### **Youth Leadership**

SIL Bangladesh helps communities

achieve

their

development

goals

while

retaining

their

Ethno

linguistic

identities.

Young people are a symbol of energy and activity. They can play a vital role in the development of society. Though they do not have much money or authority, they do have talent. unique ideas and boundless self-confidence. I had an opportunity to work with such lively young people through an active citizen program. We visited different places to make young people aware of their abilities and opportunities and to help them present themselves in a different way in their own society.

"Active Citizen Youth Leadership Training" is a great platform for youth groups where they learn about individual leadership and the way our system and government runs. They learn how to connect with every part of their community, how to build good relationships and how to become good leaders. They are also empowered to use their own community resources rather than depending on those from outside.

SIL International Bangladesh works with people groups to help them minority understand the importance of preserving their language to protect their culture. These people are often unaware of their rights and it is difficult for them to raise their voice against injustice. SIL Bangladesh is working to establish second line leadership among these ethno linguistic groups, and this "Active Citizen Leadership Training" is one way to help them to work differently with their

community. The main goal of this training is to make these young people aware of their roles and responsibilities towards their community.

It was my first chance to work with youth groups and to learn more about the ideas of this younger generation. It was a great opportunity to meet a large youth group who came to receive this very effective training, share their knowledge and start to think about their community together.

#### ...... SPECIAL COMMENTS

The main goal of this training is to make these young people aware of their roles and responsibilities towards their community.



For more information on **topics mentioned in this newsletter**, please go to .

http: http://www.silbangladesh.org/

# SIL BANGLADESH LANGUAGE, EDUCATION AND DEVELOPMENT



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YOUTH LEADERSHIP

### so that they can consider subscribing.

Through this journey they discovered more about themselves and got ideas about how to think globally. The four day training helps them to find a way to reach their goals using their own abilities. It was great to see them engaging with the lesson objectives. They always tried to relate the learning to their lives.

The training includes a special opportunity to take a small step to bring about positive change in their own

community. They have to make the decision together by identifying the needs and weaknesses in their community and finding their own roles. This helps them to realize their strengths as they find resources and think about how to use them appropriately. It is a small step, but one that brings encouragement and motivation.

I have also learnt many things from their struggles and inspiring stories which have encouraged me to face challenges myself. Overall, it was a great pleasure for me to be a part of this journey with some brave young people who want to think about their community. They have dreams of bringing change, and the courage to fulfill them.

## ... SNAPSHOTS ... WHAT'S PLANNED FOR THIS

**Apr, 2018:** Language Training, Awareness and Illustration checking among Tripura Usoi community.

**Apr-May 2018:** Under the Child Rights Ethnic Minorities project, the following events will happen:

- Animators Orientation and basic training (tentative date 22-26th Apr, 2018)
- · Health Screening among Children
- Nutritious Food program
- Awareness Raising with local Government, parents, villagers.
- Child parliament and Learning Corner

Under the Health, Education and Livelihoods project, the following events will happen:

- Project Orientation
- Seminar with Govt. officials on Youth Dev. among Mahle community.
- Seminars on Rights among Mahle community.
- Gender Equality Training among Mahle community.

SIL Bangladesh stands beside them to provide support and help them to grow so that they can earn respect and establish themselves, not as a minority community, but as a part of a nation who participate in Bangladesh's development alongside majority people groups. And the day will definitely come when these young people will recognize themselves as youth leaders.



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