

Moanoghar Kumar Nandit Roy Memorial Scholarship



MOANO GHAR

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Founder: Shaddharmaditya Ven. Jnanasree Mahathera
Rangapani, Rangamati, P.O.Box 4500. Bangladesh

About the Scholarship

The Scholarship is set up by Ms. Jharna Roy, wife of late Kumar Nandit Roy, together with their children: Vaskar Roy and Lumbini Roy. It'll be called "Moanoghar Kumar Nandit Roy Memorial Scholarship" and shall be awarded annually to a poor and meritorious student from the CHT indigenous communities for tertiary level studies. The original amount of the endowment will be maintained in an interest bearing account by Moanoghar with a portion of the interest to be spent for the scholarship.

Administration of the Scholarship

The scholarship will be managed under the current 'Higher Education Loan Programme' (HELP) of Moanoghar and the overall terms and conditions of the HELP will be applicable to the recipient of the scholarship. As per the conditions, the recipient of the scholarship will be

obliged to refund to Moanoghar the amount s/he receive after entering into income generating employment upon completion of his/her studies. The refunded amount will be used for future candidates for their tertiary level studies. The selection of the candidate will be carried out through a competitive process as laid down in Moanoghar's HELP Policy (*available at www.moanoghar.org*).



About Kumar Nandit Roy and family

Kumar Nandit Roy is a familiar name in the greater Chittagong Hill Tracts and as well as among the diaspora both in Bangladesh and abroad. He was born on 1 September 1951 to the Chakma Raj family in Rangamati, youngest son of Raja Nalinaksha Roy and Rajmata Benita Roy. He was enrolled in St. Theresa Mission School for early education and subsequently studied in Dhaka Residential Model School & College and in Chittagong University in the Department of History for undergraduate studies. However, he could not complete his university studies as he had to carry out financial responsibility to support his family. Thus, he always had felt an urge to support education of youth who experienced similar obstacles in life.



He worked with the UN World Food Programme (WFP) from mid-1970s till early 2000s. He subsequently served with the UNDP's development programme for the Chittagong Hill Tracts region, commonly called Chittagong Hill Tracts Development Facility (CHTDF) till he took voluntary retirement in 2011. With WFP, he also served in assignments in several countries including in Nepal, Sudan, Mongolia and India.

Mr. Roy was a bon vivant, multi-talented personality and played lead role in social and cultural spheres in the greater Chittagong Hill Tracts and Bangladesh. He was also a notable sports person, won several individual awards in football and athletics in his youth, and served as life-long member in the management committee of the Rangamati Hill District Sports Association. He remained involved throughout his life with several socio-cultural and religious initiatives including as one of the founding members of Shahid Shukkur Club, the best-known football club in the CHT region, based in Rangamati. In the same vein, he was involved in the management of Rani Doyamoyee High School, a well-known educational institution in Rangamati, founded by the Chakma Raj family, and all through his life, he served a member in the Advisory Committee of the Chakma Raj Vihara.



Kumar Nandit Roy with his wife Jharna Roy with the children, their spouses and grandchildren

Above all, Kumar Nandit Roy was a talented musician and singer. He wrote, composed music and sung many songs in Chakma language and most of which continue to be among the most popular tunes in the contemporary Chakma society. This is, admittedly, the most sensible side of his multi-faceted talent. His diverse body of compositions, sung usually by himself in his typical baritone voice, invokes the effervescence of the contemporary CHTs and its society. It is a world that cherishes for love, empathy among peoples, and reflect urge of the region's inhabitants for its history, customs and past glory.

Kumar Nandit Roy have had life-long association with Moanoghar and has been its longstanding benefactor. He steered the helms of Moanoghar as Convenor of the Management Committee in late 1990s when the institution was overcoming a particularly critical time. Beyond his personal engagement, he always put himself ahead for mobilizing others to generate support for Moanoghar.

Mr. Roy passed away in Bangkok on 24 March 2018. He was only 66. His life and deeds remind the immortal message of the Lord Buddha “*Bohujono hitayo, bohujono sukhayo*” (*for the welfare of many, for the happiness of many*), a message of wisdom that also equally embodies his entire life.

About Moanoghar Higher Education Loan Programme (HELP)

Moanoghar launched a Higher Education Programme in mid-1980s to provide students with stipends/scholarships to pursue tertiary level studies in universities or technical institutes. The initiative was a success with an estimated 400 students having completed their education under the scheme. All of these recipients are now professionally established both at home and abroad and currently lead the alumnae association “The Moanogharians”.

The initiative was stopped in late 1990s when Moanoghar passed through a critical period with severe financial crisis. It was resumed from 2011, albeit with a revised name: HELP. The programme is run with contributions from the Moanogharians, various well-wishers from the CHT diaspora. But, the most important is a number of scholarships, set up by endowments from generous individuals such this scholarship, that pay for the education of a meritorious student.

The HELP, so far, has proved to be a very effective initiative. Currently, 120 students are studying with HELP’s support and more than 80 have completed their studies and are engaged various professional career. All of them are members of the Moanogharians and contribute to HELP and other Moanoghar activities.

Further details on HELP are provided on the Moanoghar HELP Policy.
