

## **Musapur Shikhharti(Students') Forum (MSF)**

Founded on: November 27, 2021

In the heart of rural Bangladesh, nestled along the banks of the Choto Feni River, lies the village of Musapur, a community where the dreams of many children are stifled by the harsh realities of underdevelopment. In this rural setting, the value of education is often overshadowed by the struggle to meet daily needs, and opportunities for personal growth and advancement are few and far between. Witnessing this, I was determined to make a difference. On “November 27th, 2021”, I founded the “Musapur Shikhharti Forum”, also known as the “Musapur Students' Forum (MSF)”, with the vision of uplifting the lives of secondary and higher secondary school students in Musapur and surrounding areas by providing education, resources, and opportunities that were otherwise inaccessible to them.

The underprivileged children of Musapur face numerous barriers in their educational journey, lack of resources, limited access to quality learning, and economic hardships that force many to drop out of school. At MSF, I sought to break these barriers, not just by providing academic resources but by instilling hope and confidence in these children. I believe that education is the key to transforming lives, and through MSF, I aimed to equip students with the tools, knowledge, and support they need to pursue their dreams, no matter their background.

A core initiative of MSF has been to develop “academic content by students for students”. Collaborating with students from prestigious institutions in Bangladesh, we created study materials tailored to the needs of Musapur's students. This approach ensures that academic resources are both relatable and effective, breaking down complex topics into digestible content that students can easily understand. This project has not only helped improve the academic performance of students but has also fostered a sense of community, as students from different educational backgrounds come together to help one another.

Another important initiative is the “recognition of academic excellence”. In an area where achievements are often overlooked, MSF proudly honors students who excel in their board exams with “books and educational gifts”. This recognition serves as both a reward and a motivation for students to continue striving for excellence, reinforcing the idea that hard work and perseverance do not go unnoticed.



Image: Student awarded with books for his excellent result in board exam

Alongside academic initiatives, I realized that students needed more than just educational support. They needed exposure to opportunities that could broaden their horizons. With this in mind, I organized the “Math and English Olympiad”, an event that attracted “781 students” from across the region. This event wasn’t just about competition, it was about introducing students to the world of Olympiads and competitive exams, helping them understand the value of participating in such challenges. The event, which awarded “50,000 BDT in prizes and gift hampers”, was a turning point for many students, providing them with a sense of achievement and the drive to push their academic limits.



Image: Math Olympiad organized by MSF



Image: With the winners of the Math-English Olympiad 2022

However, my vision for MSF goes beyond academics. Education, to me, is holistic, it must also nurture a student's character, health, and overall well-being. As part of our commitment to the development of these young minds, MSF has also organized a variety of "volunteering and health awareness programs" aimed at improving the community's health literacy and access to primary healthcare. I arranged a "First Aid Awareness Campaign", where students and community members were taught basic life-saving skills, empowering them to respond effectively in emergency situations. Additionally, we organized "blood group testing" for students and their families to ensure that people had access to crucial information about their health.

Another major initiative was the "Primary Healthcare for Women" program, which focused on educating women in the community about their health, hygiene, and reproductive rights. Women in rural areas often lack access to basic healthcare services, and this program aimed to bridge that gap by providing essential information and resources. We also conducted a "Waterborne Disease Awareness Health Promotion Program", educating the community about the dangers of contaminated water and promoting hygiene practices that can prevent waterborne diseases. These health initiatives are part of our broader mission to ensure that students and their families are not only educated but also healthy and informed.



Image: Mass awareness program on Health promotion

Alongside these health initiatives, I also envisioned the creation of three clubs under the MSF banner: the "Language Club", the "Debate Club", and the "Quiz Club". These clubs aim to offer students more than just academic knowledge—they provide them with opportunities to explore their passions, develop leadership skills, and build their confidence. The "Language Club" exposes students to multiple languages and cultures, enhancing their communication skills and broadening their global perspective. The "Debate Club" fosters critical thinking, teaching students how to express their opinions logically and engage in constructive discussions. The "Quiz Club" encourages curiosity and intellectual growth, with students actively participating in quizzes that cover a range of topics from general knowledge to current events.

These clubs are more than just extracurricular activities they are spaces where students learn to become leaders, work collaboratively, and develop the skills they need to succeed in life. The goal is to nurture

well-rounded individuals who are not only academically strong but also confident, empathetic, and capable of making a positive impact on their communities.

Leading the “Musapur Shikhharthi Forum” has been an incredibly fulfilling journey. Every success story, every child who finds joy in learning, every smile of gratitude from a parent who sees a future for their child it all reinforces why I do this work. While the road ahead remains challenging, I am committed to continuing this mission, to providing the children of Musapur with the opportunities they deserve. MSF is not just an educational initiative; it is a movement a movement of hope, empowerment, and community that will continue to inspire and transform lives for generations to come.

Through the work of “Musapur Shikhharthi Forum”, I have learned that true leadership is not about commanding it’s about inspiring others to rise above their circumstances and believe in their potential. As we continue to serve the children and families of Musapur, I remain dedicated to creating a future where education, health, and community support are accessible to all, no matter their background. Together, we will build a brighter future, one student at a time.

