

EID MUBARAK

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT ON ORCA BLOOD DONATION PROJECT

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E D I T O R I A L

This is a special issue of SPAN on the noble occasion of the blood donation programme of ORCA. On the 6th June '82, seventy members volunteered to make a gift of 'an ounce of life'. Thirteen were told by the doctor on duty not to donate blood for various reasons related to their health. Consequently, fifty-seven members donated their vital fluid. (So far the number of donors has increased to 97). About the physical aspects of giving blood one JEXCA doctor has written "...letting a few millilitres (say 350 c.c.) any moment at three months' interval is like having a haircut". And nearly all our donors felt it that way. About the moral part, it is said, "The greatest gift a man can give to his fellow brother is an ounce of life". Therefore, let the 6th of June be the beginning; let us do our bit to build a strong and healthy nation. If we the 700 ex-cadets of R.C.C., including fresh 50 to come each year, donate ourselves, as well as, motivate people to donate only 350 c.c. of blood even once in a year, then it would be a GREAT STEP OF OURS. We would really be proud to be members of ORCA.

When we donate, we make a gift of a single bag of vital fluid. But by motivating others to donate we can contribute much more.

REMEMBER : There are only two types of blood groups, one who donates, the other who does not. Let us be the former.

SUNDAY, JUNE 6, 1982

6th of June, 1982 shall go down as a day of fulfilment for ORCA members. It was a sunny bright Sunday morning. Neatly dressed ex-cadets and beautiful-sari-clad Bhabies began to rush towards the Red Cross Blood Donation Centre adjacent to Residential Model School at Mohamadpur. The occasion was the blood donation project of ORCA.

The first volunteer - Md. Younus 5/243 was turned down - because he was below 100 lbs. (what a pity !)

The donation session started just after 10 a.m. with donations from Iftekar 11/638 and Mr. A.R. Khan. After that, the door of the bleeding room was constantly besieged with volunteers wanting to donate before others. What a sight it was!

As the donation went on, a simple ceremony took place in the adjacent hall-room wherein the Chief Guest Major General Abdul Jabbar, Chairman, BRCS said: "The Bangladesh Red Cross Society would launch extensive motivational campaign to encourage people to donate blood for reversing the present trend of professional donation to voluntary non-remunerated blood donation". He thanked ORCA members for their magnanimous attitude to this intrinsic human need. He hoped that other organisations would also feel inspired to follow us.

Major (Retd) Ali Hasan Qureshi:

Secretary General, BRCS, who also spoke in the ceremony, termed the Red Cross Blood Transfusion Programme as the people's programme for the benefit of the people. He said that most of the donors are from the age group of 18 years to 24 years while, in the advanced countries the majority are from 40 to 45, which indeed speaks volumes of a hopeful future. He emphasised and added that the precious gift of blood had no match and that signifies man's sacred obligation to his fellow men.

ORCA Vice-President Major (Rtd) Taneem Hasan and General Secretary Abdul Hamid also spoke on the occasion. Both of them spoke on the formation of ORCA Blood Donation Club in order to provide haemoglobin-rich blood to poor and needy patients and to monitor the use of donated blood so as to arrest fraudulent practices.

THE GUEST VOLUNTEERS:

WE SAY WITH A BOUQUET: THANK YOU

On June 6, 1982, BRCS faced the highest number of volunteers for blood donation in a single day. The previous highest number was fifty-five donors drawn from a number of organizations, on Red Cross Day. The number of donors through ORCA was fifty-seven (excluding the thirteen volunteers provisionally rejected).

The guest donors are:

1. Mrs. A.R. Khan
2. Mr. A.R. Khan
3. Mr. Khalilur Rahman,
Guest of Jasim 9/491
4. Mr. A. Hyi Siddique,
Guest of Jasim 9/491
5. Mr. Saidur Rahman,
Guest of Galive 2/52 ...
6. Mr. Shafiqur Rahman,
Guest of Galive 2/52
7. Mr. Kazi Nurul Islam,
Guest of Galive 2/52
8. Capt Shawkat, PGR
Guest of Capt Sharif 6/279
9. Mr. S.M. Sadique Hassan,
Guest of Masum 8/429
10. Mr. Shahmewaz,
Guest of Mosharrif 4/173
11. Mrs. Soheli Ahmed,
Wife of Galive 2/52
12. Mrs. Shegupta Farah,
Wife of M. Q. Hassan 3/139
13. Dr. F.M. Saifur Rahman,
Guest of Anis 2/40
14. Mr. Atiqur Rahman Dulal,
Guest of Anis 2/40
15. Sultan Ahmed Ham,
Guest of Hamid 1/1
16. Towfique Solaiman,
Guest of Hamid 1/1
17. Kabir Ahmed,
Guest of Hamid 1/1
18. Aftab Ahmed,
Guest of Hamid 1/1
19. Mrs. Salina Ahmed,
Guest of Mozaffar 12/671

ORCA will never forget their noble co-operation as well as the 'Blood Relation'. We are thankful to our guests (also to the hosts). We hope to find their enthusiastic participation in our social welfare efforts in the years to come.

Thank you, very much, indeed!

THE MEMBER VOLUNTEERS:

A GREAT STEP FORWARD

Following are the brave ORCA members to part with an ounce of the most vital fluid, on June 6, 1982.

1. Abdul Hamid 1/1
2. F.M. Aziz 1/14
3. Maj (Retd) Taneem Hasan 1/18
4. Amir Hossain 1/20
5. Maj Ali Hasan 1/267
6. Anisur Rahman 2/40
7. Galive A. Sattar 2/52
8. A.K.M. Masudul Haque 3/85
9. Mirza Hossain Haider 3/99
10. Rezaul Hasan 3/101
11. Farhad 3/126
12. Maj Haroun 3/131
13. Mirza Quamrul 3/139

15. Dilir Hossain 4/193
16. Nasir 5/213
17. Dr. Laique Ahmed Khan 5/214
18. Akhter Hussain 5/256
19. Enamul Islam 6/271
20. Capt Azam 6/278
21. Capt Sharif 6/279
22. Mostaque 6/295
23. Capt Shafiq 6/298
24. Capt Hafiz 6/304
25. Rashid 6/308
26. Afroz Andalib 6/313
27. Aminul Islam 6/315
28. Md. Iqbal 6/318
29. Mrinal Haq 7/370
30. Firoz Jan 7/374
31. Md. Shah Newaz 8/404
32. Nazrul Ahmed Masum 8/429
33. Quaderi 9/456
34. Rafiq 9/465
35. Zahid Iqbal 9/487
36. Shaheen Ahmed 9/490
37. Sayeduzzaman 11/626
38. Iftekhhar 11/638
39. Javed Iqbal 12/655
40. Abdus Sobhan 12/662
41. Golam Awal 12/664
42. Jahangir Alam 12/666

Member who donated after 6th June, 1982.

43. Sharif S. Alam 1/13
44. Mahfuzul Haque 1/29
45. A.H.M. Abdul Hamid 3/127
46. Md. Towhid Hussain 4/144
47. Md. Sohail Moosa 10/559
48. Md. Shamsul Islam 10/564
49. Md. Ashrafuzzaman 12/644
50. Md. Saiful Islam 12/651
51. Md. Selim Reza 12/652
52. Md. Ateur Rahman 12/671

Total No. of Donors: 71 (Till July, 8, 1982)

DISAPPOINTED VOLUNTEERS

Following are the volunteers who came to donate but were provisionally rejected by the Doctor, on various reasons related to their health:

1. * Mr. Islamuddin Joarder (Founding teacher R.C.C.)
2. * Mrs. Halima Sattar (M/O. Galive 2/52)
3. * Mrs. Rozina Mahfuz (W/O. Mahfuz 1/29)
4. * Abdul Halim (Brother of Hamid 1/1)
5. * Abdul Hanif (Brother of Hamid 1/1)
6. * F.A.M. Khurshid 2/51
7. * Halim Chowdhury 2/326
8. * Solim Chowdhury 2/327
9. * Dr. A. Rauf 4/153
10. * Dr. Quamrul 4/163
11. * Md. Younus 5/243
12. * Md. Alamgir Hossain 8/419
13. * Md. Mahmood Husain 8/422
14. * Kh. Shafiul Alam 9/493
15. * Md. Firoz Hasan 12/683

RECENT DONORS

ORCA members who have donated in the last three months (prior to June 6, 1982) are:

1. Engr. Badrul Haque 1/10 -- to PLO at Abu Dhabi
2. Engr. Ahsanul Kabir 2/36
3. M. Tazeem Hasan 3/88
4. Tariq Abul Ala 3/133
5. Mofazzal Hussain 10/567
6. Iftekhhar 11/638

WHAT WAS YOUR EXPERIENCE ? This was our question to Syeduzzaman (11/626). He described, "As this is the first time for me I was a bit nervous though previously I had well convinced myself that there was nothing to be nervous. I was laid down on a bed. The doctor measured my blood pressure and kept the apparatus fastened to my right hand. Then he pinched a needle in my artery, which is just like an injection needle, neither bigger nor thicker to fear. The doctor, then gave me a spongy material on my palm and told me to pump it through squeezing and relaxing by turns. I was slowly doing accordingly, and it took about three minutes. Then the doctor pulled out the needle and it was over. Within these minutes I felt nothing uncomfortable. Doctor gave me a glass of water and advised me to rest for five minutes. After five minutes I became just as before but with a "sabioplaster" on my arm and with a great feeling of having done something noble."

WHERE DOES THE BLOOD GO ?

The blood donated by us is for the poor and needy patients. The Red Cross carefully sends them to the poor patients in the different hospitals on the basis of requisitions sent from there, signed by medical officers and counter-signed by hospital authorities. Selling of this blood is prohibited. Besides this, ORCA Doctors and Medical students also keeps an eye on the blood supply, to check fraudulent practice.

GIFT FROM RED CROSS

Each donor of ORCA received the following:

1. An Identity Card .. Which would identify one as a blood donor and is an undertaking from the BRCS, to supply the donor and his/her immediate family with free blood when they need.
2. A Certificate of Appreciation
3. A First Aid Box .. Which is a gift from BRCS.

4. A beautiful lapel pin .. Which is yet another gift.
5. A glass of fresh milk .. (What a luxury!)
6. And lastly, tea with refreshment.

Whoever donates blood thrice to BRCS, is recognized as an international donor. Red Cross will provide such donor with free blood anywhere in the world at any time when needed.

FEELINGS AND EXPERIENCES

* Mrs. A.R. Khan was a brave volunteer. In an interview she boldly said: "I did not feel any difference in my health before and after the blood donation... The psychological fear before donation is unfounded... I feel a sense of contentment that my donated blood will come to the aid of a poor, needy patient... I feel proud to have donated blood through ORCA. I will be waiting eagerly to donate blood at the earliest, through ORCA, for a second time and yet another time and another time."

* Mrs. Soheli Ahmed (W2/52) was another brave volunteer. After the donation she said: "Nothing bad I felt.... It was really so easy thing". Her husband Engr. Galive (2/52) was too considerate to bring three guests (excluding her) for which we thank the couple thrice.

Bhabi

* Mrs. Shegupta Farah (W3/139) was another who boldly came to present 'an ounce of life'. She said: "It is so slight (the pain) that it is not at all worthy to mention...". She said that she was not afraid to donate.

ORCA thanks Mrs. A.R. Khan, Mrs. Soheli and Mrs. Shegupta for their pioneering instance. We wish that other Bhabies will them-selves come forward and will also induce their husbands to be brave enough to shed only 350 c.c. blood on their request.

Mrinal Hag (7/370) reported: "In spite of heavy smoking when I donated blood it kept me feeling slightly weak for two/three days. Then I was normal".

Firoz Jan (7/374) described: "I felt twice a bite of ant, a twinging sensation.... and weak for few minutes. However, after drinking the milk I was O.K."

Golam Awal (12/664) was so enthusiastic a donor that he was seen rushing to the door of the bleeding room in a great hurry. After the bleeding he told: "It's better, the sonner I get lighter"

Tazeem Hasan (3/88) is one of the few regular donors among us. He said: "I donate blood once in every three months. It is absolutely harmless to do such a thing rather it is a kind of purification of my blood".

Sultan Ahmed Hiru was a healthy guest. Hiru seemed to be increasingly nervous as the number of awaiting donors was decreasing. A five minutes walk outside in the fresh air made him bold and confident enough to face the sucker needle. However, after bleeding he was seen with his buoyancy as usual.

Jahangir (12/666) was not confident enough whether the doctor would allow him to donate as his health is slimmer than his heart. Therefore, as a precaution from rejection, he pulled his sleeves down and closed the topmost button of his shirt to hide his chest. However, he succeeded, and came out boldly as the 55th donor.

Rezaul Hasan (3/101): "Initially I was a bit skeptical. But once the blood was given, I felt very satisfied".

MEDIA COVERAGE

At least nine national dailies gave lengthy coverage to our blood donation project and at least four of them came up with photographs. The number of words of coverage provided by each daily runs as follows:

	No. of words	Page No.
1. Bangladesh Observer	470	8
2. Bangladesh Times	470	1,8
3. New Nation	463	3
4. Ittefaq	242	1
5. Dainik Bangla	236	1
6. Sangbad	185	1
7. Sangram	160	8
8. Azad	192	8
9. Banglar Bani	Date not available	

The Bangladesh Television also prominently covered the project in its 8 O'Clock and 9 O'Clock News.

LATE NEWS: BLOOD DONATION: 13th Batch

They made a triumphant entry into ORCA. It was 16th July, 1982. The place was Red Cross Blood Centre. This time the occasion was the Second Blood Donation Session of ORCA. The volunteers were nearly all from the 13th Batch - who passed out of the College hardly a month back. About thirty of them were in Dacca to take the admission test for the Marine Academy. These young bloods, who are out to infuse new blood into ORCA, elected to step into ORCA activities by undertaking a very noble step: blood donation. It will hopefully be a noble tradition for future batches. And it should invoke those members of ORCA who could not yet donate blood, to do so at the earliest. (At least Taslim 1/7 came rushing to Red Cross Blood Centre to commit that he would be donating just after the Ramadhan - since he is fasting). Maj Manish 2/74, who missed the first donation session since he was out of Dacca, came down to donate and encourage his younger brothers. So did come ORCA Organizing Secretary Sabbir

was also a guest from Rajshahi Govt. College: Sohel Sajid.

There were thirty-three volunteers on July 16, '82. Seven could not donate (four were fasting and three were under weight).

THE DONORS

1. Md. Shamsul Aziz 13/698
2. Al-Mamoon 13/701
3. Md. Zahidur Rahman 13/702
4. Md. Shihabuddin Mahmood 13/705
5. Md. Rezzaqul Alam 13/707
6. Itrat Ahmed 13/708
7. Md. Ali 13/712
8. Md. Shahiduzzaman 13/713
9. Naim Muhammad 13/723
10. Haseeb Akhtar 13/725
11. H. Jalaluddin Ahmed 13/726
12. Md. Jahangir Kabir 13/728
13. Md. Sharifuzzaman 13/730
14. Md. Shariful Islam 13/731
15. Md. Abul Hasnat 13/732
16. Md. Aynul Haque 13/733
17. Md. A.Z.H. Sarwar 13/735
18. A.S.M. Masud 13/741
19. Md. Ashrafuzzaman 13/746
20. Md. Mahmud Hassan 13/747
21. Md. Kamal Ahmed 13/748
22. Md. Irtezaur Rahman 13/749
23. Maj Manish Dewan 2/74
24. Sharif Masudul Haque Sabbir 10/557
25. Md. Arif 11/637
26. Sohel Sajid (Guest)

DISAPPOINTED VOLUNTEERS

Those who were ready to donate after Iftar, but were deferred to a latter date were:

1. Salzar Hossain 13/710
2. Abdul Mogaddem 13/711
3. A.K.M.A. Baquee 13/724
4. Md. Monwar Hossain 13/743

The unfortunate under-weights (but undoubtedly brave) were:

1. Abdul Qadir 13/715
2. Iqbal Hossain 13/722
3. Abu Sarwar 13/740

THE CERIMONY

The certificate - awarding ceremony was presided over by Lt Col S.A.M. Khaled, a former Principal of RCC. The Chief Guest was Maj Gen (Retd) Abdul Jabbar, Chairman, BRCS. Maj (Retd) Ali Hasan Quoreshi, Secretary General, BRCS, congratulated ORCA on providing the largest number of donors of all organizations. Look for details in SPAN-5.

TOTAL DONORS : 97 (TILL JULY, 16, 1982)

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE

- | | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Rezaul Hsan 3/101 | - Chairman |
| Javed Iqbal 12/655 | - Member |
| Abdul Hamid 1/1 | - Advisor |

Assisted by:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Saiful Islam 12/651 | Abdul Qadir 13/715 |
| Asifuzzaman 12/670 | Monwar Hossain 13/743 |