

# BUFLA Charity

## Bangladesh Unity Federation of Los Angeles

Dr.M.A.Hashem

Bangladesh Unity Federation of Los Angeles (BUFLA) is a federation of many different Bangladeshi Organizations of greater Los Angeles. Bangladesh Unity Federation of Los Angeles (BUFLA) was formed on June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2006 in the presence of 25 local Bangladeshi leaders of different Organizations with a common goal, to celebrate jointly one or more events annually. The main objective of BUFLA to promote the Unity & harmony within Bangladeshi Community of the greater Los Angeles.

Besides that goal BUFLA also has 10 other objectives, among those, Humanitarian Aids & charity is one of the main objectives. Since 2010 BUFLA has been doing charity work for different occasions locally & internationally. However, doing charity work has now become a very important part of BUFLA projects and activities. Here are some of the charitable activities that BUFLA has done so far:

### 1. Haiti Earthquake Disaster in 2010:

On January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2010 there was a devastating earthquake of a magnitude of 7.0 M near the town of Leogane approximately 25 km from the Port-au-Prince, the Haiti Capital. In that devastating earthquake the death toll was between 100,000 to 159,000. The earthquake caused major damage in Port-au-Prince. Many notable land marks and buildings were significantly damaged or destroyed including the President Palace, National assembly building and many more.

Many countries responded to appeals for the humanitarian aid. BUFLA also responded and donated money according to our capacity. That was the beginning of BUFLA doing charitable work.

### 2. Savar building collapse Tragedy:

Savar Rana Plaza building Collapse tragedy occurred on April 24, 2013. This was the nation's biggest tragedy. As a result of this tragedy, 1127 people had died and almost 2500 people were rescued from the rubble. Out of 2500 over 1000 people lost their organs and limbs and became handicap. The affected people of this tragedy received treatment in different orthopedic hospitals. Although treatment was administered to all those affected, the harsh reality remains that the handicapped people have lost their jobs and most of them will not be able to work anymore in their lives.

This devastation shocked the whole world. The nation was mourning for the tragedy and the loved ones were overcome.

সভার ট্র্যাজেডি ও ওকলাহোমা টর্নেডো  
দুর্গতদের সাহায্যার্থে বাফলার ফান্ডরেইজিং  
Savar Tragedy & Oklahoma Tornado  
BUFLA Fundraising to help victims  
Sunday, June 2, 2013

শাবনা আক্তার (মৃত), শাবনা আক্তার  
শিওর বেলাল উদ্দিন, হান্না-আকতার বাশাফি, জেব্ব, শিওর বেলাল  
সাবানা খোয়া, সানীয়া মোস্তাফিজার, গ্রামঃ হারাব মেয়াদাশাশপাড়া, জেলাঃ দিনাজপুর  
শাপলা, সানীয়া বেহেদী হালাল, গ্রামঃ হেপেনস, জেলাঃ দিনাজপুর  
লতা, শিওর বেলাল মিত্র, রক্তস্রাব, কামালহাসী, সাজার  
শাহানা কবীর, শিওর বেলাল মিত্র, গ্রামঃ বনইয়াশপাড়া, জেলাঃ দিনাজপুর  
জামিলা, সানীয়া মোস্তাফিজার, শিওর বেলাল মিত্র, জেলাঃ দিনাজপুর

Venue:  
Olympic Police Station  
1130 S. Vermont Ave, Los Angeles, CA

Please send your check to:  
BUFLA PO Box:  
9241, Canoga Park, CA 91309

Contact:  
Dr. M. A. Hashem, (213) 200-0984  
Khandakar Alam, (909) 732-8800  
Jashim Ashrafi Ahmed, (818) 987-7454  
Shamsuddin Manik, (818) 744-6284  
Denny Tayyib, (818) 679-0131

Bangladesh Unity Federation of Los Angeles  
www.bufla.com

The whole nation was trying to share in their sympathy and offer their condolences. Many organizations, business entities, NGOs donated money for the victims and their families. BUFLA also shared their support and sympathy and were trying to help them as much as they could.

The number of victims of this tragedy were vast, but BUFLA wanted to do their part to make a difference in some of their lives. And so, BUFLA picked six victims randomly and decided to assist them through this hard time. BUFLA directly deposited the donated money to the victims' accounts. The following six victims and their families were; Jhorna and Sharna, two sisters, Lata, deceased, Roxana, Rebecca, and Shapla, who lost their organs and limbs.

### 3. Typhoon Haiyan in the Philippines:

On November 8, 2013, Friday, super Typhoon hit some of the islands of Philippines. The sustained winds were 190-195mph which is a record high in history. The most devastated area was Tacloban city, a small island of Philippine. The death toll was over 6,000 and over 30,000 people were injured and homeless.

The US Army with all of their logistical support were in the affected area right after the storm ended. The US Military planes evacuated thousands of survivors from the most devastated area of Tacloban. US Marine Brigadier General Paul Kennedy made this statement after flying over the devastated area of Tacloban, "I don't believe there is a single structure that is not destroyed or severely damaged in some way- every single building, every single house".

There were dead bodies all over. All people saw to their left, right, front, back were piles and piles of dead bodies. Six trucks of military cadaver collectors had scoured the island the soldiers were overwhelmed. "There are bodies everywhere, we do not have enough people to get to them," said one driver.

BUFLA sympathized with the devastation and they extended their helping hand towards the survivors. They donated money through another charity organization Tzu Cho foundation, a Buddhist organization, who has been doing charity work since the devastation and already donated over 13 million dollars. They had a huge team continuously doing rehabilitation work for the victims including a big medical team.

#### 4. Food Serving to LA Mission

On December 27, 2013 BUFLA did a different type of local charity event. While we wanted to help out all those affected in tragedies around the world, we decided to focus our efforts in our local communities. BUFLA served 400 packs of warm delicious food to the 400 LA Mission people during their lunch hour.

The food was distributed into four different groups. The first group consisted of only the employees who worked to cook and serve food daily. The second group consisted of the LA Mission students. The third group of people were those from the Spanish Chapel. And lastly, the fourth group were those from the English Chapel. All of those groups combined made up a total of 400 people.



The BUFLA charity team along with the Cabinet members and some other EC Members participated in this event. The food that we served to the people of the LA Mission was supplied by Deshi Restaurant, everyone that had the food complimented the taste of the dishes and truly appreciated a taste of something different. The charity event was highly appreciated by the director of the LA Mission and administrative personnel of the food serving department of the LA Mission.

#### 5. Blanket Distribution in Bangladesh

BUFLA has been distributing blankets in Bangladesh every year during winter when severe cold causes death of lot of people by hypothermia and Pneumonia, especially the children and elderly people.

In 2012, the former vice president of BUFLA Kazi Moshural Huda, with Jahan Hassan, Murad and team distributed the blankets among the homeless who were sleeping in the streets without any warm clothes.



In 2013, Dr. Hashem, former and first President of BUFLA, went to Bangladesh and on behalf of BUFLA he distributed 750 blankets in Bangladesh. Out of the 750 Blanket, 500 blankets were distributed at SHINGAIRE, in Manikgonj, and 250 blankets in Bikrampur. Murad Hassan and his team and Pritom Ahmed helped tremendously to make this Blanket distribution program a success.



In 2014, the Public Relation Officer of BUFLA Mr. Faruk Haulader, distributed blankets in Khulna Bagerhut , last January.



## 6. Local Charities

### A. Free Health Clinic 2012:

BUFLA has arranged, during Denny Tayyib & Nazrul Alam Cabinet, for the first time a free health clinic & Seminar for the benefit of Bangladeshi American Community of Los Angeles. An event of this caliber was a first for BUFLA and so it served as a test run. The event was successful and it played a significant role for the community.



The Charity Committee has done about \$ 10,000 worth of Charity in the year 2013. During this present cabinet, a separate Charity committee was formed in GA meeting by the Executive members.

This committee was formed initially by the all five former Presidents of BUFLA. Now this committee has a separate bank account from the administrative BUFLA account. BUFLA Charity Bank account jointly handling by Dr. M. A. Hashem, Khandakar Alam & Jasim Ashrafi Ahmed.

## 7. Charity projection for 2014:

BUFLA Charity Committee has announced their plan for 2014, they will do at least \$ 20,000 worth of charitable events both internationally and locally. This year BUFLA has decided to collect the Zakat money from people of the community for charity work.

So there is a request to all community people to donate generously to BUFLA to help the needy people. If you would like to donate your Zakat money or any donation, you can send it to:

BUFLA

1133 S. Vermont Ave # 20  
Los Angeles, CA 90006

If you have any questions, you may ask to any of the Charity committee members below

BUFLA Charity Committee (5 Former-Presidents of BUFLA):  
 Dr. M.A. Hashem (Coordinator) 213-200-0984  
 hashem\_dds@yahoo.com  
 Khandakar Alam 909-732-8800 alamkhandakar96@yahoo.com  
 Jashim Ashrafi Ahmed 818-987-7454 ahmed.j@sbcglobal.net  
 Shamsuddin Manik 818-744-6284  
 shamsuddinmanik@gmail.com  
 Denny Tayyib 818-679-0131 dennymnt@yahoo.com

[www.BUFLA.com](http://www.BUFLA.com)



### B. Free Health Clinic 2013:

In 2013, Shiper Chowdhury & Anjuman Ara Cabinet, arranged the Free Clinic & Seminar. This event was even more successful and more meaningful than the last. Dr. Nitin Shah and his huge team delivered beautiful & tremendous work for the community. The Free Clinic included checking vital signs, checking blood sugar level, cholesterol check up, free flu shot, free EKG, CPR training and free consultation with the internal medicine doctor, child specialist, and chiropractor.

To see more of BUFLA activities and Charity events please visit our website [www.BUFLA.com](http://www.BUFLA.com)