

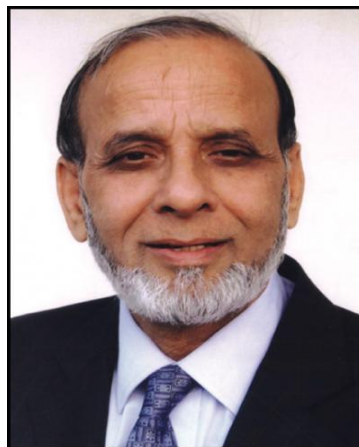
The Creative Vision and Mission of Philanthropy in South Asia

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Abstract: *Dr. Danobir Ragib Ali has been an, unforgettable, imitated and creative name in the history of world philanthropy. His legendary philanthropic vision, and mission has drawn the concern of research not only in Bangladesh but also in others countries of the world. World renowned and antique higher educational Institution University of Dhaka has awarded MPhil degree on the philanthropic works of Ragib Ali. Mr. Ragib Ali himself has attained PhD degree along with his busiest hours working for humanity.(<http://www.danobir-ragibali.com/index.php/biography>) However, there have been number of philanthropist in South Asia in the history of world philanthropy, but few have shown a visionary and creative attempt in philanthropy like Dr. Ragib Ali. He has opened a new doo for world philanthropy by his unique vision and mission of philanthropy. He has been found to be quite well-planned and prudent in his philanthropic activities. The distinct record of philanthropic works shows that he does not believe in the donation for the sake of donation, rather he possesses a revolutionary view behind it. The salient features of his philanthropic works also include many. His donation always grounds on a skilful plan that aims at a complete fulfilment at least a fundamental need of a person's life.*

Many of his donations perform in multiple ways because of his prudent planning behind it. Besides, he has initiated well-planned organizational approach for proper planning, management, and distribution of his donation among the deserving needy people which has been rare in the philanthropic mission of his contemporaries. Nevertheless, there are various unique features in the mission and vision of Ragib Ali as a philanthropist, which be the apt ground to term his philanthropy as 'Creative Philanthropy'. The current paper is an attempt to evaluate his philanthropic vision and mission along with his unique creative characteristics in the field.



Danobir Dr. Ragib Ali

1. INTRODUCTION

His mission started with the glorified creative slogan; "Devote work for humanity and society". He believes not in work other than in speech. He enjoys sacrificing other saving. He likes to give rather than to take. This 'he' is none but Dr. Danovir Ragib Ali who has opened a unique door for world Philanthropy. Mr. Ragib Ali has been an atypical celebrity of bequest in the history philanthropy, particularly in south Asia. Mr. Ragib Ali who started as a plain persona is now a legend of success in the South Asia. With his sincere and unique efforts of earning Mr. Ali has been thinking over the future and interests of humanity particularly the underprivileged class of

the people of his country. This is one of his unique characteristics which differentiate himself from those of his contemporary philanthropists of South Asia. However, Ragib Ali does not confine him within any narrow or selfish vision of life why his laborious earning has always been in the services of humanity. It's he who had been conducting success business in one of the richest and most luxurious country of the world e.g. the U.K where he could lead a luxurious life, but leaving that dream of idle enjoyment he came back to serve the needy people of his country, and from the independence of his mother land he has been contributing continually towards her multidimensional development. These valuable, exclusive, and benevolent philanthropic mission and munificent works for world humanity dignified him to the stage of "Danobir" (Charity Hero) (<http://www.danobir-ragibali.com/index.php/biography>). Nevertheless, Mr. Ragib Ali's philanthropic activities show that his vision and mission of philanthropy is something different from the traditional practices of philanthropy in South Asia. There have number of distinct dynamic and prolific nature of his philanthropic works why his philanthropy may be termed as 'creative philanthropy'. The current paper is an attempt to justify his concept of creative philanthropy.

2. DISTINCT VISION

2.1 The Astounding Commencement of Dr. Ragib Ali

Where many of the contemporary philanthropists had inherited their wealth by birth, or any fortunate means what they later spent for humanity, here Mr. Ragib Ali had started his journey not as a land lord or capitalist but as a hard working labor who went to the United Kingdom at the age of 18 years to further his education and to try to change his fortune. During short span of time he transforms himself from an ordinary waiter to a leading entrepreneur. He got legendary success in restaurant business among the Bangladeshi as well as Asian community. He also invested in many other sectors including share market and real estate business.

"His foresight, exceptional business acumen and strategic vision, honesty, talents and energy were the key factors for achievement of these wonderful feats" (<http://www.danobir-ragibali.com/index.php/biography>). But that lucrative business and opportunities of earning plenty of money, and leading luxury, life could not make him forget the duty towards his mother land Bangladesh. He had left behind all those selfish dream of making money merely, and returned to his own country. After his coming back he has been accomplishing huge number of various projects throughout not only Bangladesh, but also other neighboring country, spending all his funds to make well-planned and meaningful contribution for the national development.

2.2 Well-planned Earning

Mr. Ragib Alis' both earning as well as spending were quite well planned which few of the British Bangladeshi of his time could do. He did not invest all his thought, and energy merely working as a labor or employee through the life, rather possesses a creative ambition of an employer what he became within a short period of time. He did not think only for his own employment rather of employment of huge amount of poor population of his mother land. He seemed to plan quite prudently about how and how long to work for earning, about how and where to invest, about what and whom to get return from. He did all these accordingly and step by step, consequently he upgraded his status from worker to a successful and leading industrialist, a renowned businessman, a foremost tea planter and a famous banker of the country within a short period of time. He soon moves his eyes towards his society and its services. (<http://ukbdnews.com/community/174-news/7042-2013-07-14-14-49-29.html>)

2.3 Prudent planning for proper utilization and spending of money

With the astonishing success of his efficient, and far-sighted plan, and preparation Mr. Ragib Ali starts thinking and planning over his noble mission and obligation for the development his mother land Bangladesh. Ragib Ali's arduously earned assets has been spent in multi-functional ways. His utilization and spending of money is so creative that it works for in every ways both his investment as well as donation. In other words, Ragib Ali uses his money in such creative and multi serviceable ways that his every step of utilizing money either as an investment or donation functions for the benefit of humanity particularly for the needy people of his own

country Bangladesh. When invest money for profit here also thinking and consideration for the people. He thinks of how to best use his investment in a multifunctional way that will benefit people of the country along with himself. As a result, his investment doesn't make profit merely for himself, but also for others. It creates lot of opportunities for unemployed and needy people of his country as well. Because, of this type of prudent, skilful, and effective plan and utilization of money, Dr.Ragib Ali has been able to generate thousands of opportunities for the unemployed people of his country who have been recruited by him in his various financial, educational, industrial etc. organizations and they serving here, supporting thousands of their family members, and contributing towards the development of the country as well.

2.4 Creative actions and agendas for philanthropic work

In terms of donation or philanthropic works Mr. Ragib Ali possesses astonishing views which differentiate him from his contemporaries. In deed this unique quality of working for humanity dignifies him to the stage of a creative philanthropist. In terms of his contemporary, predecessor Asian particularly Bangladeshi philanthropist it usually seen they get free of their social obligation merely by donating a sum of money or property. They just hand over the amount money to the poor, and they are not to think further about how the poor will use the money or donation, how it will work for them fruitfully, how they can ensure the best use of it by proper utilization. But Mr. Ragib Ali is exceptional here. His attempt of donation is not only to give up the money or handing over it to the poor, rather thinks over its proper use and utilization for the poor. He thinks over the multiple and long term use of money for the future of the poor out of an amount of money donated to him or her. He therefore initiated several distinct policies and approaches for his donation or philanthropic works. Some those prudent and creative steps are as follows:

2.5 Organizational approach

In order to ensure the proper use and utilization of donation, and handing over it to the right persons, Mr. Ragib Ali established an organization named 'Ragib-Rabeya Foundation'. The foundation is mainly responsible for apt planning, managing, and distributing the endowment. Because of this systematic approach the bequest is getting fairly handed over to right and deserving individuals and institution. It is needless to say that this type of organizational approach for donation has been quite rare in the works of his contemporaries.

2.6 Fulfilling fundamental needs

Ragib Ali's donation usually aims at only donation for the sake of donation, but also at the total fulfillment of a man's fundamental as well as other inevitable needs. In spite of partial imbursement he plans and builds houses for the houseless people to fulfill their need of residence permanently, he provides a permanent job, sources of earning, establishing educational institutions, arranging dowry free marriage etc. for total and permanent accomplishment of different individual need of the needy people.

2.7 Building career

Dr. Ragib Ali's many contemporary philanthropists have been seen to merely donate in response to needy man's appeal, other than further thinking of creative use of the donated amount of money, but Dr. Ragib Ali differs from those traditional donators in the case. He thinks of long terms and multiple use of donated money, a total and permanent solution of a needy person. For instance, it has been seen throughout his philanthropic activities that the major portion of his donation is donated for building students' career, and introducing technical education. The prudent and creative motive behind this was to build up a person's career for his as well his family's or many of family members' permanent solvency of financial crisis by donating a permanent career or source of earning, other than giving an unplanned and insufficient amount money for short time unplanned consumption. This is the most attractive of salient features of Dr. Ragib Ali why he deserves to be called the 'Creative philanthropist'.

2.8 A Brief Sketch of Mr. Ragib Ali's Welfare Organization

Institutions, Organizations	Welfare Trusts	Literary organizations
<p>Founder & Chairman, Ragib Rabeya Foundation.</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Jalalabad Ragib-Rabeya Medical College and Hospital, Sylhet</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Begum Rabeya Khatun Chowdhury Nursing College, Sylhet.</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Rabeya Banu General Hospital, Ragibnagar, Bishwanath, Sylhet.</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Rabeya Khatun Maternity and Child Care Centre, Ragib Nagar, Bishanath, Sylhet</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Leading University, Modhubon, Sylhet.</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Degree College, Ragib Nagor, Bishwanath, Sylhet</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, London College of Advanced Studies, 88 Bourough High Street, London SE 11, UK.</p> <p>Founder, Ragib-Rabeya High School and College, Paniumda, Nabiganj, Habiganj.</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Haji Rashid Ali High School, Kamal Bazar, Dokshin Surma, Sylhet.</p> <p>Founder, Ragib-Rabeya High School, Lamakazi, Sylhet..</p> <p>Founder, Ragib-Mujib High School, Netrokona.</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Ragib Rabeya Bidya Niketon, Haldarpara, Akhalia, Sylhet.</p> <p>Founder, Ragib Ali Registered Primary School, Rogupur, Bishwanath, Sylhet.</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Jameya Islamia Ragibia Madrasha, Guabari, Sylhet.</p> <p>Founder & Chairman, Ragib Rabeya Jameya Islamia, Shidairgul, Shaheb bazar, Sylhet.</p> <p>Chairman, The daily Sylheter Dak.</p> <p>Donor, Ragib-Hassan College, Kumarkhali, Kushtia</p>	<p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib Ali Kalyan (welfare) Trust (Modhubon, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Rabeya Banu Kalyan Trust (for Ragib Rabeya Degree College, Ragib Nagor, Bishwanath, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Rabeya Khatun Choudhury Kalyan Trust (for Haji Rashid Ali High School, Dokshin Surma, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib Rabeya Uchcho Biddaloy Trust (for Ragib Rabeya Uchcho Biddaloy, Lamakazi, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Kalyan Trust (for Ragib Rabeya Uchcho Biddaloy & College, Paniumdha, Nobigonj, Hobigonj)</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib Rabeya Shikka Kolyan Trust for Ragib Rabeya Uchcho Biddaloy & College, Paniumdha, Nobigonj, Hobigonj).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Kalyan Trust (for Ragib Mojib High School, Netrokuna).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Kalyan Trust (for Sohifagonj S.D Madrasha, Bishwanath, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Rabeya Banu Kalyan Trust (for Ragib Ali Registered Primary School, Rogupur, Bishwanath, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Sohid Showkat Newaj Memorial Trust (Malnichora, Sylhet)</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib Ali Kobi Dilwar Trust (Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Mohamedan Sporting Club Trust (Rekabi Bazar, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Kalyan Trust (for Kamal bazar Jubofoam, Kamal bazar, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Kalyan Trust</p>	<p>1. Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Literary Award (for two littérateurs of greater Sylhet every year).</p> <p>2. Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Foundation Ekushe Padak (20 persons were given awards on different fields in 2010 & 2011,</p> <p>3. Director Daily Financial Express, Bangladesh.</p>

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<p>Founder, Charkharia Madrasha, Mymensing (Sadar Upozila)</p> <p>Founder, Soifaganj S. D. Madrasha Jame Mosque, Bishwanath, Sylhet</p> <p>Founder, Krishnapur Tarakandi Hafizia Madrasha, Purbadhala, Netrakona</p> <p>Donor, Ragib-Rabeya Kaomi Madrasha, Bagerhat</p> <p>Donor, Ram Krishna Mission, Sylhet</p> <p>Founder Vice-Chairman & Ex-Chairman, North South University, Dhaka.</p> <p>Founder & Ex-Chairman, University of Asia Pacific, Dhaka.</p> <p>Donor, Sothsongho Bihar, Sylhet.</p> <p>Vice-Chairman, Nobab Sir Solimullah Atimkhana, Dhaka.</p> <p>Founder, Vice-Chairman & Ex-Chairman Southeast Bank Limited.</p> <p>Founder & Vice-Chairman, Bangladesh General Insurance Company Limited.</p> <p>Founder Chairman, Moulovi Bazar Chamber of Commerce & Industry.</p> <p>Founder Chairman, Sylhet Bivag Unnoyon Porishod.</p> <p>Patron, Jatio Kobita Porishod & Bangladesh Writers Club.</p> <p>Director, Daily Financial Express, Bangladesh.</p> <p>Founder & Chief-Patron, Kamal Bazar Jubo Forum, Sylhet.</p> <p>Founder, Ragib-Rabeya Sporting Club, ShunamGong.</p> <p>Founder, Ragib-Rabeya Sporting Club, Hobigang.</p> <p>Founder, Ragib-Rabeya Sporting Club, Moulivi Bazar.</p> <p>Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Vhobon & Mohamedan Sporting Club, Sylhet.</p> <p>Donor, Ragib Ali Hall, Modon Mohon Collage, Sylhet.</p> <p>Donor, Press Club Bhobon, Sylhet.</p> <p>Ex. Vice-Chairman, Bangladesh Hockey Federation.</p>	<p>(for Gouripur Jubo Unnayoun Sonshta, Toker bazar, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib-Rabeya Kalyan Trust (for Tultikor Somaj kalyan Somiti, Tultikor, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder, Freedom Fighter Late Saifur Rajjak Kinu Poribar Kalyan Trust (Sylhet)</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Rabeya Banu General Hospital Trust (Ragib Nagor, Kamalbazar, Bishwanath, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragibia Madrasha Trust, (for Jameya Islamia Ragibia Madrasha, Guabari, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Ragib Rabeya Jameya Islamia Trust (for Ragib Rabeya Jameya Islamia Madrasha, Shidairgul, Shaheb bazar, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder & Chairman, Sylhet Muktijudda Bohumukhi Kalyan Trust (for Winded Freedom Fighter, Sylhet).</p> <p>□ Founder, Jalalabad Student Kalyan Trust, Dhaka University.</p>	
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(<http://www.danobir-ragibali.com/index.php/2-uncategorised/1-behind-the-legend-danovir-ragib-ali>)

3. CONCLUSION

Finally, it is found that Dr. Ragib Ali has been a unique and imitated contributor in the field of world philanthropy particularly in south Asia. His divergent vision and mission of philanthropy has opened new door for philanthropists throughout the world. He has shown that donation should not be merely for the sake of donation, but it can work for a total solution of worldwide financial crisis of modern life of human being. He has also exposed how projects of donation can function in multiple ways, while it is well-planned, and properly managed. All this of his unique, far-sighted, and distinctive thought of philanthropy can dignify himself to the stage to a creative philanthropist, and thus he can be called the pioneer of new creative philanthropy.



Danobi Dr. Ragib Ali opening a new branch of his Southeast Bank in Dhaka

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