

# Promoting and Protecting Rights of Dalit & Excluded



## Success Story Book



পরিত্রাণ  
PARITRAN

A Human Rights and Development Organization for the Dalit by the Dalit.

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# Contents:

	Background	4
	Project Out come and Achievements of Last Three Years	4
1	Policy addressing Dalit issue: Great Achievement of Dalit Movement in Bangladesh	7
2	Struggle of Nikhil for Political Rights	7
3	Dalit community acquired Khas Land	8
4	From the Point of Indus	9
5	Dalit's having access in tea stall	10
6	Rishi Community get free from imprecation of untouchability.	10
7	Dalit's have self assertiveness and questioning to caste based discrimination	11
8	A Dalit Girls Story	12
9	Dalit Students possessed Excellent result	13
10	Finally Dalit Students going primary School	13
11	26 Dalit students in university causes of dalit quota.	15
12	Dream of Dalit Girl's Started	15
13	Changed Mithun Das Life by got chance in University;	16
14	Gita Rani Das, A fighter to stop child marriage	16
15	Upper caste Hindu invaded to Rishi (Dalit) community at Baka : Invented a possibility of dalit empowerment	17
16	Montu Lal Sarder-An Warrior of Life Struggle	19
17	Thakur Moni Munda Cultivates Vegetables in Salinity Soil	19
18	One village of Labsa Union saved from flood water by WDMC members.	20
19	The Puspa's family is out of danger by the legal help of Union Parishad.	20
20	Mala Das is the part of SMC	21
21	Ashalata Das created precedent for dalit community at Keshabpur	21
22	Sumi enjoying happiness in her conjugal lives	22
23	Mina Overcome challenges	23
	Photo graphs of Parittran Activities	

## Background

The Constitution of Bangladesh clearly states that any discrimination on the grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth is unconstitutional. Unfortunately, the original constitutional promises of equality and non-discrimination have remained largely unrealised to date for a large number of minority groups in Bangladesh. Despite a clear constitutional assurance, political, economic and social exclusion on the basis caste, class, religion, gender, sexual orientation, ethnic group etc. is common across Bangladesh. Among the most ostracised and Marginalized communities in the country are the approximately 6.5 million (according to survey of social welfare ministry) Dalits who experience constant exclusion based on their occupation, language, religion and financial status. Caste systems and prejudice against Dalits traditionally derive from Hinduism but in Bangladesh the practice has been adopted by sections of the Muslim population as well.

The social exclusion of Dalits is obvious from the physical and social barriers in both rural and urban settings throughout the country. Dalits are barred from renting or building houses outside designated localities, often denied entry to temples and religious activities, cremation ground and refused tea at the local tea stalls and restaurants. They are even denied access to houses belonging to non-Dalits on the grounds of their caste. Dalits are regularly excluded from education, and the use of water and sanitation facilities leaving often destitute people with no choice but to continue for generations in 'dirty' jobs reinforcing their position as 'untouchables'. Dalit women face multiple forms of discrimination and violence - a threefold inequality based on class (disempowerment); gender (the fact of being female); and caste (Dalit). The triple discrimination ascertains Dalit women as the most vulnerable group in the Bangladeshi society.

### └ Project Out come and Achievements of Last three years:

In the aim to reduction of caste based discrimination and establishment dalit human rights Parittran working for promoting human rights of dalits by the support of MJF since 2006. Currently Parittran working for Promoting Rights of Dalit and Excluded Peoples (PRODEP) project at Keshobpur and Monirampur Upazilla under Jessore District as well as 10 District of Khulna Division for the period from 01 August 2013 and will continue it's operation to 31 December 2016 with 6110 direct and 25000 indirect beneficiaries. The project objective's are to enhance access in social safetynet and other services for dalits, To strengthen dalit human rights and to building capacity and mainstreaming of dalits. Awareness building, Advocacy at local and national level, Mass Mobilization, Campaign, Address the human rights violation issues, Education supports are the major activities of this Project.

### \* Achievements (qualitative and quantitative)

#### Ob-1: To enhanced accessibility in services and resources

- └ Total 892 community group members of 44 Number CBOs and BDP committees actively played role to protect rights in particular area of their right to participation, representation, access to social safetynet and services, education, health, housing and justice. The group members claimed their rights and services at local level and effectively mobilized to reducing the caste discrimination practice.
- └ 89% (Total 3516 out of 3910) dalits have increased Access to Social Safetynet (VGD-178, VGF-1114, Old age-169, Maternal-37, Widow-25, Incentive (40 days work)-212, Disable- 28, School feeding program-928, One house one firm- 61, Gratuitous relief-100, stipend-664) and those beneficiaries vulnerability decreased which contributing their wellbeing and increasing of income. 8 Number of Right Protection groups (RPG)

which is the joint platform between dalit and social elite at union level also advocating with different service providing institutions in favour of dalits. Local Union Parishad also allocated budget for dalit development every year. Ministry of Social Welfare of GoB issued Dalit, Horijon and Bende development policy, as a result dalit issue recognized by GoB and local administration, service providing institutions like Youth department, Department of Social welfare, Women and child affairs, Land Department, Agriculture, Health, Education Department also giving more emphasis to improvement livelihood of dalits. Dalit leaders and Union, Upazila service providers played catalyst role for sustain the change through preparing special project proposal. It is impacted to regulars lives of dalits in specific area of reducing extreme poverty, social inclusions, participation and representation in decision making bodies.

- └ Total 17 Nos. deep tube-wel installed among dalit community from DPHE, Union Parishad as the dalits demands to improve better livings where 840 HHs got safe drinking water while dalit having poor accessibility in pure drinking water at the very beginning of project.
- └ 10 community peoples can easily access in local markets, schools and others public places by repaired and in-fracture development from UP allocation like Road, Temple through effective mobilization, advocacy, community dialogue at union level.
- └ 1651 dalit children enrolled in school both GO (804) & NGO (847) and dalit parents are well motivated to continue their child education. School Authority taking affirmative action to reduce drop out rate. Right protection and Community groups followup their child's progress in education which contributed to regularizes in education. Even Right Protection Group (RPG) and CGs monitoring the schools where remains caste based discrimination.
- └ 1046 dalit students received govt. stipend and continuing their study. Those dalit students got stipend from govt. stipend and under the part of national Dalit, Horijon, Gipsy development program from Department of Social Welfare which policy adopted by the strong advocacy of Dalit right platforms.
- └ 174 represented in local UP standing committee, SMC, Social leading forum like Puja Udjapon Parisad, Upazila Development Coordination bodies, Khas Land Distribution Committee, Upazila Project Implementation Committee, Cremation ground committee etc which increased their leading capacity and self confidence.
- └ Total 264 dalit students completed primary education and local community groups and other dalit students facilitating to ensure their secondary education. 100% in PSC & 99% in JSC passed in Last year and 100% of those students admitted in secondary school.
- └ Total 29 Students has got admission in universities through constitutional provisions which achieved by the struggle of Dalits in Bangladesh and out of 29 students 9 Dhaka & other university to certify identification of dalit students  
Objective 2: To strengthening dalit movement and different stakeholders shown positive attitude towards dalits.

- └ Total 892 group members of 44 Number CBOs and BDP committees effectively mobilized and raising voice for equal rights. They also Questioning to caste system and caste base discrimination and gathered to protest such discrimination and violence together. Community leaders also mobilizing the whole dalits for represents in local election to empower themselves. Those groups fighting to establish 10 point demands like to enact anti discrimination law, Special allocation in national budget, Special dalit Horijon quota in higher education, job, housing repairing, khasland distribution, Safetynet distribution, Political representation etc and Community received benefits as national advocacy initiatives. Dalits having self assertiveness and raise their voice.
- └ Leadership emerged among dalit as a result they organizing, agitating and mobilizing to bring positive attitude among greater society. Dalit included in different committee like Puja, UP standing, SMC, Hat Bazar, Mondir, Land distribution committee where they represented as well. Political leadership among dalit emerged locally where dalit taking self initiatives to contest local UP election as well as they demanded allocation of member in parliaments, ensuring representation in different decision making bodies.
- └ 44 groups along with the 8 Nos. civil society joint platforms addressing the human rights issues. They are mediating community conflicts and specially protesting violence against women as well as reducing child marriage. Group members also well aware the women right issue through the Marjaday Gori Samata Campaign.
- └ Total 55 Nos. incidents e.g; Rape, Gang Rape, Land Grabbing, Physical Assult, Caste Based Discrimination, Access denied from Public Places, Sexual Harrasment, Murder, VAW, Forceful conversation into other religious, Eve teasing, Communal Attacked, Death causes mistreatment, Assault in work place addressed by Bangladesh Dalit Parishad through linkage building with court case, legal aid, mediation, follow-up the arbitration council, massive mobilization, movement, memorandum submission, protest gathering etc. 19 cases cases under trial. 83 of domestic violence cases has been resolved.
- └ 200 members in 8 Right Protection groups at Union Level fighting against caste discrimination and promoting dignity of dalits with solidarity of 10 points demands.
- └ Present Govt., Parliamentarians, Speaker, Concerns ministry, National Human Right Commission, Intellectuals, Media personals has more aware regarding dalits issue.
- └ Media focused dalit issue through report writing, 3 Nos. TV talk show on dalit & social exclusion, Expectation of dalit in Policy, legislation, National budget as a result Prime Minister office and Ministry of Finance giving more emphasis in Education support for dalits, Social Safety net, Income Generation Activities for dalits.
- └ Total 84 dalit candidates contested as member on 22 March UP election held in project area and 28 male member elected and going to be Panel Chairman at Project area which impacted to bring self assertiveness among dalit peoples. As impact of our mobilization program all over the country there are 84 candidates also contested as male and female members.

### **Obj-3 To enhanced capacity of dalits for reduce poverty.**

- └ 21 youth has got govt. job in police, primary & high school, MLSS at local level through lobby of BDP with using reference of issued DO letter of PMO.
- └ Total 710 dalit youth got skill development training from DSS under the provision of dalit horijon development program at Jessore and among 60% dalit youth joining at different job in particulars of computer training center, veterinary, Nakshi Katha, Livestock/cow fattening, tailoring etc which contributed to income increase.
- └ 850 HHs income increased by marketing of their handicrafts, wage increase in Poarosava, utilization of capital supports as well as monthly income increased 1400 tk and more.

**Policy addressing Dalit issue: Great Achievement of Dalit Movement in Bangladesh**

As a part of advocacy for the establishment of dalit human rights, Parittran has developed an independent platform to fight discrimination. This platform is the Bangladesh Dalit Parishad (BDP). The joint efforts of Parittran and the Bangladesh Dalit Parishad managed to obtain from the Bangladesh Government and affiliated bodies, particularly favorable conditions and privileges for the dalits.

- Govt. of Bangladesh (GoB) initiated according to issued demand order of Prime Minister Office in Bangladesh
  1. Dalit included in Special area for development (SAD) program
  2. Amended a letter on 80% job for Sweeper's in sweeping job
  3. Department of Social welfare implementing special program for improvement of Dalit community in parti cular area of Old age allocation, Education Stipend and Skill development training as well as implementing 41 District across the country.
  4. National Budget allocating special budget for Dalit every year from 2011 in particulars area of Housing for Sweepers, Safetynet for Dalits, Student Education stipend and skill development training for unemployed dalits
- Elimination of Discrimination law has been proposed to government and the ministry of law in a position to finalize and enactment
- PMO office took affirmative action for continue the dalit girls education under A2I (Access to Information) service innovation fund in particular area for distribution of education support materials and **Total 40 Dalit Girl's** got Bicycle at Jessore District under this support.

**Success Story 2:****Struggle of Nikhil for Political Rights**

Nikhil Das (35) is the dalit inhabitant of Ittya Rishi Community at Monirampur Upazila under Jessore District. He is one of the greatest warrior among his community against caste discrimination. Practice of untouchability control over dalits lives and social powerful higher caste always treated dalits as untouchable population in his area. Approximately 400 households living in Ittya Rishi Community and they are facing severe discrimination at every sphere of their lives. Often they excluded from local temple, worship, market, hotel, barbarar shops, resturent and other local government services. Dalits in this village never could access in decision making bodies. Thus suffering and repression of dalit's remains for long days.

During his boyhood he was found that his father Mr. Nibaroon Das has gone to contest as UP member in 1998. That time dominant Brahmin caste denied his father and shown threatened causes of his father's standing as UP contestant and created pressure to withdraw and those Brahmin Leaders also motivated other non dalits to avoid cobbler (Dalit) Nibaroon Das. At last His father had withdrawn his nomination. But Nikhil was committed to do something's for dalit's in his areas and he want to create instance for his generation by become candidate in Local Govt. election but was helpless. In the meantime, He also participated the leadership building training of Parittran.

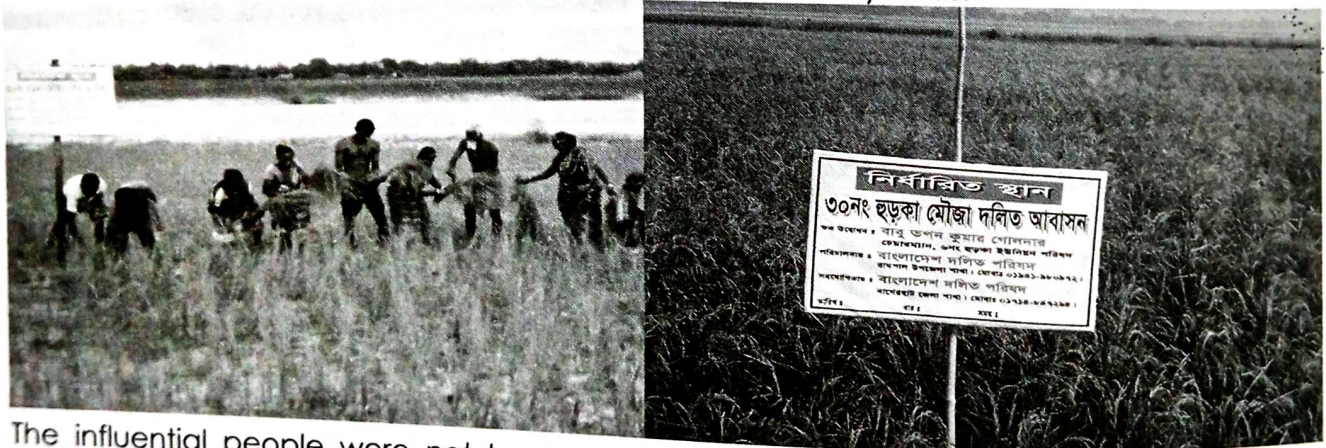
He became more aware regarding rights of dalit and constitutional rights. He started to building unity among his community and remains endavidours to get recognition of local political leaders. He became active leaders of Bangladesh Dalit Parishad. At last through the support of this organization he was contested as UP candidate in his area on Union Parishad Election which held 22 March 2016. During publicity of his candidacy many of other caste used hattred language. Some dominant influentials shown threatened for withdraw but he was firmly committed and he told his followers as well as community peoples that he never withdraw his candidacy through dominants group kill him. He thought this is the fight for establish dignity and empowerment of dalit community. At last he was elected with bless of mass peoples. He also created a dream for overall dalit peoples that if dalits have self assertiveness then they will be won their struggle.

### Success Story 3:

## Dalit community acquired Khas Land

Rampal Upazila in the district of Bagerhat is surrounded by rivers and canals. They are being silted with sediments gradually and turning into cultivable land. The powerful people having links with political parties and Govt machinery are availing those lands. In this Upazila hundreds of landless dalit people live .Parittran mobilized them and formed small groups and Bangladesh Dalit Parishad (BDP) at the Upazila level. . In May 2013 the dalit community under the leadership of BDP brought out procession, and submitted MOU of 10-point demands to the Upazila Nirbahi Officer, Md. Zillur Rahman. He listened to them with his eyes. This assurance inspired the dalit leaders.They made a plan to acquire 15 acres of khas land at Hurka Union (No. 06).Once they called in a meeting for the purpose where Mr. KaliDas Das ,President of Bagerhat district Bangladesh Dalit Parishad, Area Coordinator, Mr. Bhavotosh Mondal, Advocacy Organiser Mr. Gopal Sarker and local dalit group members were present.

Parittran was informed of this opportunity. They sensitized the leaders and inspired them to come forward to avail the khas land saying it is the initiative of the Govt. to distribute khas land among the landless people. They marked 3 Acre of land with the help of a land surveyor and made a dam surrounding the land on voluntary basis.



The influential people were not happy to see the movement of the Dalit people and threatened them for not to take any steps to acquire the land.But the dalit people did not listen to them.They were almost 40 people Once 20-22 people of them implanted seeds. Theylooked after them until they get crops. Almost two months passed. It looked green and then ripened and looked golden. They were very happy to see the crops .The Parittran officials came for visit. The dalit people inspired . Time came for harvesting .They got good crops amounting to 65 maunds. They divided 40 maunds among 40 people and kept remaining 25 maunds for seeds to use in the next season. They organized a festival of eating new rice. They eloquently thanked Parittran to stand by them and expressed their gratefulness to the Union Parishad Chairman for his cooperation. The poor landless Dalit never thought that they would be owners of Khas land. They had the idea that khas land belongs to the powerful people.



## From the point of Indus

Rishi is a small group of people belonging to Dalit community living at Manirampur Upazila of Jessore district. More than 70 Rishi households are situated at this Upazila. The economic condition of these households was very poor. These Rishi villagers are mainly dependent on producing bamboo products as their traditional occupation which is barely enough for their decent living. On the other hand, as members of Dalit community, facing social discrimination and practice of untouchability was also a manifested reason for their being poor. They cannot have access to mainstream society, financial institutions, development work, market places, etc because of their hereditary identification.

Even in case of their traditional low-priced bamboo production the Rishi's did not get the minimum price. There is a broker-group in the village who used to book their future products in advance for 6 months either by taking advantage of their weak social position, financial crisis or by intimidating-influence. In doing so the brokers used to pay the Rishi's a sort of earnest money in advance and consequently they had to handover their products each month for a meagre amount of Taka 2000-2500. The real market value of these products is quite high but as the Rishi's got very little out of brokers' domination and compulsion they could not run their daily lives with bear minimum. The Rishi's had to accept a state of almost medieval slavery because they were poor and excluded, and the brokers are rich and powerful in the society. All the 70 Rishi households had become the worst sufferers.

Bikash Das is a community leader of the Rishi community in Manirampur. At this Upazila a non-government organisation called Parittran has been working for the welfare of the Dalit community. Parittran is financially and technically supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF). When Bikash Das learnt about Parittran he engaged himself with the organisation to support his Rishi community for changing their oppressed status.

Parittran has facilitated the formation of Rishi groups to raise their voice, to build leadership capacity and to manage organisation development. A host of trainings, workshops, coordination activities, exchange visits and group meetings have been organised under the umbrella of project initiatives supported by Manusher Jonno Foundation since 2013. Bikash Das has also organised community movement pulling in a number Rishi members. A group of brave Rishi members, such as Sumongal Das, Palash Das, Tushar Das, kali Das, etc have protested against those brokers and they mobilised whole villagers not to supply bamboo products to those brokers. Subsequently, the group members of Parittran-MJF project have initiated savings programme to create a funding base. By utilising the fund they are now purchasing the bamboo products of the Rishi villagers giving them the real market prices. They store the bamboo products and supply in great bulk to the local and district markets. The bulk selling is giving them very good profit.

One bamboo product maker Anjoli Das says that now she is getting Taka 50-60 more for each of products than before and her family income has increased to a substantial level. She expresses her joy saying, "I am very proud to become a member of the community organisation where I have learnt how to make a good life. I have a dream to continue my child's education." Sumongol Das says that most of the villagers are now free from the brokers and also from social oppression. Moreover they have got financial freedom and collective voice to claim their rights and entitlements.

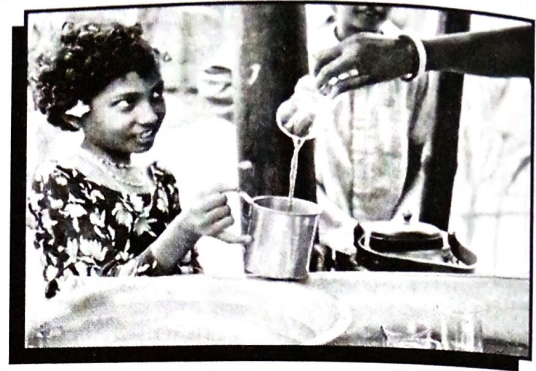
Currently the groups under Parittran-MJF supported project have a self-capital of Taka 276,863 which has been collectively saved by 73 members of the village. These organisations have also applied to cooperative department for getting legal registration and got registration which vide no. 10 with the name of Donar Ideal Community Development Cooperative Society Ltd.

Bikash Das and his follower youngsters say that struggle and effective strategy have changed the lives of Dalit people including the Rishi's. They hope these community development organisations will expand very soon and this exemplary initiative will be replicated by other Dalit communities in different regions. It will also allow the Dalit's to collectively continue the good practices in future.



## Dalit's having access in tea stall

About 300 rishi inhabitants living adjacent of Bhallukghar local market at Keshabpur under Jessore District since long term. Those dalit inhabitants aren't allowed in touch of tea stall, barber shops and other places at this market. Many times they are facing restrictions to access there. Local influential's getting angry if any dalit man sited on bench behind of tea stall. On 31/05/2014 Fakir Das under Majidpur Union a small businessman was



went to have a cup of tea along with local police camp incharge. But the owner of tea stall Mannan hossain strongly prohibited to have a cup of tea from his tea stall and told that here has not available of separate cup for untouchable person. Fakir das also went in same tea stall next day and Mannan told him for wait a while till manage separate cup. Fakir Das claimed to have a tea in available cup which kept for all. But Mr. Mannan was not provided the tea to fakir das. At last by the help Paritran and Local committee of Bangladesh Dalit Parishad a written complain letter has been submitted to chairperson of local market committee and he assured them that he will take positive action to end this kind of caste based discrimination from the market also from society. Now a days, Fakir das along with his villagers can get access in this market. Chairperson of local Market committee and civil society members committed to eliminate discrimination for make peace and social harmony at this area. By getting learning from this incident some sufferers from Sagrodari Chingra Rishi Community were went to submit complain against untouchability practice to Keshabpur Upazila Nirbahi Officer few days later. Thereafter, UNO investigated the complain with spot visit and got reality of that complain as well as he announced if such happen occure again the local administration will take action. Unfortunately, Market owners were made restriction again for access in this market for near Dalit villagers. Then Bangladesh Dalit Parishad leaders mobilized the local law enforcing agencies and resolved that commit to attack by market owners. Ranajit Das from Chingra said, "Often being of victims as dalit we mobilized our community that's why got access over local market now". Thus, Dalits impunity from discrimination and established their access in that public places.

**Success Story 6:**

## Rishi Community get free from imprecation of untouchability.

Samkur Rishi (dalit) community, Under Manirampur Upazila, dalit villagers are living in very much marginal places and total 20 households living there. They are facing multiple discrimination in society as the untouchable's peoples. Higher caste never touches to Rishi villagers yet even didn't drank a glass of water from the Rishi. In order to mainstream the dalit's PRODEP project started to mobilize dalit peoples for establish human rights since 2013. Under the provision of this project organized a community level dialogue meeting on 21/12/2015 where different social leaders, local elected bodies, elite persons, govt.



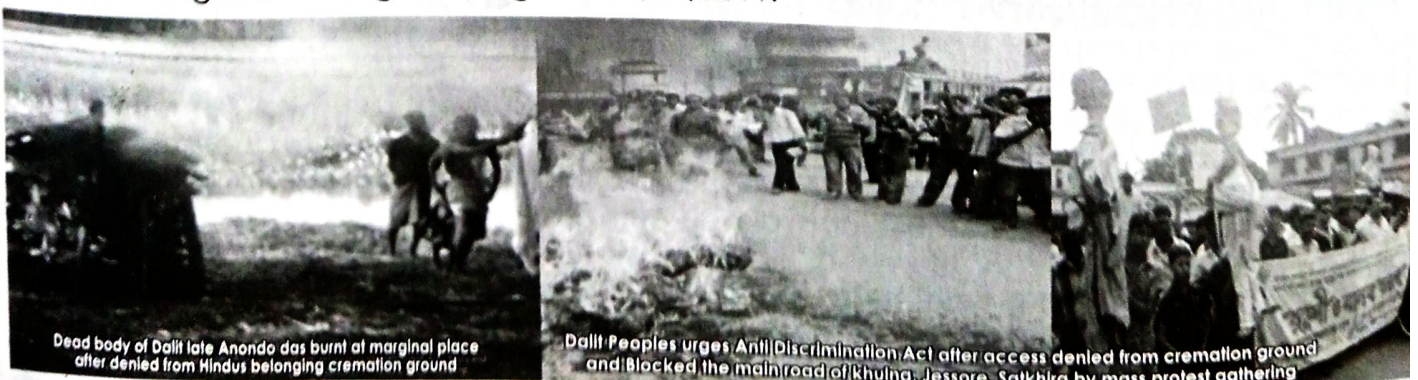
officials, school teachers were participated. Before organizing the meeting community peoples decided to arrange launch within the community including dalit's villagers managed cooks, serving and entertaining for invited guests and will have to sit together for take launch. Thereafter, few number of participated elite persons were not fond to participate in have to launch. But, community leaders said them, why you wouldn't like to have launch. If all of you respect us you have to sit together and will take food with us. Panel chairman Md. Anichur Rahman agreed with community peoples for the sake of community peoples. Then all participants were attended the launch. After having launch the local social leaders announced that, we all are equal, we have to agree with the journey to end of caste based discrimination. Kartik das said, "I found that in my life, this is first time that non-dalit persons ate in our community sit together with dalits since of my 70 years old".

### Success Story 7:

## Dalit's have self assertiveness and questioning to caste based discrimination

There are about 37 Rishi community (dalit) living in keshabpur Upazilla. Approximately, 30 thousands dalit Rishi peoples facing caste based discrimination due to have their racial identifications by born. Whose are treated as outcaste and untouchable according to religious restrictions. There are four sects in Hinduism like Brahmin, Khatrio, Boisho, Sudro. But dalits are not included in this four sects and considered as "out caste". Dalits are subject to ruled by Brahmanism. They also faced discrimination in their access to basic services such as health, education, housing, government safety net programs, public, private and other-services. Under this circumstance, dalit's suffers worst.

On 20-10-2011 in the village of Bhalukghar, Kesobpur upazila in the district of Jessore, the corpse of Anondo Das, a dalit belonging to the Rishi caste, was turned back from the cremation ground by the forced of higher caste Hindu because of that corpse was in out caste. Mandar Das was with corpse told, while our all preparation are completed to burning the corpse some Brahminism minded persons shown obstacle by lead of Professor Ashim Vattayacharia, Gour Mollik, Lanka Suri and others. They denied that corpse access over this cremation ground and vandalized the cremation pyre. He along with his gang told any corpse from outcaste is not allowed here whereas it has being used by higher caste. By getting grief those villagers burnt that corpse at elsewhere. Then somebody from Bangladesh Dalit Parishad (BDP) mobilized those villagers to protest this caste based discrimination through demonstration like human chain, mass mobilization on keshabpur city. Dalit's given one week ultimatum to local authority and govt. for get proper trial against this inhuman behavior and immediate dismissal of that professor Ashim Bhattacharia. Thereafter, thousands of dalits demonstrated at Tala, Satkhira, Dumuria, Khulna, Bagerhat upazilla by the assistance of Paritran MJF supported Project. And more than five thousands mass peoples demonstrated in the Chukanagar Bazar which is the connecting point of khulna, jessore, Satkhira districts. They burnt symbolic effigies of Professor Ashim Bhattacharia who is teaching in Chuknagar College on 15/11/2011.



Dead body of Dalit late Anondo das burnt at marginal place after denied from Hindus belonging cremation ground

Dalit Peoples urges Anti-Discrimination Act after access denied from cremation ground and blocked the main road of khulna, Jessore, Satkhira by mass protest gathering

Then the Professor logged a false case against Rishi (dalit) villagers along with BDP activists whose were in protest gathering. Many print & electric media published the news on peaceful human chain at chuknagor bazaar. Keshabpur Thana in-charge arrested Adhir Das, Mandar Das, Milan Das, Nittyanondo Das and Uzzal Das. In order to get bail and proper trial BDP mobilized the enter country dalit peoples to stand against caste system and immediate unconditional release of all prisons dalit activists. By the effective advocacy of Parittran and other national bodies they got bail from highcourt division. Seriatim, mass peoples awakened to uproot caste based discrimination from society in particulars at keshabpur upazilla. Then, by the mediation of parliamentarians Mr. Swapon Bhattacharia, local influential's Tarapado Ghos Montu, Ashit Modok, Thana in-charge those perpetrators (Ashim Bhattacharia, Ranjit Ghosh & others) apologies to Dalit peoples and signed a memorandum with the condition that they never will practice the caste discrimination. Thereafter, the dalit peoples protesting caste based discrimination if any incidents occurred and mobilizing collectively at this area.



As a result of 2 or 3 years strong movement of dalit peoples through BDP advocating with govt. to adopt a notice for practice of caste based discrimination is punishable act whether Bangladesh Constitutions recognizes that all human being have equal rights and dignity. In last September 2015 honorable Deputy commissioner Dr. Humayun Kabir pronounced during Right to know day celebration under MJF supported PRODEP project that caste based discrimination is the barrier of overall development of Bangladesh so we as the govt. representatives are in position to take immediate action if any caste discrimination occurred. We have to show respect to each people as human being. As the impact of such events keshabpur dalit people's increased self assertiveness.

### Success Story 8:

## A Dalit Gials Story

Pallobi Das (16) (anonym) a Dalit girl was raped by four Muslim men on the 5th of July 2009, Sunday. She was then taken to Jessore general hospital where she remained senseless for two days. The Parittran together with Global Human Right Defense team visited the victim and the hospital where she told that the brutal attack took place during a Hindu religious function on 5th July 2009 at around 1.20 am at midnight. She was going to a tube-well no very far away from the festival to collect drinking water. In the darkness, four men attacked her from behind and covered her mouth with piece of clothing. They then took her to nearby garden raped her one after the other. The girl fell unconscious as a result of the rape. At last she was found senseless inside that garden. By the time people started flocking the spot, the gang of rapists managed run away. The local General Hospital, they file a rape case. Her parents told that as members of the dalit community, their life is miserable and cursed with poverty. The father, a rickshaw puller, is unable to cater for the needs of his family, let alone for the treatment of his daughter. Supporters of the defenders are putting pressure on the family to withdraw the rape case. After the rape, at (Ref. Daily Kaler Kantho, 7 May 2011).



the locals has identified the girl as an 'unchaste woman'. Bangladesh Dalit Parishad and Parittran conducted regular follow up & legal support of this raped case. Some bad intention has been occurred by perpetrators during last moment of trial. The influential parties created pressure and shown threat to victims family for withdraw the case from court. As usually victims family and witness were found fears. Bangladesh Dalit Parishad, Parittran with the support of designated Advocate made advocacy with administration for transfer the case toward rapid trial court and the case has gone in special tribunal at khulna. Parittran and BDP has mobilized print media again for th Ad. Nurujjaman Kashem was advocate on behalf of Parittran, BDP and victims.

The Deputy Commissioner Mr. Mohibul Haque has taken imitateable steps through provided Khas Land at Jessore town to rehabilitate the victims and he also committed to give govt. job of victim through great movement conducted by Bangladesh Dalit.

Parishad, Parittran together with GHRD and some human right organization has demand exemplary punishment in accordance with the law and justice and compensation awarded to Victims to Prime Minster and other relevant ministers of Bangladesh Govt. by an urgent appeal letter on 11 August 2009. On 13 July 2009 Parittran, BDP and MJF has provided 10,000 BDT for the proper treatment of the victim by Deputy Commissioner of Jessore before the implementation of Press Conference and on that day they have declared for great movement by a press conference which was implemented with together ASK, MJF, Bangladesh Horijon Oikkyia Parishad, Bangladesh Dalit Parishad, BLAST, Bangladesh Manabadhikar Bastobayon Sangsthya, RIB etc.

5 years later, The victims and her family has got justice. The special tribunals of women and children court of khulna has sentence to rigorous imprisonment that 46 years for 1st and 2nd perpetrators and 14 years for 3rd and 4th perpetrators with 1 lac BDT fine or more 5 years imprisonment as punishment on 15 June 2011. This Judgment will contribute to bring positive impact in the dalit society. Pallobi Das has get married on 2014 and she is very happy with her family now.

### Success Story 9:

## Dalit Students possessed Excellent result

Dalit students in Monirampur and Keshabpur under the Parittran PRODEP project supported students possessed excellent result in PSC and JSC exam in 2015. There are 151 students (Boys-77, Girls-74) were attained PSC exam and among them 100% passed including GPA 5-(A+)= 25 (Boys-11, Girls-14), A = 52 (Boys-28, Girls-24), A-= 43 (Boys-18, Girls-25), B= 24 (Boys-14, girls-10), C = 6 (Boys-5, Girls-1), D= 1 (boy).

There are 83 students (Boys-47, Girls-36) in Monirampur and Keshabpur upazilla attained in JSC exam and among them 82 students (99%) has passed including GPA 5 (A+)= 4 (Boys-2, Girls-2), A = 64 (Boys-34, Girls-30), A-= 10 (Boys-8, Girls-2), B = 3 (Boys-2, Girl-1), C = 1 (girl). We congratulated to all success students in Dalit community.

### Success Story 10:

## Finally Dalit students going primary school

There are approximately 80 number of dalit children reading in Bhojgati primary school under Monirampur upazilla. The school is very nearest to the Vojgati Cobblers community. In order to observe national independent day the school teachers planned a colorful rally on 26th March. The school teachers lead by Head master Mr. Aziz was fixed 20 Tk. for per students to give a cap as festoon for Rally. To meet the needs for attending this rally those dalit students were reimbursed that fee. Unfortunately, That Head master was not given opportunity to participate in that colorfull rally to those dalit students. Those students were crying and shared the happen with their parents.

Their parents were gone to ask that teacher why their child couldn't be participated, the headmaster became angry and told them due to causes of worn dirty cloths and face & figure of dalit child wasn't so cute. So, those students aren't able to participate in the rally. Then, after getting hatred behavior those parents returned and shared with some dalit young activists whose were the Parittran Student Volunteers and those youngsters also getting threat and thrust by that head teacher again. Mr. Probhas Das, Palash Das and Rajkumar Das representatives of the Rishi hamlet of Donar Vojgati lodged a complain to the local UNO asking for a public redress of the injustice undergone. They threaten to go for a tougher movement in case their plea is not acknowledged. Enter dalits in this upazilla mobilized



to address such caste based discrimination by the support of Parittran and Bangladesh Dalit Parishad. They strongly recommended to UNO for take exemplary action by submitting application and memorandum. Most renowned national daily disclosed this news headlined " You are untouchable, get lost". Then, local political, religious sentimental groups were pressured to dalit villagers for withdraw the complain but by the firm commitment of those dalit young groups they remained their fight against discrimination. Sometimes, the local influential's were shown threaten also. At that time, local influential's were made obstacles to go in market and all others social activity for those dalit villagers. By flashing this news the movement getting worst. Those victims of discrimination students also strike from regularity in schooling.

On 5 April 2010, the Upazilla chairman Mr. Swapan Bhattacharia and UNO Dr. Mollik Anwar Hossain of Monirampur have taken initiative to mutual. In the meeting, that 4 dalits youngsters have given witness and explained on that discrimination which was occurred against them. At last, the head master (Mr. Abdul Ajj) of this school was apologized for his inhuman behavior. Dr. Mollik Anwar Hossain has given commitment that the festival will arrange again from upazilla administration and those dalits students will get participation in that festival. Then he and Upazilla chairman visited to Vojgati Dalits community and requested to send their students to the school again. The district commissioner called parittran representatives Mr. Bikash Das, Santosh das and Bhabotosh Mondal (HR Defenders) few days later and asked on this case. Some local higher caste influential's try to persuade to divert attention of general peoples and this organization is pesued for this firm commitment. Deputy Commissioner asked those HR defenders to show all evidence on incident again otherwise they will suppose to punishment under govt. laws. Then, by informing Dalits were mobilized again as well as one month later, the all teachers of Bhojgati primary schools have been discharged. The community peoples thinking that, it's a great instance for society and for learning other higher caste peoples. The civil society of Monirampur thinking this learning may bring greater change to the general public attitude toward dalits and the education environment may be favorable for dalits students. The upazilla chairman of Monirampur also said that, we have to protest the all forms of discrimination against dalits. As a human being all have equal dignity. It is learnt for that Unity and self assertiveness can be changed in society.

## Success Story 11:

### 26 Dalit students in university causes of dalit quota.

About 10 million dalits live in Bangladesh. Dalits are the former outcaste and untouchable of Bangladesh so considered because of their traditional polluting occupations. For the long historical background dalits peoples over the southasian subcontinent is deprived from education. Dalits student often discriminated and access denied to get admission in school, college and higher education due to their hereditary, racial identification. Sometimes, it has found the dalit child have couldn't take sit in first row in class room. Maximum dalit students faced caste based discrimination like teachers using them as class room, toilet and school yard cleaner. Not only that but also treated them as untouch in lessons learning period. These are the causes of high rate of drop out from education. of Dalit's.

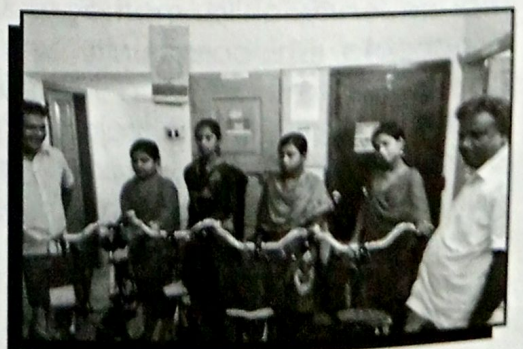
Basically Parittran is working to uphold dalits' and indigenous (Munda) living standards by establishing dalits' rights and dignity, Education revolution, awareness building, unity and leadership building among dalits, gender and women's rights. Parittran and Bangladesh Dalit Parishad struggling long terms to end caste based discrimination. This organization along with others CSOs advocating with govt. for policy reformation, inclusive policy in favor of dalits demands. They organized national consultation, workshop and seminar with stakeholders in several times for the last decade. Special quota for admission in higher education for dalit students was the priority area for advancement of dalits in Bangladesh. The issue also focused in national, regional level advocacy seminar. Bangladesh Dalit Parishad, Parittran also strongly claimed the special quota for admission in public university through advocacy at Dhaka, Jagonnath, Potuakhali, Jahangirnagar University in 2012. Resulting of these effective advocacy initiatives honorable vice chancellor of university allocated 1.0% quota for dalit students. It is noted that, in 11 april 2014 honorable VC of Dhaka university participated as chief guest in regional dalit convention and dalit development award ceremony at Tala govt. college where he announced that Bangladesh Dalit Parishad and Parittran is nominated for certify the dalit identity of those pottential students who obtained eligibility through admission exam. As result for earlier academic year 2014-2015, 35 students certified and among these significant number 26 has been admitted by the quota system. It is really remarkable that there are 6 students out of 26 from Keshabpur upazilla under Jessore district where Parittrants implementing PRODEP project by the support of MJF. It has created a dream that dalits peoples over the country can say with proudly that they have university going students whose will bring significant change among dalit society by establishing their dignity and equal right as human being.



## Success Story 12:

### Dream of Dalit Girl's Started

There are 40 number including 5 from Keshabpur of dalit girls has got education supports from Govt. for advancement of dalit girl's education and reduction of child marriage under the project of Service Innovation fund in Prime Minister office through effective advocacy at local and national level of Parittran, Bangladesh Dalit Parishad,



Horijon Oikkyo Parishad. In order to encourage the education of dalit girls and reduce of child marriage prevalence the local govt. department of Jessore Deputy commissioner office issued a letter to keshabpur UNO for enlist the name of dalit, horijon girls whose will get education supports materials through project named APARAJITA, Jessore and co-sponsored by IFIC Bank under service innovation fund of PMO. Honorable state Minister of Public Administration Begum Ismat ara Sadeque distributed Bicycle among selected Dalit Horijon Girls through the APARAJITA project launching ceremony at Collectorate office of Jessore on 23/04/2016. Api Das, Rita Das, Mina Das, Kalpona Biswas and Sumi Das as support receivers express their feelings that such support will very much helpful for continuing their education while their parents are unable to pay travel, tiffin cost everyday for them. Apu Das, as supported girls said, "Due to economic insolvency my father was unable to continue my study, But getting this support I shall be reach to my destination"

### Success Story 13:

## Changed Mithun Das Life by got chance in University;

Mithun Das (19) as Dalit son struggling for establish in society. He has dream to get admission in public university but it is very difficult for his though he possessed brilliant result at HSC. He is also struggling for students 's life while his father is financially insolvent to bear his education cost. Thats why Mithun Das became frastrated. Parittran also supported him to continue education. He tried to get admission from different university but his all attempt was in vain. He again participated in the admission test at Jagonnath university. He selected in merit list by the admission test but his score was in last in the list. In the mean time, he became aware regarding the special reservation in Jagonnath University. Reffering to Memorandum of Bangladesh Dalit Parishad and Parittran which submitted through advocacy meeting at Jagonnath University for reserve special quota for dalit student in higher education Honorable VC Prof. Mizanur Rahman made commitment on 9/9/2014 that dalit students will get access in admissin at this university.

Mithun Das well motivated to get admission. As according the fulfil the quota He took dalit citizenship certificate from Bangladesh Dalit Parisahd and submitted to authority. Thereafter, the authority given chance to Mithun Das in faculty of Philosophy. Thus Mithun Das got admission and he is very proud to getting chance at renowned Public University.

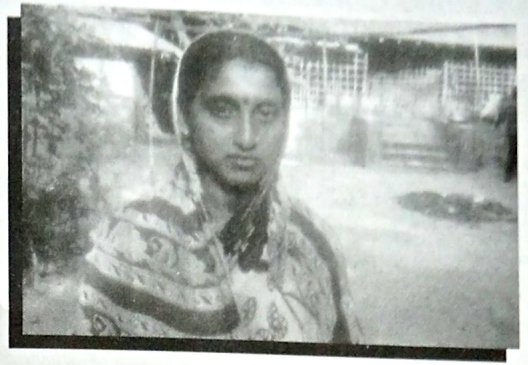
### Success Story 14:

## Gita Rani Das, A fighter to stop child marriage

Bangladesh Govt. announced modified law to stop child marriage but due to lack of proper implementation of this law forced child marriage happening in society. It's high prevalence exist in dalit's community at keshobpur upazilla under Jessore District also. About 99% child marriage arranged in dalit society due to lack of consciousness. But some dalit literate person particularly women in dalit community committed to reduce early child marriage. Gita Rani das (25) is one of them in Bawshala Panchpota rishi community under Keshobpur Upazilla. She is women leader who implementing PRODEP project intervention. She became aware regarding affects of child marriage through courtyard session and she discussed with her villagers to continue girl's education at any cost for make child violence free society. As a result some of villagers promised to not arrange any child marriage in this village.



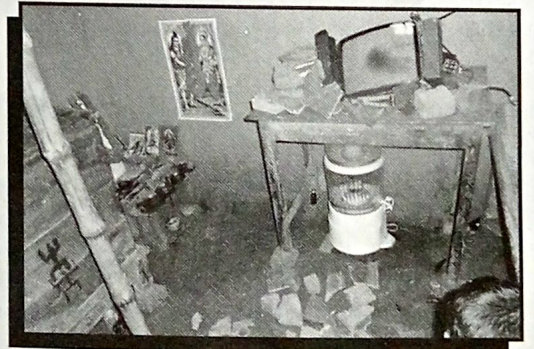
On 29 October 2014 she informed that one child girl named Monika Das (12) who read in class five was kidnapped from khulna Dumuria upazilla by Nayon Das and is going to force marriage at her village. She mobilized her groups at that time and came to stop this marriage together with her group members. But those boys has beaten to Gita Das. Gita Das along with her villagers came to Paritran office at keshobpur and alleged a complain in local police station against that groom gang. Police were gone that place to arrest them but those perpetrations has left the place. Then Police arrested that parents of boy and has been referred to court for trial. This happens has taken as an example and Gita Das doing campaign by her self-initiatives to stop child marriage. Now a days, it has been found dalit villagers became aware not only at Baoswala but also in another dalit communities around keshobpur. Youth in other dalit communities committed to stop child marriage and they able to stopped 7 number of child marriage by December 2014.



### Success Story 15:

## Upper caste Hindu invaded to Rishi (Dalit) community at Baka : Invented a possibility of dalit empowerment

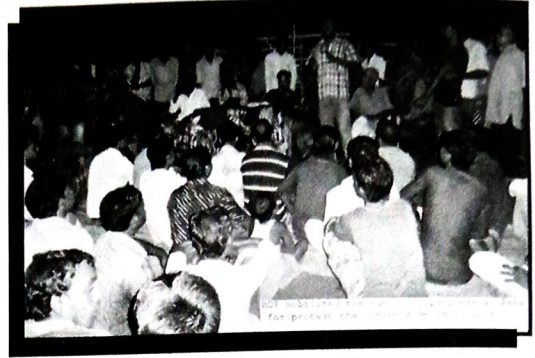
On 7 November 2014 on afternoon a children football team in Baka under paikgacha upazila rishi community playing football on field nearby Baka village. That land owner belongs in higher caste hindus religious named Volanath Ghosh (50), he given mortgaged his land to Nur Uddin (60). Mr. Nur Uddin became angry toward those child and called land owners representative to make restriction in the field and they strongly prohibited to those child for not play in his field and by the request of those child he again mercy to play. While this news heard the land owner Mr. Volanath Ghosh along with other perpetrators named Pachu Ghos, Ripon Ghos, Liton Ghos, Taposh Ghos, Sumon Ghos, Uttam Ghos, Mithun Ghos, Ujjal Ghos, Nur-uddin and others 10/12 attackers with heavy weapon like iron rod, stick, Chapat, Kural etc attacked to those child and their parents. 8 persons named Palash Das, Pobitro Das, Sam Das, Ujjal Das, Jogodish Das, Dipali Rani Das, Arpona Rani Das, Shamol Das victimized by serious physical assaulted. During torture the perpetrators looted cash money, gold chain, ring etc. Perpetrators did cloth less of two women during attacked. 6 victims assaulted seriously and get admitted into Paikgacha Health Complex.



After evening that higher caste community trying to communal attacked to rishi community on same days. About 300/400 peoples came again in rishi village with heavy weapon and shown threatened and fear. Those attackers again vandalized 4 houses and destroyed regular using assets of rishi peoples and shown threatened for not going to take any sort of legal action. Rishi villagers became fearful at this time. A local police camp also situated aside of rishi village. Some police tried to stop them but failed. Those attackers stayed in the village over one hour long and then they left the place by shown threat.

### Behind of incident:

Mainly 'Ghosh' community belong in upper caste in Hindu religious living aside of rishi community since very long term and showing majority power often. Rishi villagers faced caste based discrimination often by them like Rishi are not allowed in their temple for worship, rishi are not allowed to mix with them even rishi peoples always prohibited to entry in their land and mix with that higher caste community belong in Hindus during social functions. Due to this traditional caste based discrimination exist there and beyond the incident of the question of why untouchable dalits used the land of higher caste influential's.



A fact finding team of Paritran, Bangladesh Dalit Parishad (BDP) visited the place on 8 November after received a written complaint by Baka rishi villagers. Rishi villagers and described witness told the above painful story while the team finding the what reasons behind the incident.

Fact finding team contacted with Baka police camp In-charge and Thana in-charge. Camp in-charge Mr. Aikub Ali and on duty constable Mr. Shamim stated that the incident is true and our force also tried to stop violence but they were helpless due to have less number of police force in camp. He informed verbally to Thana in-charge of paikgacha. We asked him why he didn't file any cases. He stated that, he didn't got any complaint from the victims. There after the fact finding team has gone to hospital and collected the statement of victims.

A case also filed in Paikgacha police station no. 7 on 8 November 2014 and Thana officer in-charge Shikdar Akkach Ali given commitment to arrest those alleged perpetrators as soon as possible.

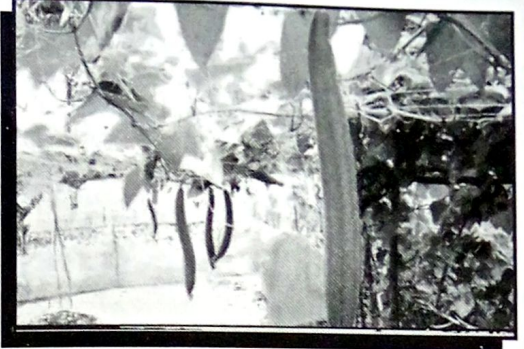
Bangladesh Dalit Parishad stated that it's a serious violation of human right. Dalit's in Bangladesh often victimized such brutal attacked by so called fundamentalists. They urged to take immediate action to ensure proper exemplary punishment of those perpetrators. Bangladesh Dalit Parishad (BDP), all district committee leaders given ultimatum that if the perpetrators come out of trial by any influence they will make movement over the country.

On 9 November 2014 about 3 to 4 hundred rishi villagers were mobilized by the support of Bangladesh Dalit Parishad to immediate arrest those perpetrators by arranging street gathering on Paikgacha Upazila Sadar and then main culprit Mr. Volanath Ghos (50) arrested. Then Local Police and Elite persons tried to mutual the incidents to bring peace between villagers. They sat together and Gopal Das, Leader of Baka Rishi community was strongly proclaimed for proper trial. Thereafter, the attackers surrendered and apologies for their inhuman behaviour against Dalits. Now those Dalit villagers living with dignity and could established their rights and access in local decision making bodies as well as those dalit children could access in that play ground. Even Mr. Gopal Das as community leader was constested as Union Parishad Member in earlier election at Baka. One women from their community eletected as the member of local School Managing Board. Gopal Das Said, " *It was quite impossible to build our leadership without unity among us and tremendous support of banladesh Dalit Parishad. Now, we are going to start the activity of dalit parisahd at Paikacha so that, No body can neglect us again*".

## Success Story 16:

### Montu Lal Sarder-An Warrior of Life Struggle

Montu Sarder is from Munda ethnic group under Munshigonj union of Shaymnagar Upazila, Satkhira district. He has 7 family members and belong 66 decimals of cultivable lands and cultivates 3 times round the year. It was sufficiently produce crops for livelihood of the family before 5 years ago. Salinity over soil has increased rapidly in the area due to adverse climate effect in recent times and he does not cultivate the land more than one time now. So poverty has captured his livelihood and now he leads family through selling labors to others. Studies of his children have interrupted and he was seeking customers for selling lands. In this context he has introduced with ECCDC project officials, jointly implemented by the SAMS and Paritran supported by the European Union under SMILING program. The ECCDC project officials has arranged training for Montu Sarder on compost preparation under Union level Block Supervisor of DAE.



Now Montu is efficient farmers for compost preparation and he is using compost in his salinity prone land for fertility as well as keeping soil moisture in the land. He is using following techniques for compost preparation:

- i. select high land and dig a hole of 3 meter length, spread 2 meters and 1.2 meters deep
- ii. Under a roof he digs 6 holes and fill it cow dung, straw, leaves, creeps for rotten
- iii. In this way he fills 5 holes and keep vacant one hole
- iv. He transferred rotten materials from 5 holes to vacant hole after 4 weeks and mix it properly
- v. After 2-3 months it becomes compost in this way through full rotten

Montu is now using compost his land and cultivates his land 2 to 3 times round the year and the land regains fertility and contain required soil moisture, and he is getting sufficient crop production from the land. Now economic solvency has returned in his family due to using these techniques. Now he is withdrawn his decision for selling land and leading his happy life with his family members.

## Success Story 17:

### Thakur Moni Munda Cultivates Vegetables in Salinity Soil

#### Montu Lal Sarder-An Warrior of Life Struggle

Under ECCDC project a motivation program to destitute women of the project area was carried for adaptation of vegetables cultivation into salinity soil through floating over water logging area and hanging garden technology. Thakur Moni Munda wife of Khagendra Nath Muda is the destitute women of Datnakhali Munda para village of ward number 7 under Burihoalini union. She leads life with serious hardship with 5 family members. Tidal water flow-through Chuna river of Sundarban washes surrounding area of her homestead. Therefore she thinks always that it is quite impossible to cultivate in to salinity environment.

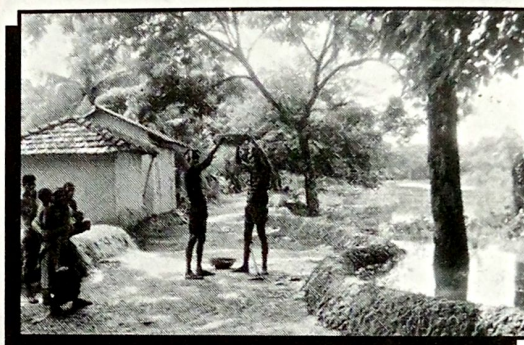


As a result she deprives and has rarely chance to eat vegetables in every day and sufferings from nutritional deficiency. Under the circumstances, she becomes a member of Datinakhali Munda Para Group. Under ECCDC project she has trained on "Vegetables Cultivation in Salinity Environment" by the government Sub Assistant Agriculture Officer . (SAAO) through linkage development by the project. After receiving training she starts vegetables cultivation using earth made jar with full of saline free mud and poly begs with full of saline free mud and reap vegetables seeds on it and provides support for climbing vegetables plants in to Sundarban trees namely Sundari, Kaora, Goran, Bain. In this way she is now earning a good amount from vegetables selling in local market after fulfilling her family vegetables demand. Now neighbors of her come forward to see success for vegetables cultivation using the technology.

### Success Story 18:

## One village of Labsa Union saved from flood water by WDMC members.

Labsa is one of the unions of Satkhira Sadar Upazila. Here Parittran is working through Enhanced Coping Capacity of the Disadvantaged Community (ECCDC) project. From the very beginning of the project the staffs here are trying to give the Ward Disaster Management (WDMC) to work with the community group members and with the students volunteer members. The people here are facing each year with flood water. Once a morning the villagers found water in front of their yard. The villagers became astonished. Mr. Foizur Rahman the member (Fig: Villagers are working for new embankment) of Ward Disaster Management Committee (WDMC) called the community group members with students volunteer. They sat together and decided to work one person from each family to repair the Embankment and make new one beside their houses. The community members worked with volunteer group members in a whole day. At last after 2 days work with voluntarily they villagers became succeeded and the village escaped from flood for the time being. The villagers became happy and they thanked to the staff of Parittran as well as to the project ECCDC.



### Success Story 19:

## The Puspa's family is out of danger by the legal help of Union Parishad.

Puspo is one of the members of Horinagar Community Group at the village of Muragacha the union of Keshra of Tala Sub-district of Satkhira district. In their group they are 19 members. Puspa's family is trying to survive in the community facing classism and cast barriers by the Muslim nearby. Once a Muslim family hurt her brother inlaw named Shekhor Das. The nearby Muslim family made hard problems to the family members of Puspa. Puspa became upset and tried to overcome the situation. She went to many a people and told them the event that held upon them. The Muslim family hurt them and they made hurdles to go out of their home. The family of Puspa couldn't able to solve the difficulties. Puspa to the group members then the Advocacy Organizer (AO) in the group meeting of Enhance Coping Capacity of the Disadvantaged Community (ECCDC) project told them to write an application to the local chairman to go for making solution of this problem of the nearby Muslim family. Then the family of Puspa wrote an application to the Chairman of Keshra Union and went to him to solve the problem with the group members. The Chairman told them to sit with that Muslim family. After few days the Chairman sitting by and solved the problem of the two families by telling the Muslim family if they hurt again. the Chairman will himself take action against the Muslim family.

Then after negotiation with the Chairman of Khesra the family of Puspa became get rid of hard situation. The Mulim family now doesn't create any problems and they never make any quarrel with the family of Puspa and her brother in law Shekhor Das. The group members are now happy that they altogether able to overcome the rough situation by asking help from the local union Parishad. The local union Parishad gave them the assistance of legal help and the group members and the family members of Puspa are very happy. Puspa is a standing voice of the family and to the group members. They are grateful to Parittran ECCDC project staff as well as to the donor of European Union.

### Success Story 20:

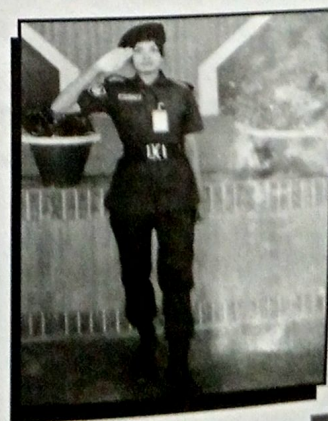
## Mala Das is the part of SMC

Mala Rani Das (26). A dalit house wife at Burihati Rishi Community. Many of primary school going children told in the Parittran arranged awareness session that they facing discrimination in their primary school. They always subject to have sit in last row of class room. Teachers and mainstreamed students often do bound dalit children to clean classroom, toilet etc. If the dalit students being disagree then teachers do misbehave and evolved into the hate for the birth identification. Such discriminatory behaviour is never accepted, she thought. Sometimes, she tried to protest but due to lack of courage she didn't moved. At this time Parittran formed a community development group to build unity among dalit and aware them regarding their rights. As the active member of this group Mala Rani Das identified community problems and such caste based discrimination which was practice in primary school. She mobilized her community peoples and decided that they have to raise voice to eliminate such brutal practice through engaging in school managing board. But due to lack of support from her own community she was lost of hope. After sharing this situation in the group coordination meeting they decided to stand as contestant in School Managing committee election. During the Verchi Govt. Primary School Election some higher caste created obstacles and denied her candidacy. But she determined and mobilized her community to elect. As a result, after successful election she elected as member of School Managing Committee of Verchi Primary School and she still fighting to end discrimination which occurred against dalit students by actively participating in the regular meeting of school managing committee. After successive struggle to eradicate untouchability from education center She enabled to draw attention of Board Chairperson in this regard. And during parents gathering it has announced that there is no disparity between human being, so everyone should respect to dalits. From that time, Dalit children enjoying equality and respect as well as treated as mainstreamed children. The change maker Mala Das said, "We have to mobilized to bring change social attitude toward us".

### Success Story 21:

## Ashalata created precedent for dalit community at Keshabpur.

Though Bangladesh Constitution recognizes the equal opportunities for all in job, education, health but Dalit peoples facing difficulties to get govt. or other jobs due to their birth identification. Honorable Prime Minister of Bangladesh Govt. issued a direct order for make special reservation in govt. job for dalit unemployed youth due to massive mobilization and movement of Bangladesh Dalit Parishad. But there is no mentioned regarding what percentage should allocate for dalits and this decision is still pending. In this circumstances,



Dalit girl Ashalata Das (18), daughter of Parimal Das at kashimpur Rishi community under Jessore District. She is elder sister among her 3 sisters in her family. Her father is only one earner with depending bamboo basket making within their family to alimony of them. Her neighbors many times tried to force to get child marriage but she and her parents were committed to do not such offense whereas her father are the active members of PRODEP project supported community groups. Sometimes, she was participated in the awareness session where from she got knowledge the bad impact of early marriage. It was very difficult to bear all family maintenance needs for her fathers. But she was determined to bring victory in her life by struggling with extreme poverty as well as completing education. She continued her education and studying in HSC 2nd semester. Advocacy organizer of PRODEP project drawn her attention to get govt. job by informing recent govt. circular for recruitment of police at Jessore. Her parents were not agreed first to join such risky job but getting counseling from PRODEP project they were motivated to take chance of their daughter Miss. Ashalat Das in coming police department recruitment at Jessore. She was participated in recruitment process on 5th December 2015. After successful completion of all required exam of recruitment finally she has got appointment letter to join in police training course. She said, I never thought that I will get such job while I am belonging in dalit community. It is really surprising me. Her mother and father said that, *before this we thought it is challenging job for my daughter but while the leaders of Bangladesh Dalit Parishad aware us and we realized that we have awake and should give consent to join the job of our daughter. Finally, we have motivated to our daughter to join the police job as well as we are very much happy to think that Ashalata is going to serve the peoples in Bangladesh as a combatant.*

## Success Story 22:

### Sumi enjoying happiness in her conjugal lives

Sumi Das. A house wife, living in Chingra Rishi Community at Keshabpur, Jessore. She has three sister & brothers and she is elder sister. While she was in class seven her parents forced to marriage. She get early marriage due to Dalit traditional culture instead of reading and writing she got the key of a larger family. After few months, her husbands tortured her mentally and physically whenever she was unable to meet her family domestic works & needs. She got more and more anxious, and lost confidence, even going as far as to consider suicide. In the meantime she became mother. Then her family members started more tortures and she left her family as well as took shelter in her father's home with her child.

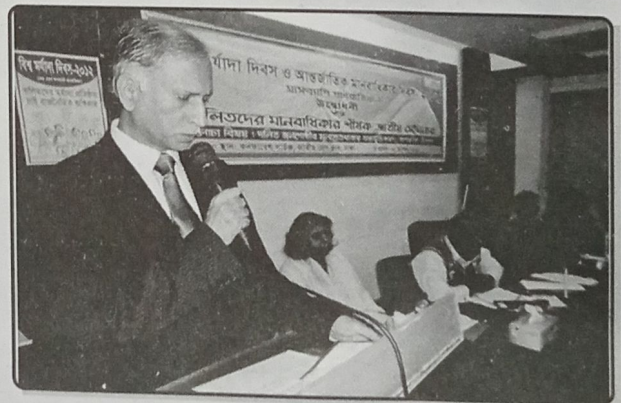
A paritran staff conducted awareness meeting on the law of domestic violence protection and the story of Sumi discussed in the meeting. Advocacy organizer Jahanara Khatun did counselling to Sumi and her family members but her husband was committed to divorce. Then Sumi lodged a complain to paritran legal unit. That unit called both of family and sat to mutual. At last, through the good understanding the conflict resolved. Now, Sumi return back to her home and living with happy family.

## Mina overcome challenges

Mina (15) lives in Baliadanga Rishi Para under Keshabpur upazila. Father Nilkumar Das is Rickswa pular. Mina sufferingt for her born. Her parents suspect after one year of her born that Her right side hand is unable to move easily. And they found that Mina growing with disability. Her parents became grivence.

When society came to knew that disability of Mina, peoples started neglected her. During childhood no children playing with her and interact also. Then Mina get admitted in Primary School and faced same panic experience where mainstreamed children's would not like to mix with her.

Parittran started the Helping Children Growing as Active Citizen project at this area. Parittran selected Mina as the Researcher of its National Children Task Force (NCTF) for find out the gap of UNCRC orders and practical situation of dalits children in Bangladesh. NCTF is the national forum of children where dalit, ethnic and excluded children representing with the concerned ministry of Bangladesh Government through arranging National Parliament Session. Mina was taken responsibility to find out the gap through conduct focus group discussion with Dalit Children at Keshabpur. And She performed well and shared her findings report with Minister. As a result the Prime Minister considered the Special program for Dalit Children under service innovation fund which implementing at Jessore District for reducing child marriage through continuing girls children education. Mina as the active warrior of social reformation created vibrant movement for dalit children through mobilizing other childrens to stop child right violation, child marriage etc. She contributing also entire dalit children rights. Now ad days, local civil society peoples invited her to participate in child rights concerned program as guest speakers. Now, peoples respecting her. Thus, Mina has overcome her physical challenges.



Mr. Anuragran Ghosal, A veteran singer of Bangla Bazar Kendra urged the Dalit communities to protest against violence against other excluded minority classes. In the conference on the issue of human right of the challenge on day celebration and long...



## Abstract of Parittran

In 1993 a group of dalit student by born a small dalit Students' Association, The new name was called 'Parittran'. The meaning of this Bengali word is 'Liberation or Salvation.' Parittran is a promise. Parittran is a movement, for the Dalits and by the dalits. PARITTRAN, a non-government organization, is the first dalit social action group in Bangladesh working for the empowerment of Dalit communities. This is community-based organisations, and networks that work to secure social change and protect the rights of Dalit. PARITTRAN, promote towards strengthening the Dalit Movement. The Social action group (Parittran) is committed towards building a strong line of leadership for the Dalit Movement. The SAG is dedicated to building the capacities of our people through progress reviews and Education support, Mass awareness campaign, Developed IEC Materials, Developed video documentary film on the dalits life and show, Evidence based lobby and advocacy Meeting, Fact findings on the HR violence of dalits, Media campaign workshops that are conducted periodically. Additionally the aim is to build skills through accounts, legal aid and Dalit women leadership workshops as well as cluster level meetings.

In the long term working we have achieved at community, state, institutional level which indicated the sustainable changes of dalit's in Bangladesh. Such as; Govt. has amended a dalit development policy, 80% quota in cleaning job for sweeper community and declaration for special quota for other dalits unemployed youth. 1.0% reservation in Dhaka University for admit in higher education for dalits student, National human right commission, civil society organization and Law commission under taken initiative to drafting anti discriminatory law. There are 54 district committee of Bangladesh Dalit Parishad (national level dalit right based independent platform), 7 divisional committee and 1 central committee has been developed and nurtured by Parittran.

### VISSION:

Establishing a society of equality free from social, gender and class discrepancy having equal rights and opportunities for the people

### MISSION:

- \* To mobilized dalit community peoples and untiy building among them
- \* To empower dalits and women in society
- \* To eradicate caste systems in the society
- \* To sensitize general peoples toward dalits
- \* To increase access to services and information of dalits
- \* To linkage building with different stakeholders
- \* To advocacy with stakeholders, govt. to promote dalit human rights
- \* To Network building with CBOs, Youth groups, service providing institutions
- \* To mobilize and exploring dalit issue at national and international level
- \* To human right monitoring and conduct fact finding
- \* To increase literacy rate among dalits in Bangladesh
- \* To inclusive society form where peoples are enjoying equal rights and dignity

### MAJOR ACTIVITIES:

- \* Promoting and protection dalit human right
- \* Gender and development
- \* Climate change adaptation and Disaster risk reduction
- \* Environment management
- \* Child education and women empowerment
- \* Livelihood and food security
- \* Good Governance
- \* Reducing domestic violence
- \* Combat human trafficking, VAW
- \* Interactive theatre
- \* Right to information
- \* Poverty alleviation through skill development, economical empowerment, IGA
- \* Technological and agriculture
- \* Health & Reproductive health right

### Strategy to reach Vison and Mission :

- \* Advocacy and campaign
- \* Human Rights awareness
- \* Enhancing coping capacity of climate change affected disadvantaged peoples
- \* Information and Communication
- \* Access to Quality Education
- \* Access to Justice ; Urgent movement & Legal aid
- \* Human Right monitoring & fact finding
- \* Social movement & Community Mobilization



*Glory to those who devote their times, talents and their all to the amelioration of slavery. Glory to those who would keep on their struggle for the liberation of the enslaved, inspite of heavy odds, carping humiliations, storms and dangers till the downtrodden secure their human rights.*

**-Dr. B.R. Ambedkar**



**পরিত্রান**  
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