



# STATE UNIVERSITY OF BANGLADESH

Join the scholars

## International Conference on Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children

12-16 February 2006  
Pan Pacific Sonargaon, Dhaka

# McMaster University



Inspiring Innovation and Discovery



PRESIDENT  
People's Republic of  
Bangladesh

I am delighted to know that the State University of Bangladesh is organising an International Conference on "The Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children" in collaboration with the McMaster University, Canada from 12 to 16 February in Dhaka.

On a global scale, women cultivate and produce more than half of all the food that is grown. Yet women often get little recognition. It is therefore, very difficult for women to get financial resources required to buy inputs, equipment etc as many societies still do not accept, or realise that a change in the "tradition" roles has become inevitable. This age of globalisation calls for attuning to the changing roles of women not only for achieving gender balance and enhancing national productivity, but also to ensure a safe and sound future for the children. I hope the conference will act as an eye-opener for all the participating countries including Bangladesh.

I wish the conference a great success.

Allah Hafez, Bangladesh Zindabad

Professor Dr. Iajuddin Ahmed



MINISTER  
Ministry of Women and Children Affairs  
Government of The People's Republic of  
Bangladesh

I am delighted to know that the State University of Bangladesh (SUB) is organizing an international conference on "The Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children" in collaboration with the McMaster University, Canada. I heartily congratulate the organizers for selecting such a well-timed topic for discussion.

The present age of globalization is an era of stiff competition, cooperation and opportunity. So, we immediately need to remove the roadblocks that obstruct the development of women and children. Because in today's society, excluding women from the development equation would tantamount to isolating a most potent workforce from the mainstream economy, while leaving children uncared for would result in a hopeless future.

In this context, I must mention that the Government of Bangladesh (GoB), and more specifically, the Ministry of Women and Children Affairs is doing its utmost to remove the disparities and inequalities that impede women and children's development through national policy formulations, implementing specific women and child-focused programs, strengthening legal framework and evolving a rights-based society by creating effective working synergy and network with other actors like NGOs and development partners. But we admit that a lot more still needs to be done for achieving an ideally balanced society, where women will have equal access and rights as men and where children will grow up without ever experiencing social neglect, hunger, illiteracy and other forms of exploitation. I hope that the conference will create an ideal platform to discuss the problems facing the women and the children of today's globalized world and find out remedies to those problems through a process of intense brainstorming and experience sharing.

I wish the conference a great success.

Begum Khurshid Zahan Haque



University Grants Commission of Bangladesh

I heartily congratulate the State University of Bangladesh (SUB) on organizing an international conference titled 'The Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children' in collaboration with the McMaster University, Canada.

Globalization, the phenomenon of growing integration of economies and societies around the world is one of the most hotly-debated topics now. But globalization has also generated significant international opposition over concerns that it has increased inequality and environmental degradation. It is also said that women and children are falling an easy prey to the follies of globalization.

But we also must see the other side of the coin. Globalization is helping foster hope. This session will address the vital questions of gender roles to fully exploit the potentials of all sections of the society.

'Child is called the father of the nation', the poet wrote. The bright prospect of a country rests on the healthy and well-thought development programme for children. I hope the session on combating child labour will chalk out strategies how to strike out balance in the economic programme in the era of globalization and thus reducing the risk of children in the labour market.

Universities are the places where future leaders are born. Conferences like this help to share the expertise, experiences across countries which are needed to endow the students having different perspectives on world matters. I am extremely happy to see that private universities are taking ventures in getting their students exposed to action-oriented activities along with intellectual pursuits.

I wish a grand success of the conference.

Professor Dr. M. Asaduzzaman  
Chairman  
University Grants Commission of Bangladesh



Acting VICE CHANCELLOR  
State University of Bangladesh

Social development means increasing resources or making more goods and services available for consumption. Social development is taken as social sector development, i.e. education, health, women development and improving healthcare facilities.

It is a fact that women in Asian societies share a major burden of the family. They are responsible for all household chores. They produce children. They cater to the needs of the entire household. They work in the fields, at the sea, at the shore, in the factories or wherever.

they are treated as custodians in most of the cases they are like unpaid managers handling finance under strict supervision or with the permission of the housemaster. It is imperative for the women to strive for economic emancipation for her growth physical, social or psychological. Despite the huge number of articles, conferences, and meetings on this topic in the past decade, the status of women in our society has not changed much. At this juncture, the topic of the conference is highly befitting and we are very pleased to be a partner of it along with McMaster University.

Prof. Dr. M. S. Ilyas Dhami



PRESIDENT  
Board of Governors  
State University of Bangladesh

I am delighted to know that the State University of Bangladesh is organizing the 3rd International Conference on the Impact of Global Issues from 12 to 16 February 2006, co-sponsored by McMaster University, Canada and State University of Bangladesh.

This international conference is going to be an auspicious occasion as it aims to increase the positive impacts of globalization such as technology, and reduce the negative impact of multiple factors including political, economic and psychological factors.

It is regretful that even in this age of rapid globalization and female empowerment, we often forget to address adequately the global issues that adversely affect the health and well being of women and children. Women and children are the worst victims of all forms crises in all societies and injustices - be it during a war, a conflict or any emergency situation. The goals of this international conference is to identify the influences that reduce the quality of life of women and children and to discuss, analyze, and share lessons learned from initiatives taking place across the world to improve the lot of women and children.

Therefore, I am confident that this conference will be able to make a significant stride in reaching the fruits of globalization to these targeted sections of the society and thereby serve the ultimate cause of female and children globally.

I once again congratulate the State University of Bangladesh and McMaster University, Canada for taking such an initiative and wish the conference a great success.

Dr. A. M. Shamim



McMaster  
University  
PRESIDENT AND VICE-CHANCELLOR  
McMaster University, Canada

In today's world no one stands alone. The strength of our economy, our standard of living, the employment opportunities available to us, our ability to design our own social programs, the quality of the air we breathe and the water we drink may all be influenced by decisions made far beyond our borders. Our willingness to listen to each other, to learn from each other and to weigh other points of view, has always been important. Today, at a time in our history when uncertainty is the norm, it is more important than ever. McMaster University has long recognized the value of international



PRIME MINISTER  
Government of The People's Republic of  
Bangladesh

I am happy to know that the State University of Bangladesh is going to hold an International Conference on "The Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children" in collaboration with the McMaster University of Canada. I congratulate the organizers for arranging such a conference on a topic that relates directly to the well-being of women and children and brings together academics, researchers, civil society members and professionals from different countries of the world.

The Government of Bangladesh has been taking special measures to promote enrolment and retention of children at primary and secondary levels of education. A quota for females has been in vogue for a long time in public sector employment. Besides, the increasing rate of participation by women in NGOs and their access to micro-credit have empowered the womenfolk of the country quite substantially. These, in turn, have helped control family size and promote children's welfare. The Government of Bangladesh has also made significant contribution towards reducing infant mortality, prohibiting child labour, discouraging women and child repression and preventing their trafficking through various measures including enactment and enforcement of laws.

I hope that the upcoming conference will provide a useful forum for exchanging views and ideas on this critical subject of promoting women's and children's welfare.

I wish the conference all success.

Begum Khaleeda Zia



STATE MINISTER  
Ministry of Education  
Government of The People's Republic of  
Bangladesh

I am very happy to learn that the State University of Bangladesh is organizing an international conference on "The Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children" in collaboration with the McMaster University, Canada.

The process of globalization has created intense competition posted challenges to avail opportunities in all sectors. We need to address the issues that continually undermine the health, nutritional and psychological well being of women and children despite all our hard and honest efforts. While it is true that the Government of Bangladesh has achieved a great deal of progress in uplifting women's rights and privileges by implementing free educational program for them yet it can not be denied that a lot more needs to be done. So, without basking in complacency, I think it is time to assess our actual strengths and weaknesses and redefine and reposition our programs to enhance further the status of women.

I believe this conference will be evaluate the problems and issues that hinder the growth and development of women and children and suggest ways to overcome them.

I convey my deepest felicitation to the organizers for arranging such a timely conference.

A. N. M. Ehsanul Hoque



VICE PRESIDENT  
Board of Governors  
State University of Bangladesh

It is a great honour for the State University of Bangladesh to co-host the 3rd International Conference on "The Impact of Global Issues on Women and Children" scheduled to be held in Dhaka from 12-16 February 2006.

In all societies, women and children particularly suffer in every conflict or crisis situations. Even in this age of globalization, we can see that most of its negative impacts adversely affect the health and well being of women and children, especially so in developing countries. This international conference will look at the initiatives taking place around the world that have been implemented to improve the quality of life of women and children and decide on ways to improve their status through planning effective and timely measures for implementation in the foreseeable future.

As the aim of the conference is the exchange of knowledge, expertise, and experience on issues relevant to positive and negative impacts of globalization on children and women, it will be a great source of knowledge, awareness and interest for individuals from all parts of the world.

I am genuinely hopeful that this conference will be a turning point in exploring new possibilities to improve the overall quality of life of women and children the world over.

Dr. Md. Mahbubur Rahman

collaboration. We now have 58 educational agreements with institutions in 26 countries. Our students represent 88 countries worldwide and they bring to our campus an extraordinary wealth of cultural knowledge and experience that they share with others. Our Alumni, more than 115,000 strong, live in 127 countries. Our faculty and researchers are continually searching for new opportunities for international collaboration. The 2006 international Conference: "Impact of Global issues on Women and Children" is a shining example of what opportunity can bring. It has been made possible because people from around the world believe that when we come together and share our stories and our insights, we can change the world.

Peter George