

## Quarterly Newsletter

May 2017



May 16, 2017

Dear friends,

We hope this message finds you well. We are delighted to share with you exciting updates of what has been going on at BYLC so far in 2017. We began the year by celebrating our eighth anniversary, marking eight years of leadership excellence. As you will see in the section below, it has been a busy first quarter where we have started new initiatives and expanded the scope of existing programs. We invite you to learn more about our recent activities and hope that you will stay connected with us.

Shaveena and Sumaiya,

On behalf of the BYLC Communications Team



### **Juniors leading change**

42 students from Madrassas, and English and Bangla medium schools completed the ninth Building Bridges through Leadership Training Junior program on January 28, 2017. Watch the exciting video [here](#).

**Explore. Experience. Express.**



Following the success of previous Bootcamps in 2013 and 2015, we organized two consecutive Bootcamps on February 2–5, and 9–12, 2017 with support from the U.S. Embassy, Dhaka. We received over 1600 applications from all over Bangladesh and through a competitive selection process, 200 capable university students were chosen. During each Bootcamp, 100 students spent four days learning about leadership and career development in the beautiful Tea Resort in Sreemangal.

## Leadership for managers

BYLC's alumni network BGN organized BYLC Talks with Mahtab Uddin Ahmed, Chief Executive Officer, Robi Axiata Limited, on March 13, 2017. The event was moderated by Ejaj Ahmad, Founder and President, BYLC, and featured an interesting discussion on the challenges of management and teamwork. Read a reflection on the discussion by Farah Chowdhury, Assistant Manager, BYLC Office of Professional Development [here](#).



## Welcome to the BYLC family, BBLT 15!

The fifteenth Building Bridges through Leadership Training program concluded on February 23, 2017. Click [here](#) to read about one facilitator's transformation, where she developed new competencies through BBLT 13, and went on to exercise leadership by teaching leadership in BBLT 15.

## Art and Practice of Leadership and Office of Professional Development workshops commence

The 14th and 15th APL workshops are underway. 88 students were competitively selected for the two workshops. First, they will strengthen their leadership, problem-solving, and communication skills. Next, they will be preparing for the world of work through professional development training from the OPD. The [OPD](#) completed three workshops in the first quarter and has already placed 80 people jobs and internships since its inception in 2016.





The eighth Annual General Meeting (AGM) took place at the BYLC headquarters on Saturday, April 15, 2017. Sonia Bashir Kabir, Managing Director, Microsoft Bangladesh, was elected as a board member. Akhter Matin Chaudhury was re-elected as the chairperson of BYLC for the second consecutive term.



To democratize leadership education in Bangladesh and make it available to the youth of Bangladesh, BYLC created its first ever Bengali online leadership curriculum. This is aimed to educate school children on leading with courage, compassion, and competence. Visit the site [here](#).

**Readying the future leaders of tomorrow**

Ejaj Ahmad was invited to speak at 2017 The Daily Star O and A level awards, which was attended by 1900 high achievers, who have attained excellent results in their exams and their parents. Watch his address [here](#).



Shaveena Anam, Deputy Manager, Communication, attended the prestigious International Prince's Trust Leadership Program in March, where she was among 80 young changemakers chosen from 6000 applicants. Read about her reflections and lessons for aspiring change agents [here](#).

Almeer Ahsan Asif, Assistant Manager, Curriculum, is currently enrolled in the Art and Practice of Leadership Development program at Harvard University, which is a master class for





professional trainers, educators, and consultants.



## Recent publications

- Read Ejaj Ahmad's article "Empowering youth in an uncertain world" on the importance of leadership education in Bangladesh published in The Daily Star [here](#).
- Read Khaled Saifullah and Ejaj Ahmad's article on democratizing leadership education in Bangladesh published in Brand Forum [here](#).
- [Read](#) BRAC's study on How the BBLT Graduates Applied their Learning in their Lives An assessment of the 'Building Bridges through the Leadership Training' Programme of Bangladesh Youth Leadership Center.
- A case study on the impact of the BBLT is featured in the book Creative Social Change: Leadership for a Healthy World. Buy it [here](#).



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**Our mailing address is:**

Plot 3 Road 20 Block J Baridhara Dhaka 1212

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