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Contents

Bangladesh's Second Revolution: Reconstructing A Nation with the Spirit of July

Sumaiya Alam Trisha
School of Development Economics, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
Dr. Md. Zahidul Islam
School of International Trade and Economics, University of International Business and Economics, China

Abstract

Bangladesh's post-independence journey has been shaped by political upheavals, governance reforms, and socio-political transformations. This paper explores what can be termed as Bangladesh's "Second Revolution," a crucial phase of national reconstruction inspired by the revolutionary spirit of July. The study examines how shifts in governance, legal frameworks, and policy reforms have influenced contemporary political dynamics, human rights, and social justice. It also investigates the role of religion, law, and migration in shaping the nation's trajectory.

Using a qualitative research approach, this paper draws on historical analysis, policy reviews, and case studies to assess the long-term impact of governance transitions on Bangladesh's socio-political landscape. The findings reveal that while significant progress has been made in democratization and institutional development, challenges remain in ensuring inclusive governance, legal equity, and sustainable socio-economic reforms. Additionally, the study highlights how Bangladesh's evolving refugee policies and responses to migration crises have positioned it as a key player in regional humanitarian efforts.

This research contributes to broader discussions on post-revolution state-building by contextualizing Bangladesh's experiences within global trends in governance and social transformation. The paper argues that the revolutionary spirit of July continues to shape Bangladesh's developmental trajectory, offering critical insights into the interplay between historical movements and contemporary policymaking.

Keywords: Bangladesh, governance, socio-political transformation, human rights, law, migration

Conceptualising Bangladesh 2.0 Under the Spirit of July Revolution 2024 and Its Implications in Politics and Governance: Prospects and Challenges

Dr. Md. Khaled Hosen
Department of Islamic Studies, Tarbiyah Academy, Bangladesh

Abstract

Since Bangladesh achieved independence in 1971, the July 2024 revolution emerged as a paradigm shift in its history. This revolution empowered profound transformation in the socio-political diaspora, redefining the framework of national identity, governance, economy, security and even in the international relations underlying citizen's collective consciousness and upholding social justice and civil rights. The revolution also generated aspirations among its citizens to create Bangladesh 2.0, which guarantees meeting citizen's concerns and community demands without discrimination. Therefore, the discourse of Bangladesh 2.0 necessitates elaborating on its nature and characteristics aligning July 2024 revolution spirits for its proper application in every state stratum. This study discusses three questions. What do we mean by Bangladesh 2.0 in post-July 2024 revolution, how does this discourse enlighten reforming politics and governance in Bangladesh and what are the prospects and challenges the country encounters in meeting the vision of Bangladesh 2.0? Existing literature mostly focused on the previous transition period of Bangladesh including the 1990 anti-autocracy movement, and the military-backed caretaker government in 2007-2008. However, this unique revolution lakes proper highlight in academia in understanding its impacts on politics and governance. This study contributes to the gap in post revolution time including party culture and ideology, electoral reforms, transparency, accountability, and proper service delivery in the governance process. Applying a qualitative methodology, this research relies on secondary sources such as recent reports from different reform commissions, government policy papers and published reports, media coverage, published books and articles while incorporating expert analysis. The findings reveal that while the revolution provided ample access to creating Bangladesh 2.0, through democratic reforms in politics and governance but encountered remarkable challenges in materializing the vision due to resistance from several political parties, institutional inertia and the continuous resistance and conspiracies from anti-revolutionary forces in several areas of the state.

Keywords: Bangladesh 2.0, Politics, Governance

Human Rights Violation During the July-August 2024 Mass Uprising in Bangladesh: A Secondary Analysis

Md. Habibur Rahman

Human Rights Support Society, Bangladesh

Abstract

The July-August 2024 mass uprising in Bangladesh, initially emerging as a student-led quota movement, became a nationwide uprising by uniting ordinary people in a fight for dignity, rights, and accountability. However, the peaceful demonstrations were met with severe state repression, resulting in violent conflicts and significant human rights violations, including mass casualties, injuries, and enforced disappearances. The study aims to examine the scale and nature of these violations through an analysis of secondary data. Sources included reports from organizations such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) and the Human Rights Support Society (HRSS), as well as national media outlets that compiled data from victims' families, eyewitness testimonies, hospital records, and investigative reports. The findings revealed that at least 1,013 people lost their lives, with estimates exceeding 1,200. Among the deceased were students, laborers, journalists, professionals, and law enforcement officers. Alarmingly, the majority of deaths (78%) resulted from live bullets, with law enforcement agencies responsible for over 85% of reported killings. In addition to physical violence, protesters were also subjected to arbitrary arrests, unlawful detention in police stations and other severe violations, including torture. State's reaction to the protest was so extreme that even children were not spared from their brutality. In some cases, children were even shot dead in their own residence. Additionally, more than 30,000 people were injured, with hundreds suffering permanent disabilities, including loss of vision. Surprisingly, students and workers constituted more than 78% of the deceased, with Dhaka being the most affected division. These findings suggest a pattern of excessive state force, systemic suppression of opposition, and targeted violence against protesters. The study underscores the urgent need for independent investigations, legal accountability, and international human rights interventions to address state-perpetrated atrocities and ensure justice for victims.

Keywords: Human Rights, State Violence, Mass Uprising, Bangladesh, Political Repression, Law Enforcement Abuses.

The Impact of Youth Participation and Political Mobilization in A Changing Society: Spirit of July Revolution of Bangladesh

Hamidur Rashid Jamil

Executive Director, Bangladesh Institute of Research Development and Solidarity, Bangladesh

Abstract

Recently, Bangladesh has witnessed a notable shift in its political landscape, largely driven by the increasing participation and mobilization of its youth. This paper examines the evolving role of young people in the country's socio-political development, focusing on their impact on political engagement, activism, and policy changes. By analysing recent political movements and protests, this study highlights the central role of youth in shaping the future of Bangladesh. Furthermore, it explores the influence of digital media and social platforms, which have provided the youth with powerful tools to organize, raise awareness, and challenge traditional political structures. Despite facing challenges such as political apathy, lack of representation, and socioeconomic barriers, the youth of Bangladesh have demonstrated resilience and an unwavering commitment to social change. The paper utilizes data from newspapers and related academic articles, as well as primary data collected through interviews and surveys with young political activists and students. Through case studies and empirical evidence, this paper argues that youth-led political mobilization is transforming Bangladesh's political environment and reshaping its social and cultural values. The findings suggest that youth participation will continue to play a pivotal role in the future direction of the nation, influencing both domestic policies and international perceptions of Bangladesh.

Keywords: Bangladesh, youth participation, digital media, social change, political activism, youth empowerment.

The July Revolution: A Catalyst for Democratic Reformation of Bangladesh

Md Nasir Uddin Sikdar
Department of Economics & Finance, Manisa Celal Bayar University, Türkiye

Abstract

The July Revolution of 2024 in Bangladesh was a landmark event in Bangladesh's political history that ignited the demands for democratic reforms by destroying the long-standing authoritarian structures. Student movements mainly sparked the uprising. Then, civil societies, disenfranchised citizens, and opposition political parties joined the movement with the aim of addressing inherent issues that seek to end religious repression, economic injustice, and governmental maladministration. This revolution was built around a call for a more inclusive, participatory, and accountable democratic system. The July Revolution is explored in this research in terms of the causes, dynamics, and consequences of this event and its effect on reformulating the community of Bangladesh's democracy. The study explores how youth activism uses digital platforms to mobilize support for the movement and successfully break the nest of a dictator government and its political ideology. Additionally, the study looks at the proposed post-revolution reforms, the changing political landscape, the emergence of new political parties, and the role of the young generation in determining the future of governance. This research evaluates the challenge and resistance of the July Revolution to fully grasp the possibility of how the July Revolution could replace Bangladesh's democratic institutions and its long-term impact on political stability, civil liberties, and governance. This study follows a qualitative approach, combining interviews with prominent political analysts, activists, journals, editorials, national and international investigation reports, and opinions. However, the study is subject to several limitations. Access to specific key figures involved in the revolution may be restricted due to ongoing political sensitivities, and the evolving nature of political dynamics in Bangladesh poses challenges in assessing the revolution's long-term effects on democratic processes.

Keywords: July Revolution, democracy, authoritarian, uprising, maladministration.

The July Revolution and Its Legacy: A Study of Political Awareness Among Bangladeshi Youth

Md Rakibul Islam
Jagannath University, Bangladesh
Md Abul Hasan
Doctoral School of International Relations and Regional Studies, National Research University, Russian Federation

Abstract

The July Revolution 2024 was an essential watershed moment in the political history of Bangladesh, which underscored the efficacy of youth-driven activism in contesting authoritarian governance. The movement rapidly escalated into a nationwide demonstration against entrenched oppression, corruption, and state violence, initially ignited by the reinstatement of a controversial quota system in public sector employment. This study examines the sociopolitical ramifications of the revolution with a focus on how it influences political activism and youth awareness. It investigates students' perceptions of their political engagement, the effectiveness of their mobilization tactics, and the broader implications of their resistance. To assess the ramifications of the revolution, this study combines surveys, in-depth expert interviews, and numerous secondary sources, employing both qualitative and quantitative methodologies. With an emphasis on how social media facilitated mass organization despite state-imposed internet blackouts, it explores the role of digital activism, literature, and the visual arts in sparking and sustaining resistance. The findings reveal that the youth's participation in the revolution challenged the idea of an "apolitical generation," demonstrating their capability to exhibit resilience, political activeness, and leadership. The study also highlights the influence of the state's response on public sentiment, which varies from internet censorship to brutal crackdowns. It asserts that the July Revolution constituted a deliberate movement with historical roots in prior struggles for democracy and justice, rather than merely an impulsive uprising. The study illustrates how student-led initiatives are empowered to function as catalysts for more profound social transformation, reshaping public discourse and governmental frameworks. This paper contributes a nuanced understanding of the evolving political consciousness among Bangladeshi youth and the enduring potency of collective action in opposing authoritarian regimes by examining the legacy of the revolution. The study concludes by reaffirming the significance of youth movements during democratic transitions and the imperative for sustained civic engagement to effectuate enduring political reforms.

Keywords: Revolution, Authoritarian Regime, Political Awareness, Bangladeshi Youth, Student Organization, Youth Activism, Regime Change, Political Reforms.

The July 2024 Mass Uprising, Breakdown of Political Consensus, And Challenges for Pathways to Democratic Consolidation in Bangladesh: A Qualitative Analysis

Dr. Ehteshamul Haque
Development Studies, Daffodil International University, Bangladesh

Abstract

This paper unveils the impacts of the July 2024 mass uprising on political consensus and democratic consolidation in Bangladesh**.** After the independence of Bangladesh, two mass uprisings have taken place, the first which happened in 1990 was led by political parties and resolved in arranging a free, fair, and inclusive general election in 1990, but the second which happened in 2024 was led by the students having ambition for a massive reshuffle in the statecraft. As a result, the two types of uprisings brought different democratic transitions, impacting political consensus and democratic consolidation in later days. The uprising, initially organized under the banner of the Anti-discrimination student movement and propelled by widespread discontent with the Quota system in government jobs, quickly morphed into a broader movement, touching on issues of national identity as the demand for reshaping the Bangladesh constitution arose. This article, through pursuing a document analysis method, critically analyses the roots of the July 2024 mass uprising, its impact on political consensus, and the challenges Bangladesh faces for pathways to democratic consolidation.

Keywords: July uprising, Breakdown, Political consensus, Democratic consolidation, Challenges

The July Revolution 2024 and Strategic Shift in Foreign Policy: Prospects and Challenges in Bangladesh China Relations

Mohammad Shamsul Alom
Department of Political Science, International Islamic University Malaysia (IIUM), Malaysia
Dr. Md. Khaled Hosen
Department of Islamic Studies, Tarbiyah Academy, Bangladesh

Abstract

The foreign policy of Bangladesh under Shaikh Hasina is characterized by pro-Indian, partisan priorities, narrow in Western relations, ineffective in securing strategic autonomy, powerful diplomacy to manage the Rohingya refugee crisis, and feeble regional leadership, all of which stalled independent growth and global position. However, the July Revolution 2024 provided a unique prospect for redefining its foreign policy that maximizes strategic autonomy and independent partnership based on geopolitical and economic interests. In this situation, Bangladesh can redefine its relationship with China in a new dimension that offers more economic, strategic, and technological opportunities considering emerging geopolitical realities. Accordingly, the study answers three questions: how does the July Revolution 2024 guide Bangladesh in securing strategic autonomy? What opportunities does the Revolution provide Bangladesh to strengthen economic, strategic, and diplomatic relations with China? Finally, how can Bangladesh maintain a balanced relationship with China considering the contemporary geopolitical dilemma that upholds its sovereignty? Existing scholarship is inefficient at understanding these questions. This study aims to bridge the gap. Relying on the qualitative approach based on content and policy analysis, data are collected from primary and secondary sources including government documents, speeches from leaders, policy statements, trade agreements, reports from national and international organizations, published books and articles, and national and international dailies, and expert interviews. The finding implies that Bangladesh can achieve remarkable benefits by engaging with China, including advancing economic growth, infrastructural development, and technological support. However, over-reliance on China may hinder economic independence, and the geopolitical crisis of the country. To overcome these obstacles, Bangladesh needs critical evaluation before each economic and strategic partnership, maintaining a diversified policy approach and prudent diplomatic negotiations. The research may contribute to the academic and policy perspective in understanding Bangladesh-China relations in post-Revolution Bangladesh.

Keywords: July Revolution 2024, Foreign Policy, Bangladesh-China Relations, Prospects, Challenges

AI-Based Automated Censorship of Inappropriate Visual Content for Young Bangladeshi Children

Md Imran Hosen

Department of Software Engineering, Istanbul Ticaret University, Türkiye

Abstract

In the rapidly digitizing landscape of Bangladesh, children are increasingly exposed to online environments that are often unregulated and potentially harmful. With widespread mobile phone usage among children and expanding internet access across both urban and rural regions, safeguarding young users has become a pressing national priority. This work proposes an AI-based censorship framework designed to automatically detect and filter inappropriate visual content such as explicit imagery, violent scenes, and hate symbols with the goal of protecting children in Bangladesh from potentially harmful media exposure. The urgency for scalable, intelligent interventions is evident in light of the growing incidence of cyberbullying and online abuse. Traditional manual filtering methods and parental control apps have proven inadequate due to their reactive and limited nature. This work proposes a context-aware, culturally sensitive AI censorship system that employs computer vision and natural language processing techniques to flag harmful content in real time, either at the ISP level or directly on user devices. The system emphasizes localized dataset training, transparency, and ethical deployment aligned with Bangladeshi social norms. Policy recommendations include the development of a national AI governance framework and multi-sector collaborations involving the government, NGOs, and tech stakeholders. By addressing both technical and socio-cultural challenges, this initiative aims not only to protect vulnerable populations but also to foster a safer digital ecosystem conducive to healthy childhood development.

Keywords: Artificial Intelligence, Child Online Safety, Automated Censorship, Harmful Visual Content, Bangladesh

An Analysis of Shariah-Compliant Cryptocurrencies

Nafisa Nomani

Institute of Business Administration (IBA), Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh

Abstract

Cryptocurrency has emerged as a transformative financial innovation, offering a decentralized, secure, and borderless medium of exchange. Its rapid adoption has sparked significant interest among investors, including stakeholders in the Islamic finance ecosystem. However, the compatibility of cryptocurrency with Islamic Shariah principles remains a subject of intense scholarly debate. Key concerns include its volatility (linked to *maysir* or speculation), lack of intrinsic value (*gharar* or excessive uncertainty), and absence of asset-backing and centralized oversight. Although some digital currencies claim Shariah compliance, a closer analysis often reveals some inconsistencies with core Islamic financial principles such as the prohibition of *Riba*, the need for transparency, and ethical use. This paper provides a qualitative review of selected cryptocurrencies that have received Shariah certification or claim compliance, including OneGramCoin (OGC), Stellar (XLM), X8 Currency, and ISLAMICOIN. Using key Islamic financial criteria such as asset-backing, avoidance of speculation, and operational transparency this paper critically assesses whether these projects align with Shariah principles. The analysis draws on fatwas, scholarly reports, and certification standards from institutions such as AAOIFI and the Shariah Review Bureau. The findings highlight both the promise and the pitfalls of integrating cryptocurrencies into Islamic finance, and underscore the need for standardized, authoritative Shariah screening frameworks in the evolving digital asset landscape.

Keywords: Cryptocurrency, Shariah, Compliance, Asset-backing, Uncertainity, Islamic Finance.

An Assessment of Particulate Matter (Pm2.5 & Pm10), Health Risk and Respiratory Health Outcomes Among Rice Processing Industry Workers in Kushtia, Bangladesh

Faria Islam
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Iffat Ara
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Md. Shohel Khan
Department of Environmental Science and Disaster Management, Noakhali Science and Technology University, Bangladesh

Abstract

Exposure to particulate matter (PM), specifically $PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}, poses significant health risks, particularly for workers in industries such as rice processing where dust and particulate emissions are prevalent. This study investigated the exposure of particulate matter ($PM_{2.5}$ and PM_{10}), its associated health risks and assessed the frequency of respiratory symptoms among rice processing industry workers in Kushtia, Bangladesh. A total of 180 PM samples were purposively collected from both indoor and outdoor areas across automated, semi-automated, and non-automated rice processing industries using a Handheld Particle HT 9600 sensor. Additionally, a survey was conducted among 120 workers. Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS, 27), Microsoft Excel (2016) and Google Colab were used for data analysis. The indoor and outdoor $PM_{2.5}$ ranges from 43 to 181 µg/m^3 and 47 to 160 µg/m^3 and the indoor and outdoor PM_{10} ranges from 57 to 207 µg/m^3 and 61 to 203 µg/m^3. The analysis revealed that PM concentrations often exceeded safe limits of WHO, NAAQS, and Bangladesh Standards, particularly in automated and non-automated industries. High hazard quotient (HQ) values for $PM_{2.5}$ indicated significant health risks, while PM_{10} posed negligible risks. 75% of workers reported at least one respiratory symptom. The study concludes that high PM exposure increases health risks and that workers suffer from various respiratory problems, emphasizing the need for risk management strategies and guidelines to protect workers. Future research should identify PM sources in the workplace and explore mitigation strategies among workers.

Keywords: Indoor Particulate Matter, Health risk, Rice Processing Industry, Hazard Quotient.

Analyzing The Impact of Media Coverage of Mob Justice on Social Media: A Case Study of Digital Readers' Perceptions in Bangladesh

Md. Forhad Uddin
Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, University of Barishal, Bangladesh
Shohel Rana
Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, University of Barishal, Bangladesh
Shibbir Ahmad Reza
Department of Mass Communication and Journalism, University of Barishal, Bangladesh

Abstract

Mob justice has emerged as a significant socio-legal concern in Bangladesh, with digital media platforms greatly affecting public discourse and audience views. This study explores the representation of mob justice on online news media, analyzing how these representations shape digital audience perceptions. Employing a qualitative content analysis approach, the research scrutinizes media coverage of three notable mob justice incidents: Tofazzal Hossain's death at Dhaka University Hall, the murder of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader Shamim Ahmed at Jahangirnagar University, and the deadly event involving Abdullah Al Masud in Rajshahi. For an in-depth textual analysis, three prominent Bangladeshi news outlets: Prothom Alo, bdnews24.com, and Kalbela, were purposefully selected.

The study highlights five key thematic areas that arise from the data: (1) characteristics and nature of mob justice incidents, including the forms of violence, victim demographics, and situational triggers; (2) media framing and narrative patterns (emotional language, sensationalism, irony, and embedded social commentary) (3) institutional response and accountability including actions taken by universities, law enforcement, judicial processes, and political party involvement (4) public outcry and civil society reactions including protests, student activism, influencer involvement, and victim advocacy and (5) ethical and societal consequences (human rights violations, psychological effects, and the normalization of violence).

The findings indicate that media portrayals rely on emotional and superficial reporting, which can significantly sway public opinion, either endorsing or condemning mob justice actions. This research emphasizes the need for more ethical and responsible media practices and encourages improved digital literacy to foster critical engagement with such content.

Keywords: Mob Justice, Media Representation, Digital Readers, News Framing, Case Study, Bangladesh

Analyzing The Socio-Political Factors Behind the Emergence of the "India Out" Campaign in Bangladesh

Yeasin Arafat
Department of Economics, University of Delhi, India
MD Mahabub Alam
Center for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Abstract

The recent "India Out" movement in Bangladesh has become a pivotal deal in shaping South Asia's social and political landscape, taking off after the July Revolution of 2024. This study delves into the complex reasons behind this movement zeroing in on the growing dislike for India among Bangladeshis. Using a qualitative approach, the research digs into secondary data from academic writings, policy papers, government announcements, news outlets, and social media contents. The findings reveal several connected factors that have led to the movement's growth, including beliefs about unfair economic deals ongoing border disputes, and old grudges from past political interactions. The study also takes a sturdy look at how media stories and grassroots organizing have made people even more unhappy.

The research shows that the movement is a result of a tricky mix of national pride, worries about control, and local power struggles. After the revolution, people became more aware and active, which led to more protests against what they saw as India's strong influence in domestic politics of Bangladesh. This study highlights that both countries need to talk more, deal with each other's allegations, and build trust to calm things down. By taking a deep look at the "India Out" movement, this work helps us better grasp local politics national pride, and how countries interact in South Asia. It gives useful ideas to both leaders and experts in the field.

Keywords: India Out Movement, Bangladesh, Anti-Indian Sentiment, Socio-Political Factors, Qualitative Research

Artificial Intelligence (AI)-Based Safety Monitoring for Construction Sites: Enhancing Worker Protection in Bangladesh

Shahinuzzaman
Civil and Environmental Engineering, Concordia University, Canada
Po-Han Chen
Civil and Environmental Engineering, Concordia University, Canada

Abstract

The construction industry in Bangladesh is a key pillar of the economy, but it remains one of the most hazardous sectors, with a high incidence of workplace accidents and fatalities. Despite efforts to improve safety standards, challenges such as inadequate safety measures, insufficient training, and weak enforcement of regulations persist. This paper proposes the integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven safety monitoring systems as a solution to mitigate risks and enhance worker protection on construction sites. AI-powered systems leverage data from sensors, closed-circuit cameras, and wearable devices to predict hazardous situations and monitor real-time worker behaviours. One notable application is the use of computer vision techniques, such as object detection, which can identify unsafe behaviours, including detecting workers who are not wearing safety vests, a frequent safety violation, and tracking their location. Trained AI models enable real-time detection of individuals without safety gear, triggering immediate alerts to site managers for corrective action. As the system continuously learns and improves through machine learning, its risk prediction capabilities become more accurate, contributing to better hazard identification and prevention. Furthermore, AI can streamline compliance with safety regulations by automating safety audits and ensuring that proper documentation of safety measures is maintained. The integration of AI-based safety monitoring systems has the potential to transform safety management in Bangladesh's construction industry by reducing human error, enhancing situational awareness, and fostering a proactive safety culture. This paper will examine the feasibility, benefits, and challenges of adopting AI safety systems, along with the infrastructure and regulatory frameworks required for successful implementation.

Keywords: AI Safety Monitoring, Construction Safety in Bangladesh, Computer Vision in Labor Safety.

Assessing Climate-Induced Migration and Economic Shifts in the Coastal Region of Bangladesh

Md. Muhimenul Islam
University of Barishal, Bangladesh

Abstract

Background: Climate change consequence is one of the major intensifying matters all over the world specially Bangladesh where southern coastal area grappling with diverse and adverse effect on migration .in the past, many studies investigated the causes of its vulnerability to climate impact. Southern area of Bangladesh being a coastal area where most of the rural people depend on agriculture and extreme climatic impact triggering them migration and displacement within the country. **Objective:** The aim of the study way to explore the climate induced migration in the southern coastal area of Bangladesh and assess economic condition like: Employment, income level and livelihood strategies resulting from migration. **Method:** A quantitative research approach was employed; data were collected from 150 individual households who were affected in cyclone Rimal through Kobo Toolbox, From three disasters prone area of Koyra upazila in Khulna district. **Findings:** The research findings showed that the main causes of migration were unemployed (69%), and food insecurity (27%). the rate of seasonal migration (72%) was higher than permanent migration (28%). most migrants choose city area (77%) as their migration place. Mainly lower economic groups (Extremely poor, poor and lower middle class) were migrated from this region for economic insufficiency. **Conclusion:** Government should make policy interventions for sustainable livelihood that is enhance job facilities as well as improving this problem.

Keywords: Climate Change, Migration, Coastal Area, Cyclone, Vulnerability

Assessing the Quality of Democracy in Bangladesh

Md Anwar Hossen
Department of Political Science and International Relations, Istanbul University, Türkiye
Sharmine Akter Mito
Department of Public Administration, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh

Abstract

Since earning independence in 1971, Bangladesh has witnessed several forms of governance, shifting between military rule, democracy, and authoritarian regime. Though the country organizes regular elections, concerns about their fairness, political violence, and restrictions on opposition parties raise doubt about the strength of its democracy.

This study investigates the scenario of democracy in Bangladesh from 1971 to 2024, utilizing the Leonardo Morlinos' (2011) democratic framework: rule of law, participation, competition, electoral accountability, inter-institutional accountability, political equality, and freedom. A mixed-methods is used to analysis the secondary data collected from the World Bank, V-Dem, and academic literature.

The results show substantial changes in democratic quality over the period. The rule of law was at its peak in 1972 but reached its bottom in 2022 due to compromised judicial independence and governance failures. Political participation was in the highest level between 1991 and 1995, with the restoration of parliamentary democracy while the lowest was in 1975 under single party rule. Electoral competition was relatively fair from 1991 to 2005; however, it declined between 2013 and 2023 due to violence and manipulation in election. Electoral accountability peaked in 1991, and between 1996 to 2001 but lowest in 1976 and 2007 under military regime. Inter-institutional accountability functioned effectively in 1972 and 2009 but weakened significantly after 2014 because of increasing executive influence. Political equality was at its top from 1992 to 1996 but suffered from effective participation between 2007 and 2022. Freedom of expression thrived from 1991 to 1995 but faced severe restrictions from 2019 to 2023.

The study demonstrates the pattern of democratic backsliding in Bangladesh, as its progress is frequently reversed due to political instability and authoritarian tendencies. It also offers lessons to researchers, policymakers and leaders for strengthening electoral integrity, institutional accountability and civil liberties in pursuit of a more sustainable and inclusive democracy in Bangladesh.

Keywords: Bangladesh, Democracy, Free and Fair Elections, Freedom, Political Participation Rule of Law

Bangladeş'te Temmuz Devrimi: Sosyal Medyanın Etkisi Üzerine Bir İnceleme

Hüseyin Aytun
Siyaset Bilimi ve Uluslararası İlişkiler Bölümü, İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, Türkiye
Rahmat Ullah
Siyaset Bilimi ve Uluslararası İlişkiler Bölümü, İstanbul Gelişim Üniversitesi, Türkiye

Özet

Bu çalışma, Bangladeş'te gerçekleşen Temmuz Devrimi sürecinde sosyal medyanın halkın örgütlenmesi, bilgi akışının sağlanışı ve sosyal medyanın toplumsal hareketlerin dinamiklerini nasıl dönüştürdüğünü incelemeyi amaçlamaktadır. Bangladeş'te Temmuz Devrimi, sosyal medyanın, özellikle Twitter'ın, toplumsal hareketler üzerindeki dönüştürücü etkisini ortaya koyan önemli bir olaydır. Çalışma, devrimin gelişimini anlamak için Manuel Castells'in Ağ Toplumu Kuramı çerçevesinde sosyal medyanın rolünü ele almaktadır. Bangladeş'te uzun yıllardır devam eden siyasi baskılar, ekonomik eşitsizlikler ve ifade özgürlüğüne getirilen kısıtlamalar, halkın demokratik taleplerini geleneksel yöntemlerle dile getirmesini zorlaştırmıştır. Bu bağlamda, geleneksel medyanın sansürlenmesi nedeniyle halk, sosyal medyayı alternatif bir platform olarak kullanmış ve özellikle Twitter aracılığıyla örgütlenmiştir. Araştırmada, makale, rapor ve diğer ikincil kaynaklardan yararlanılmış, ayrıca Twitter üzerindeki etkileşimler nitel bir analiz yöntemiyle incelenmiştir. Çalışmada, Twitter paylaşımlarının içeriği, popüler hashtag kullanımı, etkileşim oranları ve Aktivistlerin söylemleri detaylı bir şekilde değerlendirilmiştir. Bulgular, Twitter'ın sadece bilgi yaymada değil, aynı zamanda halkı harekete geçirmede de kritik bir araç olduğunu göstermektedir. Özellikle aktivist gruplar, Twitter üzerinden organize olarak protestoların koordinasyonunu sağlamış, ulusal ve uluslararası kamuoyunun dikkatini çekmiştir. Twitter'da yayılan içerikler sayesinde, hareketin mesajları kısa sürede geniş kitlelere ulaşmış ve bu durum devrimin hızlı bir şekilde büyümesine olanak tanımıştır. Bu çalışma, sosyal medyanın modern toplumsal hareketlerdeki etkisini anlamaya yönelik literatüre katkı sağlamakta ve dijital aktivizmin politik değişim süreçlerine nasıl yön verebileceğini göstermektedir. Bununla birlikte, araştırmanın en önemli sınırlılığı, Twitter üzerinden yapılan incelemelerin yalnızca dijital etkileşimleri temel almasıdır. Bu durum, sahadaki gerçek dinamiklerin tam anlamıyla analiz edilmesini zorlaştırmaktadır. Gelecekteki çalışmaların, sosyal medyanın yanı sıra sahadaki örgütlenme süreçlerini de inceleyerek daha bütüncül bir perspektif sunması faydalı olacaktır.

Anahtar Kelimeler: Sosyal Medya, Ağ Toplumu, Temmuz Devrimi, Bangladeş

Bangladesh Foreign Policy: Past, Present, and the Intricate Future

Md Abul Hasan

International Relations & Regional Studies, National Research University Higher School of Economics, Russia

Abstract

Bangladesh, having emerged amidst the Cold War politics, encounters a profoundly critical juncture in the orientation of its foreign policy approaches. Initiating from the diplomacy of recognition and diplomacy of economy to hedging strategy, Dhaka has endeavoured to adapt its foreign policy, reflecting both regional and global dynamics. The study aims to delve into the foreign policy approaches of Bangladesh and their practical policy implementation over time. By employing postcolonial and dependency theories, alongside a comprehensive review of both existing scholarly and non-scholarly literature, analysing official documents, conducting in-depth expert interviews, and field work, this study elucidates how Bangladesh progressively confronts a highly intricate situation in its foreign policy strategies and their applications. It further explores how the geopolitical and geoeconomic landscape of the region presents both significant opportunities and formidable challenges for small states such as Bangladesh, given its position as a nexus between South and Southeast Asia.

The findings indicate that while it is asserted that the principle of 'Friendship to all and malice towards none' and 'non-alignment' have been cornerstone of Bangladesh foreign policy, empirical observations reveal that the nation has, in practice, either aligned itself with the Indo-Soviet bloc or with the blocs of Western and Muslim nations. Moreover, the hedging strategy has facilitated enhanced engagement with China and Russia, particularly in economic terms; however, it is evident that Bangladesh remained under the heavy influence of India in relation to its decision-making protocols during the Hasina regime.

The collapse of the Hasina government poses a tangible threat to Indian hegemony over its neighboring state, a situation deemed intolerable by the Indian political elite. While the interim government strives to alleviate tensions and mitigate threats emanating from India and its internal and external factions, the future trajectory of Bangladesh may not unfold as favorably as anticipated, given the persistent pressures from a multitude of sources. Ultimately, it is imperative for the nation to achieve unity in the face of foreign interference and to uphold a strategic autonomy within its foreign policy in order to safeguard its sovereignty and national interests.

Keywords: Bangladesh, Foreign policy, Non-alignment, Hedging strategy, Geopolitics, Interim government, Strategic autonomy

Bangladesh Turkey Bilateral Strategic Partnership Through Military Cooperation: Prospects and New Dimension

Md. Burhan Uddin

Department of Development Studies, Daffodil International University, Bangladesh

Abstract

Bangladesh and Turkey have been friends for a long time, historically, there have been diplomatic ties as both nations are part of several international forums. Despite their distant geophysical proximity and seldom acquaintances, the states have made significant strides in regional and global extensions over the decades, notably in terms of geopolitical, geostrategic, and even geoeconomic paradigms. This study analyses the Turkey-Bangladesh rapport from a bilateral partnership perspective of strategic security facets and prospects by examining the diplomatic and military defense dimensions through a neoclassical realist outlook. Based on both qualitative and quantitative approaches from primary and secondary data, the study piloted through a rigorous thematic consideration. It concluded that Turkey-Bangladesh military cooperation will be reciprocally beneficial that will boost the ties for developing a collaborative nexus. Bangladesh is a growing country that vicissitudes, installs, and adapts new partners, markets, and weapons regimes via natural and human resources utilizations. Apart from the "Force Goal 2030", launching a strategic partnership with Turkey in the context of arms establishments and allotments, joint production and optimization are crucial. On the other hand, Bangladesh will receive NATO standard armaments, an option for arms-market diversification, and strong global Bangladesh may become a new armament market for Turkey's burgeoning arms industry as a multilayer arm supply and manufacturing partner. Both countries with strong states' global strategic alliances promote transcontinental and global cooperation via historic ties to meet the challenges of terrorism and democratic consolidation at large.

Keywords: Turkey, Bangladesh, Arms Trade, Strategic Partnership, Neoclassical realism

A Comprehensive Evaluation of Environmental Literacy: A Case Study in Kushtia Municipality, Bangladesh

Most. Sajeda Akter
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Iffat Ara
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Akib Javed
Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), Dhaka, Bangladesh

Abstract

Bangladesh is currently threatened by anthropogenic environmental degradation and the adverse effects of climate change. Environmental literacy is one of the key aspects of addressing and managing environmental issues. The study aims to evaluate the comprehensive environmental literacy in Kushtia municipality by analysing the level of environmental knowledge, attitude, and behaviour of respondents. The study also provides a thorough understanding of the relationship between educational attainment and environmental literacy, along with gender differences in environmental literacy and the correlations among its various components. The study gathered data through a questionnaire survey from 150 respondents, employing a purposive sampling technique. Descriptive statistics, Multiple response analysis, Cross-tabulation, Chi-square test for independence, Kruskal-Wallis Test, Mann-Whitney U Test, Spearman's correlation, and Regression analysis were performed to analyse the data using IBM SPSS 26. All inferential statistical tests were considered statistically significant when the P-value <0.05. The results indicated that respondents possess a strong level of environmental knowledge and attitudes, while their environmental behaviours are at a moderate level. The findings also revealed significant differences in environmental knowledge, attitudes, and behaviours based on education levels, with higher education being associated with greater environmental literacy. However, no significant gender-based differences in environmental literacy were identified. Additionally, significant positive correlations were observed among the components of environmental literacy, with the strongest correlation between attitudes and behaviours, followed by the relationship between knowledge and attitudes, and lastly, between knowledge and behaviours. The study emphasizes the critical role of environmental knowledge, attitude, and behaviour in enhancing environmental literacy, which is essential for fostering sustainable practices and informed decision-making to mitigate environmental challenges and promote long-term environmental sustainability.

Keywords: Environmental Literacy, Purposive Sampling Technique, Educational Attainment.

Breaking The Cycle: How The July Revolution Redefined Mass Mobilization and Authoritarian Resilience in Bangladesh

Ishfak Farhan Siyam
Georgetown University, Qatar

Abstract

The July 2024 uprising in Bangladesh marked a significant rupture in the country's post-2009 protest landscape. Unlike earlier opposition-led movements that failed to achieve mass traction or were swiftly neutralized by state repression, the July Revolution drew unprecedented cross-class, cross-ideological, and cross-institutional participation. This paper investigates the structural and strategic factors that enabled the uprising's mobilizational success, arguing that it represented a critical juncture in Bangladesh's authoritarian trajectory. Through process tracing and field-informed analysis, the study compares the July 2024 events with prior protest movements in the 2010s, highlighting key distinctions: the emergence of non-partisan leadership, the diffusion of mobilizing structures beyond party lines, and the role of shifting political opportunity structures triggered by regime overreach. The paper also draws on theories of authoritarian resilience and mass contention to situate the uprising within a broader framework of regime durability and popular resistance. By focusing on the interplay between grassroots agency and elite fracture, the paper contributes to understanding how seemingly entrenched authoritarian systems can face disruptive challenges when new alliances and narratives emerge. The July Revolution did not merely revive dissent—it redefined the very contours of resistance in contemporary Bangladesh.

Keywords: July Revolution 2024, Mass Mobilization, Authoritarian Resilience.

Bullet Inside Body: The Silent Mental Suffering of July 24 Uprising Injured Protesters in Bangladesh

Md Abu Bakkar Siddik
School of the Environment, Nanjing University, China
Shah Jalal Ahamed
Department of Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh
Md. Rajwanullha Shakil
Department of Sociology, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, Bangladesh
Md Khalid Syfullah
Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh
Mahedi Hasan
College of Media and Communication, Texas Tech University, USA

Abstract

The mental health of protesters injured during the July 24 Uprising in Bangladesh, particularly those still carrying bullet fragments in their bodies, remains a critical yet under-researched issue. These individuals endure not only physical pain but also significant psychological distress, including depression, PTSD, and suicidal ideation, which may affect their long-term well-being. This study used a cross-sectional design to investigate the mental health outcomes of 541 protesters with retained bullet fragments. Data was collected through purposive sampling between November 2024 and January 2025, utilizing both in-person and online surveys. Participants provided sociodemographic and injury-related information and completed psychological assessments including the Patient Health Questionnaire-9 (PHQ-9), the Primary Care PTSD Screen for DSM-5 (PC-PTSD-5), the Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K10), and the Suicidal Behaviours Questionnaire-Revised (SBQ-R). Descriptive statistics, Pearson chi-square tests, binary logistic regression, and Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) were used for analysis. The results revealed alarmingly high prevalence rates: 89.1% of participants reported depression, 91.6% PTSD, 88.2% psychological distress, and 7.1% suicidal ideation. Significant sociodemographic and injury-related factors, such as gender, occupation, hospitalization, and the specific location of the bullet injury, were associated with these mental health outcomes. SEM demonstrated that PTSD and depression had a bidirectional relationship, and treatment perception significantly influenced psychological distress and suicidal ideation. The study found severe mental health burdens faced by bullet-lodged protesters, highlighting the urgent need for specialized psychological care and better medical treatment to address their unique psychological challenges.

Keywords: Bullet inside body; injured protesters; July 24 Uprising; mental health; Bangladesh

Comparative Evaluation of Environmental Policies in Turkey and Bangladesh: Methodological Differences and Common Objectives

Yavuz Acungil
Tokat Gaziosmanpaşa Üniversitesi, Türkiye

Abstract

Despite their distinct geographical locations and economic structures, Turkey and Bangladesh are two developing countries facing similar pressures in the face of global environmental issues. This paper aims to comparatively examine the environmental policy approaches of both countries through their historical development, legal and institutional frameworks, and practical implementations. The study's main objective is to evaluate the effectiveness of policies pursued in the direction of sustainable development and to produce implications for policymakers.

The development of environmental policies in Turkey gained momentum, especially after the 1980s, when the harmonization process with the European Union was in effect. Although legal regulations related to the Environment were largely aligned with EU standards in the 2000s, structural deficiencies in implementation indicate that institutionalization in environmental governance has not been fully achieved. Furthermore, empirical studies in Turkey suggest that economic and social globalization increases environmental pollution, whereas political globalization improves environmental quality. Urbanization has also been reported to intensify environmental pressures.

Conversely, Bangladesh is one of the countries most severely affected by climate change, and its environmental policies are mainly based on climate adaptation and disaster risk management. Due to rising sea levels and frequent floods, particularly in coastal areas, millions have become climate migrants, leading to intertwined social and humanitarian crises. The "Bangladesh Climate Change Strategy and Action Plan (BCCSAP)" adopted in 2009 outlines the country's strategies for combating climate change.

International norms influence both countries in the formulation of environmental policies. While Turkey aims to enhance environmental reporting and monitoring mechanisms within the Environment for Europe process framework, Bangladesh shapes its policies according to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. However, limited financial resources and institutional capacity constraints hinder the effective implementation of environmental policies in both countries.

In conclusion, Turkey has established a comprehensive legislative framework for environmental policies; however, in practice, environmental priorities can sometimes lag behind political ones. Bangladesh, on the other hand, designs its environmental policies primarily within the framework of survival and climate crisis adaptation. The success of environmental policies in developing countries depends on legal regulations and the strength of institutional infrastructure, public participation, and international cooperation. In this context, the experiences of Turkey and Bangladesh serve as valuable examples for other countries seeking to develop policies under similar conditions.

Keywords: Environmental Policies, Sustainable Development, Comparative Analysis, Turkey, Bangladesh

Conceptual Analysis of The Adoption of Digital Payment Systems in Bangladesh: A DOI Framework Perspective

Mahbubur Rahaman
Faculty of Business, Multimedia University, Malaysia
Md. Sojib Hasan Choyon
Faculty of Business, Multimedia University, Malaysia
Mohammad Abdullah Faisal
Faculty of Leadership & Management, University Science Islam Malaysia, Malaysia

Abstract

This study analyses Bangladeshi digital payment system adoption using the Diffusion of Innovations (DOI) theory. This research looks at those factors influencing the adoption of these systems, especially in relation to financial inclusion in rural and urban areas. The DOI framework notes five main attributes—relative advantage, compatibility, complexity, trialability, and observability—that influence adoption behaviours. The findings show that perceived benefits like convenience and security have a positive effect on adoption in urban areas where infrastructure is advanced. However, rural areas face significant barriers, including low digital literacy, limited exposure to technology, and inadequate infrastructure, which make adoption difficult. Complexity and non-trialability are the major barriers that cut down the users' willingness to experiment with such platforms. In contrast, stronger alignment with local financial practices and improved observability of the good results, including faster transactions, can prompt adoption. This study uses quantitative research methods, whereby data will be collected from digital payment systems users in Bangladesh, and regression and factor analysis will be used to analyse how DOI variables relate to the adoption behaviour. The findings bring attention to the desire to make technology easier and to make it more visible so as to prompt more usage, particularly in rural areas. The research emphasizes the significance of user attitudes outlined by security, lack of ease of use, and perceived benefits in determining adoption intentions. This study proves a valuable direction for the policymakers and developers interested in improving financial inclusion in the country, which can be implemented by offering practical recommendations to strengthen wider digital payment adoption.

Keywords: Digital Payment Systems, DOI Theory, Adoption, Relative Advantage, Compatibility, Complexity, Observability, Trialability, Bangladesh, Financial Inclusion

A Depth-Specific Approach for Mapping Soil Nutrients in Poradaha Union, Bangladesh

Umma Suriaya Parvin Kakon
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Iffat Ara
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Aizizul Haque Raza
Department of Industrial & Production Engineering, Rajshahi University of Engineering & Technology, Bangladesh

Abstract

This study investigates the spatial distribution and relationships of soil macro and micronutrients in Poradaha, Kushtia, aiming to enhance soil nutrient management for improved agricultural productivity, with direct implications for precision agriculture and sustainable development in Bangladesh. A total of 171 soil samples were collected from 57 locations across three depth layers (0-20 cm, 20-40 cm, and 40-60 cm). On-site measurements of pH and moisture levels were conducted, while laboratory analyses focused on key nutrients, including organic matter, total nitrogen, phosphorus, sulphur, zinc, boron, and potassium. Data were analysed using SPSS, and spatial interpolation was performed using the Inverse Distance Weighting (IDW) method in ArcMap 10.7.1. Results showed that nutrient concentrations were highest in the topsoil (0-20 cm) and decreased with depth. Significant spatial variations were observed, with nutrient-rich soils in the southern regions and deficiencies in the northern and eastern areas. Statistical analysis using the Kruskal-Wallis test revealed strong significant differences (p < 0.05) in pH, organic matter, total nitrogen, phosphorus, sulphur, zinc, boron, potassium, and moisture levels. Post hoc Dunn's test highlighted significant nutrient differences between soil layers, except for zinc and boron. These findings emphasize the importance of understanding soil nutrient distribution for sustainable land management and the need for region-specific fertilization strategies to address nutrient imbalances, which are critical for advancing precision agriculture and sustainable development in Bangladesh. The accuracy of the spatial maps was validated using statistical measures, including MAE, MAD, MAPE, R², NSE, MSE, and RMSE, ensuring model reliability. This research provides practical recommendations for optimizing fertilization practices, improving soil health, and boosting agricultural productivity, thereby supporting precision agriculture and sustainable development in Bangladesh.

Keywords: Soil Nutrients, Soil Depths, GIS Techniques, IDW, Spatial Distribution

Childhood Sexual Abuse, Internet Addiction, Problematic Pornography Use, and Depression Among Medical Students in Bangladesh

Shah Jalal Ahamed
Department of Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh
Md. Rajwanullha Shakil
Department of Sociology, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, Bangladesh
Khan Muhammad An Nazmus Saqib
Department of Sociology, London School of Economics and Political Science, United Kingdom

Abstract

Due to several factors (e.g. sexual abuse, academic pressure), medical students experience significant mental health issues such as internet addiction (IA), problematic use of pornography (PPU), and depression. This study aimed to assess the prevalence of childhood sexual abuse (CSA) history, IA, PPU, and depression among medical students and their associated factors. A cross-sectional survey was conducted from September 15, 2023, to January 31, 2024, involving 3264 students from both private and public medical colleges across the country. Data was collected through a structured online survey and using validated instruments including Childhood sexual abuse history, Young's Internet Addiction Test (IAT-20), Brief Pornography Screener (BPS), Patient Health Questionnaire (PHQ-9). Descriptive analysis, Pearson chi-square test, and a binary logistic regression were employed to assess the prevalence rates and identify significant factors influencing the outcome. Additionally, a bivariate co-relation matrix was conducted to assess the correlation between the dependent variables and ordinal logistic regression model was fit for a gender-based assessment. The findings revealed that 28.3% of students had a history of CSA, among them 7.35% were male, and 20.96% were female. Additionally, 70.2% of students exhibited PPU, 62.1% of them were addicted to the internet and 50.4% reported having depression. Gender, medical college type, marital status, CSA, IA, and PPU had a significant effect on increasing depression among the participants. Furthermore, strong positive relationships were found among CSA, IA, PPU, and depression. The study found an alarming rate of IA, PPU, and depression among medical students, reflecting the urgent need for targeted mental health interventions. Public awareness and protection policies on CSA can encourage students to seek help. Additionally, psychological therapy can help eliminating IA and PPU, while marriage's potential to reduce depression requires stakeholders to explore its effects.

Keywords: Bangladesh; Childhood sexual abuse; Depression; Internet addiction; Pornography use.

Değişen Dünya Düzeninde Nijerya Modeli Üzerinden D-8 Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı Ülkelerinin Siyasi ve Ekonomik İlişkileri

Dr. Ahmat Mahamat Oumar
Uluslararası İlişkiler ve Afrika çalışmaları araştırmacısı.

Özet

Soğuk Savaş'ın sona ermesiyle birlikte uluslararası sistemin yapısında köklü bir değişim ruzgarları esmeye başlamıştır. Bu hessas evrede en belirgin değişimler arasında Yeni Dünya Düzeni'nin ortaya çıkması ve küreselleşmenin siyasal, ekonomik ve kültürel boyutlarıyla gücünün artması de yer almıştır. Bu bağlamda küresel sistemin temellerindeki yeni değişimler ve gelişmelere ayak uydurabilmek amacıyla Şanghay İşbirliği Örgütü, Avrupa Birliği ve Afrika Birliği gibi bölgesel, kıtasal ve hatta kıtalararası kuruluşların kurulması veya yeniden oluşturulması ihtiyacı ortaya çıkmıştır. Bu bağlamda, İslam dünyası da bu hassas dönemdeki yaşanan küresel gelişimlerin dinamiklerinin dışında kalmamıştır. Dolayısıyla, 1997'de D-8 Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı kurulmuştur. Bu örgüt kurulduğu günden bugüne hem ekonomik hem de sosyal açıdan önemli roller üstlenmiştir. Bu nedenle Nijerya modeli üzerinden D-8 Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı üye ülkeleri arasındaki siyasi, diplomatik ve ekonomik ilişkiler konusu bu çalışamada ele alınacaktır. Böylece bu çalışmanın temel problemi aşağıdaki gibi formüle edilebilecek birkaç temel soruda yatmaktadır:

- D-8 Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı'nın değişken küresel sistemdeki ekonomik ve sosyo-kültürel açıdan önemi nedir?
- Uluslararası değişimler ışığında bu örgütün geleceğe yönelik vizyonlar nelerdir?

Bu tür sorulara uygun yanıtlara ulaşabilmek için bu çalışmanın konusu giriş ve sonuca ek olarak dört bölümde ele alınacaktır:

- Çalışmanın birinci bölümünde, Soğuk Savaş'ın sona ermesinin ardından yaşanan uluslararası değişimler ışığında D-8 Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı'nın ortaya çıkışı, ülkeleri ve özellikleri ele alınacaktır.
- İkinci bölüm Nijerya modeli üzerinden D-8 Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı üyesi devletler arasındaki siyasi ve diplomatik ilişkiler hakkında olacaktır.
- Üçüncü bölümde ise ekonomik ve sosyal boyutlara odaklanılacaktır.
- Dördüncü ve son bölüm, uluslararası sistemin geleceği ışığında D-8 Ekonomik İşbirliği Teşkilatı'nın geleceğe ilişkin görünümü hakkında olacaktır.

Son olarak, uluslararası sistemdeki değişimler ışığında önem kazanan bu çalışmanın konusunun analizinde uygun bilimsel yöntemler esas alınacaktır.

Depression and Suicide Literacy Among Muslim Religious Leaders in Bangladesh: Impact of Demographic Factors

Sheikh Muzzammil Hussen

School of Business and Social Sciences, Albukhary International University, Malaysia

Md Ahsan Ullah

Dhaka College, Bangladesh

Kaji Jahirul Islam

Mersin University, Mersin, Turkey.

Md Shakil Hossain

School of Computing and Informatics, Albukhary International University, Malaysia.

Yeaqub Shah

International Islamic University Malaysia

Abstract

Muslim religious leaders hold a crucial position in society, exerting significant influence through their doctrines and counsel. This study investigates the awareness of suicide and depression among these leaders and explore the correlation between demographic factors and mental health literacy. In this study 589 religious leaders, including imams, khateebs, madrasah teachers, and other relevant professionals participated in a cross-sectional online survey. Respondents socio-demographic information was collected. The 22-item Depression Literacy Scale (D-LIT) and the 12-item Literacy of Suicide Scale (LOSS) were used to assess depression and suicide literacy. Data were analysed using Python, with Pandas for data manipulation, NumPy for numerical operations, and SciPy for statistical tests. The Chi-square test, binary logistic regression, and bivariate correlation analysis were used to examine the relationships between sociodemographic variables and mental health literacy. The results showed that 50.34% of religious leaders had low depression literacy, 24.66% had moderate literacy, and 25% had good literacy. For suicide literacy, 59.52% had low literacy, 21.43% had moderate literacy, and 19.05% had good literacy. Family history of mental illness was significantly associated with lower depression and suicide literacy levels (p-value < 0.05), while sociodemographic factors like profession, marital status, income, and living area did not significantly affect literacy levels. The results reveal significant gaps in mental health awareness among religious leaders, with over half lacking sufficient knowledge of suicide and depression. The study suggests providing targeted mental health education to improve their ability to support their communities effectively.

Keywords: Suicide literacy, Depression literacy, Mental health, Religious Leaders, Muslim community

Developing A Sustainable Snake Venom Supply Chain: Enhancing Drug Production, Employment, And Environmental Balance Through SMEs in Bangladesh

Omar Faruque PhD
Department of Economics, Stamford University Bangladesh
Nafisa Naushin Joyeeta
Department of Economics, Stamford University Bangladesh
Farjana Sultana
Department of Economics, Stamford University Bangladesh

Abstract

Cultivating snake venom by small and medium enterprises (SMEs) presents a unique opportunity to support the production of lifesaving drugs at a larger scale, particularly antivenom. In Bangladesh, where snakebite mortality remains a significant concern, there is a pressing need to cultivate venom domestically to fulfil local demand and reduce dependency on imported antivenom.

This research explores the potential of establishing a sustainable supply chain for snake venom cultivation as a backward linkage to lifesaving drug production. By involving SMEs, this initiative would enhance local capacity and create diverse employment opportunities, from venom farming and processing to pharmaceuticals. Moreover, once domestic needs are met, the surplus venom can open new export avenues, positioning Bangladesh as a key player in the global antivenom market. Beyond economic benefits, venom cultivation can also play a critical role in supporting ecological balance. This proposal outlines the strategic steps for developing snake venom cultivation as a sustainable and scalable industry that supports the pharmaceutical sector, enhances environmental preservation, and contributes to job creation and export potential based on the experiences of different countries worldwide. To do so, we adopt a mixed-methods approach combining qualitative and quantitative research techniques. This approach will comprehensively understand the technical, economic, social, and environmental factors required to establish sustainable venom farming.

Keywords: SMEs, Snake Venom, Pharmaceutical Sector, Supply Chain, Ecological Balance, Employment.

Digital Carbon Footprints An Consumption Patterns: Assessing Awareness Among University Students in Bangladesh

Tanvir Ahmed
Faculty of Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness Studies, Khulna Agricultural University, Bangladesh
Nure Jannat Arpa
Faculty of Agricultural Economics & Agribusiness Studies, Khulna Agricultural University, Bangladesh
Umme Salma Mitu
Faculty of Agricultural Engineering & Technology, Khulna Agricultural University, Bangladesh
Most Ayesha
Faculty of Agricultural Engineering & Technology, Khulna Agricultural University, Bangladesh
Nahian Ullah Nishat
Faculty of Agricultural Engineering & Technology, Khulna Agricultural University, Bangladesh

Abstract

The rise in digital consumption has led to increased carbon emissions, making it essential to assess awareness of digital carbon footprints among university students. This study introduces a novel equation to determine digital consumption patterns and assess awareness levels among students in Bangladesh. A structured survey was conducted with a sample of 370 students from diverse academic backgrounds. Statistical analyses, including regression modelling, were applied to evaluate the relationship between awareness and sustainable digital behaviour. The findings reveal that while students frequently engage in high-energy-consuming digital activities such as streaming, gaming and prolonged device usage also their understanding of digital carbon footprints remains limited. The novel equation developed in this study provides a systematic approach to quantifying digital consumption's pattern. Results indicate a significant correlation between higher awareness levels and more eco-conscious digital habits. The study emphasizes the importance of integrating sustainability education into university curriculum and promoting digital carbon footprint reduction strategies. These findings offer valuable insights for educators, policymakers, and technology developers in fostering responsible digital consumption practices. Future research should explore the effectiveness of targeted awareness campaigns and digital sustainability interventions over time.

Keywords: Digital Carbon Footprint, Consumption Patterns, Awareness, University Students, Sustainability

Deobandi/ Qawmi Madrasas in Bangladesh: A Heterotopia in Tension

Md Rahat Bin Sayef Chy

Social and Cultural Anthropology, University of Bayreuth, Germany

Abstract

The Deobandi/Qawmi (DQ) education system has been run in Bangladesh since 1901, producing thousands of graduates annually, but the government only recognized it in 2017. This recognition has led to governmental pressures for 'modernization', urging madrasas to incorporate secular subjects e.g. Bangla, English, Mathematics etc. to improve graduates' access to higher education and the job market. However, Madrasas prioritize preserving their traditional curricula and showing limited readiness for the reform. This ethnographic study investigates how DQ Madrasa, established in 1974 in Sylhet, navigates these 'modernizing' pressures. For six weeks, from late November 2024 to early January 2025, a role as a language teacher was undertaken in the madrasa as part of a participant observation. Throughout this period, eight in-depth interviews, informal interviews, group discussions, a focus group discussion, and the collection of various documents, formed the basis of the research activities. Based on grounded theory analysis, it explored the institution's decisions, tensions, strategies and capabilities for integrating secular subjects to enhance graduates' employability. Rather than wholly embracing or rejecting 'modernization', the madrasa adopted a selective and cautious approach to 'modernization'. This 'selective modernization' reflects their willingness to cautiously engage with 'modernity' without abandoning their traditions. They are breaking their 'heterotopic' world, but selectively and cautiously. Therefore, this research argues that the DQ madrasa is a 'heterotopia' in tension. This research fostered ways of shaping policies aimed at integrating DQ madrasas into the mainstream education system. Incorporating DQ graduates—an influential population segment—into higher education and the global economy could contribute to building a more inclusive Bangladesh while addressing unemployment. Additionally, this integration could play a crucial role in addressing the rising islamophobia in Bangladesh by bridging the gap between state-recognized and DQ graduates.

Keywords: Madrasa, Education, Selective Modernization, Heterotopia, integration

Diasporic Engagement in July Revolution: Solidarity, Mobility and Impact

Minhajul Abedin
Department of History, Istanbul University, Türkiye

Abstract

This research explores the pivotal role of expatriate Bangladeshis in the July Revolution 2024, which escalated into a significant mass uprising that transcended national borders. What began as a student protest against the government's discriminatory quota system quickly became a broader national struggle, propelled by the involvement of over 13 million Bangladeshis residing abroad. Through strategic use of social media, remittance boycotts, and international solidarity, expatriates amplified the movement's message, demanding an end to government oppression and the protection of human rights in Bangladesh. Notably, expatriates employed digital campaigns to counter government censorship, facilitated medical aid for injured protesters, and organized protests in cities worldwide, from London to New York, Istanbul to Sydney. Their contribution was not only a political stance but an embodiment of deep national love and responsibility, challenging both local and international political systems. This study highlights the historical significance of this diaspora activism, illustrating how a global diaspora can reshape domestic political landscapes and drive profound social change.

Keywords: Bangladesh, July Revolution, Diaspora, Social Media, Remittance Boycotts.

Educational Challenges Faced by Internal Migrant Children in Sylhet, Bangladesh: Policy Solutions for Inclusive Learning

G.M Sifat Iqbal
Metropolitan University, Bangladesh
Halima Sultana
Metropolitan University, Bangladesh

Abstract

This study investigates the educational challenges faced by internal migrant children in Sylhet, Bangladesh, focusing on how socio-economic and systemic barriers hinder their access to and continuity in education. Utilizing a mixed-methods approach, the research combines structured surveys and in-depth interviews with 50 migrant children aged 5 to 14, ensuring equal representation of boys and girls. Findings reveal that only 78% of surveyed children are currently enrolled in school, with 76% experiencing disruptions due to migration. Economic hardship is a primary factor leading to irregular attendance-children, on average, attend school only three to four days per week. Gender disparities are pronounced: girls face more frequent interruptions, with 56% having dropped out at least once compared to 16% of boys. Additional barriers include a shortage of schools in high-migration areas, inconsistent documentation requirements for enrolment, and a lack of community or government support. Qualitative data highlights the social and emotional toll of frequent relocations, such as instability and anxiety, further impeding academic progress. The study recommends policy reforms to streamline enrolment, provide gender-specific support, enhance community collaboration, and introduce mobile education solutions to address these challenges. Overall, the research underscores the urgent need for inclusive policy interventions to bridge educational gaps among internal migrant children in Sylhet.

Keywords: Internal Migrant Children, Educational Barriers, Gender Disparities

Electoral Integrity in Bangladesh: A Historical Analysis of Non-Party Caretaker and Party-Line Governments (1991-2024)

Yeasin Arafat
Department of Economics, University of Delhi, India
MD Mahabub Alam
Center for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, India

Abstract

This study digs into the integrity of electoral processes under non-party caretaker and party-line governments in Bangladesh. It shares a historical look at the way these ways of running elections shape democracy. The paper studies how these election methods started, changed over time, and the rough patches when switching between them, shining a light on big moments like the 12th, 13th, and 15th amendments to the constitution.

Using a qualitative comparative approach and poring over historical happenings, cases, and data on voting from 1991 to 2024, the authors examine how many people vote, fights during elections, what voters think, and whether the people running the show are fair. Findings reveal that the caretaker system helped make elections where people got involved and could trust what happened while it lasted but taking it away in 2011 led to later elections that people said were messed up, violent, and lost people's trust. The study points out that keeping elections fair in Bangladesh is tough, but staying neutral, having good laws, and shaking up institutions can help keep democracy steady. With all these detailed diggings, the research adds to the big talk about how countries that are still figuring out democracy should handle elections.

Keywords: Electoral Integrity, Caretaker Government, Party-Line Government, Bangladesh Politics, Bangladesh Election History

Establishing Rights-Based Cybersecurity Standards for Sustainable Digital Governance in Bangladesh 2.0

N H M Arafat

College of Engineering, University of Toledo, Toledo, USA

Abstract

The emergence and enforcement of digital legislation in Bangladesh under the Hasina administration, a fugitive fascist-autocrat, have notably been characterized by controversial implementations, raising serious concerns regarding human rights violations and suppression of freedom of expression. Particularly, legislation such as the Digital Security Act and Cyber Security Act was reportedly leveraged as political instruments rather than as genuine safeguards against cyber threats, resulting in significant public distrust and societal polarization. Nonetheless, given Bangladesh's rapidly growing reliance on digital infrastructure, it is imperative that the nation establishes and enforces clear, equitable, and just cybersecurity regulations and standards to safeguard citizens' rights, dignity, and societal fairness. In envisioning "Bangladesh 2.0," this paper emphasizes the necessity for comprehensive reforms in the governance, risk management, and compliance (GRC) domains to achieve an inclusive and rights-based digital environment. We propose establishing robust cybersecurity policies clearly delineating responsibilities across various sectors, including governmental, military, and civilian bodies. Additionally, stringent internal policy oversight is essential within sensitive institutions such as the Bangladesh Army, National Security Intelligence, and Bangladesh Police to prevent abuses of power and rights violations. The proposed governance framework integrates ethical considerations and human rights standards into cybersecurity practices, promoting transparency and accountability. Risk assessment procedures must be regularly updated to reflect emerging threats, ensuring that mitigation strategies effectively balance national security and individual freedoms. Legal and ethical compliance mechanisms should be transparent, impartial, and consistently enforced to rebuild trust between authorities and the public. Our proposal advocates extensive stakeholder participation, urging collaboration among governmental agencies, civil society, academia, and private entities to foster sustainable and ethical cybersecurity practices. This participatory approach is critical for developing effective cybersecurity frameworks that protect citizens while promoting national stability, technological innovation, and societal trust. Ultimately, these recommendations aim to transform Bangladesh's cybersecurity landscape into a reliable, rights-centric domain, aligned with international standards and capable of sustainably supporting the nation's digital future.

Keywords: Bangladesh 2.0, Cybersecurity, Governance Risk Compliance (GRC), Digital Rights, Cybersecurity Policies, Human Rights

Exploring Student Perception of Education's Role in Career Choices: A Cross-Sectional Analysis

Ayub Ali
Department of Economics and Banking, International Islamic University Chittagong, Bangladesh
Md. Minhajul Arefin
Institute of Educational Development, BRAC University, Bangladesh
Mohammad Ahsan Habib
Department of Economics and Banking, International Islamic University Chittagong, Bangladesh
Zobayer Ahmed
Institute of Education and Research, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Abstract

Background

The increasing trend of students from developing countries pursuing higher education abroad as a pathway to international careers has become a significant global concern, particularly in Bangladesh. This study aimed to explore the career preferences of Bangladeshi university students, focusing on the roles of socio-economic background, academic discipline, and gender.

Methodology

Data were collected from 648 undergraduate students from public, private, and national universities across Bangladesh using an online survey conducted from October to December 2023. Descriptive statistics, chi-square tests, and binary logistic regression models were used to analyse the factors associated with career preferences.

Results

The study revealed that 61% of undergraduate students preferred pursuing higher education abroad as a career pathway, while 39% opted to stay in Bangladesh. Socio-demographic factors, including gender ($p < 0.001$), marital status ($p = 0.024$), and living area ($p = 0.032$), significantly influenced career preferences. Students from higher-income families ($p < 0.001$) and those with family members abroad ($p < 0.001$) were more likely to prefer international careers. Academic background, particularly faculty type ($p < 0.001$), and mentorship support ($p < 0.001$) were critical determinants. Negative perceptions of the education system ($p < 0.001$) also increased the likelihood of preferring international opportunities.

Conclusion

The study reveals significant socio-economic and gender divides in career preferences. It underscores the need for educational institutions and policymakers to align academic offerings with students' aspirations and address the increasing trend of student migration.

Keywords: Career perception, Education sector, Sustainable Educational Policies

Freedom of Expression in Bangladesh: A Critical Review of The Digital Security Act 2018 and Cyber Security Act 2023

Emon Ali
Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
Imran Hasan Wahid
Institute of Social Welfare and Research, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Abstract

Freedom of expression is one of the fundamental human rights to uphold the right to voice opinions, information rights and accountability for the citizens in a democratic country. In Bangladesh, these basic rights are impacted by the Digital Security Act (DSA) 2018 and Cyber Security Act (CSA) 2023. Although these laws are imposed to reduce cyber threats and maintain national security, often they have sparked significant debates concerning their implications for free speech and human rights. The Digital Security Act 2018 was criticized for its vague provisions, arbitrary arrests, and suppression of dissent. So, the government repealed this law and imposed the Cyber Security Act 2023 to solve these issues. Through comparative and qualitative analysis, this study critically examines why the DSA 2018 was abolished, whether the CSA 2023 has effectively resolved the concerns and to what extent it secures freedom of expression, evaluating key legal changes, and their impact on digital rights. Primary sources are legal texts, parliamentary records, and policy documents to understand this legislative shift and reports from human rights organizations, expert analyses, and media coverage that provide insights into practical implications. Additionally, case studies of affected individuals are analysed to measure changes in enforcement and their consequences for digital freedom. Findings show that some contentious provisions have been changed but core issues such as concerns over surveillance, inconsistent legal definitions, and criminal penalties for online activism persist in limiting digital freedom. The study suggests particular legal provisions requiring additional refinement to prevent misuse and protect fundamental rights. Evaluating the efficiency of these laws, this study's findings help to combine cyber security with democratic freedoms, ensuring a just and open digital space.

Keywords: Freedom of Expression, Digital Security Act, Cyber Security Act, Legal Reform, Human Rights.

Geopolitical Trends and Key Players in South Asia: Insights from a Bangladeshi Viewpoint

Jannatul Ferdos
Department of Geography and Environmental Studies, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh
Mohammad Hossain
Department of Sociology, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh
Naimur Rahman
Department of Economics, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Rahat Chowdhury
Department of Government and Politics, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh
Robiul Islam
Department of International Relations, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh

Abstract

The study explores the geopolitical dynamics of South Asia from Bangladesh perspective. The region's strategic competition, economic growth and political shifts have significant impacts on Bangladesh. The research examines how regional and global power dynamics shape South Asian relations and strategic decisions. Using literature reviews, case studies, and policy analysis, the study identifies four key factors: (a) India's dominance, balanced by Pakistan; (b) China's economic influence and Japan's alignment with the United States for stability; (c) Russia's regional presence and USA support for India against China; and (d) Bangladesh's strategic importance due to its location and economy, requiring careful diplomacy. The study focuses on the roles of India, China, and Pakistan, along with global actors including the United States and Russia. It highlights Bangladesh's foreign policy, emphasizing its diplomatic efforts, strategic partnerships, and balanced relations with neighbors and global powers. The study also explores Bangladesh's economic strategies, including trade, investment, and infrastructure projects, showcasing their role in national growth and regional cooperation. By placing Bangladesh within South Asian geopolitical context, the research highlights its strategies to protect sovereignty, boost economic resilience, and promote regional stability. This study provides insights into Bangladesh's responses to regional power dynamics and strategic alignments, offering a clear view of South Asia's evolving geopolitical landscape.

Keywords: Geopolitics, Foreign Policy, Economic Strategy, Regional Power, Hegemony, Bangladesh, South Asia.

Harnessing Solar Energy for MRT-Based Ev Charging: A Technoeconomic and Environmental Analysis for Green Mobility

Humayra Tasnim Farah
Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Islamic University of Technology, Bangladesh
Samiha Tasnim Mouly
Department of Electrical & Electronic Engineering, Islamic University of Technology, Bangladesh

Abstract

Bangladesh aims to have at least 30% of its vehicles electric by 2030, according to a 2023 circular from the Road Transport and Highways Division. As part of its Nationally Determined Contributions, the country has committed to reducing emissions in the transport sector by 3.4 million tons of carbon dioxide by 2030. In aligned with Paris Agreement climate action the target is to reach around 70.6% carbon neutrality by 2050. Additionally, Bangladesh plans to increase the share of renewable energy in its energy mix to 15% by 2030 and 40% by 2041. To harness its solar energy potential, Bangladesh is exploring the implementation of solar projects. However, land scarcity and infrastructure challenges pose significant obstacles. This paper proposes the installation of solar panels on the rooftops of the Dhaka MRT line 6 metro station and the rooftop of DEPOT utilizing around 87599 square meters to generate approximately 19.7 MWp of energy for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. With an estimated annual energy production of 26754442 kWh/year, this setup could charge over 10000 EVs or equivalently 9,163 easy bikes per year. Overall, this model is expected to replace 390614.8 tons of CO_2 over 25 years, resulting in a total savings of 312,232.9 tons of CO_2 throughout its lifetime. Additionally, it will contribute to a reduction in the per-vehicle charging cost and offer a payback period of roughly 6 to 8 years. The study includes an analysis of the Levelized Cost of Energy (LCOE) and Net Present Value (NPV). For simulation, PVsyst and MATLAB software were used to maintain the accuracy of the system. The system can enhance solar implementation projects, paving the way to achieve the goal of implementing a maximum carbon-friendly vehicle system within a renewable integrated generation.

Keywords: Renewable Energy, Solar Panels, Carbon Neutrality, Metro Station, EV charging

Higher Education Policies in Turkey and Bangladesh: A Comparative Analysis

Deniz GÜVEN
Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Tokat Gaziosmanpaşa University, Türkiye
Mehmet KENDİRCİ
Faculty of Economics and Administrative Sciences, Tokat Gaziosmanpaşa University, Türkiye

Abstract

The closeness between Turkey and Bangladesh, stemming from religious and cultural ties, has led to significant developments in the field of education in recent years, as in many other areas. The positive effects of this growing relationship on the shaping of higher education policies in both countries are reflected in bilateral agreements at the international level and incorporated into their education policies. A comparative analysis of the policies implemented by both countries in this field is crucial for tracking current developments.

This study examines the higher education policies of Turkey and Bangladesh from a comparative perspective, analyzing the fundamental dynamics, governance structures, funding models, quality assurance mechanisms, and internationalization processes of both countries' higher education systems. In Turkey, higher education is governed by a centralized system regulated by the Council of Higher Education (YÖK). The balance between public and foundation universities, financial support mechanisms, and issues related to academic freedom constitute key areas of debate in Turkey's higher education policies. In Bangladesh, the higher education system is more complex, comprising both public and private universities. Public universities are funded and supervised by the government, while private universities operate with relatively greater independence. However, challenges such as inadequate funding, low academic quality standards, and inequalities in access to education remain significant issues in Bangladesh's higher education policies. In this context, the study compares the reforms undertaken by Turkey and Bangladesh in higher education, student mobility, academic achievement levels, and education policies related to employment. By analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of both countries' higher education policies, the study develops policy recommendations, particularly in the context of global trends and digitalization. In conclusion, it emphasizes the need for improving the sustainability, quality assurance, and international competitiveness of the higher education policies of Turkey and Bangladesh.

Keywords: Turkey, Bangladesh, higher education policies, education reforms, student mobility.

How Political Oppression and Inequality Led to the July Revolution in Bangladesh

Golam Mostofa
Department of Computer Engineering, Koç University, Türkiye
Rahmat Ullah
Department of Political Science and International Relations, Istanbul Gelişim University, Türkiye

Abstract

Bangladesh has long suffered under the grip of political oppression, where democratic institutions have been systematically weakened, freedom of speech suppressed, and opposition voices silenced. The former ruling party, Bangladesh Awami League (BAL), has maintained control through torture, oppression, hijacking, and mass killing. Corruption and nepotism have deepened public frustration, fueling mass discontent. In addition, the quota system in public sector recruitment exacerbated social inequality, favouring a privilege to a certain class while limiting opportunities for the majority. Widespread grievances over these injustices culminated in the July Uprising, a mass movement demanding systemic change. This study aims to analyse the role of political oppression and inequality created by the Sheikh Hasina regime from 2009 onwards in triggering the July Uprising, highlighting the structural factors that led to the mass uprising. By analysing historical events, government policies, political situations, and protest movements, this research examines the underlying causes of the uprising. Findings suggest that long-term suppression of democratic rights, political repression, socio-political insecurity, economic disparity, and the discriminatory quota system created a volatile environment ripe for the uprising. The government's failure to address public grievances and its increasing authoritarianism ultimately led to mass protests. Despite state repression, the uprising succeeded in overthrowing the government, bringing an end to the Hasina regime. However, challenges remain in ensuring lasting reforms and preventing a return to autocratic rule. These findings suggest a comprehensive understanding of the causes and consequences of the July Revolution, contributing to broader discussions on post-revolutionary state-building in Bangladesh 2.0.

Keywords: BAL, Political Oppression, Inequality, July Revolution, Bangladesh

Agricultural Drought in Northern Bangladesh: A Spatiotemporal Analysis Using Modis Time Series From 2001 To 2023

Shahin Ali
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Akib Javed
Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), Dhaka, Bangladesh
Iffat Ara
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh

Abstract

Agricultural drought is a major concern and becoming more severe to regions which are highly vulnerable to climate variability like Northern Bangladesh. The main objective of this study is to map agricultural drought in Northern Bangladesh using the Standardized Drought Condition Index (SDCI), to develop a classification framework to differentiate drought severity levels and analyse temporal trends in drought occurrences and duration across Northern Bangladesh from January 2001 to December 2023. The study utilized MODIS and CHIRPS time series data from 2001 to 2023 to conduct a spatiotemporal analysis of agricultural drought. This study employed four key indices namely the Scaled Drought Condition Index (SDCI), Vegetation Condition Index (VCI), Temperature Condition Index (TCI), and Precipitation Condition Index (PCI). The findings reveal fluctuating drought severity over the study period, with extreme drought conditions recurring in 2004, 2008, and 2020. A general downward trend in SDCI values across districts, particularly post-2012, indicates increasing drought intensity over time. Seasonal patterns showed drought severity peaking in October and November, with lighter conditions during June to September. District-specific analyses identified Joypurhat, Naogaon, and Kurigram as high-risk areas frequently experiencing extreme drought conditions. The Vegetation Condition Index (VCI) and Temperature Condition Index (TCI) demonstrated strong correlations with drought patterns, with VCI experiencing notable declines during drought months. The Precipitation Condition Index (PCI) identified reduced rainfall, especially after 2007, as a key factor intensifying drought severity. This study enables drought monitoring through remote sensing and provides actionable insights for policymakers. It emphasizes the need for predictive modelling, primary data integration, and consideration of socio-cultural impacts. The findings highlight regional and temporal variability, offering a foundation for future research on climate adaptation and sustainable agriculture.

Keywords: Agricultural Drought, Spatiotemporal, MODIS, CHIRPS, VCI, TCI, PCI and SDCI

Impacts of Artificial Intelligence on Auditing Quality: A case study in Chattogram city, Bangladesh

Md. Shahnur Azad Chowdhury

Business Administration, International Islamic University Chittagong, Bangladesh

Abstract

Artificial intelligence becomes very useful in our daily decision-making process. So, a study of artificial intelligence and its impact on perceptual, regulatory, structural and procedural changes with new competencies in audit procedures is undertaken. For the study, close ended survey data in five point Likert scale (ranging from 1 = Strongly disagree with the opinion to 5 = Strongly agree with the opinion) was collected by purposefully sampling method from experienced audit related experienced people in port city Chattogram, Bangladesh. Now the survey response data are classified into six factors with factor analysis by principal component analysis extraction method and Varimax with Kaiser normalization rotation method by IBM SPSS Statistics 26 and validate with Cronbach's Alpha value. Based on factor analysis, structure equation model (SEM) was developed with IBM SPSS AMOS 22 software taking application of artificial intelligence as exogenous variable and auditor perception change, audit regulatory change, audit structural change, audit procedural change and new competencies arise in auditing as endogenous variable and validate with convergent, discriminant and model validity. Research studies show that artificial intelligence has no significant contribution to audit structural change or audit procedural change. So, to apply artificial intelligence in audit procedures no structural or procedural changes are required. But, application of artificial intelligence has a positive significant contribution to perception change, audit regulatory change and new competencies arise in auditing to auditor. So, to apply the artificial intelligence on audit procedure, auditor perception may change, audit regulatory may require modification and new competencies arise in auditing to adopt the environment of artificial intelligence. The study result may be utilized in policy formulation and its impact to implement artificial intelligence in audit procedure.

Keywords: Artificial intelligence, Audit, Structure equation model

Indo-Bangladesh Relations in the Context of July Revolution and The Way Forward

Saidul Ialam
Department of International Relations, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh
Jane Alam
Department of Political Science, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh

Abstract

India is often regarded as one of Bangladesh's most significant allies, and its assistance during the liberation war in 1971 has been undeniable. Since that period, Dhaka has historically and culturally maintained robust ties with New Delhi; nonetheless, the bilateral relationship has experienced fluctuations characterized by suspicions, risks, threats, tensions, and conflicts throughout the years. Notably, in the past two decades, the Sheikh Hasina government has undertaken unprecedented initiatives to fortify ties—through agreements, treaties, and memorandums—with India. On the contrary, Bangladesh has encountered both overt and covert interference in its internal affairs from its Indian counterpart. The subsequent changes in leadership, following Hasina's escape to India amidst widespread student-led protests, have produced dilemmas affecting the bilateral relations of the two nations. This study aims to elucidate how the Bangladesh-India relationship has been influenced by specific regimes or political parties over time. Utilizing a historical-geographical approach, this study encompasses a review of existing scholarly literature, news and media articles, editorials, and reports, alongside assessments of seminars, conferences, and dialogues, as well as conducting in-depth expert interviews, with the goals of exploring the prospective future of Bangladesh-India relations within the context of ever-changing geopolitical dynamics. The research finds that India exhibits a pronounced inclination towards cultivating strong ties with particular political parties and elites—who prioritize regime interests over national interests—while ensuring their sustained dominance in power to optimize New Delhi's own regional interests. This phenomenon poses a significant challenge for Bangladesh's future, despite its inability to disengage from India due to the latter's material preeminence in the region. The study advocates that, given Dhaka's incapacity to rival New Delhi in terms of military and economic strength, Bangladesh should endeavor to uphold its strategic autonomy and national interests in its international relations with India and other major powers, thereby avoiding undue dependence on any singular entity.

Keywords: Bangladesh, Foreign Policy, India, National Interests, Regime Interests, Strategic Autonomy, Geopolitical Dynamics.

Islamic Microfinance Institutions and Their Role in Community Development: Impact on Women Entrepreneurs in Malaysia

Md. Sojib Hasan Choyon
Faculty of Business, Multimedia University, Malaysia
Mahbubur Rahaman
Faculty of Business, Multimedia University, Malaysia
Mohammad Abdullah Faisal
Faculty of Leadership & Management, University Science Islam Malaysia, Malaysia

Abstract

Islamic microfinance plays a crucial role in alleviating poverty and fostering national development by offering Shariah-compliant financial solutions that empower underserved communities. These institutions not only provide financial assistance but also support clients throughout their entrepreneurial journey. However, despite the rising popularity of Islamic microfinance across Muslim-majority countries, significant barriers persist—especially for female entrepreneurs in Malaysia who operate microenterprises and small businesses. Women are vital contributors to both household income and national economic growth, yet they continue to face challenges in accessing appropriate financial services.

While conventional microfinance models such as the Grameen Bank have gained widespread traction, they often involve interest-based mechanisms prohibited in Islam. In contrast, Islamic microfinance adheres strictly to Shariah principles, avoiding Riba (interest) and promoting ethical financing. The demand for such services among Muslim populations is steadily increasing, yet Islamic microfinance institutions (MFIs) remain limited in scope and scale compared to their conventional counterparts.

This paper critically examines the development and current limitations of Islamic microfinance in Malaysia, with a particular emphasis on female participation. It explores the persistent gap between the supply and demand for Shariah-compliant financial services, highlighting the inadequacy of relying solely on government and donor funding to bridge this divide. As a strategic solution, the study proposes the formation of an Islamic Microfinance Community (IMC) to foster self-sustaining institutions, build human capital, and implement best practices across the sector. Ultimately, this approach aims to enhance financial inclusion, stimulate entrepreneurial growth, and promote social and spiritual well-being among marginalized Muslim communities, especially women, thereby contributing meaningfully to sustainable economic development.

Keywords: Islamic Microfinance, Microfinance Institutions, Microfinance and Women Entrepreneurs Microfinance in Malaysia.

Legal Reform in Bangladesh 2.0: Perspectives from a Muslim-Majority Context

Dr. ASM Mahmudul HASAN

Department of International Relations, Karabuk University, Türkiye

Abstract

This research explores a comprehensive legal reform agenda designed to harmonize statutory laws in Bangladesh with the principles of Islamic jurisprudence, particularly in matters of personal and family law for its Muslim-majority population. Recognizing the jurisprudential and cultural gaps in the current legal system, the paper examines proposed reforms across 17 domains, ranging from inheritance law, marriage, divorce, guardianship, and waqf management, to broader issues involving the penal code, evidentiary rules, and controversial security statutes. Key legislative instruments identified for amendment include the Muslim Family Laws Ordinance (1961), Family Courts Ordinance (1985), Succession Act (1925), and Bank Companies Act (1991), with targeted provisions aimed at resolving conflicts with Qur'anic injunctions and enhancing Sharia's compliance. Central to this initiative is the inclusion of qualified Islamic scholars ('Ulama) in adjudicatory and advisory roles—across Arbitration Councils, Family Courts, Legal Aid Committees, and Village Courts—to ensure fidelity to Islamic legal norms. The paper also proposes the codification of Muslim inheritance law to address current inconsistencies and legal ambiguities. At an institutional level, the establishment of a dedicated bench within the High Court Division for Muslim personal law matters is advocated to promote specialized jurisprudence and procedural consistency. Beyond personal law, the paper evaluates reformative needs within the Evidence Act, Penal Code, and CrPC to incorporate digital realities and ensure religious sensitivity in legal interpretation. Additionally, the review of controversial laws such as the Special Powers Act (1974) aims to balance national security with fundamental rights. This reform agenda envisions a pluralistic legal system that simultaneously upholds constitutional norms, human rights, and religious authenticity, making it a transformative legal blueprint for Muslim-majority democracies.

Legitimizing Sustainability: An Iso 26000-Based Analysis of Socio-Environmental Reporting in Bangladesh's Tannery Industry

Afsana Sultana Shimu
Department of International Business Administration, Sakarya University of Applied Sciences, Türkiye
Dr. Tasmina Chowdhury Tania
Department of Business Administration, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh
Dr. Rashed Jahangir
Department of International Trade and Logistics, Business School, Sakarya University, Türkiye

Abstract

The primary objective of this research is to examine the socio-environmental (SE) reporting practices of Bangladesh's tannery industry through the lens of legitimacy theory, with a particular emphasis on their alignment with the ISO 26000 standard on social responsibility. Despite being a significant contributor to the national economy and global leather supply chains, the tannery sector has long been associated with severe environmental pollution, poor labor conditions, and a lack of transparency in corporate practices. These challenges have intensified calls for improved accountability and sustainability disclosures, especially within developing country contexts. In this process, a comprehensive SE reporting index is developed by scrutinizing 82 annual reports published between 2010 and 2024 by six companies listed on the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). The findings reveal a gradual yet noticeable improvement in the volume and scope of SE disclosures over the years. This improvement appears to be driven by voluntary corporate initiatives, evolving stakeholder expectations, and regulatory pressures at both national and international levels. The study contributes to the limited literature on SE reporting in environmentally sensitive industries within developing countries. It offers policy recommendations to enhance transparency, accountability, and stakeholder engagement in line with global sustainability standards.

Keywords: Socio-Environmental Reporting, Legitimacy Theory, Tannery Industry, Dhaka Stock Exchange, ISO 26000 Framework.

Male Child Sexual Abuse by Men and Its Impact on Survivors: A Study in Bangladesh

Md. Yeasin Arafat
Department of Sociology, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh
Shah Jalal Ahamed
Department of Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh

Abstract

In Bangladesh, due to cultural circumstances, male child sexual abuse (MCSA) is an unseen event. It's a societal taboo to talk and to disclose. However, MCSA has an intense impact on the mental health, sexual behaviour, and personality of the survivors. This study aimed to determine the MCSA impact on the survivors in Bangladesh. Using a mixed method design the study gathered quantitative data from 79 survivors who filled out a survey questionnaire consisting of patient health questionnaire (PHQ-9), suicidal ideation (SI) question, and The Kessler Psychological Distress Scale (K10) to measure depression, suicidal ideation, and psychological distress. 13 survivors participated in the qualitative in-depth-interviews. Descriptive and bivariate analyses were used to analyse the quantitative data. The thematic analysis described the findings of the qualitative interviews. 80.21% of the participants were depressed, 67.43% had severe suicidal ideation, and 69.47% had moderately severe to severe psychological distress. All three were inter-related. The qualitative findings were divided into two major themes: the impact on sexual behaviour (Sexual orientation, sexually abusive behaviour, major sexual involvement) and the impact on self (emotional pain and stress, impact on self-actualization, shame, and self-blame). MCSA had a severe impact on these. The effects of MCSA on survivors' mental health, social lives, and sexual behaviour may be devastating and long-lasting. When crafting direct practice treatments, policies, and programs to combat MCSA, it is crucial to prioritize the perspectives of survivors.

Keywords: Male child sexual abuse, Mental health, Sexual behaviour

Media Mobilization in July 2024: The Role of Facebook Live in Shaping Protest

Jahidul Islam Sarker
Department of Journalism, Karabuk University, Türkiye

Abstract

In July 2024, social media platforms like Facebook Live and YouTube played a crucial role in mobilizing student movements and transforming the landscape of public protest against the Hasina regime in Bangladesh. This paper examines the evolving relationship between media technologies and political mobilization, focusing on how live streaming and online content were central to the July movement, evolving from spontaneous student protests to organized, nationwide anti-government campaigns. Through an analysis of key events from July 2024, the paper illustrates how digital media facilitated the rapid spread of information while enabling more decentralized, grassroots-driven forms of protest. The study also addresses the challenges posed by the Awami League government's surveillance, censorship, and narrative manipulation. This research highlights the increasing influence of digital platforms in Bangladesh, demonstrating their role as powerful tools for political engagement that shape both activist strategies and governmental responses. Ultimately, the paper provides insights into the broader implications of social media as a catalyst for political and social change in the digital era.

Keywords: July 2024 Protests, Social Media Activism, Political Protest, Media and Mobilization, Digital Platforms and Politics

Millennials' and Gen Z's Perception of Islamic Banking in Bangladesh: Awareness, Trust, and Adoption Intentions

Sajib Uddin Mamun
Department of Finance, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh
Syeda Rehnuma Faruque
Department of Finance, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh

Abstract

Islamic banking in Bangladesh has expanded significantly, yet adoption among Millennials and Gen Z remains limited. Despite this growth, there is a lack of empirical research specifically examining the adoption intentions of these younger generations through the lens of the Theory of Planned Behaviour (TPB). This study addresses this gap by exploring the psychological and perceptual factors influencing their intention to use Islamic banking products. It investigates how awareness, trust in Shariah compliance, cost-benefit perceptions, and ethical considerations—conceptualized as independent variables—influence attitudes toward Islamic banking, which in turn mediate adoption intentions. A quantitative research design was employed, utilizing a structured survey of Millennials and Gen Z in Bangladesh, and data were analysed using Structural Equation Modelling (SEM). The findings reveal that all four factors significantly shape positive attitudes toward Islamic banking, which strongly predict intention to adopt. The results highlight the importance of improving Shariah transparency, promoting ethical financial narratives, and increasing awareness through targeted education. This study contributes to the literature by offering a TPB-based understanding of young consumers' adoption behaviour, with practical implications for Islamic banks, policymakers, and fintech stakeholders aiming to expand Islamic banking engagement in the digital age.

Keywords: Shariah Compliance, Adoption Intention, Awareness, Cost-Benefit, Islamic Banking

Optimizing Land-Use Cultivation with Agrivoltaics: A Sustainable Approach for Energy and Food Security in Bangladesh

Rittick Maity

Faculty of Electrical and Electronics Engineering Technology, Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah, Malaysia

Abu Hasnat Mustafa

Faculty of Industrial Sciences and Technology, Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah, Malaysia

Sudhakar Kumarasamy

Faculty of Mechanical and Automotive Engineering Technology, Universiti Malaysia Pahang Al-Sultan Abdullah Malaysia

Abstract

Bangladesh faces a challenge in ensuring land use while expanding renewable energy. With increasing population along with Rohingya refugee land scarcity becoming prominent, the dual use of land mass for cultivation and solar green electricity generation can be a pivotal point in Bangladesh 2.0. The study focuses on how land can be utilized based on its impacts on energy generation, crop yield, and land equivalent ratio (LER). Using Python and PV System tools, we identify suitable sites based on solar irradiation, soil quality, and agricultural productivity. A comparative analysis is done to study the land use in conventional farming with an agrivoltaic approach. Implementing agrivoltaic systems enables the production of clean electricity alongside agriculture, effectively doubling land productivity by combining food and energy production. The research shows that land use efficiency increases by 110% per hectare with significant generation of electrical energy and crop yield as 810 MWh/ha and 74%, respectively.

Keywords: Agrivoltaic, land-use efficiency, farming, crop yield, energy generation

Poetry, Stories and Essays in Bangladesh's Daily Newspapers During the July Revolution: An Analysis

Mizanur Rahman (Meem Mizan)

Department of Persian Language and Literature, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh

Abstract

A nation's collective memory holds both its triumphs and tragedies, and it is through the written word that these memories find permanence. Later generations come to understand the roots of their contemporaneity through these writings. One such vivid contemporary moment is the blazing July Revolution. During this revolution, led by students, the masses responded with fervor, stepping into the streets, forsaking their own safety. Many also rose in the realm of creative expression. Conscious writers of the time fulfilled their sacred duty by responding to the nation's crisis through their pens. On the other hand, sycophantic so-called writers—accomplices of murderers, enemies of the people, and fascist collaborators—sang the praises of killers and plunderers. Both types of writings found space on the literary pages of Bangladesh's daily newspapers.

The collaborators and flatterers viciously attacked the revolution and its fighters, glorifying murderers. In contrast, skilled writers and responsible editors—who reflected the people's yearning for peace and national aspirations—responded to looting and brutality by supporting the revolution through their writing. These writings highlighted the bravery of martyrs like Abu Sayeed, Mir Mughda, and others, as well as the bloodlust of their murderers. The pieces stirred the public's consciousness, just as the revolutionary songs and videos of martyr processions did, along with wall graffiti and Nazrul's poems.

This paper will analyse such writings published on the literary pages of daily newspapers during the blood-soaked and unstable days of disrupted internet connectivity, shedding light on the responsibilities and contributions of both writers and editors.

Keywords: Literary Page, July Revolution, Writing, Fascism, Martyr, Inspiration.

Police Perception Towards Male Child Sexual Abuse in Bangladesh

Md. Yeasin Arafat
Department of Sociology, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh
Shah Jalal Ahamed
Department of Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh
Md Abu Bakkar Siddik
School of the Environment, Nanjing University, China

Abstract

Male child sexual abuse (MCSA) remains a largely overlooked issue in Bangladesh, largely due to various societal and cultural factors that contribute to its invisibility. This lack of recognition leads to inadequate institutional support and responses, particularly within law enforcement agencies. As law enforcement personnel's attitudes and perceptions directly influence their effectiveness in addressing such crime, this study examines the perceptions of the Bangladesh Police (BP) towards MCSA. This cross-sectional study was conducted among 211 BP members of various ranks using purposive sampling. The survey questionnaire consisted of socio-demographic measures, modified 13-item CSA knowledge scale, and a modified MCSA perception scale of 11 items. Descriptive statistics and crosstabs were used to analyse data. Findings revealed that while most police personnel recognized the multifaceted consequences of CSA, around 77.73% of them never heard of MCSA. Alarmingly, 73.5% denied the possibility of boys being sexually abused, perceiving MCSA as uncommon. Although 57.34% believed that men are the primary perpetrators, 55% were uncertain whether perpetrators were known to victims. Gendered-based analysis further indicated that both male and female police personnel expressed similar skepticism regarding victim blaming and severity of the abuse. These findings highlighted the urgency of actions such as targeted training and awareness programs, to address knowledge gaps, dispel myths and harmful stereotypes, and provide support for the victims.

Keywords: Male child sexual abuse, Bangladesh police, Attitudes, Gendered perceptions.

Public Health and Social Equity in Bangladesh: Acknowledging Health Challenges in Unique Socio-Cultural Landscape

Salman Shah
Social Work, Grand Valley State University, Grand Rapids, USA
Muhammed Muazzam Hussain
Social Work, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh

Abstract

Access to quality primary healthcare is a fundamental right, yet numerous barriers persist, particularly in rural and underserved areas of Bangladesh. This study explores the multifaceted barriers to effective primary healthcare in Bangladesh, focusing on the impact and availability of health services that influence patient satisfaction. Employing a qualitative research approach and case study research method, face-to-face in-depth interviews were conducted with 20 service users from Union Health Centers (UHCs) and Community Clinics, this study tried to find out in-depth data. Using semi-structured interview schedules, data were collected from Gopalganj, Sylhet, Bangladesh, following purposive sampling. Finally, the thematic analysis process was used, and the data is presented as key themes and sub-themes. Results indicate dissatisfaction due to the unavailability of essential medications, lack of qualified doctors, and negative interpersonal interactions with healthcare staff, exacerbating patient reluctance to seek care. Moreover, inadequate diagnosis, unclear specialist referrals, the absence of mental health and counselling services and limited amenities, including insufficient spaces and electricity connection problem within the healthcare, exacerbate patient dissatisfaction. The study emphasises the need for targeted interventions to improve healthcare access, provider behaviour, and infrastructural quality, and include mental health services for a comprehensive healthcare system to enhance patient satisfaction and health outcomes in rural Bangladesh.

Keywords: Patient Satisfaction, Diagnostic Facilities, Interpersonal Interactions

Qur'anic Discourse in the Political Narratives of Bangladesh: Context and Interpretation

Dr. Nur UDDIN

Center For Indian Sub-Continent Studies, Türkiye

Abstract

This study examines the strategic use of Qur'anic discourse by Bangladesh's two dominant political parties—the secular-leaning Awami League (AL) and the right-wing nationalist Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP)—to legitimize their governance and shape political identities. Despite their ideological differences, both parties instrumentalize Islamic rhetoric, Qur'anic verses, and symbols to appeal to Bangladesh's Muslim-majority electorate. The Awami League, while constitutionally secular, increasingly incorporates Islamic references (e.g., Surah Al-Kafirun to justify secularism as "religious freedom") and election manifesto pledges (e.g., "no law contrary to Qur'an and Sunnah"). Conversely, the BNP emphasizes "Bangladeshi nationalism" rooted in Islamic consciousness, citing verses (e.g., Surah An-Nisa 4:135 on justice) to align governance with religious principles.

Through textual analysis of party manifestos, speeches, and historical documents, this research reveals how Qur'anic discourse functions as a political tool rather than purely theological exposition. Key findings from this study can be categorized into three primary themes: **Adaptive Interpretation:** The Bangladesh Awami League (AL) reinterprets the concept of secularism through an Islamic framework, presenting it as compatible with religious freedom, while the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) integrates Islamic identity into its nationalism, positioning Islam as a cornerstone of national identity and governance. **Electoral Mobilization:** Both political parties strategically utilize Qur'anic injunctions, such as the concept of accountability in voting as outlined in Surah An-Nisa (4:85), to moralize and encourage political participation, framing such actions as religiously mandated duties. **Contested Legitimacy:** The use of Islamic rhetoric in political discourse functions as a site of contestation, where both parties engage in a struggle for ideological dominance. This battle for legitimacy is crucial in Bangladesh's pluralistic democracy, as both parties seek to align themselves with religious authority to gain moral and political legitimacy.

The study concludes that Qur'anic discourse in Bangladeshi politics reflects strategic pragmatism, bridging religious sentiment and political pragmatism in a rapidly evolving socio-political landscape.

Keywords: Qur'anic discourse, political Islam, Bangladesh Awami League, BNP, secularism, Islamic nationalism.

Rebuilding Qawmi Traditional Madrasah Education in Bangladesh: Lessons from British Colonial Policies in the Context of the July 2024 Revolution

Dr. Md Abdullah Al-Masum

Department of History, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh

Abstract

The July 2024 Revolution has become a significant milestone in the history of the democratic movement in Bangladesh. It not only stimulated political and constitutional reforms but also marked the beginning of a new era focused on justice, equality, and inclusion, especially in the education sector. Following this revolution, reforming the education system has emerged as a top priority. The reform of secondary and primary education curricula, as well as the recognition of a section of Ebtedayi Madrasahs, already testifies to this. However, the country's Qawmi Madrasahs remain outside the scope of the reform plan, which is both surprising and unexpected. In Bangladesh, Qawmi Madrasahs are very popular religious educational institutions, with more than 20,000 in number and about 3 million students enrolled are learning. Although these institutions are initially focused on spiritual pursuits, students face various real-life challenges due to the lack of up-to-date knowledge in science, technology, and practical skills. As a result, they struggle to secure representation in government jobs, higher education, social leadership, and state structures. In this context, the July Revolution has created a unique opportunity to modernize Qawmi education and connect it with mainstream education. Especially since Qawmi Madrasah students actively participated in the July revolution, the development of their education system has now emerged as a legitimate demand. Although the Bangladesh government recognized the Dawra-e-Hadith level of Qawmi Madrasah as equivalent to a master's degree in 2017, the curriculum and management of this education system are still incompatible with mainstream education. Consequently, a huge number of Qawmi Madrasah students face various forms of discrimination in education and career opportunities due to the lack of recognition of lower-level certificates. Moreover, the different streams of religious education often lead to disagreement and division within the clerical community and Islamist leadership, posing a major obstacle to spiritual unity and the development of a unified national ideology. This situation is particularly concerning because a unified and up-to-date religious leadership is essential for building a non-discriminatory, peaceful, and developed Bangladesh. In this context, reforming the Qawmi Madrasah system is not only a demand of the time but also a national necessity. For this reform to be effective, it is vital to learn from the past, particularly from the modernization and restructuring of Islamic education during the British colonial period. From the perspective of former British education policy, we will discuss how it is possible to build a modern, work-oriented, and integrated education system for Qawmi traditional madrasahs, based on official and semi-official sources.

Keywords: July 2024 Revolution, Qawmi Madrasah, British Education Policy.

Religion-State-Politics Relationship in Bangladesh

Mutlu SESLİ

Faculty of Economics and Administrative sciences,Tokat Gaziosmanpaşa University, Türkiye

Abstract

Bangladesh's political and social structure is based on long historical developments in the Indian subcontinent. During the British colonial period, religion-based divisions came to the fore in the Indian subcontinent, and this region was divided into India and Pakistan in 1947. Bangladesh continued its existence as the Eastern wing of Pakistan then but gained independence in 1971. After gaining independence from Pakistan in 1971, Bangladesh became a secular and democratic state. However, the place of religion in politics and the state has been a debatable issue. Although its first constitution was built on secularism, this principle changed in the following years. Although attempts were made to establish democratic institutions in the country after independence, frequent coups and military administrations deeply affected the political structure.

The principle of secularism was adopted in the first version of its constitution, but the role of religion in state and politics increased in later periods. There is a two-way relationship between religion and politics. One is religion-based politics, and the other is the political use of religion. Both forms are present in Bangladeshi politics. Religion has always been one of the most powerful tools for political parties to achieve their goals.

Bangladesh's relationship between religion and state politics has a complex and dynamic structure. Although secularism is tried to be protected constitutionally, in practice, it is seen that religion plays an important role in the political and state structure. In the coming periods, especially in the process of change brought about by the July Revolution, how Bangladesh will provide this balance will continue to be a critical issue for the future of democracy and human rights in the country. For these reasons, this study will examine the relationship between religion and state politics in Bangladesh from historical, constitutional, and political perspectives.

Keywords: Secularism, Religion, Politics, State

Reshaping Bangladesh's Economic Future: The Vision of the July Revolution

Dr. Muhammad Salah Uddin
Department of Economics, University of Foggia, Italy

Abstract

This article explores how the July Revolution of 2024 led to a shift in the way Bangladesh views its economy. During the revolution, more than 2,000 student-citizens were brutally killed by the fascist regime, spreading outrage and a call for change. What started as a movement for quota reform quickly turned into a nationwide protest that united people across all lines—race, religion, and background. At the heart of it was a deep, demanding for a total overhaul of the current system. During the protests, walls across the country became canvases for people's voices. One particularly powerful graffiti message, "we bring the freedom, we will also do reforms," stood out. It called attention to the rampant corruption under the previous regime, particularly in massive infrastructure projects. The research shows that 29 large-scale projects, originally valued at $87 billion, were actually worth only around $14 billion, highlighting the staggering corruption and mismanagement that plagued the Hasina-led government. On top of this, the regime designed a system where quick rental-based power, and energy projects were not just mismanaged but actively exploited for quick gains—legalizing corruption in the process. In response to the regime's corruption and its so-called economic growth, the revolution's call for reform was clear. People demanded policies that would create jobs, cut unemployment, and move the economy toward a zero-carbon future through renewable energy like hydro, tidal, and solar power. They also called for an end to poverty, with a focus on systems like Zakat and social support.

Keywords: Bangladesh Economy, July Revolution, Sustainable Development, Youth Unemployment, Mega Projects

Religious Activation and Post-Islamism: Juggling Ethics and Pluralism in the Development of Post-Monsoon Revolution Bangladesh

Mahmudul Ahsan
Faculty of Islamic Law, Islamic University of Medinah, Saudi Arabia

Abstract

This study, rooted in the post-Islamist paradigm, interrogates the role of religious mobilization in revolutionary movements and post-revolutionary state formation, with Bangladesh as its focal point alongside comparative insights from Turkey and Indonesia. It examines how religious institutions and political actors in pluralistic societies navigate the dialectic between doctrinal fidelity and the exigencies of governance, transitioning from ideological frameworks to active political participation while preserving religious legitimacy. Employing critical discourse analysis, historical-comparative analysis, and institutional ethnography, the research elucidates how Muslim political organizations, mystical orders, and ideological shifts catalyse socio-political transformation, recalibrating religious convictions to align with political contingencies. It underscores how the strategic integration of religious principles within governance structures reinforces social cohesion and institutional stability. The study advocates strategic secularity; wherein religious ethics inform public life without encroaching upon the foundational tenets of representative governance. It posits that post-Islamism synthesizes sacred legitimacy with secular authority, facilitating ethical governance, pluralistic accommodation, and state consolidation in postrevolutionary contexts.

Keywords: Post-Islamism, Ethical Governance, Strategic Secularity, Religious Mobilization, Pluralistic Governance.

Revolution on the Walls: The Role of Graffiti in Shaping Protest and Political Imagination in Bangladesh

Tanjim Binta Hasan Jerin
Department of English Language and Literature, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh
Nadia Shahid Diba
Department of English Language and Literature, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh

Abstract

Walls don't just divide, they also speak. During the July Revolution of Bangladesh in 2024, graffiti didn't just mark the streets, rather it ignited conversations, provoked defiance, and shaped public imagination. Protesters used city walls to claim space, turning them into weapons of resistance. Slogans like "বুকের ভেতর তুমুল ঝড়, বুক পেতেছি গুলি কর" (My heart holds a tempest, yet I stand firm, fire if you dare.) transformed fear into fearless defiance. Others, like "তুমি কে, আমি কে, বিকল্প বিকল্প" (Who defines us? Who controls us? The only way forward is an alternative), challenged political stagnation and demanded new possibilities beyond the existing structures. This study examines how graffiti during the movement was not just an artistic statement but a political act that challenged power and redefined public space. It explores how these messages mobilized people, disrupted authority, and performed resistance in real time. Drawing on Gramsci's counter-hegemony, the paper analyses how these visual expressions contested dominant narratives, offering an alternative voice to the people. Using Austin's performativity, it argues that these slogans didn't just reflect protest, they actively shaped it by turning walls into sites of rebellion. Findings suggest that graffiti during the July Revolution wasn't passive protest, it was an active force which created a political dialogue that continued long after the paint dried. As Bangladesh envisions "Bangladesh 2.0," evaluating graffiti as a political tool is crucial. This study challenges the notion that graffiti is mere vandalism which urges people to see it instead as a living record of defiance, resistance, and the people's demand for change.

Keywords: Graffiti, Movement, Protest, Resistance.

SAARC and Regional Diplomacy: Challenges and Prospects

Dr. Mohammad Mahbubul Alam
Department of Islamic Studies, Bangladesh Islami University, Bangladesh.

Abstract

The South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) was founded on December 8, 1985. The organization consists of Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Nepal, Bhutan, Maldives, and Sri Lanka. SAARC was established to promote unity among South Asian nations through socio-economic growth, scientific and technological advancements, political integration, and cultural exchange. SAARC functions through various committees, including the standing, technical, and working committees. The organization has seen some success in areas like information and communication exchange, bilateral discussions, research initiatives, short- and long-term planning, the establishment of SAARC University, and food security programs. However, it has not been able to make significant progress in political stability, mass security, or duty-free trade benefits. Due to the lack of cooperation and coexistence, poverty, inequality, political instability, and regional conflicts—especially between India and Pakistan. Resolving these issues could strengthen regional diplomacy, ensuring that both common challenges and individual national interests are addressed more effectively.

Keywords: SAARC, Regional, cooperation, diplomacy, challenges, prospects.

Self-Reported Property and Violent Crime Among Adolescents in Bangladesh

Fahmida Sultana
Department of Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh
Shah Jalal Ahamed
Department of Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh
Ismail Hossain
Department of Sociology, Shahjalal University of Science and Technology, Bangladesh

Abstract

The global surge in adolescent criminal activity, particularly property and violent offenses, presents a significant concern. This issue is increasingly evident in Bangladesh, where recent police records indicated a significant increase in adolescent crimes. Despite the established concern and evidence of rising trends, comprehensive data on adolescent crime in Bangladesh remains limited. This study aims to bridge this gap by examining the prevalence of self-reported violent and property offenses among Bangladeshi adolescents. Using a cross-sectional design, the study surveyed 2,832 adolescents aged 13 to 19, selected through simple random sampling across Bangladesh. The survey instrument included 18 sociodemographic questions, as well as two items assessing institutional trust, six items measuring property crime, and nine items evaluating violent crime. Data analysis incorporated descriptive statistics, Chi-square tests, and multiple logistic regression to identify significant factors and to determine their relationships. The findings revealed that approximately 17.4% of adolescents reported involvement in property crimes, while 30.3% reported involvement in violent crimes. Additionally, several significant risk factors for adolescent violent and property crime were identified, including male gender, urban living, smoking, poor parental bonding, gang affiliation, and experiencing bullying or harassment. On the other hand, factors such as living with relatives or friends and having trust in justice institutions were associated with lower crime involvement. These findings highlight the complex interplay of demographic vulnerabilities, social environment, and individual factors in shaping adolescent criminal behaviour, emphasizing the need for targeted interventions to reduce youth crime.

Keywords: Adolescents, Property crime, Violent crime, Self-reported crime, Bangladesh.

Smart AI-based New Bangladesh

Md. Thouhidur Rahman

Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Yildiz Technical University, Turkey

A. F. M. Shahen Shah

Department of Electronics and Communication Engineering, Yildiz Technical University, Turkey

Abstract

The vision of a smart AI-based new Bangladesh encompasses a future where artificial intelligence (AI), the Internet of Things (IoT), and advanced networking systems transform the nation's socio-economic development as technologies are essential for achieving sustainable development, efficient governance, and improved quality of life. The upcoming deployment of STARLINK in Bangladesh promises to bridge the digital divide by delivering high-speed, low-latency satellite internet, especially in rural and remote regions. Advanced networking technologies, including 5G, software-defined networking (SDN), and edge computing will further ensure seamless communication, resource optimization, and adaptive service delivery. This will enhance real-time connectivity across sectors such as smart governance, healthcare, education, banking, agriculture, industries, transport and more. An intelligent transportation system will be developed to ensure safety, traffic control and driving license management. Satellite-enabled real-time decision-making system will be established to maximize agricultural production by adapting to varying weather conditions. A smart and fair justice system blends human wisdom with digital intelligence. By deploying AI and data analytics can build a justice system that is not only fast and transparent but also protects every citizen's rights in the digital era. This paper also explores how to build a fast and secure international banking system, modern technologies like blockchain, AI, and SWIFT integrated with upgraded core banking infrastructure, digital KYC, and strong cybersecurity measures. Smart healthcare through telemedicine, AI, and digital connectivity, aims to provide accessible, efficient, and real-time medical services nationwide, especially in rural and underserved areas. Building infrastructure in a technologically planned way involves using smart construction methods like IoT sensors, and AI-based management to ensure sustainability, efficiency, and long-term structural resilience. Ultimately, the combination of intelligent systems aims to build a resilient, inclusive, and technologically advanced Bangladesh, laying the groundwork for a globally competitive smart nation.

Keywords: AI, Bangladesh, Communication, Development, IoT, New, Smart, STARLINK, Technology.

Social Media and Political Socialization Among the Youth of Bangladesh

Mohammad Kamrul Hasan

Registrar, University of Information Technology and Sciences, Bangladesh

Abstract

Bangladesh, a nation undergoing rapid socio-political transformation, is experiencing a significant shift in how its youth engage with politics. In the digital age, social media (SM) platforms have emerged as powerful tools shaping political discourse and influencing civic engagement. This study investigates the impact of SM on the political attitudes, behaviours, and knowledge of young Bangladeshis. A survey was conducted among randomly selected youth (n=287) in Bangladesh. The results revealed that 23.3% of respondents were below the age of 20, while 46.4% spent more than three hours per day on SM. Additionally, 39% of respondents followed political content, and 54% believed that SM played a role in increasing political awareness. Nearly 80% reported exposure to diverse opinions through SM, while 67.3% believed that SM mobilized political engagement. Furthermore, 40.5% frequently or occasionally discussed politics on SM. Regarding trust and engagement, 73% of respondents trusted political content on SM, while 67% actively shared such content. Awareness of political concepts was also high, with 81.9% understanding the type of government, 62.8% familiar with the constitution, and 82.9% aware of their rights. Discussions about these topics were also prevalent, with 57.8% discussing government types, 47.8% discussing the constitution, and 59*.9% discussing rights at least occasionally. Notably, SM discussions influenced political decision-making, with 55%, 45.6%, and 45.6% of respondents changing their views on government type, the constitution, and rights, respectively. In conclusion, the findings highlight that SM plays a significant role in the political socialization process in the youth of Bangladesh, shaping their awareness, engagement, and decision-making processes.

Keywords: Socialization, Politics, Social Media, Youth, Right

Social Media and Digital Resistance: How Online Movements Fueled the July 2024 Revolution in Bangladesh

Md Riyaz Uddin
International Relations, South Asian University, India

Abstract

The July Revolution 2024 in Bangladesh was a pivotal event in the nation's pursuit of democracy, with social media serving a vital function in galvanizing opposition to the autocratic leadership. This article analyses the role of digital platforms like Facebook, Twitter, and YouTube in enabling huge demonstrations, influencing political discourse, and challenging state-controlled narratives. Online activism has evaded traditional media control by disseminating information in real time, allowing activists to plan protests, expose human rights violations, and get international attention. The research utilizes qualitative analysis of digital footprints, protest hashtags, and significant social media trends that surfaced throughout the movement. It also explores the role of citizen journalists, influencers, and diaspora communities in amplifying voices of dissent. Additionally, the research investigates the state's countermeasures, including internet shutdowns, surveillance, and digital repression, assessing their effectiveness in silencing opposition. Findings suggest that digital activism was instrumental in uniting diverse groups, fostering political awareness among the youth, and pressuring the government to respond. However, the study also highlights the limitations of online resistance, including misinformation, state propaganda, and the sustainability of digital movements beyond virtual spaces. By drawing comparisons with other global uprisings, this paper provides insights into the evolving landscape of digital resistance and the potential of social media as a tool for political transformation in authoritarian contexts.

Keywords: Social media activism, digital resistance, online mobilization, July Revolution 2024, authoritarianism.

Social Policy in the Muslim-Majority Countries: Examples from Türkiye and Bangladesh

Hafijur Rahman
Department of Public Administration, Tokat Gaziosmanpaşa University, Türkiye
Ahmet Güven
Department of Public Administration, Tokat Gaziosmanpaşa University, Türkiye
Nafisa Islam Zihan
Center for Policy and Social Research, Türkiye

Abstract

Social policy has gained importance in the contemporary era, particularly in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has intensified the focus on social welfare systems globally. This paper explores the perception of social policy in two Muslim-majority countries: Türkiye, and Bangladesh. By examining these nations, the study investigates how cultural, religious, economic, and political factors influence the development and sustainability of social welfare systems in Islamic contexts. Türkiye, as a rapidly modernizing country shaped by both Islamic and Western traditions, features a hybrid model where the state plays a central role in welfare provision, including social security, healthcare, and education, complemented by religious and civil society contributions. In contrast, Bangladesh, a lower-middle-income nation, adopts a different approach where limited state resources are bolstered by international aid, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), and Islamic charities, highlighting a mixed model of welfare provision. Employing qualitative analysis, this research reveals the complexities and diversity in the perception and implementation of social policy across these two countries. It explores the influence of Islamic components of social policies such as zakat (mandatory charity), sadaqah (voluntary charity), and waqf (endowments) on public expectations and government policies. The study finds that while economic capacity largely determines welfare provision, cultural and religious values significantly shape public understanding and expectations of social justice. The findings advocate for context-specific strategies in social policy design, contributing to a broader understanding of how Islamic values can inform modern welfare practices in alignment with local traditions and socio-economic realities.

Keywords: Social Policy, Social Welfare, Türkiye, Bangladesh

Spatial Distribution of Selected Soil Physico-Chemical Properties Under Different Landuse Systems

Rubaiatul Islam Zerin
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Iffat Ara
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Shahin Ali
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh

Abstract

Effective land use strategies and sustainable soil management require an in-depth assessment of the spatial variability of soil characteristics across different land use zones. This study aimed to illustrate the spatial distribution of specific soil physicochemical properties, including Soil Organic Matter (SOM), Soil Organic Carbon (SOC), Soil Total Nitrogen (STN), pH, moisture, Electrical Conductivity (EC), and the C:N ratio, across three distinct land use zones: crop farming, tobacco farming, and industrial areas. A total of 123 soil samples were collected using a systematic sampling method at a depth of 15–30 cm with a hand auger. Spatial analyses employed interpolation techniques to delineate the distribution patterns of soil properties, with cross-validation determining the optimal method. Four interpolation algorithms namely Inverse Distance Weighting (IDW), Kriging, Radial Basis Function (RBF), and Spline were evaluated. Environmental and anthropogenic data, including NDVI, NDWI, NDBI, LST, and DEM, were obtained from Google Earth Engine. Results indicated that the IDW method provided the best fit for mapping soil properties. Spatial distribution maps demonstrated the varying influence of environmental and anthropogenic factors on soil properties across land use zones. The highest concentrations of SOM, SOC, and STN were observed in industrial areas, followed by tobacco and crop farming lands. Soil pH was slightly alkaline in crop and tobacco fields but slightly acidic in industrial areas. All zones exhibited elevated moisture levels. Crop and tobacco farming soils were non-saline, whereas industrial zones showed variability, particularly in industrial and residential sectors. The C:N ratio was highest in industrial areas, remaining below 25 in farming zones. Kruskal-Wallis tests ($p<0.05$) revealed significant differences in soil parameters, except for moisture, among land use zones. These findings underscore the impact of land use practices and environmental factors on soil property distribution, contributing to improved site-specific land use management, precision agriculture, and environmental conservation.

Keywords: Landuse; Geostatistics; Spatial distribution; Farming practices; Tobacco farming

Spirit of July Revolution: A Breakthrough in the Uprising Islamophobic Geopolitical Agenda in Bangladesh

Md Rabiul Hasan

Dept. of Qur'an and Sunnah Studies, International Islamic University Malaysia, Malaysia,

Khan Enamul Hoque

Dept. of Al-Hadith and Islamic Studies, Islamic University, Bangladesh

Abstract

This research examines the July Revolution in Bangladesh (2024) and its ideological and political relevance as a catalyst for opposing Islamophobic geopolitical ambitions, especially in considering Bangladesh's transition to "Bangladesh 2.0". This study explores how Bangladesh might use the concepts of political emancipation, social justice, and national self-determination by comparing the revolutionary struggle for sovereignty with modern campaigns to promote Islamophobic discourses. Moreover, the study evaluates the enduring Islamophobic discourses that influence international geopolitics and how they affect Bangladesh's sociocultural, diplomatic, economic, and religious standing. The study identifies policy ways for Bangladesh to exercise its independent role in a changing global order by integrating political history, international relations, and post-colonial theory through a multidisciplinary approach. It makes the case that Bangladesh has a chance to expand its influence internationally, promote inclusive national development, and reinterpret its place in the post July Islamic approach as a result of the fall of Islamophobic paradigms. This paper concludes by arguing that the revolutionary spirit of 2024 offers a paradigm for opposing institutionalized prejudice and imagining against Islam to build a more just and independent Bangladesh in the twenty-first century. This study followed a qualitative methodology style that included collecting information from primary and secondary sources as well. Using this methodology, the study highlights important issues like resolving structural inequities, fighting indifference and striking a balance between the needs of the individual and a community. Finally, in order to promote a more inclusive and multipolar global order, this study positions Bangladesh 2.0 as a beacon of resistance against Islamophobic geopolitics by incorporating historical resilience, policy innovation, and positive religious cultural revival.

Keywords: Spirit, July Revolution, Islamophobic, Geopolitical Agenda, Bangladesh.

Superior Responsibility of Sheikh Hasina and Her Prosecution for Perpetrating Crimes Against Humanity in the Student-People's July Uprising in Bangladesh

Maruf Billah
Faculty of Law, Universiti Teknologi MARA (UiTM), Malaysia

Abstract

In the recent United Nations (UN) Fact Finding Mission headed by the UN Office of the Human Right, it has been proved beyond reasonable doubt that the ousted Bangladeshi prime minister Sheikh Hasina herself had ordered the killing of students and protesters during the July uprising 2024 that resulted the killing of at least 1400 innocent protestors with thousands of severely injured. Therefore, this study analyses the superior responsibility of Sheikh Hasina as the head of the government and superior (commanding) position in her political party, Bangladesh Awami League, who perpetrated crimes against humanity of murder, torture, imprisonment, and infliction of other inhumane acts against the protesters, in the July massacre of 2024. To establish Sheikh Hasina's superior liability, this study first scrutinizes the notion of superior responsibility in proving crimes against humanity in customary international law. Second, this research highlights what has been discussed on the superior liability in the international, internationalized, domestic, and the International Criminal Court's Statutes and cases. Thirdly, the study examines the factual situation in the July Uprising 2024 in Bangladesh to assess whether the heinous crimes committed by the security forces have been commanded by Hasina and were a widespread and systematic attack against protesters and other civilians as a form of crimes against humanity. Finally, the study proves legally that Sheikh Hasina has been found guilty of committing crimes against humanity that need to be punished in healing the gross violations of human rights in Bangladesh that has shocked the conscience of humanity globally.

Keywords: Superior responsibility, crimes against humanity, Hasina, July Uprising

Testing The Validity of the Kuznets Hypothesis in Bangladesh: The Effects of Financial Development and Trade Openness

Türker ŞİMŞEK
Faculty of Economics and Administrative sciences Tokat Gaziosmanpaşa University, Türkiye
Oğuzhan DEMİR
Faculty of Economics and Administrative sciences Tokat Gaziosmanpaşa University, Türkiye

Abstract

Income inequality remains one of the fundamental structural problems faced by developing countries. The effects of economic growth on income inequality have long been debated, particularly in the context of developing economies. In this regard, the Classical Kuznets Hypothesis provides a prominent theoretical reference in the literature. This study analyses the long-run effects of economic growth on income inequality in the case of Bangladesh, using annual data for the period 1974–2022. Furthermore, the roles of structural variables such as financial development and trade openness in determining inequality are also examined. Prior to the empirical analysis, the stationarity of the series is tested using ADF and PP unit root tests. The long-run relationship among the variables is investigated through the Bayer-Hanck cointegration test, and the long-run coefficient estimates are obtained using the Dynamic Ordinary Least Squares (DOLS) method. The findings reveal that as per capita income increases, income inequality initially rises, but after reaching a certain income threshold, this trend reverses. This suggests that the inverted-U form of the Kuznets hypothesis may be valid in the case of Bangladesh. The results indicate that the impact of economic growth on inequality is nonlinear, and the qualitative composition of growth may play a decisive role in terms of social justice. Moreover, both financial development and trade openness are found to have significant effects on income inequality. In this context, the deepening of the financial system and increased integration into international trade may support a more balanced income distribution by influencing the production structure, employment opportunities, and the distribution of income sources. These two structural elements are considered to have the potential to enhance socioeconomic inclusiveness and are seen as key components in establishing a balance between growth and equity. The findings imply that policies focusing solely on economic growth may not be sufficient for Bangladesh's development process; instead, structural strategies aimed at reducing inequality should also be adopted. In this regard, expanding financial access, promoting microfinance in rural areas, investing in education, and implementing employment-oriented development programs may serve as effective tools in the fight against income inequality.

Keywords: Bangladesh Economy, Income Inequality, Kuznets Hypothesis, Financial Development, Trade Openness, DOLS.

The Conflict Between Corruption and Good Governance: Bangladesh's Experience in the Last Fifteen Years (2009-2024)

Syed Magfur Ahmad
Business Economics, Istanbul University, Türkiye

Abstract

Corruption remains one of the most significant obstacles to good governance in Bangladesh, undermining economic growth, institutional integrity, and public trust. Over the past fifteen years (2009–2024), the country has witnessed widespread corruption involving political leaders, bureaucrats, and businesses, with an estimated 180 billion BDT laundered annually. This period has also been marked by large-scale financial irregularities in infrastructure projects, embezzlement in the stock market, and bribery across various administrative levels. In August 2024, former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina resigned and fled to India following violent student protests and government crackdowns, which resulted in over 2,000 deaths. The unrest was driven by growing discontent over unemployment, economic instability, and widespread perceptions of government corruption.

This study examines the interplay between corruption and governance in Bangladesh, over the past fifteen years (2009–2024) exploring how systemic corruption has weakened accountability, transparency, and the rule of law. Using a qualitative research approach, it analyses key corruption trends, institutional responses, and the impact of governance reforms on curbing illicit financial activities. The findings reveal the limitations of existing anti-corruption mechanisms, particularly the challenges posed by political resistance, bureaucratic inertia, and weak legal enforcement. According to the White Paper, an average of $16 billion has been illegally siphoned abroad annually during Sheikh Hasina's tenure, amounting to a total of $240 billion, or 2.4 trillion Bangladeshi taka, over the past 15 years. This paper assesses governance efforts and provides recommendations to enhance accountability, regulations, and citizen engagement in fighting corruption. This study highlights the need for sustained political commitment and structural reforms to improve governance integrity.

Keywords: Corruption, Good Governance, Political Corruption, Bangladesh

The Impact of 4IR on Bangladesh's Expatriate Employment in the GCC Countries: Challenges & Opportunities

Shaon Hossen Bappi

Department of Economics & Finance, Manisa Celal Bayar University, Türkiye

Abstract

Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries are labour-importing nations, and Bangladesh is a major labour-exporting nation; both parties are connected through the labour market. However, the rapid advancement of Industry Revolution 4.0 (4IR) is reshaping the GCC labour markets. This shift poses significant challenges and threatens the displacement of a substantial portion of low-skilled jobs. Bangladeshi expatriate workers are predominantly employed in these types of physically demanding, cheap, labour-intensive and low-skilled jobs. This paper aims to address the potential impact of the 4IR on Bangladesh's expatriate economy and workforce. Additionally, this study provides policymakers with actionable insights to analyse the labour market trends, vulnerability of job sectors, and future demand for skills in GCC Countries. Using a content analysis methodology, reviewing international and government reports, labour market data, and policy documents from both Bangladesh and GCC nations. It examines how automation adoption and localization policies in GCC economies will affect Bangladeshi expatriates. It also evaluates potential strategies for integrating Bangladeshi expatriates into the evolving labour market. The study highlights that 4IR is reducing demand for low-skilled labour in the construction and industry sectors. It also creates new opportunities in digital technology, smart manufacturing, and the healthcare sector. New opportunities exist in GCC countries if expatriates are reskilled to meet 4IR demands. To grab this opportunity, this study proposes targeted reskilling programs, policy collaboration between Bangladesh and GCC countries, and fostering public-private partnerships to ensure a smooth labour market transition. This paper contributes to Bangladesh's approach to handling and navigating 4IR's impact on its expatriate workforce. Further research should focus on assessing how and which digital reskilling programs and bilateral labour agreements can be meaningful to safeguard economic stability.

Keywords: Bangladeshi Expatriates, Industry Revolution 4.0, Labour Market in GCC

An Analysis of Governance Framework Effectiveness and Internal Waste Management Practices in The Hospitals of Rangpur Sadar Upazila, Bangladesh

Rafia Razzak Ria
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Iffat Ara
Department of Geography and Environment, Islamic University, Bangladesh
Akib Javed
Institute of Water Modelling (IWM), Dhaka, Bangladesh

Abstract

Medical waste management is crucial for healthcare in Bangladesh. A substantial amount of research highlights the significance of efficient medical waste management in low-income nations as well as the negative effects of inadequate MWM on the environment and public health. However, there is currently a lack of a thorough and uniform evaluation methodology to determine the state of medical waste management. This study investigates the effectiveness of governance frameworks and internal waste management practices across multiple hospitals in Rangpur Sadar Upazila, Bangladesh, identifying strength, weakness, and areas for improvement. The study employed a mixed-method approach, combining qualitative and quantitative data collection methods, including questionnaire surveys, interviews, focus group discussions, observations, and archival research. A purposive sampling technique was used, selecting 190 respondents from 40 hospitals in Rangpur Sadar Upazila. Data analysis utilized by different software, whereas to evaluate governance effectiveness, a measurement method developed by UNDP TUGI is used. The study reveals critical gaps in governance, resource allocation, and adherence to waste management protocols. Findings show that despite existing regulations, poor enforcement, limited resources and lack of training weaken waste management in hospitals. The analysis also identifies significant noncompliance issues, particularly in waste segregation, treatment, and disposal, posing public health and environmental risks. The study emphasizes the need for improved policy enforcement, better resource allocation, and enhanced training programs to address these issues. The paper provides actionable recommendations to strengthen governance frameworks and internal practices, aiming to enhance the overall management of medical waste.

Keywords: Medical Waste Management, Governance Framework, Sustainable Waste Practices.

The Role of Politics-Media Nexus and Islamophobia in Bangladesh's International Crimes Tribunal

Salman Al-Azami
School of Humanities, Liverpool Hope University, United Kingdom

Abstract

After its return to power in December 2008, the Awami League government led by Sheikh Hasina decided to put on trial their political opponents in Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami (BJI) and the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) under the International Crimes Tribunal Act (ICT) of 1973. While the politicians of the ruling party were dealing with the establishment of a special tribunal to target some specific leaders in the opposition, the Bangladeshi media started their own trial through a massive campaign of character assassination of some senior leaders of BNP and BJI by calling them 'war criminals' of the 1971 Independence War much before the formal trial procedures began. They also played a pivotal role in creating the hype of the Shahbagh Movement that contributed directly to the unprecedented decision by the Supreme Court of applying a law retrospectively when they changed an ICT verdict of life imprisonment into a death sentence. This chapter investigates the role of the Bangladesh print and electronic media in their portrayal of the opposition leaders most of whom were executed following death sentence verdicts by a widely criticized tribunal. By applying Norman Fairclough's (1995) Critical Discourse Analysis theory and Herman and Chomsky's (1988) Propaganda Model, the chapter intends to answer the following research questions:

1. What role did the politics-media nexus in Bangladesh play in the media trial of the opposition leaders before the actual trial?
2. How did the media use language to represent the opposition leaders who were tried in the ICT?
3. Did Islamophobia play any role in the negative representations of the convicted opposition leaders?

The Political Thoughts of Thanwi, Madani, And Maududi: Reflections in Bangladesh

Ataur Rahman

Department of Islamic Studies, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh

Abstract

This study analyses the political ideologies of three influential figures: Ashraf Ali Thanwi (1863-1943), Hussain Ahmad Madani (1879-1957), and Abul Ala Maududi (1903-1979) whose religious, spiritual, and political thoughts have profoundly shaped the socio-political identity and state formation among Muslims in South Asia. Each thinker's unique ideological trajectory influenced Muslim political practices during the colonial and post-colonial periods. A rigorous contextual analysis is essential to elucidate the divergences in their approaches. It is imperative to assess whether their ideological frameworks remain pragmatically viable or whether alternative political paradigms must be considered. Applying analytical and comparative methods, this article argues that Thanwi emphasized the need for an Islamic state under Muslim leadership, focusing on justice and the ulama's counsel, without defining a specific state structure. In contrast, Madani promoted a unified national identity encompassing all communities, thereby advocating for a secular system of governance that separates religion from the state. Conversely, Maududi argued for a modern state entirely 'Islamic' in both theoretical and practical, characterized by establishing Allah's sovereignty and implementing Shariah law. In Bangladesh, Thanwi's legacy carries Qawmi Scholars and some of their political institutions by promoting a gradual reformist agenda focused on moral and spiritual leadership. Hussain Ahmad Madani's legacy in Bangladesh is mixed, especially his advocacy of Muslim–non-Muslim unity and democratic pluralism contrasts with the more exclusivist vision of many Bangladeshi Islamists. Yet Jamiat Ulema-e-Islam Bangladesh does recall Madani in championing Islamic principles within a national framework. On the other hand, Jamaat-e-Islami represents Maududi's vision for an Islamic state, advocating Shariah law and political Islam.

Keywords: Thanwi, Madani, Maududi, State, Political Thought

The Role of Dalit Community in the July Revolution 2024 and Its Future Implications in National Unity and Prosperity in Creating Bangladesh 2.0

Abdullah bin-Akil
Department of Islamic Studies, Tarbiyah Academy, Bangladesh
Dr. Md. Khaled Hosen
Department of Islamic Studies, Tarbiyah Academy, Bangladesh

Abstract

The political trajectory of Bangladesh encountered a turning point after the successful July Revolution of 2024, which led to the collapse of dictatorships and the emergence of Vision Bangladesh 2.0. The uniqueness of this revolution lies in its participation in all segments of society. While conventional narratives emphasize the significance of youth and public mobilization, the dedication and contributions of marginalized communities, especially the Dalits, are rarely acknowledged in mainstream analyses. Around five million Dalits live in Bangladesh, many of whom reside in overcrowded "colonies" in Dhaka without enjoying adequate facilities, including housing, sanitation, income and education. In this context, their contributions to the July Revolution will support highlighting the unheard voices, empowering marginalized communities, advocating social justice, and building national solidarity and collective prosperity. This study examines the background of the Dalits, why they participated in the July Revolution, and what they expected of the post-Revolution government. Following qualitative methodology, this study relies on primary and secondary sources, including interviews with Dalits, published books and articles, and national and international dailies. The investigation reveals that economic deprivation, systematic discrimination, and lack of participation in the state process strengthened the political consciousness of the community that aligned with the spirit of the July Revolution. The government is expected to acknowledge their concerns, take steps to resolve their suffering, and strengthen national unity. Thus, this study has a greater impact on academia by highlighting the Dalits in the intellectual discussion and government policy process to rethink marginalized communities.

Keywords: Dalit Community, July 2024 Revolution, Bangladesh 2.0

The Role of Rohingya Refugee Community Organizations in the USA: Challenges and Impact on Resettlement

Md. Firoz Hasnat
Department of History, Northern Illinois University, USA

Abstract

Rohingya are a Muslim ethnic group who lives in Northern Rakhine State (previously Arakan) in Myanmar. They have been living in Myanmar for a very long, however, after the 1982 Citizenship Act, Rohingya are not recognized as an official ethnic group and have been denied citizenship. Following the Muslim Rohingya and Buddhist Rakhine conflict in Rakhine state, as well as multiple attacks by the Myanmar military government against the Rohingya people, the Rohingya people have been persecuted from Myanmar to Bangladesh and other countries. After the recent attacks on Myanmar in 2012 and 2017, approximately 1.2 million Rohingya refugees have fled to various parts of the world, with approximately 1 million of them currently residing in Bangladesh. More than 12,000 Rohingya refugees now live in the United State, with Chicago and Milwaukee hosting the most Rohingya refugees resettled in the country.

Within the resettlement process, Rohingya refugee community organizations have emerged as an essential resource for a highly vulnerable refugee population in the USA. This research paper investigates the role of enhancing the welfare and integration of Rohingya refugees, who face unique challenges due to their statelessness, involuntary displacement, and resettlement experiences in the USA. This study argues that Rohingya refugee community organizations offer significant services like language learning, employment assistance, mental health support, advocacy for refugee rights, and cultural preservation programs, which help remove important barriers to integration. This paper argues that the community organization aids refugees in overcoming systemic obstacles while also facilitating the preservation of their cultural identity in an unfamiliar setting. The findings of this paper demonstrate that the Rohingya refugee community organization plays a crucial role in fostering social cohesiveness, enhancing access to essential resources, and enabling the Rohingya community to adapt and prosper in the USA. This study emphasizes the importance of community-based organizations in refugee resettlement and provides crucial insights toward replicating these models to help other displaced groups in the USA.

Keywords: Rohingya Refugees, Resettlement, Community Organization, Policy challenges.

The Role of Hydroelectric Energy in Achieving Sustainable Growth in Bangladesh

Makame Mahmud

Department of Mechanical Engineering, Abdullah Gul University, Turkey

Abstract

Although Bangladesh is characterized by a wealth of water resources, natural gas continues to be the primary energy source alongside fossil fuels. Nevertheless, the country remains subject to electricity and gas shortages, with power cuts lasting up to 12 hours. Additionally, only about 4.5% of energy comes from renewable sources as of January 2025, of which 19% is sourced from the largest hydroelectric power plant, Kaptai Dam in Kaptai Upazila. The underutilization of renewable sources of energy in Bangladesh requires drastic measures in order to attain sustainable development and use the country's resources for the benefit of its people. This paper explores the ways Bangladesh can utilize its water-based assets, such as its rivers and the coastal sea, to generate hydroelectric energy, while discussing the technicalities of these measures using hydrological data analysis, site evaluations, and interviews with the energy sector and policymakers. Findings indicate the possibilities of small-scale hydropower with potential capacities between 10kW to 100kW within the rivers of Sangu and Tista. Furthermore, results suggest that the coastal area of Maheshkhali and the Bay of Bengal are viable locations for tidal energy and wave energy converter installations, respectively. Referencing the energy statistics of Bangladesh and international standards, this study highlights infrastructure-related and environmental obstacles, proposing implementable strategies to enhance the usage of marine energy in the country. This research intends to support diversifying energy sources in Bangladesh and revise the importance of renewable technologies after the revolution of July 2024 in pursuit of sustainable development.

Keywords: Renewable Energy, Sustainability, Hydroelectric Energy, Tidal Energy, Wave Energy.

The Role of Madrasas and Their Members in the July Revolution and Its Aftermath

Salman Aziz

Department of Islamic Studies, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Abstract

The July Revolution of 2024 marked a significant event for Bangladesh that changed the course of its political, historical, and social landscape. Madrasas, as institutions, along with their students and teachers, contributed notably to both the revolution's success and the maintenance of post-revolution stability. This study explores the role of madrasas as safe havens and logistical hubs during the July Revolution, analyses the active participation of madrasa communities in the uprising, and examines their vigilance in countering post-revolution threats. The paper adopted a qualitative approach, collecting data through written records, eyewitness testimonies, and interviews with participants. The data were analysed using thematic and content analysis. Madrasa students contributed through both online activism to build and shift narratives towards the protesters, and through physical participation. They led the crowd, especially after the forceful closure of public universities on July 16, 2024, and organized students through the madrasa student council and newly formed organizations. Besides online activism and direct participation, madrasa teachers encouraged students to join the movement. Additionally, they worked through organizations to connect and organize people and wrote articles to provide legal justification for the movement. Madrasas as institutions also played significant roles through the suspension of institutional regulations, such as allowing students' participation in protests, temporarily closing classes, and granting unrestricted access to their premises for all to use their facilities. Moreover, they provided protesters with water, juice, food and other logistical support. In the post-revolution period, madrasa communities actively participated in nation-building by organizing traffic systems, protecting minorities, aiding flood victims, and so forth. However, nearly 80 madrasa students and teachers were martyred, and thousands were injured in the July Revolution. Nevertheless, they received little attention from the government and society. Ensuring their due rights, recognition, and proper evaluation could accelerate national sustainable development.

Keywords: July Revolution, Madrasas, Madrasa Students, Madrasa Teachers

The Role of Prominent *Muhaddiths* in the Religio-Political and Socio-Economic Formation of Bangladesh: Insights from 1971 to 2024

Md Mohibullah
Department of Hadith, Ankara University, Türkiye

Abstract

The *Muhaddiths* in Bangladesh have played an important role over the years. Following the end of British colonial rule and until the collapse of the Awami fascist regime by the July Revolution of 2024, Prominent *Muhaddiths* in Bangladesh have made a significant impact not only on the country's socio-religious landscape but also in its political sphere. The article argues that Bangladeshi *Muhaddiths* have diverse views and have demonstrated adaptability in fulfilling significant religio-political roles during times of change. Their influence has developed in response to changing sociopolitical conditions over the years. Bangladesh, with its large population, has great potential. By using the strength of this population, even the difficult challenges can be overcome. The study also shows how *Muhaddiths* have tried to build a better society by participating in socio-economic activities with people from different backgrounds and making important contributions to social welfare. It also focuses on the role of *Muhaddiths* in solving social problems, their involvement in socio-economic work, and the creation of various organizations.

Keywords: Muhaddiths, Bangladesh, Religious, Politics, Socio-Economy, July Revolution-24

The Role of Rajshahi City's Students in Bangladesh's July Revolution 2024

Ohajiullah
Department of Social Work, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh
Md Akhtaruzzaman Pramanik
Department of Social Work, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh
M A Rahman
Department of Arabic, University of Rajshahi, Bangladesh

Abstract

This study investigated the role of Rajshahi City's students during the Quota movement leading to the downfall of the Awami League government in the July Revolution of 2024 in Bangladesh. The objective is to identify the reasons behind their participation, examine the role and sacrifices of Rajshahi City's students, understand the obstacles and challenges they faced, and explore their expectations from the revolution. Using a qualitative method guided by the theory of relative deprivation, the research utilized both primary and secondary data, including a literature review. The sample (n=37) respondents were selected through Judgmental and Snowball sampling methods, and the process of data collection were in-depth interviews and focus group discussions. The findings revealed that people participated in the July Revolution in 2024 from the viewpoint of demanding quota reform in government jobs, perceived injustice, and rights awareness. The students organized an academic boycott, blocked roads and railways, Bangla blocked, complete shutdown, repulsed the students' league on campus, broke down curfew, and engaged in various types of online activism. During this revolution, students faced numerous obstacles and challenges, including becoming homeless, being threatened with murder, facing false cases, being tagged as terrorists, and having their family members harassed by Awami League supporters and the Bangladesh Police. In the July Revolution, 4 students of Rajshahi City lost their lives, and more than 121 students were injured. Their expectations were building a discrimination-free Bangladesh, constitutional reform, removal of disparities, and institutions free from political interference. This research sheds light on the significant role and sacrifice of Rajshahi City's students in the July Revolution of 2024 and underscores their nationwide obligation. The study calls for further research into the role of the students in reforming Bangladesh 2.0.

Keywords: Quota Movement, July Revolution, Student Movement, Rajshahi

Towards A Waste-Free Bangladesh and Sustainable River Transport

Mohammad Muzahidul Islam

Department of Environmental Engineering, Çukurova University, Türkiye,

Abstract

Bangladesh confronts an escalating crisis of its environment, producing more than 25,000 tons of solid waste a day, over 55% of which is uncollected across the urban landscape. Dhaka, for example, produces approximately 6,500 tons of solid waste a day projected to increase to 8,500 tons by 2032. Additionally, an astounding 87,000 tons of single-use plastic waste are created yearly, with 96% ending their lifecycle unrecycled-placing Bangladesh among the top six worst offenders of plastic waste in the world in relation to its rivers.

This study demonstrates a dual framework, facilitating the development of a waste-free Bangladesh, while encouraging truly sustainable waterways. The basis for the framework is the use of the 24,000 km of the Bangladesh river network through the creation of circular urban canals-- engineered systems meant to intercept solid waste, control floods, and provide waterborne mobility through clean waterways. Through the adaptation of international examples and localizing them into Bangladesh's deltaic regions, the canals serve as both a solution to the environmental crisis and as resilient infrastructure for urban living. Simultaneously, the framework encourages a partial modal shift of goods movement and passenger movement to uniform waterfronts from roadways. This shift is intended to lower emissions and traffic congestion and improve the navigability of waterways. Recent government changes, such as banning 17 items of single-use plastic and the implementation of the policy behind the Plastic Industry Development Policy 2023, targeting a $20 billion circular economy by 2030, suggest a robust agreement with the proposed framework.

The study anticipates the outcomes will lead to 50% reduction in leakage of plastic and 40% increase in the use of waterways, enhancing public health, flood resilience, and sustainability overall. This study also provides a workable model for urban development that is flexible, integrated and prescribes climate resilience- which can be applied not only in Bangladesh but globally as well.

Keywords: solid waste, plastic pollution, circular economy, river transport, urban resilience, Bangladesh

Transforming Bangladesh: Reforming Education and Skills for Building A Developed Nation

Syed Abdul Aziz

Member, Technical Education Reform Committee, Ministry of Education, Bangladesh

Abstract

This paper explores the integration of education and skills development as a foundational driver for Bangladesh's transformation into a developed nation, in alignment with the aspirations of the July Revolution. Drawing upon insights from key policy documents—including the *Bangladesh Perspective Plan 2041*, the 7th and 8th Five-Year Plans, and global frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)—the study adopts a policy-based analytical approach. It examines the opportunities and challenges of the post-July Revolution era in the context of global economic shifts, demographic trends, and rapid technological advancements. Through comparative analysis with fast-developing and developed nations, the paper identifies critical gaps in Bangladesh's education system and workforce development strategies. It highlights the acute skills shortage across sectors as a significant barrier to accelerated growth, industrial transformation, and sustainable development. The paper underscores the urgent need to align education and training programs with 21st-century competencies through comprehensive reforms. A central focus is the transformation of Bangladesh's 128 million working-age population into a National Standard Classified Workforce under the Bangladesh National Qualification Framework (BNQF) by 2030. This strategy aims to enhance employability, productivity, and global competitiveness. The paper concludes by proposing a structured reform agenda, outlining key intervention areas to ensure quality education and workforce readiness for a developed Bangladesh.

Keywords: BNQF, Classified Workforce, SDG.

Transforming Bangladesh through Foreign Language Learning: Anxiety, Attitudes, and Practices among Undergraduate Students

Anas Al Masud
Department of Public Administration, Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP), Bangladesh
Mithila Afroz Prarona
Department of Public Administration, Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP), Bangladesh

Abstract

The July Movement of 2024 has marked a transformative period for empowering youths of Bangladesh. Where globalization and digital transformation are reshaping opportunities for youth worldwide, a query arises-what will it take to make a move with our youths if we want similar? Previous research has shown that foreign language (FL) learning tendencies among youth result in fostering socio-economic and cultural developments. However, any of such FL learning landscape is thoroughly left underexplored in Bangladesh. Therefore, this research study sets to investigate the foreign language learning practices in the country, following a mixed method approach. This research paper further aims to explore the FL learning contexts following the Foreign Language Classroom Anxiety Scale by Horwitz et al. (1986) and evaluate whether foreign language learning practices in Bangladesh are as standard as of the rest of the world or there are scopes left for improvement. A sample of 400 respondents (age≤ 35) were collected across selected universities, combining quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews to ensure a comprehensive analysis of diverse perspectives. The study revealed the poor FL learning practices in Bangladesh as the country faces a number of challenges, including limited access to quality resources, outdated pedagogical approaches. Several classroom factors including- mistake anxiety & teacher assessment anxiety are observed as significant anxiety factors among the FL students which are worsening the student's confidence indeed. The study recommended that instructors should establish a rapport with the students, maintaining mutual respect towards sentiments and emotions. By addressing limitations, this study expects that Bangladesh 2.0 will be able to initiate a growth in transforming its FL learning practices, contributing to the transformative education and unlocking the untapped potential of Bangladesh's youth in the post-July 2024 era.

Keywords: Foreign Language Learning, July Movement 2024, Youth Development, Bangladesh 2.0

Trust and Security Concerns in Mobile Banking: Impact on Rural Women's Adoption of Digital Financial Services

Syeda Rehnuma Faruque
Department of Finance, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh
Sajib Uddin Mamun
Department of Finance, University of Chittagong, Bangladesh

Abstract

Trust and security concerns—including privacy risks, financial risks, technological barriers, and regulatory trust—continue to impede the adoption of mobile banking among rural women in developing regions, despite its potential for promoting financial inclusion and empowerment. This study examines how these concerns influence the willingness of rural women to adopt mobile banking and investigates the mediating role of digital literacy, alongside the impact of regulatory trust on adoption decisions. Employing a quantitative research design, the research utilizes a structured survey and Structural Equation Modelling (SEM) to analyse data collected from rural women. The findings indicate that privacy and financial risks are the primary concerns among rural women, with digital literacy serving as a key mediator in overcoming these challenges. Additionally, regulatory trust was found to be crucial in boosting confidence in mobile banking services. The study underscores the importance of targeted digital literacy programs and robust regulatory frameworks, offering practical recommendations for mobile banking providers, policymakers, and financial institutions to enhance adoption rates and empower rural women. By addressing key adoption barriers, this research contributes to the literature on financial inclusion and provides strategies to empower rural women through secure and accessible mobile banking services.

Keywords: Mobile Banking, Trust, Security Concerns, Digital Literacy, Regulatory Trust

Understanding The Prospects of the Second Republic for Bangladesh: A Fresh Constitutional Framework for Democratic Renewal

Mohammad Kamrul Ahsan
Department of Philosophy, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh
Kamrun Nessa Khondker
Department of Archaeology, Jahangirnagar University, Bangladesh
Muhammad Sajidul Islam
Department of Bangla, Netrokona University, Bangladesh
Md. Mamunur Rashid
Department of Humanities and Social Science, Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology, Bangladesh
Muhammad Shahadat Hossain
National Consultant, a2i, ICT Division, Bangladesh
Md Belal Hossen
The Business Standard, Bangladesh

Abstract

Over the past decade, Bangladesh's political landscape has been marked by rising authoritarianism, electoral manipulation, and institutional erosion. The 5th of August Uprising—a mass movement against state repression—reflects widespread public disillusionment with Sheikh Hasina's 16-year rule, characterized by the consolidation of one-party control, suppression of dissent, and politicization of key state institutions. Since 2008, three successive general elections (2014, 2018, and 2024) have been widely criticized as manipulated, undermining democratic legitimacy and public trust in governance. This research critically examines the prospects of the much-debated *Second Republic*—a proposed constitutional framework aimed at restoring democracy, institutional integrity, and political accountability in Bangladesh. It also offers a constructive analysis of the First Republic, established in 1971, to contextualize the historical and legal trajectory of constitutional development. Through a detailed literature review, the study explores whether the envisioned reforms signify a true "Second Republic" or a foundational reimagining of the constitutional order.

Drawing on comparative experiences from other countries that have undertaken democratic transitions, the paper proposes a new governance model grounded in decentralization, judicial independence, electoral transparency, and robust accountability mechanisms. Central to this vision is the reform agenda outlined by the Six Reform Commissions formed by the Interim Government, particularly the Constitutional Reform Commission. Key recommendations include: the reinstatement of the Caretaker Government System to ensure credible elections; the creation of a Supreme Judicial Council to safeguard judicial independence; and the establishment of a National Constitutional Council (NCC) to oversee appointments to top constitutional offices. The study argues that democratic renewal in Bangladesh demands structural reforms, broad-based political consensus, active civil society participation, and sustained international engagement. By framing the 5th of August Uprising as a potential turning point in Bangladesh's political evolution, this research explores the viability of a Second Republic as a means of addressing systemic democratic deficits. The paper concludes with a proposed roadmap for constitutional transformation, emphasizing legal safeguards, inclusive dialogue, and public participation as key elements for fostering a more accountable and sustainable democratic framework.

Keywords: Second Republic, Constitution, Democracy, Reform Agenda, Election, Judiciary, Bureaucracy

Use of Lethal Weapon to Kill Protesters by Bangladesh Police: A Discussion Analyzing 253 Deaths

Md Khalid Syfullah

Department of Public Administration, University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh

Abstract

The use of lethal force by law enforcement against protesters is a critical issue in Bangladesh, where police actions have resulted in numerous fatalities. This study aims to analyse the circumstances, demographics, and geographic distribution of 253 deaths caused by police and other violence-related incidents. We conducted a quantitative analysis of 253 recorded deaths, examining variables such as age, cause of death, location of incidents, and anatomical targeting. Data was categorized based on demographics, police involvement, and the circumstances surrounding each fatality. The findings revealed that 58.1% of victims were young adults aged 18-29 years. Lethal bullets were responsible for 78.66% of deaths, with most fatalities occurring on the spot (77.47%), predominantly at demonstration sites (75.89%). The chest (46.64%) and head (29.25%) were the most frequently targeted areas. Dhaka had the highest number of incidents (36.36%). The study underscores the prevalence of state-sanctioned violence in Bangladesh, highlighting the need for urgent reforms in policing practices, greater accountability, and adherence to international human rights standards to prevent such fatalities.

Keywords: July 24 Uprising; lethal force; police violence; protesters; Bangladesh