

BDI (Bangladesh Development Initiative) Solemanpur/Kotchandpur Fund: 2014 & 2015 Activities at Boys High School

BDI (Bangladesh Development Initiative) Solemanpur/Kotchandpur Fund established five scholarships on January 1st 2012 to be awarded to five poor meritorious Kotchandpur boy's high school students. Kotchandpur Upozila (sub-division) is within Jhinaidah Zilla (district) of Bangladesh. The scholarship funds, named after the donor of the original fund, are: (1) Shayla Sheikh Ali Fund, (2) Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi Fund-1, (3) Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi Fund-2, (4) Doctor Atiar Rahman Bonny Fund and (5) Sheikh Salimullah Choudhury Fund. Each of the five scholarship recipients of the fund was awarded with 5000 (five thousand) Bangladeshi taka upfront on January 1st 2012 in a formal ceremony.



Pictures of Dr. Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi, donors of Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi Fund-1 and Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi Fund-2.



Picture of Dr. Doctor Atiar Rahman Bonny, donor of Doctor Atiar Rahman Bonny Fund.



Picture of Shayla Sheikh Ali, donors of Shayla Sheikh Ali Fund and Sheikh Salimullah Choudhury Fund.

A five-lakh (500000) taka Sonchey Potro, whose proceeds can be cashed every three months, was bought from Bangladesh National Savings Bureau on December 29, 2011 to make these awards permanent. The proceeds earned from this Sonchey Potro were to be used to give 10000 (ten thousand) taka annually to each of these five students till they complete Secondary School Certificate (SSC) examination. The scholarship recipients were required to maintain results above certain levels, to be determined by the Kotchandpur boy's high school committee, for continued eligibility as scholarship recipients. When current scholarship recipients would successfully complete SSC examination, a batch of new students from class six and/or seven will be selected as the next scholarship recipients.

The 2013 scholarship awards were given to the same five recipients on January 5th 2013 in a ceremony held at Kotchandpur boy's high school. As originally planned, each scholarship recipient received 10000 (ten thousand) taka, cashed from the one-year (from December 29, 2011 through December 28, 2012) proceeds of the five-lakh (500000) taka Sonchey Potro.

The scholarship awards for the years 2014 and 2015 were combined and given on Wednesday December 24, 2014 in a ceremony held at Kotchandpur boy's high school. The two-year (from December 29, 2012 through December 28, 2014) proceeds of the five-lakh (500000) taka Sonchey Potro amounted to one-lakh and two thousand taka. This time the high school committee decided to give the awards to more than the five students originally selected. The school committee selected 51 poor but meritorious students as scholarship recipients. A formal ceremony took place in the main school building. The following dignitaries and relatives of Dr. Ashraf Ali and Shayla Sheikh Ali, among others, attended the ceremony:

1. Md. Emdadul Haq, Acting Head Master of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
2. Md. Rabiul Islam, Ex-Senior Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
3. Md. Shafi Uddin, Assistant Teacher (English) of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
4. Md. Shahinur Rahman, Assistant Librarian of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
5. Md. Abdullah, Assistant Teacher (Science) of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
6. Khondakar Mozzamal Haque, Member of Managing Committee of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
7. Hosne Ara, Assistant Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
8. Md. Shamsur Rahman, Former Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
9. Md. Sharafat Hossain, Younger Brother of Dr. Ashraf Ali and Ex-Commissioner of the area
10. Md. Rabiul Islam, Nephew of Dr. Ashraf Ali
11. Jesmin Sultana, Niece of Dr. Ashraf Ali
12. Sabikun Nahar, Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
13. Md. Mofizur Rahman, Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School
14. Teeasha Iana Ali, Daughter of Dr. Ashraf Ali

Some highlights of the ceremony are given below:



Sections of the 51 scholarship award recipient students along with the dignitaries and other participants are seen in these two pictures.



Md. Emdadul Haq, Acting Head Master of Kotchandpur Boy's High School, is seen to give flowers to Dr. Ashraf Ali (left picture) and Shayla Sheikh Ali (right picture).



Md. Emdadul Haq, Acting Head Master of Kotchandpur Boy's High School, is seen to give flowers to Md. Rabiul Islam, Ex-Senior Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School (left) and Md. Shamsur Rahman, Former Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School is seen with flowers given to him earlier.



Khondakar Mozzamal Haque, Member of Managing Committee of Kotchandpur Boy's High School and Master of Ceremony for this function (left picture) and Md. Emdadul Haq, Acting Head Master of Kotchandpur Boy's High School (right picture) are making introductory remarks.



Md. Shamsur Rahman, Former Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School (left picture) and Dr. Ashraf Ali (right picture) are addressing the students as well as participants.



Md. Sharafat Hossain, Younger Brother of Dr. Ashraf Ali and Ex-Commissioner of the area (left picture) and Shayla Sheikh Ali (right picture) are seen to address the students as well as participants.



One of the scholarship recipient students is addressing everyone, expressing his appreciation for the recognition and help the scholarship would provide to him and his fellow students.



Shayla Sheikh Ali, the original co-founder of Bangladesh Development Initiative (BDI) and donor of the Shayla Sheikh Ali as well as Sheikh Salimullah Choudhury Funds and a senior engineer with The Boeing Company, is seen to give out scholarship awards to the recipients. Shayla Sheikh Ali is giving out awards for Shayla Sheikh Ali Fund as well as Sheikh Salimullah Choudhury Fund.



Jesmin Sultana (left picture) and Teeasha Iana Ali (right picture), niece and daughter respectively of Dr. Ashraf Ali, are seen to give out scholarships to the recipient students. They are giving out awards on behalf of Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi Fund-1 and Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi Fund-2. Dr. Ashraf Ali talked to Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi in Kuwait on the phone immediately after the scholarship award ceremony and informed him of the successful execution of the scholarship funds. Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi was pleased to hear that the funds donated by him are being properly utilized to help young poor and meritorious students of Kotchandpur Boys High School.



Mrs. Hosne Ara, Assistant Teacher of Kotchandpur Boy's High School and sister-in-law of Doctor Atiar Rahman Bonny (left picture) and Md. Rabiul Islam, nephew of Dr. Ashraf Ali (right picture), are seen to give out scholarships to the recipient students. Mrs. Hosne Ara is giving out awards on behalf of Doctor Atiar Rahman Bonny Fund whereas Md. Rabiul Islam is giving out awards on behalf of Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi Fund-1 and Professor Abdullateef M. Al-Khaleefi Fund-2.