

History under total No. 781

1.

English translation of topic article
was published in the weekly Bishini
on 5-4 march, 52

Bengali Children in Foreign Broker

Children collected from Bangladesh were sent to various countries of Europe including United States at different times. But we do not know where are they and in what situation? For the hope of money, cloth and education, the children of this country, leaving the shelter of their own parents and sent to other countries, what has become the consequences at the last? This is a question of ours, one and hundred of parents like Milonbibi.

Then, could it be assumed that we do not have any news of them? According to the report received recently, those children had been sent abroad in the name of adoption, most of them could not get shelter through adoption. The boys have been compelled to take the profession of beging, stealing and robbery. And the girls have been made prostitutes, compelled to participate in Porno or Blue-Film. They are being used in Snuff-Movies.

The children collected from Bangladesh by various means for smuggling. Few had been collected directly from streets. On the other side, the parents have been given assurance that their children will get education in the boarding house. On the basis of that assurance parents handed over their children. And the uneducated parents of this country, whose daily average income is less than Tk. 5.00 or have no regular flow of income, they will probably hope for manging two times meals for their children, to get clothes, education and shelter. On this way the parents had been given assurance and surety and at the time of receiving the children that they could get opportunity to go to their children at any time.

This is not the end of this story here but the beginning.

On searching, the parents found that there were no school - their children have been taken away. They further came to know with astonish that, on those paper in which they had given thumb-mark were the child adotion form or agreement paper. But they never agreed to give their children for adoption in any way. Despite living in poverty, they did not agree to lose their child. But they were cheated and they lost their children by this new way of trafficking.

It is learnt, at least 10 thousand Bangladeshi children of different ages have been smuggled to foreign countries during the 1972 to 1973. But only 14 hundred Bangladeshi children have been rescued lawfully. And the rest were smuggled or being smuggled illegally by concealed way or by getting ignorance of father and mother. And this way, the smugglers got at least 20/25 thousand Tk. for each child.

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Where the smuggled children were taken and what happened to them.

Some children were directly sold to the hand of professional syndicates. They made the children crippled and engaged them as beggars. As the existence of these syndicates remains in this country, similarly they are also active in foreign countries. These crippled children could be seen at different cities of the country and having their whole day's earning through the profession of begging or different techniques by their crippled body, they handed over all money to the syndicates or ring leaders. If examined, it will be found that the disable body of these cripple beggars are not from their birth-mark. Due to keep certain parts of their body from normal growth, that situation happened. For this, child's half-portion of the body kept tightened in a box day by day for a long time, tightened the hand or leg by folding, or broken the hand or leg by wrenching. They also do not hesitate to spoil the eyes even. It is crippled by force, which could easily understand. It will be seen that, system to make such type of crippled beggars are the similar.

But these days the profession of beggars are not much profitable one, so the children are being used by distortion of different ways.

Some countries in West Europe and Asia, huge money were earning through pornography and Blue-Film. In these Pornography and Blue-films, Bangladeshi children are being used. Those children have been smuggled in the name of adoption, now they are earning figure from Porno and Blue-films.

of
The unfortunate children this country have become enjoyable commodity of Western distortion. Only Aim is that, to earn huge money by making glance in sexual business. Bangladeshi children who are being used in Pornopicture or Blue-film, they have no age limit. The young girls are also being used and even the children of 2 to 3 years are being used for Porno-films. These Bangladeshi children are being compelled for sexual activities. On some occasions, they have also been compelled for sexual activities. With the hands, they have been picturised. Snaps have taken and keep these in the VDO cassette. After that, it has come in the market. These Pornography are being sold in Western markets at a very high price.

Because of this, demand of another type of film and its market is also the highest in Western countries. Those persons, who could be attracted by simple Pornography and also for mental distortion, then these kind of films picturised. These films are known as "Snuff Movie" in foreign countries. Young aged Bangladeshi children are being used in these films.

It could be seen in these pictures that one or more persons were raping a young girl, in some pictures it could be seen that, from neck to stomach of a young girl was being cut by a knife. The girl was being slaughtered; bleeding as sparkling, and in some pictures head was being separated from the body in one attempt by the edged weapon and at that time the body was dancing like a slaughtered hen. By raping and slaughtering, those boys or girls were being killed in the real sense. The killing scene were clearly depicted in colour films. Prints and cassettes of these snuff movies. Films were sold from specified shops and these could be seen in the houses or secret places through gatherings. Firstly, these films were produced in some countries including United States, in Hong-kong and Manila. In the North South America and in Europe these pictures are largely produced. Selling price of these films are undoubtedly very high and secrecy maintained for selling.

The prostitution remains there side by side. Those girls have been taken away for adoption, most of them compelled to take part in prostitution. In the beginning it could not be ascertained. Those persons, who have taken adoption of these girls, firstly they took care of them, provided food and shelter and make them fit and habituated in living as aristocratic life. The main aim was that to make these girls as aristocrat prostitute. Because aristocrat prostitute could earn ten times higher than simple prostitute.

Bangladeshi children have been thrown to the darkness of distortion, killing, raping and prostitution - who is responsible for these? Did the parents willingly to have pulled their children in this way?

In 1977, the story of children smuggling from Bangladesh was come out. At that time some advertisement and News have been published frequently in News papers, and these were also concerned about children missing. It was found on searching about these stories that, these children were not missing without any cause. Internationally organised groups smuggled Bangladeshi Children in foreign countries. On finding out it was come to know that, an Holland based Relief Organisation was the main source for smuggling Bangladeshi children.

Foreign relief organisations who have the offices in Bangladesh, their kind of work are different. Among them, some organisations have a Children Welfare Programme. The adoption of Bangladeshi children was also included to their programme. The above mentioned relief

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organisations have its strong base in some European countries. One common person with this relief organisation is the Director of this Organisation and also an Officer of Holland based another relief Organisation. The above mentioned person was also a Foreigner Officer of a relief organisation of Denmark, who was also the Director of another International Child Education Programme. It further came to know that a former officer of Social Welfare Department, Bangladesh Government was also involved. But during children smuggling, this officer was then holding government post.

Due to economic situation of pre-independence Bangladesh, it was allurement and easy for foreign organisations to smuggle the children from this country. The displaced families from country's different areas gathered in the capital. On the other hand, the distressed and poor people also gathered at the remote areas for the hope of getting relief. Then, foreign relief organisations have come forward. They told about happy future and engage the selves with various types of programmes and schemes. And every such organisation worked with their own motives. The above mentioned Holland based relief organisation and similarly ~~smoother~~ other relief organisations collected children from illiterate and poor parents. They have net-works all over Bangladesh. After collection, their local agents send the children to Dacca-Centre. Afterwards arrangements were made to smuggle these children to foreign countries. During that time the high ranking official and the Director of International Children Education Programme helped them. The related Director, who was staying in Bangladesh was basically ~~an~~ Newzealand's citizen.

The said Holland relief organisation's local Director, who was also the Director of Holland's Children Adoption Organisation, collected children with the co-operation of these relief organisations. Help was also taken from the said Government official to make it as legally. In this way Passport, visas etc. were collected. On the other hand, the foreigner Director of the said International Children Education Programme have shown that these children were sent abroad under education-programme. Apparently, no person has doubt about this easy planning. The consequences of these children have been told earlier and the motives clear.

Some of the rehabilitation centres were the suitable place for collection the child to smuggle. Such as, from ~~the~~ rehabilitation centre 100 children have been smuggled. Besides that, children were also collected from slum areas and remote places of the country. Miltonbibi and Amana Khatun lost their

two children in the same way. They handedover their two children aged 2 and 12 respectively. They have been given assurance that their children will get education, food, medical facilities etc. On the part of destitute mother, it was impossible for her to look after those. Once the child left his own house, did not come back again. If investigation takes place, then many stories will come out and we will be surprised.

Another strategy of children smuggling was to seek permission from Guardians or parents. Generally no child was taken as adoption or sent abroad except permission of their parents. Did the said parents have permission for their children for adoption? It was discovered that, parents were cheated. It was not so difficult in this country for this type of cheating. Taka 100 is sufficient for that.

Firstly, you have to collect a child on your own choice. Because you want to smuggle the child. And as the mother has really given permission, so this prove is required. Because every child need a mother. For this matter, an woman will act as the mother of the child. But the difference is that, this woman will not look after the interest of this child, she will only look after your interest as your appointed her. How? Once you took the woman along with the child to the court and in front of any Magistrate. The woman will give affidavit or will give statement willingly that she is the mother of this child. As no other person have claim of the child, so the woman will be recognised as the mother. Moreover, this woman will inform the Magistrate that she wants to give her child as adoption. After collected attested copy in your hand give her taka 100/= and say goodbye. Then there is no restriction to send the child abroad.

On the other hand, illegitimate child is another source of collection to smuggle. Many times children have been missing or picked up from the streets or collect those for this motive. Then these organisations will give advertisement in news papers that, some children have been found and if any body wants to produce his demand, the concerned person must contact with the organisation. Now you say, within the undulated vast population how many persons are literate and can read news papers. There is no certainty that this advertisement will go through the eyes of every person. So the real parents could not come to place his/her claim. That's why the parents do not know where are their children. Then these children have been declared illegitimate. And there is no difficulties for adoption as to go to any countries for these illegitimate children. The said relief organisation and bribe-plotters get the chance of this useful source.

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At one time in 1979, the issue of Bangladeshi smuggling children had become stirring. Some activities have been found in high ranking departments. Holding some formal investigation, the issue afterwards hush-up. It was come to know that, the investigation could not be useful as because one concerned member of investigation committee is doubted as a child smuggled official. It was also known that, those parents who came to give evidence in front of commission had become afraid to see the said person. They did not have courage to speak the truth. According to another source, to keep the mouth shut-up of the parents, the personal group of the said children smuggle organisation have become furious. They threatened the parents for ultimate consequences. Assuming their downfall and to safeguard cash money was given among these parents on behalf of concerned organisation. As the poverty exists, some satisfaction could provide to these parents having some money. As a result, the parents of the smuggling children do not have eagerness to give evidence in front of commission. Beside that, it was known that one or two parents directly accused the said official of relief organisation against smuggled children.

Till to-day, process of the children smuggling do not stop. It was come to know that on protesting, some Middle East Muslim countries said, those children were being sent to foreign countries through adoption, their religion is being converting to Non-muslim. Probably, as because of this protest, the child adoption was prohibited from Bangladesh in 1978. But reliable sources said, afterwards the children smuggling was continuing from Bangladesh and this technique is also remains till today.

Some have opinion, new tactics have adopted alongwith the old technique of current children smuggling. Local and foreign families are related with this. Some have also expressed the opinion, persons having high personalities are still connected with children smuggling. If the investigation carried on once again through the mass circulation and announcement in various rehabilitation centres, then it will not be difficult to find out, who are responsible with this related children smuggling matter.

Once information was asked from Holland about the smuggled 35 Bangladeshi children, only 6 were found. Despite heavy reach the Dutch administration could not find the existence of the rest. On the backdrop of this event, the passenger list of KLM Airliner wanted to be investigated, but KLM administration expressed their inability to do so. They could not believe that these children were smuggled

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high charging. Some children within the 35 Bangladeshi children who have exceeded the highest age limit for adoption under the Law of Netherlands. If inquiry were carried out internationally and extensively, then KLM could not behave like an uncooperative attitude. Some documents about conspiracy of Bangladesh children were submitted two years ago to the Secretary General, Bangladesh Human Right Implementation Committee, Barrister Najmul Huda. On this context, quoted from the statement of Najmul Huda, a foreign magazine said "the Home Minister advised me not to conduct this case."

Although effective steps did not take place in this country, but various efforts have been taken in foreign countries. On the issue of children smuggling from Bangladesh and inhuman business by those children, British anti-slavery Society had prepared an enquiry report. And this report is being prepared on behalf United Nations Economic & Social Council and United Nations Human Right Commission. On the other side, by the request of Switzerland's children Welfare Organisation, the responsibility to conduct the investigation has taken over by "Inter Pool" an international organisation for identifying crime and criminal. On the same subject, the Dutch Law Ministry is conducting another investigation.

Child Smuggling in Other Countries of Asia :

In Sri Lanka, a lady who was for the first time became pregnant laying in a hospital bed. She was not as much delighted for the hope of her first child. But she was looking as fearful and anxious. Because this lady was going to be unmarried mother. She was frequently thinking about ensuing danger of a illegitimate child. At that time a nurse came beside her and whispered something. Later at the time a child was born but the newlyborn child was not found beside the bed of that unmarried mother. Afterwards the unmarried mother left the hospital happily and at that time she got one thousand taka of Sri Lanka's currency in her hand. But at that moment the child probably had been sent to Europe through adoption.

Mary Margarita was a beautiful young girl of Philippines.

Suddenly she became pregnant, which she could never wish. Then child adoption collector, the illegally syndicate have come forward for help. In lieu of this child, an agreement was made to provide Medical expense in addition some cash amount. And the child would be smuggled in a European country. The child would be sold there at a price of 8 to 12 thousand U.S. Dollar.

In the Indian States of Tamil Nadu, Ramu, a boy aged 4 years was suddenly missing. The hawker father of Ramu received the news that Ramu was captive in a orphanage which was under the guidance

... discovered the organised internationally children smuggling gang one by one. Earlier they sold 100 boys/girls in foreign countries to the so called bourgeois parents. For this reason police arrested a kidnapper woman, who sold Ramu at the cost of taka 30 in hand in ... in the hand of this gang.

Eric and Karin Morten, gard were a couple of Danish. They tried to take a adoption child from Thailand. At the cost of 200 Dollar they collected a child but they faced trouble to bring out the child from Thailand. As because under the law of Thailand, the couple, who have already two children cannot take a child for adoption. So this couple went back to homeland and later once again came back to Thailand along-with a friend. Before coming, ~~couple's name~~ name of a child was endorsed in the passport of that friend. These three persons unitedly smuggled the said child from Bangladesh. And the authority in Copenhagen Airport assumed that this child was the same, which was endorsed in the passport.

In the year 1980, a child was missing from Bangladesh. Afterwards the boy managed to run-away from a child smuggling secret place located in neighbouring country and he came back home.

In 1981 a newly born child was stolen from Dacca Medical College Hospital. Finally the child was rescued from Mymensingh.

At present in Asia, smuggled children have been regarded as a profitable business of crores of rupees. ~~of~~ South or South-East Asia in the main region of these children smuggling activities. At least a dozen countries including Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Nepal, Thailand, Hongkong, Philippines, Indonesia, Malaysia, are the locality for the activities of children smugglers syndicates. Like various international conspiracy conducted in poor countries, the children smuggling business in Asia is also rapidly increasing. The children of South and South-East Asia are now the target of illegally "adoption", business or conspiracy. The children of this region considered as profitable earning commodity. They are now treated as exportable commodity of millions dollars. These days a child, who is being purchased at a cost of 30 to 50 dollars in Madras, Dacca or Bangkok, the same could handedover at European New York cities for not less than 10 thousand dollar.

Yearly how many children were being bought and sold from this region, that did not be known. This matter still could not known publicly in the world or even those affected countries. The mass survey ~~was~~ also didn't conducted. But the concerned source believed that, every year one thousand children were being smuggling from Asia. And the conspirators appointed their own reliable persons to

collect, buy or steal the children. For this, the appropriate place is the Maternity centres or hospitals. During famine in the country these reliable persons became very active. It was found to know that in 1973 the children were even sold at a price of taka 10/- only in North Bengal.

Like other business, the business is also depends on the supply and demand. In the Western countries as the birth rate have been reduced, the tendency for taking adoption of children increased. On the other hand side, for unsocial activities the children were needed.

Following children smuggling, alarming situation happened in Philippines. It is too easy to purchase children in Philippines. Philippine's pampanga province is famous for Philippines children market. From there, the Americans or Nursing ladies collected illegitimate children. Some children were taken as adoption and rest were sent to the brothel. Beside that, children were also smuggled from back doors. Once an American documentary film director during his shooting saw a beautiful girl, aged 11 years in Manila city. The Director decided that he would make the girl as a model and take her to United States. The American Director told the parents of the girl that, during her stay abroad 20 percent earning of her will be given them. And without thinking the illiterate and simple parents being agreed to that proposal and handed over their girl to that unknown person.

In another story, an Italian lady tourist saw a attractive child in the Kayvi province of Philippines. Then she collected a false birth-certificate and claimed that this girl belongs to her as a legitimate child.

The children smugglers from Asia have different character. Among them, the number of child kidnapers are high. In Malaysia & Indonesia gang of children kidnapers have been found. In Malakka of Malaysia two women have been given imprisonment because they kidnapped a two years old child and tried to sell the baby at 3 thousand 2 hundred dollar. For similar crime, a bill-collector couple in Penang got imprisonment as they tried to sell a 16 months old baby.

At the beginning of last year, a story was published about kidnapped a baby-girl for smuggling to Netherlands. The concerned government found that, in this way huge number of children in different times have been smuggled.

As the kidnapers are directly reproachful in the eyes of the society, so the children smugglers performed their activities in different ways at various countries of Asia.

In the 10th century, the children smuggling from Srilanka was widely happened. This business was running openly. It was such that, before leaving Srilanka every foreigner assembled at the Colombo airport taking with a Srilanka Child. Now the children smuggling slightly reduced in Srilanka, but it could not be stopped for the complicity of their law.

The Western thought that what did the harm to purchase children? As the children are getting shelter, food, education and medicare. The Indonesians considered that the children of their country to rear up in abroad.

The poverty stricken children of Asia have paved the way easy for the smugglers. The children of those countries were selling like as cheap commodity but the self respect of such countries must damaged their image in the comity of nations. Only for humanitarian ground, legally "adoption" could be accepted. But this problem could not be solved unless it is to be restricted completely. And for this reason poverty should be removed.

Enquiry report as per order made by the Secretary on 4.7.79 regarding adoption racket at Duttapary, Tongi, Dacca as alleged by one

[Redacted]

A high powered enquiry team comprising the following officials headed by [Redacted] Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Manpower Development and Social Welfare visited the spot on 12.7.79 at 9 A.M.:-

1. [Redacted] Dy. Secretary, Ministry of Manpower Development and Social Welfare.
2. [Redacted], Director of Social Welfare.
3. [Redacted] Dy. Director of Social Welfare.
4. [Redacted] Senior Scale Section Officer, Ministry of Manpower Development and Social Welfare.

[Redacted], Director and [Redacted] of Terre-des-Hommes International Federation, Dacca were also present at the time of enquiry. It may be mentioned here that most of the allegations were brought against Terre-des-Hommes International Federation by [Redacted].

2. The team examined/interviewed all the 25 persons mentioned in the allegation separately/individually in presence of camp leaders. The examinees may be divided into three groups :-

GROUP - I.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>No. of children</u>	<u>Process</u>
1. [Redacted]	-4-	-4-	Affidavit.
2. [Redacted]	-6-	-1-	"
3. [Redacted]	-6-	-1-	"
4. [Redacted]	-6-	-1-	"
5. [Redacted]	-5-	-1-	"
6. [Redacted]	XXXXXXX	-1-	"
7. [Redacted]	-5-	-1-	"
8. [Redacted]	-5-	-1-	"
9. [Redacted]	-4-	-1-	"
10. [Redacted]	-3-	-1-	"
11. [Redacted]	-1-	-1-	"

Heard

Muhammad Hossain
Deputy Secretary
Ministry of Manpower
Development and Social Welfare
Govt. of Bangladesh

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>	<u>No. of children.</u>	<u>Process</u>
11. [redacted]	-1-	-1-	Furnished relinquishment
12. [redacted]	-3-	-1-	papers through proper process
13. [redacted]	-3-	-1-	"
14. [redacted]	-3-	-1-	"
15. [redacted]	-3-	-1-	"
16. [redacted]	-3-	-1-	"
17. [redacted]	-2-	-1-	"

All of them admitted that they had given up their children either by affidavit in the court of magistrates or by filling up relinquishment papers supplied by the Department of Social Welfare as per provision of the "Bangladesh Abandoned Children (Special Provision) Order, 1972" (P.O.No.124 of 1972 for inter-country adoption. They also stated that no false promise of giving their children back or any financial benefit have been made by the Terre-des-Hommes International Federation or any office. They have given up their children voluntarily due to financial, social and medical reasons. They knew it very well that the children will never be given back to them and they were meant for inter-country adoption. While interviewed, they informed the team that they didn't sign any paper wanting their children back. Rather [redacted] and his agents allured them that they would be given cultivable land, plough and cattle, house and other means for their betterment if they sign/put their thumb impression on the paper brought to them by [redacted]. Many of the camp dwellers including the ex-ees signed/put their thumb impressions on the paper in a massive scale thinking as if they are making applications for all those benefits promised to them by [redacted]. They also disclosed that if they wanted their children back they could have gone to the [redacted] Police much earlier or if they were given false promise by the Terre-des-Hommes International Federation they could have reported/1 complaints to the Govt. direct instead of going to [redacted] years.

GROUP - II

1. [redacted]	Block -4-
2. [redacted]	" -7-
3. [redacted]	" -7-
4. [redacted]	" -7-
5. [redacted]	" -3-

They are not camp dwellers at present and nobody knows their whereabouts.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Block</u>
1. []	-2-
2. []	-3-
3. []	-3-

Above persons signed/thumb impressed the paper presented by [] but they never adopted any of their children. One of them never has any child or even now.

3. Some of the adopting parents at group 'I' abandoned their children before their settlement at Duttapara resettlement camp and others given up their children after their settlement there. Moreover, many adoption agency adopted children from Duttapara camp. But [] alleged against Netherlands Inter-country Child Adoption Organisation which was headed by [] Director Terre-des-Hommes International Federation for a certain period.

4. [], Director of Terre-des-Hommes International Federation stated that [] was under his employment in a medical project at Kamalapur. Due to non-issuance of government clearance (Health Ministry) [] could not continue further and thus he was disassociated from []. [] tried to act with some social welfare project run by the Department of Social Welfare and to get permission to open some project by his agency but could not succeed. He tried to use local influence and contact of [] for himself but failed. Hence he became annoyed with him and started doing false and fabricated allegations against []. [] presented two letters of [] dated 1.7.77 and 16.7.78 (page 299-300) requesting him for pursuance to the relevant authorities for []. Letter dated 9th October, 1978 addressed to the Secretary of this ministry describing all the things wrong with [] may be seen at page 301-303.

Findings.

As ordered by the Secretary on 4.7.79 the team inquired/investigated the allegations regarding adoption racket at Duttapara Resettlement Camp and found all these allegations false and baseless.

R E S O L U T I O N S

Resolved that -

- a strong protest be lodged to British High Commission at Dacca for the prestige of the government of the Republic and its sovereignty;
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs be reminded to pursue the publication of the refutation sent to them earlier in the relevant papers where [] allegations were published earlier; and
- our Missions abroad be informed accordingly with request to lodge protest in time to similar attempts in future.

Submitted for perusal.



Wetters van der Ziel 16/7, 82

3.

NETHERLANDS INTERCOUNTRY CHILD WELFARE ORGANIZATION

Prinsevinkenpark 4, 2585 HJ The Hague, The Netherlands Phone 070 645848
Cable address: NICWO The Hague

Your ref.

Our ref.

Date July 12th 1982

To the Ambassador of the People's
Republic of Bangladesh,
Rue de Baron de Castro 27

1040 Brussel - België

Excellency,

After having received the information via your embassy that we should make a proposal for an official representative of our organisation - mediating for intercountry adoption - in your country, we named in our letter of May 6th 1982 to you [redacted] Dacca for that position. In the same letter we mentioned the conditions under which this representative then should collaborate with us.

Recently we were startled by information from Dacca that [redacted] was taken into custody on the accusation of kidnapping of children. We like to stress emphatically that in the period we worked with him (1975-1980) we and many others knew him as a hardworking conscientious man who was dedicated to the interest of the wellbeing of children in general and orphans and abandoned in particular. We always were impressed by [redacted] concern to fate and future of the most deprived children of his country. We hope it shall be possible that this can be taken into account on further judgement.

In the Bangladesh weekly Bichitra we read an article on abuses that should be passed on intercountry adoption, a.o. concerning the Netherlands and our organisation. We hereby formally declare that every child being escorted to the Netherlands under the responsibility of NICWO (and so in collaboration with our representative [redacted]), was under the Bangladesh Abandoned Children Order of 1972 and left your country under full consent of the authorities. NICWO at that time was the only dutch organisation officially acknowledged by your government on matters of intercountry adoption. Anyone of these children has directly been placed by the dutch Ministry of Justice in a dutch family and is still now there, being there in the position of an own child (in conformity with the Dutch Law). The accusations in the said weekly (smuggling, children being used in brothels, etc) are completely untrue and concoctions to every Bengali adoptive child that came to the Netherlands.

To underline this to anyone who it may concern, NICWO will produce at short notice a followup-report on every child from Bangladesh that came to the Netherlands via our organisation. It will be unnecessary to say that in all cases it concerns an adoptive placement in a Dutch family and that the greater majority of these children already is legally adopted for years, growing up in good health and education, and loved by its parents.

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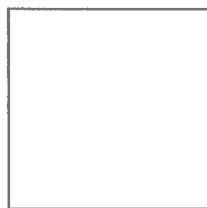


When these followupreports will be ready - an operation that will take some time as will be understood - they shall after being officially legalised be sent to you and the Minister of Social Affairs of your country.

We ask you, Mr. Ambassador, to bring to the knowledge of your government the contents of this letter, if possible and as far as necessary supplied with your remarks concerning the credibility of our organisation, wellknown to you as we may assume.

On behalf of the Netherlands Intercountry
Child Welfare Organisation

Yours sincerely,



Dr. R.G. Deibel
Chairman of the Baord of Directors

cc



Ned. Ambassade Wacca

29/7.82 Bespreking drs. R. Lintel, BIA.
 inzake: pers-publicatie in Bangladesh.

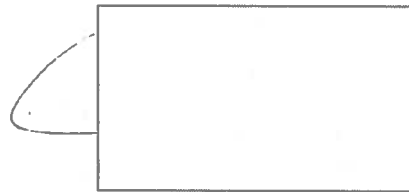
[] zit vermoedelijk mij steeds vast. Het BIA wil de pleegindus vragen om bericht om hem pleegkind. Wanneer zij de rapporten kunnen hebben willen zij met de raaden contact opnemen om te laten vaststellen, dat het kind inderdaad in het gezin blijft. Verder wil men dan de stukken door het ministerie van justitie laten legaliseren. Het gaat erom om de ~~Bang~~ autoriteiten aldaar ervan te overtuigen, dat persbericht, naarm wordt bevestigd dat de kinderen uit Bangladesh worden misbruikt om bedelarij na vermomming, voor porno-foto's en film, als prostitutie's, etc, omver 250.

Gesteld:

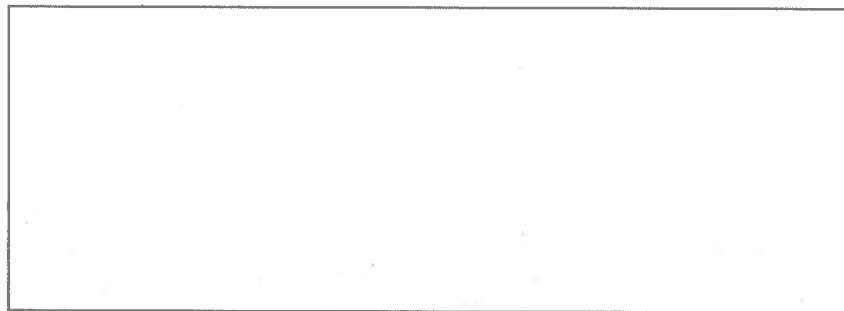
1. persactie hier heeft geen zin en kan escaleren met werken; hun verantwoordelijkheid
2. Wanneer men de "rapportage" van de pleegindus heeft ontvangen moet het BIA zich persoonlijk met raad en verstanding stellen om de verklaring dat het kind in het gezin blijft te krijgen; de raad zal eigen verantwoordelijkheid hebben.
3. Als men die verklaring heeft kan men alles aan inspectie aan mij overleggen. Het is niet aan te nemen dat te tekenen.
4. Het vaststellen van deze dingen naar Lintel of de ambassade in Brussel moet gebeuren via BIZ 12, waarmee men overig heeft, met langjs

particuliere kanalen. BuKa moet weten of en
hoe zij dit in Bangladesh bekend willen
maken als reactie op de onkeuze keuzes,
die de Nederlanders nu aan hun voorstelt.

T.z.t. moet ik nader. Wij geven de raad geen
opdracht; als er problemen zijn kan de raad
bij ons informeren.



29/7.82





*Medewerking is niet van belang, gezien de
inbreng van de beschuldigers*

Onze ref

*hijft n. Lier. Verg.**15/8*

Datum: 13 augustus 1982.

Aan de Sekretarissen van de
Raden voor de Kinderbescherming.

In een weekblad in Bangladesh zijn onlangs enkele vrij sensationele artikelen gepubliceerd over misstanden rond Bengalese kinderen die voor adoptie naar het buitenland zijn gegaan. Zo zouden deze kinderen veelal niet in gezinnen maar in de prostitutie zijn terecht gekomen, gebruikt worden voor pornofilms en als beroepsbedelaartjes. Nederland wordt daarbij enkele malen met name vermeld. Zoals u bekend zal zijn, bemiddelde het BIA, daartoe geautoriseerd door de Bengalese regering, tussen eind 1976 en eind 1980 bij de plaatsing van een groot aantal kinderen - ruim 300 - uit Bangladesh. In 1980 beëindigde Bangladesh voorlopig de feitelijke mogelijkheden betreffende interlandelijke adoptie voor alle westerse landen.

Via de ambassade van Bangladesh heeft het BIA tegen de beweringen in genoemde publikaties al stelling genomen. Met het Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken alhier en de Nederlandse ambassade in Dacca wordt over deze kwestie nauw contact onderhouden. Niet alleen zijn actuele belangen van interlandelijke adoptie in het geding - kortgeleden startten we besprekingen met de Bengalese ambassade in Brussel over een nieuwe, voorzichtige start, waarop toen nog een reëel uitzicht was - maar met name is met deze in Bangladesh breed uitgemeten affaire de naam van Nederland, in het algemeen en als betrouwbaar adoptieland, in opspraak gebracht.

Om aan te tonen dat alle kinderen daadwerkelijk in gezinnen zijn terechtgekomen en daar nog steeds zijn (afgezien van een enkele overplaatsing, resp. uithuisplaatsing), heeft het BIA besloten, een geaktualiseerde rapportage te verzorgen betreffende alle via het BIA geplaatste kinderen uit Bangladesh. Daartoe zijn alle betrokken ouders aangeschreven (zie de te uwer kennisneming bijgevoegde brief) met het verzoek om op een formulier de benodigde gegevens te vermelden. Na vertaling zal het BIA de verzamelde formulieren overhandigen of doen overhandigen - we komen daarop zo dadelijk terug - aan de Chief Martial Law Administrator, momenteel de hoogste regeringsautoriteit van Bangladesh.

Daaraan voorafgaand dient echter een autorisatie van Nederlandse zijde plaats te vinden. Een officiële verklaring is nodig, dat de kinderen inderdaad aanwezig zijn bij de ouders (in enkele gevallen: de inrichting) zoals aangegeven op de formulieren.

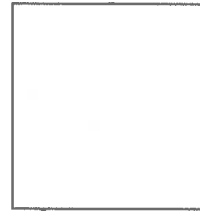
Daarvoor doen wij een beroep op uw medewerking. Wij stellen ons voor, u zo spoedig als mogelijk is de verzameling formulieren van de in uw werkgebied woonachtige ouders toe te zenden, met daarbij een 'voorblad' waarop u als sekretaris van de Raad verklaart dat de kinderen op de aangegeven plaatsen wonen (een toetsing van de verder vermelde gegevens is dus niet nodig).



Deze verklaringen leggen wij vervolgens voor aan het Ministerie ter algemene bekrachtiging. Aan de heer mr. C.W.E. Abbenhuis hebben wij deze gehele procedure voorgelegd en hij heeft zijn instemming ermee betuigd.

Tenslotte zal het geheel - de eigen verklaringen van de ouders tezamen met de verklaringen van de Raden voor de Kinderbescherming en het Ministerie van Justitie - worden aangeboden aan de Bengalese autoriteiten. Met het Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken - dat zich vanuit een oogpunt van het handhaven van de goede naam van Nederland nauw bij de zaak betrokken voelt - zijn wij op het ogenblik in gesprek over het voorstel om deze aanbieding niet door het BIA maar door de Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken te doen geschieden.

In de hoop, dat u bereid zult zijn, de gevraagde medewerking te verlenen, verblijft,
met de meeste hoogachting,



drs. R.G. Deibel
voorzitter

c.c.: mr. C.W.E. Abbenhuis

Directie Azië en Oceanië
Nr. 250.670



→ Justitie

Ingekomen bij het
MIN. VAN JUSTITIE

28 SEP. 1982

MINISTER VAN BUITENLANDSE ZAKEN

's-Gravenhage, 15 september 1982

Onder aanbieding van het adres van [redacted]
over de arrestatie van [redacted]
[redacted], Bangladeshi medewerker van de Nederlandse Stichting
voor Interlandelijke adoptie en jeugdwezen, alsmede de daarin
gesignaleerde vermeende wanpraktijken die in Nederland zouden
plaatsvinden ten opzichte van geadopteerde Bangladeshi
kinderen, welk adres vanwege Uwe Majesteit bij Kabinetsren-
vooi van 19 juli 1982, no. 509, mij werd toegezonden om te
dienen van bericht en raad, moge ondergetekende het volgende
ter kennis brengen van Uwe Majesteit.

In 1979 beschuldigde een Brits onderdaan, [redacted],
de organisatie "Terre des Hommes Nederland", de Stichting voor
Interlandelijke adoptie en jeugdwezen en in het bijzonder de
daarvoor te Dacca werkzame [redacted] van kinderhandel.
Deze klacht werd door de Secretaris-Generaal van de Verenigde
Naties op 5 november 1979 aan de Nederlandse regering voorge-
legd. Onderzoek wees uit dat de beschuldigingen van [redacted]
[redacted] nergens op gebaseerd waren. Een onderzoek, dat de
regering van Bangladesh ter plaatse instelde, leidde eveneens
tot de conclusie dat de beweringen van de [redacted] "false
and baseless" waren.

Op 5 maart 1982 plaatste een Bengaals weekblad, "Bichitra"
genaamd, een artikel waarin onder andere Nederland beschuldigd
werd van handel in adoptiekinderen, het plaatsen van deze
kinderen in huizen van ontucht, verminking van kinderen ten-
einde ze geschikt te maken voor bedelen en tenslotte het
gedwongen kerstenen van Moslim kinderen.

[redacted] werd op 20 mei 1982 in hechtenis ge-
nomen, naar verluidt door de inlichtingendienst van de strijd
krachten, nadat hij een gerechtelijke procedure aangespannen
had tegen het blad Bichitra. Hij is thans blijkbaar veroor-
deeld tot detentie gedurende 6 maanden zonder evenwel ooit
in staat van beschuldiging gesteld te zijn.

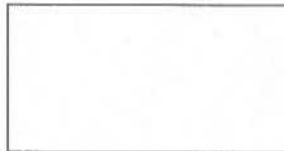
In juni 1982 besloot het huidige militaire bewind in Dacca,
wellicht op basis van genoemd artikel in het blad "Bichitra",
om de zogenaamde "abandoned children order" van 1972 in te
trekken en daarmee buitenlandse adoptie van kinderen zoveel
mogelijk tegen te gaan.

Uwer Majesteits Ambassadeur te Dacca werd op 16 juli 1982 verzocht bij de plaatselijke autoriteiten stappen te ondernemen inzake deze bijzonder kwalijke publiciteit, die de goede naam van Nederland schaadt en een onderzoek in te stellen naar het lot van [redacted]. Uit de reactie van de Ambassadeur moge ik het volgende citeren: "Hoewel aangenomen mag worden dat de Martial Law Authorities [redacted] hebben gearresteerd naar aanleiding van [redacted] bemiddeling in adoptiezaken, is tot op heden geen formele aanklacht jegens hem geformuleerd. Wel is [redacted] thans overgebracht naar de gewone gevangenis, nadat hij enige tijd werd verhoord en vastgehouden in een speciale legéergevangenis. De adoptie van kinderen is momenteel een zeer gevoelig onderwerp voor de Bangladesh regering en er bestaat weinig bereidheid hierover te spreken. Een gesprek met het blad Bichitra acht ik weinig zinvol. Het artikel is al bijna vijf maanden oud en er kan niet voldoende worden aangetoond dat het heeft geleid tot de arrestatie van [redacted]".

Tevens werd een aide-mémoire aan het Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken overhandigd.

De Stichting Interlandelijke adoptie en jeugdwezen heeft zich tevens per brief van 2 juli 1982 gericht tot de Ambassadeur van Bangladesh, waarbij verontrusting werd uitgesproken over het hogervermelde krantenbericht alsmede de arrestatie van [redacted]. Tevens is de Stichting bezig met het samenstellen van een documentatie over alle Bengaalse adoptie-kinderen in Nederland, die aan de Bangladesh regering zal worden aangeboden als bewijs dat de aantijgingen van Bichitra volledig ongefundeerd zijn.

Uwer Majesteits Ambassadeur te Dacca is inmiddels verzocht op zo hoog mogelijk niveau andermaal blijk te geven van de ernst waarmee Nederland zowel de negatieve publiciteit van Bichitra als de gang van zaken rond de arrestatie van [redacted] opneemt.



A.A.M. van Ágt

Aan het bestuur van de Nederlandse
Stichting voor Interlandelijke
Adoptie en Jeugdwelzijn
Prinsenvinkenpark 4
2585 BJ 's-GRAVENHAGE

Vervolg op brief van :
numm 6 december 1982, nr. 801/702

rapporten kinderen uit
Bangladesh

Dir. Kinderbescherming
nr. 193/703
11 mei 1983

De Minister van Buitenlandse Zaken heeft mij verzocht aan u de dank te willen overbrengen van Haarer Majesteits ambassadeur te Dhaka voor de door uw instelling uitgebrachte rapporten betreffende in Nederland ondergebrachte Bengaalse kinderen.

De rapporten zijn overhandigd op het Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken van Sangla Besh aan de Directeur Europe, Dr. J. Chowdhury, die zijn grote waardering uitsprak voor dit "monnikenwerk". Voorts deelde de ambassadeur mede, dat de afgelopen weken in een aantal Bengaalse kranten positieve berichten hebben gestaan over het wel en wee van de geadopteerde kinderen in Nederland en dat het er allezins naar uitziet, dat er geen ongefundeerde negatieve berichtgeving meer zal optreden.

De Staatssecretaris van Justitie,
Namens de Staatssecretaris,
Het Hoofd van de Directie
Kinderbescherming.



1054/166

Dhaka, 23 februari 1983

Onderwerp: Adoptie.

Met referte aan Uw schrijven van 20 januari 1983 moge ik U het volgende berichten. Dezerzijds is op het eëigende niveau bij het Ministerie van Buitenlandse Zaken, t.w. de Directeur Europe, Dr. J. Chowdhury, het overzicht van de door BIA in Nederland ondergebrachte Bengaalse kinderen aangeboden.

Dr. Chowdry sprak zijn grote waardering uit voor dit monnikenwerk. Inmiddels is gebleken dat de afgelopen weken in een aantal Bengaalse kranten positieve berichten hebben gestaan over het wel en wee van de geadopteerde kinderen in Nederland. Het ziet er alleszins naar uit dat er geen ongefundeerde negatieve berichtgeving meer zal opkomen.

Zoals U bekend speelt evenwel nog steeds de rechtszaak tegen [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] 16 vrouwen hadden een klacht ingediend inhoudende dat in de periode '76-'78 zij kinderen naar zijn weeshuis zouden hebben gebracht die later geadopteerd bleken te zijn zonder dat deze moeders vooraf daarover geïnformeerd waren. Deze beschuldigingen lijken niet altijd even steekhoudend. Zo hebben reeds een 6-tal vrouwen hun aanklacht ingetrokken en de vraag rijst ook waarom pas na zo'n lange tijd deze aanklachten werden ingediend. De verwachting van [REDACTED] is dat volgende maand als in deze zaak uitspraak wordt gedaan zal blijken dat de aanklacht niet ontvankelijk verklaard wordt.

Tenslotte wil ik nogmaals mijn waardering uitspreken voor de gemaakte overzichten van de geadopteerde kinderen. Wellicht wilt U deze waardering aan de BIA overbrengen.

De Ambassadeur,
voor deze:

[REDACTED]

P.J.Th. Marres
Eerste Ambassadesecretaris

Aan de Minister van
Buitenlandse Zaken
te
's-GRAVENHAGE

cc: OWS

