

4<sup>th</sup> day in Dhaka,

**9<sup>th</sup>, December, 2007** We got up early in the morning, in a beautiful sunny day, hearing the noise come from the street where the rickshaws were continuously tinkling, the call to the pray come from an announcer holding a megaphone in the street, reminded us that Allah is Great.

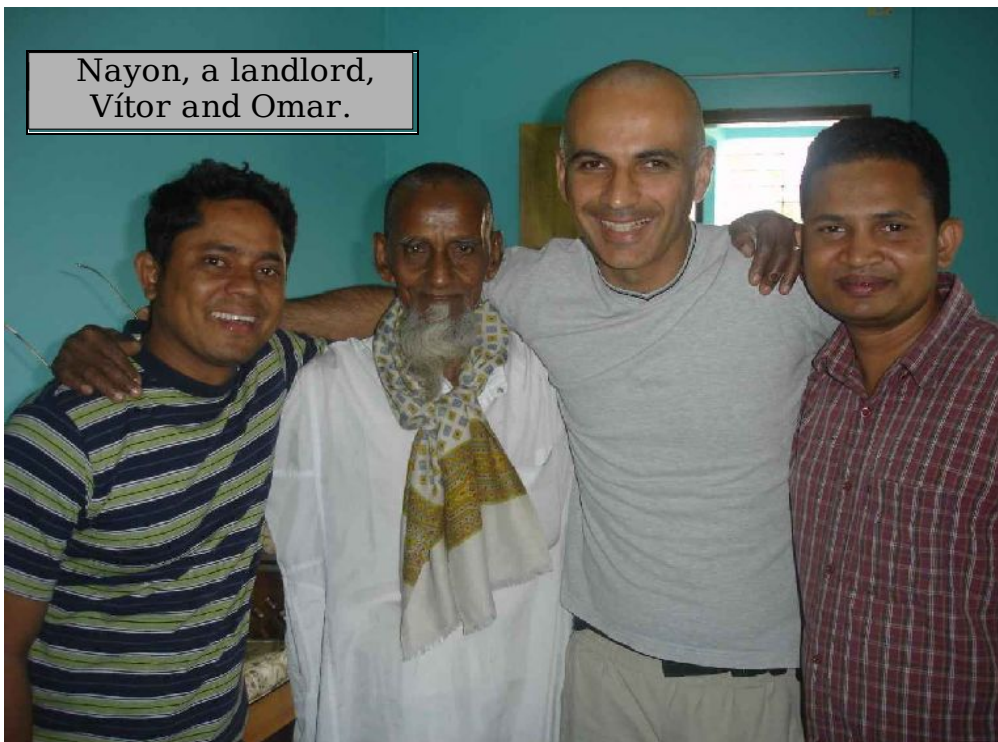
Firstly we've gone to the nursery to offer the rest of the gifts brought from Portugal and chocolate tablets from MacMillans.

By the 10 AM, we began the 2<sup>nd</sup> round of our visits to the families' houses, today more used to the labyrinthic streets

and the appalling conditions seen in some houses. The visits become faster today due thanks to our experience lived on the previous day. Now, prepared and coordinated, the families' needs inventory is done in a more efficient manner, so that we have been able to visit 94 houses until the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> visits' day! Along these visits we have been approached by a mother with a baby in her arms showing us a paper with a name of milk written on it, asking us support for her child because this was in an under nutrition condition, seeming to be a baby born before time, spite of being 2 months old. Though this



family were not being supported by The Dhaka Project, as soon as she knew, Maria ordered the milk immediately, saying that sometimes happens that they have to support some families not enrolled by the project. However, we had also our unexpected moments, as the invitation come from a rich landlord of the quarter to visit his house. The difference between his house and his tenants' is absolutely abyssal, but this 70 some years old man cohabits daily with his tenants in the same courtyard.



In the afternoon Sofia has been in charge of visiting the remaining houses with Nayan, accompanied by a few children so that it could be easier to identify the houses. Vítor and Omar have had the chore of going to buy the weekly needs for 400 children. This task has been a true challenge, finding things as liquid milk, (where only powder milk is used) in the middle of the markets, negotiating, paying and finding a means of transportation to take the merchandise to the project. They only have been able to acquire part of the list that is: milk and legumes 400 children for a week costing a total amount of 52 Eur (280 AED 77 USD), i.e., 52 Euros for 400 kids!



We came back home, tired but happy for help in running the project, getting some rest with the children who have come to visit us at the Guest House. One of the kids, Massoud, playing with Vítor in a small proof of strength, showed us to have strength and muscles above the normal for an 11 years old kid. He had as much power as an adult... either Vítor was weak or the child was above the average... Surprised, we got to know that Massoud works everyday carrying bricks from 6 in the morning and at 9 goes to school. In spite of all his results in the school are good, 70% . One more surprise!

Tomorrow will be a great day. We are going to reach the end of the challenge given by Maria, to visit 104 houses. But this, that seems to be a challenge for us, is nothing more than a small part of the mountain. Now the most important is to find houses for the people in most need. On the other side we have to buy the basic for these families, such as a bed, a mattress, a net to stop the mosquitoes, a chair or a small table to be possible the kids studying at home, and so using the money raised in Portugal...

Thank you  
Sofia