

SAMINA LUTHFA, DPhil (Oxford), MA (Lehigh), MSS (Dhaka)

Associate Professor, Department of Sociology

Room – 528, Social Sciences Building, University of Dhaka, Dhaka 1000, Bangladesh

Email: samina.luthfa@du.ac.bd nitrasam21@yahoo.com

Phone: +8801841034481 (What's app)

Education

- University of Oxford:** 2014, **DPhil**, Sociology, St Cross College, Thesis: “Confronting the Juggernaut of Extraction: Local, National, and Transnational Mobilisation against Phulbari Coal Mine in Bangladesh” (Supervisor: Dr. Michael Biggs).
- Lehigh University:** 2006, **MA** in Sociology (CGPA: 3.97/4). Thesis: “Debunking the Myths of Indigenous Knowledge: a Case Study on the Mandis of Madhupur, Bangladesh” (Supervisor: Professor Nicola Tannenbaum)
- University of Dhaka:** 1997, 1998. **MSS** and **BSS** in Sociology (70.6% and 66.2% marks)
Thesis: “Dynamics of Poverty: Structural Adjustment Policy and Pauperization in a Selected Area of Bangladesh” (First Class First in both) Two gold medals for MSS result.

Work Experience: Teaching

- 2016 - date **Associate Professor**, Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 2013- 2019 **Part-time teacher of Sociology**, Department of General Education, North South University and University of Asia Pacific, Dhaka. Also, in the departments of Theatre and Performance Studies, World Religion and Culture, Institute of Information Technology, and Nuclear Engineering at the University of Dhaka.
- 2017 **Visiting Scholar**, Department of Sociology, South Asian University, New Delhi, India
- 2008-2016 **Assistant Professor**, Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka
- 2009-2010: Tutor, University College and New College, University of Oxford, UK
- 2007-2008: **Senior Lecturer**, Department of Social Sciences and Humanities, Independent University, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 2002–2007: **Lecturer & Assistant Professor**, Rural Sociology, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh, Bangladesh
- 2001–2002: Part-Time Teacher of Sociology, Department of History, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Work Experience: Research

- 2022 – 2025: **Senior Research Fellow.** Research project on “Climate Change and Global Value Chains in Bangladesh” administered by DANIDA Fellowship Centre at Copenhagen Business School, Denmark and CED, BRAC University, Dhaka.
- 2021 – 2024: **Gender Advisor and Co Principal Investigator,** “Enhancing Food Safety in Fish and Chicken Value Chains of Bangladesh” funded by USAID under Food Safety Innovation Lab. Collaborating with Texas State University, USA and Bangladesh Agricultural University, Bangladesh.
- 2013: **Researcher,** Study on the perceived status of women workers of RMG sector in Bangladesh, Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 2013: **Athena Swan Gender Consultant,** Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division, University of Oxford, UK
- 2012 **Athena Swan Gender Researcher,** Mathematical, Physical and Life Sciences Division, University of Oxford, UK
- 2009-2012: Research Assistant to Dr. Heather Hamill, Sociology, Professor Barbara Harris-White, International Development, and Dr Michael Biggs, Sociology, Oxford.
- 2002: Research Assistant, Health Sector Reforms in Bangladesh, a Project of Columbia University, USA and World Bank, Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- 2001-2002: Research Assistant, Ain O Shalish Kendra (ASK), PuranaPaltan, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- 2001: Research Assistant, Second Non-Formal Education Project, ADB TA no. 3465BAN.

Publications:

Forthcoming

[Accepted for Publication **2024**][with Chitrangada Chowdhury and Felix Padel as second and third authors], “Coal Realities in South Asia” In: *Extractivism in South Asia: Impacts of Mining-based Industrialisation* by Vinita Damodaran and Felix Padel (Eds), London: Routledge

Published research:

Monographs and Edited Volumes

2022. [Edited book with T.U. Khan and M. Kamal as second and third editors] *The Bangladesh Environmental Humanities Reader: Environmental Justice, Developmental Victimhood, and Resistance.* Lanham: Lexington (Rowman and Littlefield).

2016. [Book with Z. Chowdhury, and K. Gayen]. *Vulnerable Empowerment: Understanding Capabilities and Vulnerabilities of Female Garment Workers in Bangladesh.* Bangladesh Mahila Parishad: Dhaka.

Articles and Book Chapters

2024. [with Wasifa Tasnim Shamma as second author], “Social and Political Movements in Bangladesh” in S. Halim, ASM Amanullah and R.I. Nasir (eds) *Society and Sociology in Bangladesh: A South Asian perspective*, The Department of Sociology and The University Press Limited. Dhaka.

<https://uplbooks.com/10-59212/9789845064071-14>

2023. Artworks as Protest after Rana Plaza Collapse: Frames, Emotions, and Injustices in the Workers’ Rights Movement in Bangladesh. December 2023. *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh*. 68(2):153-174, [10.3329/jasbh.v68i2.70360](https://doi.org/10.3329/jasbh.v68i2.70360)

2023. 'Can Female Performers Be Heard? Her Stories in Theatre of Bangladesh (1950s–2010s)', in Manujendra Kundu (ed.), *Women Performers in Bengal and Bangladesh: Caught up in the Culture of South Asia (1795-2010s)* (Oxford, 2023; online edition, Oxford Academic.

<https://doi.org/10.1093/oso/9780192871510.003.0010>

2022.[in Bangla] “Life and Work of Bangladeshi Garment Workers: tales of negotiation and resistance of female workers against the state and capital”. In: *Women in History*. pp 193-208. Dhaka: Bangladesh Itihash Parishad.

2022. “Introduction” [with T.U. Khan and M. Kamal as second and third authors], *The Bangladesh Environmental Humanities Reader: Environmental Justice, Developmental Victimhood, and Resistance*. Lexington, USA.

2022. “Resisting a Coal Mine in Bangladesh and Immigrants in the United Kingdom: the new agents/ actors in transnational environmental politics” in *The Bangladesh Environmental Humanities Reader: Environmental Justice, Developmental Victimhood, and Resistance*. Lexington, USA.

2020. “Neo-Liberal Agenda and Gender: The Case of Mandi Women”. In: *Neo-liberal [Development]: People in the Margins*. T. Khan and S. Rahman (Eds.). University Press Limited: Dhaka.

2019. "Showcasing Environmental Justice Movements from the South: comparing the role of old and new media in Bangladesh" in: *Society and Culture in South Asia*, Vol 5 (2:1-37).

2017. “Transnational Ties and Reciprocal Tenacity: Resisting mining in Bangladesh with transnational coalition” In: *Sociology*, Vol 51(1:127-145). February 2017.

2014. “Debunking the Myths of Indigenous Knowledge: towards a political ecology of the Mandi of Madhupur, Bangladesh. *Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bangladesh* (Hum.), 59(1: 211-237)

2011. “Everything changed after the 26th”: Repression and Resilience against proposed Phulbari Coal Mine in Bangladesh. *Queen Elizabeth House Working Paper Series (QEHWPS)* no. 193, Oxford: University of Oxford.

2004. “Structural Adjustment Policy, Agriculture and Pauperization in Bangladesh”. *The Social Science Review. The Dhaka University Studies Part D* Vol. 12, no. 1. Dhaka, Bangladesh.

2004. (with L Rahman), Market-led initiatives for Seed production and Product Processing in Bangladesh. *Bangladesh Journal of Political Economy* Vol. 20, No. 1 edited by R.K. Talukdar and M.A. S. Mandal. Dhaka: Bangladesh Economic Association.

Invited Submission:

2024. “State-Sponsored Repression and Resilience of the Masses: *Nirapad Sarak Andolon* in Bangladesh” for Special Issue on ‘Bangladesh at 50’ for the *Journal of Contemporary South Asia* (<https://www.tandfonline.com/journals/ccsa20>).

Manuscript Preparation Stage:

1. [with Jinat Hosen as first author], “Cultural Barrier and Patriarchal Bargain in Climate Change Adaptation: Evidence from Tiger widows in the Sundarbans delta of Bangladesh”. Awaiting decision from *Gender, Place and Culture*.
2. Slowing down the Juggernaut of Extraction in Phulbari, Bangladesh: pressures and resource burns through transnational alliances and actions for sustainable development. Planning to submit to *Environmental Politics*.
3. [with L Risgaard as second author], “Slow fashion in Bangladesh: challenges and prospects” planning to submit to *Fashion Management Journal*.

Conferences Organised (Selected)

Jan 2016 – date: Organizer of **Sociology Colloquia at the University of Dhaka**, a quarterly seminar series of scholars in Sociology, University of Dhaka, Dhaka

- Jan 2018 International Conference on **South Asian Sociology & Beyond: Celebrating 60 years of Sociology in University of Dhaka**, Dhaka
- Aug 2015 **1st International Interdisciplinary conference on Ecocriticism, Environmental Justice and Literature**, ASLE Bangladesh, University of Dhaka.
- Feb 2014 **2nd URDS Annual International Conference on Globalization, Democracy and Governance**, University of Dhaka,
- Nov 2011 **South Asia in Transition** for early career researchers, Sociology, University of Oxford, Oxford.

Recent Presentations (Selected)

- Sept 2024 “SEED Seminar: Bangladesh in transition: A step forward for democracy?” A monthly discussion webinar organized by **University of Melbourne, Australia**.
- “Biplob in Bangladesh: How a Student Revolt Overthrew a Regime.” Webinar organized by the Institute of South Asia Studies and The Subir & Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies at the **UC Berkeley, USA**.
- Jun 2024 “Engaging and Empowering Women to Strengthen Food Safety: Lessons Learned in Bangladesh, Cambodia, and Nigeria.” Webinar organized by Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Food Safety. **USA**
- May 2024 “Enhancing Food Safety in Fish and Chicken Value Chains of Bangladesh: Results Dissemination and Policy Co-Creation Workshop.” Feed the future innovation lab for food safety. **Dhaka**.
- Oct 2023 “Environmental Justice Movement from the Global South: achievements and challenges of attaining sustainability in Bangladesh” at the **Roskilde University, Denmark**.
- Sept 2023 “Environmental Justice Movement from the Global South: achievements and challenges of attaining sustainability in Bangladesh” at the **University West, Sweden**.
- Sept 2023 “Slow Fashion in Bangladesh: successful business model or climate activism to revive a dying industry” at the Department of Geography and Tourism, **KU-Leuven, Belgium**.
- Feb 2023 “Shahbag: a case of transitional justice movement and the politics on trial” at Drik’s *Looking Back: Shahbag Seminar*. Drik-Path bhaban, **Dhaka**
- Jan 2023: “New realities of COVID 19: Crises, possibilities, solidarity” at *Pathshala South Asian Media Institute’s 24th anniversary celebration*. Drik-Path bhaban, **Dhaka**

- Dec 2022 “Gendered Livability in Peri-urban Bangladesh” at the *Stakeholder Meeting on Conceptualizing Gendered Dimensions in Urban and Peri-urban Food Systems*, hosted by International Potato Centre (CIP), **Dhaka**
- July 2022 “Gender and Food Safety in Fish Value Chains” at the *FSIL Sensitization workshop hosted by the FSIL*, Bangladesh Team at the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Council (BARC), **Dhaka**.
- Dec 2021 “Bangladesh at 50: Beyond Rhetoric” online conference hosted by Queen Mary, **University of London, UK**.
- Nov 2019 International Conference on Islam, Utopia and Youths in Bangladesh, ULAB, Dhaka, Fulda University of Applied Sciences, Gerda Henkel Foundation, ULAB, Dhanmondi, **Dhaka**
- Aug 2019 Life and Work of Bangladeshi Garment Workers: tales of negotiation and resistance of female workers against the state and capital (In Bengali). In: *Women in History: South Asian Context*. Bangladesh Itihas Parishad, TSC, **Dhaka**
- April 2019 Aftermath of Rana Plaza Collapse: Framing injustice through Creative Avenues, Poetic Imaginings of South Asia. Mallika Shakya, SAU, New Delhi, **India**
- Sept 2018 Sociology and Anthropology of Genocide at Genocide Studies Centre, DU, **Dhaka**.
- April 2017 Series of lectures on environmental and labour justice issues, **South Asian University, India**
- Nov 2014 Lectures on Current Situation of Textile Industry of Bangladesh after the collapse of Rana Plaza in **Hamburg and Gottingen University, Germany**.
- Feb 2014 Women in Shahbag movement: Representation and Rhetoric in 2nd URDS Conference: **Dhaka**.
- August 2012 Slowing down the Juggernaut, Workshop of Special Group on Negotiating Politics, **London School of Economics, UK**.
- April 2012 Dialogue of Frames and Strategic Identity, Political Studies Association, Belfast, **Northern Ireland**.
- Nov 2011 Dialogic Framing and Strategic Identity, South Asia in Transition, University of Oxford, **UK**
- Oct 2011 Everything Changed after the 26th. South Asia Conference, University of Wisconsin-Madison, **USA**.
- June 2011 Everything Changed after the 26th. DGD Conference, University of Oxford, **UK**.

Professional Membership

- 2023 – date: Member, International Theatre Institute (ITI) & Member Secretary, Playwrights’ Forum.

- 2019 – 2023: Member, Governing Body, Pathshala South Asian Media Institute, DrikPath Bhaban. Panthapath, Dhaka
- 2018 - date: President, Association for the Study of Environment, Culture and Literature, Bangladesh affiliate for ASLE
- 2015 – date: Member, BotTala – a performance space, a leading theatre troupe in Dhaka
- 2015 - date: Member, Editorial board, Sarbajonkotha [a Bengali journal]
- 2012 – date: Member, Trusty Board, Resource Development Foundation, House 9, Road 15, Sector 12, Uttara, Dhaka

Language and Computer Skills

Excellent command over English and Bengali and working knowledge of Hindi. Good command over SPSS, STATA, NVivo and MAXQDA. Experience on working with HEIDI and Census of India data.

On-going PhD Thesis Supervision

Fatema Akter. Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka. “Women Labor Force Participation and the Status Conflict Within the Family: A Case Study in Dhaka Metropolitan City in Bangladesh.

On-going MPhil Thesis Supervision

Kamona Rani Shadhukha, “Empowerment of Indigenous Women in Bangladesh: A Study on “Bagdi” Women in Jhenaidah”

Khatune Jannat. Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka. “Marital rape in Bangladesh: Myths, perceptions and experiences among women from four districts of Bangladesh”

Supervised Research Students for (MSS in Sociology)

- 2023 Nature and Representation of Gender Roles in Bangladeshi Cinemas (1990 to 2010) – Zohana Afrin
- Masculinity and Terminal Illness: Manifestation of gender identity among the terminally ill males in Bangladesh – Md Adnan Parvez
- 2022 Resilience of the Female Activists against Cyberbullying and Abuses in Social Media – Tanjum Tushi
- Working Condition and Food Security of Tea Workers: Studying recent changes after the Strikes for ‘Better Pay’ in Two Tea Gardens of Sylhet Region – Mahbubur Rahman
- 2021 Enhancing Safety in the Fish Value Chains of Bangladesh – Shanta Begum
- 2020 Working Parents and Their Relationships with Adolescent Children: A Study on the Changing Pattern of Socialization and Identity – Nibedita Bhattacharya

- Overseas Female Migrant Workers and Their Vulnerabilities: A Study on Brahmanbaria District – Nazmin Ara Lucky
- 2016 After the enclaves: Land and livelihood of the people of Kurigram – Tayebun Nahar
- 2015 Strategies and tactics of Protests among Workers of Ready-Made Garment Industry - Ashikuzzaman
- 2014 Youth Sub-culture and Social Stratification - Fatema Tuz Zohra
Shahbag Movement and Nationalism - Golam Rabbani
Vulnerability and Gender Violence among Workers of Ready-made Garment Factory - Nusrat Jahan.

Courses taught:

- Bachelors: Introduction to Sociology/ Principles of Sociology (BAU, OU, DU, NSU, IUB), Sociology and Engineering Ethics (DU), Social History (DU), Social Psychology (IUB), Research Methodology (IUB, DU), Economy and Society (DU), Sociology of Education (OU), Water, Politics and Development (DU), Contemporary Sociological Theory (DU)
- Masters: Social Demography (BAU), Agrarian Structure (BAU), Advanced Research Methods (DU), Research Methods for Sociology and Social Policy (DU-professional)

Invited Short Courses Designed and taught:

- May 2014- date Centre for Genocide Studies, University of Dhaka Certificate Course – “Sociology and Anthropology of Genocide”
- Aug 2014 -date Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice (CSGJ) – Certificate course and Winter schools, Liberation War Museum – “Social and Cultural Dimensions of Genocide”
- Jan 2023- date National University – NU-CEDP Online Course on Teachers’ Training – Qualitative Research
- Dec 2022 ELCOP - Training on Introducing Research Guidelines for New Researchers
- Aug 2022 Bangladesh Mahila Parishod - Online Certificate Course on Bigotry, Terrorism and Women
- August 2020 Center for the Study of Genocide and Justice (CSGJ) - Online Certificate Course on Genocide and Justice – “Genocide Denial, Social Movements and People's Struggle for Justice”.
- August 2020 Padma Bank Training Institute – Online Training on Gender Equality
- 2017 National University Teachers’ Training, “Social Movement”
- 2014 Global Economy and Society. Training of Teachers, Political Sciences, National University, Gazipur

References:

1. Dr. Michael Biggs
Associate Professor
Department of Sociology, University of Oxford
42-43 Park End Street
Oxford OX1 1JD
England, UK
Phone: +44 01865 286174
Email: michael.biggs@sociology.ox.ac.uk

2. Dr. Madan M. Dey
Chair and Professor (Ag. Econ./Agribusiness)
Department of Agricultural Sciences, Texas State University,
601 University Drive, San Marcos, Texas 78666
Phone# 1-512-245-2130 (office), Phone# 1-512-245-7604 (direct)
Email: mmd120@txstate.edu

3. Dr. Peter Lund-Thomsen
Professor
Centre for Sustainability, Copenhagen Business School
Room: DH.Ø.2.33
Solbjerg Plads 3, DK-2000 Frederiksberg
Tel: +4538153192, Mobile: +45 7156 8889, E-mail: pl.msc@cbs.dk