

BANGLADESH - NEPAL MISSION REPORT APRIL, 2023

April is traditionally the hottest month in Bangladesh, but the first 10 days or so were extremely mild with temperatures in the high 70s and low to medium 80s. We also had several rains in that period. Traditional temperatures reappeared in the middle of the month however with about a week of intense heat wave, reaching into the low 100 degree range. However the last week saw milder weather which was extremely welcome with KBC's graduation and lectures approaching.

I visited the Gopalpur Church of Christ April 9 and enjoyed worship and fellowship with about 25 Christians who meet together in the home of Sumon Sarker. Sumon has generously given the church a small parcel of land beside his house. We agreed to purchase another parcel just a little larger next to the original piece. We pray that we will be able to erect a building for the church there in the near future.



Preaching at Gopalpur congregation

I have made a practice over the past several years to conduct a "Faculty Study" each time that I am in Bangladesh. We meet (4 teachers and myself) one evening a week for one and a half or two hours. I select and bring over a featured book on which the study will be based, including copies for each of the faculty to keep as his own. For this session our study was on "The Nature of God" featuring a book entitled "I AM," edited by Jeremy Barrier and Charles R. Webb. The book contains fourteen chapters, each describing one divine attribute. We all enjoyed the study. At the request of one of the teachers we will next (in the fall of 2023) study "The End of Time;" in scholarly terms, "Eschatology."

On Saturday morning, April 29 six young men were awarded diplomas from KBC, having completed three years of study. During those three years they studied every book of the Bible, plus additional subjects pertaining to their future work as preachers and evangelists. Many of our students enter KBC with little background in the Bible - some are fairly new converts. It is encouraging to monitor their progress during their time on campus.



Jasim Chakma receiving his diploma from KBC April 29, 2023

One of the graduates, Prosanto Dos, was awarded a Special Academic Award for achieving the first ever perfect 4.0 grade point average, for his career as a student of KBC. Prosanto has proven himself to be committed to the study of the Bible and is well prepared to serve the Lord as an evangelist in Bangladesh.



Prosanto Dos receiving the Special Academic Award

With this class of six the total number of graduates from Khulna Bible College since it opened in 1996 on a part-time basis is sixty-six. Of the previous sixty, thirty-seven are currently preaching in Bangladesh, with four others serving as faculty and administrators at Khulna Bible College. The class of '23 will add to that number soon.

The KBC annual Lectures began later Saturday night with the Keynote address delivered by myself. The Lecture theme was "Things Proper for Sound Doctrine" (Titus 2:1) which provided the framework for a detailed study of 1 & 2 Timothy and Titus. Each of the administrators / faculty delivered one lesson, with the remaining eight presented by KBC alumni, all of whom are working productively as preachers.

The lectures mark the end of my two month long stay at Khulna Bible College. Next I will go to Kathmandu, Nepal for a two-week campaign of Bible Classes in three different areas of Nepal. More about that in next month's report.

I again extend my deepest appreciation to all of you who support the work of Bangladesh-Nepal missions and who provide me so much encouragement. May God bless you in all that you do.

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Memorial Gifts

Donations were made to the work of the Bangladesh/Nepal Missions in memory of the following.

April 2023

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|---------------|-------------|-------------------|-------------|
| Hal Garland | Ray Saint | Betty Jane Zills | John Dupree |
| Janie Simpson | Jeremy Pape | Montey Gaisser Sr | |