



Raising one's Voice : Girl's Leadership



Mariza Hembrom

Mariza Hembrom is from the village of Lowpara, Patnitola Naogaon. She participated in the Mahali Youth Conference held in Rajshahi by SIL's

Youth Ambassadors Project. The theme of the project attracted her 'Be the Change Maker'.

After the conference, she participated in the Youth Ambassadors Training and got a clear concept of dialogue, communication techniques, advocacy networking, and the rights of a citizen. She returned to her village and formed a youth group to implement the Social Action Plans in her village.

In the meantime, she discovered that every year the festival allowance from the government allocated for their village to celebrate Christmas was being misappropriated by their Village Headman.

This time, she and her youth team protested and warned him that they would inform the local government if the money is not used properly for the benefits of the villagers.

Then he handed over the allocated gift money to the team, and they used the money to install a submersible pump in the village as they had only one in the village and they had a lot of trouble getting water for daily use. Now she is the Leader of her group and communicate with confidence everywhere on behalf of her group.

She is happy to see the positive changes in the girls' youth . Now all the villagers view her with respect and appreciation. She is grateful to SIL Bangladesh and the Youth Ambassadors for Change Project for helping to discover her hidden leadership ability. Now she is confident that she can bring further concrete changes in her community and continue with this dream.



Shanta Maria D' Costa.
Senior Officer, Training and Consultancy.

Rising Young Leader



Urishya Hajong

Urishya Hajong is a girl in class 10(10th standard).

She participated in the youth conference and the Youth Leadership Training held last year. Through these she has gained the confidence to stand up in a big forum and speak up to let them know her emotions, expressions, condition, reactions, necessities, rights, and voice as a girl. She has now gained enough confidence now to be able to speak in front of the local government officials.

Urishya formed a youth group in her village, and they worked hard to achieve their goal.

They took the initiative to preserve and revitalize their Hajong language and culture. In her group, they learned cultural dances and started performing in different forums and events. She learned how to make a presentation in a big forum and started hosting different events (cultural and social). She learned that, if you are confident and bold, you will get the opportunity to express yourself. If you can express yourself, you will be able to let people know about your requirements and necessities. If you are able to let people know your situation, there will be possibilities to fulfill your requirements and necessities. Therefore, she stood up and raised her voice for her community, for the unprivileged people of her village. She intends to continue her studies and attend the BCS

(Bangladesh Civil Service) exam. She deserves appreciation and praise for her goals and determination as it is quite a daring dream for the community to which she belongs.

Now, Urishya is a familiar face in the Hajong community for her bold leadership and strong voice. Everyone admires her robust and bold personality. Now the community people trust her to represent them in any forum on behalf of the Hajong community. Urishya is determined to become a woman leader and a changemaker in her community.



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Events

October, 2023

- * Leadership Pillars
- * SIL Connect 2023 – Bangkok.
- * The 7th International Conference on Language and Education -Bangkok.
- * Youth as Agents of Change in a Changing World – Sweden.

Plan

November, 2023

- SOMPRITI Project Evaluation with the Koch, Hajong, Kol and the Mahali community.
- Research Data Validation with the Baraik, Bhuimali, Kharia, Gonju and the Kondo communities.

Local Feeds

October, 2023

- Kurux Community members received 5 houses from the local government under Social Safety Net program.
- Koch Community members have received 20 ducklings and the shades from the local Government.

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