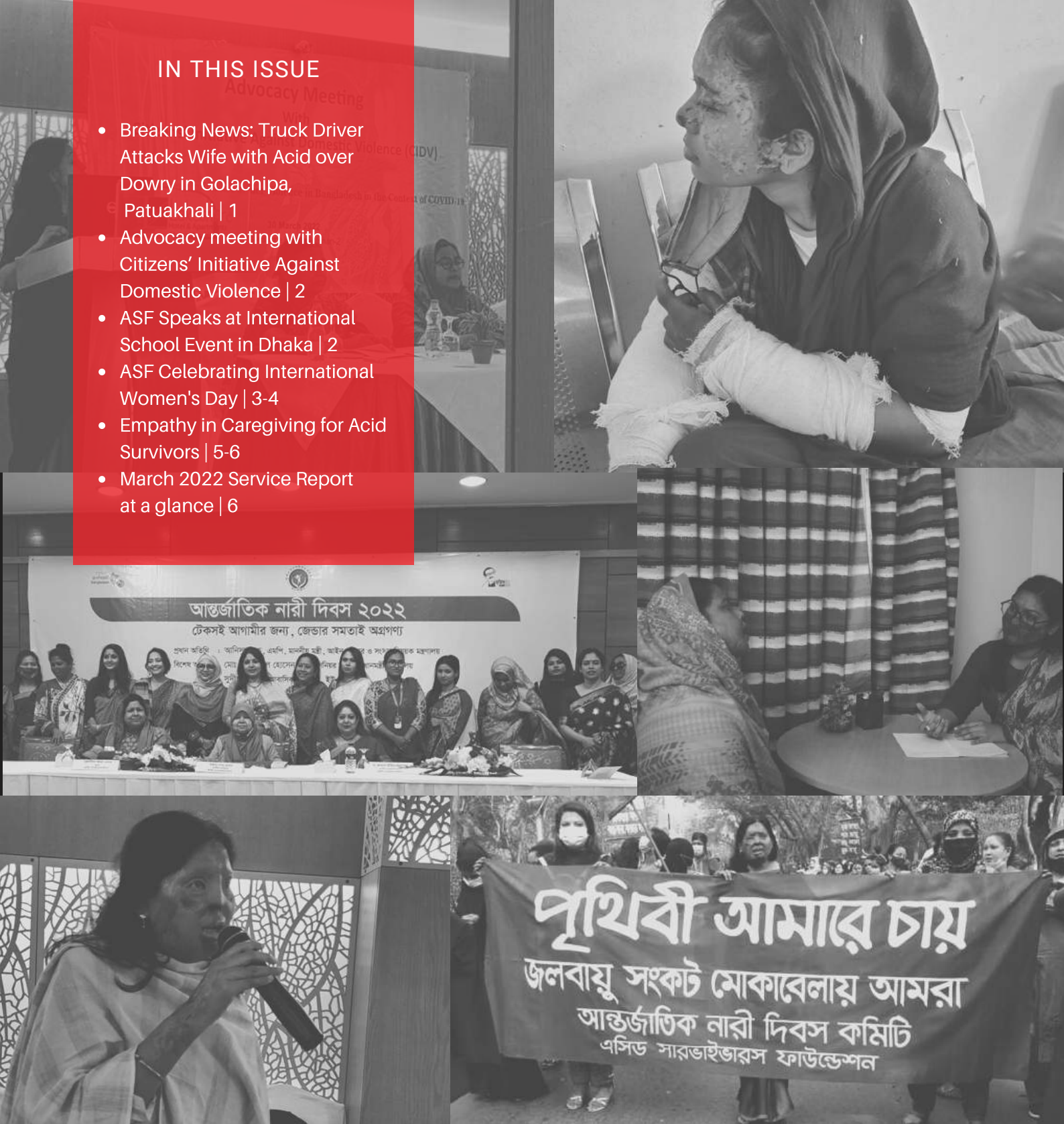


Recap

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আন্তর্জাতিক নারী দিবস ২০২২

টেকসই আগামীর জন্য, জেভার সমতাই অগ্রগণ্য

প্রধান অতিথি : আনিসুল হক, এমপি, মাননীয় স্বামী, আইসিডিভি ও সংশ্লিষ্ট সরকারি মন্ত্রণালয়

মোহাঃ সুলতানা হোসেন, এমপি, মাননীয় স্বামী, আইসিডিভি ও সংশ্লিষ্ট সরকারি মন্ত্রণালয়

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পৃথিবী আমাৰে চায়
জলবায়ু সংকট মোকাবেলায় আমাৰা
আন্তর্জাতিক নারী দিবস কমিটি
এসিডি সারভাইভারস ফাউন্ডেশন

TRUCK DRIVER ATTACKS WIFE WITH ACID OVER DOWRY IN GOLACHIPA, PATUAKHALI

| 02 MARCH 2022

On 2nd March 2022, at 3:30 AM in Golachipa, Patuakhali, 35 year old truck driver Milon attacked his 20 year old wife Toyna with acid over dowry. The attack burnt Toyna's face, ears, and hands.

Toyna was first taken to the nearest hospital at Golachipa and then referred to Sher-e Bangla Medical College Hospital, Barishal. On 7th March she arrived at the Sheikh Hasina Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery (SHNIBPS) and has been receiving treatment there ever since.

Upon filing a case at the Golachipa Police Station against Milon who had extramarital relationships and repeatedly tortured Toyna for dowry, has been arrested and put in jail.

Toyna is currently under treatment and on medications. On 7th March we visited her at the SHNIBPS hospital and assured her of our assistance and support throughout her healing journey. We are in constant communication with her family for updates, financially supporting them, and collecting funds for her treatment.

Toyna has two brothers who run their family of 7. Keeping everyone fed is already a mammoth task for the brothers. Any additional expense is beyond them. Help Toyna today by donating to us. Feel free to contact us by email or hotline number for more information.



ADVOCACY MEETING WITH CITIZENS' INITIATIVE AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

On 30th March 2022, CARE Bangladesh organized an advocacy meeting with the Citizens' Initiative Against Domestic Violence (CIDV) to disseminate project learning on *Combating Intimate Partner Violence in Bangladesh in the Context of Covid-19*. ASF actively participated in the forum. Our recommendation—engaging and working with the Government in combating the issue, was well received and appreciated.



ASF SPEAKS AT INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL EVENT IN DHAKA

On March 28, Jump Foundation organized an event at the American International School Dhaka (AISD) to teach students about SDG 5 (Gender Equality) and 16 (Peace Justice and Strong Institutions). ASF guest speaker Tahmina Islam—Case and Partnership Management Coordinator shared her empowerment journey as an acid survivor. The audience asked questions about preventing acid violence, measures the new generation must take to carry on ASF's work, and how to support survivors. At the end, members of Jump foundation, AISD teachers, and students thanked ASF for its philanthropic work. Besides Tahmina, ASF Healthcare Coordinator, Psychologist, and Legal Officer also attended the event.

ASF CELEBRATING INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY WITH:

● NARIPOKKHO

On Saturday, 8.30 AM, Naripokkho organized a rally and cultural program on the theme “পৃথিবী আমাৰে চায় জলবায়ু সংকট মোকাবেলায় আমৰা”. Rallies gathered in front of Arunodaya Gate in Ramna Park and started marching at 8.30 AM. The rally entered Suhrawardy Udyan through Matso Bhaban, Engineering Institution with banners, festoons, lathikhela, and slogans.



● SOCIAL RESISTANCE COMMITTEE (SHAMAJIK PROTIROD COMMITTEE)

On 8th March 2022, ASF took part in the program arranged by the Shamajik Protirod Committee at the Central Shaheed Minar.

BANGABANDHU INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE CENTER (BICC)

On 9th March, the National Human Rights Commission Bangladesh organized an event at the Bangabandhu International Conference Center (BICC) titled *Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow*. Chief guest Anisul Huq–Honorable Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Md. Tofazzol Hossain Mia–Senior Secretary Prime Minister Office, Sudipto Mukharkhe–Resident Representative UNDP, and Nasima Begum–Honorable Chairman National Human Rights Commission attended the event.



NATIONAL GIRL CHILD ADVOCACY FORUM (NGCAF)

Kanya Shishu Advocacy Forum organized an event on the occasion of International Women's Day titled *Gender equality today for a sustainable tomorrow* at the Engineers Institution, Ramna. Representatives of 40 organizations partook in the event. The occasion involved cultural programs, guest discussion, and handing over awards for social activism.



EMPATHY IN CAREGIVING FOR ACID SURVIVORS

● Contributors: Feroza Begum, Ph.D. (Member of Trustee),
Aniqa Masnun Torfa, Sabekun Nahar Azmi

Acid attack has lasting physical and mental impacts on survivors. Alongside physical treatment, professional psychological counseling is required to help survivors reconcile with their past. Any form of trigger risks retraumatizing survivors. Therefore, it is incumbent upon any caregiving professional to act with empathy when dealing with them.

An acid victim typically undergoes two cycles of trauma. First, at the moment of attack when acid is thrown. Second, when blamed for the ordeal. Victim-blaming is typical of crimes perpetrated largely against women. A practice prevalent in misogynistic patriarchal societies where men are deemed to be the better, more important sex and ought to be protected at all costs. Bangladesh is one such place and acid violence is one such example in the country where women account for 80% of acid victims and men account for over 90% of the perpetrators of acid violence. Of the cases that are filed, over 75% of them are acquitted.

Understandably, survivors inculcate distrust in the legal system and society in general and typically resort to closing off entirely to avert further traumatization. While this may temporarily deter additional pain, in the long-run however result in gradual mental decline leading to clinical depression and potential suicide. In the absence of third-party intervention, it is difficult for survivors to bounce back from trauma. Professional help is needed to equip survivors with the mental crutches necessary to recuperate and reintegrate into society.

Communication comprises both verbal and nonverbal elements. Like the average human being, survivors are highly attuned to the subtext of an interaction. But with the added trauma survivors stay on high alert for threats and as a consequence appear agitated and manifest nervous behavior of sorts around people. With that in mind, caregivers must approach victims with the tenderness, care, and sensitivity needed to help survivors feel calm around them and act normally.

Over time, a constant sense of ease around caregivers foster trust within survivors and enable them to become more receptive to help thus hastening the recovery process. However, trust can take a long time to establish. So, caregivers ought to be mentally prepared going in and bear patience as survivors experience repeated relapses.

In conclusion, acid attacks leave their victims permanently scarred. Physical and psychological treatment is necessary to alleviate bodily and mental trauma respectively. Survivors are especially vulnerable to triggers therefore caregivers

must act with respect and kindness in their day-to-day activities to help survivors relax and build a trusting relationship with their caregivers necessary for their healing journey.

At ASF, caregivers are equipped with the necessary emotional and interpersonal training essential in dealing with survivors. We approach our survivors with utmost kindness and care and make it a top priority not to retraumatize survivors in any way. We constantly strive to make our place and people a constant source of comfort and reliance for our survivors.



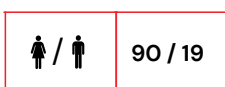
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DONATE

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