

# Safe Khatna Project: Reducing Risks and Improving Health for Children in Need

## Background

Circumcision, known locally as khitan or khatna, is a widely practiced cultural and religious ritual in Bangladesh. However, many children from poverty-stricken families, especially in rural areas, undergo this procedure using unsafe and unhygienic methods. These risky practices often result in severe long-term infections and complications. Due to the financial constraints of these families, many cannot afford safe medical circumcision, leading to continued health risks and increased medical burdens.

## Importance of the Program

Providing safe, medically supervised circumcision is vital to improving child health outcomes in vulnerable populations. This program aims to eliminate the reliance on unsafe procedures by offering free or subsidized circumcision surgeries to poor children. Ensuring access to hygienic medical services will reduce infection rates, prevent complications, and promote overall wellbeing. This initiative aligns with broader public health goals and supports the rights of children to safe healthcare.

## Program Overview and Budgetary Allocation

The program intends to implement 30,000 safe circumcision surgeries over 5 years across Bangladesh, prioritizing rural and underserved areas. Each procedure, including surgery and medicine, is estimated to cost US\$150.

	Year	Number of Surgeries	Annual Budget (USD)
1	1 <sup>st</sup> year	6,000	\$900,000
2	2 <sup>nd</sup> year	6,000	\$900,000
3	3 <sup>rd</sup> year	6,000	\$900,000
4	4 <sup>th</sup> year	6,000	\$900,000
5	5 <sup>th</sup> year	6,000	\$900,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>30,000</b>	<b>\$4,500,000</b>

## International Appeal for Support

**Education and Development Research Council (EDRC)** calls upon you to join hands in supporting this crucial health intervention. Your contribution will directly impact thousands of children, reducing preventable infections and fostering healthier communities in Bangladesh. By funding this program, partners will demonstrate commitment to child health, poverty alleviation, and culturally sensitive healthcare access. Together, we can make *khitan* a safe experience for every child, regardless of their family's financial status.

### Bank Details

**Title of Account: Education and Development Research Council (EDRC)**

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