5. Education Plus Project

**“Quality is never an accident; it is always the result of intelligent effort.”**

**John Ruskin**

(An English critic of art, architecture, and society of Victorian-era; a gifted painter, a writer)

*As the world is developing technological dependency day by day, having basic technological knowledge, experience and ideas are important. This is true for every sector of different industries no matter which service it produces. Being in a time of strictly congested employment opportunities, only having an academic qualification is not enough. Thus, the government has made it mandatory to include subjects such as information technology and coding from the early years of school education.*

*Nevertheless, there is a lack of IT knowledge among the underprivileged youths of our society because they are not served with equal opportunities as privileged youngsters. Working with young minds of the impoverished section of society for a long time, Hashimukh Somaj Kallyan Songstha understands how these pupils do not even get vocational training, not to mention IT training. So by the time they finish their institutional studies, they find job opportunities to be very limited. Often they end up settling for low-paying jobs even after being fairly educated. Furthermore, underprivileged youths have no access to the global market. At present, there is a worldwide demand for IT professionals, but without proper training, the children we are working with cannot apply for any job in this field.*

*Digital literacy isn’t the only challenge that young people from low-income families are facing. Basic access is just as much of a problem in the growing digital division.*

*As the government of Bangladesh has started the agenda of ‘Digital Bangladesh’ and been promoting ‘Vision 2021’ with a manifesto of developing skilled and creative human resources, Hashimukh Somaj Kallyan Songstha also planned to active the Education Plus project with similar goals. The project is centered on promoting basic ICT skillset of underprivileged school-going children that can help them thrive professionally by capacitating them with appropriate ICT skillsets. The program is focused mostly on practical tasks enabling the children access to modern computer labs where they will learn how to operate and use computers for specific tasks. It will focus on providing the learners with the correct skillset for entering the job market. With their access to the local and global IT market, they will be able to take forward the vision of Digital Bangladesh.*

*The dedicated volunteers from IT backgrounds are giving IT training to the students of Hashimukh School under the Education Plus course curriculum. To train the students up efficiently, the volunteers are taking IT classes six days a week and about 200 students from our school are being trained now. The students have been divided into 6 groups according to their age, class, and understanding capability. As of now, the training curriculum covers Microsoft Office software operations. We are also looking forward to giving training on Data entry, DBMS, Graphic Design, Troubleshooting, Basics of Photo Editing, Basics of Vector Illustration, etc. according to our curriculum.*

*The project’s goal is to make the students more skillful for the job market of Bangladesh so that they can move forward on their own and create opportunities for earning themselves. An earning youth would not only develop himself but also the people of his community and family. Which would be the ultimate contribution to the betterment of the society.*