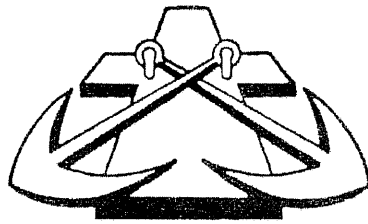


2016-8



**United States Brothers in Bengal:
1853 to 2003**

***by Br. Thomas More Beere, C.S.C.
edited by Br. Lawrence Stewart, C.S.C.***



**Holy Cross History Conference
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①

Five years ago, Br Thomas More Beere passed away just before Christmas. He was one of the longest-duration missionaries in Bangladesh, or anywhere, as he served the people in Bengal for **54 years**. He had many roles: a teacher, headmaster, community superior, and director of formation.

One of the final projects that he completed before leaving Bangladesh in 2003, was writing a 56-page treatise on the contributions of U.S. Holy Cross Brothers who served in Bengal. His document eventually was incorporated in the book, "*150 Years of Holy Cross in East Bengal Mission*" edited by Rev. Richard Timm in 2004.

When he returned to the U.S.A., he lived at Columba Hall and offered his computer talents to help in the Indiana Province Archives Center. He organized and digitized a host of photos, articles, and biographies, particularly those related to Bengal.

When I took over the position as archivist for the Midwest Province, Brother Tom was already assisting in our Archives Center. He was a talented colleague as we began to put order into the mass of materials that needed to be organized, classified and digitized. Our Holy Cross History Association is particularly grateful to him for the project he undertook to digitize every one of the **328** research papers presented at our annual conferences since 1982.

②

In 1942, Edward Beere heard a vocation recruitment talk by Brother Theophane Schmitt, C.S.C. at his high school in Racine, Wisconsin and decided when he graduated, he would become a Holy Cross Brother. He went to the Juniorate and Novitiate, where he made his first profession in February 1944. He began studies at the University of Notre Dame, and graduated *magna cum laude* with a Bachelor's degree in June 1947. His first and only assignment in the U.S. was to teach for a year at Vincentian Institute in Albany, New York. In October 1948 he was sent to the foreign missions in Bengal.

③

When he learned that he was going to Bengal, he read all that he could find about the country and took notes on its history, geography, climate, and people in order to prepare himself to serve as a Holy Cross missionary. [*I have included additional information to supplement the notes which he originally made*].

History of Bengal

Bengal is located in the Far East in southeast Asia. It was a mysterious and unknown land before Marco Polo's safari to China in 1271. His discoveries opened the Far East to

Europeans for further exploration. It was assumed the land and people were "primitive" but actually the subcontinent of India had existed as the Kingdom of Vanga or Banga way back in 1000 B.C. There existed empires with a mixture of Hinduism and Buddhism from the 2nd to 9th centuries. By the 10th century Bengal was primarily Hindu. By the 13th century Islam became dominant in the entire area.

④ The Portuguese were the first Europeans to explore the Indian subcontinent in the late 1400s. This opened the race for other European powers to acquire trading posts. The Dutch, French, and Danish merchants soon followed. They traded for silk, spices, precious metals, tea, sugar cane and jute. At first the European nations were interested in trade, but over time, the acquisition of territory grew in importance. Looking for a piece of the action was Britain.

Britain began trading in India in 1600, but did not begin to seize large sections of land until 1757, after the Battle of Plassey. This battle pitted 3000 soldiers of the British East

⑤ India Company against the 5000-strong army of Prince Nawab of Bengal. In the battle Prince Nawab lost more than 500 troops while the British lost just 22. After the defeat, Britain took \$5 million from the Bengali treasury to finance further colonial expansion. In 1770, heavy taxation policies by the British left millions of Bengalis impoverished. About

⑥ 10 million people died of famine in Bengal between 1770-1773. The British brought many bad practices, including dictatorial agricultural policies which caused desperate conditions within the country.

India was governed by the British Viceroy or Governor-General. In 1905 the colonial government divided the country into Hindu and Muslim sections which caused strong
⑦ protests. During World War I, Britain declared war on Germany and recruited 1.3 million Indian soldiers and laborers to serve in the British Indian Army.

⑧ During World War II, India again contributed to the British war effort. At the close of the War, it was clear that European colonialism had run its course. The Indian National Congress continued to press for self-rule led by Mahatma Ghandi and the British began to map out a path to independence.

Partitioning

In August 1946, violent fighting broke out between Hindus and Muslims in Calcutta which quickly spread across India. **Note:** It was during this time (in 1948) that Brother Thomas More arrived in Bengal. The Muslim population in India was concerned about living in an overwhelmingly Hindu-governed nation. A unified Muslim League was formed and pushed for separate Muslim states. Millions of Hindu and Muslim refugees flooded

9 across borders in each direction. Lord Mountbatten, the Viceroy of British India, realized the impossibility of the situation and looked for a quick British escape. He decided to partition the subcontinent into the Republic of India in the middle between two Islamic Republics of West and East Pakistan on August 14, 1947. The two Pakistans were united by the Islam religion but their peoples were separated by culture, physical features, and 1000 miles of the Hindu-majority in the republic of India. The new Pakistan Central Government was located in West Pakistan which favored itself over East Pakistan because of its majority of wealth and revenues. In 1948 the Central Government in West Pakistan stated that Urdu was to be the sole national language for all of Pakistan. This led to protests in 1952 by students at the University of Dhaka in East Pakistan. The Central Government relented and gave official status to the Bengali language of East Pakistan. Tension continued to exist between the two widely separated Pakistans.

Geography

10 Bangladesh is located in the southern hemisphere and is surrounded by India on the west, the north, and east, with the Bay of Bengal on the south. The two major rivers (the Ganges and Brahmaputra) empty tons of silt from the Himalayans into the Bay. The country is approximately 320 miles long in a north-south direction and 250 miles wide. More than half of its total area is a low-lying delta formed by the rivers. The delta is extremely fertile and suitable for rice cultivation.

Bangladesh's total land area is 55,600 sq. miles with a population of 164 million in 2016. Its area is the same size as the state of Illinois whose population in 2014 of only 13 million people (or just 7% of the entire population of Bangladesh!).

Climate

11 Bangladesh has a tropical monsoon climate with wide seasonal variation. Three seasons are recognized: (1) a hot, muggy summer from March to June; (2) a hot, humid rainy monsoon season from June to November, and (3) a warm dry winter from December to February. The maximum summer temperature reaches 100 to 106 degF. January is the coolest when the temp is 61 to 68 deg in the day and 50 deg at night. Heavy rainfall in the monsoon season helps irrigate the rice fields. Annual rainfall is about 90 in. Daily humidity ranges from lows in March between 55 to 75% to a very uncomfortable 90-100% in July.

12 Natural calamities (floods, tropical cyclones, tornadoes ravage the country almost every year. Bangladesh is one of the most susceptible countries to climate change.

In September 1998, Bangladesh suffered the most severe flooding in modern world history. Two-thirds of the country was flooded. The major rivers swallowed houses, roads, levees and embankments. More than 1000 people died. 30 million were homeless and 135,000 cattle died.

Religions

13 The major religions are Islam (90.4%), Hinduism (8.5%), Buddhism (0.6%) and Christianity (0.3%). Islam was introduced into the subcontinent in the late 12th century. Portuguese traders and Catholic missionaries were the first Europeans to reach Bengal in the late 15th century. The Jesuit Saint, Francis Xavier sailed from Portugal to reach Goa, on the western coast of India in 1584. The Jesuits remained in Bengal until their suppression by the Pope. The Augustinians arrived in 1599 and played a major role in Christian activity. Holy Cross arrived in Bengal in 1853. The Churches earned respect for their reputation in education and health services.

The Mission of Holy Cross to Bengal

Father Moreau's newly founded Congregation of Holy Cross was growing in the 1850s. Holy Cross priests, brothers and sisters were already doing mission work in Algeria (1839) and in Indiana (1841), Canada (1847), Louisiana (1848), and Italy (1850).

14 Father Moreau hoped to receive the official Papal Approval for his new Congregation when he met Pope Pius IX in Rome. The Pope wanted Holy Cross to work in the foreign missions in Bengal. Father Moreau received a letter in late 1851 from the Propaganda Fidei in Rome asking whether it was true that Holy Cross was willing to go to the Bengal missions and had personnel available. The letter claimed the process of receiving papal approval of his new Congregation would be greatly speeded up by accepting the mission in East Bengal. Father Moreau accepted this subtle "**bribe**" and on June 12, 1852, and Rome transferred the missions in East Bengal to Holy Cross. The first Holy Cross personnel to go were three priests, three Brothers, and three Sisters who sailed from London on November 5, 1852, but with delays and a trying journey, they finally reached Calcutta seven months later, on May 20, 1853.

15 +++++
We have examined the background information which Br Thomas More compiled prior to his assignment to Bengal. We'll now examine the biographical notes which Br Tom wrote concerning the Brothers who served there.

Little is known about the first three Brothers of Holy Cross who went to Bengal in 1853. Brother Benedict (Patrick) Fitzpatrick, C.S.C. was an Irishman who taught in Chittagong

but died of malaria fever 2 years later. None of the early group of Holy Cross missionaries were prepared for the difficult life and work in the tropical heat and humidity. In those days, the Brothers received very little education or preparation before being assigned to schools. They usually learned on the job.

With the hindsight we now have, the first Holy Cross missionaries should have accepted the hospitality offered by the Jesuits in Calcutta. If that had been done, they could have gradually acclimated to the local conditions and culture, and also learned the Bengali language of the people.

No more Brothers were sent from Canada or the U.S. for many years. The priests left in 1878 because The General Chapter in 1872 had sent a message to the Propaganda in Rome asking that *"the Congregation of Holy Cross be relieved from the Vicariate of East Bengal, because it cannot furnish subjects in sufficient number besides, sickness and death have not ceased to decimate the missionaries."*

16 Holy Cross priests did return 10 years later in 1888. A Holy Cross Brother (Clement Debat) came with a priest in 1899 to teach English at St. Placid's School in Chittagong but he became ill and died in 1905. Brother Gabriel (John) Slager came in 1914 to teach at St. Gregory's, but after only nine months in Bengal he strained himself pulling a post out of the ground and died. About the same time two blood brothers, Br. Celestine Heller and Br Ernest Haller came to teach at St. Gregory's, Brother Celestine for 14 years and Brother Ernest for 12 years until 1926.

17 By the 1920s the provincials in the U.S. and Canada had enough men to staff the mission works in Bengal. Eleven American Brothers arrived from the U.S. in the 1920s. Eleven came in the 1940s, fourteen in the 1950s, and fifteen in the 1960s. Only three came in the 1970s as the Bengali Holy Cross Brothers had increased in number.

Among the 79 Brothers who came to Bengal/Bangladesh were the following outstanding men who served the people and the Holy Cross institutions as Teachers, Headmasters, Administrators, Builders, Formation Directors, and in other creative roles.

18 Teachers:

Louis Gazagne -- (19, 1921-1940). A devoted teacher for 19 years returned to the U.S. and taught typing till late in life.

Liquori Denier -- (18, 1937-1955). A demanding, precise teacher.

Paul Malich -- (7, 1957-1964) taught English at St. Gregory's and was the Prefect of Discipline at St. Greg's.

Neville Phillips – (14, 1949-1963) A devoted teacher of English and Bengali and was librarian for several years at St. Gregory's.

Hobart Pieper – (47, 1947-1994) An energetic and entertaining teacher. He was an inventive historian, adding his own opinions and insights to the stories he wrote or told.

Donald Schmitz – (28, 1956-1984) Taught English and worked with Catholic Relief Services.

Carl Shonk – (3, 1957-1960) was a dynamic teacher of English but suffered with severe sinus problems. Students were upset over seeing him leave.

Martinian Wilson – (15, 1947-1962) An excellent English teacher. He directed plays, and organized many activities.

Donald Allen -- (3, 1954-1957) an excellent biology teacher who worked three years and was sent to Ghana to staff the new school.

Ralph Baird – (30, 1965-1995) A good science teacher and very handy at maintenance projects. He was very good at sports and as a coach.

Donald Becker – (56, 1957-2013) he taught science subjects at St. Gregory's and added other jobs and hobbies to his usual busy schedule. His influence was immense. He died April 25, 2013 in Bangladesh and is buried there.

Charles Bibeau – (22, 1966-1985) He was very good at math and loved to coach the weak students.

Peter Nolasco Cleary – (7, 1949-1956) a good science teacher who set up the chemistry and physics labs at St. Gregory's.

Robert Hughes – (48, 1946-1994) loved to teach science, built his own reflecting telescope. He held the distinction of being headmaster of every Brothers' school.

Felix Schoen – (27, 1936-1963) He taught science and math.

Headmasters:

Jude Costello -- (22, 1940-1962) became headmaster at St. Gregory's within 6 months of arriving. He was the obvious choice to be the first Vicariate Superior in 1946. He negotiated deals for the land needed to build the Trade School, and St. Joseph's School in Mohammedpur.

Thomas More Beere – (54, 1948-2002) an outstanding Headmaster at St. Gregory's, in Nagari, and St. Joseph's high. A good sportsman, who ran all the sports programs at St. Gregory's.

Ivan Dolan -- (21, 1947-1968) was headmaster at Bandura and was involved in construction at the schools.

John Heim -- (5, 1933-1938) He was headmaster at St. Gregory's. While on a holiday in Shillong, he contracted typhoid fever, and died in 1938, and is buried there.

Gerald Kraeger -- (40, 1954-1994) He spent 40 years as a teacher and headmaster at St. Gregory's and St. Joseph's. He was inventive with new innovative ideas: he sprayed wet concrete on classroom ceilings to deaden echoes within classrooms or on walls to prevent graffiti. He unfortunately died of a heart attack in 1994.

Brian Lyon -- (42, 1946-1988) was a teacher and headmaster. A good athlete, very hard to beat in playing tennis.

Walter Remlinger -- (17, 1921-1938) an outstanding headmaster who led St. Gregory's and Bandura schools to perfection. He left the country for a vacation planning to return but died of cancer in a year.

James Talarovic -- (46, 1941-1987) James was a Bengali scholar and produced a grammar book and dictionary for Brothers and foreigners to use.

Anthony Van Beerman -- (6, 1923-1929) was a man of great energy and zeal. He left Bengal in 1929 and became a priest in his native Holland.

Authors:

Bernadine Mosier -- (10, 1935-1945) He learned the Bengali language very quickly. When he was in his 80s, he translated a Bengali book, of Msgr D'Costa's memoirs.

James Talarovic -- (46, 1941-1987) famous for authoring the translation of the poems of Rabindranath Tagore and the songs of Lalan Shah in many volumes. His poems, novels and dramas are very popular in India and Bangladesh.

District Superiors:

Jude Costello -- (22, 1940-1962) He was amiable and fatherly and held in great esteem by the community. The obvious choice to be the first District or Vicariate Superior of the Brothers

Fulgence Dougherty -- (25, 1947-1972) An excellent teacher and headmaster; he was District Superior from 1962 to 1972. He financed and supervised the building of the new St. Joseph High School in 1965.

Gerald Kraeger -- (40, 1954-1994) He succeeded Fulgence as District Superior in 1972 until 1978 to become headmaster at St. Gregory's.

Builders / Trade School Teachers

Andrew Steffes -- (46, 1926-1972) A talented engineer who led numerous construction projects. In 1954 was the founding principal of St. Joseph School of Industrial Trades. Many boys who could not do the academic study. Andy provided

training in trades of carpentry, machinery, sheet metal work, welding and engine mechanics.

Ralph Baird – (30, 1965-1995) He was very handy at maintenance projects, and doing plumbing and electrical work.

Donald Becker -- (56, 1957-2013) to his teaching duties, he added other jobs and hobbies to his usual busy schedule. He moved into the Trade School and never really left.

Ivan Dolan – (21, 1947-1968) was headmaster at Bandura and always involved in construction and erected 2-story brick buildings for schools.

Charles Hill – (13, 1952-1965) He helped Andrew Steffes found the Trade School and was an outstanding teacher of numerous trades. He organized softball games for Americans and those at the consulate.

Jerome Kroetsch – (9, 1976-1985) He was a skilled technician at the Trade School.

Landscapers

Paul Enk – (12, 1967-1978) Besides teaching at Nagari, he spent much time on other interests, especially gardening.

John Harris – (17, 1955-1972) he taught at St. Joseph's High, but his hobby was gardening who planted trees, shrubs, flowers and vines spread all over.

Lorenzo Powers -- (40, 1940-1980) He had worked as a florist and made sure that colorful flowers adorned every school compound. A superb athlete and cyclist; he rode his bicycle over most of the country, even pedaling 125 miles to Dhaka in one day.

21 Apostles to the Needy

Bede Stadler – (10, 1938-1948) During the 1943 famine crisis, he undertook the distribution of rice and was president of the Price Control Committee. He devised ways to relieve the situation and feed many.

Ronald Drahozal – (54+, 1962-present) He taught at St. Gregory's for some time, then was the Juniorate director. He started the BARACA drug center and another drug therapy center which became APON in 1994, the first rehabilitation center in the country, a model for those addicted to drugs. He is still director of the APON Center and influential in Southeast Asia for his work.

Gerald Kraeger – (40, 1954-1994) was very concerned for the poor. During the 1974 famine, he spent many days helping those starving.

Nicholas Thielman – (35+, 67-) He taught and was headmaster at St. Gregory's and St. Joseph's His desire was to help in social work.

Formation Directors

Thomas More Beere – (54, 48-02) He directed the juniorate for 14 years and was a marked influence on many Bengali Brothers.

Ronald Christenson – (31, 60-91) He taught at St. Joseph's for many years and set up the library. He was director of the Aspirancy program.

Donald Kaufold -- (9, 62-71) Taught English at St. Gregory's and ran the postulancy program at Narinda.

The 1971 War of Independence

In the 1970 election, East Pakistan secured a majority of seats within the Central Government, to become the leaders of the National Assembly. But the West Pakistan Central Government postponed the opening of the National Assembly. The Bengali people in East Pakistan were furious. There were demonstrations, riots and thousands condemned the decisions of the Central Government. The situation gave the Holy Cross Brothers untold difficulties. As foreigners they had to stay neutral and obey government orders. But the Brothers had come to serve the people and their sympathies were with the Bengalis.

22 In November 1970 an enormous cyclone struck the offshore islands of East Pakistan. Half a million Bengalis died in a tidal wave and flooding. The leaders in West Pakistan did not provide any assistance after the tragedy. That was the final straw. The Bengalis initiated strikes and work closures. The rulers in West Pakistan built up the army to 60,000 soldiers. The explosion came on March 26, 1971. After 24 years of the strained "union" with West Pakistan, East Pakistan seceded. Civil war broke out when the West Pakistan army attacked. Millions of people took shelter in the countryside or fled as refugees across the border into India. More than 3 million were killed in a 9-month war and 10 million were refugees in India. Because of the crisis, India entered the war and attacked the West Pakistan army from all directions for 2 weeks. West Pakistan surrendered on December 16, 1971. East Pakistan gained its independence and became the new country of Bangladesh.

Heroes who helped people during the War

23 During the war all the schools in the countryside closed, but those in Dhaka stayed open under the eyes of the military. Since the West Pakistan army targeted Hindus, many took refuge within the Brothers' schools. West Pakistan soldiers came to St. Gregory's. **Bros Robert Hughes, Hobart Pieper and Nicholas Thielman** did their best to convince the soldiers there were no anti-state people within the crowded compound. The West Pak soldiers did load 28 men and boys onto a truck who unfortunately, were never seen again.

At St. Joseph's Trade School, **Bros Andrew Steffes** and **Donald Becker** persuaded the many Hindus to leave and go into hiding. One night, soldiers came to the school and not finding anyone other than the Brothers, they looted some things and left.

At St. Nicholas School, the boys and staff were holding a volleyball game when eight West Pak soldiers came and ordered the boys to line up. **Bro Donald Becker** stood between the frightened boys and a soldier who was pointing his rifle at Donald's stomach. Donald bravely insisted that the schoolboys were not fighters. Thankfully, the soldiers were convinced and departed.

Visitors had arrived from Rome, one was the Assistant General, Brother Dominic LeClerc who was visiting the school in Nagari at the invitation of **Bro Fulgence**. One evening heavy shelling and gun fire awoke everyone. Bro Dominic wanted to leave immediately to return to Rome. Bro. Fulgence rode a bicycle 15 miles back to Dhaka, made arrangements for a driver to come to Nagari and bicycled back to Nagari. When the car came a couple of days later, the driver was very shaken and concerned. On the drive back to Dhaka, they all saw what was horribly upsetting. A Bengali village of 14 houses was set afire and surrounded by Pakistani soldiers who shot any Bengalis who tried to flee. The Brothers continued the drive back to Dhaka in silence.

At Nagari, **Bro Paul Enk** often made visits to nearby villages to provide care and materials. One day **Bros Thomas More, Paul Enk** and **Brian Lyon** were in a village as two boat-loads of soldiers came, who wondered why there were no village people to greet them. The Brothers said that the machine guns on the boats and soldiers probably scared the villagers away.

One time a large group of soldiers advanced into Panjora. **Bro Paul Enk** warned all the villagers to move into the forest. **Paul** kept far enough ahead of the soldiers to warn all the villagers to move deeper into the forest. The soldiers advanced about a mile, but not seeing anyone they turned around and departed. Thus, **Bro Paul's** brave action saved many people.

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24 It is important to note that Brother Thomas' work singled out the contributions of the American Holy Cross Brothers¹⁴ to the Bengal Missions. But other Holy Cross religious had also come to serve and sacrifice in the East Bengal Missions as summarized below:

CSCs	# sent	# died	# left	other
American Brothers	79	8	19	2 → priests
American Priests	110	18	13	
Canadian Brothers	34	1	8	
Canadian Priests	70	12	14	
Canadian Sisters	67			
Marianite Sisters	36	1		
CSC Sisters	64	3		

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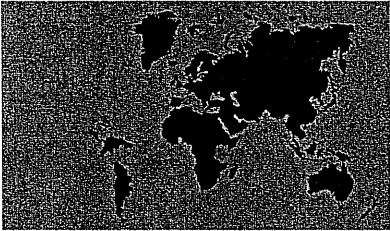
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1


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Holy Cross missions countries

2


Br Thomas More Beere



1947



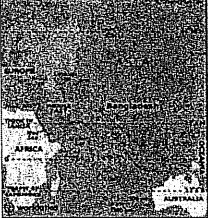
1952



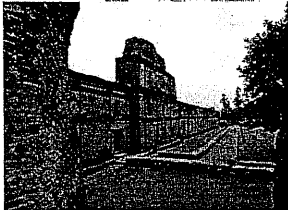
2005

Vincentian Institute - Albany, NY - 1947-1948

3



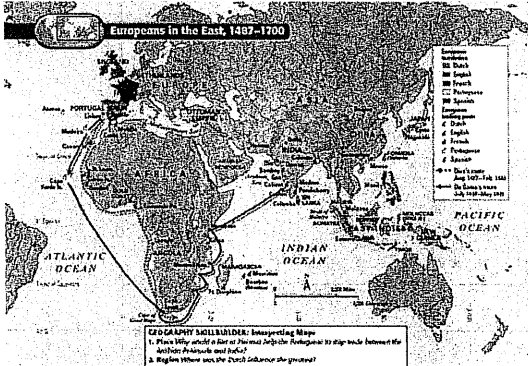
Bengal Kingdom -- 1227-1757



1300s -- Largest mosque in Bengal Sultanate

4

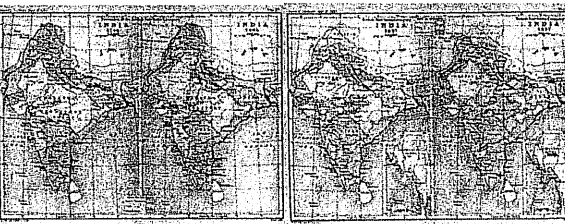
Europeans in the East, 1487-1700



European Exploration and Trading (1487-1700)

LEGEND: 1. Place where a European first set foot in the Americas and India. 2. Region where the Dutch, Spanish, and Portuguese first set foot.

5




1765 1805 1837 1857


The expansion of the British East India Company and British Empire throughout the India subcontinent .

6

1770-1773 -- Disastrous Famine in Bengal

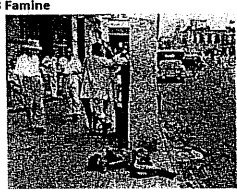


- land owned by British East India Co.;
- taxes were increased 3-4 times normal;
- severe drought in 1768;
- rice was hoarded by Company;
- malnutrition and starvation increased;
- smallpox, typhoid, other diseases spread;
- the crisis was ignored by British company;
- estimated 10 million people perished.



7

British Colonialism => British Raj



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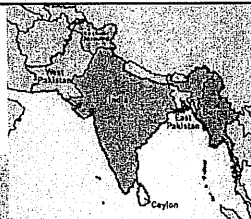
Strive for Independence



Gandhi addressing a rally during the
Quit India movement, 1942

9

1946 – Partitioning of India



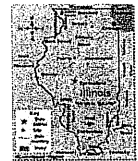
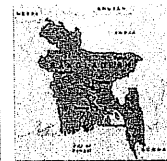
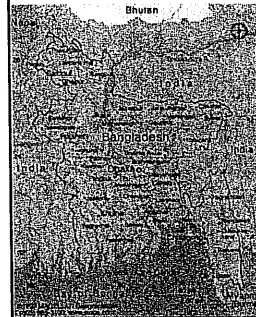
Basic Maps of the Partition



These two maps show how India was divided after gaining independence from the British in 1947. The first shows India under British rule before the partition. The second shows how the region was divided after gaining independence and the breakaway East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) gained its independence from West Pakistan (Pakistan today) in 1971 through the Bangladesh Liberation War.

10

Bangladesh: Geography



	<u>Bangladesh</u>	<u>Illinois</u>
Area	55,600 sq.miles.	54,490 sq.miles
Population	164 million	12.8 million

Bangladesh: Climate

Three Seasons:

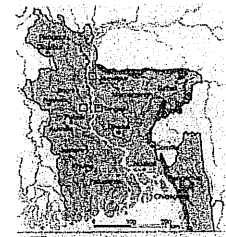
- 1) Hot, muggy SUMMER [Mar-Jun]
- 2) Hot, humid MONSOONS [Jun-Nov]
- 3) Warm, dry WINTER [Dec-Feb]



12

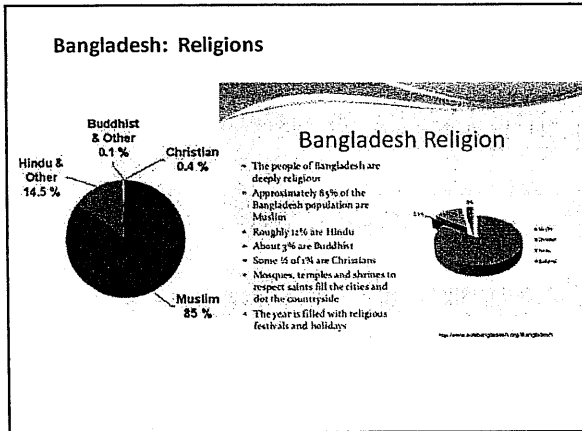
Some Causes of Flooding in Bangladesh

- [illegible]

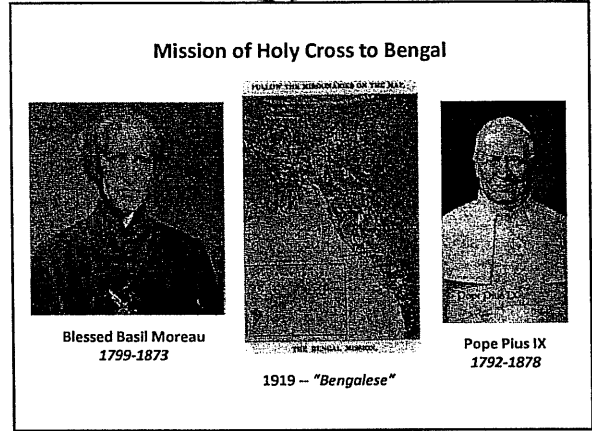


Not affected by flooding
Flooded after heavy rainfall
Flooded during the monsoon period
Affected by tidal flooding
Encroachment at the Brahmaputra river
Police house in raising in flood

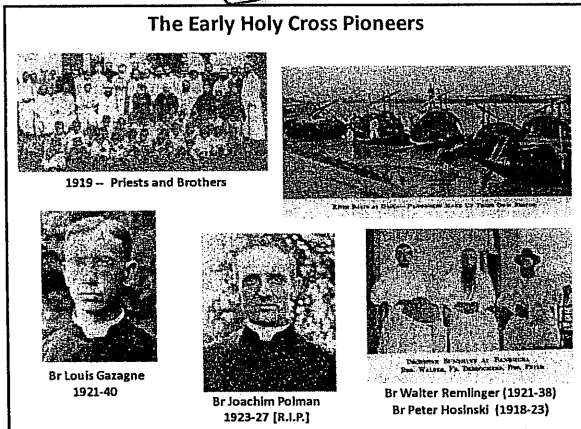
13



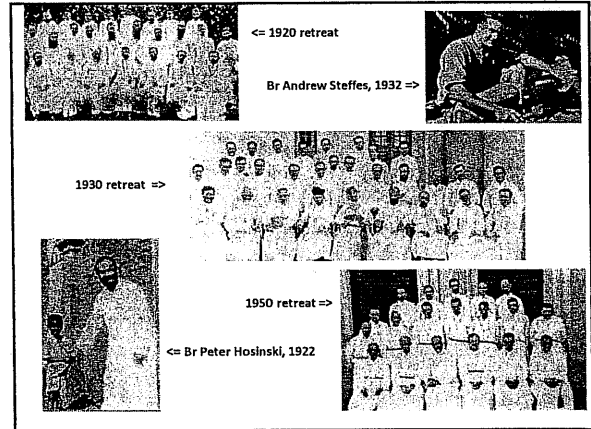
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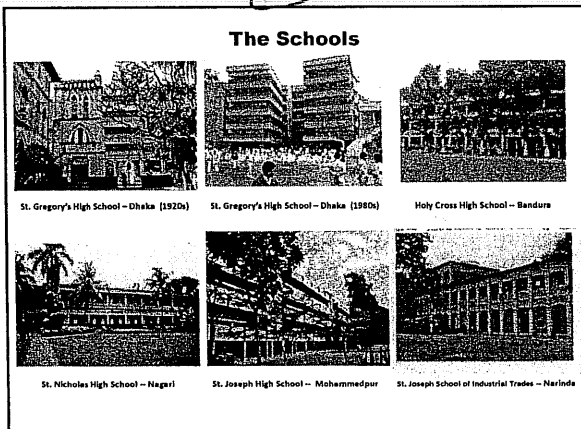
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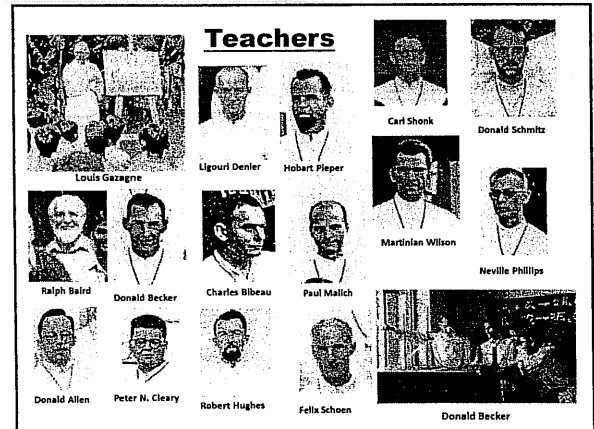
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Headmasters

Jude Costello Thomas More Ivan Dolan
Gerald Kraeger Brian Lyon Walter Remlinger
Robert Hughes John Helm Anthony Van Beerman

Authors

James Talarovic Bernadine Mosler

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District Superiors

Jude Costello - 1946 to 1964
Fulgence Dougherty 1964-1972
Gerald Kraeger 1972-1980

Craftsmen/Builders

Andrew Steffen & students Charles Hill & Andy
Ivan Dolan Ralph Baird Jerome Knoetsch

Landscapers

Paul Enk John Harris Lorenzo Powers

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Apostles to the Needy

Bede Stadler Gerald Kraeger Nicholas Thielman Ronald Drahosai

Formation

Thomas More Ronald Christenson Donald Kaufold

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1971 -- Pakistan Civil War

East Pakistan Secedes, Civil War Breaks Out

The Liberation Times

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Heroes during the 1971 War of Independence

Robert Hughes Nicholas Thielman Andy Steffen Donald Becker Fulgence Dougherty
Robert Pieper Brian Lyon Tom More Paul Enk

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Summary of Holy Cross People in Bengal

Holy Cross members who served in Bengal

Country	# sent	# died	# left	# left
American Brothers	79	8	19	2 more priests
American Priests	119	18	19	
Canadian Brothers	31	1	1	
Canadian Priests	70	12	14	
Canadian Sisters	87			
Maltese Sisters	28	1		
CMF Sisters	64	3		