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Reflecting on 2023, I am filled with pride and confidence as I see the success stories and achievements we have secured in our mission to build a better future for the underprivileged. I am immensely proud of the dedicated team that has consistently outperformed expectations, and deeply grateful to our donors, partners, and associates who have supported us in driving positive change. This year, Amal Foundation executed significant projects like the Plastic Conference, Orphan Sponsorship Project, Zakat Empowerment Project, and Climate Smart Agriculture, all of which had a profound impact on both beneficiaries and communities. As the Director of Amal Foundation, I am convinced that our collective commitment and capability can lead to even greater accomplishments.

#### **Esrat Karim**

Founder & Director



## **Our journey**



## **Education**

Amal Foundation has dedicated itself to numerous educational activities through innovative collaborations. These initiatives aim to provide unrestricted access to high-quality education, thereby unlocking the latent potential of children and underserved individuals. This commitment paves the way for a transformative journey toward a brighter future.



#### **Ucchash School**

Education is key to breaking the cycle of generational poverty. In Bangladesh's char and coastal areas, basic needs are a struggle, making education a luxury. Recognizing this, Amal Foundation built 'Uchchash School' in Char Shonpocha, Bogura, in 2017. This school provides free education, meals, medical checkups, and supplies to 50 children annually. Students now thrive academically and socially, participating in diverse activities and gaining essential skills.







## Significant events at our Ucchash School throughout the year



## Independence day celebration

Students celebrated Independence Day at Ucchash School. Students enjoyed a day filled with joy as they participated in a "dress as you like" game, dressing up as important characters such as army officers, singers, farmers, and political figures etc. They also enjoyed a special meal to mark the occasion.

## Annual Sports Day

During the 2023 Annual Sports Day at Ucchash School, students participated wholeheartedly. Both girls and boys competed in various games, with winners receiving motivating and exciting prizes.





#### Children's Day

To celebrate Children's Day, the students of Ucchash School unleashed their creativity on art paper and decorated the school with their own hands. They spent the entire day joyfully painting and playing, turning the event into a colorful and memorable experience.

#### National Mourning Day

In honor of National Mourning Day, Amal Foundation distributed food and ration packs to all Ucchash School students. This gesture was especially beneficial for the children in the Char area, where access to essential supplies can be challenging. The students and their families were deeply grateful for the support, making a significant difference in their daily lives.





#### Umbrella Distribution

Amal Foundation always prioritizes the well-being of Ucchash School students. Thanks to the support of IPDC, we provided umbrellas to help them tackle extreme heat and rain. The students were thrilled and excited to receive them.

#### **Victory Day**

To celebrate Victory Day, students at Ucchash School painted our national monument and flag to honor our martyrs. This meaningful activity not only deepened their appreciation for our history but also brought joy and a sense of pride to the children.









### **Nutritious Tiffin Distribution**

Birudalia Child Care School and Hamida Memorial Kindergarten School are both dedicated to educating underprivileged children in rural areas. Established in 2017 and 2003 respectively, these schools face significant financial challenges but are supported by their communities. Amal Foundation is providing nutritious food to the students at both schools, ensuring better health and learning outcomes. The primary occupations of families include farming, small businesses, and labor. Despite hardships, both schools maintain high attendance and community involvement.



# Students of Birudalia Child Care School and Hamida Memorial Kindergarten School



# Orphan Sponsorship Project

Due to Bangladesh's geographical situation, many people live in poverty, funds, education, and skills. Orphans are disadvantaged, with over 4.8 million in the country. Their current living conditions are inadequate. To address this, the Amal Foundation and One Ummah Charity, UK, launched the "Orphan Sponsorship 2023" project to support 300 orphans in Dupchanchia, Adomdighi, Shonatola, Shariakandi, Bogura Sadar Upazila in Bogura district, and Boalamri Upazila in Faridpur district. The project provides financial aid for nutritious meals, medical care, and education. Since 2023, it has made a significant positive impact, ensuring healthy meals, covering school expenses, and offering a safe living environment, thus helping children break the cycle of poverty and secure a better future.





## Some Happiest Faces of Our Orphan Children.













## **Empowerment**

Women's empowerment is crucial for societal progress and yields significant benefits for both individuals and the nation as a whole. Empowering women fosters social, economic, and communal growth, driving overall development. However, numerous challenges impede this empowerment, including restrictive societal norms, limited access to education, healthcare, and employment opportunities, early marriage, and lack of property rights. Furthermore, inadequate supportive policies and infrastructure exacerbate these obstacles, limiting women's potential.

Amal Foundation recognizes the aspirations and potential of women in marginalized communities. Committed to fostering positive change, Amal supports these women in their endeavors to create a better future for themselves and their families. By addressing the root causes of gender inequality and providing necessary resources and support, Amal strives to empower women, enabling them to contribute meaningfully to their communities and drive sustainable development.



# Skill Training Centers: A Place to be Empowered and Self-reliant

In 2023, Amal Foundation successfully operated three Women Empowerment Skill Centers. Two of these centers were located in Koyra Upazila of Khulna District, while the third was situated in Bogura Sadar of Bogura District.

#### **Projects Impact**





#### Khulna, Koyra:

Hope Skill Center: The first cohort consisted of 10 beneficiaries who learned to create various types of clothing and cushion covers through block printing and hand embroidery.

Project 'Tumi Shompurna': This initiative benefited 21 women, equipping them with skills in clothing creation and cushion cover making using block printing and hand embroidery techniques.















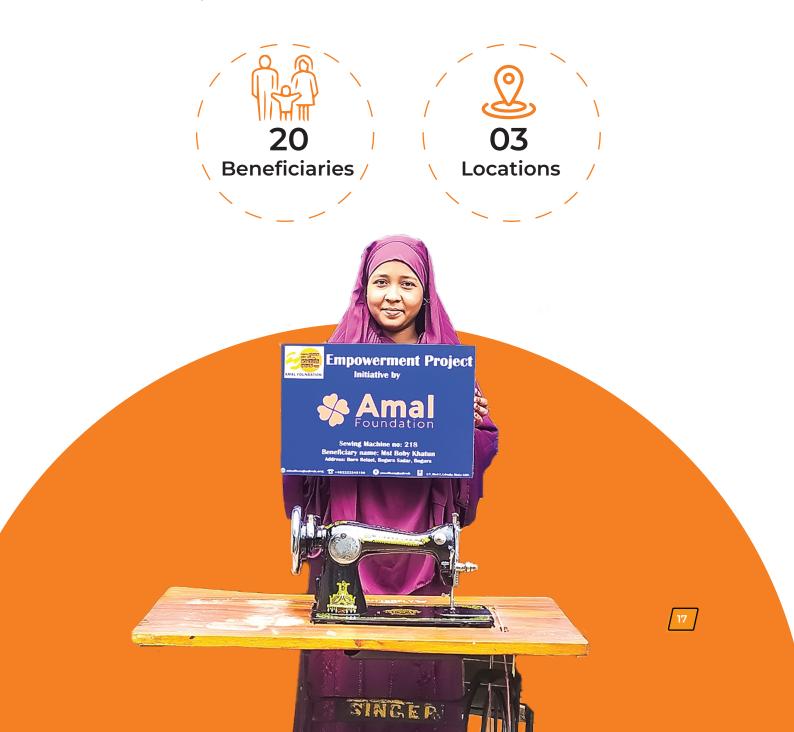


#### **Bogura Sadar, Bogura:**

Poripurna: Skill Center for Women Empowerment: Approximately 15 women beneficiaries were enrolled in this program. They mastered the techniques of creating home decor boutique items, including cutting, sewing, block printing, and embellishing through hand embroidery.

### Zakat Empowerment Project

Amal Foundation is committed to empowering marginalized individuals through its Zakat Empowerment Project. This initiative has been successfully running for more than seven years, and during the Ramadan season, it provided support to 26 disadvantaged families along with their family members across the country. These families were chosen based on their financial struggles and lack of opportunities to improve their circumstances. Through the project, Amal provided them van, goats, grocery shop, shelter and sewing machines, with the aim of eradicating poverty and promoting self-sufficiency. The initiative seeks to empower individuals to become entrepreneurs and transform their lives, enabling them to contribute positively to their communities and society as a whole. The project had a positive impact on 150 individuals both directly and indirectly



### Transformed lives through Zakat



# Zakat Empowerment Project for Orphan Parents

In our country, orphaned children are often neglected and lack a safe environment for their growth and development. They struggle to meet their basic needs, such as attending school, receiving medical care, wearing nice clothes, and eating nutritious food. While we can't heal their suffering overnight, we are trying to ease their pain by providing financial aid. However, we have noticed that they need even more care and support for their well-being.

To address this, as part of the Zakat campaign by Amal Foundation, we have provided assistance to the families of orphaned children in various places in the Bogura and Faridpur districts through the "Zakat Empowerment Project for Orphan Parents." With the support of One Ummah Charity, each family of these 295 orphaned children has received a goat and financial aid. Our goal is to continue supporting these helpless families and help them become self-reliant in the future.



295

Families of orphans children has received a goat and financial aid



02

Initially we are providing this support at two districts which are in Bogura and Faridpur



### Happy faces of Orphan parents



Some happiest faces of our winter aid campaign beneficiaries.

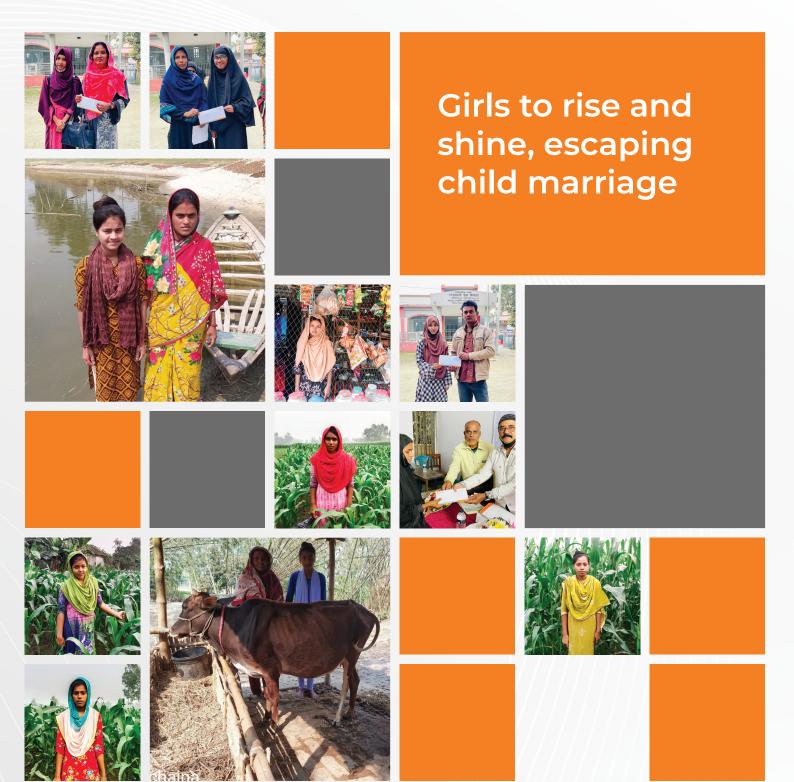
# **Child Marriage Prevention Loan** (CMPL)

Child marriage has long been an issue in Bangladesh due to the country's extreme poverty. Comprehensive research has shown that parents of girl children in Bangladesh's rurally underdeveloped areas view their female children as a financial and social burden. As a result, these female children are married off at a very young age and due to this, these unfortunate young girls are being robbed of their childhood, education, and health.

AMAL Foundation in collaboration with IPDC, a financial institution and also Just People Australia both initiated a project to prevent child marriages separately.

Then, Amal Foundation will collect monthly loan installments on behalf of IPDC and survey the girls' schooling and business. There are three major criteria to avail this loan, which are





### **Solar Home Project:**

Coastal areas often face electricity challenges due to their remote locations and susceptibility to extreme weather events. Conventional power infrastructure may be inadequate or prone to disruptions, leaving communities in these areas vulnerable to energy shortages which hampers their day to day lifestyle.

### Project at a glance



### Families of Solar home project



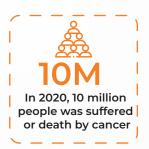
### Health

Access to high-quality healthcare remains a major barrier to the development of marginalized populations. These unprivileged groups face significant obstacles, trapping them in a cycle of poverty. Amal Foundation is dedicated to the betterment of these individuals, with a particular focus on underprivileged communities. The Foundation prioritizes ensuring that everyone has access to basic health services, including healthcare, child nutrition, and essential medical care.



### **Living Beyond Breast Cancer**

In 2020, cancer claimed nearly 10 million lives, solidifying its position as a leading cause of suffering and death worldwide. Despite ongoing efforts, awareness remains insufficient. Addressing this critical issue, Amal Foundation joined forces with Daraz, BANCAT, and Labaid Cancer Hospital to host a transformative event at Shamsun Nahar Hall, University of Dhaka. Attended by 200 participants, this event centered on breast cancer education, early detection, and holistic well-being, aiming to significantly elevate cancer awareness. Esteemed guests included Dr. Ali Nafisa, an Oncoplastic Breast Surgeon, and cancer survivor Ms. Farjana Ali. The program also featured two medical booths offering screenings supported by dedicated nursing staff, making a tangible impact on the community. We extend our heartfelt thanks to Chief Guest Dr. Lafifa Jamal, Professor of Robotics & Mechatronics Engineering, and Shamsun Nahar Hall's Provost for their crucial roles in making this event a success. Together, we proudly champion the cause of cancer awareness and education.









## Glimps of the Breast cancer awareness session





























# Health and Hygiene Camp at Char

Char Shonpacha is a riverside, remote village in Shariakandi Upazila of Bogra. Where the modern medical system is far from providing services, people have to struggle to fulfill other basic needs. A five-day health camp was organized at Char Shonpacha in collaboration with our friends Ly and Frida from the US. They provided medical care to incoming patients with the utmost care. 300 people have been treated through this health camp. Sincere thanks to Lee and Frieda for their outstanding contributions.









Glimps of doctors from abroad joined us to provide treatment in the village in Shariakandi Upazila.



## Clean Water for All

Amal foundation has installed 200 tube wells at Natore, Bogura, Faridpur, Nilphamari, Shariatpur, Thakurgaon in 2023 under "Clean Water for All" project. The project's main objective is to ensure that people have access to clean drinking water and can use it for their daily needs without any health hazards.



tubewells installed



**2000**Beneficiaries



Districts covered



# Saved lives through clean water of tube wells























## Health Camp for Maternal and Infant Health

Amal Foundation and Savlon Bangladesh launched a health campaign in Kamarga, Rajshahi, to improve the health of new mothers and their babies. We launched our awareness campaigns in Rangpur and Chittagong. Our sincere appreciation went out to the Savlon Bangladesh team for their thoughtful support of our project. The physical and hormonal changes after childbirth increased the postpartum woman's risk of illness and infection. Hygiene was essential for a newborn's health and well-being. Infants were more vulnerable to disease and infection because their immune systems were still maturing.

























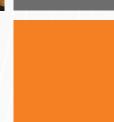












## **Emergency**

In Bangladesh, natural calamities like floods and cyclones make emergency response crucial. These disasters annually displace thousands, leaving them without shelter, safe drinking water, food, sanitation, or medical care. Rapid and effective response saves lives and mitigates the impact on communities. In May 2022, severe floods in Sylhet and Sunamganj displaced nearly 9 million people. On October 24, 2023, Cyclone Hamoon struck Cox's Bazar, displacing over 40,000 people, damaging 30,000 households, and affecting 470,000 individuals, including 2,500 Rohingya refugees.



### **Food Pack Distribution**

Due to the economic crisis caused by the global price hike, the lives of the poor people in the country have become very difficult. And so, to stand beside these helpless people, rice, dal, potato, onion, flattened rice, molasses, salt, turmeric powder, chili powder, coriander powder, and cumin powder were distributed by the Amal Foundation in Bogura, Sunamganj and Nilphamari districts in year 2023.









Food distribution among the vulnarable community

### Winter Aid Distributiom

Over a week, this bone-chilling coldness has had no intention of leaving us. The relentless shivering and suffering due to the cold have been particularly harsh on marginalized and poverty-ridden old people and children. In response to this dire need, the Amal Foundation has stepped in with winter aid, offering a lifeline to those most affected by the frigid temperatures.







# The beneficiaries satisfied reactions after receiving winter aid from Amal Foundation

























### **Environment**

In recent years, Amal Foundation has embarked on a dedicated mission towards sustainable development, focusing on environmental conservation and protection through a range of impactful initiatives. The organization's primary objective is to raise awareness and educate individuals and communities on sustainable practices, aiming to reduce carbon emissions, minimize plastic usage, and foster climate-resilient communities.

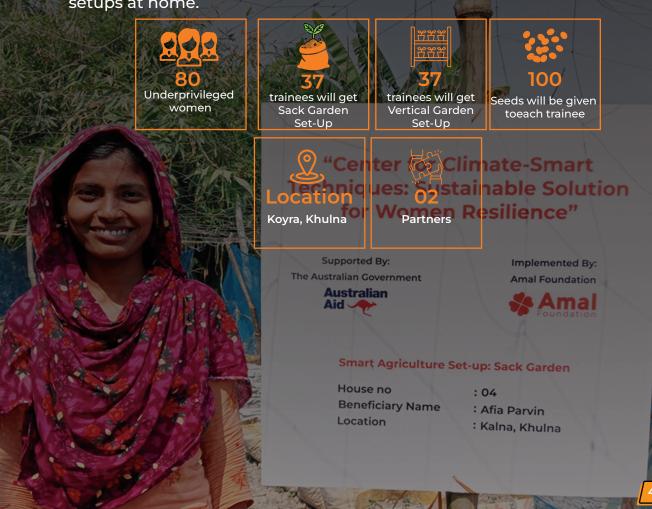
Amal Foundation actively promotes the adoption of sustainable practices across all its projects, striving to achieve a cleaner and healthier environment. The foundation is committed to building a sustainable future where humans and nature coexist in harmony, ensuring the well-being of future generations. Through its comprehensive programs and community engagements, Amal Foundation continues to make significant strides in advancing environmental sustainability.



# Sustainable Solutions for Women Resilience

Climate change impacts everyone, but especially women in coastal and rural areas. Recognizing their potential as agents of adaptation and mitigation, the Amal Foundation, in collaboration with the Australian High Commission and Tika, launched the Center for Climate-Smart Techniques in Modinabad, Koyra, Khulna. This initiative, titled "Sustainable Solutions for Women Resilience and Building Climate-Resilient Communities through Skill Development on Climate-Smart Agricultural Techniques," aimed to empower 80 underprivileged women.

Participants received training in leadership and climate-smart agriculture practices, such as sack and vertical gardening, to bolster their livelihoods amidst frequent flash floods. Upon completing their training, we helped them to establish sack and vertical gardens. Many beneficiaries now earn money by selling extra vegetables at local markets and sharing their produce with neighbors and relatives. This success has sparked interest among other women in the community, eager to adopt similar agricultural setups at home.



















Women empowered and educated towards a better and sustainable life













#### **Climate Warrior**

Climate change disproportionately affects marginalized communities, worsening social and economic inequalities. These populations, often in low-lying and water-scarce regions, are highly vulnerable to extreme weather. To address this, Amal Foundation and United Finance launched "The Climate Warrior" project, empowering youth to combat climate change with essential tools and knowledge.

Focusing on Char Shonpocha in Sariakandi, Bogura, the project trained about 100 young individuals in leadership, sewing, and agriculture. This initiative promotes sustainability and equips youth to become self-reliant and resilient in the face of climate crises.

The first cohort saw 40 youths trained, helping them develop skills and awareness about their climate vulnerability. Now, they are better prepared to support themselves and their families.





### Beneficiaries learning how to be "Climate Warriors" and becoming more independent.



## Managing Plastic in Bangladesh: 2023 Conference

Addressing plastic pollution requires a coordinated effort involving governments, the private sector, civil society, Indigenous communities, academics, and citizens. However, aligning these stakeholders is challenging due to differing priorities and interests, such as profitability versus environmental advocacy.

To facilitate collaboration, the Amal Foundation and the US Embassy to Bangladesh, in partnership with Unilever Bangladesh, Pran-RFL Group, Chevron, Coca-Cola Bangladesh, and BPCL, organized the 'Managing Plastic in Bangladesh: 2023 Conference' on October 30, 2023, at The Westin Dhaka.

#### **Event Highlight**









#### Moments capturing the discussion how plastic pollution has no place in a sustainable future



### Cop 28 movement

Only 'trees can beat rising heat,' it is no longer unknown in today's world. To put it into action and to raise and strengthen the awareness of local and marginalized people who suffer most dwelling in disaster-prone areas, Amal Foundation did a campaign reflecting messages of COP28 and those dwellers. Now they know that if 'you love nature, nature will love you.' With this motto, Amal Foundation relentlessly works to enhance their livelihood and mitigate the effects of climate change on their lives by giving them the capacity and awareness to nurture nature.



Trees are our savior for eradicating poverty











## World Environment Day celebration

On World Environment Day 2023, Amal Foundation hosted a seminar on "Combining Climate-Smart Agriculture and Sustainable Plastic Management" in Koyra, Khulna. The event addressed environmental challenges in coastal regions and highlighted the empowerment of women leading sustainable practices. Participants also organized a climate strike, advocating for climate justice and collective action against plastic pollution. This seminar marked a significant step toward building a more sustainable future through community-driven efforts.



World environment day means all about learning and loving nature

