

REPORT ON

HOSPITAL CARE FOR 350 ACID
VICTIMS IN BANGLADESH (45128)

2024 OCTOBER-DECEMBER





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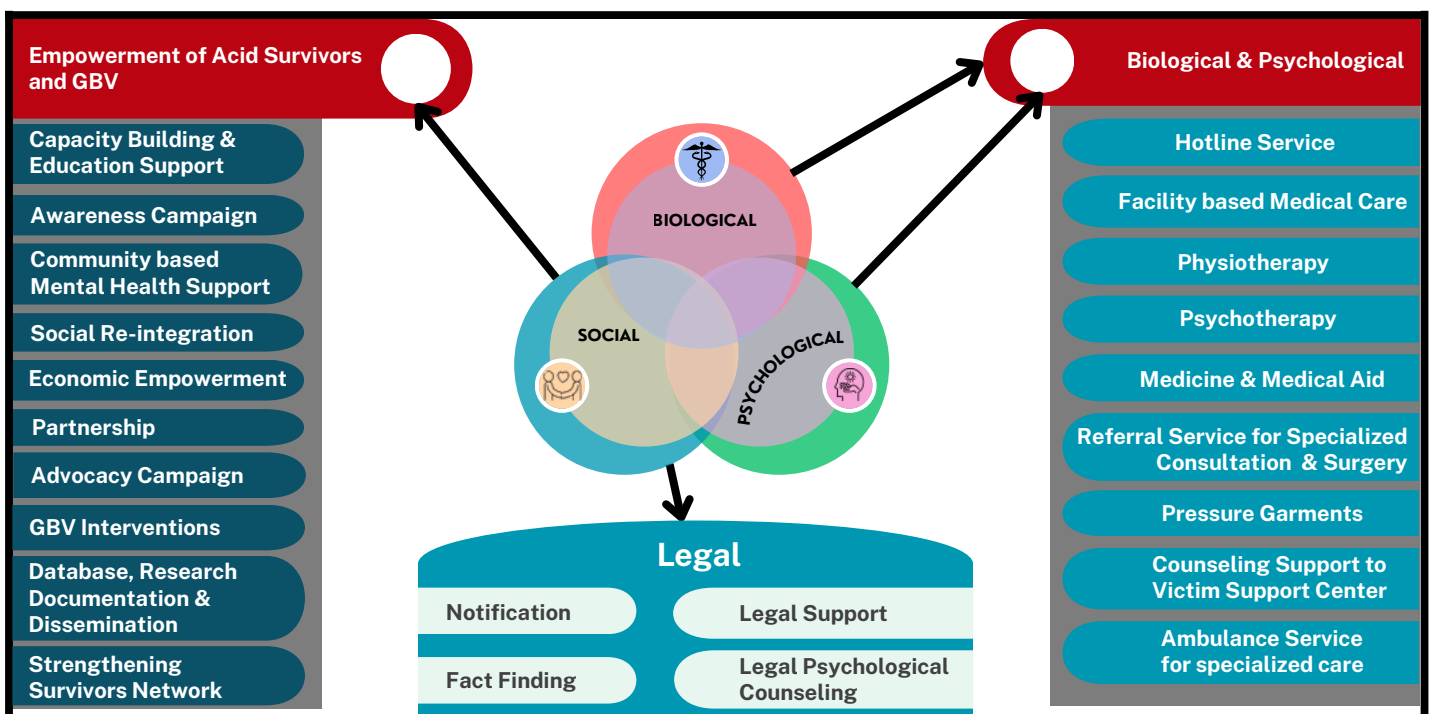
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INTRODUCTION

The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) is a non-governmental organization dedicated to supporting survivors of acid attacks and preventing acid violence. Founded in 1999, Over the years the organization established itself as a specialized one-stop-service enter dedicated to the needs of the survivors and advocacy for elimination of acid violence. Utilizing a home-grown bio-psycho-social model, ASF offers comprehensive support services in free of cost to acid survivors, including medical treatment, psychological counseling, legal assistance, empowerment initiatives, awareness campaign, advocacy, and research. In this journey it has engaged government, relevant national, international NGOs, media, civil society forces, private sector, donors, and acid survivors.

BIO-PSYCHO-SOCIAL SERVICE MODEL





Leading with Vision, Inspiring Success

Dear Friends,

I am delighted to present this Report, showcasing our remarkable journey and accomplishments throughout the months. As the sole NGO in Bangladesh committed to preventing, addressing, and ultimately eradicating acid violence while safeguarding the rights of them, including men, women, and children, who have suffered from this abhorrent form of violence, ASF stands resolute. Our aspiration is to foster a Bangladesh free from acid violence, where victims, particularly women and children, can lead lives of dignity with peace and happiness.

Services designed in bio-psycho-social model to acid and other burn survivors such as medical consultation, psychotherapy, physiotherapy, medicine couriered, medical referral, tele-medicine service, surgery, medical aid, pressure garments and legal counseling from ASF are provided in timely manner and in perceptions of their needs. It is with immense pride that I reflect on the unwavering support of our valued donors and partners, the dedication and resilience of our team, and the positive impact we have made in the industry.

In the face of unprecedented challenges, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to excellence, donors' satisfaction. Our focus on delivering exceptional services, coupled with our agility in adapting to survivors needs, has been instrumental in our continued growth and success.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our talented team members who have consistently gone above and beyond to exceed expectations and drive our organization forward. Their unwavering passion, expertise, and commitment have been the bedrock of our achievements.

Furthermore, I would like to express my appreciation to our esteemed donors and partners for their trust and collaboration. Your valuable insights, feedback, and loyalty have propelled us to new heights, and we are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to your success.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to our core values, fostering a culture of innovation, and delivering sustainable value to our stakeholders. We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and confident in our ability to navigate the evolving landscape.

On behalf of the entire leadership team, I assure you that we will continue to prioritize transparency, integrity, and responsible growth in everything we do. Together, let us embrace the future with optimism and determination, knowing that our collective efforts will shape a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and I invite you to delve into the following pages of this report to discover the milestones, achievements, and exciting prospects that define our organization.

Sincerely,

Sarder Jahangir Hossain

Executive Director
Acid Survivors Foundation

New Acid Attack Statistics 2024 (October-December)

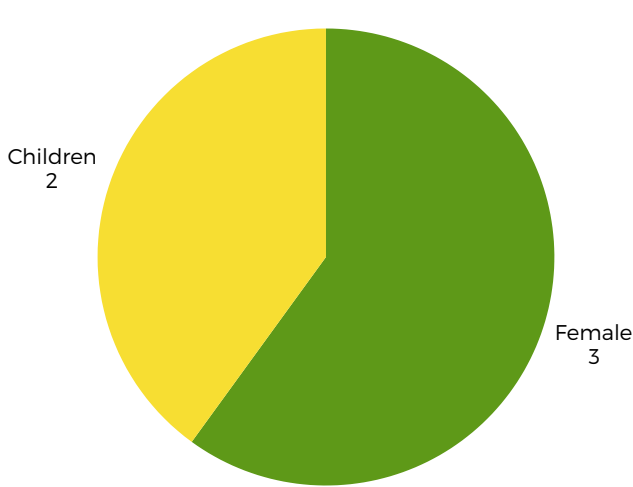
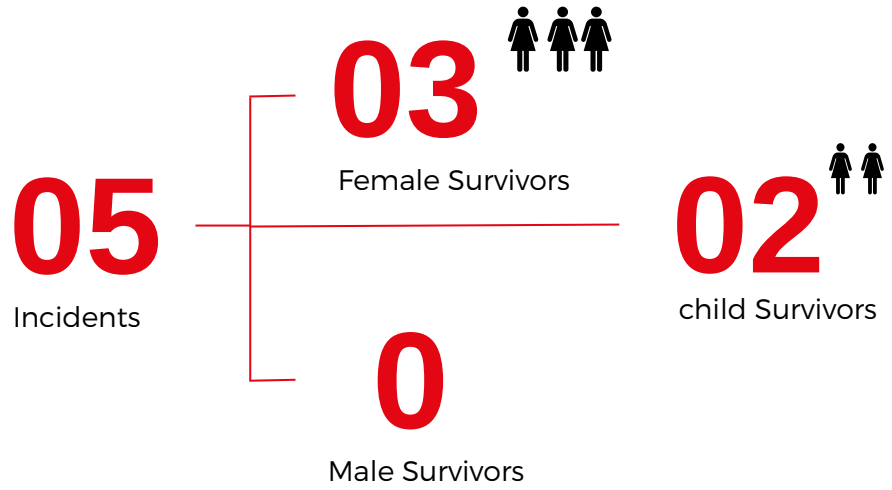


Fig.1: Sex Ratio

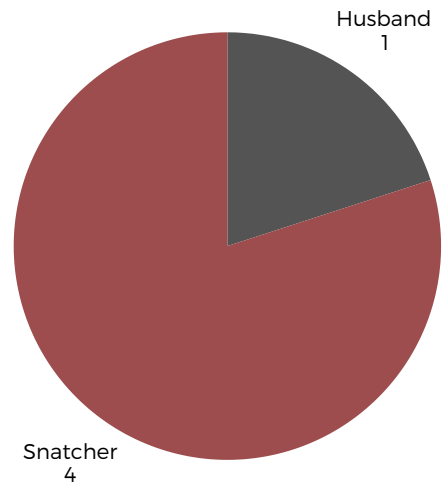


Fig.2: Perpetrators

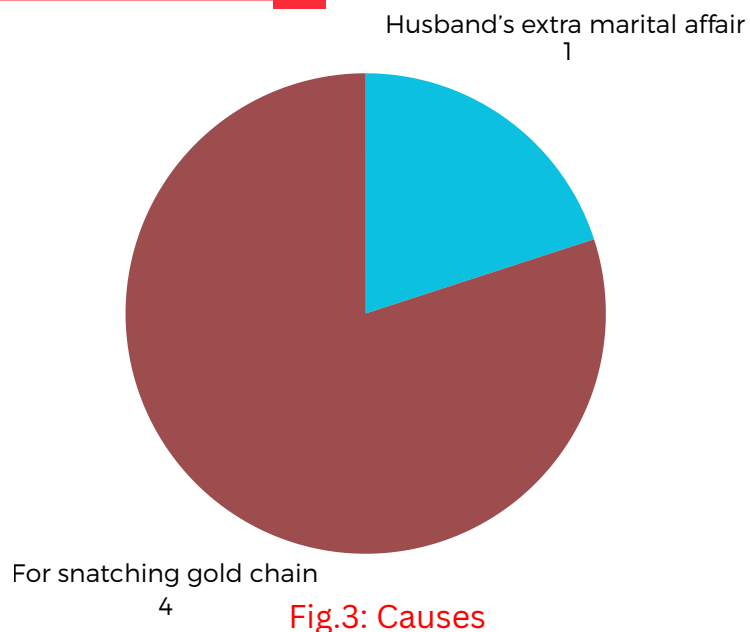


Fig.3: Causes

Completed Activities



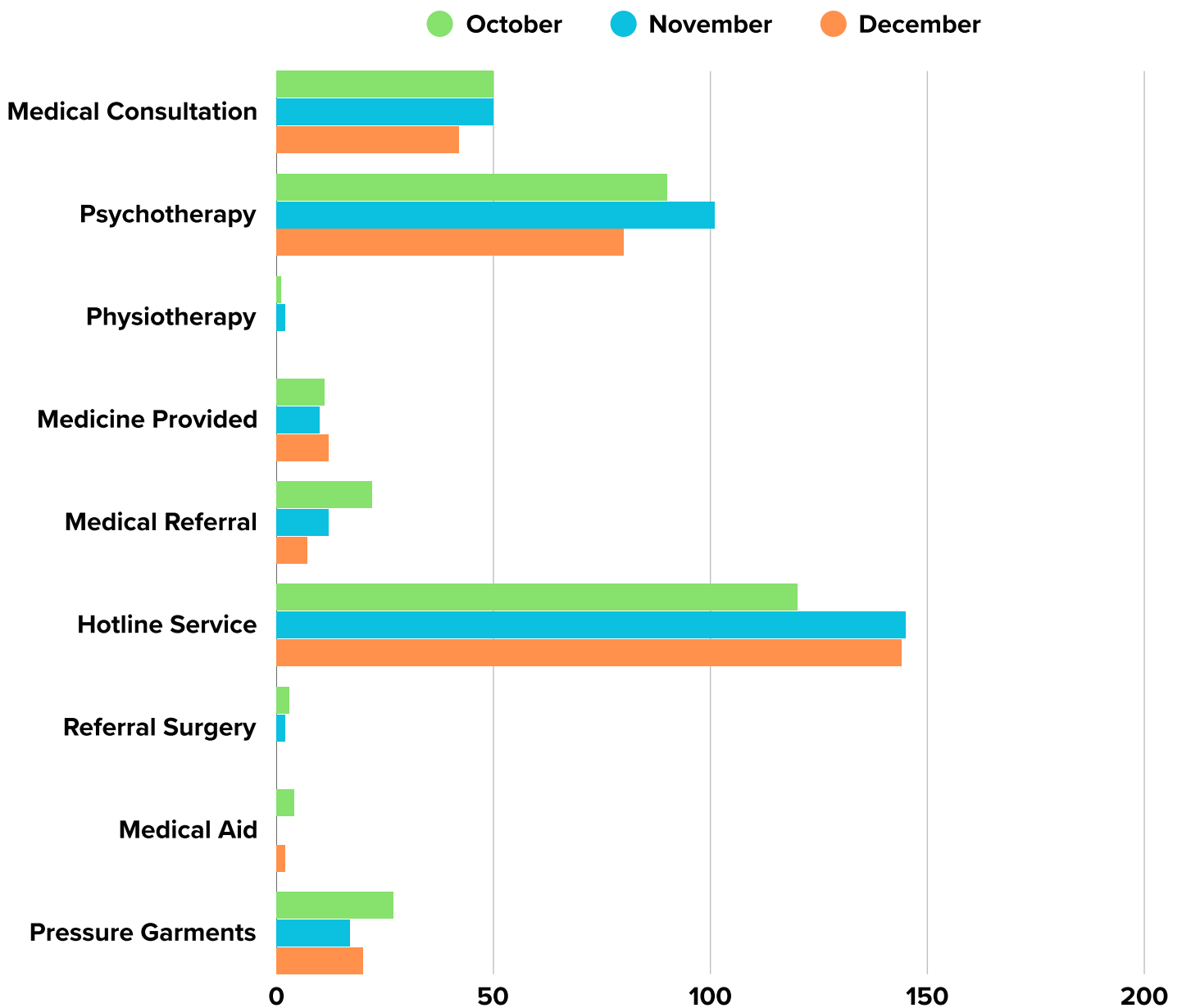
It is a process where the volume of activities grows concurrently with group effort.

Activity	Outcome
Medical Consultation(OPD)	142
Psychotherapy	271 79 in-person 192 E-counseling
Physiotherapy	3
Medicine Couriered	33
Medicine for OPD patients	106
Medical Referral	41
Hotline Service	409
Medical Aid	6
Pressure Garments	64
Referral Surgery	5



Services

Month-Over-Month





Medical Hotline



To prevent recurring complications caused by chemical burns, a total of 409 survivors sought medical advice through our hotline service. The services requested included the management of contractures, issues related to feeding tubes, and problems affecting burned eyes and ears.

Direct Consultation (OPD)



Survivors received health consultations for recurring complications resulting from chemical burns, including contractures, ophthalmological issues, hearing difficulties, and infections. During the reporting period, a total of 142 survivor patients were served.



Medicine and Medical Aids



Medicine was provided to 142 patients. Among them, 109 received their medication in person from the ASF health care Center, along with a one-way transport allowance. The remaining 33 patients had their medication delivered via courier, as they were unable to visit the center due to reasons such as physical condition, distance, cost, or the lack of an attendant. Additionally, eyeglasses were provided to 6 patients, as their eyes had been damaged by acid burns.

Physiotherapy



Physiotherapy plays a crucial role in the recovery process for burn injuries. If not administered timely, it can lead to complications such as contractures, deformities, and subsequent disabilities.

In this period, 03 patients were treated as a referral service in the SP Hospital, utilizing a variety of techniques such as stretching, massage, and exercise to aid in their rehabilitation.

Psychotherapy



Acid violence has a profound and lasting impact on the mental health of survivors, who are at a heightened risk of developing depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Additionally, children exposed to violence and abuse are more likely to exhibit violent behavior as adults.

Psychotherapy services, including counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation for survivors and their families, have been proven to mitigate the negative psychological effects of violence and reduce the likelihood of re-victimization. In total, our psychotherapist served to 271 acid survivors, with 79 conducted in person and 192 through e-counseling.



Referral Care for specialized consultation and surgery



A total of 41 patients were referred to various hospitals for specialized advanced care, including the National Institute of Ophthalmology Hospital, Shaheed Suhrawardy Hospital, Ispahani Islamia Eye Hospital, the National Institute of Mental Health & Hospital, Dhaka Medical College & Hospital.

Ambulance service to carry referral cases

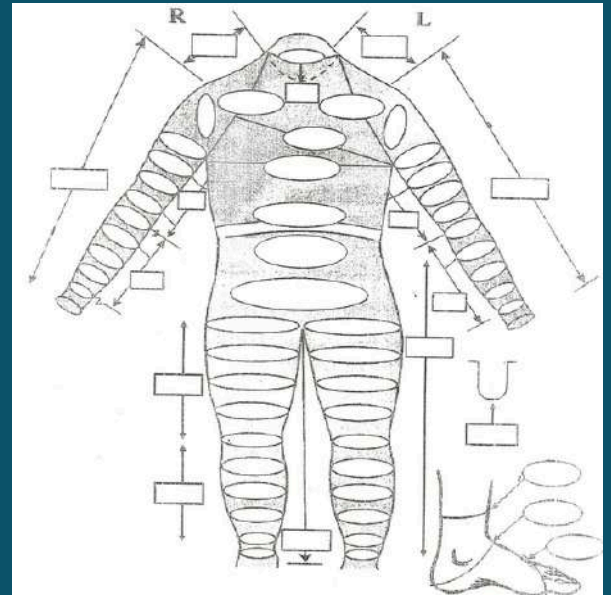


A total of 27 referred patients were provided with ambulance service to transport them to the hospital.



Pressure Garments

Pressure garments (PGs), also known as compression garments, are useful protecting components for burn injury management. These are specialized pieces of clothing made of elasticized fabric called Lycra. PGs are used for keeping the burn area tightly fitting in order to prevent the skin from scar formation and protect the skin from the development of contracture from the maturing scar and ensuing disability conditions.



The tightness of PGs has multiple benefits. It helps stop the itching associated with healing burns, provides support and protection for fragile skin, and reduces swelling, and relief from pain while promoting healing. They also help to reduce discomfort caused by burns. Additionally, they help improve the range of motion in burned areas by providing support during movement.

PGs are tailored to meet each survivor's specific needs based on the physician's advice. ASF operates two survivor-run pressure garment manufacturing unit in Dhaka Medical College & Hospital (DMCH), and another at the ASF Service Center. In the reporting period, ASF provided pressure garments to 64 survivors. They are all the other burn survivors.



Pressure Garments



Picture Gallery





LIPI BEGUM ATTACKED WITH ACID BY HER HUSBAND IN BOGURA

Bogura

October 19, 2024

Lipi Begum, a 45-year-old homemaker from Gabtoli Thana in Bogura district, was attacked with acid by her husband on October 19, 2024. According to her family, Lipi's husband, Aminur, had been involved in an extramarital relationship for a long time, which caused significant conflict in their marriage. Aminur had left Lipi and their 17-year-old son to live near his workplace in Gabtoli.

On the day of the incident, Lipi and her son visited him and went to confront Aminur at his residence. A heated argument ensued, during which Aminur attempted to strangle Lipi. When she screamed for help, he poured acid on her, which he had stored in the house. The acid caused burns to Lipi's neck and left hand.

Neighbors and local residents came to her rescue and admitted her to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College and Hospital in Bogura. The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) contacted her family, who confirmed that Lipi has been discharged from the hospital but requires regular wound dressing. She is currently staying with her parents along with her son.

A case has been filed under the Acid Control Act at Gabtoli Thana. However, the Investigating Officer reported that Aminur has not yet been arrested, though efforts are ongoing to locate him.

ASF has advised Lipi's family to visit the foundation for further treatment and support.



“A Young Mother and Her Two-year-old Daughter Under Acid Attack”

Turag, Dhaka

November 21, 2024



An acid incident occurred today on November 21, 2024, while robbery in Turag, Dhaka. The robber threw acid on a mother along with her two-year-old girl and snatched a gold chain.

Relatives and neighbors told that, the mother Sathi Rani (36) took her daughter Bijoyini to a barber shop for haircut. While returning from the shop an unknown young man followed them to their way at home, and suddenly entered the house. At first, he pretended to engage in conversation with Sathi Rani, but when the opportunity arose, he threw acid on her face. During the incident the two-year-old child in the mother's lap was also got burnt. The robber then snatched the gold chain from Sathi's neck and ran away.

Bijayini and her mother have immediately been admitted to the National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery. Both the mother and the child are in critical condition. Doctors said that, Sathi has 13 percent burn while the child Bijoyini suffered 15 percent burn.



Monjila Khatun Sathi

A Story of Resilience and Hope

Impact
Story

Monjila Khatun Sathi

July 9, 2011



Monjila Khatun Sathi, an acid violence survivor, lives in the village of Maniktola Itagacha in Satkhira district. Her ordeal began on July 9, 2011, when her first husband, Liton, threw acid on her over a dowry dispute. In 2011, Monjila married Liton, who initially seemed supportive. However, within a few months, he began demanding a motorcycle as dowry. Unable to fulfill his demand, Monjila faced increasing pressure and threats. On the day of the attack, Liton deceitfully took her to a spot near the Rosolpur Police Line, claiming he needed to discuss something important. At around 7 PM, he threw acid on her and fled the scene. Local residents rescued Monjila and admitted her to Satkhira Sadar Hospital. After receiving initial treatment, she sought help from the Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF), where she underwent full medical care and began her recovery journey. ASF has continued to support her with regular medications and follow-up care. A case was filed against Liton under the Acid Control Act, but it was dismissed after a short time. Following this, Liton divorced Monjila, providing her with only 25,000 BDT as compensation. The marriage left her childless.

In 2020, Monjila remarried a man from a neighboring village. Together, they have a son, but her husband's income from working in a watermelon shop is insufficient to support the family. Determined to improve her situation, Monjila, who had learned sewing from her elder sister, began exploring ways to contribute financially.

On April 2, 2024, ASF provided Monjila with a sewing machine to help her start her own business. She now works from home, sewing garments and receiving a steady stream of orders, with an increase during festive occasions. Through her work, she is able to contribute to her family's income and hopes for a brighter future.

On November 21, 2024, ASF contacted Monjila to check on her progress. She expressed happiness and gratitude, sharing that she is managing her sewing work successfully and contributing to her family's well-being. She thanked ASF for their unwavering support, crediting the foundation for giving her a second chance at life.

“Monira’s Hope Come True”

ASF provided financial assistance

Gajipur district

25 November,2024

“I am Monira Akter, currently living with my father and younger sister in Gajipur district, Dhaka. In 1998, only at the age of 9 I was under acid attack by my neighbor, over a dispute of a rickshaw with my father. I received long-term treatment from Dhaka Medical College and Hospital and from Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF)’s run specialized burn care hospital. I recovered upon receiving treatment from Acid Survivors Foundation and advanced treatment from Spain, where I stayed for one year for the treatment. Acid Survivors Foundation and Naripokkho collaboratively helped me for the treatments I got from abroad.

I got more than thirty surgeries for my face from there. With the education support from Acid Survivors Foundation, I had completed my studies from third-grade to Higher Secondary Certificate (HSC). Due to my health condition, I could not study after my Higher Secondary Certificate. Later in 2010, by the initiative of ASF I have joined in an IT Company, where I work on editing and photoshops.



Acid Survivors Foundation also provided me trainings, such as social skill development, leadership development, and a short course on computer training. Except all this, I still receive treatment from Acid Survivors Foundation”.

Monira have developed her skills in her field of work. Her father is a paralyzed person, which forced her to be the the sole earner of her family and wanted to expand her earning. But without a computer she was unable to work outside the scope. This year in 2024, Monira made an application to ASF for a computer so that she can support her family with a better life. On her appeal, ASF managed to find individual donor (unwilling to reveal identity) generously donated her a computer, on 25 November,2024. This donation hopefully will grant her a prosperous future ahead.

She has conveyed her heartfelt gratitude, “I am grateful towards Acid Survivors Foundation and all other generous donors for their help to me and other survivors like us. This computer will help me to get myself more empowered and I can provide more support to my family. Whenever I had a downfall, I got a hand from ASF to pull me up. Without ASF I would not be a today’s Monira”.

“A Ray of Hope: Acid Survivor Humayan Begins a New Journey”

Humayan Kabir is a victim of acid attack that was took place in 2014. His hometown is in Netrakona district. Humayun has two daughters. The eldest daughter is married, and the younger daughter is studying. Humayun's both eyes were blinded by the acid. Before the incident, he was a driver by profession. In present, Humayan has no source of income. Currently he lives at his in-laws house with his wife. His younger daughter is receiving educational assistance from ASF. On 21 December, 2024, ASF provided him with a sewing machine to have regular source of income. His wife, who has sewing skills, plans to use the machine to support their family financially.

Expressing his gratitude, Humayun shared his joy in receiving the sewing machine. He said, “Now there will be a daily income, which will ease my family's financial woes to some extent. I am grateful to ASF for providing me with such an opportunity.”



“ASF Extends Support to Acid Attack Survivors Sathi Rani and Her Daughter”



On November 21, 2024, during a robbery in Turag, Dhaka, Sathi Rani and her two-year-old daughter, Bijoyini, were attacked with acid by the perpetrator. Both mother and daughter were immediately admitted to the National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery for advanced medical care.

Two representatives from the Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF), Legal Officer Sabiha Nahid and Medical Officer Dr. Shobnom Mafia, visited them at the hospital to assess their needs. Sathi's husband approached ASF for financial assistance to help cover their medical expenses. In response, on December 19, 2025, ASF provided the family with a cash donation of 20,000 Taka to help ease their financial burden.




Interview by French Journalists




On November 28, 2024, French journalists Paul Boyer and Pierre Terraz visited ASF to learn about its crucial work eliminating acid violence and empowering the survivor through ensuring medical care, psychological, legal and rehabilitation support to build their lives. During their visit, they interviewed the Executive Director Sarder Jahangir Hossain, Tahmina Islam, Program Coordinator and a Survivor. The purpose of their visit to feature an article focused on acid violence issues to publish in the Libération- French Newspaper.



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