

Moanoghar Amalendu BikashChakma Memorial Scholarship



MOANO GHAR

Rgd No. Ranga-18(871)/80 (9/12/1980)
NGO Affairs Bureau Reg: 1673 (14/04/2001)
Founder: Shaddharmaditya Ven. JnanasreeMahathera
Rangapani, Rangamati, P.O.Box 4500. Bangladesh

About the Scholarship

The Scholarship is created by Mr. Roky Chakma and his family in memory of his father Mr. Amalendu Bikash Chakma (*popularly known as 'Haru Babu' across CHT*). They made an endowment specifically for this purpose and vested it to Moanoghar for management. The endowment is kept in a 'fixed deposit' account and only its interest will be disbursed for the scholarship.

The scholarship is created for Tertiary Level Education for meritorious students belong to indigenous communities in the Chittagong Hill Tracts region. Students in the discipline of science, medicine or engineering subjects will be given preference.

Administration of the Scholarship

The scholarship will be administered as part of Moanoghar 'Higher Education Loan Programme' (HELP) and the overall terms and conditions of the HELP will be applicable to the recipient of the scholarship. Consequently, the recipient of the scholarship will have obligation to refund to Moanoghar the amount s/he has received once s/he enters into income generating employment after the studies. The recovered amount will be used for disbursing further loans to future candidates. Secondly; the selection of the candidate will be carried out through a competitive process as laid down in Moanoghar's HELP Policy (*Attached as Annex*).

About Amalendu Bikash Chakma, Roky Chakma and his family

Amalendu Bikash Chakma is widely known across the greater Chittagong Hill Tracts, often with his nickname *Haru Babu* or simply *Haru* to his friends and family. He was born on 28 April in 1935 at Jhagarabill village in Rangamati to Mr. Digambar Chakma and Ms. Niroda Bala Chakma, popularly known as Kadamba Ma across the CHTs. He is the 3rd among the 5 siblings.

All his brothers and sisters are well-known in the greater Chittagong Hill Tracts. One of his sisters, Ms. Bakul Bala Chakma (now deceased) is one of the first women from CHT to complete graduation. His elder brother Mr. Charu Bikash Chakma remains a legend in the CHT, and is one of the first political personalities to raise the demand for the region's autonomy after the independence of Bangladesh. His younger brother, Mr. Indu Bikash Chakma passed MBBS from Dhaka Medical College in 1963 and subsequently emigrated to the UK where he pursued a successful career of medical practitioner finally retiring as GP Principal. (*It should be noted here that Mr. Indu Bikash Chakma created a scholarship at Moanoghar in the memory of their mother; Niroda Bala Chakma Memorial Scholarship*).



At a very young age, his father died and through much hardships, his mother ensured education for all the 5 siblings. He passed matriculation (SSC) in 1951 from Rangamati Government High School and HSC from Sir Ashutosh college, Chittagong in 1953. He then took admission in the then Dhaka Ahsanullah Engineering College (which subsequently became the present-day BUET). He passed B. Sc. in Civil Engineering in 1961 (Year) and in the same year he joined Water and Power

Development Authority (WAPDA) as Assistant Engineer. In 1963, he joined Roads and Highway Division (R&HD) as Assistant Engineer in charge of Jhenaidah sub-division (now district under the

Jessore district. After a long and successful career of 29 years he retired in 1992 as Additional Chief Engineer of Roads and Highway Division.

Mr. Chakma with his family/children

He married Ms. Mandira Chakma in 1961 and together they had 1 son and 2 daughters. The eldest son, Roky Chakma is the endower of the present scholarship. The two daughters are; Ms. Luna Chakma and Ms. Lisa Chakma. Luna Chakma is a practicing medical doctor and married to Mr. Prakash Dewan. They have one son. The youngest daughter, Lisa Chakma is married with Sugata Chakma and they too, have one son. They currently reside in Canada.

Throughout his life, Mr. AB Chakma remained engaged with various civic causes. Immediately after his retirement, he became involved with various charities promoting social causes and environmental conservation. He also served in the Executive Committee of Moanoghar for a single term in the late 1990s. He actively participated in the Liberation War in 1971 and during the war closely served under Abdur Rab Serniabat and Major Jalil.

Roky Chakma, the eldest among the children, and the endower of this scholarship is widely recognized young leaders in the CHTs and admired for his civic and political activism. He is married with Sheuli Champa Chakma, also a noted women rights activist in the region. Together, they have one son – Yoshik Chakma – and currently reside in Canada.