

**FOR SOME THESE WERE USELESS
BUT FOR SOME THESE ARE PRICELESS**

These children were bewildered, spell-bound and astonished when they touched the toys and heard these are for them. Their expressions were open, honest, unambiguous, transparent and clear. The first sentence was Oh!!!! What a sweet and fine toys!! This will be my playing friend!! I am very happy. The children jubilation passed us the feeling what was happening inside them, the trembling of their hearts were sparking on their faces. SOHAY is unsure it had experienced such children jubilation before. The old toys, shoes and dresses were donated by a Bangladeshi friend of SOHAY to distribute these to the children in its working areas.



SOHAY's works in 15 urban slums in Dhaka. It is supporting about 1,300 children to study at the Government Primary schools and the number will go up this year. SOHAY strongly feels children both the urban and rural areas should use Government facilities for development hence strategically did not open own non-formal schools. In addition to the children it works with the parents, women and community on several other issues, e.g. women literacy and development, violence against women, adolescent girls' health, water and sanitation, the basic require making the slum a proper living place.

The slum dwellers are poor live on menial jobs e.g. day laborer, rickshaw puller, push cart driver and helper, small and petty traders, local public transport drivers and helpers and street baggers. They live on very minimum, struggle to ensure basic food for the family, impossible to buy toys for children if precious and costly.

Bangladesh is a poor and populous country, half of total populations are poor, and a big chunk lives below the poverty line. But despite all the growth is 5-7% per year for last two decades, making people rich and capable those buying good toys for their children. The toys for their children quickly get old start gathering dust and after a certain time families through these to dustbin.



The next pictures show our actions were wrong. Though these are old but

very much priceless for another group of children who are growing under the hardship of their parents, these toys can easily bring wild smiles of their faces.

Though collecting old toys and dress are not SOHAY's regular job and part of its programme delivery activities but SOHAY does this, encourage others to think twice before throwing toys, dress and other useable items to dustbin. If you fail to find people could use these please send these to us or tell us we will collect from your place and distribute to our working areas. SOHAY is ready to do any job that bring smiles to poor people face, and bring happiness in the family.

Though the dresses were old but after proper wash and iron the glamour come out and change children outlook.

These turns their Eid dress and a good outfit for family function. Unless you are told you may think they are from rich families'. The outfit change them from their regular outlook.



Hence, please think twice before throwing items out, you will find people in your door

step or a bit further could use these, if failed donate them to us we will ensure distribution of these to right places, though mostly to our working areas.

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