Spring 2019


From left Mr. Jayanta Biswas of Durgapur Center, Prof. Dr. R. C. Chattopadhyay of Medinipur Center, Mr. Swarnadeep Das, Mr. Tapan Das in back, Ms. Ankita Ghosh of Kolkata, and Mr. Arindam Banerjee of Bankura, Paschim Banga (West Bengal State, India.)

***29 Years of Probini: Join Lunch on May 18 at 12:15***

2019 Probini Foundation Meet, Kolkata by Sachi G. Dastidar

On January 6, 2019 a Probini Foundation Meet was organized by Probini friends Mr. Jayanta Biswas and Mr. Arindam Banerjee. On a sunny 70-degree cold winter morning it was held at Purbachal Uttar neighborhood of eastern Kolkata. Probini supports four major projects in West Bengal – one project in Durgapur City offers education in dozens of schools in rural areas in neighboring districts – plus one orphanage school in distant Dibrugarh City in Assam State and one school in remote Twichwang village of eastern Mizoram state.

A call to the meeting began with an invocation by Mr. Jayanta Biswas or Durgapur. Then the group unanimously elected Prof. Dr. Sujata Ghosh Dastidar, President of the Kolkata Child Welfare Orphanage (Shishu Kalyan Parishad) to preside over the meeting. Next, all the Probini-sponsored schools or orphanages presented their report and spoke of the future that they dream of. There were-

OUR MOST RECENT BENEFACTORS:  (OCTOBER 15, 2018 — MARCH 15, 2019)

Sponsor: Ajay & Subhra Nayak, Drs. Arvind Chandrakantan & Kripa Krishnan, Drs. Sachi G & Shefali S Dastidar

Donor: Pia & Steve Owens

Contributor: Lorne & Candida Birch, Jay Hyman, Dilip Chakravorty (NYC), Mrs. Anita Guha (India), Mrs. Pratima RoyChoudhury (India), GoodSearch, GoodShop
Note about our Board Member Jay Hyman of N.Y.:

Mr. Hyman received a 50-year recognition plaque from a ladies’ ham radio organization that he joined in 1964. The organization was founded just a year before in 1963.

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Note from Mrs. Egan of California:

Dear Probini:

Thank you for your kind acknowledgement of my contribution. We will certainly continue to be in touch in the future.

Apala G. Egan

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Note from our Board Member Dr. Kusumita Pedersen of N.Y.:

I have just returned from a most memorable trip to Kenya where I attended the UN Environment Assembly.....

As you know, I was there on behalf of Climate Action Task Force, Parliament of the World’s Religions with Joshua Basofin, our Director of Climate Action.

A number of friends in faith-based environmental organizations were there and we met many, many new colleagues....On the last day before departure Joshua and I received remarkable hospitality from Dr. Kanyinke Sena (Maasai), Dir of the Indigenous People’s African Coordinating Committee (IPACC), which has over 100 member groups......

Remember!

Donations to Probini are fully tax deductible.

Please Join
25th ANNUAL NEW YEAR / NABABARSHA [1st BAISAKH] CELEBRATION

On Saturday, May 18, 2019
Time: 12:15 PM
LUNCH
At
Shona Punjab Restaurant
(248-03 Union Turnpike, Bellerose, Queens 11426;
718-470-9400)
By car: 1/4 mile east of Cross Island Parkway on Union Turnpike; Bus: Q46 from Kew Garden Subway Station on E & F line to 248 Street Stop

PROBINI PROJECTS

Probini is providing scholarships for school children.

Jagatpur Ashram Orphanage (1898), Chittagong, Bangladesh – supporting boys & girls’ education.

Madapur Pranab Ashram, Bangladesh – Probini is providing salaries for teachers and has built a boys’ dormitory.

Mahilara Ashram School, Barisal, Bangladesh – Probini is providing teachers and built a school.

Mizoram State, Tuichawng Village, India – Probini has built a school at that poor, remote, isolated, picturesque place.

Nandigram, Medinipur, India – Probini is providing teachers at Kasturba Gandhi Memorial School.

Nayagram, Paschim Medinipur, India – Probini has provided books for the poor tribal school & library.

Netrokona Manab Kalyan Kami [Improvement of Mankind] Orphanage, Bangladesh – Probini is providing student scholarships, has created agricultural projects for self-sufficiency in food and has built a girls’ dormitory.

Pirojpur Sri Ramkathi Pranav Shishu Bidya Niketan School, Bangladesh – Probini is providing salaries for teachers and has built a school building.

Uzirpurb Surya Sen Anath Sishu Sadan [Orphanage], Bangladesh – Probini is supporting students at the Orphanage and has built a kitchen for the dorm.

Probini has received remarkable attention from Dr. Joshua and I reconnected with colleagues….On the trip we met many, many new friends.

Probini is providing salaries for teachers, supporting boys at school.

Assam Buddhist Vihar Orphanage, Dibrugarh, India – Probini is providing teachers’ salary.

Bagerhat-Khulna AndharManik Girls’ High School: Probini has built a girls’ dormitory.

Bankura, India—Probini provides teachers salary at Purokonda Ashram school for the poor.

Barisal Poor Student Scholarship at Ramakrishna Mission, Bangladesh.


Comilla Ramakrishna Orphanage, Bangladesh – Probini is providing scholarships to several boys.

Dhaka Girls Orphanage Society, 1908, Bangladesh – Probini is providing scores of scholarships to girls for school education.

Dinajpur Harjan Palli Sri Ramakrishna Free School at the Sweeper’s Colony, Bangladesh – Probini is providing salaries for teachers.

Dhowa Danga Santhali Tribal Village School, Bardhamaan, India—Providing teachers at school.

Doihari Sahid Smriti (Martyr’s Memorial) Girls’ High School, Swarupkathi, Bangladesh: Probini has rebuilt the cyclone-destroyed school and dorm.

Pargapur 8 Separate Schools – Probini is providing salaries for teachers.

Gandhi Ashram Trust, Noakhali, Bangladesh – Probini is providing salaries for teachers.

Suggested Donation: $35.00 per person

www.probini.org probini@hotmail.com

Name: ____________________________
E-mail: __________________________
Address: _________________________
Tel: [Home] _____________________
[Work/Cell] _____________________

Please send check to Probini address, or pay via PayPal and let us know.

(Picture – Jan. 2019: Students of Probini-supported Tuthamandra Sarajubala Girl’s HS, Gopalganj, Bangladesh)

Information/RSVP:

Mr. Dilip Chakravorti (631-220-1225), Mr. Shuvo G. Dastidar [917-623-8554], Dr. Kusumita P. Pedersen [718-526-3973] and Mr. Jay Hyman 718-207-7107

Donations to Probini are deductible.
I’d like to help!

Yes, I/We/Our organization would like to help

Please make checks payable to The Probini Foundation

[ ] Sponsor $500
[ ] Patron $250
[ ] Donor $100
[ ] Contributor (any amount) $______

Name _____________________________________________________________

Address ............................................................................................

E-mail __________________________________________ Phone ____________

some organizations present who want connection with Probini Foundation. They spoke of their projects as well. Several organizations were presented with donations from Probini, while this writer provided 500 rupees each to individual groups attending the conference.

As many NGOs are facing problem with government bureaucracy and new protocols, a Probini-Ispad Kolkata Committee was formed with Mr. Jayanta Biswas and Mr. Ankita Ghosh as co-conveners, with Mr. Arindam Banerjee, Mr. Bikash Biswas, Dr. R. N. Chattopadhyay and Mr. Swarnadeep Das as members. They plan to add new members to the local committee and coordinate their work with New York, Bangladesh and elsewhere, and help each other.

The meet ended with a biriyani lunch. The members present thanked Mrs. Pratima Roy-Chaudhury for hosting the meet at her residence.

Should anyone be interested to learn about Probini Foundation one may write to probini@hot mail.com or check Probini page at Facebook or check www.probini.org or https://empirelastcasualty.blogspot.com/2008/12/educating-poor-and-orphaned-in.html for further information.

2019 Probini Foundation Meet, Dhaka, Bangladesh by Sachi G Dastidar

On January 11, 2019 a Probini Foundation Meet was organized by Probini supporters Mr. S. Mazumder and Mr. R. Roy at the famous Dhakeswari Mandir Temple’s administration building. About ten different Probini-supported organizations came for the Meet. In a city known for extreme traffic congestion, it was heartwarming to see so many groups – from as far as Pirojpur and Gopalganj and as close as Dhaka City came on the dot. In Dhaka Probini helps the Dhaka Girls’ Orphanage located in Purana (Old) Dhaka.
In pre-partition India, educating girls was a big goal of nationalists. Thus the school was built in a remote rural area of southcentral Bengal, now in southeast Bangladesh. Recently a Probini Foundation delegation visited the school where they have built a Probini Girls' Hostel. In 2000s when Probini supporters first visited the school with the help of a Hindu Monk Rev. Swami Satyapriananda the girls' school had uneven mud floor. (Without the monk’s help this reporter wouldn’t have been able to reach such a remote corner lacking any easy public transportation.) A campaign by Probini Foundation raised funds for the dormitory allowing girls to complete high school especially for those girls who live beyond walking distance – which is the majority of the cases. Incidentally educating the poor was energized in 1800s by Hindu saints Guru Chand and Hari Chand who rose from the very oppressed caste. Now “the school has produced top award winners in nationwide School Final Exams, eventually securing entry into law, administration, engineering, teaching, medical and other competitive disciplines” said Headmaster Arabindu Rai. Mr. Rai added, “we need funds to complete the second floor of the hostel, and some classrooms.” Probini's initial help was multiplied by local fund raising from the otherwise poor, mostly-peasant, oppressed community. When this writer appeared in January 2019 there was a festive jubilatory atmosphere.

Bangladesh, Gopalganj, Tutamandra Sarajubala Balika (Girls') Bidyaloy (High School): From Mud-Floor Classroom to Local Pride
By Sachi G. Dastidar

The Probini Foundation Chhatribash (Girls') Bhaban (Dorm) was built by the Members of Probini Foundation, Ms. Marta Delgado and Mr. Saumya Nandi, Master Akash Nandi, Dr. Joyeeta Ghosh Dastidar, Mr. Prabal Mukherji, Dr. Tom Angotti and Dr. Emma Matos, in Late Debashish Samaddar's Memory Mr. Pratip Dasgupta, Mr. Shuvo Ghosh Dastidar, Dr. Manjula Mukhopadhyay, Dr. Uwe Gielen, Mrs. Sibani Ghoshal, Dr. Shefali S. & Sachi G. Dastidar. Date of Opening: 18 Poush 1418 / April 1, 2009 (from the marble tablet). Check https://empireslastcasualty.blogspot.com/2008/12/educating-poor-and-orphaned-in.html for additional information.

Should anyone be interested in helping the Gopalganj school, they may contact Probini for further information.

For reports on recent visits to Probini-supported centers see the following:

Mahilara Building built by Probini supporters, Gour Nodi, Barisal, Bangladesh: Mahilara, Gour Nodi, Barisal, Bangladesh
The Oppressed, the Vanquished Rising from the Ashes
https://empireslastcasualty.blogspot.com/2019/01/mahilara-gour-nodi-barisal-bangladesh.html

Madaripur City Probini Boys' Dorm:
How a Gutted, Militantly-Destroyed Temple, Torched Dormitory, Illegally-Occupied Ashram Turn Around? The Case of Pranab Ashram Boys’ Hostel of Madaripur, Bangladesh
https://empireslastcasualty.blogspot.com/2019/01/madaripur-ashram-boys-hostel-turning.html

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