



DCI Founder

Dr. A. Ehsan Hoque, MBBS, PhD



Dr. Ehsan Hoque (MBBS, Ph.D.) is a dedicated child rights activist and the founder and Honorary Executive Director of Distressed Children & Infants International (DCI). He is passionately dedicated to promoting child rights and improving the health and welfare of underprivileged children.

Dr. Hoque was born nearly blind with congenital cataracts due to vitamin and nutritional deficiency during his mother's pregnancy. By the age of five he had undergone seven eye surgeries which saved him from complete blindness. Despite the adversity he faced, Dr. Hoque completed his medical degree in Bangladesh in 1987. After working at Dhaka Children's Hospital he went on to study in Japan and Canada. In 1995, he completed his Ph.D. and he finished his Post-Doctoral Fellowship in 1997. Over the course of his career, Dr. Hoque has worked at numerous institutes around the world, including the [Rajshahi Medical College Hospital](#) (Bangladesh), the [Dhaka Shishu \(Children's\) Hospital](#) (Bangladesh), [Asahikawa Medical University](#) (Japan), the [University of Western Ontario](#) (Canada), the [University of Toronto](#) (Canada), and the [Yale University School of Medicine](#) (USA).

After personally experiencing discrimination growing up because of his vision problems, and witnessing child poverty in Bangladesh during his extensive volunteer work, Dr. Hoque was determined to build an organization to help underprivileged children and prevent childhood blindness. In 2003, at Yale University, he founded Distressed Children & Infants International (DCI) with his wife, Dr. Nina Hoque. Today DCI is a successful non-profit organization that supports thousands of disadvantaged children, their families and communities worldwide. DCI's motto is "***Children Helping Children***." It works to empower local youth to help their peers, both locally and worldwide.

Presently, Dr. Hoque focuses full-time on his volunteer work at DCI, where he serves as Honorary Executive Director. He is also involved part-time in eye research projects at Yale University with Professor Dr. Brian DeBroff. Dr. Hoque also serves as a Goodwill Ambassador and advisor for several human rights and disability rights organizations worldwide, such as Rights and Sight for Children (RSC), the Tauri Foundation, and Thengamara Mohila Sabuj Sangha (TMSS). Additionally, he is an active member of the Rotary Club of Cambridge, MA, USA.

Dr. Hoque has received numerous Academic Honors & Awards in recognition of his humanitarian work. Most recently Dr. Hoque received Humanitarian Awards from the Bangladesh Medical Association of North America (BMANA), the Federation of Bangladesh Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FBCCI), and the City of Cambridge (MA, USA), in recognition of his outstanding contribution to humanity. He has also been honored by the Federation of Bangladesh Associations of North America (FOBANA), Bangladesh Chamber of Commerce-USA, ATN Bangla Television, All European Bangladesh Association (AEBA), Society of Bangladeshi Doctors in Queensland, Bangladesh Medical Society of Australia, the Tauri Foundation, Rajshahi Medical College in Bangladesh, and many more.