

SAARC countries have been organizing SAF scout friendship camp since 2002 in association with the South Asia Foundation (SAF). Bangladesh Scouts hosted the 6th SAF Scout Friendship Camp on 12-18 October 2008 at its National Training Centre, Mouchak, Gazipur with the theme - '**Scouting for Peace and Friendship**'. The broad objective of such gathering of youths is the enhancement of solidarity, friendship and cultural exchange through scouting. The assembly was a gathering of 402 participants including camp officials and Rover volunteers. The details are shown below :

Total Participants						
No	Name of Country	Leader		Scout		
		M	F	M	F	Total
1.	Bangladesh	07	06	56	47	116
2.	Bhutan	01	01	07	07	16
3.	Maldives	01	01	05	06	12
4.	India	02	02	20	16	40
5.	Pakistan	02	01	07	11	21
6.	Nepal	02	02	18	16	38
7.	Sri Lanka	01	01	07	07	16
	Total	16	13	120	110	259

Total Registration		
No	Name	Quantity
1	SARRC Chief Commissioner (Nepal, Sri Lanka, India, Maldives, Bangladesh)	05
2	International Commissioner (Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh)	03
3	AP Region	01
4	Foreign Guest (Accompany person)	02
5	Bangladeshi Participant	116
6	Foreign Participant	143
7	Officials	47
8	Service Team	33
9	Support Staff	19
10	Others(Fire briget, Doctor and etc.)	33
	Total	402

This international event was open to only Rover Scouts (16-25 years). The 6th SAF Scout Friendship Camp was designed to provide adventure and fellowship for the Rovers including ten challenges, central ceremonies and other activities.

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SARRC Chief Commissioners meeting : The sixth round of the annual meeting of the Chief Commissioners from the SARRC countries was held in conjunction with the 6th SAF Scout Friendship Camp. The Chief Commissioners meeting was held at the Jamuna Bridge site in the district of Tangail on 13 October 2008. The following leaders attended this event.

1. Mr. Md. Abul Kalam Azad, Chief National Commissioner, Bangladesh Scouts
2. Shri L.M. Jain, National Commissioner, The Bharat Scout & Guides, India
3. Mr. Ahmed Ali Maniku, Chief Commissioner, TSA, Maldives
4. Mr. Shree Ram Lamichhane, Chief Commissioner, Nepal Scouts
5. Mr. Ghazanfur Mashkooor, International Commissioner, Pakistan BSA
6. Mr. Chandrasena Batuwangala, Chief Commissioner, Sri Lanka SA
7. Mr. Syd Castillo, Director (Programme), World Scout Bureau/Asia-Pacific Region
(He represented Regional Director, WSB/APR Mr. Abdullah Rasheed)

Mr. Chencho Dorji, Chief Commissioner of Bhutan Scouts Association and Mr. Safiullah Subat, Chief Commissioner of Afghanistan Scouts Association sent their regrets indicating that they were unable to attend the meeting.

The programme of the 6th SAF Scout Friendship camp incorporates the following challenges:

Challenge	1:	Tent Inspection
Challenge	2.	Friendship
Challenge	3.	World Scouting and SAF Camps
Challenge	4.	Youth Forum
Challenge	5.	Sight seeing (Educational Tour)
Challenge	6.	Fair and Exhibition
Challenge	7.	Presentation of Country Profile
Challenge	8.	Camp Fire
Challenge	9.	Cultural programme
Challenge	10.	Discoveries
<i>Discovery-</i>	<i>1:</i>	<i>Hike</i>
<i>Discovery-</i>	<i>2:</i>	<i>Community Development Activities</i>
<i>Discovery-</i>	<i>3:</i>	<i>Cultural programme</i>

Central Ceremonies:

Opening Ceremony
Flag Hoisting Ceremony
Grand Campfire and International Night
Open Discussion & Evaluation
Closing Ceremony

Central ceremonies:

Opening Ceremony :

On 12 October '08 at 10-30 am the 6th SAF Scout Friendship Camp had a colorful opening ceremony with selected cultural programme and display. The Hon'ble Chief Adviser of the Govt. of the People's Republic of Bangladesh Dr. Fakhruddin Ahmed graced the opening ceremony as chief guest. Participants enjoyed the opening ceremony. The National flags of all participating countries were hoisted.

Flag Hoisting Ceremony :

Every morning from 13-18 October 2008 there was a flag hoisting ceremony that was mandatory for all participants. The contingent leader of Bangladesh Contingent coordinated the flag hoisting ceremony.

Open discussion and evaluation:

On 18th October 2008 an open discussion and evaluation session was held at 10.00 am. in the main arena. An evaluation form was distributed among all participants and they checked each item.

Closing Ceremony:

In the afternoon on 18 October '08 a memorable closing ceremony was held with selected cultural programme and displays. Hon'ble Adviser for the Ministry of Primary and Mass Education, Ministry of Women & Children Affair and Ministry of Cultural Affair Rasheda K Chowdhury was the Chief Guest of the concluding ceremony. Participants were awarded with camp participation certificates. The 6th SAF Scout Friendship camp was declared closed by Mr. Md. Mozammel Haque Khan, Chairman of the Camp Organizing Committee.

Detailed Programme of 6th SAF Scout Friendship camp are as follows:

- 1. Tent Inspection:** The contingent leader of each NSO used to visit tents every morning, so that the Rover Scouts could start their daily activities in a befitting manner. The Challenge Director worked as coordinator of the tent inspection programme.
- 2. Friendship:** Special cards and Friendship forms were provided to each contingent/unit to make friendship with the participants of other countries. During the Camp, each cardholder made a friendship team of 7 members according to the card matching system. Participants exchanged waggled, scarf, badge, coat pin, currency and similar other items. On the fifth day of the camp, the final round of friendship challenge was organized. On that day 7 Rovers attended in a group at the main arena and had taken a group photograph for each group. On producing a duly filled-up friendship form, Challenge Director distributed a souvenir/sticker/replica item to each Rover Scout.

3. **World Scouting and SAF Camps:** This session was held on 15 October 2008 when information was disseminated on/ about previous five SAF camps as well as World Scouting, so that the participants could gather knowledge and information on World Scouting.
4. **Youth Forum:** The Youth Forum was divided into four sessions. The first three sessions were workshops and the final session was a Youth Parliament. All participants were divided into 20 small groups/patrols (each patrol consisting of 12-13 Rovers) to join each session. Three different Rover Scouts presented group reports during the whole youth forum. Out of 60 Rovers, 24 Rovers were selected for the final session (Youth Parliament) based on their performance.

The subject of the first session was “**What is Scouting for Me?**” The subject of the second session was “**Regional Peace and Cooperation**”. The subject of the third session was “**Youth Leadership for Sustainable Development**”. In each session, experienced and well conversant guest speaker gave input for 30 minutes. The input session was interactive. The participants took part in group discussions in each session for more than an hour and presented their group recommendations, in about five to six minutes. The Camp declaration was formulated in the parliamentary session. Youth Parliament discussed on a parliamentary bill on MDGs. Secretary of the Hon’ble President's office Mr. Md. Sirajul Islam was the chief guest of the Youth Parliament.

5. **Sight Seeing (Educational Tour):** This was an interesting challenge as the participants visited the tourist spots and parks like Fantasy Kingdom Park, Water Kingdom and Heritage Park on 17th October 2008. Participants got an opportunity to learn about the language movement in Bangladesh, liberation war, religion, history and important structures of the country. They enjoyed exciting water activities. After arrival at the park they remained in the heritage park for an hour. They enjoyed (at 10:00am.) water activities with necessary preparation. The park authorities arranged a mini cultural programme (at 12:00pm.) in honor of the participants, where professional artists performed. Participants returned to the camp at 5:00 pm.
6. **Fair and Exhibition:** The main objective of the fair was to depict the tradition, culture and history of each SAARC country. Stall for each country was allocated where scouting materials, traditional dress, local dry foods, daily commodities were exhibited and sold. It was open to all. The participants brought the necessary things. The challenge director served local cake free of cost to each participant.

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7. **Presentation of Country Profile:** In this challenge participants introduced their own country to others. They described the geography, demography, language, history, important places, famous personalities and important national days of their country. There was an open stage. The foreign contingent performed cultural activities on that stage. Two participants from each country get an opportunity to talk about their own country for five minutes. Participants used slides, photographs, multimedia projector, CD/ DVD player. It was open to all.
8. **Camp Fire:** Including Grand Camp Fire and International Night Participants got an opportunity to present their items in the Camp Fire. Chorus songs, dances, dramas etc, were presented. To make the function attractive every unit/contingent carried proper costume, musical instruments etc. Selected items were presented in the Grand Camp Fire and International Night. It was open for all. The Grand Camp Fire and International Night was held on 17 October 2008 at 6:30 pm.
9. **Cultural Programme:** There was a cultural programme where the participants (country wise) got an opportunity to display their own culture, tradition, history, heritage, dress etc. through music, dance and acting. Participants carried required costumes, music or exhibit items. This programme was held on 16 October 2008. The Camp Fire items were also selected from this event.
10. **Discoveries:** Discovery included the following programmes & these were held on the same day:
 - a) **Discovery – 01: Hike:** Rover Scouts enjoyed the scenic beauty of Bhawal National Park through hiking. Participants gathered at the main arena at 07:30 am on 13th October 2008. The participants were brought by bus. After reaching National Park they started hike. There were 4 hike routes so as to allow the participants to hike by patrol. They got an opportunity for fishing, cycling, watching tower, boating, backwoodsman cooking etc. They left the National Park for Bahadurpur Rover village at 12:30 pm.
 - b) **Discovery – 02: Community Development (CD) work:** After lunch and rest, participants took part in Community Development (CD) work in nearby villages from 03:00 pm. to understand the life style of the rural people and discover ways and means of improving their life on the basis of MDGs. They were divided into small groups to pursue four works: making vegetable gardens, showing system of making quick - composed manure, planting trees and creating mass awareness on child and maternal health.
 - c) **Discovery – 03: Cultural Programme:** After CD activities at 5:00 pm, participants enjoyed an informal cultural programme which was organized and performed by the local villagers and Rover Scouts. It continued for 30 minutes, after which the participants started for the camp (Mouchak).

6th SAF Scout Friendship Camp
12-18 October 2008
CAMP PROGRAMME

Time	10/10/08	11/10/08	1st Day	2 nd Day	3 rd Day	4 th Day	5 th Day	6 th Day	7 th Day
	Friday	Saturday	12/10/08 Sunday	13/10/08 Monday	14/10/08 Tuesday	15/10/08 Wednesday	16/10/08 Thursday	17/10/08 Friday	18/10/08 Saturday
0700 – 0730 hrs	Breakfast								
0730 – 0800 hrs	Visiting Tent (challenge -1)								
0800 – 0830 hrs	Flag Hoisting Ceremony								
0830 – 0930 hrs	-	Reporting of the Camp Staffs (0830 hrs) and final review meeting (1030 to 1230hrs)	Opening Ceremony rehearsal (0830 hrs) and	Cha. – 10: Discovery 1 (Hiking)	Cha. – 4: Youth Forum (First session)	Cha. – 4: Youth Forum (Third session)	Cha.-4: Youth Forum (Final Session)	Cha.-5: Sight Seeing (Educational tour)	Open Discussion and Camp Evaluation
0930-1030 hrs			Opening Ceremony (at 10-30 hrs)						
1030-1130 hrs									
1130-1230 hrs									
1230 - 1330 hrs	Lunch and Rest								
1330 – 1430 hrs	Lunch and Rest								
1430 – 1530 hrs	-	Reporting of Contingents	friendship card distribution	Cha. – 10: Discovery 2 (Community Service activities) & Discovery-3 (Cultural programme at 17-00 hrs)	Cha. – 4: Youth Forum (Second session)	Cha. – 7: Country Profile and Cha. – 6: Exhibition/Fair	Friendship (final session)	Free time	Closing Ceremony (at 1430 hrs)
1530-1630 hrs		& friendship card distribution							
1630-1730 hrs		free time							
1730 – 1830 hrs	Review of the camp preparation				Prayer and rest				Departure
1830 – 1930 hrs									
1930 – 2000 hrs		Selection display item for opening ceremony	Free time	Free time	Cha. – 8: Camp Fire	Cha. -3: World Scouting and SAF Camps	Cha. – 9: Cultural Programme	Grand Camp Fire and International Night	
2000 - 2100 hrs	Dinner and Rest								