

problems of women which are, in the most cases, ingrained in the economic, socio-cultural and political aspects in the societies of different less developed countries. There remain some limitations in pursuing the objectives. There was a shortage of budget and time since this study deserves an extensive study in the third world nations. This study is based on secondary data; there was a shortage of using primary source. Shortage of handsome fund was another limitation, since data collection from these wide areas is a matter of expensive endeavor. Beyond these limitations, a careful endeavor was present everywhere so that this study can reach a responsible conclusion.

### **Economic globalization and the position of women**

Over the years developed and developing are nations maintaining world market by conducting international business through exports and imports among themselves. Globalization should, hence, primarily be considered from the economic viewpoint. Developing nations usually suffer from less capabilities in developing and improving their own economy. Due to lack of sufficient fund they can not import goods and services as they needed. In order to implement worldwide standardized production market, to develop the capability of the developing nations in the globalization process and to establish the flow of international capital, international organizations like World Bank (WB) and International Monetary Fund (IMF) enforce Structural Adjustment Loans (SAL) in developing nations. This SAL mainly implements the privatization of exports in developing nations.

Beyond these international organizations, it should be noted here that, a power structure plays an active role. The countries like United States invest vast capital and play a vital instrument in determining the decisions and taken by the organizations. However, based on previous working experience, the WB and IMF decided to prevent future loss of capital from overseas investments. Hence, they decided to work with the foreign governments collectively so that they can be cobinedly develop an world market which will ensure high productivity rates and profit gains from the third world countries. This initiative promote privatization in the third world countries. The privatization is largely dependent on the export market in more developed nations. Developed nations, through such international organizations, promote privatization throughout third world countries.

Capitalism, as it true nature, motivates corporations towards countries that provide the most labour or resources at cheapest rate (Bacchus 2005). Corporations have changed their production and employment structure so that they can promote production at a cheapest cost. Before such actions, the people, both women and men, in the developing countries were seen largely engaged mainly in agricultural production. With the unavoidable progression of newly globalized economic and production structures, the lives of these people face a wide range of transformation from traditional to modern, globalized economic condition. Empirical evidence shows that there has been a significant decline in male agricultural work "from 62% to 14%... [and] a similar decline in agriculture [for women]" (Schultz 1990, cited in Bacchus 2005). In spite of this trend, assembly production is dominated entirely by a female labor force, with the exception of managers and foremen.



In searching cheapest labor, corporations often tend to be interest in female labor force because they “work in labor-intensive industries at wages lower than men would accept, and in conditions that unions would not permit” (Moghadam 1999). The female has less opportunities in getting employment. They are often offered for low paying jobs, which are lack of securities also. Their skills are not often considered. Due to gender inequality, the males are engaged in better positions and women are often offered inferior employment positions. Studies show that “nearly two-thirds of women in manufacturing are categorized as labourers, operators and production workers while only a few can be found in the administrative and managerial positions predominantly held by men” (Tzannatos 1998). Traditionally, women are considered as recipient of welfare of development process, not active workers for development.

At this backdrop, competitions among global corporations increase with the advancement and increasing newly global economy. Corporations are spreading throughout the globe, capturing global market, and searching, as capitalist competitive trends, cheap labor overseas and sparked their interest. In return, these enable them to draw higher profits from the world market from cheapest production cost. Corporations are required to pay American Workers, at least, minimum wage (which varies according to state). A female assembly line worker in the U.S. would probably earn ‘between \$3.10- \$5.00 an hour,’ whereas, a female assembly worker in a developing nation, doing the same work, would earn \$3.10-\$5.00 for the entire day’s work (Fuentes and Ehrenreich 1998). Studies show that women, as a poor paid labourer, are paid much in export factories in comparison to low-skilled female jobs in informal sector such as household or agricultural activities. As a result, in searching for better life and opportunity, the female labourer in the third world countries tend to leave informal duties and enter into these global trends. With the involvement in this process, they feel themselves empowered, as they have no alternatives.

Like corporations, it has long been observed that, the workers in the Free Trade Zones (FTZ) can not unionize themselves to achieve their basic rights. Women are the worst victims of such regularizations and restriction. Although governments in the developing countries restricted trade regulation laws on workers, but implementation of this law is difficult. For workers, unionization themselves is almost unachievable goal due to FTZ regulations and complexities. Women remain silent in such cases due to their inferior position, where overall group unionization is an unattainable task. What can women do separately? They consider themselves poorest of the poor, more victimized among the victims. As the informal sector cannot assure them, they maintain these low-paying jobs with vulnerable and adverse working environment.

Within such changes in the womens’ employment and experiences, significant improvement has been occurred happened in the status-position of women at household level. Third world countries now staying in a stage of ‘transition’ due to the concept of gender is transforming day by day. With the opportunities of factory employment, the status of women is improving in families and community. Families consider the employed females as important member as they contribute to the family income, fully or partially, and family survival from difficulties.



From the economic viewpoint, developing nations are forced to believe that they must accept the ban on restrictive trade laws and compete with other nations in offering the cheapest labor. If developing nations enact a standard trade tax or wage system, dependent on the specific country's GNP and GDP, developing nations would receive an increase amount in revenue that might help them to create a stable economy. Even with the imposition of higher wages and taxes, developed nations would still be paying an extremely discounted rate for the production of their goods-compared to the cost of employment in developed countries (Bacchus 2005).

Commonsensibly, we must consider another areas of economic vulnerability of women in the developing countries. Due to ongoing and increasing competitions, the corporate giants tend to get more production within a short period of time. To reach targeted goal within targeted time, they often offer extra payment or rewards for the low wage workers. Women often try to get such opportunities- extra income-investing extra labor and extra hour. Due to working long hour without taking any rest, they often sick physically which compelled them to take long rest because of health problems. Corporations should consider that they should create friendly environment first to get much efficient performance from the workers. But most often the workers in the third world face destitute and adverse working environment. Realistically, economic globalization has the capabilities to open huge potentials and opportunities to the workforce in the developing nations including women. Globalization should be driven through the right way for uncovering those possibilities.

### **Women facing the impacts of socio-cultural globalization**

The discussion of women in the culture of newly globalized economic and production structure deserves both their working experiences in informal and formal sector. If we discuss only a small proportion of women working in export factories, it will not be enough to represent the entire female population best. Work in the informal sector i.e., in agriculture, housework, etc. should be taken under our discussion. Over the years this informal sector was not considered in the development policy. Females in the third world countries suffer from limited opportunities and possibilities in society under strictly patriarchal control. Patriarchy consider female are to do household chores and if they work outside their household that will be just an extension of their household duties. This ideology is "interwoven in the capitalist economy to justify women's subordination on the global assembly line, in the home and informal sector" (Ward 1990).

It is widely accepted that the informal sector indicates such economic activity that is neither taxed nor monitored by a government, and is not included in that government's Gross National Product (GNP), which is clearly opposed to a formal economy. Informal-sector work "provides the intermediate link between formal waged labor and unpaid house work in that it...is unprotected waged labor...[that enables]...the survival and maintenance of ...families" (Ward 1990). It is seen that employment opportunities are also stratified according to gender within the informal sector. Like the formal sector, males hold supervisory positions in the informal sector, while females are simply subcontracted workers. Usually women carry out



informal assembly work in their homes or factories as methods of survival. Working in the home of women are not often considered even if they work outside, involve themselves in other income generating activities, the male member does not allow them to control over the profits of their labor. Studies show that the housewives do not receive enough money from their husbands to pay for the basic necessities for their family's survival. These women cannot seek formal sector employment due to their family responsibilities which keeps them restricted within the household. As a survival strategy, many women in the third world countries often choose household jobs so that they can support, more or less, to their families basic necessities.

Presently, the empowerment approach is trying to be implemented throughout the world so that the women in the third world feel themselves 'empowered' and involve themselves in different socio-economic activities, which will encourage others and let them feel a sense of 'liberty'. Even though women may feel a sense of empowerment, it is widely seen that their wages are substantially low in comparison to their male counterparts. Often women are given a "taste" of independence that does not allow them to ascend to the same status positions as men. For example, male supervisors believe that garment assembly is just an extension of "female work" at home, causes supervisors to stigmatize all women as labours rather promote them to managers. This often happens, and they are confined to these positions because of gender roles and perceptions. Even, it is observed that, unemployed men refused to participate in household activity because they consider these jobs are disgusting and are only for women. If they involve themselves to do such job the wives will often tell themselves to do such again and again. Women, in confronting such situation, have to manage both the household or informal duties as well as formal sector for survival of their families.

Whatever the sector of employment women are working in, patriarchy allows them limited access to resources and authority over their work. Women, as we mentioned earlier, seek informal jobs because the financial contribution that their husbands are not sufficient to maintain the basic necessities of their family. In most of the poor settlements, adverse relationship develops among the couples due to husbands' low financial support in the family business. These men "simply reduce the amount of money they transfer to their wives so as to be able to maintain their preexisting level of alcohol and tobacco consumption" (Elson 1992). In such cases men's addiction to alcohol and tobacco leads them to resort to using the money allocated towards household expenses after they have spent the money set aside for personal expenses. (Bacchus 2005). This problem, for most of the women, is difficult to overcome, and leads to formidable consequences such as severe quarrelling, beating of wives and children etc. It is often seen that, male members often give priority of taking alcohol or tobacco to maintaining families. Then women are compelled to maintain a subordinate position in society as they have to depend on a man for adequate survival. The "number of women – headed households relying on insufficient and unstable remittances is reported to have grown" (Elson 1992). In many developing countries it is observed that family abandonment by males can be another reason for the advancement of poverty. The unequal gender wages and limited access to resources puts women in a disadvantaged position towards the survival of the families (Bacchus 2005).



As we mentioned earlier, the role of women in the private sector is not often counted because this sector is not 'visible' in the discussion of development analysis. It is said that "unpaid domestic tasks are private rather than social and because they are both unpaid and private, there is no social system of incentives, of rewards and penalties, to encourage change" (Elson 1992). The role and everyday experience of women surrounded by housework are solely depend on their husbands for financial support. Patriarchy, in the developing countries, does not let them think freely, and more generally, the women are accustomed to maintain this culture. They have very limited facilities allowed by their husbands; even they do not have access to the public sector that will enable them self-sufficient and to enter the market. This situation keeps them in a socio-culturally vulnerable position and throughout their lives they were not able to overcome this vulnerability.

Due to low status, most of the women who engage themselves to the formal sector, they usually involve in low paid jobs in the third world countries. Teenage girls are socialized to become passive and obedient in the classroom. Simultaneously, boys are encouraged to be leaders in the classroom and in class projects. If socialization compels them to learn such attitudes, what can be expected from the future female activities? After completing education, the male students usually prepare themselves and attend vocational or technical supports to prepare for industrial jobs, while female students do not feel themselves fully prepared to compete in the labor market or to get such types of sophisticated jobs. The society of the third world countries kept women in a subordinate position in society by the incorporation and the attitude is also responsible for women's vulnerability.

Most of the household in the developing countries do not encourage female students to pursue their studies properly. After the time of formal schooling the parents often engage themselves in doing different types of household activities i.e. cooking, sweeping, assisting family members, care for children and aged and other types of household chores. Male students usually pass this time in study or other co-curricular activities as studies mentions. In many cases, young females have no time to be spent freely, as a result, "their gradually increasing participation in these socially reproductive activities interferes with their... [performance] in school" (Ong 1987). They often fail to maintain or balance these 'double', even 'triple' role at a time and lose concentration in study or other school duties. Moreover, statistics shows that, in school performance, female children often occupy considerably award position in many institutions of developing countries.

### **Political globalization and the 'identity' of women**

As we mentioned earlier, women and children are the worstly affected by economic globalization process. This promotes gender inequality in many developing nations. To overcome this adversity, some village associations, community support groups in many developing countries in the world are playing active role. In India, the village *panchayat* play protective role in this context and try to promote gender equality in the



rural areas. The role of women in the informal sector in developing countries will not change in a day but the more they engaged in formal sector the more they feel themselves 'empowered'. Thus they will be more conscious about their socio-political position within their community. The working women in many LDCs become member of different associations, joining group meetings and forming support groups. These are the beginning steps in the right direction towards achieving more rights and political freedom.

With the formation of local and national association women in developing countries trying to reduce gender based inequalities and to achieve more rights and possibilities for women. Breaking the barriers of inequality they will enable them to establish rights with enormous possibilities. These groups of women working for their rights collectively are trying to create awareness about needs and rights of women throughout their national boundaries. These groups share almost same concepts about gender inequality, oppression, economic inequality, vulnerability, abuse, poverty, limited opportunities etc. Raising awareness, these female groups attempt to unite women in achieving their rights so that they can be able to reach their goal.

The first turning point of international movement of women is based on United Nations declaration 1975 as International Year for Women. The UN again declared, often considered as the second turning point of women movement, 1976-1985 as the International Decade for Women. After this, the national boundaries across the globe were trying to be organized to raise awareness and to achieve the socio-economic freedom. Three goals of feminism i.e., 'equality which was seen primarily as a feminist issue coming from Western industrialized countries), Peace ([which] was included at the request of the Eastern Socialist bloc), and Development which was perceived as key to the Third World countries of the South'. Feminism stands on these three pillars and tries to reduce all types of inequality and domination on women across the globe (Bunch and Carrillo 1990).

### **Conclusion**

Prior to these movements, the concept of 'development' was discussed from one side of the entire scenario. This one sided development analysis considered men as only active participants in development activities. This analysis did not consider women's participation and duties. They considered and analyzed development based on public sector which was mainly dominated by male. Women were considered as the passive recipients rather than active participants in the development process. Women were discussed as a physically 'weak' group in development activities in comparison to male and, hence, they should play subordinate role in patriarchal society. Later, the development analysis has given light on work both in formal and informal sectors simultaneously.

To ensure equality, women are performing through formal and informal jobs within national and international boundaries. Contemporary women's organizations are also much more active. NGOs, national and local or grassroot organizations are working to end the discrimination of women. It is evident that the unions, movements, NGOs of



local women working in export processing zones as well as middle-class activists from the country and transnational NGO movements, are formed when individual organizations work together with other organizations towards a common issue. They are working, targeting to reach the long term goal of feminism. This goal of feminism includes: the achievement of women's equality, dignity, and freedom of choice through women's power to control their own lives within and outside the home; and the removal of all forms of inequality and oppression through the creation of a more just social and economic order, nationally and internationally. The Clean Cloth Campaign, DAWN (Development Alternatives with Women for a New Era), Women for Women, Label Behind the Label are some of the famous organizations and NGOs working worldwide for establishing women's rights across the globe.

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## **Sexual Harassment (Eve-Teasing) in Bangladesh: An Analysis of Contemporary Situation**

**Md. Mohsin Reza**

Lecturer, Department of Social Work, Jagannath University, Dhaka

**Md. Rafiqul Islam**

Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, Jagannath University, Dhaka

**Abstract:** *The present article focuses one of the most spreading sexual harassments of Bangladesh popularly recognized as 'eve-teasing'. It describes the nature, extent, causes and consequences of eve-teasing. The study was based on a small sample came from victims of eve-teasing through in-depth interview. In addition secondary information have been used to describe and interpret the problem. The study finds out that eve-teasing is invariably committed by men on women in public places such as pavements, cinemas, college campuses, shopping malls etc. Eve-teasing leads the women to the victim of violence, insecurity, subordination and lower status as they have to stop going out of home and cut-off their study and have to marry at an early age. Sometime eve-teasing leads women to suicide. In spite of the small sample size to some extent limiting the generalization the present study attempts to gain insights into an especial type of the sexual harassment that has an intrinsic value in the society of Bangladesh.*

### **1. Introduction**

Eve-teasing\* is a growing social problem in Bangladesh where women become the victim of teasing by men. It is rampant throughout Bangladesh regardless of geographic entity, class, race and ethnicity, which becomes a social disease, is spreading quickly in our society and leaves a huge impact upon us. (Akther and Laiju, 1996; Mia, 2010). Victims of teasing not only get psychologically troubled, but also continuously feel insecure and insane to go outside their homes. They develop a sense of distrust and humiliation against men (Ahmed 2012: 20). In fact, eve-teasing is a weapon to weaken, hurt or force women to consign to domestic affairs. It evidently restricts women's mobility in the public sphere and contributes to their diminishing participation in outdoor activities also causes of early marriage which is unquestionably a threat to women's participation in the society. (Patima, 2000; Das et al. 2007). In Bangladesh nowadays the situations becomes quite severe and affecting our long social traditions and promoting anomic conditions. In the recent past, a numbers of girls have committed suicide only to save themselves from the social evil of eve-teasing namely college student *Rimi*, university student *Akhi* which shocked all the people of the country. That means, eve-teasing in Bangladesh has reached to its maximum range which is undoubtedly against the women rights. Feminist researcher Pratikha Baxi of India has stated, "Eve-teasing is a euphemistic expression

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\* Honourable High court of Bangladesh has declared 'Eve-Teasing' as a sexual harassment by man against woman. Different countries of the world use the term 'eve-teasing' to mean the fact. Here in this article we have used both eve-teasing as well as sexual harassment to mean the nature of the problem.



that lives in post-colonial India and refers largely to sexual harassment of women in public spaces, thereby constituting women as 'eves', temptresses who provoke men into states of sexual titillation. This popular perception of sexual harassment posits the phenomenon as a joke where women are both a tease and deserve to be teased." (Kabir, 2010).

The term 'eve-teasing' originates from India, and perhaps, India's scenario in this context is the worst (Akanda and Shamim, 1985; Jahan and Islam, 1994). Before Bangladesh society started being liberal eve-teasing was not that acute problem in Bangladesh till 1980s but when girls and women, especially at rural areas started going out of home for education and employment at a large scale since then, eve-teasing has started to pollute the social traditions of Bangladesh society (Ethirajan, 2010). Eve-teasing might seem harmless 'fun' to some, but gets the nerve of the victims. The severe impact of eve-teasing is taking away the lives of young girls which Bangladesh has witnessed recently. Eve-teasing placed in various ways to irritate a girl or catch her attention through whistle, a well-timed clap, an unwarranted bump, a seemingly causal touch, a lingering look at a vulnerable time, the humming of suggestive song, passing downright uncouth comments, cheap gestures, display of indecent snaps or videos, giving, unwelcome call or missed call, sending indecent texts etc., are the typical examples of eve-teasing (Chowdhury, 2003; Anne and Good, 2007).

This article aims to focus on the nature and extent of eve-teasing and more specifically deal with the causes and consequence of this social problem. It also deals with the existing national and international legal instruments to stop the eve-teasing and related violence against women. In Bangladesh, still there is a lack of studies in this field that limits readers to learn the real situation. The researches that we have paid considerable attention to various types of violence, sexual harassment, dowry, gender disparity against women, rather than ethnographic documentations of the eve-teasing. Therefore, this accomplishing research will help us to understand the contemporary situation of the eve-teasing in Bangladesh society which will help us to go into the deeper of the problem and to make viable solutions to wipe off this problem from our society.

## **2. Concept of eve-teasing**

'Eve-teasing' is normally meant as teasing a girl or woman that refers usually to public sexual harassment or street harassment to women by men. It is a very common term in India, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan (Mannan, 2003; Mobashwer, 2012). Eve-teasing is defined as a euphemism used in India and sometimes Pakistan and Bangladesh for public sexual harassment, street harassment or molestation of women by men, with eve being a reference to the biblical eve." On the other hand, Tharoor (2007: 454) considered it as a problem related to delinquency in youth is a form of sexual aggression that ranges in severity from sexually suggestive remarks, brushing in public places, catcalls, to outright groping. Sometimes it is referred to with a coy suggestion of innocent fun, making it appear innocuous with no resulting liability on the part of the perpetrator.' Some of the Indian feminists and voluntary organizations have suggested that eve-teasing refers to the temptress nature of eve, placing responsibility on the woman as a tease, as though the aggressive response of the males was normal rather than criminal (Gangoli



2007: 63-64). According to Dobash and Frank, eve-teasing is a difficult crime to prove, as perpetrators often devise ingenious ways to attack women, even though many feminist writers term it as "little rapes", and usually occur in public places, streets, and public transport (1998: 58).

### **3. Objectives of the study**

Nowadays eve-teasing has become one of the major social problems of Bangladesh which drawing a huge influences upon our socio-cultural conditions. The main objectives of the study are to investigate and analyze the nature, causes and consequences of eve-teasing in Bangladesh society. The objectives also includes finding out the national and international legal instruments for stopping eve-teasing in the Bangladesh society. In connection with the main purposes the specific objectives of the study are as follows:

- a. To identify the nature and causes of eve-teasing in Bangladesh*
- b. To find out the impacts or consequences of eve-teasing in the Bangladesh society*
- c. To analyze the existing national and international legal instrument to stop eve-teasing.*

### **4. Methodologies**

This study is based on both primary and secondary sources of information. Primary information has been collected from the observation and case studies and secondary information collected from the published materials and the evidences. The article used evidences from reporting on newspaper, magazine and souvenir papers from three different leading NGOs of Bangladesh as there is almost no scientific research paper on eve-teasing so the study widely has used primary sources. The study has conducted six intensive case interviews of the victims of eve-teasing. The case studies have been conducted in three professional categories such as student, service holders and others but all the informants were between 16-40 years of age. We have also interviewed a young man who is mostly found in the college gate and one of the perpetrators. All these interviews have been conducted in January to July 2011. For analyzing the causes and consequences, nature and extent of eve-teasing, the study would be considered as the very fewer one of these specific areas and certainly provide a new motion to the researchers.

### **5. Analysis and Major Findings**

#### **5.1 Perpetrators and the victims of the eve-teasing:**

The present research finds that the spectrums of eve-teasers are very wide starting from teenagers to middle-aged men, either illiterate or educated. Kabir (2010) describes in his book that according to the Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA), almost 90% of girls aged 10-18 are victims of public sexual harassment. On the other hand, while talking about the perpetrators of eve-teasing, he mentions that the perpetrators range from college students and unemployed youth to street vendors, rickshaw pullers, bus drivers, fellow passengers, colleagues and supervisors in other words, men, young and old, rich and poor (Kabir, 2010: 5). The victims are equally



diverse, from factory workers and domestic servants to students and highly qualified professional women. This wide range of the perpetrators and victims has made the harassment as one of the major social problem of the country.

## 5.2 Nature of eve-teasing in Bangladeshi society:

“Eve-teasing”, becomes a regular occurrence for the women and girls of Bangladesh. A recent study by the Bangladesh National Women Lawyers’ Association (BNWLA) shows that almost 90 percent of girls aged 10-18 have been undergone through the experiences of eve-teasing (BNWLA, 2008: 45). Another study conducted by Islam reveals that 32% of the eve-teasers are students, 35% are anti-social doers while 33% are middle-aged men (Islam and Nahar, 2011). So, the spectrums of eve teasers are very wide starting from teenagers to middle-aged men, either illiterate or educated.

Ministry of education, government of the peoples’ Republic of Bangladesh has declared 13 June, as eve-teasing protection day which reflects increasing concern over the issue. School and college gates or the street is mainly the target of the wayward of the young men to tease the girls and women. According to Kamal (2010), 14 girls and women have taken their own lives in 2009 across the country for eve-teasing. In addition, a father and a daughter also committed suicide jointly in an incident blamed to the authorities on eve-teasing. It is also evidence that a male teacher of a girl school publicly protested against the practice have been killed by stalkers. Apart from reported cases many women became victims of eve-teasing of different forms across the country which is mostly under reported as the majority of the victims of eve-teasing prefer to ignore this out of fear or not to be 'disgraced' or part of a social 'gossip'.

The case study of the research reveals that Ruma (pseudo name), a private firm worker aged 22 become the victim of eve-teasing by her colleague. She describes her story as follows: *“I used to sit in a room with three male co-workers. Almost every day Mr. Jamal (fictitious name) was giving me unwelcome call or missed call, indecent texts. Sometimes he made causal touch and a lingering look at a vulnerable time. Day after day he increased his teasing and finally it spread within all the office staff and most of my colleagues were fishing me. I tried my best to stop them. But I failed. They harassed me. Finally, I myself stopped to go to office and I lost my job.”*

Victims of eve-teasing is a frequent news in the national dailies that women have committed suicide to escape the horror of abuse, while some males lost their lives for standing up against the stalkers. Sometime father has committed suicide of being unable to bear his daughter being humiliated by the teasers. Here we are use two reports of a national daily news paper are as follows:

*Stalker jailed in Hobigonj, Sylhet: A mobile court in Hobigonj yesterday sentenced a teen to six months rigorous imprisonment (RI) with a fine of TK 500.00 for stalking a schoolgirl. The convict is Rubel, 18 of Kobilashpur village in Chunarughat Upazila. He stood on way of a girl student of class VI of Nalmukh Sabiha Chowdhury Girls High School yesterday while she was returning home. Locals caught him and handed him over the police. Later he was produced to the Mobile Court headed by Upozila Nirbahi*



*Officers (UNO) Md. Mojibur Rahman also an executive magistrate who heard the charges and passed the judgment. (Ahmed, 2012)*

*Youth Jailed for harassing college girl in Bogra: A mobile court here on Saturday morning sentenced a youth to one-year imprisonment for sexually harassing a female college student. The convict was as identified as Salim Reza, 20 son of Abdul Latif at Rahimabad village in shajahanpur upazila police said Reza used to tease a female student of government Azizul Haq College on her way to college. Reza was caught red-handed by student of the college at about 10.00 AM when the girl entering college. Later a mobile court led by executive Magistrate Abul Malek handed down the verdict. (Ahmed, 2012).*

Findings of our another case study reveals that Lipi (pseudo name) a college student young unmarried girl aged 19 years, became the victim of eve-teasing regularly while she was going and returning home after finishing her college. She narrated the event as follows:

*“Rabi (pseudo name) a local young man, who was teasing me for a long time, especially while I was returning home after finishing my college, the man stood on my college gate every day before I started for my home and follows my rickshaw to my home. He is a member of a local miscreant gang. The tout was trying to get my attention in many ways through whistle, clap, humming of suggestive song, passing comments and some cheap gestures. All of these severely irritated me and sometimes it made me insane and fainted. Some days he showed me to his friend and identified me as his wife. Once it shocked me too much and I was unable to bear the matter and I was planning for suicide.”*

Actually in Bangladesh, eve-teasing placed in various natures to irritate a girl or catch her attention through whistle, a well-timed clap, an unwarranted bump, a seemingly causal touch, a lingering look at a vulnerable time, the humming of suggestive song, passing downright uncouth comments, cheap gestures, display of indecent snaps or videos, giving, unwelcome call or missed call, sending indecent texts etc., all these are typical examples of eve-teasing. On the other hand, scholars reveal that these types of eve-teasing are happening as the positions of the women in the society are vulnerable.

Findings of our another case study shows that Sheuli (pseudo name) a young unmarried high school girl aged 16 years illustrates her vulnerable position as follows: *‘I was living in Komlapur area with my widow mother and studied in a local school at class nine. A young man of our locality follows me for last few months and tried to catch my attention in different techniques especially on the way to my school. One day he stops me and proposed to marry. I knew that bad guy and refused him boldly. After two days, he informed me and my mother that if I do not marry that guy he will rape me and burn with acid. Repeatedly he was threatening us but we could not go to police as he is a bad guy. After that, I stop to go out of home and spending time with horror. It was a terrible time for our family and then at a night we shift that locality and leave for other part of the city. It still scares me.’* The outcome of the case study clearly justify that the women are highly vulnerable in our society.



### 5.3 Major causes of eve-teasing:

Eve-teasing has spread quickly around the country. This accomplishing research finds some causes of eve-teasing which we did not corrupt and presented here as it is. According to M. A. Kabir, Psychologists and social scientists suggest eve-teasing to be a result of the frustration suffered by a majority of the youth. Usually disappointed by the unwelcoming attitude of teachers and indifferent parents, they yearn for an outlet to vent their aggression and depression. Moreover, those who do not inherit good family values, ethics and proper socialization involve in acts of such types of sexual harassment (Kabir 2010: 5).

Another case study shows that Sabina (pseudo name) a young unmarried university student aged 21, while talking about the causes of the eve-teasing, describes her experiences as follows; *'I think teasing to women are done by some evil men who are psychologically abnormal. Other causes could be the individual frustration and attitude to the women as sex object. He also mentions that eve-teasers do teasing out of fun and to show his interest to the liking women.'* In a male dominant society like Bangladeshi Society, (a) the concept of 'masculinity' is usually equated with patriarchy where eve-teasing could be viewed as a rite of passage for boys on their way to becoming men. (b) Gender segregation from the childhood and the domination of the male members in a family over the female members contribute much to reinforcing the patriarchal model of masculinity in the society. Another cause could be the (c) attitudinal problem where society stereotypes that being male signifies 'powerful', while the female is always a 'second sex' or weaker one. Some time it motivates or tempts boys to humiliate girls. Sometimes, (d) women are blamed for 'alluring' eve-teasers by their 'seductive' dresses or make-ups. However, the study reveals that the majority of the girls who become the prey of eve-teasers are from conservative in wearing dresses compared with their counterparts in dressing.

The study reveals that (e) segregation of the sexes stops boys from learning how to relate respectfully with girls. On the other hand, (f) taboos about sex education leave no space at home or in the school curriculum for young adolescents to understand and manage their growing sexuality. (g) Electronic media, especially some movies (both Hindi and Bengali) may be blamed for propagating eve-teasing. (h) Many movies depict scenes of teasing showing this behaviour as a way to win a woman's heart. (i) Eve-teasing behaviour for men indulged some fun. Finally, (j) due to the absence of a cohesive community response, legal actions, awareness and proper socialization, the perpetrators are repeatedly doing these evil jobs.

A case study reveals that *'Tipu (pseudo name) a 22 years old an unemployed young man, member of a political party who propose for affair to a college girl of his locality but she disagree and since then almost every day Tipu came to her college gate and try to catch her attention through passing comments and follows her on her way to home so that no one can propose her. Finally he plans to marry the girl by force'*



#### 5.4 Major consequences of eve-teasing:

Eve-teasing has a great negative influence over the family, society and of course over the country. The consequences and demerits of eve-teasing are very clear to us. Due to the victim of eve-teasing many girls committed suicide to save them from the teasers. This is not only frightening to our society but threatening as well for all of us. Many of the girls feel insecure to go the schools and sometime the parents do not allow the girls to go to school or even outside of home. This is one of the mentionable causes of high school dropout of female students in the rural areas. According to Weisfeld Adams, eve-teasing creates a repressive social environment, fosters a negative image of women in society, also devalue women and deny their rights. It is the worst form of trauma that many women have to suffer, a significant portion of whom belong to the lower echelons of society, amidst many other deprivations such as rights to property, education, health and recognition (Weisfeld-Adams, 2008: 2-6).

Another case study reveals that Ishita (pseudo name) a divorced young women aged 20, described her story as follows; Around five years ago I was a student of high school at Komlapur, Dhaka. *'A young man older than me of my locality propose me to affair and almost every day came to my school gate and follows in my way to home. Later the situation becomes worse and he threats me and my family to torture and gang rape. After that, I had to stop to go to school and within next two months, my parents let me marry with a vegetable seller. My husband used to take drug and bit me for dowry. Now I have two daughters and I have divorced that man and living with my parents. I am passing days with different diseases, insecurity and unknown future of my children.'*

The victim girl may lose her mental balance. In most cases, girls are letting married in an early age. Half of Bangladeshi girls are married before they reach 15 years old, and they usually bear their first child while they are still teenagers (Hawke 2001: 6). Adolescent girls face the risks of childbirth often without medical care and have a high incidence of maternal mortality. Mothers in aged 13 to 17 face a greater chance of dying in pregnancy than women aged 20 to 24 (Hawke 2001: 34). This underage marriage problem is also increasing due to the eve-teasing problem. The guardians married their daughters assuming, their daughter will be safe and fine with her husband (Rashid 2007:3).

E.W. Adams shows that educating girls yields a multiplicity of benefits, including later marriages; reduced fertility rates; decreased infant and maternal mortality; improved health and nutritional status; and greater participation of women in political and economic decisions (Weisfeld-Adams 2008: 3). In this case, if eve-teasing problem exists for a long time, Bangladesh will let down from worse to worst in terms of female education. On the other hand due to eve-teasing If the girls are getting married in an early age, they will probably having more babies, which will increase the population problem.

The study has identified some bigger impacts of eve-teasing in our society. These are as follows:

- a) Increases girls' drop-out rate from school



b) Girls who are teased or harassed are also pushed into early marriage, before they are physically or mentally prepared.

c) Eve-teasing contributes to maintaining the low status of women. It also hinders women to participate in the formal employment sector.

As half of the population of the country is women therefore the economic development of the country will be thwarted if they lose their participation in the economic activities out of the home. Considering the above, we should initiate effective measures to encounter this gender biased social menace.

### **5.5 National and international legal instruments to stop eve-teasing:**

There are several laws in relation to stop sexual harassment and women rights in Bangladesh such as the Prevention of Women and Children Repression Act 2000 (Amendment 2003), Sexual Harassment Guideline Act 2009, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Ordinance 1976. Government of Bangladesh is pursuing legal and protective measures for minimizing all sorts of violence against women (Ameen, 2005). According to Islam some of the legal measures are directly related to eve teasing and some are indirectly related to eve teasing but conducive for upholding the rights and privileges of women (Islam and Nahar, 2011). The legal measures are as follows; The Acid Crime Prevention Act 2002; The Acid Control Act 2002; The Legal Aid Providing Act 2000; The Suppression of Violence against Women and Children Act 2000; The Family Court Ordinance 1985; The Dowry Prohibition Act 1980; The Muslim Marriages and Divorces Registration Act 1974; The Dissolution of Muslim Marriage Act 1939; The Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act 1933; The Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929; Section 375 of the Penal Code 1860; The Code of Criminal Procedure 1898 are the mentionable.

According to the Article 76 of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police Ordinance 1976, 'anyone making verbal abuse to a woman anywhere in the street or at any public place, is punishable with imprisonment for a term which may extend to one year, or with fine which may extend to Tk. 2,000, or with both.' In 2003 amendment of the Act, a new provision has been added under Article 9 of the present law which says, if a woman is forced to commit suicide as a direct consequence of somebody's wilful dishonour/sexual harassment/assault, and then the guilty person will be liable to a maximum of ten years and a minimum of five years of imprisonment. Nowadays, government of Bangladesh has become much more concern and taking prompt steps in the spot to stop eve-teasing also all types of violence against women. Every day different national dailies produce news as like; *Mobile court has punished youth for stalking in Patuakhali. A mobile court in Dashmina Upazila yesterday sentenced a stalker to four months jailed and fine TK 5000.00 Ajmol Hossain executive magistrate also UNO of Dashmina Upozila delivered the judgement at around noon after hearing both parties* (Kabir, 2011). These types of legal steps are keeping the situations under control which need to expand to all over the country.

On the other hand, the remaining international instruments that work to stop eve-teasing are as follows:



*The Universal Declaration of Human Rights* (UN. org, 2012b): Article 22, everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realization, through national effort and international co-operation and in accordance with the organization and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

*The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW)*, defines what constitutes discrimination against women and sets up an agenda for national action to end such discrimination (UN-CEDOW, 2011): Article 1, refers “discrimination against women” shall mean any distinction, exclusion or restriction made on the basis of sex which has the effect or purpose of impairing or nullifying the recognition, enjoyment or exercise by women, irrespective of their marital status, on a basis of equality of men and women, of human rights and fundamental freedoms in the political, economic, social, cultural, civil or any other field.

Or/and Article 5, States elimination of prejudices and customary and all other practices which are based on the idea of the inferiority or the superiority of either of the sexes or on stereotyped roles for men and women; Article 16(b), The same right freely to choose a spouse and to enter into marriage only with their free and full consent. (UN. org, 2012a): Bangladesh as a member of UN and signatory of the CEDOW is bound to uphold all these agendas which definitely work for women safety and security at large.

Sharmin (pseudo name) aged 35, who is a victim of eve-teasing and protest the miscreants in a market place. She described her story as follows; *‘One day after office, I went to market to do some shopping. I see two young men are following me and passing cheap gestures. A moment later I was crossing through a market crowd and I watch that two men are beside me and trying to touch me. I escape from them but did not know where I need to go to punish the perpetrators and to get a legal support.’*

## **6. Conclusion**

Nowadays eve-teasing becomes one of the remarkable social problems of Bangladesh. To stop this spreading sexual harassment first of all we need to introduce ethics and value oriented education in our national curriculum. Until and unless we enrich our moral power within ourselves, no laws will be able to manage the problem. The new generations should be informing about gender equality through massive campaigns, by providing books, showing visual images or theatres.

We also need to take a massive awareness program in this context. Media, NGOs and other social organizations may play pivotal role in this respect. Besides, the government should also initiate special projects focusing school/college students with a view to increasing awareness about and against eve-teasing. Our society needs to change its patriarchal mindsets to ensure that in a family, children of both sexes should be given equal importance. The practice of equality in the family level can help to create a better gender balance society in future.

Police stations should open a cell to deal with eve-teasing and stalking. There should be easy contact numbers that should be put on the notice board of every school, college



and university under the police stations. In addition, any and all complaints should be duly addressed. Mobile Courts could be empowered to deal with eve-teasing, adequate authority must be given to these courts to punish the offenders.

Finally we must launch a social movement against eve-teasing in addition to introducing punitive legal measures. a) We need to reduce the gender segregation in the society so that children of both genders can know each other well. b) In a family, children of both sexes should be given equal emphasizing. c) The government should also initiate special projects focusing school/college students with a view to increasing awareness about and against eve-teasing. d) The male segment of the society need to change its patriarchal mindset.

To stop and change the scenario rapidly the women need to come up with strong wills and confidence and society needs to take different measures with social and political commitment for making an eve-teasing free environment for women. In this regard, followings are the major recommendations of the study:

- (i) Women need to stand up for themselves and speak up against eve-teasing or any wrong-doing;
- (ii) Women should have willingness to involve themselves with women rights movements so that they can achieve their demands and solve problems collectively.
- (iii) For developing gender sensitive environment, we need to update our books, our syllabus and our education system, so that younger generation learns about human rights without the barriers of men or women rights. We need progressive and scientific school education to bring gender equality.
- (iv) We need to focus to village women more and bring them along with others since village women are mostly less educated and live in darkness. We need to bring light to them via proper education and awareness.
- (v) A national consultative committee against eve-teasing may be set up to assess the situation and recommend appropriate measures to improve the condition of the women.
- (vi) We need to understand that women's rights are human rights, people who object to women rights are automatically objecting to human rights however, to achieve this goal, women must keep trying.
- (vii) Women's organization should act as a pressure group and demand that women's issues and problems are tackled on a priority basis, then administration is likely to take it up which will have a direct positive impact on the women.
- (viii) We need to undertake or promote research and study in this areas and need to disseminate the research findings through seminars, workshops, conferences, national conventions, publications and advocacy to uphold their current situation for improvement. And
- (ix) Finally, at present we need a collective effort, awareness and strong promise to create an eve-teasing free society.



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## **Disaster and Vulnerability of Women in Coastal Bangladesh**

*Mohammed Moniruzzaman Khan*

Assistant professor, Department of Sociology, Jagannath University, Dhaka

*Abu Hena Mostafa Kamal*

M.S.S Student, Department of Sociology, Jagannath University, Dhaka

*Abstract: Disaster disrupts and reshapes the role of gender in the society including the natural activities of women along with all the normal functions and sectors of the society. In disastrous situation women go outside to work and to collect foods and substances in support of family besides their traditional activities such as household management. By using the combination of both qualitative and quantitative method in Uttar Bethkashi union of Khulna district, a severely Aila affected area, the study demonstrates that women's activities in Aila affected area are regarded as amateur; the number of casualties is comparatively higher in women, children and the aged. The results of the empirical fieldwork also highlight that vulnerability of women in disastrous situation like Aila become more acute than normal situation. Moreover, politicization of disaster, traditional and patriarchal norms, values and cultural practices makes women as the worst sufferers of disaster.*

### **1. Introduction**

Climate change is one of the biggest challenges of our time across the world for the disaster prone countries due to global warming. Bangladesh is the most disaster prone and vulnerable nation and also prone to climate change. It is estimated that about 10 million citizens in Bangladesh are affected directly and indirectly by one or more natural hazards annually (GoB 2011). Disaster works like a magnifying glass; it magnifies the ugly face of marginalization that certain sections of the society are subjected to. At present it is quite a well known and recognized that 'real' disaster is often not only natural hazard itself but its after effect that increases the nature of vulnerability and helplessness of the poor, women, children, elderly and the disabled.

Disaster affects both male and female but statistics of the various previous disasters of Bangladesh shows that women, boys and girls are 14 times more likely than men to die during a disaster (Nasreen 1996; GoB 2011). In 1991, during the cyclone disasters in Bangladesh, of the 140,000 people who died, 90% were women (Shaw 2012).

It is evident from several studies that the socio-economic consequences of *Aila* are more exposed to create different types of vulnerability such as food crisis, drinking water crisis, diseases etc. Though Bangladesh has achieved a remarkable success in managing disaster risk reduction, unfortunately the social protection policy for women is not adequate to mitigate vulnerabilities (Nasreen 2008). Besides, it is also noticeable that very few studies have emphasized to focus on the dynamics and nature of vulnerability of disadvantaged women of the coastal communities. The present study thus has been designed to examine the nature of gender based vulnerability in the context of disaster particularly for *Aila*.



## **2. Theoretical Framework**

### **Theorizing Social Vulnerability:**

Social vulnerability theory describes the characteristics of the population that influence the capacity of the community to prepare for, respond to, and recover from hazards and disasters. The key exponents of social vulnerability interact with natural processes and the built environment to redistribute the risks and impacts of natural hazards and in this way creates the social burdens of hazards (Cutter et al. 2003). Social vulnerability helps to explain why some communities experience the hazard differently, even though they experience the same level of climatic disasters. Understanding the differential impacts of hazards as a product of the social vulnerability of a place, rather than exposure, is a critical element in formulating comprehensive mitigation plans (Morrow 2008). Unlike biophysical vulnerability or other exposure indicators, social vulnerability is present, independent of the hazard type or threat source. In other words, social vulnerability is a pre-existing condition or an inherent property of existing communities, irrespective of the natural hazard of interest.

Within the domain of social vulnerability theory, there is a rich tradition of social factors that increase or decrease the impact of specific natural hazard events on the local population. The experts of social vulnerability theory assert that socio-economic status influences the ability of individuals and communities to absorb the losses from hazards (Peacock et al. 2000; Masozera et al. 2007). In general, people living in poverty are more vulnerable than the wealthy to hazard impacts (Fothergill and Peek 2004). Poor people have less money to spend on preventative measures, emergency supplies, and recovery efforts. Although the monetary value of the economic and material losses of the wealthy may be greater, the losses sustained by the poor are far more devastating in relative terms. Poor people are more likely to live in substandard housing, which can be a major disadvantage when disasters occur (Long 2007), and during disasters, are less likely to have access to critical resources and lifelines, such as communications and transportation. Some research suggests that working class families tend to experience long-lasting impacts from disasters (Dash and Morrow 2007).

The confluence of race and class (socioeconomic status) has a long history of producing social inequalities (Füssell 2007). Many scholars refer that discrimination also plays a major role in increasing the vulnerability of racial and ethnic minorities (Fothergill et al. 1999; Bolin 2006). In particular, real estate discrimination may confine minorities to certain hazard-prone areas or hinder minorities in obtaining policies with more-reliable insurance companies (Peacock and Girard 1997). Ethnic communities are often geographically and economically isolated from jobs, services and institutions. Gender also affects social vulnerability (Enarson and Morrow 1998; Enarson et al. 2006; Enarson 2007).

Along with ethnic communities and minorities, women are more vulnerable than men are to disasters, mainly because women- especially single mothers- are more likely to live in poverty as well as because of their roles as mothers and caregivers. When disaster is about to strike, their ability to seek safety becomes restricted by their



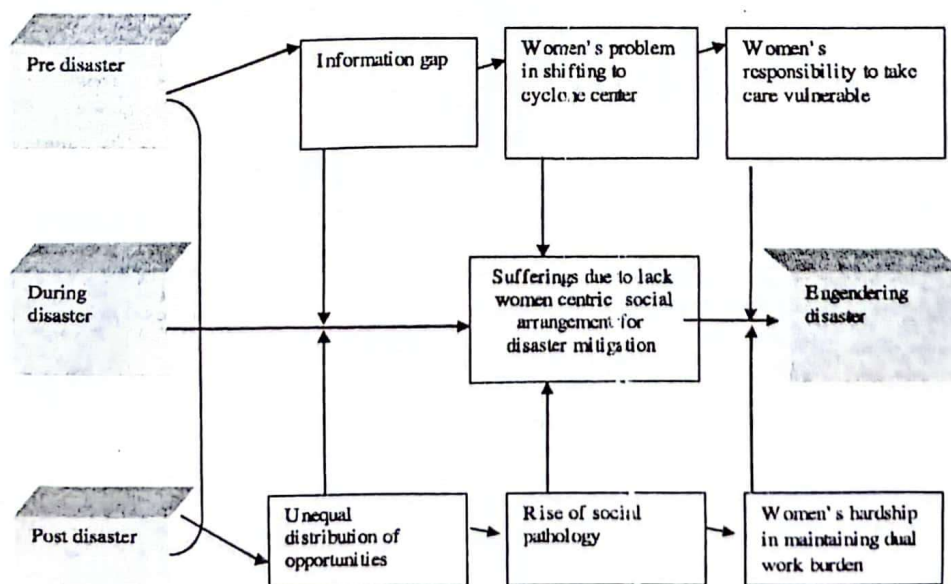
responsibilities to the very young and the very old, both of whom require help and supervision women. Women are more likely than men are to hold low status jobs in the service industry, which often disappear after a disaster strikes (Morrow 2008). Both the young and the elderly may be unable to respond to disasters without outside supports. Children who lack adequate family supports are at a major disadvantage for disaster response. Disruptions created by a disaster can have significant even psychological and physical impacts on children (Kar 2009).

### 3. Conceptual Framework

The Community Vulnerability Assessment (CVA) method was designed with the purpose to ‘help the givers of aid learn how to give it so that it supports the efforts of the people to achieve social and economic development’ but it has been used more widely in disaster preparedness and mitigation. It is practical tool but above all a diagnostic one (Anderson and Woodrow 1998). The basis of the CVA framework is simple matrix for viewing people’s vulnerabilities and capacities in three broad, interrelated areas: physical/material, social/organizational and motivational/attitudinal. Recently disaster scholars’ uses a new concept under CVA to ensure resilience that is ‘build back better’ to define the reconstruction and recovery activities.

However Clinton (2006) proposed ten key propositions of CVA which involves fairness and equity in recovery, preparedness for future disasters, empowerment of local government and greater devotion of the donor agencies to strengthen government recovery, effective recovery planning, building agency partnership and Good recovery must leave communities safer by reducing risks and building resilience. Here in this study we have used the basic propositions of CVA approach to measure the vulnerabilities of women in three different phases of disaster as follows in the following figure.

Figure 1: A schematic framework of engendering disaster in Aila affected area





#### **4. Methods and Materials**

Field survey for this study was conducted in four different villages namely Amtala, Giladanga, Moharajpur and Bethkhashi of Uttar Betkashi union at Koyra Upazila of Khulna district. The area of study was selected purposively since Uttar Betkashi was one of the most *Aila* affected union where affected people are still living on the road side tent or in the open air with continuous and known but unwanted fear of disaster. In order to get an insight about nature of vulnerability and gender aspects of disaster like *Aila*, the study has followed a triangulation method i.e., a combination of quantitative and qualitative research methods. In this study a semi-structured questionnaire was used for face to face interview, a tool of quantitative method to measure variables related to socio-economic condition for assessing gender dimension of disaster. The method of sampling for the foregoing research is not random rather selective based on purposes of the research. A total number of 111 respondents comprised of both women and men were selected purposively for face-to-face interview from the most disaster affected villages. Moreover a number of techniques and tools of qualitative methods were applied to collect qualitative data including case studies, Focus group Discussions (FGDs), informal interviews and brief conversations with community members and local elites. The fieldwork was conducted to document the prevailing disaster caused vulnerable condition of the coastal women. The collected data were analyzed through Statistical Program for Social Sciences (SPSS) software. Along with this, the qualitative data were analyzed manually. Survey method facilitated to gather data on disaster caused damages, respondents' experiences and the after effect of frequently occurred disasters. Qualitative approach enabled a deeper understanding of the women's socio-psychological and political experiences respondents which couldn't be quantified. But when started to conduct research we found that some of the respondents were hesitant and some were reluctant to provide information on certain issues such as sex, gender, income, gender discrimination, domestic violence, etc. The study followed longitudinal field work and case study methods. The researcher and research assistants were able to build rapport with community members which helped to gather in-depth information from the respondents. As this study did not include the whole coastal area of Bangladesh, it was not possible to generalize all gender related vulnerability in disastrous situation.

#### **5. Objectives and Hypotheses of the Study**

##### *5.1 Objective*

The broad objective of the study was to examine the nature of vulnerability of coastal women during disaster. The specific objectives include:

- I. To examine the nature of vulnerability of women in the context of educational attainment.
- II. To examine the impact of frequent disasters on women.
- III. To assess the nature women's vulnerability out of economic dependency of women.



5.2 *Hypotheses*: The hypotheses of the study were:

- The lower the rate of educational level, the higher the possibility to be vulnerable.
- The lower the rate of experiencing disaster the higher the rate of vulnerability in disaster management.
- The lower the level of economic self dependency the higher the level of disaster caused vulnerability for women.

## 6. Findings and discussion

Albeit Bangladesh is a disaster prone country, we had not have any preparation for the sudden but certain attack of the disasters such as *Aila*. After almost four years of *Aila* people of the affected regions are still leading a miserable and inhuman life from every aspect such as food scarcity, drinking water crisis, shelter crisis etc. They do not have any assurance of food, cloth, drinking water, medical services, and schools and so on. They do not know whether they will be able to go back to their previous places where water still roaring with great rage. The aids and supports from national and international agencies are quite inadequate and limited to meet up the demands of the thousand people of the affected area. Moreover, the aids too not properly distributed among the real needy people. According to the statement of the affected people that relief distribution are absolutely politicized.

The impact of a natural disaster on women has a direct correlation with the position women held prior to the event. It has been recorded that the older women, women with disabilities, pregnant and nursing women, and those with small children are often most at risk. During disaster, they are left behind or left out or the last to leave in cases of emergency because they lack knowledge, mobility and resources. There is a pattern of gender differentiation at all levels of the disaster process; exposure to risk, risk perception, preparedness, response, physical impact, psychological impact, recovery and reconstruction. The discrimination and inequalities are manifested between men and women in emergency communication; household decisions about use of relief assets; voluntary relief and recovery work; access to evacuation, shelter and relief goods; and employment in disaster planning, relief and recovery programs. Gender inequalities with respect to enjoyment of human rights, political and economic status, land ownership, housing conditions, exposure to violence, education and health, in particular reproductive and sexual health make women more vulnerable before, during and after disasters.

Under this vulnerable situation, women are playing vital role to reduce and make up the loss and to mitigate the vulnerability. They are providing support along with the male member of the family by collecting food and doing work outside besides traditional household activities and helping to mitigate the disaster related vulnerability. In this context, this study attempts to explore the nature of vulnerabilities and various problems of women causing due to disasters such as *Aila*. Due to the geo-socio-economic context of coastal zone, the recurrent climatic variability and natural disasters put coastal communities entirely at risk. The sufferings induced by disaster further get worsened due to some manmade activities.



### 6.1 Access to disaster warning and level of vulnerability of women

Information regarding disasters is disseminated among male when they meet in different places, but most of the time women remain out of information. As most of the people of coastal community do not have access to radio and TV, they get information regarding disasters from local sources. Enarson and Meyreles (2004) found very few families of Bangladesh have a personal Radio or TV set. In Bangladesh, women who are confined to the house or family plot have no access to radio, TV or otherwise to warning information. Patrick Gwimbi (2007) argues that the aim of any early warning systems is to provide warning to people of an impending natural hazard so that those vulnerable are aware of the potential impact of the natural processes in order to respond appropriately and minimize damage. But the result of this study shows that members of the coastal communities, especially women have very poor access to modern technologies to have early warning properly or timely. The study finds that the people of coastal community depends on to get information regarding disaster are T.V, radio, announcement on hand mike, flag display in the Upazila weather bureau, neighbor, relatives and mosque. The majority of the respondent (48.0%) said that they received the warning of disaster *Aila* from hand mike, 25.0% of the respondents received the warning of cyclone *Aila* from their husband where as only 9.0% got information radio and 7.0% of the respondent had access to T.V to get information about disaster like *Aila*. In reply of the question why did not shift yourself in the safe places 33.0% of the respondents noted that they had got the warning during the cyclone *Aila* and another 23.0% had received the information after cyclone *Aila* ; so they failed to take proper measures to reduce losses.

The study also finds that just for not receiving warning early the women became most vulnerable of disaster like *Aila*. Since generally women don't go outside due to socio-cultural and religious barriers they receive information of warning from their male members of the household. Asa Rani (38) an illiterate women said that there is lack of sincerity among the authorities to disseminate early warning. Moreover announcement is being made at village *hat/bazaar*. So we the women, who keeps at household, don't get those warnings timely. Asa Rani (38) opined to disseminate disaster warning should announce at least two days before so that they can take preparation to mitigate disaster related vulnerabilities. Women mainly concentrate on saving utensils, livestock etc after having the information about the upcoming disaster. The findings of the study indicate that about 56% female respondents take care of their livestock after receiving the warning about disaster; on the contrary, a significant number of the respondents (53.2%) don't care about shifting to safe places, like cyclone shelter center. From the findings and

*My husband is a fisherman and he stays at Sundarban six months of the year. My only son Poran and my old mother-in-law, age 65, stays with me. My son told me about the cyclone Aila just two hours before it had stroked, but I couldn't take any valuable goods with me to the cyclone center, because the situation was so horrible. I along with two of my other family members left the house without taking or thinking to take other valuable including livestock or other materials with me.*

Nilima Biswas, 45, House wife



discussion it can be argued that traditional laws and customs have excluded women from enjoying equal opportunity and freedom in the socio-cultural and economic sphere.

## 6.2 Women, insecurity and shelter center

Women face several problems and fall in a dilemma about leaving the household and shifting to cyclone center in case of disastrous situation. They can't manage or take the goods of basic needs with them mainly due to having information immediately before disaster or to some extent for not having information about disaster.

On the other hand they feel insecure about their properties at home. Because of the above mentioned reason and various socio cultural factors most of the respondents 53.2% of the study don't prefer to go to cyclone center. Moreover shelter centre does not ensure security and safety for the people of coastal community who shift them self in the shelter centre in disastrous situation

which have been reflected in the study. A majority of the respondents (55.9%) said that there exists mismanagement including accomm-odation problem, lack of security, food crisis, sanitation problem, etc. in the cyclone center and 20.6% respondents mentioned about security crisis for women. Enarson (1998) shows that women and girls are reportedly more exposed to sexual and domestic violence in disaster contexts. Women seeking shelter during cyclones are exposed to sexual harassment and assault.

Nasreen (1995, 1999, 2008) argues that many women and girls don't go to shelter centre due to lack of security. She also argues that biological problems during disaster becomes a great barriers for women; during their menstruation period they suffer a lot for want of proper sanitation facilities, they can't wash their menstruation rags and they are to stay in wet dresses because they can't make them dry. Moreover, in case of absence of the male counterpart they fail to take decision about shifting home for search of safe shelter. A respondent namely Rozi Parvin (25) said in an in-depth interview that her husband was not at home during cyclone *Aila*. So she became very worried after having the warning about the upcoming cyclone. She tried to manage the household materials and livestock. But when the cyclone turned into devastating form, she took shelter on the roof of her own house along with many of her neighbors, but didn't shift to cyclone center or any of her relatives house due to not having any male members at home. Besides she also didn't find it secured to go to cyclone center due to existing crises there. Rozi concluded that in case of having future disasters she will take preventive measures by her own effort to mitigate losses. The experience and statement of the Rozi Parvin correlates with the argument of social vulnerability theory that discrimination also plays a major role in increasing the vulnerability of racial and ethnic minorities (Fothergill et al. 1999; Bolin 2006).

*"During last cyclone 'Sidr' I took shelter at the cyclone center for two days. It is very difficult to stay so many people in a congested place; men and women are to stay in the same room and they are to use the same toilets. It is not possible to cook food to meet up food crisis. I had to suffer for want of pure drinking water. On the other hand a girl named Sumi (15) had to face sexual harassment. Cyclone center should provide gender based facilities to avoid these unwanted situations."*

Sahida Akhter (45), House wife



### 6.3 Politicization of disaster and vulnerability of women

Besides disaster caused damages, respondents face some forms of socio-political, cultural economical barriers to overcome damages and losses and those barriers includes social anarchy, unemplo-yment, domestic violence and sexual harassment, communication crisis, lack of employment opport-unities, crisis of food and drinking water, lack of medical care, rise of water born diseases, etc. Along with above mentioned barriers 38.4% respondents identified politicization of disaster which causes more vulnerability for women than their counter part male. According to the respondents politicization includes nepotism, mismanagement of relief goods and giving less in weight, provides working opportunity for the political clients, exchange of money to get relief, etc. In case of relief distribution 22.1% respondents identified nepotism as barriers that is providing relief to nearest or known ones who are not worthy of getting relief another 33.9% identified giving less relief in weight. On the other hand 59.5% female respondents said that they are to stand in a long queue to get relief where as, 61.8% female respondents said that they don't come to know about the information of relief distribution and enlisting processes. The women respondents opine that the authority does not make the news of relief distribution public. They don't announce the date, time and quantity of relief for each relief seeker to some extent they do announce in the market which is difficult for women to know since they stay at home. People those are entitled to enlist the name, they do enlist by being biased politically. The study finds that women are more victimized in the case of getting less relief. People those are in the management to manage the relief and aid and to distribute the relief such a local elected representative they do misbehave with women relief seeker since they can't raise voice like a male relief seeker.

*"There are few people who take benefit of natural disaster. Politicians capitalize natural disaster through corruption in relief distribution. Besides they prolong disastrous situation by not taking proper initiatives to repair damaged roads and embankments. On the other hand, businessperson earns extra money by selling daily necessary goods in high price. As communication system collapses in the disastrous situation, community members become bound to buy through expending extra cost." Parvez Hossain (55) a school teacher*

### 6.4 Dual work burden of women

In most cases women and children become victims in greater numbers as they are the most vulnerable and exposed to the worst hit by storms, cyclone, tidal surges, floods and riverbank erosions. The statistical evident from the 1991 and 1970 cyclones records revealed that disproportionately more women, children and elderly died (Mesika 2002).



Wiest (1998) argued that both men and women are concerned about family welfare and survival; however, if women are primarily responsible for water collection and household gardens, a disaster will increase their work load immensely. Natural disasters—particularly pollution of fresh water, flooding, loss of wetland and cyclone impact directly on women in their roles as providers of food, water and fuel. Results of this study show that respondents mainly suffer in a large scale for social anarchy (24%), food crisis (24%), pure drinking water (19%) and water logging (13%). As communication system collapses, it becomes difficult for anyone to go for search of necessary food and water. Moreover, male members of the household go outside for search of work; so the responsibility of household management shoulders heavily on women. Among the total number of respondents 73.7% female

*“My husband is a day labor who works at a bricks field at Manikgonj, of Dhaka. It becomes quite hard for me to maintain my household in absence of my husband. I also occasionally go outside to work as a day labor to maintain my family. I suffer much to collect pure drinking water; I am to go to the ‘Sarkar Bari’ PSF filter to have pure drinking water which is 2 kilometers away from my residence. I myself drive a manual boat to reach there. It is also difficult to collect food regularly for my family members. Since the cyclone Aila we usually take meal two times in a day and 2/3 days of each week we take dry food (e.g. chira, muri, etc.) once in a day. It has caused my two sons to fall in malnutrition.”* Saleha Begum (38), a housewife

respondents answered that they face immense trouble to manage the household with their own resources. Besides, they do not have any personal or family savings to mitigate these sorts of crisis. The study reveals that 88.4% respondents opined that the responsibilities of taking care of family members (children and elderly people) are vested on the shoulders of women. Collection of safe water causes great hassle for 82% female respondents since women are to even pass 2/3 kilometers to get the source of pure drinking water. Moreover, due to water logging it becomes difficult for women to collect vegetables from yardstick or outside simultaneously because of economical crisis coastal poor people also become unable to purchase food due to high cost. Taking care of livestock becomes a great problem in the disastrous situation and this responsibility also goes to female which has been reflected in the findings of the study (44.1%). In a disastrous situation, the women of the coastal community are burdened with dual work load since they do manage traditional household activities as well as other income generating activities. Steward (2003) argued that women’s financial dependence over men confines them inside the household and managing household is regarded as their ‘real work’ which has not reflected in this study rather in a disastrous situation women do take the responsibility of the family and go out to do income generating activities which in other word is dual burden on the shoulder of the women.



**Table 1: Percentage Distribution and the association of different variable in Aila Affected Area**

<b>Attachment with NGOs</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	88	79.3
No	23	20.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100</b>

(\*n=88 for NGO attachment)

<b>Attachment types</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>
Awareness building	45.6% ( 21)	100 (54)
Structural reconstruction	58.6% (27)	90.7 (49)
Primary Medicare	19.6 (9)	83.3 (45)
Education	15.2 (7)	64.8 (35)
Sheltering	8.7 (4)	59.2 (32)
Early warning	10.9 (5)	37 (20)
Emergency rescue	4.3 (2)	31.5 (17)
Others	4.3 (2)	11.1 (6)

<b>Sources of information</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Hand mike	53	48.0
Spouse	28	25.0
Radio	10	9.0
T.V	8	7.0
Mosques	4	4.0
Relatives	4	4.0
Neighbors	4	3.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>Political barriers</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	68	61.3
No	43	38.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100</b>

<b>Sufficiency of GOs relief/Aid</b>	<b>N</b>	<b>%</b>
Yes	28	25.2
No	83	74.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>100</b>

### 6.5 Migration of male and vulnerability of female

Due to poor socio-economic background of the respondents which has been reflected in the study, it becomes difficult for the poor coastal community people to mitigate vulnerabilities with their limited resource. In the post disaster situation the male members



of the household migrates to distant places to earn livelihood. Very few (2.7%) women migrate like their male counterpart. But the absence of husband or main earning member of the household creates a new crisis for women who stay at home to look after material goods or others at home. Most often it takes time to send money, to some extent can't send money to meet up household needs for those who migrate for work and sometimes migrated male members had got married which has been found among 16.2% of the respondent. Rokeya Khatun (29) is a worst *Aila* affected women of the study area who belongs to a hard core poor socio-economic family background. Her husband went to Khulna city in search of work after one month of the cyclone *Aila* had stroked. He managed a work of rickshaw pulling there within a short time. He used to send money at the beginning with which Rokeya Khatun (29) could manage her household. But after 4/5 months, suddenly Rokeya's husband stopped to send money. Under this circumstance, Rokeya maintained her family working as a maid servant at other's house. Later on she came to know that her husband has got another marriage there in Khulna. Rokeya hasn't yet got divorced, but she also doesn't get any help from her husband.

### 6.6 Education level and vulnerability of women

The study findings demonstrate that there is association between level of education and impacts of disaster in other words the level of severity of vulnerability. Respondents who have higher level of education having low impacts since they have more access to the information of disaster than respondents those have lower education. Level of education helps them to take preventive measures including collection of dry food and pure drinking water, ensuring safety of household material goods and shifting to cyclone or other safe shelter based on the intensity of disaster, etc. in disaster period. This study statistically proves the significant association between ( $X^2 = 20.48$ ,  $df= 6$ ,  $V= 0.14$ ,  $p< .001$ ) between respondent's level of knowledge and level of impact. So, it is clearly understandable from that the lower the rate of educational level, the higher the possibility to be vulnerable.

**Table 2: Chi-Squire and Cramer's V Value on respondent's educational status and level of impacts**

Level of Education	Level of impact (%)			Total
	Low	Moderate	High	
Illiterate	5.9	7.0	12.6	25.5
Primary (I-V)	5.86	7.5	11.0	24.0
Secondary (VI-X)	6.0	5.0	7.0	18.0
S.S.C	5.5	5.0	6.0	16.5
H.S.C	6.0	5.0	5.5	16.0
Total	29.26	29.5	42.1	100

$$X^2 = 20.48, df= 6, V=0.14, p= .001^{**}$$

### 6.7 Indigenous knowledge and disaster risk mitigation

It is argued that disaster may not be protected, but the level of risk and vulnerabilities



might be reduced by taking preventive measures based on nature of disaster, coping strategies or preventive measures are undertaken by the local people. Particularly women are thought to be the key player to reduce disaster caused damages; as women are considered to be good household manager. One and the most prominent way to gather knowledge about disaster is having practical experience. Majority of the respondents (45.0%) said that they had experienced disaster like *Aila* more than two times. Among those, 38.56% mentioned that they don't find it difficult to mitigate disaster related vulnerabilities. More precisely, previous experiences of disaster help them to take emergency decisions to safeguard of their life and material goods. On the contrary, 25% of the total respondents who have faced disaster once, among them 17.5% mentioned that they found it difficult to mitigate disaster risks and vulnerabilities. This study statistically proves the significant association between ( $X^2 = 0.814$ ,  $df=1$ ,  $V=0.031^{**}$ ,  $p < .005$ ) number of disaster faced by respondents and capability of risk mitigation. So, it can be concluded based on the discussion and statistical association that the lower the rate of experiencing disaster the higher the rate of vulnerability in disaster management.

**Table 3: Chi-Squire and Cramer's V Value on respondent's risk mitigation capacity and number of disaster experienced**

Disaster Faced	Capacity of risk mitigation (%)		
	Yes	No	Total
Once	17.5	7.5	25.0
Twice	14.0	16.0	30.0
Several Times	6.5	38.5	45.0
<b>Total</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>100</b>

$$X^2 = 0.814, df=1, V=0.031^{**}, p = .005^{**}$$

### 6.8 Women's economic independence and engendering vulnerability

In general, the question of economic independence is a key question for women to play role or to participate in decision making. And in case of disastrous situation women face more problems if they don't have any personal arrangement of money. During disaster when they can't go outside or in the post disaster situation when scarcity for food or pure drinking water emerges then these financial arrangement helps them to solve immediate crisis and to meet up personal and household demands. This study statistically proves that there is a significant association ( $X^2 = 3.63^*$ ,  $df= 3$ ,  $V=0.14^*$ ,  $p < .002$ ) between gender based economic liberty and problems in disaster management. Among male respondents 17% said that they feel problems in disaster management; whereas, 37% of female respondents said that they feel problems in disaster management. So it could be concluded that level of disaster caused vulnerability for women depends on level of economic self dependency.



**Table 4: Chi-Squire and Cramer's V Value on respondent's level of economic liberty and problems in disaster management**

		Problems in disaster management (%)		
		Yes	No	Total
Gender based economic liberty	Male	17.0	37.0	54.0
	Female	37.0	9.0	46.0
<b>Total</b>		<b>54.0</b>	<b>46.0</b>	<b>100</b>

$$\chi^2 = 3.63^*, df = 3, V = 0.14^*, p = .002^*$$

## 7. Policy and Recommendations

Local or indigenous knowledge is regarded to be most significant to cope with changed environment and to mitigate disaster related vulnerabilities. In this regard initiatives and programmes from governments should be taken extensively through out the year to train and make the people skill to manage disaster. The study founds that there are very limited initiatives have been taken to skill the people. Some programs does run immediately after and before disaster which is very limited compare to demand and needs of the coastal community people.

However, the training programmes organized by the governments most of the participants selected for are male and conducted by male trainer. Because of the patriarchal attitudes and religious and socio-cultural limitations women participants are very poor in number. Albeit women stay more close to nature and they can become the best manager to manage and face disaster related vulnerabilities and they become the worst sufferers in case of natural disasters (Enarson, 2000) the training programmes should be exclusively arranged for female. The study shows that women have very limited specialized skill or training and to some extent they do not have any skill to take preventive measures to face disaster related vulnerabilities. The findings demonstrate that majority of the respondents (74.8%) said programmes taken by government organizations are insufficient. But very recently, local and national NGOs like BRAC, JJS, Prodiapon, Susilon, Rupantor, UTTARAN, are taking extensive different skill development programmes particularly for women to make them trained about deeds in the disastrous situation and involvement of the coastal people (79.3%) are increasing with NGOs activities where as only 20.7% respondent have no attachment with NGOs. However, attitudes of the coastal community regarding the socio-cultural values are being changed and they realized that women's role as a good disaster manager since Sherry (1996) argued women's position is more close to nature and women physiology is more involved most of the time with species of life; it is woman's body that nurtures humanity's future.

## 8. Conclusion

This paper aimed at measuring the dimension of women's vulnerability and insecurity in the coastal communities due to natural disaster and manmade factors and mechanisms that are responsible along with natural causes for intensifying women's vulnerability. Considering the socio-demographic characteristic of the respondents it could be concluded that disaster disrupts the normal settings of their daily life and makes the



coastal people marginalized and causes great challenge for women to survive. The study demonstrates that women don't have proper access to the sources of information about disaster; most of the cases they get early warning very lately. So they fail to take proper measures to safeguard the household utensils, even their life. The study also signifies that respondents don't prefer to shift to the cyclone shelter center due to lack of proper security and accommodation and for traditional cultural practices. Besides these, the power practice of the local elites and politicians hinders the relief and reconstruction activities in the locality. Women face socio-cultural obstacles to collect reliefs or to go outside for collecting relief goods. Traditional gender role differences collapse in the disastrous situation and increasing the vulnerability which has been reflected in the study. But women are to play dual role and having responsibility on shoulders to maintain their household which increases women's mobility. Taking into consideration women's role in the disastrous situation it could be argued both from the Ecofeminism and Feminism perspectives that patriarchy's hierarchical, dualistic and oppressive mode of thinking is accelerating women's vulnerability in case of disastrous situation and gender sensitive initiatives are essential to take to ensure fruitful disaster governance. Finally based on the above findings it might be concluded that Support applied research to identify the short-term needs and long-term interests of women compared with men in disaster-prone areas and develop strategies to address them. It may also be recommended that encouraging the establishment of gender units or gender focal points in key disaster management institutions at the national and state levels is also necessary to eliminate gender based disaster caused vulnerability or discrepancies.

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## **Urban Forest as an Inevitable Option of Multifunctional Urban Greening in Dhaka City: The Stimulating Role of Mass Media**

*Mir Mosharef Hossain*

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Mass Communication and Journalism, Jagannath University, Dhaka

*Sarah Bashneen Shuchona*

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Architecture, Stamford University, Dhaka

***Abstract:** Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh, is now a “mega-city”. The green resources in Dhaka are overwhelmed by a number of limitation inherent to the exceptional mode of urban development, rapid increase of urban population, transformation of green and other open spaces into other types of land use, lack of proper planning and implementation as well. But there are ample opportunities to promote urban greening in Dhaka by protecting existing green areas such as parks, gardens, play grounds etc, increasing roadside, avenue plantation and rooftop gardening, which all are ingredients of urban forest. Urban forest benefits urban communities environmentally, aesthetically, recreationally and economically. Mass media, as a tool of environmental communication, have a crucial role in observing urban greening. Therefore, this paper will give a overview of media stimulation on UG and its effects with public consciousness as well as recommends for enhancing the overall urban green resource in Dhaka City.*

### **Introduction:**

Dhaka, the capital and the most populated city of Bangladesh, is now a member of the “mega-city” family of the world. Due to rapid and unplanned urbanization commercial development along with population pressure, the overall city environment is being worsened seriously day by day. But Dhaka City was once known for its serenity, beautiful parks, clean roads and lush greenery, and the places within the present Dhaka city boundary were forested, but at present those tree cover are almost transformed to urban habitats to accommodate excessive population due to high rate of rural–urban migration. In addition, industrialization in the urban fringe areas and transformation of different land use within the city as well as the surrounding urban fringes caused to the depletion of existing tree covers so rapidly during the last half century. The depletion process of green resources got impetus, as the government had no long term planning to keep city green except establishment of few parks and road side plantation under the city beautification programme. In some instances, government acted as the clearing agent of the greeneries. On the other hand, people in general are not properly aware of the importance of tree covers’ existence in and around their living premises. Moreover, the absence of plantation process of trees in the past sites is also another important reason to remain the diminishing state of the existing tree cover in the city. Now a day, very few green spots exist within city boundary as the reminiscence of past green glory (Islam 2002).



As the city is, however, in a stage of transition, struggling with the challenges of urban expansion, over population, poverty alleviation and improve the quality of life and environment, all these fact raise the question about the future planning and managing strategies for UPFG in Dhaka city within multiple and rapidly changing urban demands and particularly, what opportunities exist for the development of UPFG and what challenges should be overcome in future glimpsing the eyes of mass media for enhancing the overall urban green resource in and around Dhaka City. The media these days are just another big business managed not more differently than any other industry. The mainstream media is very global in its scope .Role of our mass media play in how we perceive and react to environmental problems around us is immense and can "dominate public thought and discourse".

### **Objectives:**

The objectives of the study are:

01. To provide a conceptual overview of UG and its benefits in social, economic and environmental contexts;
02. To describe the existing situation by identifying problems, opportunities or options and challenges of UG in Dhaka city
03. To enhance proper and effective communication strategies and analyze above mentioned issues neutrally on UG uppermost Urban Planning through mass media for growing consciousness between Government and mass people.

### **Concept of UPF:**

The concept of urban and peri-urban forestry and greening (UPF) is particularly a promising approach to urban green space planning and management. It focuses on what are perhaps the main elements of urban green structures: forests and other tree dominated vegetation in and around urban centers (Konijnendijk *et al.* 2004).

UPF acts in the interface between urban and rural, dealing with multiple functions of urban green resources (Knuth L., 2006), whose overall objective is not merely timber production or pure beautification, but a sustained production of environmental, social and economic benefits (Nilsson *et al.* 2001). UPF thus, is a strategic, integrative, interdisciplinary, and participatory approach (Konijnendijk *et al.* 2004). The concept of UPF builds on a history of more than 35 years and has its roots in North America and more recently in Europe (Konijnendijk *et al.* 2004), and, other parts of the world, such as Asia, have also shown interest.

Recently, UPF has found broad following across the world, but its potential for cities and towns in developing countries is unrealized (Konijnendijk *et al.*, 2004). Although FAO has been trying to promote UPF in developing world since 1990, lack of information and strategic, coordinated action has hampered implementation of UPF in the developing worlds (El Lakany 1999). Recently FAO has commissioned a series of studies on thematic issues relevant to the forest sector (Knuth, L. 2006) including urban and peri-



urban forestry and greening (UPFG) for West and Central Asia (FOWECA) to indicate emerging opportunities and challenges.

A lot of research has been already done on UPFG but most of them are related to in the case developed countries and some developing countries of the world. As the UPFG concept is still under scrutiny for adaptation to local conditions (Konijnendijk *et al.* 2004) thus development and promoting UPFG in third world developing countries, particularly in South Asian tropical countries is yet a big challenge. UG [Urban Greening] complements Urban Forestry attending to all aspects of urban horticulture and urban green space.

### **What is Urban Greening?**

As more people leave rural environments for the steel and concrete surroundings of cities, there is a growing recognition that they will need and want some form of vegetation present in their daily lives. Whether it is a shady city park for recreation, a tree border for noise reduction or a wetland area for flood control, the concept of urban greening is fast becoming a reality. The term evolved from Millers (1988) definition to mean an integrated, citywide approach to the planting, care and management of all vegetation in a city to secure multiple environmental and social benefits for urban dwellers. Urban greening means facilitating a sustainable relationship between urban dwellers and their environment. For the purposes of this paper, urban greening refers to any re vegetation effort including the planting of trees, shrubs, grass, or agricultural plots whose design is intended to improve the environmental quality, economic opportunity or aesthetic value associated with a city's landscape. Urban greening is seen as a strategy for simultaneously making our cities more enjoyable, livable and sustainable.

The issue of required open green spaces per capita in urban systems has remained controversial. In 20th century, experts in Germany, Japan and other countries proposed a standard of 40 square meters (m<sup>2</sup>) urban green space in high quality or 140 m<sup>2</sup> suburb forest area per capita for reaching a balance between carbon dioxide and oxygen, to meet the ecological balance of human well-being. Currently, developed countries have tended to adopt a general standard of green space of 20 m<sup>2</sup>park area per capita (Sukopp *et al.* 1995). International minimum standard suggested by World Health Organization (WHO) and adopted by the publications of United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) is a minimum availability of 9 m<sup>2</sup> green open space per city dweller (Kuchelmeister 1998). There is yet another yard stick, which refers to London but has relevance to any city. Abercrombie (1943) prepared a plan in 1943-1944 suggesting that 1.62 ha (four acres) open space per 1000 population was a reasonable figure to adopt for London. The plan also explains that all forms of open space need to be considered as a whole, and to be co-ordinate into a closely-linked park system, with parkways along existing and new roads forming the links between the larger parks.

### **Benefits of Urban Greening:**

Kendle and Rohde (1995) suggest: "For real benefits from nature to be realized in urban areas, the dichotomy of town and countryside must be broken down. Nature needs to become recognized as an integral part of the fabric of urban life and just as importantly.



human life needs to become reconciled as a part of nature." Urban green areas, like urban parks, vegetated areas, woodlands, even forest in most cities of the developed countries have traditionally been viewed principally as recreational amenities. In poorer and developing countries urban forestry must first pay attention on assisting in fulfilling basic necessities.

In many developing countries large parts of the urban population are still heavily dependent upon fuel wood for their domestic energy needs. Urban and peri-urban plantations and green areas can provide wood and non-wood forest products such as mushrooms, berries, (medicinal) herbs, rattan, and so forth. Focus in the western world has been on additional economic values such as green areas contributing to more attractive cities for people to work, live and relax. Studies in Denmark and Finland, for example, have shown the positive impact of nearby forests and green on house prices (Anthon and Thorsen, 2001). The beautification of Singapore and Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was one of the factors that attracted significant foreign investment that assisted those cities rapid economic growth (Braatz, 1993). In addition, rehabilitating lands with vegetation is often more attractive and cost-effective than constructing new buildings on them. The presence of larger trees in yards and as street trees can add from 3% to 15% to home values throughout neighborhoods. A study found 7% higher rental rates for commercial offices having high quality landscapes.

The UG can play a major role in improving urban environmental conditions and safeguarding biodiversity. Urban greening restores ecosystems that have been displaced or degraded by urban development and other human activities. The creation of healthy natural areas increases biodiversity while providing important habitat for urban wildlife. It also contributes to a city's stock of "green infrastructure," which includes trails, parks and corridor linkages. By participating in a community-based project, people learn first-hand about the natural world and the ecological processes that support it. Trees and other vegetation intercept particles and gaseous pollutants (McPherson *et al.* 1997). Moreover, they act as carbon sinks that help mitigate global warming. Important in both the developed and developing world is the role urban vegetation plays regarding water (Konijnendijk, *et al.*, 2004). Trees reduce storm water runoff and can assist with processing wastewater, for example, where other wastewater facilities are insufficient (El Lakany 1999). Many cities have established and conserved forests for protecting their drinking water resources (Konijnendijk 1999). Urban green protects soils and moderates harsh urban climates by cooling the air, reducing wind speeds, and by shading.

In arid regions, forest shelterbelts around cities help combat desertification and dust storms, as the examples of Burkina Faso (Kambou 1992). Metro nature - including trees, parks, gardens, and natural areas - enhance quality of life in cities and towns. The experience of nature improves human health and well-being in many ways. In many developing countries, trees often have cultural and spiritual values (Seeland, notdated; Konijnendijk *et al.* 2004) that could assist new urban dwellers in finding their place in cities and towns. Inactive lifestyles and resulting obesity is causing an epidemic of poor health in adults and children. Outdoor environments affect behaviors. Trees and other greening elements are one way to encourage physical activity. Besides, Green areas



provide recreational sites, especially for lower income residents who tend to frequent city parks more than wealthier citizens because of financial constraints and restrictions on leisure time. The urban poor generally have few affordable options for recreation, and thus place a high value on green areas. While not considered as important as filling basic needs such as food and shelter, the aesthetics of green areas can also be very meaningful to many urban residents. Vegetation reduces sun glare and reflection, complements architectural features and tones down the harshness of large expanses of concrete (IADB 1997).

Urban green can have a positive impact on physical and mental health, by providing settings for physical exercise and cultural and spiritual values. Parks and other green areas also provide educational opportunities for urban residents. For urban children, as well as adult students, the learning experiences available in urban parks may be some of the few opportunities they have to learn about nature through first-hand experience (IADB 1997). Finally, it can be said that the range of benefits that urban greening provides is both practical and comprehensive and addresses many of the social, environmental and economic problems most cities face.

### **Mass media as a tool of environmental communication:**

Mass media denotes a section of the media specifically designed to reach a large audience. The term was coined in the 1920s with the advent of nationwide radio networks, mass-circulation newspapers and magazines. However, some forms of mass media such as books and manuscripts had already been in use for centuries. Mass media includes Internet media (like blogs, message boards, podcasts, and video sharing, publishing) because individuals now have a means to exposure that is comparable in scale to that previously restricted to a select group of mass media producers. The communications audience has been viewed by some commentators as forming a mass society with special characteristics, notably atomization or lack of social connections, which render it especially susceptible to the influence of modern mass-media techniques such as advertising and propaganda. In many ways, the study of environmental media has become its own subfield. It focuses on the way in which the news, the Internet, Advertisement, Commercial Programmes and alternative media portray nature and environmental concerns, as well as the effects of such media programming on public attitudes. (Cox 2006, 7 –8). Mass media can be used for various purposes:

01. Advocacy, both for business and social concerns. This can include advertising, marketing, publicity relations, and political communication.
02. Entertainment, traditionally through performances of acting, music, and sports, along with light reading; since the late 20th century also through video and computer games.
03. Public service announcements: Environmental communication refers to the study and practice of how individuals, institutions, societies, and cultures craft, distribute, receive, understand, and use messages about the environment and human interactions with the environment. This includes a wide range of possible interactions, from interpersonal communication to virtual communities, participatory decision making, and environmental media coverage. Environmental communication as an academic field emerged from



interdisciplinary work involving communication, environmental studies, environmental science, risk analysis and management, sociology, and political ecology.

According to Robert Cox<sup>11</sup> the field of environmental communication is composed of seven major areas of study and practice:

1. Environmental rhetoric and discourse
2. Media and environmental journalism
3. Public participation in environmental decision making
4. Social marketing and Advocacy campaigns
5. Environmental collaboration and conflict resolution
6. Risk communication
7. Representations of Nature in popular culture and green marketing.

Environmental communication can enhance “environmental movement” (a term that sometimes includes the conservation and green movements) which advocate the sustainable management of resources, and the protection (and restoration, when necessary) of the natural environment include urban green, open spaces as well urban forests, water front through changes in public policy and individual behavior. In this paper we will focus on media and environmental journalism which will act as a stimulus for publishing and broadcasting the concept of multifunctional urban greening to mass people of Dhaka City.

### **Greeneries inside Dhaka**

In terms of UPG, the Matrix includes different types of urban forest location ranging from single street trees to forest area under the urban influences and the how different tree dominated structures are deal with in planning, management, research or any other activity. As shown, these activities are all part of an overall and integrated set of actions (Randrup, *etal.* 2005). Therefore, green resources can be defined as trees or tree stands within the legal boundaries of DCC with the purpose of providing amenities for the population; namely shelter, recreation, landscaping, beauty etc. and additionally, both public and privately own large green areas, woodlots, social or community forest areas in the peri-urban areas of DCC for recreation and mostly timber, fuel wood and other products purposes.

### **Mega city Dhaka and the problems of Multifunctional Urban Greening**

From the analysis of green resources and greenery activities in Dhaka city above, it can be easily explicable that the green resource is unorganized with different forms, pattern and performance. Like other cities in developing countries, Dhaka is encountering a litany of physical and institutional constraints to greening endeavors. Limitations also exit in planting efforts and management inputs. Though government is trying to balance different conflicts and to ensure the community's needs for green resources, unfortunately, such chances are mostly being slipped away. Some of the major problems associated with UPG are:

- a. Population and development pressure



- b. Transformation of land use
- c. Loss of key green resources
- d. Lack of proper planning and implementation
- e. Financial constrains
- f. Lack of public awareness, education and research.

### **Options for enhancing Multifunctional Urban Greening in Dhaka City**

Urban forestry is for the well being of urban people and urban environment where man is under mechanized life style and soil is under cement cover. For the reason, urban forest is different from the natural forest. Urban forests need multi-management approach. It thus necessitates appropriate planning before embarking upon an urban forestry programme. Nevertheless, the above mentioned problems, there are ample opportunities to promote UG in Dhaka city, to some extent by following western UG conceptual framework including the full complement of quality-of-life necessities, amenity space and ecological habitats for vegetation and wildlife. The time to start the putting of a hard brake on the unplanned growth of Dhaka was crossed long ago. The major opportunities for Urban Greening are presented below:

- a. Protection, maintenance and management of existing parks and other green areas
- b. Establishment new small parks play grounds, garden in expanding areas of the city
- c. Encourage rooftop gardening activities
- d. Strengthen city beautification programme and increase avenue plantation
- e. Strip plantation and afforestation in different land uses of the outside of DCC
- f. Promote nursery
- g. Peri-urban areas have an opportunity for agro-forestry/Social forestry connecting communities, neighborhoods and nature

Well-planned and well-managed green areas are essential for environmental and high quality of life for Dhaka city dwellers. What is very important now is starting immediate actions for transforming Dhaka as green a city whatever reformatory or new activities that may be possible. The local needs have to be determined in the planting phase. A management plan should be developed by involving all the concerned agencies and owners of the lands. It has to be designed in such a way that it could serve to sustain physiological health for human perception as well as to maintain wholesome environment. The primary objective of urban forest management is to maintain the health and vigor of the vegetation without undue interference of the city dwellers. Apart from others, urban forest management has three major needs. These are tree planting, tree maintenance and removal.

### **Responsibilities of Mass Media in Urban Greening**

In many cases, sometimes, mass people are getting puzzled. Public, who suffer from any unplanned, invalid and anti-environmental project or watch/go through the news items of



Television Channels or Newspapers, can be able to perceive the reality. In favor of media coverage, audiences become conscious on their own. Therefore, media should be careful of setting agenda. To some planners and decisions makers, the growth of the planet in a sustainable way rest as much on journalists' soldiers as it does on those of national leaders. They consider journalists not only 'public educators' but also 'social engineers' who can effectively help to transform the values and the ethics of society towards sustainable development (Freidman & Freidman 1989). Sustainable Development includes Planned Urban Development also. Sustainable Development involves not only environmental issue but also financial, political and social considerations, adds to the complexity. Media coverage of sustainable development issues is not only a question of creating a forum for political debate, but it is also a question of providing and managing the kind of information which will enable citizens to make decisions about 'appropriate' behavior and precautions (Hansen 1995).

In developing countries, journalists also struggle with government censorship, high-level private interference (advertising and/or ownership), lack of space, editorial bias, lack of training in journalism, lack of expertise in sustainable development's triple bottom line agenda (economic, social and environmental issues), and the difficulty in locating reliable sources (Friedman & Friedman 1989). Although some of these constraints are also found in developed countries, in almost every instance, they are more severe in developing countries. In Bangladesh perspective, it has been demonstrated that most of real estate companies patronize mass media. Besides those factors, mass media is playing more other roles. News media provide immense information with different viewpoint through publishing and telecasting investigative and interpretative reports on unplanned urban and architectural development. With these limitations and boundary, media must promote planned urban greening, management issues by poking concerned authority. Meanwhile, Mass Media have promoted the idea of tree plantation through one of the popular slogans 'Gach lagan, poribesh banchan' (plant trees, save the environment) to aware all of us. In addition, mass media (television, radio channel both public and private) spread information on tree plantation through infotainment (information through entertainment) in courtesy of related governmental program and activities.

1. Mass Media can expand news and views on UG and eco-friendly project so that government, public and concerned authorities make more positive concentrations on UG.
2. For the interest of planned urban development and urban greening, mass media should publish or telecast their advertisement, after having investigated on their planning activities. Mass Media should cover more news and views on filling lake, capturing playground, deforestation and action strategies of concerned authorities from critical and analytical point of view.
3. Television Channels can telecast programmes on rooftop gardening, strip plantation, peri-urban and agro based forestry from aesthetical-sociological-economical point of view in prime time such way that those programmes can be accepted by audiences.



4. Newspapers can publish a specialized feature page on those different plantations also. Mass Media should change their internal policy on selecting companies in sponsoring scheduled programmes.
5. Newspapers should arrange round table meeting and opinion exchanging programmes on urban planning and greening with urban planners, government authority and Real Estate Companies.
6. Mass Media should be able to influence government authority and non-governmental housing companies in becoming pro-environmental through advocacy.
7. Mass Media (newspapers, televisions, radio, internet based media also) can encourage agro-forestry and nursery marketing by publishing, telecasting, broadcasting and showing their various programmes sponsored by Nursery Farms in lieu of Developer Companies.
8. Media researchers can survey KAP Study on city dwellers about urban planning and greening city.
9. Awareness Campaign for National Greenery and Urban Greenery include the development of public participation greening campaigns such as national greening campaigns in Greenery Month, Urban Greening Month, etc. as well as promoting the establishment of a private sector forest, greening activities funded through charity collections, and urban greening funds.
10. Creating website (ex: [www.citytree.net](http://www.citytree.net)) which can provide a growing group of contributors with a guiding vision. The online activity may link with green projects such as community gardens and planting trees and can offer workshops on city green, cool environment and other topics, organize social events where people connect and exchange ideas, and participate in local fairs and exhibitions.

Three pillars upon which any sustainable urban greening development communication strategy targeting at media professionals should be built: information, training and networking.

- First pillar concerns with the need to provide new, clear, adequate and above all reliable information on UG issues to the urban people as well as Govt organization.
- Second pillar concerns raising the professional capacity of community people by providing information and enhancing awareness.
- Third pillar is strengthening contacts and communication among mass people, Govt organizations and NGOs, researcher of different fields concerning urban greening, environmental journalists from different regions.

"Fundamental changes are needed in our values, institutions, and ways of living" and mass media can prioritize those in enhancing urban greening in and around Dhaka City.

## **Conclusion**

The growing urban populations in and around Dhaka, of whom majority are living below the poverty level, have an imperative need for the basic necessities of a reasonable



quality of life, adequate food, shelter, potable water and jobs. A good portion of these needs can be provided through UG. The need to understand the links between the mass media and sustainable developments indeed a very important one and has been widely acknowledged. Additionally, green areas provide citizens and visitors like opportunities for recreation and education. It may hope that Dhaka will be a green city where the rush to build does not stop the civilized and healthy need for trees and vegetation at every available nook and corner of the city, where buildings could be seen as pavilions in a garden. A well-planned participatory UG program can thus secure a healthy sustainable future for the urban populations of Dhaka as well as other cities in Bangladesh. Both mass media and interpersonal communication appear as stimulus to make a positive contribution to understanding in this regard.

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## **Juveniles in Development Center: A case study on some selected prison inmates in Bangladesh**

***Sabina Shormin***

Assistant Professor, Dept. of Sociology Jagannath university, Dhaka.

***Nazmul Islam***

Lecturer, Dept. of Sociology, North Western University, Khulna.

***Abstract:*** *Due to rapid globalization, free flow of information technology, and change in the social attitude, the number of juvenile involved in anti-social activities appears to be increased to a great extent and the problem has becoming more acute day by day. Besides, Poverty, absence in proper education, lack of family bondage,, easy availability of drugs and arms, unemployment, peer pressure etc. are also the major causes which usually help to engage a child in criminal activities. To face this critical problem several initiatives have been undertaken by the Government of Bangladesh since its early years of independent. Establishing The Juvenile Development Centers are one of them; whichw take the responsibility of caring, protecting, providing food, housing, clothing, Medicare, education, vocational training and counseling to the committed children. These are supposed to done as per the provisions of the Children Act, 1974, the Children Rules 1976, the National Children Policy and in accordance with the provisions of the UNCRC. But Bangladesh is lagging behind in implementing international juvenile justice standards. More over the existing facilities for the development of the juvenile offenders are not adequately utilized. This essay is an endeavor to focus the important issues relating to the nature and causes of juvenile delinquency as well as the condition of the Development centers where the child supposed to be corrected.*

### **Introduction**

Juvenile Delinquency is one of the serious concerning matters for any human society. Like other countries, Bangladesh has also been facing the challenges of juvenile delinquency. Aftermath of any war, economic depression, or any catastrophic situation jeopardize social fabric and existing social structure having severe impact on family and children. Such impact often leads children to come into contact with criminal activities (Karzon 2008). Though in Bangladesh, a large number of children are at risk of coming into contact with criminal activities, there is hardly any reliable data in this regard to reveal the real scenario. But it is estimated that the police arrest an average of 4000 juveniles every year. Children living on the streets, in squat or in low-income settlements may get involved with activities ranging from petty theft to carrying firearms. Adult criminals and organized crime syndicates also use children to carry out such acts (The Daily Star 2009). The number of juvenile delinquents is increasing in Bangladesh, and the rate is much alarming in Dhaka city. Numerous social factors coupled with poor parenting, family troubles and above all poverty are pushing these children to undesirable



activities. A large number of children, both male and female, in conflict with the laws, are the victims of socio-economic condition and denial of legitimate rights for education, health care, shelter and protection. Thousands of disadvantaged children in Bangladesh, mostly runaways and single-parent children, have turned into outlaws (Ferdousi 2012). In 2011, there were 462 juvenile delinquents detained only in Dhaka Metropolitan Area (Bangladesh Retired Police Welfare Association 2012). These delinquents are most often involved in theft, robbery, hijacking and extortion and even killing. The juvenile justice system in Bangladesh has its root in the laws enacted by the British rulers. Since then Bangladesh has experienced different acts for separate trial for children and adults in different times. And, finally, The Children Act, 1974 consolidated all the previous laws and it should be read together with The Children Rules, 1976. Very recently Government of Bangladesh (GoB) has enacted the Children Acts, 2013 (New Age 2010) which determined the age of child to be under 18 and it is consistent with the Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC). The Children Act 1974 lays down both procedural and substantive objects of the juvenile justice system in Bangladesh (Rahman 2003).

To address the juvenile justice, three institutions are involved in this regard; the police, the court and the jail or correctional centre. There are three development centers or correctional centers in Bangladesh for rectification and rehabilitation of juveniles. Two (one is in Tongi, and other in Jessore) for male child, and one (it is in Konabari) for female child. Two categories of children are kept there, first category constitutes of uncontrollable children and referred by parents, and second category comes to the correction centers after committing offences and referred by courts. In this backdrop, the present paper attempts to reveal the realities of the correctional centre as well as to give some information about the present juveniles who are detained in correction centre.

### **Objectives of the Study**

The broad objective of this study is to explore present conditions of the correctional/development centers as well as to find out the contributing factors that lead the juvenile to commit crime. Besides this, an endeavor has been taken to explore the nature of crimes to which juveniles are much involved.

### **Methodology**

The study is based on empirical data which have been collected in 2012 through semi-structured interview schedule as a part of survey method. A sample of 50 respondents out of 287, have been purposively selected from the two Development centers, such as National Juvenile Development Center, Tongi, Gazipur (for boys) and National Juvenile Development Center, Konabari, Gazipur (for girls). On the basis of the purpose of the present study, necessary statistical tools have been used in analyzing the data.

### **Conceptual description of the term Juvenile Delinquency**

Juvenile delinquency is a multi-disciplinary field of inquiry. The current study looks at deviant behavior from *social pathological* as well as *legal perspectives*; as deviant behavior is recognized as a social problem and at the same time, also a legal phenomenon. As a *social phenomenon*, deviant behavior refers to the failure of children



and youth to meet certain obligations expected of them by the society in which they live (Caven & Ferdinand 1975). On the other hand according to the *social pathology point of view*, like other social problems, juvenile delinquency results from some "sickness" in society. Just as the human body becomes sick when our body systems, its organs, and cells do not function properly; society becomes "sick" when its elements of structure and culture no longer perform properly (Rimke, H. & Hunt, A. 2002). So the problem of juvenile delinquency is attributed to the weakness of the social control agencies. For example, to the breakdown of the family institution, the decline of the religious institution and inner problems of our economic, educational, and political institutions contribute a lot to create the problem like juvenile delinquency, which meant According to *United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice ("The Beijing Rules 1995")*, "A juvenile is a child or young person who, under the respective legal systems, may be dealt with for an offence in a manner which is different from an adult". In Bangladesh, criminal responsibility of a child is the age limit between 9-18 years. So, according to *legal perspective*, Juvenile Delinquency is the behavior committed by a minor child that violets a state panel code (Regoli & Hewitt 2000). In this study the term 'Juvenile Delinquency' has been used to refer to juveniles' such behavior that violates the panel code of Bangladesh and as a product of social disorganization.

### Literature Review

A number of studies on juvenile delinquencies have already been done. In this section some mentionable researches have been discussed very briefly.

In 1965, *Afsaruddin* conducted a study on juvenile delinquency in East Pakistan. His study provided a sociological insight as he discusses juvenile delinquency as a social problem. He has focused that family condition; family control and relationship do have a great influence on children's coming into the contact of criminal behavior. *Sarker (2001)* has made an in-depth inquiry into the socio-economic factors associated with juvenile delinquent offence in the city of Dhaka. He has discussed with the different types of offences like stealing, pick-pocketing, hijacking etc. with that juveniles of Dhaka city are involved. He has analyzed the growth process of juveniles becoming a delinquent. *Ahmed and Paul (2011)* have identified industrialization and urbanization as the causes of Bangladesh experiencing the problems of weak Juvenile Justice System. They discussed with the confusing definition of Childs, Adolescents and Juveniles. In another study *Ahmed and Khan (2011)* recommended that Therapeutic Jurisprudence may be an effective alternative to ensure the rights of juveniles at the time of the administration of juvenile justice. *Hoque and Salam (2008)* tend to explore the socio-economic and demographic background of the inmates like their education status, own occupation, parents occupation, family circumstances, living conditions, family income, past activities etc. They have also made an analysis on different sort of criminal behavior in which children are involved. *Ferdousi (2011)* in her writing asserts that most of the children become delinquents due to the socio-economic circumstances in Bangladesh, not by their choice. She claims that they have become victims of various socio-economic circumstances like poverty, lack of guidance, extensive use of satellite channels, misuse of internet and peer pressure etc. Consequently, present social structure destroying



juvenile's childhood resulting in denial of their rights, for example: family life, education, health, games, care and protection. Here, she also discusses with juveniles' involvement in different types of offences such as theft, hijacking, carrying illegal arms and drugs, and killing, trafficking, smuggling and fraudulent activities. *Chowdhury et. al. (2012)* in their study reveal that no particular reason is responsible for juveniles' delinquency- a variety of reasons are responsible for this. Lack of proper family control, conflict in family, situation of residential area, impact of movies etc. are equally responsible for the juvenile delinquency. A number of juveniles are incapable to maintain their basic needs and to get proper recreation from their family. Consequently, they are involving in many anti-social activities to fulfill their basic needs and recreation through earning money. *Ara and Mahjabeen (2010)* have explored four issues of moral deviation- eve teasing, drug and substance abuse and access to pornography in their study.

### **Theoretical propositions**

Study of juvenile delinquency is concerned with a number of diverse issues: the nature and extent of the criminal behavior of the juvenile; the causes of juvenile offences; the legal provision to deal with the problems; the prevention and treatment techniques. So a multidisciplinary explanation has been developed over the years. Among many theories, it is only a few that provide rational or logical explanations or reasoning for this problem in young children. The present study has been discussed on the basis of Differential Association Theory and some conceptual model of correction.

#### ***Differential Association Theory***

Differential Association theory, developed by Edwin Sutherland in 1947 posits that criminal behavior is learnt within the interaction process with peer groups (Piquero et. al. 2003). Differential association represents groups which make a consensus on definitions favorable to deviance (norm violations) and form a subculture deviant of social norms. And in deviating from the social norms, the individuals who get involved in these groups turn into crime (Sutherland & Cressey 1960: 132) since as for this theory, criminality is learned through social interaction with others, as well as through impersonal communication. The largest group of delinquents is peer-oriented and directed in their goals and behavior. According to this theory, the environment plays a major role in deciding which norms people learn to violate. Specifically, people within a particular *reference group* provide norms of conformity and deviance, and thus heavily influence the way other people look at the world, including how they react. People also learn their norms from various socializing agents—parents, teachers, ministers, family, friends, co-workers, and the media. In short, people learn criminal behavior, like other behaviors, from their interactions with others, especially in intimate groups.

#### ***Conceptual Model***

Various conceptual models have influenced the development of juvenile institutions of them some are deeply rooted in the past, while others represent major directions for future to a certain extent (Regoli & Hewitt 2000).



**The Discipline-Oriented Model:** This model emphasis on institutional rules and regulation. The main concern is to maintain the integrity of the institution by preventing escapes, disorders, insubordination and violation of rules. Order is maintained through regimentation and a punishment-reward system, with particular emphasis on punishment.

**The Public School Model:** In this model, the formal educational experience of the free community is simulated for confined offenders. Much of the curriculum, philosophy and technology of the public school are transposed to the institution.

**The Individual Treatment Model:** This model facilitates individual to change or “personal growth.”It is tied to the relationship between the offender as client and the therapist, who is preferably a highly trained professional. Ideally the therapist has frequent and probing interviews with the youth, helping the delinquent gain greater objectivity about himself or herself and other people.

**The community-Oriented Model:** The essence of the model is the recognition that individuals are products of their social environment. This model emphasis that, if rehabilitation is to occur, not only must the offender be changed but also the various social agencies as family, schools, peer groups, police etc. must be changed.

**The Therapeutic Community Model:** This model stresses full and sincere communication between staff and offenders and takes an objective approach to decision making in the institution. Both workers and juveniles are encouraged to proceed and to recognize each other as “people” rather than as stereotyped roles. As this study suggested this model to correct the deviant behavior of the juvenile, the detail of this model is an unavoidably.

The *therapeutic community* model is a comprehensive and sophisticated approach to the management of coercive institutions. It reduces the social distance between various functions of the institutions and fosters a co-operative atmosphere. Because, “Therapeutic Jurisprudence” is very much connected with emotional and psychological periphery of human being, which professes to humanize, law and consider it as one of the healing arts” (Prtricia 2006). The basic assumption of this model is that in an open, collaborative setting juveniles will gain in self-control and judgment and thus will be better able to behave in non-delinquent ways. In addition they will be able to participate more fully in society (Regoli & Hewitt 2000).

## **Findings of the Study**

The findings of the study describing the nature and causes of delinquent behavior, conditions of the development centers as well as the contribution of the correctional centers are discussed categorically in four sections; in terms of Socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the offenders, nature and causes of deviant behavior, present status of development centers and finally the contribution of the development centers as opioned by the respondents.

### **1. Socio-Economic and Demographic Profile of the Respondent**



Socio-economic and demographic characteristics are very important to assess the homogeneity of the respondents as well as to go into the problem deeply. In this section an attempt has been taken to analyze the number of respondents by gender, age, level of education, occupational pattern, and monthly income. Table 1.1 illustrates the socio-economic and demographic characteristics of the respondents.

**Table- 1.1: Socio-Economic and Demographic Profile of the Respondent (N=50)**

<b>Socio-Demographic Characteristics</b>	<b>Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
<b>Sex</b>		
Male	40	80
Female	10	20
Total	50	100
<b>Age</b>		
7-10	3	6
11-14	30	60
15-18	17	34
Total	50	100
<b>Occupation</b>		
Student	28	56
Worker	13	26
Unemployed	9	18
Total	50	100
<b>Educational Qualification</b>		
Illiterate	17	34
Primary	19	38
Secondary	12	24
Higher Secondary	2	4
Total	50	100
<b>Father's Occupation</b>		
Service	16	32
Business	18	36
Labour	11	22
Farmer	5	10
Total	50	100
<b>Mother's Occupation</b>		
Housewife	42	84
Service	2	4
Maid Servant	6	12
Total	50	100



<b>Families' Monthly Income</b>		
1000-3000 TK	8	16
4000-6000 TK	15	30
7000-9000 TK	10	20
10000-12000 TK	7	14
13000-15000 Tk	4	8
16000-18000 Tk	6	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Sources: Field Survey, 2012

Total respondent of this study were 50 who are detained in two correctional centers. Among them 40 were male and 10 were female children. The highest number of respondents 30(60%) are in age group of 11-14 and the lowest number of respondents 3(6%) belong to the age group of 7-10. In term of respondents level of education, 38% of the respondents were completed primary level of education, 34% were illiterate and only 4% were completed higher secondary level education. The study reveal that majority of the juveniles (56%) were students when they came into the contact of law. 38% of the respondent's father was involved in small or large business, which was highest in number and a large number of them(32%) were service holder. In terms of total monthly income about 30% family income was between TK4000-6000 per month, followed by 20% family income was between TK7000-9000 per month.

## 2. Nature and causes of delinquent behavior

### *Nature of delinquent behavior*

Attempts have been made to analyze the nature of offences committed by the offenders during different period. On the basis of their information the inmates of KUK are mostly involved as the following tables:

**Table-2.1: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents on the Basis of their Types of Very First Crime they committed (N=50)**

<b>Types of very first Crime</b>	<b>Respondent</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Stealing	12	24
Drugs Taking/Carrying	35	70
Arms Carrying	3	6
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2012

Children started their criminal activities with some normal crimes. Here normal crimes mean the criminal activities that are of course concerning but not very much daring. Then they stoop gradually to the more serious crime. The table shows that 70 percent of the respondents started their first criminal activities with taking drugs, 24 percent stealing and only 6 percent carrying arms.



**Table- 2.2: Percentage distribution of the respondents by the types of crime in which they have been involved so far (Multiple answers)**

Types of crime	Respondent	Percentage
Stealing	37	74
Robbery	12	24
Snatching	4	8
Drugs taking/carrying	40	80
Arms carrying	8	8
Murder	2	2
Pornography	35	70
Sexual Harassment	10	20

*Source: Field Survey, 2012*

The table-2.2 shows that most of the respondents (80%) are involved in taking/carrying drugs, while another 70% are interested in pornography. In fact those who are interested in pornography are not directly involved with that but they watch porn, exchange CDs of porn with their peers. The table also depicts that 20% respondents have been involved in sexual harassment, 8% in snatching, 8% more in arms carrying and 2% respondents have been engaged in murder. More over the inmates were involved in more than one activity at a time.

**Table-2.3: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents by the types of the offences for which they are in development center N=50)**

Types of Offence	Respondent	Percentage
Stealing	10	20
Robbery	7	14
Snatching	7	14
Drugs taking/carrying	9	18
Arms carrying	2	4
Murder	8	16
Women and children oppression	7	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Field Survey, 2012*

The table-2.3 shows that 20 percent of the respondents have come here for the case of stealing, 14 percent for robbery, 14 percent for snatching, 18 percent for drugs carrying, 4 percent for arms carrying, 16 percent for murder, 14 percent for women and children oppression case.

### ***Causes of delinquent behavior***

In an attempt to look into the causes of delinquent behavior, the manifestations have been presented in the following table:



**Table-2.4: Percentage distribution of the respondents by the causes for their committing crime (Multiple answers)**

Causes	Respondent	Percentage
curiosity	37	74
Persuaded by others	15	30
Peer Pressure	35	70
Poverty	12	24
Family Conflict	13	26

Source: Field Survey, 2012

There are many causes that forced the children to come into contact with criminal activities. The table shows more that 74% respondents involved criminal activities only for curiosity, 70% for peer's influence where 12% are engaged in crimes due to poverty, and 26 % for family conflict.

### 3. Delinquent Scenario and Condition of Development Centre

Three kinds of cases are tried by the juvenile courts; (a) General Registered Case (b) Guardian case or petition Case (C) Social Case Worker and Probation Officer' Cases. The accommodative capacity of Tongi KUK is only 200 and Konabari, Gazipur is 150. The table 6 & 7 depicts the number of children and their nature of cases as well as present custodial status of the two correctional homes. It is evident from the following tables that the Tongi KUK is over crowded; whereas Konabary KUK is almost empty regardless its capacity.

**Table-3.1: Scenario of Juvenile Delinquents at Tongi Correctional Home (Male)**

Status of the Case	Nature of the Case	Number of Delinquents
Under Correction	Guardian Case	05
	General Registered (G.R)	09
Under Judgment	Guardian Case	00
	General Registered (G.R)	237
Total		251

Source: Tongi Correctional Home (Male), 06-08-2012

**Table-3.2: Delinquents at Konabari Gazipur Correctional Home (Female)\***

Status of the Case	Nature of the Case	Number of Delinquents
Under Correction	Guardian Case	01
	General Registered (G.R)	01
Under Judgment	Guardian Case	00
	General Registered (G.R)	34
Total		36

\* Gazipur Correctional Home (Female): 06-08-2012



### ***Food and clothing condition of inmates***

According to Children Rules 1976, the inmates shall be supplied with such scale of diet and clothing as laid down by the schedule. The nature of food indicates another aspect of the condition of juvenile development centre.

**Table-3.3: Distribution of the respondents by the opinioned about amount of diet (N=50)**

<b>Diet is sufficient</b>	<b>No. of respondents</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Yes	39	78
No	11	22
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Field Survey, 2012.*

The table-7 indicates that 78 percent of the respondents think that the food provided here at juvenile development centre is enough for them and the other 22 percent think the negative.

### ***Living Space***

Adequate living space is an important indicator to determine the condition of KUK. Persistent problem of crowding in correctional centre is not uncommon in our country.

**Table-3.4: Number of persons living in one room (N=50)**

<b>Number of persons</b>	<b>Respondent</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
4-6	10	20
7-9	25	50
10-12	15	30
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

*Source: Field Survey, 2012*

A substantial proportion of confined juveniles have inadequate living space. 50% of the inmates reported that a total of 7-9 persons have to live in one room. Besides this, this study also found that 10-12 number of inmates live in a single room.

### ***Health Care***

The rules provided the provision that if an inmate suffering from any contiguous disease shall be 'kept in segregation from other inmates and special arrangement shall be made for his treatment.

**Table-3.5: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents by types of Diseases they suffer (multiple answers)**

<b>Types of Diseases</b>	<b>No. of Respondents</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Skin Disease	50	100
Fever	8	16
Headache	4	8

*Source: Field Survey, 2012*



The table-3.5 shows that all the respondents suffer from skin disease while 16 percent of the respondents have suffered from fever. The table also reveals that 4 % of the respondents have suffered from headache. These findings clearly indicate that the provision of segregation does not maintain properly.

**Table-3.6: Percentage Distribution of the Respondents by Nature of Treatment (multiple answers)**

Nature of treatment	Respondents	Percentage
Hospitalized	47	94
Doctor Comes	30	60
There is Nurse	14	28

Source: Field Survey, 2012

There is the management of treatment while children staying at KUK become ill. The table-3.6 shows that 94 % of the respondents are saying that they are taken to hospital, when they are ill, 60 % says that doctors come to visit them and 28% says that there is nurse for their treatment.

#### **Education and training of inmates**

According to Children Rules 1976, the inmates shall be provided primary standard of education and, in special cases they may be given facilities to prosecute higher education outside the premises of the certified institute or approved home.

**Table-3.7: Percentage Distribution of the respondents by scope of education (N=50)**

Scope of General Education	Respondent	Percentage
Yes	50	100
No	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Sources: Field Survey, 2012

Making the children educated is one of the very important steps to develop their character. The table-3.7 shows that 100 percent of the respondent says that there is scope of education in juvenile development centre.

**Table-3.8: Distribution of the respondents by scope of technical education ( N=50)**

Scope of technical education	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	50	100
No	00	00
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2012

The table-3.8 shows that 100 percent respondents say that there is scope for technical education at juvenile development centre.



**Table- 3.9: Scope of religious/moral education (N=50)**

Scope of religious/moral education	Respondents	Percentage
Yes	23	46
No	27	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2012

The table-3.9 reveals that 46 percent of the respondents say that there is the scope for religious/moral education while the other 54 percent says that there is no scope of religious/moral education. Religious/moral education can have a great impact on the development of the children's character.

#### **Working hours**

All inmates, provided they are medically fit, shall be required to work for eight hours every working day.

**Table-3.10: Percentage Distribution of the respondents by types of work (N=50)**

Types of Work	Respondents	Percentage
Cleaning grass	5	10
Pulling Chair-table during assembly	3	6
No work to do	42	84
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Sources: Field Survey, 2012

The table-3.10 depicts that 10 percent of the respondents have to clean grass, 6 percent have to pulling chair table during assembly and 84 percent do not have any work to do.

**Table- 3.11: Whether respondents are familiar with the Children Act-1974, the Children Rule 1976, The Children Act 2010 (Draft)**

Familiar with Children Acts	Respondent	Percentage
Yes	3	6
No	47	94
<b>Total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2012

It is very important that whether children are conscious about their rights and the laws for them. But the table-16 shows that only 6 percent of the total respondents have heard about The Children Act-1974, The Children Rule 1976 but the rest 94 percent have never heard about the acts.



**Table-3.12: Distribution of the respondents by various ways of rehabilitation**

This table indicates that all the respondents do not want to involve criminal activities in future.

Way of Respondents' Rehabilitation	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Want to continue Study	27	54
Want to establish through business	20	40
Don't want to involve in criminal activities again	100	100

Sources: Field Survey, 2012.

#### 4. Contribution of the Development Center to develop the juveniles' anti social behavior

In this section of the write-up, juveniles' attitude toward the contribution of the development center has been displayed.

**Table-4.1 Percentage Distribution of the Respondents opioned whether the program of the development Center could improve their behaviors (multiple answers)**

Name of the Correctional activities	Opinion of the Respondents		Percentage
Learn moral / Religious values	yes	24	48
	No	26	52
Opportunity of Academic Knowledge	Yes	22	44
	No	28	56
Level of Technical Education	Yes	29	58
	No	21	42
Allocation of Living Space	Yes	20	40
	No	30	60
Engagement of work	Yes	31	62
	No	19	38
Behavior of case worker	Yes	30	60
	No	20	40
Punishment to maintain Rules & Regulation	Yes	17	34
	No	33	66
Overall present arrangement	Yes	34	68
	No	16	32

Source: Field Survey, 2012.



From the above table we see that there is a mix opinioned regarding the correctional activities taken by the authorities of development center. Whatever, 68 percent respondents supported the overall activities are taken for them. Religious/moral education has a great impact on the development of the children's character and the juvenile of this study supported that. In an informal conversation the officers of the center informed that the juvenile anti-social behavior could be corrected through moral and religious education. Opportunities of receive educational acquaintance can develop their behavior, but according to the findings of this study, it is revealed that there hardly exist, any scope to receive upper than primary education. Behavior of the relevant case workers is a very important indicator of the condition of the juvenile development centre for children. Besides, a well-behaved guide can convince a child much better to avoid criminal activities. The study revealed that the behavior of the relevant case worker were positive in this regard (60 percent).

## **Discussion**

In this part an effort has been taken to discuss the overall outcome of the study that include causes of juvenile delinquency, theoretical implication and finally about the conformity, consistency among the goals, services of the development centers.

### ***Causes of Involvement in criminal activities***

This study predominantly depended on the views and experiences of the juveniles about the various aspects of their confinement. At first, the study is an effort to explore various causes of juvenile delinquency, different types of criminal activities to which children are much involved. The findings have revealed that most of the inmates were within the age group of 11 to 14 years and it is the most crucial period of children development. The findings of this study are consistent with the study of Action Aid, (November 2008) where the dominant age group of the inmates having committed crime is between 12 and <16 years (64.58%). Majority of the respondents belong to impoverished segment of the society. As per the field survey, it has been noticed that though most of the times peers' persuasion works as the main force behind children's involvement in criminal activities, it is the influence of the adult people which is also a key factor in this regard. It has been found in the study that children started their criminal activities with some ordinary crimes. Here ordinary crimes mean the criminal activities that are of course concerning but not very much daring. Then they stoop gradually to the more serious crime. The study comes across that 70% of the respondents started their first criminal activity with drug intakes, which is very alarming for our future generation. One of the core objectives of this study was to explore the causes of juvenile delinquency. From the study it has been revealed that juvenile offenders usually involved in criminal activities due to mere curiosity (74%), peer's influence (70%), poverty (24%), and family conflict (26%). So it is evident from the findings that most of the juveniles were not professional criminals. The respondents appear to be quite low level of educational attainment, which indicate insufficient educational attainment leads the juvenile to be delinquent. The results of this study are also consistent with previous empirical studies such as; Sarkar (2001), Ahmed and Khan (2011), Hossain (2002), Haque and Salam (2008), Chowdhury, Khan and Uddin (2012) and Ara and Mahjabeen (2010).



### ***Theoretical Implication***

This study tries to understand the deviant behavior of the juvenile in Bangladesh society and the condition of its correctional methods within the framework of current criminological theories and the institutional model. While this research was not designed to test various theories, the data from this research support most strongly the perspectives of socio-cultural explanation in explaining the causes of the juvenile offences and the gaps between laws and practices in dealing with to develop their behavior. In the present study, the juveniles of correctional centers were involved in various criminal activities. They were highly influenced by their group or close friends activities. By following the friend's anti-social activities the juveniles were involved in murder, drug addiction, bombing, child kidnapping, robbery, thieves and other various criminal activities. So, free interaction led the juveniles as a criminal in the society that suggested that differential association theory has a good deal to understand the causes of deviant behavior of the juvenile offenders. In respect of conceptual model it is found that our correctional method has a strong linkage with the 'discipline-oriented model' as the inmates have to face severe punishment if they break any rules of the center. But in the eyes of the juveniles this model is not suitable to correct their behavior.

### ***Conformity and consistence among goal, services and the contribution of the Development Center***

The principal objective of juvenile justice system is to protect the child from recidivism and ensure their rehabilitation as well as smooth reintegration within the society (Akter 2000). As the present study was an endeavor to understand the conditions of children in correctional home, it is a necessity to unfold some services, which will be provided as per the legal system of Bangladesh for the development of the juvenile offenders. According to the child Act, 1974 the institution will be directed within this legal frame work. Under rule 15 it must provide immediate and regular medical checkup of the inmates. Rule 17 provides that, the inmates must be supplied with diet, clothing and necessary toilet articles. Rule 18 makes provision for primary standard of education and vocational training for the inmates. Sec. 63 (2) provides that when a child is committed to the care of a certified institute or approved home in which facilities for instruction in his religion are not afforded, or is entrusted to the care of a fit person who has no special facilities for the bringing up of the child in his religion, the authorities of such certified institute or approved home, or such fit person shall not bring the child up in any religion other than his own. The institutes supposed to provide the appropriate standards of care and protection for children.

However, the summary of the findings regarding the standards of care and correctional method as follows: The living condition of the juveniles in the development center was found to be unpleasant. The juveniles were mostly kept together with a large number of inmates irrespective of ages. Although the correctional institute displayed a chart of food that would be supplied to the juveniles, but in practice it is not maintained. However most of the children have no complain against food. Health care facility in the correctional institute is very stumpy. Medical officer is regularly irregular in the premises, almost all the boys suffer from skin diseases. The institution provides primary



schooling, which is up to class five. The school has 1 headmaster, 4 assistant teachers and 1 Muslim religious teacher. For the vocational training, technical knowledge on automobile, electric service, welding and tailoring is provided. Islamic religious education is the only provision of religious activity. There is no proper arrangement for the other religion to perform their religious activity in a favorable environment. The juveniles lead a monotonous life in the development center. All the time they have to spend their time in incarceration within same places with similar schedule. They are not permitted to go outside even with their guardians, to dodge their monotonous routine. If any juvenile violate the rules and regulations of the center he/she has to face severe punishment. These findings fit with the findings of Ferdousi (2010), Rahman (2003) and Chowdhury(2008) where they revealed almost the same scenario. However, the respondents appear to have some positive notions towards the correctional center. A very high proportion has the feeling that the case workers behave well to them, they are taken to nearby hospital when they become seriously sick, and there is a provision to receive technical education. Interestingly this segments of findings are contradicts with Ferdous (2010), that reported that there remain no provision of no educational provision. The development center able to make a positive attitudinal change through its program that not a single respondents want to involve themselves in any criminal activities further and at the same time they want to rehabilitated in the main stream activities like, schooling, involve business etc.

Based on above discussion, it is found that there exists both consistency as well as inconsistency between the goals and the services delivered by the development center. From the opinioned of the respondents it is unfolded that the behavior of the case workers and overall activities are convenient to them and it is consistent with the prescribed goals but at the same time it gave details of the negative scenarios of the center such as lack of recreational arrangement, religious and moral education, Practices of corporal punishment etc, which are not conformed to the goal of the development center as the center has been established on the basis of the notion of correcting the antisocial behavior of the juveniles.

### **Policy implications and concluding remarks**

In this small scale research work a socially important as well as a complex and cross cutting issue has been dealt with. Although not a very large questionnaire was administered and sample size was also miniature in nature, the findings of this study are quite important for effective implementation of juvenile justice policy.

Finding of any research study bear some hints and guidelines about policy implications and formulation. From this small scale study we can also draw some guidelines in this regard; Inmates should be kept separately regardless of age, offence and diseases. Quality diet should be provided a regular basis; education system should be holistic in approach as well as be life relevant education curriculum should be ensured. After the discussion of the results of this study it has been suggested introducing '*Therapeutic Community Model*' instead of '*Discipline-Oriented Model*'; which is to ensure social justice. The application of '*Therapeutic Community Model*' will address the core object of the juvenile justice, i.e. to protect the juveniles from recidivism, ensure



rehabilitation and reintegration within the society and finally promote their rights as well as uphold their dignity as a member of the society.

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# Jagannath University Journal of Social Sciences

## লেখক নির্দেশিকা (Guide for Authors)

Jagannath University Journal of Social Sciences জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান অনুষদ কর্তৃক প্রকাশিত একাডেমিক জার্নাল। জার্নালে সামাজিক বিজ্ঞানসংশ্লিষ্ট বিভিন্ন বিষয়ে বাংলা/ইংরেজি ভাষায় লেখা মৌলিক গবেষণা প্রবন্ধ প্রকাশিত হয়। প্রবন্ধ লেখার নিয়মাবলী নিম্নরূপ:

১. লেখা A-4 সাইজের অফসেট সাদা কাগজের এক পৃষ্ঠায় ৪(চার) দিকে ১ ইঞ্চি মার্জিন রেখে ২(দুই) স্পেসে কম্পিউটারে মুদ্রিত হতে হবে। বাংলা অথবা ইংরেজি যে কোন ভাষায় লেখা জমা দেয়া যাবে। বাংলার ক্ষেত্রে Sutonny MJ ১৩ ফন্ট এবং ইংরেজির ক্ষেত্রে Times New Roman ১২ ফন্ট ব্যবহার করতে হবে।
২. প্রবন্ধ সর্বোচ্চ ছয় হাজার শব্দের মধ্যে সীমাবদ্ধ থাকতে হবে।
৩. প্রবন্ধ অন্য কোথাও (জার্নাল, সংবাদপত্র, ইত্যাদি) প্রকাশিত হয়নি বা প্রকাশের জন্য প্রেরিত হয়নি- এ মর্মে লেখককে প্রবন্ধ জমা দেওয়ার সময় একটি লিখিত বিবৃতি প্রদান করতে হবে।
৪. পাণ্ডুলিপির দুইটি প্রিন্টেড কপি ও একটি কপি CD তে জমা দিতে হবে। **জমা দেয়ার ঠিকানাঃ** চীফ এডিটর, জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় জার্নাল অব সোশ্যাল সায়েন্সেস, ডীন অফিস, সামাজিক বিজ্ঞান অনুষদ, কক্ষ # ৭১৭, নতুন একাডেমিক ভবন (৭ম তলা), জগন্নাথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়, ঢাকা-১১০০। ই-মেইলঃ [jussj2010@yahoo.com](mailto:jussj2010@yahoo.com)
৫. মূল প্রবন্ধের কোথাও লেখকের নাম, পরিচয়, কিংবা ঠিকানা উল্লেখ করা যাবে না। আলাদা কভার পৃষ্ঠায় লেখকের নাম, পেশাগত পরিচয় ও ঠিকানা থাকতে হবে।
৬. প্রতিটি প্রবন্ধের (বাংলা/ইংরেজি) শুরুতে ইংরেজিতে একটি বস্তুসংক্ষেপ (Abstract) অনধিক ১৫০ শব্দের মধ্যে থাকতে হবে।
৭. রেফারেন্সের জন্য আমেরিকান সাইকোলজিক্যাল এসোসিয়েশন (APA) এর স্টাইল অনুসরণ করতে হবে; ওয়েবসাইট ঠিকানাঃ <http://www.uwp.edu/departments/library/guides/apa.htm> ev <http://www.apastyle.org/>
৮. উদ্ধৃতির ক্ষেত্রে মূল বানানের কোন পরিবর্তন হবে না। টীকা ও বক্তব্যের উৎস স্বতন্ত্রভাবে উল্লেখ করতে হবে। টীকার ক্ষেত্রে শব্দের উপর সুপার স্ক্রীপ্টে (যেমন-...আছে) সংখ্যা ব্যবহার করতে হবে এবং সংশ্লিষ্ট পৃষ্ঠার শেষে ফুটনোটে টীকা উপস্থাপন করতে হবে।
৯. Reference List প্রবন্ধের শেষে বর্ণানুক্রমিকভাবে উপস্থাপন করতে হবে। রেফারেন্স তালিকা যদি বাংলা ও ইংরেজী উভয় ভাষায় থাকে তবে প্রবন্ধটি যে ভাষায় লিখিত সে ভাষার রেফারেন্স তালিকা প্রথমে দিতে হবে। শুধুমাত্র ওয়েবসাইট রেফারেন্স তালিকা পৃথকভাবে বর্ণানুক্রমিকভাবে উপস্থাপন করতে হবে।
১০. প্রাপ্ত প্রবন্ধ প্রকাশ ও অন্যান্য ক্ষেত্রে এডিটোরিয়াল বোর্ডের সিদ্ধান্ত চূড়ান্ত বলে বিবেচিত হবে এবং মনোনীত/অমনোনীত কোন পাণ্ডুলিপি ফেরত দেওয়া হবে না।