

現地レポート／FARHANA YEASMIN

(School of Cultural and Social Sciences and department of  
Comparative Studies)

Destination country : Bangladesh

Receiving univ./institute : University of Dhaka

Period of study : 4/7/2011~2/1/2012

DATE OF REPORT : 30/07/2011

**Status of course/research progress**

I am learning language of Oraon people, have collected information as a preparation for fieldwork. I am trying to build up rapport in the field.

**Life situation**

It is extremely hot and humid. I am surviving without electricity. But I am well here.

DATE OF REPORT : 30/08/2011

**Status of course/research progress**

I have selected Farshapara as my research village because this village is in the center from other villages. There are only NGO schools, no government schools. There are three schools run by Ashrai. I have also selected Idolpur village where there are schools from NGO and government. I took Sonadighi where are only government schools. I have started staying in Farshapara. I was trying to picking up their language. I was trying to mix with people to get their life as they do. I walked around the village and was talking to people. I was doing household survey and children survey and attending some festivals invited by villagers.

**Life situation**

I have burning sensation on my skin and feet. But I am doing well.

DATE OF REPORT : 30/09/2011

**Status of course/research progress**

I was interviewing some persons from different NGOs run by Ethnic minority people. They basically work on ethnic rights, land issues and for local supports. They are also thinking about educational programs after talking to me as

though they have some occasional educational activities. I have talked to them days after days and also let them know about my work. It was good sharing and experiences! I have talked to schoolteachers and field-workers of NGOs about education and their lives. I have talked to villagers in the field whenever I get them like talking. I have attended their one of the biggest festival ‘Karam’ and have documented it. It was also observed in India at the same time.

### **Life situation**

I am well. There is no restroom close to my host family’s house. The house is made of clay. It is a new experience that is unbelievable but it is very normal for villagers. Now I am getting used to but sometimes it harms my health. Life is so different here! I enjoy it!

DATE OF REPORT : 30/10/2011

### **Status of course/research progress**

I have talked to some professors and researchers of university of Rajshahi which is in the same division (prefecture) I am doing fieldwork. I have done library research over there. I have met and talked some students from ethnic minority groups. Actually most of the time I stay in the field, sometimes or periodically I come out of the village for collecting more data. I have visited schools and talked to children of my research village and other villages.

### **Life situation**

I am doing well. Villagers accept me very well. Now they always come to me to get advices or inviting me to their house and festivals. They come to see me very often at my host family’s place as though I meet them always in the village or at market places. I am happy when I have met my Japanese friend Ishizaka Takami from university of Tokyo who works in the Rajshahi city. We spend time sometimes together. I stay with her in the dormitory. We share about our research and visit places and guests whom we know. It is really great for me!

DATE OF REPORT : 30/11/2011

### **Status of course/research progress**

I am doing fieldwork in the village. I have interviewed some professors, researchers, NGOs personnel and government officials in this time in Dhaka and Rajshahi. I am visiting each household and talking to household members. I have talked to children from different places from ethnic minority groups either they are going to schools or not. I have visited their house and talked to parents. I have also visited government schools. I have talked to children who go to those schools. I have also visited their house and talked to the parents. I have attended and participated some festivals, marriage ceremony and religious events with villagers. I have done some FGD (focus group discussion) with children, parents, teachers and villagers. I have visited market places and talked to people.

### **Life situation**

I have got home this time in the capital city Dhaka. It was a break for me to get into the field again. I got eye infection and they are aching since long. There are no good doctors in the countryside. I am also getting hair-fall due to water from the beginning. But the interesting thing is I am gaining weights. I am okay.

DATE OF REPORT : 30/12/2011

#### **Status of course/research progress**

This time I am very busy to finishing up my fieldwork and getting out of the field and back to the city. I was getting prepared for attending an international conference organized by the University of Rajshahi. Renowned anthropologist Prof Hilary Standing from University of Sussex, UK was the keynote speaker in the conference. I have presented my paper there and got many feedbacks. I also have organized a seminar about my fieldwork experiences at Ashrai Training Center in Rajshahi. Some professors and researchers from University of Dhaka and University of Rajshahi, NGOs researchers and activists, fieldworkers, Oraon people, my local supervisor Prof Shahed Hassan, PhD candidate Ishizaka Takami had been there. I got lots of valuable comments and feedbacks.

#### **Life situation**

I am well and getting ready to be back in Japan. I am a bit excited! I have met Kazuyo Minamide who graduated from our university in 2007 and did her fieldwork in Bangladesh. We have discussed about my fieldwork. Fieldwork itself is an episode. So, there are many stories still untold. It is the part of life.