AGAMI EDUCATION FOUNDATION
"Creating a Better Future through Education"

AGAMI EDUCATION FOUNDATION
58 Lake Circus (4th Floor) Kalabagan, Dhaka-1205, Bangladesh
Registration # S-11244, NGO Reg. Number-3265
+88 01716521867  aef@agami.org

Facebook-@AgamiEducationFoundation  Twitter-@AgamiEducation
Instagram-@agamieducationfoundation  https://www.agami.org/aef-action
Some Statements of Appreciation

“We are provided tiffin daily from the school. So we come to school regularly and study with attention. Our teachers teach very carefully. We are thankful to Agami family for supporting us” said Sazzad Jahir (11), a student of grade-V of Aalok Shikhhaloy.

Rakib Hasan (11), a student of grade V of Laxmipur Primary School, says “tiffin, uniform, notebooks and many other things are provided from the school program. They help us a lot in our studies. We hope to have ‘Agami’ beside us in the future as well.

Farhana Akhter (15), a student of grade nine of Chatpara Ideal Academy said “we need to do various experiments and practical classes on science topics to make our concepts and understandings clear. We are thankful to Agami Education Foundation for extending required apparatus in the lab – these are helping us to understand better and exercise hands-on fun practice.”

Sanjida Akhter (14), a class VIII student, acknowledged Agami’s support, saying, “The way Agami Education Foundation has been supporting our education is truly fantastic and beneficial in increasing the overall quality of education at Doshgram High School. And without their help our authority couldn’t manage the school properly.”
To fulfill the aims and objectives of Agami Inc. it was felt necessary to form a unit of Agami in Bangladesh. With some enthusiastic individuals who were willing to volunteer to work with underprivileged children around Bangladesh, Agami Education Foundation (AEF) was formed. AEF was registered under the Societies Registration Act, XXI of 1860 on 31st July 2011 with the registration number S-11244. AEF got registered under the NGO Affair Bureau on 22 February 2021 and the registration number is 3265. The prime focus of the Agami Education Foundation (AEF) is to upgrade the lives of the marginalized community by providing quality education to their children.

Agami Netrokona Chapter (ANC)

Agami Netrokona Chapter (ANC) is an umbrella forum of the Agami Education Foundation (AEF). Just as Agami and AEF, the motto of ANC are firmly commensurate with the principle that “All children in Bangladesh should have equal opportunity for quality education.” is the founder of the Agami Netrokona Chapter and presently the Chapter has a thirteen-member Convening Committee.

**OUR VISION**

All children in Bangladesh will have equal opportunities for quality education.

Agami’s mission is to focus on effecting lasting socio-economic change in Bangladesh through education. We provide quality basic education for underprivileged children. To enable a “holistic” solution, our programs may be combined with our partners’ programs for public health, vocational training, economic development, and other human development initiatives.

**About Agami Inc.**

Agami Inc. is a US IRS-Registered non-profit, non-political, secular organization dedicated to promoting basic education to underprivileged children in Bangladesh. Agami was born in the year 1992 in response to the natural disaster relief effort to problem-solving with a concentration on education. Later, in 2003 Agami started supporting underprivileged school children.

The Agami Team consists of a central team, sister concerns, chapters, and groups who are working together around the clock to raise funds and support Agami Schools and students.

As per the AEF Constitution, an Election body comprising 3 members was formed to conduct the AEF Election 2021. The Election commission prepared an Election Schedule and circulated it among the members of AEF on 16 October 2021. As per the election schedule, the election commission scrutinized the nomination papers and found that against each of the 7(Seven) positions for the AEF Executive Committee only one candidate submitted a nomination paper. Having no alternative candidate for any of the seven positions of the AEF Executive Committee, the commission decided to declare the candidates elected in the respective posts for which they have submitted their nomination papers. Therefore, no arrangement was made for casting votes as scheduled on 30 October 2021.

The new Executive Committee tabled below was formed to perform their respective roles & responsibilities per the organization’s constitution for three consecutive years starting from 1st November 2021.
How AEF works: AEF is a voluntary organization and carries out its activities through different projects, programs, and initiatives (PPIs) which are described below:

1. School Program
2. Teachers Training
3. Education Technology (Agami EdTech)
4. Life is Fun
5. Health for Education
6. Library Project
7. Improving English Teaching
8. Agami Chess Guild (Emerging initiative)
9. Agami Knitting Project (Emerging Initiative)

School Program

School Program (SP) is the flagship program of Agami Inc. that aims to promote basic education for underprivileged children in Bangladesh. This program was started in 2003 in Bangladesh with only two schools. Over the years, it has had a gradual growth in terms of operation and holistic coverage of direct beneficiaries under different projects. To date, SP has directly supported 35+ schools across the country reaching out to over 40,000 students.

Generally, SP focuses on budget requests, review of the budget, and allocating funds to support students’ tiffin, teachers’ salaries, house rent, uniforms, exercise books, stationery, study tour, and so on to ensure quality education for the underprivileged children. The program, however, operates on the basis of the school’s needs and supports them from the primary to higher secondary level.

SP LEAD EMERGENCY PROJECT DURING COVID-19 ONWARDS

The outbreak of Covid-19 brought almost all aspects of life to a standstill across the country. Due to long-term school closures, there was a detrimental effect on students’ education thus creating learning gaps in education. Realizing the direct and most immediate impact of Covid-19 on the education sector, the SP initiated Recovering Learning Loss Project (RLLP), Homeroom Project (Distance Learning), and Remedial Interventions, which have been focused on intervention-based activities to reduce learning loss in the students of Agami-sponsored schools.
AT PRESENT **AEF is supporting 17 underprivileged schools in Bangladesh**

**AGAMI EDUCATION FOUNDATION**

**SCHOOLS at a glance**

- Netrokona
- Natore
- Jhenaidha
- Tangail
- Sylhet
- Habiganj
- Dhaka
- Cumilla
- Khagrachari
- Chittagong

**TOTAL NUMBER OF STUDENTS: 3133**

- **GIRLS - 57 %**
- **BOYS - 43 %**

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**Education Technology (Agami EdTech)**

Agami EdTech, formerly Khan Academy Bangla (KAB), was launched in January 2021 to expand the program scope beyond the Khan Academy platform. Apart from the creation and localization of digital content, Agami EdTech provides training to teachers, and implements both KAB and in-house learning materials in schools through various EdTech interventions, along with other partners as needed. Following are some of the projects under **Agami EdTech**:

**Khan Academy Bangla (KAB)** - An initiative to bring the much-acclaimed world-class education platform Khan Academy to Bangla-speaking students. The KAB website was officially launched on 1st March 2016 and this free website is now available at bn.khanacademy.org.

**Agami learning platform** - A customized platform that follows the NCTB curriculum, and can be used for both self-learning and classroom activities. It is available both online and offline. The online version can be accessed here learn.agami.org.

**Learning Equality / SCILLS grants** - Internet Society Foundation has awarded Agami Edtech the SCILLS (Strengthening Communities/ Improving Lives and Livelihoods) grant worth $150k along with Learning Equality for two years. This will allow Edtech to provide 200 devices to different schools of Bangladesh and create more than 200 video lessons. Edtech will also make a hybrid intervention (online-offline) leveraging the Kolibri platform in 12 schools.

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**Students were using Tabs to watch Math Lessons**
Agami School Intervention - EdTech team is continuing its intervention in 10+ Agami-supported schools during regular classroom setup in different models-MMC, Peer model or Tab Lab. Agami learning platform will be used to increase the competencies in mathematics, language and science.

MoE Project - In response to the nationwide school closures in 2020, the Ministry of Education (MoE) started to broadcast video lessons on Sangsad TV under the ‘Amar ghore amar school’ program. Agami EdTech created 156 videos on various topics of Bangla, English, Mathematics, Science, and Home Science for different grades for this program.

World Bank project - The World Bank, in collaboration with a2i took an initiative named ‘Reach to teach (R2T)’ to improve the teaching skills of the secondary level math teachers. Under the first phase of the program, Agami Edtech designed and developed an online course focusing on the pedagogical and content knowledge and teaching skills of teachers of secondary level. The course is available on ‘Muktopath’, an e-learning platform of the government. Around 40000 teachers across the country completed the course which will impact over 2.4 Million students.

Reinventing our Classroom (ROC) - Being implemented by Agami, is a research project initiated by the Secondary Education Development Program (SEDP) under the Ministry of Education in collaboration with the World Bank, to ensure effective learning in the classroom. The main objective of this study is to provide support to teachers for effective classroom management to ensure better learning even in large classrooms. A total of 64 schools and 150 teachers from Narsingdi district are being reached throughout this project.

Serve Foundation - Under a two-year partnership with Serve Foundation, the Agami EdTech program will be implemented in 20 Serve-sponsored schools to improve student competencies in mathematics and science. Agami EdTech will also provide training to the teachers of those schools. More than 200 teachers and 10,000 students will benefit from this intervention and collaboration.

Partnership with BRAC - BRAC Education Program (BEP) is using the Agami Learning platform and Khan Academy Bangla content in 86 of their schools in Grade 3-6 under the Social Enterprise division.

Unicef Project - Agami EdTech, in collaboration with Unicef and EdTech Hub, has taken an initiative to improve literacy and numeracy learning for students of grade 6 from 30 schools in 5 lowest performing Upazilas (Thanchi, Rowangchari, Alikadam, Sadar, and Ruma) of Bandarban.

The initiative plans to remedy the situation by addressing a key pedagogic challenge, teaching at the right level on an individual basis, by identifying and implementing appropriate EdTech tools to improve learning outcomes. The project will impact both students and teachers—around 3,000 students and 150 teachers will be directly under the impact of the project and 27,000 students and 1500 teachers will be benefitted indirectly. The initiative also focuses on improving the situation of the most marginalized female students of the district as well as it will improve the skills and capacity of female teachers. The initiative also focuses on equity and sustainability and will inspire future tech-based solutions for a similar population group.

Teachers Training

Agami Education Foundation (AEF) initiated the Teachers’ Training Program (TT) in 2016. Since then, a dedicated teachers’ training team has been relentlessly working to improve and enable teachers to ensure effective learning among students. Teachers’ Training program has been arranging training for the teachers following the National Curriculum and Textbook Board (NCTB) to enhance the textbook-teaching process to a more holistic approach. From 2016, the teachers’ training program developed - 6 training manuals, organized 11 in-person training and more than 25 online training sessions for teachers, provided 33 smartphones, 5 laptops and other necessary logistics for teachers and schools. TT takes simultaneous initiatives like ‘Promoting Science Group Students,’ ‘Online Science, Math, English Olympiad; and ‘Online basic grammar training’ at different times.

List of Training provided by Teachers’ Training Program:
- Teaching Science by Hands-on Practice’ for class VI-VIII
- Training on Creating Digital Content
- Head Teachers’ Training and Workshop
- Training on Teaching Mathematics by Olympiad Techniques
Primary English Teachers’ Training and Workshop
Training on Continuous Assessment and Learning Domain (Science, Math, English)
Interactive Science Training for Primary Science Teachers
Interactive Math Training for Primary Math Teachers
Online Class, Simulation, sessions and Training (During Covid-19 Pandemic)
Online Class on Intro To Engineering Curriculum
Science, Math, English Olympiad

Teachers and students beneficiaries through Teachers’ Training
At a Glance (2016-2021)

Life is Fun! (LiF)

Agami extended its mission and introduced the Life in Fun (“LiF”) program, inspired by the concept of STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) in response to the analyses conducted by the Ministry of Education in Bangladesh. The analyses revealed an overall lack of interest in science among elementary and secondary students nationwide, especially among those in rural schools.

The pivotal goal of the LiF initiative is to nurture the interest in science lessons among students at the elementary level.

The Program:
The program contains fun activities, involving simple science experiments for grades three, four, and five. Every year, Agami plans to organize science fairs as part of the LiF initiative in an effort to inspire students to enjoy science and explore its versatility.

Healthcare for Education
AEF assists the good health of students by taking up different activities through its Health for Education (HFE) project. This project works in partnership with the Platform of Doctors and medical students in Bangladesh. The project organizes need-based health camps like general health camps, eye camps, and dental camps.
The objectives of the school health program are -
1. Promotion of positive health
2. Prevention of diseases
3. Early diagnosis, treatment, and follow-up
4. Awakening health consciousness in children
5. The provision of a healthy environment
6. Gender issue awareness
7. Psychological health and well-being

Keeping these objectives in mind, Agami Education Foundation started a pilot project entitled “Healthcare for Education” in October 2016 at the PSD Pearabag School (primary school). So far, 500 students got the facilities of healthcare and nutrition from this initiative. In 2018 Agami Education Foundation partnered with “Platform Organization for Medical and Dental Society (POMD)”. Since then both parties are working jointly and expanding their activities - 4 schools within Dhaka city, 30 health camps & coverage above 1500.

During COVID-19, 3 online awareness programs were held titled ‘Awareness on Health Safety Measures against COVID-19 & How Should We Use a Mask?’, ‘Let’s Be Prepared for the Second Wave of COVID-19’ and ‘করোনায় কষ্টাঘাট্টা থাকবে না সতর্কতা, মনোযোগ এবং সহযোগিতা’

HFE provided telemedicine services (24x7) to more than 3000 beneficiaries, and also distributed 5000 masks among students which were donated by a ready-made garment manufacturer group.

Improving English Teaching (IET)

Improving English Teaching (IET) is an English initiative of the Agami Education Foundation which began in 2019. It works in improving multilingualism which develops the four skills of English language learning. Supporting teachers and students is our prime target where IET has developed 50 lesson plans and necessary activity sheets, assessment grids, flashcards for grade III.

IET organized a three daylong ‘Primary English Teachers’ Training’ workshop on English Speaking, 5 online training on formative assessment and the assessing the four skills of language (English) learning, 21 online classes on ‘Basic Grammar of English’ in collaboration with ‘Youth Promise’ during the Covid 19 Pandemic, three online classes during the pandemic, prepared questions for the schools, conducted three daylong online training on ‘Creating Digital Content,’ English Speaking Training named ‘Teaching English Better’.
IET collaboratively with TT and LiF organizes the English, Math, and Science Olympiad every year since 2021. In 2022 IET is running online classes on Olympiad techniques for teachers. IET developed 51 reusable video content on the lessons created for grade III students. IET provided 8 mobile tripods, 8 microphones, and 8 speakers to the schools for remote monitoring. IET developed English clubs in six schools where students perform different English activities.

Besides, the IET team has developed a peer support system where the teachers share their challenges implementing IET activities in regular classrooms. The dedicated IET team takes action based on the challenges shared by the teachers. IET collaboratively with LiF and TT, celebrated ‘World Environment Day 2022.’

**Library Project**

Initiating its journey in 2016 under the name ‘Books & Libraries’, Agami Library Project intends to increase the reading habit of our students. It works with four objectives currently: cultivate a habit of reading books, increase the students’ reading fluency, their creativity and develop a library system in schools.

Starting small, the Library Project had a pilot run in 2019 where more than 500 books were collected and more than 450 students were reached among the Agmai-sponsored primary schools in Dhaka. Till now it has reached over 1700 students and distributed more than 2000 books. With more than 30 volunteers under the project, it works by establishing direct interaction between students and volunteers to groom the students through book reading sessions, seminars, interactive activities, assessments, etc. During the yearly 3 months duration of the project in each school, noticeable changes are observed in students’ reading habits and fluency.

**Agami Chess Guild**

Agami is piloting the course in 2 Agami-sponsored schools in Dhaka namely Switch Tahmina Banu Biddyaniketon and Sohag Swapnadhara Pathshala conducted by 2 Chess Instructors who are also internationally rated players.

The course was inaugurated on 10 October 2021 and the formal class started on 16 October 2021. Besides, we have Grandmaster Reefat Bin Satter as our Project Advisor and Abu Sufian Shakil - International Master, FIDE Trainer, and National Chess Coach, Dhaka, Bangladesh as our Project supervisor.

Agami provided 56 chess boards for the students to play in the schools besides providing 93 chess boards for each of the Agami Chess Guild students in 2 piloting schools to practice chess at home. Recently 25 Agami Chess Guild students (14 Girls and 11 boys) took part in the Carnival Chess Festival 2021 organized by Dot lines Group at the Police Lines, Mirpur, Dhaka. Grandmasters Reefat Bin Satter, Ziaur Rahman, and Agami created an opportunity for these underprivileged children to come in touch with these Grandmasters and play chess with them which was only a dream to them. Agami has a plan to expand this course to other schools and bring out the talents from among the disadvantaged children and at the same time help, students become creative, logical, and rational.
Agami Knitting Project

We have recently started a knitting project where the mothers of underprivileged children of Agami Sponsored schools are given training on making craft items that help the mothers to become financially empowered. They now can take part in the decision-making of the family.

This project is running in one of the Agami-sponsored schools in Dhaka but we have plans to expand it to other schools we have the following plan ahead.

☑️ Train 20-40 disadvantaged women in dressmaking, sewing, and running a small business.
☑️ Empower successful graduates with a need-based free sewing machine and seed money to start their own businesses and generate income.

☑️ Assist them in developing products with ideas, and designs, and help market those.
☑️ Assist with job placement in local garment industries.
☑️ Uplift the families’ living standards by providing the women with skills to generate income, and become independent.
☑️ Empower the women to have a decision-making voice on family planning, the marriage of their children, and education for their daughters.

SPECIAL EVENTS OF AGAMI

Olympiad

The Teachers’ training (TT) program and Improving English Teaching (IET) collaboratively organized ‘Math, Science and English Olympiad’ in 2021. The Olympiads took place accordingly on February 28th, March 16th, and March 25th of 2021. During the pandemic, the competitions were held online using the Zoom platform and were streamed live on Facebook. Thirty-six students from six Agami-sponsored schools of grade IV participated in the Olympiads.

Later this year, an award-giving ceremony was held for the Olympiad winners and the volunteers on Thursday 25 November 2021 at the AEF office.
The main purpose of organizing such an event was to involve the students in a well-recognized learning program and motivate them to be lifelong learners. **Agami believes that this type of intervention is essential for marginalized schools.** In 2022, Improving English Teaching, Teachers’ Training, and Life is Fun will jointly organize the English, Math, and Science Olympiad in a more systematic approach. Students will be trained for 3-4 months on the Olympiad technique by teachers and interns before the final competition.

**LIFE IS FUN Science Fair 2019: A Program by Agami Education Foundation**

“Life Is Fun science fair-2019” was held for the second time, as part of the “Life Is Fun” science education program by AEF. “Life Is Fun science fair 2019” was organized as a daylong event at the Bangladesh Mohila Samity premises on 5th October 2019.

Apart from the executive members of AEF; Mr. Munir Hassan, Secretary, Bangladesh Math Olympiad committee; Mrs. Fahima Glias, a former Science teacher of Holy Cross Girls’ High School, and Engr. Fahima Shahadat, Bangladesh Country Representative, Menard Group was present as a special guest. This year, students from third, fourth, and fifth grades from “Shohag Shwapnodhara school, Nandipara PSD school, Alok shikhaloy, Bangladesh Mohila Samity school, and Peyarabag PSD school displayed their science projects.

There were many interesting science projects prepared by the junior scientists such as a vacuum cleaner, producing electricity from footpath, Biogas plant, a water purifier, etc. A day-long booth was presented by “Toitomboor”, a leading child and Juvenile Magazine publisher that displayed different publications relevant to children.
The winners received their prizes from Architect Hasnain Sabih, Co-founder, of Toitomboor. All the participating junior scientists were provided with complimentary gifts and certificates to encourage their participation.

**COVID-19 RESPONSE/RELIEF DISTRIBUTION.**
During Covid-19, Agami stood by the families of the disadvantaged children of Agami-supported schools. In order to support them, 2 online fundraising campaigns were held. In 2020, we locally collected BDT. 2,217,560/- ($ 26,337) and in 2021 BDT. 1,016,239/- ($12,069)

**Survival Pack Distribution:** Agami distributed Survival Packs containing rice, potatoes, soybean oil, salt, dal, and soap bars among 3000 families of 15 schools situated in Dhaka, Sylhet, Cumilla, Habiganj, Rangamati, Chattogram, Jhenaidha, and Netrokona. Survival packs were distributed in 3 phases.

**Supporting teachers’ Salaries:** Many schools failed to continue to pay the salaries of teachers. Therefore, Agami came forward and supported the salaries of a good number of teachers in addition to their regular salary support.

**Homeroom:** After ensuring food supply for the students and their families, Agami returned to its original goal which is education. In June, Agami started a Homeroom initiative to keep students engaged in their studies and to ensure some sort of distance learning. Snacks were also provided to the students of the two schools namely Chatpara Ideal Academy in Habiganj and Laxmipur Shimantabazar Primary school in Jhenaidha. Later this initiative was expanded to other schools.

**Hotline Telemedicine Service:** Agami also provided (24X7) telemedicine services for students, guardians, and teachers to support them during the COVID-19 pandemic through its Health for Education project.

**Partnerships:** AEF implements different initiatives through different partners as given below.

![Current Partners: UNICEF, BRAC, Khan Academy (USA), Learning Equality (USA), World Bank, SERVE Foundation, Startup Bangladesh Limited (an ICT Ministry entity), Platform of Medical and Dental Society, F. Minor, Khepa, Kids power Bangladesh, Jolputul Puppets, Nandita Suraksha]

**Aligning Agami to the UN’s Sustainable Developmental Goals, Agami. 3.0; Agami in the 3rd Decade**
At Agami, we think of the SDGs as a compelling engagement opportunity. When delivered well, education promotes employment, earnings, health, and poverty reduction for an individual. For societies, it spurs innovation, strengthens institutions, and fosters social cohesion. Agami’s journey started with a goal to educate underprivileged children, to bring about positive changes in their socio-economic condition.
Of the 17 goals, Agami is focused on the following Eights:
(#3) good health and well-being (#4) quality education (#5) gender equality (#6) clean water and sanitation (#8) decent work and economic growth (#10) reduced inequalities (#16) peace, justice, and strong institutions (#17) partnerships for the goals Driving Sustainability, Scalability & UN SDGs Alignment: Agami 3.0 Transformation

“If your plan is for one year, plant rice. If your plan is for ten years, plant trees.
If your plan is for one hundred years, educate children.”
- Kuan Chung (7th Century BC)

The first decade (2003-2010) was a challenge for survival.
The second decade (2011-2020) was a challenge for growth.
The third decade (2021-2030) is going to be the toughest, a challenge of sustainability in scaling up.

Achieving sustainable success is not about simply growing the organization, but scaling the operation, and the program impacts without unnecessary expense and wasted effort. For Agami to scale and experience sustainable growth will require some paradigm shifts.

Agami’s new leadership has been strategizing and will be setting the stage during the next 3 years to mobilize a 10-year Agami 3.0 transformation plan. The strategy calls for reinventing Agami and is not limited to the following.

**Agami Brand:** Building brand equity with Agami’s unique value proposition aligned with sustainable development goals and facilitating an emotional engagement between donors and beneficiaries.

**Partnership & Collaboration:** Developing strategic partnerships to support growth and enhance Agami’s value proposition for the beneficiaries, especially in areas where we lack expertise & resources. Trying to do everything in-house may be attractive and cheaper but not necessarily impactful.

**Social Enterprise:** Leveraging Agami’s expertise, relationship, and partners to develop and adopt social entrepreneurship. Investing in community and business ecosystem development to drive positive change.

**Agile, Flexible & Adaptive Leadership:** Investing in developing future leaders. Leadership is a mindset as well as mindfulness. Leadership needs to be agile, flexible, and adaptive to become the leader Agami needs for each particular stage of growth.

The adoption of impact analysis and data-driven decision-making along with the aforementioned paradigm shifts is what we are calling Agami 3.0. Agami’s new leadership has the right mixture of experienced veterans and energized committed newcomers led by a veteran president with a proven track record of getting things done. The excitement about Agami’s future is infectious.
All these works were done jointly by **Agami Education Foundation Bangladesh and Agami Inc. USA**. Agami is committed to taking up any initiative necessary to ensure quality education, all underprivileged children in Bangladesh will get equal opportunities for quality education to reach their potential and develop lifelong learning goals.

We are grateful to all our donors, volunteers, members, and well-wishers for staying with us.