

Pathways of Women's Empowerment Research Programme, BDI
Available Resources/Articles/Papers:

1. The "**Pahari Media O Nari**" report by Sahida Islam Khondaker and Aanmona Priyadarshini based on the Pathways research on *Social Transformations through Cultural Production in the Chittagong Hill Tracts* was published as a BDI Working Paper IV in July 2011.
2. A report from the Pathways Conceptualising Empowerment Research Theme titled "**National Discourses on Women's Empowerment in Bangladesh: Continuities and Change**" by Sohela Nazneen, Naomi Hossain & Maheen Sultan has been published as BDI Working Paper III in July 2011. The paper was previously printed as an IDS Working Paper 368.
3. A report on the research on Women and Islam carried out by the Pathways Programme, titled "**Religion and Muslim Women: Trajectories of Empowerment**" was published in June 2011 as BDI Working Paper II in June 2011. The Working Paper is authored by Samia Huq and Sahida Islam Khondaker.
4. A special issue of Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Journal titled "Complex Terrains: Islam, **Culture and Women in Asia**" contains various articles by Pathways members. This issue, edited by Firdous Azim, brings together papers presented at a panel organized by the Pathways South Asia Hub at the IACS 2009 Conference in Tokyo as well as contributions from other scholars:
 - a. Editorial introduction: Islam, culture and women, Pages 173 – 175, by Firdous Azim
Link: <http://www.informaworld.com/openurl?genre=article&issn=1464-9373&volume=12&issue=2&spage=173>
 - b. Women, Islam and nation in Bengal, Pages 254 – 258, by Firdous Azim
Link: <http://www.informaworld.com/openurl?genre=article&issn=1464-9373&volume=12&issue=2&spage=254>
 - c. Piety, music and gender transformation: reconfiguring women as culture bearing markers of modernity and nationalism in Bangladesh, Pages 225 – 239, by Samia Huq
Link: <http://www.informaworld.com/openurl?genre=article&issn=1464-9373&volume=12&issue=2&spage=225>
 - d. Islamist women of Hamas: between feminism and nationalism, Pages 176 – 201, by Islah Jad
Link: <http://www.informaworld.com/openurl?genre=article&issn=1464-9373&volume=12&issue=2&spage=176>

Rest of the articles in the issue can be found at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/riac20/12/2>

5. The report based on the Work Census carried out by the Pathways Programme titled "**The Under Reporting of Women's Economic Activity in Bangladesh: An Examination of Official Statistics**" has been published as a BDI Working Paper # 1 in February 2011.
6. **Country report** on the research "**Mobilizing for Women's Rights and the Role of Resources**" which was conducted by the Pathways Programme in Ghana and in Bangladesh was published in March 2011. The report is based on an analysis of case studies of women's rights organisations in Bangladesh with respect to how they mobilise resources for their agendas and the impact that the restructuring of aid has had on them. It also presents the

donors' perspectives from interviews conducted with in-country representatives of donors of the case study organisations. The report is available at BDI.

7. ***Ogni o Jol: Rupantorer Golpo*** (*Fire and Water: Stories of Transformation*), a collection of short stories about the real-life journeys of change in women's lives was published in March 2011. The collection features actual case studies from the Pathways research that have been transformed into fiction by 11 authors, some well-known and others who are emerging. The collection is edited by Shamim Azad, poet and writer, and jointly published by Mowla Brothers and BRAC University Press. The book is available for sale from Mowla Brothers at Tk. 200.
8. The collection of six reports titled '***Narir Khomotayon: Poribortoner Gotipoth***' was published in March 2011 to make the findings, insights and debates related to our research accessible to a diverse range of stakeholders. The reports in this booklet present a variety of issues: changes in the discourses on women's empowerment among different institutions in society, women health workers, women in local government, changes in donor funding policies and their impact on women's rights organisations, media production in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and the debate between Nazrul and Rabindranath on the usage of the word 'khun'. The following six reports were published:
 - a. *Narir Khomotayon Bishoiok Dharona: Rupantorer Pothey?* by Sohela Nazneen, Maheen Sultan and Naomi Hossain
 - b. *Nari Shathokormi: Shomojhota o Noboddeg* by Simeen Mahmud and Maheen Sultan
 - c. *Andhor thekey Bahirey: Sthaniyo Shorkarey Narir Uposhteti* by Amena Mohsin
 - d. *Bideshi Onudannitir Poribortoney Bangladesher Nari Shongothoner Obostha* by Sohela Nazneen and Maheen Sultan
 - e. *Pahari Media o Nari* by Aanmona Priyadarshini and Sahida Khondaker
 - f. *Shomokaler "Kotho-Promito" Bhasha Bitorker Poriprekhotey 'khun' bitorko* by Aanmona Priyadarshini and Sahida Khondaker
 - g. *Shomokaler "Kotho-Promito" Bhasha Bitorker Poriprekhotey 'khun' bitorko* by Iqbal Ehsan

The individual booklets are available for TK. 40 each, and the whole set can be bought for Tk. 200 from Pathak Shamabesh, Aziz Super Market.

9. The article ***Men Aboard? Movement for a Uniform Family Code*** written by Sohela Nazneen in Bangladesh in the forthcoming book *Legal reform and Feminist Activism: Global Processes*, edited by Mulka Al Sharmani and Nahda Sheda and to be published by ZED.
10. The article '***A Silver Lining: Women in Reserved Seats in Local Government in Bangladesh***' explores how perceptions have changed about the role of women representatives in local government. Written by Sohela Nazneen and Sakiba Tasneem the article was published in the *IDS Bulletin* issue "**Quotas: Add Women and Stir?**", Volume 41, Number 5, September 2010.
Nazneen, S. and Tasneem, S. (2010), *A Silver Lining: Women in Reserved Seats in Local Government in Bangladesh*. *IDS Bulletin*, 41: 35-42.
11. Sohela Nazneen and Sakiba Tasneem investigates whether the introduction of affirmative action measures and the training of women politicians have given them stronger voices and led to change on issues that are relevant for women in the article "**Legitimacy enhances capacity**". This was published by Capacity.org in their September issue on "**Local government for gender equality**". The article, can be read at <http://www.capacity.org/en/journal/practice-reports/legitimacy-enhances-capacity>.

Nazneen, S. and Tasnim, S. (2010), Legitimacy enhances capacity. *Capacity*, Local government for gender equality, Issue 40.

12. An article written by Dr. Amena Mohsin was published in the Bangla daily Samakal, on 11 July, 2010. The article titled "***Trinamoole Narir Agrojatra***" shares insights from the research findings on women in local governance, conducted as part of the Pathways Programme in 2008-2009. The article can be read at:
http://www.samakal.com.bd/details.php?news=20&view=archievy=2010&m=07&d=11&action=main&menu_type=&option=single&news_id=78094&pub_no=393
13. The article "***National Discourses on Women's Empowerment in Bangladesh: Enabling or constraining women's choices?***" explores concepts of empowerment being used by some women's organizations, development NGOs, mass political parties and aid donors in Bangladesh. Written by Sohela Nazneen, Maheen Sultan and Naomi Hossain, it was published in the *Development Journal* in June 2010.
Nazneen, S, Sultan, M and Hossain, N. (2010), National Discourses on Women's Empowerment in Bangladesh: Enabling or constraining women's choices? *Development* 53(2), 239-246.
14. The weekend magazine of the leading English daily, The Daily Star, featured the article "**Stories from the Hill Tracts**" on 11 June, 2010 that recounted the experiences of organizing a Digital Story-Telling workshop in the Chittagong Hill Tracts. The article can be found online at
<http://www.thedailystar.net/magazine/2010/06/02/education.htm>
15. "***Mapping Women's Empowerment: Experiences from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan***" is a book that explores the role of religion, culture and society in the social and political positioning of women in the Subcontinent and presents new pathways that are opening up. This collection of articles from eleven authors from Bangladesh, India and Pakistan, examines the enabling factors and barriers to women's voice, work and bodily integrity in the South Asia. The articles discuss a variety of discourses, debates, policies and interventions that have influenced the lives of women in South Asia, and identify those that have led to positive changes in women's position and condition. It also maps future research agendas in this area.

The book was published in May 2010 jointly by BDI and UPL and is edited by Firdous Azim, Chair of the English and Humanities Department of BRAC University and Lead Researcher of the Pathways Programme, and Maheen Sultan, Coordinator of the Pathways of Women's Empowerment Programme at BDI. It is available for sale from University Press Limited for Tk. 650.

16. The *IDS Bulletin* titled '**Negotiating Empowerment**' issued in March 2010 contained the following articles by member of the Pathways South Asia hub:
 - a. *Reciprocity, Distancing, and Opportunistic Overtures: Women's Organisations, Negotiating Legitimacy and Space in Bangladesh* by Sohela Nazneen and Maheen Sultan
Nazneen, S. and Sultan, M. (2010), Reciprocity, Distancing, and Opportunistic Overtures: Women's Organisations Negotiating Legitimacy and Space in Bangladesh. *IDS Bulletin*, 41: 70-78.
 - b. *Negotiating Islam: Conservatism, Splintered Authority and Empowerment in Urban Bangladesh* by Samia Huq

Huq, S. (2010), *Negotiating Islam: Conservatism, Splintered Authority and Empowerment in Urban Bangladesh*. IDS Bulletin, 41: 97–1.

- c. *Women Watching Television: Surfing Between Fantasy and Reality* by Aanmona Priyadarshani and Samia Afroz Rahim

Priyadarshani, A. and Rahim, S. A. (2010), *Women Watching Television: Surfing Between Fantasy and Reality*. IDS Bulletin, 41: 116–124.

17. Four reports that explore women's work preferences, women's engagement with religion and media and the movement building strategies employed by women's organizations have been published in Bangla in February 2010:

- a. *Narir Chokhey Media: Shombhabonar Notun Dar* by Aanmona Priyadarshini
- b. *Kormokhetre Nari: Akankha o Shimaboddhota* By Sakiba Tasneem
- c. *Nari o Dhormo: Akti Poribortonsheel Shomporko* by Sahida Khondaker & Samia Huq
- d. *Nari Andolon abong Shomorthon Toirir Koushol: Akti Porjalochona* by Sohela Nazneen and Maheen Sultan

The collection of reports is available as a boxed set titled '**Bangladeshey Narir Khomotayon: Bitorko o Shombhabona**' and this includes an overview paper of the same name written by Sahida Khondaker and Firdous Azim. The individual booklets are available for TK. 40 each, and the whole set can be bought for Tk. 150 from UPL.

18. The Pathways of Women's Empowerment Programme at BDI published a series of articles in the Samakal newspaper during the month of December:

- a. The article on "**Ghorer bou, shomajer 'apa'**" by Mohammad Kamruzzaman about Women Health Workers was published on 8th December.
- b. "**Narir Chokhe Media**" by Aanmona Priyadarshini highlighted the Women and Media research was published on 18th December.
- c. The article '**Putro naki Konya**' by Sakiba Tasneem based on the Empowering Work research was published on 30 December, 2009.

19. A photo-essay titled "**Women on the move**", co-authored by Firdous Azim and Samia Afroz Rahim, was published by the Inter-Asia Cultural Studies Journal in September 2009. The essay is based on the travelling photography exhibition that was organized by the South Asia hub in December 2007 which depicted the 'Changing Images of Women in Bangladesh'.
Rahim, S. and Azim, F.. 2009. *Women on the move*. *Inter-Asia Cultural Studies*. 10(3):460-470

20. Sohela Nazneen and Maheen Sultan's article "**Struggling for Survival and Autonomy: Impact of NGO-ization on women's organizations in Bangladesh**" shows how the NGO-ization process has changed relations of accountability in Bangladesh women's organizations. This was published in the special issue of the *Development Journal* titled 'Power, Movements, Change' in June 2009.

Nazneen, S and Sultan, M. (2009), *Struggling for Survival and Autonomy: Impact of NGO-ization on women's organizations in Bangladesh*, *Development*, 52, issue 2, p. 193-199.

21. The South Asian Journal published the article "**Bangladesh: Political Parties and Women's Empowerment**" by Sohela Nazneen in June 2009. The paper analyses the discourses on women's empowerment among the three main political parties in Bangladesh.

Nazneen, S. (2009), *Bangladesh: Political Parties and Women's Empowerment*, *South Asian Journal* 24

22. On occasion of International Women's Day, the leading English daily, The Daily Star, covered the work of the South Asia hub as their special feature in the March 6, 2009 issue:

- a. The Meaning of Empowerment, by Firdous Azim
- b. Agents of Change, by Sheikh Tariquzzaman
- c. New forms and Challenges, by Samia Huq and Sohela Nazneen
- d. New Spaces, New Choices, by Aanmona Priyadarshini and Samia Afroz Rahim

The articles can be read online at:

http://www.thedailystar.net/magazine/2009/03/01/special_feature.htm

23. **“Stories of Change”** is a 55-minute documentary produced by the Pathways Programme. It features real-live stories of five women, ranging between 16 to 60 years of age, coming from diverse professions, religions, and regions of Bangladesh. The depiction of their lives and struggles as a part of the efforts to make visible the trajectories of change experienced in the lives of Bangladeshi women.

Please contact the email below to inquire about the DVD. More information about the film can be found at <http://www.storiesofchange.net> and the individual life stories can be viewed at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pHCBSaToLKM>

For more information regarding the Pathways of Women’s Empowerment Research Programme, please visit: www.pathwaysofempowerment.org or please contact, pathwayssa@gmail.com