

# PARTNER PLAN

An ecumenical appointment with

The **Methodist** Church 

## Pat Jamison - Bangladesh October 2013

c/o St Thomas' Cathedral  
54 Johnston Road  
Dhaka 1100  
Bangladesh

### Bangladesh News

Hello Everyone



At last I have moved to Dhaka and what an experience!! Several people offered to help pack in Jobarpar and for that I was truly grateful. At 6.30am we were ready to set off and then a really wicked storm just started. It was pretty scary and too strong to leave especially for the truck with my house contents on board. We therefore stayed for a further hour and by this stage it was totally pouring with rain.

I arrived into Dhaka at 2pm and my house contents didn't get until later and eventually to my home at 10.30pm.

Most of the boxes were saturated and several just collapsed. Loads of books were soaked, my fridge dented and a mirror broken a little. Thankfully there was not too much damage and in the grand scheme of things I was indeed very fortunate.

I was involved in leading a workshop just after arriving in Dhaka which was held over 2 ½ days at a Church of Bangladesh conference centre at Savar about 40 minutes outside Dhaka. Drs Les and Cynthia Morgan friends and colleagues of mine, Torun Mondal the health coordinator Provanjon Biswas, filling in for the Director who was ill and I lead. As always speaking in Bangla is an issue for me however both Dr Morgan and Dr Cynthia speak fluent Bangla so thankfully I didn't have a problem being translated.



We looked at the CBSDP health policy, Millennium Development Goals and concentrated on two areas of (a) adolescence and (b) conception until two years. We even had time for ice-breakers and other games.

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Only six of the 23 members of staff attended are trained nurses the others work as community workers. All of the staff contributed well to every session.

Evaluation and feedback has been very encouraging. Most of the staff want workshops like this on a regular basis and I certainly would love to be involved in them. Of course this is costly and not possible on the budget given for health.

My ayah was delighted I made a point of visiting her home before I left. She has been extending her little home over the past few months and as much as it is not yet complete it is a great deal better than before. They now have two separate rooms with beds and storage in both. All this has been possible because she has been employed. Below is Sopha with her husband Liton and her youngest son Leon.



As I left Jobarpar there was sadness in my heart however I am very grateful I have had the chance to work in this area with such lovely people. As I looked at the baby ducks in Sophas village I thought of change and new life. Change can be difficult. God has directed me into other work in other areas He is making something new happen in my life and I welcome the changes.



As the older ducks and the Mother protects and guides the younger ones I know I will be guided by those with experience in many areas and most of all the guidance of my loving heavenly Father. The wonderful thoughts in my mind every day are that my God never changes He is always the same.

***'Some changes look negative on the surface but you will soon realise that space is being created in your life for something new to emerge.'*** Eckhart Tolle

Thanks for

- My comfortable flat in Dhaka and for all who have helped me to move and settle in
- Grateful to have a new ayah Shefali working for me in the mornings
- Having a good landlord, caretaker manager and other staff in the building who are always looking out for and helping me
- Being near friends
- Being able to attend an English speaking church every week

Prayers

- That I can develop good working relations with all staff as I settle into my new role in central office
- Future meetings regarding health throughout CBSDP
- For Sopha to find some work in the Jobarpar area
- The political situation in Bangladesh as hortalas have been threatened after the EID festival

***'I am God- yes, I AM. I haven't changed.'*** Malachi 3:6a

Until next month

Pat 

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