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مؤسسة البصر الخيرية العالمية
ALBASAR INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

لعيون تبصر الأمل

Eyes Seeing Hopes

ANNUAL REPORT 2015

Al-Basar International Foundation

Future Project

Makkah Technical College of ophthalmology, Dhaka

Prof. Dr. Adel Rushood

Founder and Secretary General:
Al-Basar International Foundation

The reason behind coming to Bangladesh is to help the people of this country in their straggle for overcoming the health problems, especially what regards avoidable blindness and eye diseases. We want to cover all districts of this country over the times and reach as many people as possible – this might not be achieved in a day or two but nothing is impossible by the help of Al-Mighty Allah.

This work is managed and controlled by some ambitious and spirited teams nationally and internationally-- thanks to all of them for giving tremendous efforts in restoring sights and returning hopes to the broken hearts.

We seek nothing except for the pleasure and blessing of Allah by eliminating the suffering of the best creature of him, the human beings.

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Dr. Fareed Mohammad Al Yagout

Executive Director
Al-Basar International Foundation

Since its origins our foundation has earned a worldwide reputation for combatting avoidable blindness and helping people with visual impairment. We are committed to strengthening this reputation by expanding the axis of our activities and improving them constantly. I am glad that Bangladesh sector is doing well and making differences in both quality and quantity by the grace of Al-Mighty Allah. Thanks to all brothers and sisters associated with us in this humanitarian effort.

Mr. Khalid Huomud Al-Jwirah

Chief: Al-Basar International Foundation, Bangladesh Sector & Board Member

I am very much pleased to express my heartiest thanks and gratitude to all our donors and supporters who assisted various projects of our foundation in 2015. In this year we helped thousands of Bangladeshi people restore their sight and return to their ordinary life. I would also like to express my deepest thanks to the government of Bangladesh for the facilities offered to our foundation, and to the people of this country for the courtesy and hospitality we always experience every time we visit this country.

Dr. Ahmed Taher

Country Director
Al-Basar International Foundation, Bangladesh Sector

In the name of Allah, the Most Gracious, the Most Merciful.

I am privileged and honored to write this message as the director of the Al-Basar International Foundation, Bangladesh sector, to brief the events and works done in 2015 with great success. In this regard I would, first, like to appreciate the support given by the Ministry of Health, NGO Affaires Bureau of the Bangladesh government and all other organizations and offices that helped us in fulfilling the targets planned for this year.

'School Program for Eye Health' was the most prominent project we could commence in 2015 aiming at serving 2, 00,000 students in Dhaka and surrounding areas.

'Charitable Eye Camp' is the main platform in which we serve thousands of underprivileged people each year. In 2015 we could implement three Charitable Eye Camps where more than 14,500 patients have been screened and 1,757 cataract surgeries have been done.

Eye Hospitals are the centres for offering eye health care regularly. In 2015 the performance of our hospitals, which are four in number, have really been pleasing and we could serve 266,169 patients by the grace of Allah.

I am very much thankful to the Director General of the organization Dr. Adel Abdul Aziz Al-Rushood and to all his colleagues at the head office, in particular Dr. Fareed Mohammad Al Yaqout, and Mr. Khalid Huomud Al-Jwirah for their generous support that made all our projects successful. Special thanks to our Administrative Offices, Doctors, Nurses, IT men, Technicians and all other employees for their sincere effort.

Vision, Mission and Values

Al-Basar International Foundation, Bangladesh Sector, is one of the leading eye health care providers in Bangladesh. In the past two years (2014-2015) this organization cured over 620,432 patients covering six districts of Bangladesh and continuing to improve its operational performance.

Vision

A leading organization for the elimination of avoidable blindness

Mission

To save the sight of vulnerable people in Bangladesh through combating and eliminating the main causes leading to visual disability or impairment.

Value

- Sincerity and perfection of work.
- Serious commitment and credibility.
- Originality, creativity, quality and excellence.
- Mutual respect and constructive competition.
- Leadership and proper planning.
- Confidence and responsibility.
- Entrepreneurship and teamwork.
- Being in touch with the community and serving them.

Legal Status of Al-Basar International Foundation

Al-Basar International Foundation is registered with the NGO Affairs Bureau under the Prime Minister's Office, Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. Its Charity Registration no is: 654

Institutional Value

Empathy and Care: Al-Basar Int. Foundation Bangladesh Sector is whole heartedly empathetic and caring to the sufferers with eye diseases.

Partnership: Al-Basar Int. Foundation Bangladesh Sector is concerned about building partnerships with different organizations, individuals and communities in order to prevent avoidable blindness.

Integrity and transparency: Al-Basar Int. Foundation Bangladesh Sector is very firm and strict in practicing integrity and transparency in all its activities and intervention.

Adaptability: To stay relevant and flexible to the new development in the field of Ophthalmology and blindness control the organization always practices the adaptability and positive changes.

Inclusiveness: Al-Basar Int. Foundation Bangladesh Sector is open to all irrespective of cast, creed, culture and religion.

His exellency principal Matiur Rahman, the present minister of religious affairs receiving a crest from Dr. Ahmed Taher

What We Do

Prevent Blindness

It goes without saying that ordinary people in Bangladesh is less aware about eye health care. This, no doubt, constitutes a major challenge in preventing blindness in this country. This is why Al-Basar Int. Foundation Bangladesh Sector made a decision to create awareness among ordinary people. It has adopted the Free Treatment Days and Charitable Eye Camp systems. Nowadays we are focusing on remote districts like Chapainawabganj, Barguna and Putuakhali etc. where people are very much in need to healthcare and seldom find someone who may care about them without any charge.

Restore Sight

Al-Basar has done surgery to restore the sight of 1,291,000 people around the world over the past 27 years.

With restored sight, adults become capable to work and provide financial support to their families, parents can care for their children to attend their schools again.

Our comprehensive approach expands community programs and provides free or low cost eye treatment, pathological test, surgery, prescription for Glass and medicine, treatment to those who cannot afford the cost of services. Al-Basar provides with support to poor patients and their families so that no one is turned away for their inability to pay for treatment.

Charitable Eye Camps

These camps began with the skilled medical, technical and administrative crews and covered 34 districts in Bangladesh. The outcomes of the past 23 years of work in this country are as follows: -

Number of camps: 39
The number of patients screened: more than 2,55,684
The number of surgeries performed: more than 17,267.
Number of glasses distributed: more than 44,383 in addition to the medicines and other necessary help.

These camps are effective way to serve the needy and deprived rural people in Bangladesh. It is also an operative way to contribute a great deal to Vision 2020: The Right to sight. Vision 2020 is a global initiative launched by the World Health Organization and a task force of international non-government organizations to combat the immense problem of blindness in the world. People who are hardly able to pay even the expenses of transportation to attend the camp to grab the opportunity and get rid of their suffering through the free medical camps, are our main target. This is one basic reason behind adopting medical camping policy by Al-Basar International Foundation.

The total of 39 camps were done in different parts of Bangladesh so far. Through these camps we extended our services to 2,62,714 patients. This figure includes the patients received treatment at the camp's OPD and went through surgical services from the temporary operation facilities, in addition to the eye glasses and medications dispensed among the camp patients.

Our first Charitable Eye Camp (which we call Al-Basar Caravan) in Bangladesh dates back to 1992. In that year a camp had been implemented in Cox's Bazar, then the caravan continued around the country to cover 34 districts by the end of 2015.

IIn this year we covered three districts, Netrakona, Chapainawabganj and Bagerhat, and the result was overwhelming. In Netrakona we could do totally free cataract surgery for 626 people, and 7,000 people received other helps Medicine & reading glasses at our OPD there. in Chapainawabganj there were 631free cataract surgeries with distributing among them good quality of blankets and 5,000 patients received other necessary treatment. In Bagerhat we could do 500 cataract surgeries, and serve 2,500 patients as per their satisfactory demand for eye treatment.

Story from the Field

I got cataract three years ago. I am poor and don't have money. Once I went to doctor. He examined me and said I need operation. Operation will cost me 5000 Taka. It was not possible for me to collect this amount. One day I heard someone announcing that there will be a free eye camp of Al-Basar International Foundation. I went to man and got a leaflet. Alhamdullah, Al-Basar did everything free for me. I am very happy. I can do my work now. I can go to the mosque for prayer and read the Holy Quran.

Golam Mortuja
Pathan Para, Chapainawabganj

Free Treatment Days

Al-Basar International Foundation organizes day-long free treatment program each week in different parts of Bangladesh, especially in the places where patients can get easy access to our hospitals. In 2015 Makka Eye Hospitals in Uttara, Rajshahi and Tangail did tremendous job in this regard. In these camps not only was every patient diagnosed, treated and provided with medication, but they could also do surgeries free of cost in many cases or with nominal fees affordable for them. People of all ages, including women, children, and men have been beneficiaries of these camps.

The outcomes of these campaigns during the past 23 years were as follows:
Total number of campaigns: 1,134
Total number of patients screened: more than 1,35,000.
Total number of surgeries conducted: more than 14,000

School Program for Eye Heath

Background

Blindness brings sorrows and grief to the life of a person regardless of the stage he is in; however the burden becomes more unbearable when it occurs at an early stage of life. Imagine a child who got refractive error and left undetected, untreated or incorrected.His future becomes uncertain in terms of education and socioeconomic development! No doubt, he will face hardships and adversities that, may be, leave him in a life full of deprivation and destitution. The main cause of visual impairment in children is incorrected refractive errors. The majority of parents and even school teachers have very little knowledge about these errors and their short and long time consequences. These errors may lead to amblyopia which turns into blindness in children. Despite the fact that refractive error in children is one of the priorities of the World Health Organization (WHO),till now there is no study done at the national level in Bangladesh to know the rate of prevalence of this error among the school children. Al-Basar International Foundation made a significant contribution in this aspect along with rendering treatment to children facing any kind of eye diseases.

Project Objectives

The project sketched to examine 200,000 students in 200 + schools in Dhaka to discover the visual problems and manage them at our specialized eye hospitals through comprehensive treatment,surgeries, medicines, eyeglasses, and other forms of medical care and also providing a statistics to the government to take the necessary initiatives in this regard.

Successes

In 2015, the School Program for Eye Health was already able to reach over 40,163 students in 104 schools within Dhaka city and surrounding areas.

The program also trained 190 teachers of different schools so that they can perform the visual screening at their school set up and help students become aware of their eye health along with their parents.

Project Feedback

The results showed that 3,266 (8.1%) had eye problems. Consequently, 1,433 cases had refractions within the school campus, 501 cases were referred to hospitals for treatment, 25 students went under eye surgeries, and 815 students received eyeglasses (all are free of cost).

During the program period some parents refused to get their children operated out of fear of adverse effects or wanted to wait till the end of the academic year. Social counsellor visited those families to explain the importance of those operations for their children and convinced to have the surgery done at their convenient time.

The rate of eye problems among the school children in Bangladesh is relatively high compared to other countries, which affects sights problem among school children and reflects negativity on their academic achievement and self-development.

Action Plan of the Program

The action plan of the program involved selecting the schools, choosing a group of teachers to receive training in measuring vision at school setup and detect eye abnormalities to refer to an eye hospital. Record every students' information in a coding sheet. Holding training courses for the medics of Al-Basar International Foundation, who are responsible for the implementation of the program, and holding a specialized course on data entry and statistical analysis using the SPSS software.

This health program is the result of an agreement signed in November 2014 by Al-Basar International Foundation, Qatar Red Crescent Society (QRCS) and the Islamic Call Organization.

Testimonial from the Field

My name is Dibosh and I am 12-year-old. My father is a day laborer. And my mother is a house wife. She has no job to do and support my father. We live in a tiny single room in a slum at Mohammadpur area in Dhaka. Every month we have to pay TK. 2,500 as a rent that is hard to pay for my parents. I got cataract early in 2010. My father took me to a doctor. He suggested to do operation. He also said that the operation will cost minimum TK. 5000. We returned to our slum home with broken hearts.

My father was very upset. He said, `how is it possible for me to pay this amount?' however he gave me word that he will save money little by little and do the operation for me. But he could not save money as he said. Condition of my eye was worsening day by day. Until it was the moment when a medical team of School Program for Eye Health came to my school. The team screened my eye and said that they will do the operation totally free.

I am now very happy that my cataract was removed. I can see now clearly and continuing my studies without any interruption. I can play with my friends to keep myself healthy. My parents are happy too. May God bless Al-Basar International Foundation and Al Noor Eye Hospital, Ameen!

Visual Screening Teachers Training Program

Objective

To help teachers to measure visual acuity and identify obvious ocular abnormalities in the vision screening program for eye health for the children attending schools within Dhaka city and surrounding areas.

Materials and Methods:

Our doctors and optometrist trained school teachers to measure visual acuity and to identify obvious ocular abnormalities in children. Children with visual acuity worse than 20/30 in any eye and/or any obvious ocular abnormality are referred to our optometrist who would visit the school on a fixed day as per consent of school administrator. Optometrist prescribe spectacles to children needing refractive correction and refer children needing further examination to our pediatric ophthalmologist at Al-Noor Eye Hospital.

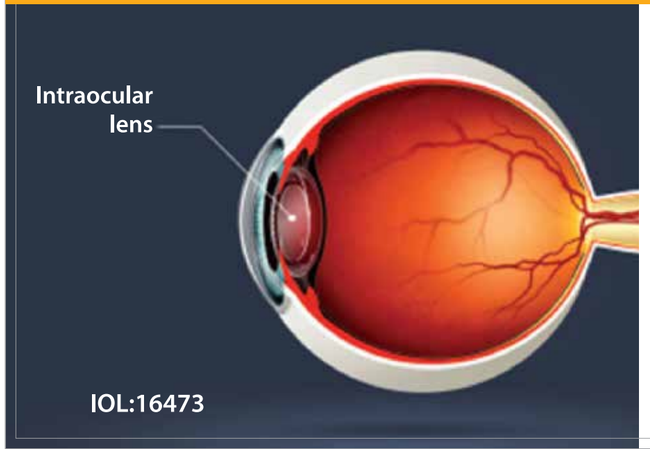
Results:

One hundred ninety teachers from 104 schools enrolled 36922 children in the project and screened 22616 (61.25 %) of enrolled children. Whereas our own team for eye screening helped the teachers and screened on their own 14306 students (38.74%).

Conclusions:

Primary vision screening by teachers has effectively reduced the workload of Optometrist.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF OUR HOSPITALS IN 2015



Co-operation with BRAC

In order to promote the case of combating vision disability and help the government of Bangladesh achieve its goal under the Vision 2020 program, we entered in a cooperation with BRAC, world's largest Bangladesh-based NGO, in 2014 and signed a memorandum of understanding in this regard. The aim of this cooperation was to work together for eliminating avoidable blindness from Rajshahi division. Since we have a hospital in the heart of Rajshahi city we could offer any help demanded by BRAC, starting from the use of every facilities available at our hospital as well as supporting them with the appropriate personnel needed by such a task. All these efforts resulted in restoring sights of 4,200 people.

Al-Noor Eye Hospital

Al-Noor Eye Hospital was established in 1993 in Lalmatia, Dhaka. Due to its humanitarian standpoint and sincerity in combating blindness Al-Noor is now one of the most beloved destinations for eye patients in Bangladesh. The efficiency, hardworking, devoutness to the blindness control program are the some advantages that helped her to start other three eye hospitals in Bangladesh..
Al-Noor Eye Hospital, since its commencement, stands in the heart of Dhaka and comprises of a four storied building. Two spacious operation theatres, 1 floor for cabins, 2 floor for consultations and diagnostics services, a conference room, a library, a pharmacy and spectacle shop are the inclusions of this hospital.

Al-Noor Eye Hospital maintains a snow-white line of action in offering medical services, thus it has world-class diagnostics equipment and high-tech machines.

Al-Noor Eye Hospital is a non-profit eye hospital in Bangladesh. By paying only a nominal registration fees patients are able to have consultation from highly experienced doctors and ophthalmologist, along with going through different checkups for free. The achievements of the hospital in 2015 are as follows:

OPD	1,51,298
Surgery	6,867
IOL	3,316
Spectacle	25,644

Makka Eye Hospital, Uttara

In response to the increasing demand for the services of Al-Basar International Foundation in Bangladesh, the plan had been devised to establish a branch of Al-Noor Eye Hospital in Dhaka. Choice had been made on Uttara as a location for this new eye hospital. Within a considerably short period of time following the inception, Makkah Eye Hospital has jostled its way in much rapid pattern and secured an esteemed position among other eye hospitals in northern part of the capital city. Crowds of patients in almost every morning in OPD section are the proof of becoming a trustworthy place for eye patients.

Makka Eye Hospital, Uttara is located in sector one of Uttara Model Town, just next to the RAB-1 and took place in a four storied building which houses seven doctor chambers, main operation theatre, minor operation theatre, four patients waiting spaces, two lab rooms, two DCR room male and female wards, cabins, own pharmacy and optic shops.

Makka Eye Hospital, Uttara is a non-profit eye hospital in Bangladesh. By paying only a nominal registration fees patients are able to have consultation from highly experienced doctors and ophthalmologist, along with going through different checkups for free. The achievements of the hospital in 2015 are as follows:

OPD	71,042
Surgery	2,638
IOL	1,559
Spectacle	14,150

Makka Eye Hospital, Rajshahi

Considering the scarcity in eye -health care services in Northern Bangladesh, Al-Basar International Foundation launched its 3rd eye hospital in Rajshahi in 2011. This hospital, nowadays, in addition to being a modern establishment for eye heath care, is also a centre where local and international eye camps are launched for the destitute people in northern Bangladesh. It is also working jointly with Brac & Bangladesh National Eye Care Committee.

Makka Eye Hospital, Rajshahi is located in 76, Sagar Para. It is a four storied building which comprises of two doctor chambers, main operation theatre, minor operation theatre, four patients waiting spaces, one ECG Room, one counselling room, one computer refraction room, male and female wards, cabins, own pharmacy and optic shop.

Makka Eye Hospital, Rajshahi is a non-profit eye hospital in Bangladesh. By paying only a nominal registration fees patients are able to have consultation from highly experienced doctors and ophthalmologist, along with going through different checkups for free. The achievements of the hospital in 2015 are as follows:

OPD	33,987
Surgery	4,458
IOL	3,579
Spectacle	4,343

Makka Eye Hospital, Tangail

In 2014, Makka Eye Hospital in Tangail witnessed a great launching ceremony in which the Secretary General of Al-Basar International Foundation himself participated along with honourable guests from Saudi Arabia and Qatar.

This hospital came to existence as a result of efforts aimed at combating blindness in Tangail district and surrounding localities.

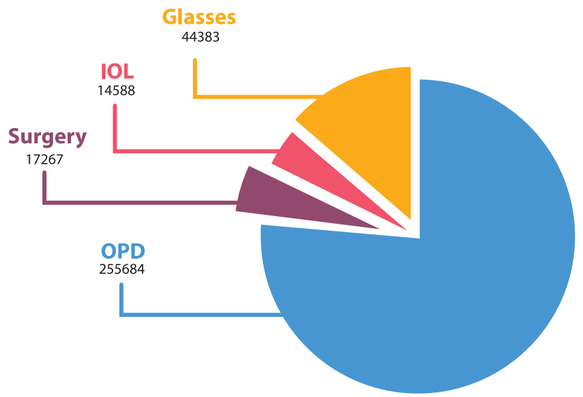
Because of the humanitarian aspects upheld by the hospital, people of Tangail became attached to its services, and nowadays, it is a prestigious destination for eye patients in the area. Makka Eye Hospital, Tangail is located in Dewla, Plot # 746, Road # 1. It is a three storied building that includes two doctor-chambers, three waiting spaces, main operation theatre, minor operation theatre, septic operation room, auto lab room, anesthesia room, several administrative and managerial rooms, male and female wards, and cabins.

Makka Eye Hospital, Tangail is a non-profit eye hospital in Bangladesh. By paying only a nominal registration fees patients are able to have consultation from highly experienced doctors and ophthalmologist, along with going through different checkups for free. The achievements of the hospital in 2015 are as follows:

OPD	9,842
Surgery	730
IOL	525
Spectacle	2,243

Countrywide Charitable Eye Camps

Bangladesh 1992 - 2015



			OPD	Surgery	IOL	Glasses
1	Feb-92	Cox's Bazar	3500	302	0	1127
2	Feb-92	Daudkandi	2850	275	0	1030
3	Jan-93	Cox's Bazar	6661	413	10	1505
4	Jan-93	Bogra	5498	314	10	1405
5	Jan-93	Satkhira	7649	416	10	1415
6	Jan-95	Gopalganj	5047	136	15	543
7	Feb-99	Brahmanbaria	1480	70	0	0
8	Aug-01	Gopalganj	6000	382	325	1000
9	Aug-01	Satkhira	10000	442	411	1450
10	Apr-02	Keraniganj	8000	404	376	1175
11	Apr-02	Mirzapur	8500	385	357	1092
12	Mar-03	Moulvibazar	6000	423	399	1200
13	Mar-03	Comilla	6000	390	376	1200
14	Apr-03	Bogra	6800	485	464	1200
15	Apr-03	Mirresharai	9500	370	353	1000
16	Apr-03	Chandpur	11000	560	539	1000
17	May-04	Pabna	11000	573	544	1000
18	Jan-06	Hazaribagh	450	176	0	0
19	Mar-06	Munshiganj	700	187	0	0
20	Feb-07	Gazipur	400	119	72	0
21	Mar-08	Narsingdhi	7500	447	443	1350
22	Mar-08	Pabna	10500	454	450	1350
23	Mar-08	Kushtia	7000	473	469	1350
24	Feb-09	Tangail	12000	1013	1007	2000
25	Feb-09	Mymensingh	10000	414	405	1300
26	Apr-09	Gazipur	10000	571	520	1200
27	Mar-10	Jaipurhat	10000	550	543	1500
28	Apr-10	Narayanganj	5000	528	514	1200
29	May-11	Munshiganj	7000	464	464	1264
30	Jul-11	Rajshahi	8000	477	477	1752
31	Dec-11	Netrakona	6000	517	517	1800
32	Apr-12	Manikganj	6000	515	515	1500
33	Jun-12	Natore	5000	544	538	1292
34	Dec-12	Tangail	5500	582	579	1294
35	May-14	Tangail	5750	706	702	1400
36	Dec-14	Sylhet	5924	433	429	1143
37	May-15	Netrakona	7000	626	624	1415
38	Dec-15	Chapainawabganj	6000	631	631	1181
39	Dec-15	Bagerhat	4475	500	500	750
			255684	**17267**	**14588**	**44383**

Statistics of Hospitals & Free Eye Camps from 1992 to 2015