# BBS NEWSLETTER

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Dear Readers and Well-wishers,

On behalf of the Bangladesh Bible Society (BBS) family, I extend my heartfelt greetings to all of you through this edition of our quarterly newsletter.

As we continue our journey in His services to the glory of God and the expansion of His Kingdom, we face many challenges—obstacles, risks, opposition. Yet, pressing forward through these difficulties reflects the value and success of the Christian life, as exemplified by our Lord Jesus Christ in both His teachings and His earthly ministry.

This year has proven to be particularly challenging for the BBS family. However, by the grace of God and the guidance of divine wisdom, the current board has been able to navigate and resolve these issues effectively. At the same time, we have continued our regular operations—maintaining communication with donors, submitting timely activity reports, preparing new projects—all of which have placed significant pressure on our team. Still, our dedicated officers are moving forward with great unity and enthusiasm. Our shared goal is that, once the ongoing construction of the Bible House is completed, it will become a center for nurturing both spiritual and economic -

development for the next generation. We look forward with hope to the upcoming gathering in late August with our partner members and institutional representatives. We believe this will be a valuable opportunity to receive meaningful guidance as we seek to reorganize and renew our mission in a way that is relevant and effective for the future.

Finally, with a grateful hearts, I thank our Heavenly Father. By His grace, two roofs of the Bible House have already been cast, and work on the third is progressing swiftly. With your continued prayers, I firmly believe that our faithful Provider will supply all our needs in due time. May our good and gracious Father pour out His blessings upon each of us. That is my earnest prayer and desire before His throne.

Emmanuel!

In His service,

Rev. Ashim Kumar Baroi Acting General Secretary The Bangladesh Bible Society

# ACTIVITIES OF THE TRANSLATION DEPARTMENT

As the Bangladesh Bible Society, we are very Grateful to God for the blessings upon the translation activities of the existing projects. God has provided the resources through the GMT members of the United Bible Societies. We are always thankful to the GMT members for their contribution and heart-touching love for the projects. The Megam NT translation and War Jaintia NT translation project review meetings have been held in the local area.

One review meeting has been held in the Church of Chandraghona, Kaptai, Rangamati on 10-11 July 2025 too. This is the rainy season now, and that day had heavy rainfall, but the reviewers and church leaders have joined with us to accomplish the work purposefully. Even though there was a little hindrance to accomplish the review meeting of the first draft, God helped us abundantly. Miss. Putul Tanchangya from Chandraghona Mission Hospital and Purnima Tanchangya from the local area of Rajostholy are both working together for the glory of God.



Tanchangya Review Meeting, Chandraghona

They are dedicated to translating the Tanchangya Bible for the audience. We believe that the audience will receive the Gospel through the Heart language, and their lives will change. So, special thanks to God for the Tanchangya NT translation projects fund and activities of the Rangamati hill tracks area.

#### ACTIVITIES OF THE MARKETING DEPARTMENT

"The Bible is My Best Companion" and "Jesus is My Role Model" Programs: Through this initiative, small encouraging programs for Bible reading are organized across the country with the support of local churches and Christian institutions. The congregations where programs were successfully conducted in the last 3 months are:

1. Seventh Day Adventist Maranatha Seminary, Bajitpur. 2. Word of Life Church, Chanchaiya Satkhira and Sujatpur, Madhyapara. 3. Church of Bangladesh, Khalishpur. 4. Baptist Children's Home, Rupsha, Khulna. 5. Teen for Christ, Jashore. 6. Home of Hope, Bhadun. 7. Talitha koumi Church, Birganj, Osmanpur, and Patnitala, Naogaon.





"The Bible is My Best Companion" and "Jesus is My Role Model" Programs

Scripture Distribution: This year as well, Gospel tracts were distributed in several places under this program. The places where the Gospel was distributed include: 1. Bengali New Year events in Dhaka and Khulna. 2. Happy Easter in Dhaka and Khulna. 3. On May Day, thousands of people across various areas of the Dhaka district were given portions of the Holy Scripture.

**Garo, Chakma, Santal" Program:** One program was conducted at the Seventh Day Adventist Maranatha Seminary, Bajitpur. In this program, each participating student was given a Santali Bible.

**Bible Stall:** During this time, Bible Society staff served believers through a Bible stall at NCFB's annual General meeting. Through this, brothers and sisters in faith were able to easily purchase Holy Bibles according to their needs.

**"100 Steps Family Bible" Program:** 1. Wesleyan Church, Bajua. 2. Church of Bangladesh, Maheshwarpasha. 3. Home of Joy, Rupsha. 4. Baptist Church, Maheshwarpasha. 5. Baptist Church, Senhati. 6. Inter Churches, Birganj, Osmanpur 7. Childrens Home, Patnitala, Naogaon.

Gideons Int. Program: In 14 camps across Bangladesh, a total of 36,100 copies of the Holy New Testament Bibles were supplied.

#### ACTIVITIES OF THE ORAL BIBLE TRANSLATION (OBT) PROJECT

With the partnership of FCBH, the Bangladesh Bible Society has been conducting two Oral Bible translation projects for Dual and Mundari language communities in Bangladesh. Both communities have no still Bible in their heart language in written format, but the oral Bible Translation has opened an outstanding opportunity for both the communities to hear the word of God in their heart language. The translation team of both language communities has already completed the translation work for the book of Luke, and the translation work for the book of Matthew (66 sets) is almost completed and the translation work is underway to get approval from the Consultant. This translation work has been greatly impacting morally in the lives of the people of these two communities, especially in the lives of Children, older people, and physically disabled people. Now, the community people are worshiping the Lord in their heart language. They are also praising the Lord for such kind of blessings.



An old woman from the Dual community is hearing the word of God in her heart language.



A group of people, along with the children from the Mundari community is hearing the word of God in their heart language.

#### **ACTIVITIES OF THE PROGRAM DEPARTMENT**

Faith Comes by Hearing (FCBH) Program: This program is implemented using audio and video devices (Proclaimer and Acclaimer). These devices are distributed among churches in various regions of the country, allowing listeners to achieve spiritual growth through watching and listening. During April–June 2025, a total of 314 Proclaimers and 28 Acclaimers were distributed. Regular follow-up visits were conducted for the ongoing church groups.

**FCBH Gathering and Distribution Program:** 02 FCBH Gatherings and Proclaimer Distribution Programs were heldone on 23 May in Jessore and the other on 23 June in Dinajpur. Around 180 youths and church members from various denominations and institutions participated.

- BBS Chairman Bishop Philip P. Adhikary attended the Dinajpur program and encouraged everyone to listen to and read God's Word.
- 2. BBS General Secretary Rev. Ashim K. Baroi was also present in Dinajpur and shared from the Word of God.
- 3. At the Jessore program, Rev. Don A. Adhikary, Convener of the Program Sub-Committee, delivered a Bible-based message on how faith comes by hearing.

At the end of both programs, each participant received a Mini Proclaimer (audio device), and Acclaimers were distributed to church representatives.



Proclaimer and Acclaimer Distribution Program

Audio Bible Virtual Recording (VR) Program: Recording of the audio Bible in Chakma, Marma, and Santali languages has been initiated through a virtual recording process. Initially, the New Testament in the Chakma language is being recorded. In April, venue selection, reader auditions, and reviewer selection were completed. Voice recording began in May, and by the end of June, about 25% of the Chakma recording had been completed. Upon completion, Marma and Santali recordings will begin in sequence.

**Trauma Healing Program:** The Trauma Healing Program is conducted to assist individuals in recovering from psychological trauma. The core aim is to help trauma-affected individuals return to a healthy and normal life. Representatives from various churches and organizations are trained. Trained individuals form healing groups within their communities and support individuals affected by trauma in their healing process.

**Advanced Equipping Training:** Held from 6–9 May at BBCS, Mirpur, Dhaka. 20 church representatives who had completed the initial training participated. BBS General Secretary, Treasurer, and Rev. Martin Adhikary, Senior Pastor, Mirpur Baptist Church, preached God's Word. All participants were awarded certificates upon completion.

**Convening Session:** The Trauma Healing Convening session was held on 24 June in Dinajpur, attended by around 200 church pastors. A detailed discussion was held on the trauma healing program. BBS Board Chairman and General Secretary were present and provided valuable guidance.

## Trauma Healing Group Lessons:

Currently being conducted in 49 churches in regions including Rangamati, Khagrachari, Bandarban, Chattogram, Cox's Bazar, Mymensingh, Gopalganj, Jessore, and Khulna. Each person completing the group sessions will be provided with a Holy Bible.

#### **ACTIVITIES OF THE LITERACY PROJECT**

Advanced Literacy Project: Literacy programs are currently being implemented in 74 villages across 5 regions, reaching a total of 1,382 students. Notably, in the current year, 235 students are actively participating in 13 centers using the new curriculum We Can Do It 1-5 along with five books introduced in the third year of the program. Additionally, 11 third-year centers have been using the Man-Women Series books to conduct supplementary classes through June, as this content is not included in the We Can Do It curriculum. In May, eight literacy groups were visited in Jessore, Satkhira (Khejurdanga), Satkhira (Tala), and Chuadanga in the southern region. During the visits, student assessments were verified, and facilitators were encouraged. Furthermore, Mr. James Stuard, the Area-Based Program Assistant, was specially advised to monitor and observe the classes more closely.

**Pre-Primary Education Program:** For the first time, 14 preprimary education centers have been provided with materials to conduct one-month classes based on Mother Tongue-Based Multilingual Education (MTB-MLE) beginning in May 2025. Over the past two months, students have begun learning the basics of the Santali language, marking a significant step in culturally responsive early education.

Asia Pacific Literacy Training: The Asia Pacific Literacy Training, held on April 1–10, 2025 and conducted by the UBS representative at the Philippine Bible Society, was highly effective and insightful. A follow-up session was conducted online on June 6, 2025. The key strategies and content from this training are now being incorporated into current and future literacy initiatives.

**Women's Program:** In 2025, the Women's Program expanded its offerings to include both Trauma Healing Training and Essentials Training for women. The following trainings were conducted:

- Trauma Healing Training: May 15–17, 2025, in Basteshikha, Jessore.
- Essentials Training: May 22–24, 2025, at Church of Bangladesh, Jobarpar, Barisal.
- Bible-Based Adolescent Health Program: June 23, 2025, in Birganj, Dinajpur.

These trainings aim to build resilience, health awareness, and spiritual growth among women and adolescent girls across the regions.



Essentials Training, Jobarpar, Barisal

#### "BIBLE HOUSE" PROJECT

**Update on the Multi-storey Building "Bible House":** With hearts full of gratitude, we share the recent progress on the construction of the Bible House;

- 3 May 2025: The team successfully completed the casting of the water tank and retaining wall.
- 28 May 2025: A major milestone was achieved with the casting of the basement roof.
- 6 July 2025: The casting of the ground floor roof was completed smoothly by God's grace.

We thank our Heavenly Father for His guidance and provision. With two roofs already cast, we continue to move forward in faith and perseverance.

Tow roofs of the Bible House have been completed

## BBS (AGM) NOTICE

We warmly invite all members and well-wishers to the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Bangladesh Bible Society:

• Date: Friday, 29 August 2025

• Time: 3:00 PM

• Venue: St. Thomas Church (New Center), 391, New Eskaton Road, Moghbazar, Dhaka.

Your presence, prayers, and participation are deeply appreciated as we review the financial year 2024 and seek God's guidance for the future.

# Prayer Requests:

We humbly ask for your continued prayers for the following:

- 1. May the Lord graciously provide the necessary funds, and may the project be completed on time.
- 2. That all current projects may progress smoothly and successfully.
- 3. May God bless and protect our supporters for their continued generosity and encouragement.
- 4. Please pray for the planning and future development of the Oral Bible Translation (OBT) projects in the Attang, Malpahari, and Malo languages.

**Thank you and gratitude:** The activities of various projects are proceeding successfully. We believe that with your overall support, the activities of BBS will increase more successfully day by day.



390, New Eskaton Road, Dhaka - 1217, Bangladesh Tel: +88 0241030363 | Cell: +88 01313-703219

Email: info@biblesociety.org.bd | www.biblesociety.org.bd



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