

# Bangladesh volunteer

--- For it is in giving that I received.

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This summer vacation, I took part in a volunteer project to Bangladesh held by Poya Academy and Promised Journey Charity Service Association. **Anticipating a change of my life, I plucked up enough courage and walked away from my comfort zone to experience a different culture.**



Originally, I had thought of Bangladesh as an **extremely poor and densely populated country**. But when I got there, I found that the people are nice and kind even though the street scene was exactly what I had imagined before and the traffic was really congested. When I arrived in the capital, Dhaka, I found indeed a **strong disparity between the rich and the poor**. Unlike the cars in Taiwan, the vehicles in Bangladesh are mainly “Ricksha,” a kind of tricycle with manpower. The transportation there really impressed me a lot.



Our team’s primary goals were teaching English and hygiene. I took charge of teaching the kids English and leading some interesting activities. I taught them a few English songs with simple gestures and finger plays. This was a great challenge to me since sometimes I couldn’t communicate well with those kids. All I could do was use eye contacts and body language. Folding a paper airplane was one of the activities I taught them. Those airplanes symbolized their dreams. Once their airplanes were air-borne, it seemed that their dreams would soon come true, too. **Whenever I saw their faces with big smiles, my heart was filled with a sense of satisfaction.**

After this memorable journey, I learned their culture and lifestyle and tried to live my life to the fullest. What I gave the kids was so little and I had received so much more in return. **Sometimes in life, to give is to take and I have picked up the wisdom from the volunteer project this summer in Bangladesh.**

