

## SDG AT AIUB

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) is committed to achieve the United Nations 17 Sustainable Development Goals through different initiatives. These reports outline year-long different activities, such as research & publications, enhancing social inclusion, encouraging environmental sustainability, partnerships, good governance, and diversity among students and employees as well as its associated mapping to different SDGs.



## American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB)

### SDG Activity Report - 2022

## SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions



**Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**

# AIUB SDG Activity Report 2022

## SDG 16: Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) stands as a bastion of commitment to Sustainable Development Goal 16: Peace, Justice, and Strong Institutions. Through a multifaceted approach involving university activities and faculty research, AIUB is actively contributing to the development of a just and peaceful society, fostering strong institutions, and advancing the rule of law.

In the realm of university activities, AIUB's Department of Law has been at the forefront of initiatives promoting legal awareness and advocacy. The dramatic portrayal of "Cyber Security and Internet Fraud" by the Faculty of Business Administration (FBA) not only showcased the university's proactive stance on addressing contemporary legal challenges but also highlighted the critical issue of cybersecurity in the digital age.

The engagement of law students in visits to Dhaka Judge Court and Madaripur Judge Court, along with the organization of the "May It Please The Court" event and the 3rd Intra-Department Moot Court Competition, reflects AIUB's commitment to providing practical exposure and enhancing the legal acumen of its students. Such activities not only contribute to the education and professional development of future legal practitioners but also play a role in strengthening the justice system.

AIUB's commitment to fostering a culture of debate and democratic values is exemplified by the victory of the AIUB Oratory Club (AOC) in the ATN Bangla Debate for Democracy 2022. This achievement underscores the university's emphasis on nurturing individuals who can articulate their thoughts effectively, contributing to a more informed and engaged citizenry.

The faculty members at AIUB have also made substantial contributions to the discourse on peace, justice, and strong institutions through their research and publications. The exploration of topics such as "Citizen's Charter in Public Services," "Legal Mechanisms to Combat Communal Violence," and "Enhancing Access to Justice through E-judiciary in Bangladesh" demonstrates the faculty's dedication to advancing legal scholarship and proposing practical solutions for a more just and equitable society.

Moreover, the research on "Land Rights Documentation and Verification System Using Blockchain Technology" showcases AIUB's forward-thinking approach to leveraging emerging technologies for the betterment of legal and institutional frameworks. Such initiatives align with the spirit of SDG 16 by promoting transparency, accountability, and efficiency in the functioning of institutions. In the backdrop of these activities and research endeavors, AIUB's contributions extend beyond the borders of the university, influencing the broader legal and societal landscape. The publication on "The Rohingya Crisis: Humanitarian and Legal Approaches" underscores AIUB's engagement with global humanitarian issues and its commitment to addressing complex challenges through legal and institutional frameworks.

In conclusion, AIUB's holistic approach to SDG 16 reflects its dedication to fostering a society based on principles of justice, peace, and strong institutions. By combining dynamic university activities that empower students with insightful faculty research that addresses contemporary legal issues, AIUB is playing a pivotal role in shaping the legal professionals and thought leaders of tomorrow who will contribute to the realization of a just and peaceful world.

## Contents

<b>University Activities.....</b>	<b>4</b>
Drama on “Cyber Security and Internet Fraud” by FBA.....	4
Science Poster Contest – on the Occasion of Victory Day 2022 .....	4
Poster Competition on Human Rights, Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace .....	5
Law Students visited Dhaka Judge Court .....	7
Advisor, Department of Law at the IALS 2022 Global Law Deans’ Forum at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom .....	8
Law Students Visited Madaripur Judge Court.....	9
May It Please The Court: Unmasking The Art Of Mooting.....	10
3rd Intra-Department Moot Court Competition 2022 was organized by the Department of Law .....	11
AIUB ORATORY CLUB (AOC) WON THE ATN BANGLA DEBATE FOR DEMOCRACY 2022.....	12
<b>Faculty Research and Publication.....</b>	<b>13</b>
Citizen's Charter in Public Services: Development, Principles and Practice .....	13
1947, 1971: History, Facts and Fictions .....	13
Addressing the Necessity for a 'Witness Protection Law' to Eliminate Backlogs in Criminal Cases in Bangladesh.....	14
Legal Mechanisms to Combat Communal Violence in Contemporary Bangladesh.....	14
Enhancing Access to Justice through E-judiciary in Bangladesh: A Study .....	15
Islamophobia and A Proper Understanding of Islam, A study of Bangladesh .....	16
Establishing Democracy in Bangladesh: Evaluating the Role of Media .....	16
Image of Bangladesh through the Imageries of Bangladeshi Currency.....	17
Factors behind the World Crime Index: Some Parametric Observations using DBSCAN and Linear Regression.....	17
COVID-19 and Sustainable Development Goals: Bangladesh Perspective .....	18
The Rohingya Crisis: Humanitarian and Legal Approaches; Chapter: A tale of two international law principles: Ensuring justice and accountability for the Rohingya .....	18
Land Rights Documentation and Verification System Using Blockchain Technology .....	19

## University Activities

### Drama on “Cyber Security and Internet Fraud” by FBA

The Department of Management Information Systems, Faculty of Business Administration FBA has arranged a drama on “Cyber Security and Internet Fraud” which took place on 13th December 2022 in Media Studio, Annex 2 at 3:30-5:00 pm and students who enrolled in “Cyber Security” course were the participants. Ms. Nazia Farhana, the course teacher of this course coordinated, and guided the students for the drama. All students of FBA were invited to enjoy the program. The drama served as a learning session on issues of cybersecurity as well as entertained the audience. A total of three shows were staged by the students, the scripts of which were written by the students themselves. This helped the students to understand the overall concepts of cybersecurity and enriched their social communication skill. This event raised self-confidence among the participants, fostered their creativity, improved their verbal and nonverbal communication skills, and encouraged cooperation and teamwork. It also increased cyber security awareness among the FBA community. The drama covered all the important topics related to cybersecurity, for example, the reasons for being hacked, the processes hackers may use to steal the information of the victims, and how a victim may become cautious of such attacks. Dr. Nisar Ahmed, Treasurer, Dr. Rezbin Nahar, Ms. Samia Shabnaz, Ms. Shahanaz Zarin Haque, Mr. Mehzabul Haque Nahid, Ms. Tamnna Nazneen Rahman and Ms. Azmery Sultana were present during the program.



### Science Poster Contest – on the Occasion of Victory Day 2022

In the glorious month of victory of Bangladesh, the Department of Physics, Faculty of Science and Technology (FST), American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB), in association with AIUB Computer Club (ACC), arranged a “Science Poster Contest” on December 8, 2022. The purpose of the program was to bring out students' creative expression, stimulate their thinking processes, and acquaint them with scientific and scholastic trends. The program was inaugurated by Mr. Mashioor Rahman, honourable Associate Dean (FST), AIUB in the morning hour. The Poster session was then open to all. Total 53 posters were presented by the students who are enrolled in different physics courses in the Fall 2022-23 semester. Every single poster was evaluated by the experts and faculty members of Department of Physics. During the contest the students received effective feedback, shared opinions, thoughts, and gathered knowledge for future directions. Dr. Farzana Sabeth, from the Department of physics was the convener of the organizing committee of the “Science Poster Contest”. Ms. Nusrat Jahan, from Physics Department, supervised the student volunteers in decorating the whole event with a creative approach. Ms. Rutaba Jania, and Ms. Israt Kabir, from the department anchored the award ceremony and the cultural fest, while all the faculty members of Department worked together, judged the posters, and provided necessary technical support to make the event successful.

Dr. Mohammed Nazrul Islam Khan, General Secretary, Bangladesh Physical Society, Editor and Chief Scientific Officer (Material Science Division), Bangladesh Atomic Energy Commission, Dhaka, adorned the closing and prize giving ceremony as the Chief Guest. He personally appreciated the passion and the enthusiasm of the participants and gave emphasis on nurturing scientific research activities among the students for the sustainable development of the country in his speech. The honourable Pro-Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Md. Abdur Rahman, encouraged the participants and delivered an engaging welcome speech. The honorable special guest, Professor Dr. Dip Nandi, Director of FST, acquainted the audience with a short overview of the whole program. Professor Dr. A B M Siddique Hossain, Dean of Faculty of Engineering, were also present as Special Guest and delivered a very persuasive speech. A total of 6 best posters (3 from each category and total 30 participants) were awarded with crests, certificates, T shirts and gifts and all the contestants got the certificate of appreciation.

A mindful cultural event, to celebrate the victory day 2022, was held with the participation of students and the teachers of the Department of Physics. The program concluded with the closing speech and the vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Humayra Ferdous, Head in charge, Department of Physics. Dr. Humayra expressed her heartfelt gratitude to the Guests for adorning the event with their presence. She narrated the necessity of Science Poster contest and acknowledged the contributions of all behind the event. She also thanked the sponsors of the events Sara Lifestyles, Rangs Limited, Adury Apparels-Thermax Group and Marina Trading Company for their kind support.



### Poster Competition on Human Rights, Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace



On Monday, December 5, 2022, the Department of Law of American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) organized the 1st Intradepartmental Poster Competition on Human Rights, Peacebuilding and Sustaining Peace in the Amphitheater of AIUB campus. A total number of 23 teams participated in this year's competition comprising of 5-6 student members. Prof. Dr. Taslima Monsoor provided the program's leadership, while the other faculty members advised the teams with legal and technical knowledge. The entire event was coordinated by Mr. Md. Khalid Rahman, while Mr. Riasat Azmi was the anchor of the "Closing Ceremony". The law students volunteered to make this event a successful one.

Initially students formed groups and submitted their poster ideas based on the event theme. Later, a short-listed number of students were selected to submit their posters for the final exhibition. The posters were displayed in the amphitheater from 10 am to 2 pm on the competition day. The first runner-up, second runner-up, and winner posters were chosen by the judges based on a set of criteria.

Prof. Dr. Nakib Mohammad Nasrullah, professor of law at the University of Dhaka was present as the 'Chief Guest' of the closing ceremony. Dr. Nakib highlighted the significance and intensity of extracurricular activities in addition to regular studies in his speech. Dr. Nakib also anticipated that more universities should host such events. The event also featured Prof. Dr. Tazul Islam, Dean of Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences (FASS), who inspired the students with a brief but heartfelt remark as the special guest of the ceremony. The welcoming address by Prof. Dr. Taslima Monsoor focused on the significance of the poster competition. Later, the honorable guests gave away crests to the winning teams.

Finally, at the end of the event, Dr. ABM Rahmatullah, Associate Dean, FASS delivered 'Vote of Thanks' to the invited guests, faculties, and students. In his speech, he thanked the 'Chief Guest' for taking the time to visit the university. Dr. Rahmatullah acknowledged the contribution of everyone for making the event successful and expressed his desire for continuing such events in future.



## Law Students visited Dhaka Judge Court

On November 23, 2022, the AIUB Department of Law arranged a study tour to the Dhaka Judge Court to gain and enhance their legal and practical knowledge on "Trial Procedure of Civil Courts." A delegation of 40 AIUB law students and a faculty member attended the court. The team left the Permanent campus in Kuril at 7:30 a.m. and arrived at the court about 8:30 a.m.

Mr. Jakir Hossain, Senior Assistant Judge, Savar Court, Dhaka welcomed the AIUB law students on behalf of the Dhaka Judgeship. Following the welcome, the briefing session began at the 09:30 am. Mr. Jakir Hossain delivered a brief on the importance of civil judiciary focusing on the use of evidence in the trial. He underlined the need of appropriate methods of service of summons for civil suits. Following the briefing, the Honorable Senior Assistant Judge answered students' questions on a variety of professional, legal, and practical issues.

Following the initial briefing, students took their seats in the courtroom. In real life, students learned and experienced filing a civil suit, trial session, examination and cross examination of witnesses, methods of service of summons, and so on. After the courtroom experience, there was a QA session. Mr. Jakir Hossain answered the queries raised by the students and provided legal explanations. Altogether this real-life practical learning experience lasted for four hours covering introductory session, trial session and QA session. Later, students were allowed to see the Dhaka Judge Court compound. The visit concluded with a group photo with Mr. Jakir Hossain in front of his court room. The trip was incredibly relevant, instructive, helpful, and beneficial for AIUB Law students.



Advisor, Department of Law at the IALS 2022 Global Law Deans' Forum at the University of Oxford, United Kingdom

Prof. Dr. Taslima Monsoor, the Advisor of Department of Law participated in the International Association of Law Schools (IALS) 2022 Global Law Deans' Forum and Annual Meeting held at the University of Oxford, Pembroke College, Oxford, United Kingdom from September 26-28, 2022. The 2022 Global Law Deans' Forum and Annual Meeting is the 4th biennial meeting of IALS. The Association has held over 35 Regional Law Deans' Forums. This year more than 75 law school leaders from over 30 countries have gathered to meet and discuss with their peers to formulate to identify challenges and develop community-based strategies to improve legal education.

The International Association of Law Schools (IALS) is a private, non-political, non-profit, volunteer, collaborative, learned society dedicated to serving the worldwide legal education community. It is an association of more than 250 law schools and departments from over 60 countries representing more than 12,000 law faculty members. The mission of IALS is to improve legal education by learning from each other. It is only through thoughtful dialogue among our community that IALS will develop a consensus on how they educate the next generation.

Since its transition in 2014 to a new charter and an independent Board of Governors, the Association has embarked upon an ambitious and innovative agenda of developing a global consensus on the fundamental principles, guidelines, and outcomes of a legal education. Discussions and decisions of IALS are informed by the mission and experiences of all the members. These discussions have resulted in the adoption of the: Singapore Declaration on Global Standards and Outcomes of a Legal Education, Madrid Protocol on the Principles of Evaluation of a Legal Education, Judicial Standards on a Legal Education. They have also created the Doctrinal Study Group Program and Evaluation, Assessment, and Certification Program, along with more programs and committees.





## Law Students Visited Madaripur Judge Court

On August 7, 2022, the AIUB Department of Law arranged a study tour to the Madaripur Judge Court to for the students to gain and improve legal and practical information on "Trial Procedure of Civil & Criminal Courts." A delegation of 40 AIUB law students and faculty members attended the tour. The team left the campus at 6:30 a.m. and arrived at the Madaripur Judge Court around 10:30 a.m.

Mr. Md Abdullah Al Masud, Joint District and Session Judge, Madaripur, welcomed the AIUB law students on behalf of the Madaripur Judgeship. The briefing session was held at the Madaripur Judge Court's seminar room. Mr. Md. Ismail Hossein, Honorable District and Sessions Judge, Madaripur, delivered a brief overview on the method of being a judge and advocate in the first session. He underlined the need of learning the country's procedural laws. Following the briefing, the Honorable District and Session Judge answered students' questions on a variety of professional, legal, and practical issues. Later, Ms. Lailatul Ferdaus, Additional District and Sessions Judge, and Mr. Mamunur Rashid Nirab, Chief Judicial Magistrate, Madaripur, both delivered a brief talk to the pupils on Civil suits and Criminal cases, filing procedure of suits & cases, trial procedure, jurisdiction, judgment, etc.

Later, students were separated into eight groups and taken to various courtrooms- both civil and criminal. Students got the opportunity to observe and learn about filing a case, trial session, examination and cross examination of witnesses, commission, and so on in real life situation.

After the courtroom experience, judges from various courts informed the students about their actions in the courtroom and provided legal explanations. These sessions, as well as the courtroom experience, lasted for about four hours. Later, with permission from the relevant authorities, students were allowed to see the Madaripur Judge Court compound. The visit concluded with a group photo with the honorable judges of the Madaripur Judge Court. Overall, the study tour was incredibly relevant, instructive, helpful, and beneficial for AIUB Law students.



## May It Please The Court: Unmasking The Art Of Mooting

The Art of Mooting is essentially linked to enhancing one's advocacy skills beyond the books and literature of the law schools. With the aim of shaping the students to become the future mooters of the world, Jessup Bangladesh, and International Law Students Association (ILSA) in collaboration with the United States Department of Justice, Office of Overseas Prosecutorial Development, Assistance and Training (USDOJ/ OPDAT) organized the 2-day Pre-Jessup Workshop titled 'May it Please the Court: Unmasking the Art of Mooting' on 11 and 12 August 2022. The workshop was hosted by the American International University – Bangladesh (AIUB). This workshop was designed to prepare the students to participate successfully in the 7th Bangladesh National Round of the 64th Philip C Jessup International Law Moot Court Competition 2022-2023.

The opening remarks were delivered by Prof. Dr. Tazul Islam, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, AIUB, Dr. Taslima Mansoor, Advisor, Department of Law, AIUB, Ms. Natasha Harnwell-Davis, Attorney, Criminal Appellate Section, and Ms. Sarah E. Edwards, Resident Legal Advisor, from the USDOJ/ OPDAT, U.S. Embassy, Dhaka. The remarks were followed by introductory remarks by Mr. Nuran Choudhury, National Coordinator, ILSA Chapters Bangladesh, and Mr. Riad Mahmud, National Administrator, Bangladesh Qualifying Round, Philip C. Jessup Int'l Law Moot Court Competition 2022, introducing the objectives of the workshop with the attendees.

A total of 29 teams with more than 140 law students from universities across Bangladesh, both within and beyond the Capital Dhaka, and 30 volunteers participated this year as observers and mooters of the upcoming National Rounds.

In order to tailor the minds of the students in line with the mooting essentials, the Champion and Runners-up team of 2021 Global Rounds of the Competition, Harvard Law School, and Singapore Management University respectively, joined the workshop to share their experience through the session on 'A Tale of the Victorious'. The importance and role of the International Law Moot Court Competition in career building was shared by Mr. Masrur Ansari, Legal Advisor, ICRC. To acquaint the students on the art of oral advocacy, the Best Oralist of the Advanced Rounds of the White & Case International Rounds of Jessup 2022, Elise Manchester, virtually joined the workshop. Various other multiforked sessions during the two-day workshop were facilitated by former Jessup mooters, Jessup Facilitators, Ambassadors and Executive Members of Jessup Bangladesh.

In the closing remarks, Justice Zafar Ahmed, Honorable Judge, High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh, highlighted on the significance of mooting and urged all the students to participate in the upcoming competition. Ms. Natasha Harnwell-Davis and Ms. Sarah E. Edwards expressed their gratitude for the interactive and detailed sessions during the workshop and also expressed their willingness to remain connected to Jessup Bangladesh in its future initiatives.

Prof. Dr. Tazul Islam, Dean, Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences, AIUB, Dr. Taslima Mansoor, Advisor, Department of Law, AIUB, Mr. Washik Md. Istiaq Ezaz, National Administrator, Jessup Bangladesh Qualifying Round 2022 and 2023 and Mr. Nuran Choudhury thanked all the dignitaries, guests, students, coaches, volunteers as well as the organizing team for organizing this workshop.



### 3rd Intra-Department Moot Court Competition 2022 was organized by the Department of Law

The Department of Law, American International University-Bangladesh (AIUB) organized the 3rd Intra-Department Moot Court Competition 2022, held from 29th March 2022 to 30th March 2022. Each moot court team consists of 3 members (2 mooters and 1 researcher) and a total of 12 teams from the Department registered and participated in this year's competition. 30 students from 1st to 3rd semester were also assigned to the teams as intern researchers. The program was coordinated by two faculty members of the Law Department, namely - Mr. Ahasan Habib and Ms. Tasnuva Anika.

The competition began on 29th March through an Opening Ceremony where Dr. Tazul Islam, Dean, FASS, inaugurated the competition and Dr. ABM Rahmatullah, Associate Dean, FASS, gave his welcome speech. Law academicians, practitioners and faculty members from various universities contributed as the Moot Court Judges of the preliminary, quarter-final and semi-final rounds.

The judges of the final round were Mr. Justice J.B.M. Hassan, Honorable Justice, High Court Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh, Dr. Nakib Muhammad Nasrullah, Professor, Department of Law, University of Dhaka, and Barrister Ashraful Hadi, Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh and Founder, Alliance Law.

After two days of intense mooting, the team comprising Sanjida Sohana, Shamsu Tanvi Sonet Zim and Foysal Islam emerged as champion of the prestigious event. Jannatul Ferdaush, Fatema Kabir Suzana and Yeasin Arafath as a team became runner-up and also won the 'Best Memorial Award' of the competition. For excelling in the researchers' test held on 30th March 2022, Animesh Sutradhar was recognized as the 'Best Researcher' where two mooters namely Sanjida Sohana and Khan Md Lamim Ebny Habib bagged the 'Best Mooter Award' for their excellent performance throughout the competition.

In the Valedictory Ceremony, Justice J.B.M. Hassan, as the chief guest of the competition, discussed the development of the concept of 'aggrieved person' in a writ petition and appreciated the efforts of the competitors and encouraged them to gain more knowledge for making their arguments more persuasive. Professor Dr. Taslima Monsoor, Adviser, Department of Law, has given her vote of thanks and expressed her gratitude to the judges of the final rounds for taking their time and visiting the university. She appreciated the efforts of the organizers, judges of the competition, guests, and the Moot Court committee for making the competition successful and concluded the event with the hope of more moot court competition in future.

Honorable Vice Chancellor, Dr. Carmen Z. Lamagna, and Dr. Hasanul A. Hasan, Chairman, Board of Trustees, spent their valuable time with the Judges of the final round and acknowledged the effort of the Law Department.

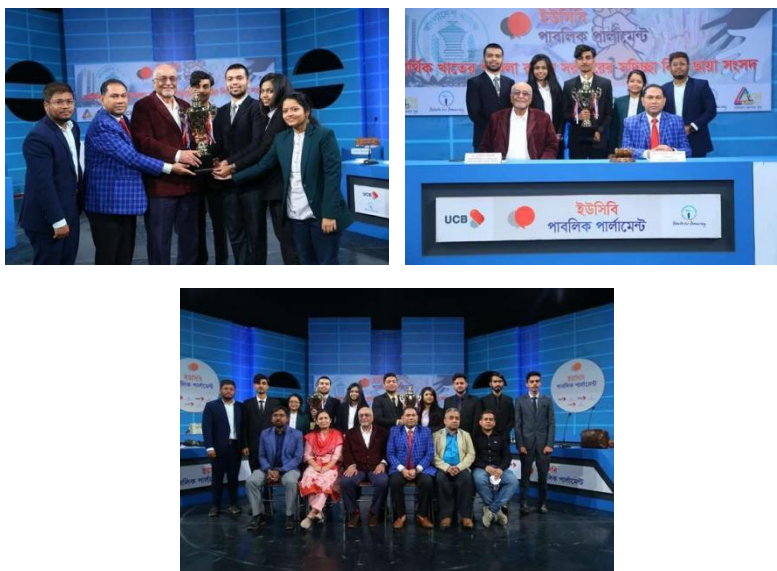


## AIUB ORATORY CLUB (AOC) WON THE ATN BANGLA DEBATE FOR DEMOCRACY 2022

On the 19th of February 2022, the AIUB Oratory Club (AOC) participated in the ATN Bangla Debate for Democracy Final at the Bangladesh Film Development Corporation (BFDC), Dhaka. Defeating 4 teams, AOC emerged as the Champion in the rigorous competition. The opposition team in the final round was from Stamford University. AOC was assigned to debate in favor of the government for the motion. The debate program was moderated by Mr. Hasan Ahmed Chowdhury Kiron, the Chairman, Debate for Democracy as the speaker for the program, and Dr. Debapriya Bhattacharya, Founder Executive Director of Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD) graced the occasion as the chief guest.

The topic of the debate was, “আর্থিক খাতের শৃঙ্খলা রক্ষায় সরকারের সদিচ্ছার ঘাটতি নেই” The participating debaters from AOC were, Tasaddicul Naim, Tuhailika Saha, Sumaiya Binte Zilani Chowa, and Ahasun Ullah Riaz from the Faculty of Science & Technology, along with Ishtiaque Ahmed Badhon from the Faculty of Business Administration.

Such mock-parliament sessions are some of the most updated versions of modern parliamentary debate that encourages and enables young talented debaters to enhance their oratory skills. This is one of AOC's biggest achievements till date as their second win in a national television debate tournament, bringing great pride to the club and the university.



## Faculty Research and Publication

### Citizen's Charter in Public Services: Development, Principles and Practice

Author: DR. BUDDHA DEV BISWAS et al.

#### Brief Description:

This paper presents the consequences and development of the citizen's charters over the decades after their introduction in the United Kingdom (UK) on 22 July 1991. It has used a systematic literature review to organize and present the development process of the citizens' charter over the years. It does not focus on or target any specific zone or state but is initiated more to connect the links between Commonwealth nations. However, the citizen's charter is a process to link citizens and public administrators in a more formal/official manner. It has changed a lot over the last three decades. The paper tried to critically investigate the degree of change, development, and practice.

Source: <https://doi.org/10.33258/biohs.v4i3.799>

### 1947, 1971: History, Facts and Fictions

Author: AFROJA SULTANA et al.

#### Brief Description:

After 24 years of the partition, the new neighboring country, Bangladesh, was born in 1971 in the Eastern region of India. The division of India and the birth of Bangladesh are, apparently, two unconnected events standing at two different times. However, researchers have found the incidents deeply interlinked. Kabir described partition not as an "event" but as an "ongoing process" while Zamindar termed this catastrophic event "a long partition" as the making of Pakistan and India involves years of social, political, and bureaucratic efforts. One of the main queries of this study is to find how partition is portrayed in Bangladeshi fictions. Do the fictions recognize the Liberation War of Bangladesh as an extension of the partition? In search of answers, the study inspects 12 Bengali novels focusing on partition and the Liberation War. This study is guided by the concept of "long partition" and the "Trauma theory" while it also takes Kabir's theoretical proposition "Post-amnesia" into account.

Source: <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/14736489.2022.2086410>



### Addressing the Necessity for a 'Witness Protection Law' to Eliminate Backlogs in Criminal Cases in Bangladesh

Author: MD. KHALID RAHMAN et al.

#### Brief Description:

The testimony of the witness is regarded as the primary evidence by the court when convicting someone under criminal law. Consequently, the accused makes the witness their major target in an effort to disrupt a fair trial, which makes the witness uninterested in supporting the allegation. However, Bangladesh does not currently have a law specifically addressing witness protection, while the need for such a law is growing, and the concerned parties and the court are urging the government to do so. This paper aims to show that the witness protection statute significantly influences the reduction of criminal case backlogs. To investigate the aforementioned argument, the writers have considered the witness protection law and the backlog in criminal cases. Besides, this research emphasizes the necessity for effective witness protection measures by drafting thorough criminal legislation in Bangladesh. The authors applied the quantitative approach using a systematic questionnaire to conduct a survey of 271 respondents, who were chosen by the researchers to comprehensively understand the necessity for witness protection laws and how they relate to the backlog of criminal cases to substantiate the paper's argument. Witness testimony is important evidence, yet the law of our country makes no separate anticipation of witness protection. Occasionally, witnesses are threatened, which makes them unwilling to testify honestly and obstructs the delivery of impartial justice. Besides, witnesses decide not to testify because they fear being marked out in the future. Consequently, every day that the case is unresolved adds to the backlog at the court. Only when separate laws were to be created for the witnesses would it benefit the witnesses and reduce backlogs.

Source: <https://jurnal.unej.ac.id/index.php/ijls/article/view/33611>

### Legal Mechanisms to Combat Communal Violence in Contemporary Bangladesh

Author: FERDOUSI BEGUM et al.

#### Brief Description:

Bangladesh is having a pluralistic society from ages where communal violence is not a new concept. We have observed different incidents of communal violence happened in Bangladesh from its birth in 1971 and it endures its journey until now. In recent years, there are multiple incidents of communal violence in Bangladesh where Facebook is used as a medium to commit such violence. This special pattern of committing communal violence using Facebook makes us realize that, the perpetrators are active in Bangladesh and they want to unveil their blueprint in a systematic way. Here violence is committed on the ground of hurting religious sentiment of the

majority Muslim people living in Bangladesh. Taking into account these multifarious incidents of communal violence in our society, this research paper tries to analyze its pattern by doing one particular case study of the incident happened at Kurbanpur village of Muradnagar thana in Cumilla district. It highlights the grave nature of such violence and shows that, the technology is used to promulgate such violence. It deliberates the pros and cons of existing legal mechanisms to combat such violence in Bangladesh. It analyses the newly-formed Digital Security Act, 2018 to combat communal violence and concludes that, the Act alone will not suffice to prevent such violence without an active civil society and meaningful public participation.

Source: [https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract\\_id=4381995](https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=4381995)

### Enhancing Access to Justice through E-judiciary in Bangladesh: A Study

Author: DR. MOHAMMAD ABU TAHER et al.

#### Brief Description:

E-judiciary, meaning application of information and communication technologies (ICTs), in justice delivery mechanism is a global phenomenon as inordinate delay in settling disputes resulting in backlogs of cases is one of the common problems in access to justice in almost every judicial system. In Bangladesh, the backlog of cases has become a huge problem, creating a bottleneck in access to justice. Globally, case management is considered an approach appropriate to resolve the problem of delayed justice. Its attraction and utility lie in the ability of the mechanism to provide predictability in the administration of justice. ICTs are now regarded as essential tools for effective case management in addition to delivery of judicial services in an efficient manner. Realising its value as well as benefits, the judiciary of other countries like Australia, Malaysia, and India is using ICTs for reducing the backlog of cases and delivery of justice in an effective way. The countries have already modified their laws as such. To solve Bangladesh's problem of delayed justice, a project for introducing ICTs in the judiciary has been launched by the Supreme Court of Bangladesh to facilitate prompt and efficient delivery of justice as well as necessary information to the litigants and the public. Hence, this article seeks to highlight the implications of ICTs in the justice delivery mechanism in Bangladesh. This study adopts the qualitative approach of research where primary and secondary data have been gathered from various statutes as well as existing literature. To underline the role of ICTs in making justice accessible, experiences of Australia, Malaysia and India have been shared in this paper. The paper finds that the application of ICTs in the judiciary can make a substantial impact in enhancing access to justice by reducing the backlog of cases. Therefore, the paper recommends that for ensuring access to justice, the application of ICTs in the justice delivery mechanism should be enhanced in Bangladesh.

Source: <https://e-journal.uum.edu.my/index.php/uumjls/article/view/13659>

### Islamophobia and A Proper Understanding of Islam, A study of Bangladesh

Author: AZMERY SULTANA et al.

#### Brief Description:

The purpose of this paper was to identify the current overview of Islamophobia and the way to have an ultimate solution for overcoming this. The study advanced the body of knowledge on Islam and Islamophobia by proposing an integrated research model based on accountability, understanding of meaning, the significance of every verse, and regulations of Islam. The paper identified the reasons behind this Islamophobia along with its adverse impact in today's world. The research model was empirically tested using 120 responses, using the online questionnaire survey of different aged and religious people in Bangladesh. Data were analyzed using the structured equation modeling technique. Findings revealed that the verse and the rules of Islam significantly directly and indirectly affected the thoughts of human beings. Overall, the basic pillars of Islamophobia, such as misunderstanding, misleading examples, insufficient knowledge, improper correlation, and implementation, were interrelated with each other and had a particular impact on the people of the world. The study proposed a way that sums up the thoughts of people regarding the issues of Islam, which helped to have a clear view of the present thoughts. More research should be done on this issue to maintain a stable outcome, and based on that, a particular solution can be developed. This research paper had the first step in understanding the meaning of Islamophobia and was considered a way of providing a better solution.

Source: <https://doaj.org/article/25f4d3f1a7b7413690c4b3e4a397c631>

### Establishing Democracy in Bangladesh: Evaluating the Role of Media

Author: DR. B M SAJJAD HOSSAIN et al.

#### Brief Description:

This paper aims to examine the role of media and its significance in a democratic society like Bangladesh. The paper is also an attempt to identify the major challenges of working of media in the way to establishing the democracy in Bangladesh. The study is mainly qualitative and descriptive in nature. The study is based on secondary data and archival resources. A comprehensive literature review was undertaken using current and historical materials relevant to media and democracy interface. The paper finds that despite of having several measures for media and the existence of number of media, free working environment for media is still heavily obstructed in Bangladesh. This study highlights, for the interest of democracy, the interface among the media, democracy, good governance, and the peaceful development of society. The identification of challenges of working of media freely can pave the way for establishing democracy in Bangladesh. The paper is mainly based on secondary sources and analysis of existing literature. No primary data has been collected and utilized and as such future studies should adopt a holistic approach to portray the meaningful role of media in establishing democracy in Bangladesh.

Source: <https://ajbe.aiub.edu/index.php/ajbe/article/view/131/121>

### Image of Bangladesh through the Imageries of Bangladeshi Currency

Author: ASHIK MANNAN VASKOR et al.

#### Brief Description:

**Purpose of the Research:** This research tried to explore the trend of the images printed on Bangladeshi 'Taka' and tried to open up the probable reason behind selecting the significant images by identifying the chronological change of circulated images in Taka.

**Methodology:** In this research, analysis of transition of images on Taka in different time periods after independence (1971) in respect of the political and economic state of Bangladesh has been portrayed. Chronological developments of Taka and the comparisons with international currency images have been done to reveal the 'image of Bangladesh'. To perform these, several instruments are applied like field survey, observation and literature review. Only paper notes have been considered for the research.

**Core findings:** There will hardly be a country in the world that does not have its own currency. Images on that currency definitely are the most applied advertisement for that country which we may overlook mostly. This paper addressed that our Taka not only represent our living heritage where we can discover agrarian society, uniqueness of landscape, architecture, national emblems, national heroes, but also reveal our culture, religion, economy and development with nationalist ideology.

**Research Implications:** Each country has its own unique currency. Inevitably we all have to use currency on a daily basis and willingly or not willingly have to glance at the note and the images on it. These images of the currency of each country represent their own history, identity, culture over time. Bangladesh is also not behind in this learning. These illustrations create an image on the user's mind where they find the agrarian, riverine Bangladesh through the imageries of Bangladeshi currency. This analytical paper may reveal a new source to understand Bangladeshi culture and nationalistic spirit and can become a resource for the anthropologist and historian.

**Limitation and future directions:** It is a critical and theoretical analysis on an intriguing topic which we usually overlook mostly. Firsthand interviews with the decision makers, who are authorized to select the images on Taka could make the research deeper.

**Source:** <https://ajbe.aiub.edu/index.php/ajbe/article/view/132>

### Factors behind the World Crime Index: Some Parametric Observations using DBSCAN and Linear Regression

Author: DR. MD. MANZURUL HASAN et al.

#### Brief Description:

Escalation of crime rates in any country is the most concerning problem globally. Nevertheless, other components (such as happiness factors, education index, GDP, and population density) impact the crime index of such countries in a positive and negative manner. This study sheds insight into the elements that influence a country's increasing crime index through parametric analysis. Moreover, the analysis of the crime index provides some evidence that these elements are related. First, we build clusters using a density-based spatial clustering application with noise (DBSCAN) and discover commonalities among those countries. Hence, we use linear regression to link other key characteristics with those countries' respective crime indexes. Then, we study the trends of those elements in different countries to see how decreasing happiness factors effect the crime indexes. As a result, additional relative analyses reveal some significant undulations within the components underlying the crime indexes.

Source: [https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-93247-3\\_69](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-3-030-93247-3_69)

### COVID-19 and Sustainable Development Goals: Bangladesh Perspective

Author: MD. MORTUZA AHMMED et al.

#### Brief Description:

The objective of this study is to evaluate the state of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Bangladesh before the arrival of COVID-19 along with its apparent impact on the accomplishment of SDGs in the future. Data from several national and international sources have been utilised to serve the analytical purpose of the study. Obliteration of the commendable accomplishments regarding some of the SDGs so far and resetting of the goals in terms of precedence are going to be the main consequences of COVID-19 concerning SDGs in Bangladesh which would impede attaining SDGs. However, constrictions in the production of industries along with a massive drop in fossil fuel usage through vehicles would give some respite to nature leading to notable progress regarding SDG 13, SDG 14 and SDG 15. But it would never recompense significantly for the overall effect resulting from COVID-19.

Source: <https://www.inderscience.com/info/inarticle.php?artid=125098>

### The Rohingya Crisis: Humanitarian and Legal Approaches; Chapter: A tale of two international law principles: Ensuring justice and accountability for the Rohingya

Author: QUAZI OMAR FOYSAL et al.

Brief Description: The International Court of Justice (ICJ), in its judgement of the Armed Activities (Democratic Republic of Congo v. Rwanda) case, highlighted the fact that the lack of jurisdiction of the international adjudicative bodies does not necessarily imply that there is no violation of



obligations under international law. The same is equally valid for other international judicial institutions, including the International Criminal Court (ICC). The consent-based international adjudicative system made the initial impression that the events of large-scale atrocity crimes and gross violation of human rights allegedly committed against the Rohingya are out of the ambit of both the ICC and the ICJ. Several reasons contributed to this conjecture. First, Myanmar is not a party to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. In addition, given the political allies of Myanmar, a United Nations Security Council resolution is highly unlikely. Second, though Myanmar did not make any optional clause declaration of the ICJ Statute, Bangladesh—the State directly affected following the Rohingya exodus—made a declaration for Article IX of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide. Moreover, the fact that the alleged violation of the Genocide Convention took place in the territory of Myanmar rendered the possibility of an inter-State adjudication more challenging. At this juncture, the application of two principles of international law—the principle of objective territoriality at the ICC and the principle of obligation erga omnes partes at the ICJ—paved the way to ensure accountability and justice at the international plane.

Source: <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/edit/10.4324/9781003304883/rohingya-crisis-manzoor-hasan-syed-mansoor-murshed-priya-pillai>

#### Land Rights Documentation and Verification System Using Blockchain Technology

Author: DR. MUHAMMAD FIROZ MRIDHA et al.

Brief Description: Land verification usually describes systems through which matters concerning land ownership, possession, or other rights are often recorded (usually with workplace or department) to provide title proof, facilitate transactions, and stop illegal settlement. The data recorded and, so, the security given will change reliably with the purview. The strategy of formally and legitimately recording through arriving or built property rights or title certificates freely appears a politician's record of proprietorship of the rights inalienable through that proprietorship. On the off chance that we specify the arrive confirmation framework utilizing blockchain innovation, it by implication implies arrive enrollment with blockchain innovation. We cannot utilize blockchain technology to confirm land registration data in the event that we do not keep it within the blockchain framework. So during this paper, we will briefly discuss the present land registration system, the challenges in our traditional approach, and, eventually, how we will solve those challenges through the utilization of blockchain technology. Finally, we will compare which technology of blockchain public or private is best suited for the utilization case.

Source: [https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-16-3071-2\\_31](https://link.springer.com/chapter/10.1007/978-981-16-3071-2_31)