

# **Empowerment of Women: Problems and Issues in the Context of Bangladesh**



**“A Theses Submitted to the Department of Law, University  
of Dhaka in Partial fulfillment of the Requirement for the  
Degree of Master of Philosophy**

**Researcher:**  
**Noornaheer Begum Shiuly**  
M.Phil Fellow  
Department of Law  
University of Dhaka

Supervisor:  
**Dr. Naima Huq**  
Professor  
Department of Law  
University of Dhaka

17 December, 2015

## **Declaration**

I hereby declare that this Thesis entitled “**Empowerment of Women: Problems and Issues in the Context of Bangladesh**” for submission to the Department of Law, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh for the Degree of Master of Philosophy in law is completely a personal work of mine. No part of it has been submitted elsewhere for this Degree or Diploma or any other purpose. This Thesis has not been presented in any form to any other academic institutions for any Degree or any other purpose.

Dhaka  
17 December, 2015.

(Noornaher Begum Shiuly)

Registration No. 349 (2002-2003) Re.  
Researcher  
Department of Law  
University of Dhaka

## Certificate



**(Dr.Naima Huq)**  
Professor  
Department of Law  
University of Dhaka

I have the pleasure to certify that the thesis entitled **“Empowerment of Women: Problems and Issues in the Context of Bangladesh”** is the original work of Ms. Noornaher Begum Shiuly. So far my knowledge goes, this is the researcher’s own achievement and is not a conjoin work. She has completed this thesis under my direct guidance and supervision.

I also certify that I have gone through the draft and the final version of the thesis and found it satisfactory for submission to the Department of Law, University of Dhaka for fulfillment of the requirements for the degree of Master of Philosophy in Law.

Dhaka  
17 December, 2015

**(Professor Dr. Naima Huq)**  
Supervisor and Professor  
Department of Law  
University of Dhaka

## **ABSTRACT**

The thesis **“Empowerment of women: Problems and Issues in the Context of Bangladesh”** examines the barriers for which empowerment of women cannot reach in its expectation level. It also searches the loopholes of the existing laws and practices related to women’s right. Sometimes, it is argued that, there are sufficient laws for the protection of women’s right though not implemented. This study disrobe that women are still unaware about their rights. When their knowledge of law is in such a plight, then obviously they, cannot understand how their rights are violated.

Empowerment of women is a complex phenomenon consisting of legal, social, political, economic and cultural undercurrents and overtones. It cannot be obtained overnight as there is no jacket formula. Even, most of the developed countries yet to reach in their optimistic level. Our women are experiencing some legal reforms through male-dominated orthodox social norms. However, women are trying to enhance their position at home as well as outside. Government and other related sectors are working to ensure their legal, socio-economic and other rights.

The present study discovers that the patriarchal like Bangladeshi women cannot lead their lives and enjoy their property according to their own choice. Sometimes women are accountable to their husband and even to their parents in every aspect of their livelihood. They are not properly evaluated in their work place having all qualities, often compared with men and their performance and contribution is undermined. The study focuses that although the women are empowered legally, socially, economically or even politically, they are abide by the socio-cultural norms of the society.

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

A completed M.Phil thesis inevitably suggests its author owes a number of very special debts. These are both intellectual and personal. As do all others in my present position. I face an impossible task.

I wish to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and thanks first and foremost, to whom my debts are unlimited is Professor Dr. Naima Huq, Department of Law, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh for her sincere supervision and guidance. Her affectionate encouragement and continuous support have been instrumental to complete this study. I should say that without her inspiration, cooperation and assistance, my work would not have been seen the light of the day. I have no hesitation to say that it would have been impossible for me to complete this research without her invaluable guidance and help.

I express my special indebtedness to Professor Dr. Shahnaz Huda. Professor Dr. Taslima Monsoor, Professor Burhan Uddin, Professor Asif Nazrul, Professor Sumaiya Khair including all the Professors of the Department of Law University of Dhaka for their assistance, guidance and cooperation.

I express my thanks and gratitude to the authority of the University of Dhaka for according me permission for conducting this research. It would be impossible on my part to conduct this study without their cooperation. I also like to express my thanks to the staffs and employees of the Department of Law for their invaluable help and support.

I express my profound gratitude and respect to my parents, without whom I could not have seen the light of the world. Without their love, affection and sacrifice, I could not have me infect. I also express my thanks to my late father-in-law, mother-in-law for their inspiration.

I do not find proper words to express my deep sense of gratitude to my loving husband Mr. Mazedul Islam Patwary, for his encouragement, sacrifice and contribution to continue my research over such a long period. I also express my thanks to my daughters Shaptarshi and Rajorshi for their patience during my work time.

Finally, special gratitude goes to all organizations and individuals, who have helped, assisted and encouraged me in completion of this thesis. Theirs have been a sacrifice without parallel.

**(Noornaheer Begum Shiuly)**

**M. Phil fellow**

**Department of Law**

**University of Dhaka.**