Engineering in 2009 from Concordia University, Montreal, QC, Canada for which she received the Canadian Commonwealth Scholarship and Fellowship.

She was awarded a gold medal from Bangladesh Academy of Sciences, the winner of the 2016 IEEE MGA leadership award, the 2015 IEEE WIE Inspiring Member Award and the 2013 RIO WIE Professional Volunteer award.

Her research interests are speech analysis, speech enhancement, digital watermarking, biomedical signal processing, audio visual recognition for biometric security, pattern recognition, multimedia communication, control systems and robotics.

In 2017, she became the Communications Chair of IEEE SIGHT steering committee, Co-chair of the IEEE WIE Workshops Sub-committees, Vice-Chair (in activities) of IEEE BDS. She was 2016 R10 WIE Coordinator, General Chair-IEEE WIECON\_ECE 2016 and founded IEEE WIECON\_ECE in 2015. She is the founder/organizer of IEEE Signal Processing and IEEE Industrial Applications societies of Bangladesh Chapters. She has served as a mentor and program Chair of International Humanitarian Technology Project Competition (IHTPC) and eleven Parallel tracks to inspire humanitarian technologies for students, WIE, YP, entrepreneurs, Industry people etc. during R10 HTC 2017. She has also co-founded/co-organized IEEE Robotics and Automation society and IEEE society on social implications on technology Bangladesh chapters. She is also the founder and coordinator of FLASH, a special interest group on Humanitarian Technology (SIGHT) in IEEE Bangladesh Section. In 2018, in order to ensure clean water for Rohingya refugee in Bangladesh, she has conceptualized the project **"Bringing Life Back to Rohingya"** as a primary applicant and received acceptance of fund from IEEE HAC in a phased approach. She was the General Chair, IEEE WIE International leadership Summit Dhaka Humanitarian Project Competition -2018 that won IEEE HAC event funds. Currently Dr Celia is the Executive Committee Chair of IEEE BD Section.

#### The AGENDA of the meeting:

- 6.00 pm: Meeting called to order by the President
- 6.01 pm: Invocation and National Anthem
- 6.04 pm: President welcome Rotary and other guest (s)
- 6.06 pm: Update on the projects by Rtn Dr Rezaul Karim/ Rtn Shirin Jahangir
- 6.15 pm: Introduction of the Guest Speaker by Rtn Hassan Obaidur Rashid
- 6.18 pm: Guest Speaker Prof Dr Celia Shahnaz to speak on "Leveraging Technology for the benefit of Humanity through IEEE Engagement"
- 6.48pm: Vote of thanks to the Guest Speaker by Rtn Aseque ul Islam
- 6.52 pm: President's time
- 6.58 pm: Secretary's announcements
- 7.00 pm: Meeting adjourned

#### Absentee Members Info

1. Rtn Taleya Rehman Abroad on treatment
2. Rtn Mahbubul Alam Abroad
3. Rtn Fawzia Naaz Abroad
4. Rtn AKM Nazmul Haque Abroad
5. Rtn Munibur Reza Chow Unwell



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## A Rotaractor who went on to become a Rotary Governor

Jan 04 2019 Rasheeda Bhagat



DG Priyesh Bhandari (third from L) at the felicitation ceremony for DRR Ashish Gupta (fourth from L).

The youthful Priyesh Bhandari, District Governor, D 3053, is the perfect poster boy for Rotary International's passionate endeavour to strengthen the Rotaract movement, increase the number of Rotaractors, and above all, ensure a smooth transition from Rotaract into Rotary. If this happens, it will address in a big way Rotary International's major concern to bring down the average age of Rotarians, particularly in the western world.

Bhandari, a successful handicrafts exporter, qualifies for all the above criteria. Now, he is the youngest District Governor in the Indian subcontinent, which has a whopping number of 40 Rotary districts.

He was only 19 when he heard from a group of his friends that a new Rotaract club was being formed in Kolkata — then — Calcutta — called the Rotaract Club of Calcutta Lakes. "I had just joined St Xavier's College in the city and with great —enthusiasm all of us joined this new club," he says.

Even though a new club, theirs was a very active club and "we did a lot of projects, most of them related to education and health care. We worked with school children and teachers and hospitals; we were all so enthusiastic and involved in doing these projects that within two or three years of our club being set up, we were ready to take up the challenge of organising a huge District Rotaract conference called Melange," recalls Bhandari.

He stayed actively engaged in his Rotaract club for eight years, till his family moved to Jodhpur in 1998. This means that even after he finished his college education and graduated in B Com Honours, he continued with Rotaract. So, what did this experience in Rotaract teach him?

"Oh, it gave me a huge opportunity to acquire so many skills. Prior to joining this Rotaract club I used to be a very shy youth, I would always stay behind the scenes and hesitate to talk to people I didn't know. You could say I was really an introvert."



Priyesh Bhandari (R) as a Rotaractor at the Rotaract District Conference.

But after joining Rotaract, says Bhandari, there was a big transformation in him. "I started meeting people, including from corporates and as I started working with the other Rotaractors on various projects, the kind of confidence that gradually came into me was phenomenal."

Another aspect that Rotaract unveiled in him was the leadership quality that has taken him towards the path of becoming a district governor today. "Had I not come to Jodhpur from Calcutta in 1998, I would have certainly become a DRR, because I had really worked very hard in my club and district," he rues.

## Rotaract to Rotary

But in Jodhpur, around the corner, was waiting another opportunity. The very next year, in 1999, Bhandari joined Rotary, becoming a member of RC Jodhpur Midtown. There is no doubt in his mind that it was his experience and close involvement with the Rotaract movement and the kind of opportunities and skills that it gave him, along with joy and a sense of belonging, that led him to join Rotary within a year of moving to Jodhpur.

He firmly believes that Rotaract is a great platform for the making of future Rotary leaders.

"I would say that today we unfortunately lack Rotarians who have Rotary in their hearts. But that can come to you easily if you have been a Rotaractor. My eight years in Rotaract taught me so much."

Thanks to that experience, during his stint as DG so far, Bhandari has already added 400 new members, installed three new clubs with five more in the pipeline, and is all set to raise \$250,000 for TRF, a record high for the district. And in this, the DG himself has contributed \$50,000.



*Glimpses of the fortnightly meeting of RCR held on 05 March 2019*



*Guest Speaker Prof Dr Sayeba Akhter making a power point presentation on "Obstetric Fistula an injustice to motherhood....." On 05 Mar '19*



*PDG Rtn Ali Mahboob presenting a flower bouquet and a gift to Prof Dr Sayeba Akhter while Rtn Shahed Akhter and President Sarwar looking on*



*A view of the fortnightly meeting held on 5 March '19*



*A view of the fortnightly meeting held on 5 March '19*



*A view of the fortnightly meeting held on 5 March '19*



*A view of the fortnightly meeting held on 5 March '19*



*A view of the fortnightly meeting held on 5 March '19*



*A view of the fortnightly meeting held on 5 March '19*



## Rotary Club of Ramna Members List 2018-19

	Name of Rotarians	Residence	Mobile	Office	E-mails
	Rtn Prof Dr. A K Azad Khan (Hon. Member)	9856258			azadkhan1941@gmail.com
01	Rtn PDG Habibullah Khan MPH	988 8696	0171-169-7575	982 2061	aickhan@gmail.com
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