

The Man Who become the leader of Change maker

At the early time of 1992, a little boy has fled from Myanmar with his parents due to religious and political unrest situation of Myanmar. After 18 hours horrible walking journey finally he and his parents have able to reach alive in Neitong Para, Teknaf, Bangladesh.

“When I fled up from Myanmar to Bangladesh over the border, I was only 4 years little boy who had not any idea why Myanmar Govt. torture and brutally killing the Rohingyas and what were the issues,” he said.

After 4 days he took a little space with his parents in Nayapara Registered refugee camp by UNHCR support. After all the ups and down of his life in 2008 he got Higher Secondary degree and start work for community people development through different types of national and international agencies.

Yes, I talking about WaSH committee President of NGO Forum Anwar Ullah (29) who is currently living in Nayapara Registered refugee camp for over 2 decades. At the very beginning of 2008 he has started voluntary community development work with CHW (Community Health Worker) as a volunteer. After 2 years he has worked with TAI and then he has also huge experienced with different types of local and international agencies like BRAC, RTM, Save the Children, UNICEF, ACF in terms of community people development. However, Anwar Ullah is currently working with NGO Forum for Public Health as a Wash Committee President since at the end of 2016.



Anwar Ullah is the 1st to receive any guest in his camp

“When he started his job in Nayapara refugee camp, he faced a lot of challenges and the whole scenario of the camp was poor and unhealthy, people were not aware to live in healthy environment with proper hygiene practice,” he said.

Meanwhile, in 2016 when he started his journey with NGO Forum he has seen a lot of problem in refugee camp especially in hygiene contexts like open defecation in drain and open space, sanitation, bio gas use and community engagement. He always feel that how to change the community people behavior and their life style and also try to engage refugee people to use proper way latrines and other wash facilities towards community people.

For the bio gas issue, at first community people were not interested to use it willingly because of the religious view and the bio gas plant produce the gas by the human sludge. They think its non-religious practice and against their Islam. Anwar Ullah said, it was a tough situation to deal refugee people of bio gas use issue but he always try inspire the people to use bio gas though he heard a lot of criticize with bad vibes from community people.

Though Anwar Ullah has succeed not completely to engage the community people and but his initiatives helped to reduce NGO Forum community engagement challenges. He said also, he knocked door to door of each and every

refugee people to stop open defecation in open field and drainages. NGO Forum team of Nayapara Refugee camp always get Answar Ullah's helping hand when NGO Forum need in terms of any community engagement issue or any particular refugee issue.

However, he also try to making awareness to keep the camp environment clean and hygiene and use the garbage bin with proper way. Answar Ullah not only making awareness in camp area but also try to attend each and every awareness days and special programs like World Toilet Day, Global Hand Washing day, Water Day, Wash Fair etc. as a rohingya community representative and inspire the community people to improve their daily life practice. He believed that,

"This camp is our place, not for UNHCR, not for NGO Forum, so it's our responsibility to keep this place clean and hygienic."



Answar Ullah helping community people

Meanwhile, he not only work for awareness related work or community engagement on behalf of NGO Forum but also he work for his community people, for his society, if anyone face problem in community or create issues. He is the person who always giving the first helping hand to help the community people if community people need. The community people also obey him and like to listen his words, that's why now he is one of the most popular person and leader of rohingya refugee's community in Nayapara Registered refugee camp.

During my interview time when I asked him, 'what is your current concern issue of this community people'? He replied,

" I just concern about continuous development of people specially in education sector and he believed that national and international agencies as well as Bangladesh Govt. should be given importance in education sector and create opportunity to get at least SSC certificate those are able to pass the SSC exam."

However, In this way Answar Ullah giving continuous support to his community as well as NGO Forum to achieve goals and objectives of the WaSh Project specially in community people engagement issues. His unconditional contribution, coordination, honesty, responsibility, concern, hard works and leadership became him as a good leader and role model of refugee community people as well as NGO Forum.