

Note from the Editor

The issue is long overdue. A number of factors transpired against its timely publication, one of which was, again, a technical glitch because of which our mailing system became totally inoperative and finally a new mailing system had to be installed. That's what happens with complete dependence on modern technologies! And with my limited knowledge to deal with these, I probably make things worse, before I decide to seek expert help. It is probably my ego, more than anything else, which gets in the way.

Added to this were a few personal reasons which debilitated me for a while. I decided to take early retirement from the University of Dhaka and move permanently to the Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB), where I began teaching earlier on lien from the University of Dhaka. The process, elsewhere in the world, would require little attention on my part and could be done as a routine matter, here in Bangladesh it has become a daunting task. And, believe it or not, it is more than eight months and I am yet to be cleared by the University of Dhaka. In the meantime IUB itself relocated to its permanent campus. The shifting needed round the clock attention from all of us and made all other work secondary.

However, we are past all those and are now ready with two consecutive issues. This issue (July 2010) for understandable reasons is a curtailed one in the sense that it contains only five papers. The first of the papers is on the role and nature of Military intervention in Bangladesh. It takes a brief look at the history of military rule in Bangladesh but more importantly tries to understand the legitimacy of the issue. Bangladesh, according to Saaduddin, a well known political sociologist, "is one of the few countries which has a constant fear of reverting to the military rule due to political acrimony emanating from a vicious cycle of reprobate political economy. The study focuses on the emergency period 2007 -2008.

The second paper is a seminal work on the informal sector in Port Harcourt, Nigeria where Nte offers a detailed analysis of the informal sector as it influences the third world economies. He also tries to understand the workplace insecurities of the women in such an economy. He notes that "Port Harcourt, which is at the heart of the Niger Delta and where there are exponential security risks, fostered the worst security for these women/girls in ways that have significantly hampered their effectiveness".

The next two papers deal with school children, their level of performance and the impact of filial relationship respectively. From a study of Agartala (India) Raichaudhury et al. show that, "students' attendance, mother's education and presence of trained teacher in the school have a positive impact on students' academic performance". In the other study of the senior secondary students of the River State (Nigeria) Jamabo and Jamabo found a significant positive relationship between autonomy and filial relationship. They noted that "the warmer the filial relationship existing in a family, the higher the development of autonomy among adolescent members of the same family"

In the last paper Farhana et al. study the rural urban migration pattern of the women and children. Focusing on the Rajshahi (Bangladesh) metropolitan area they look at the "role of work in acquiring dignity, the filial duty in a traditionally hierarchically structured society and also women and children as active-decision makers in the migration process. This is a rare study of Rajshahi city and will, hopefully, encourage other studies of the city.

The book under review by Palash Kamruzzaman was published in August 2010 but since we are late in publishing the present issue, it has been included here.

Hope these studies will continue to excite the readers as much as other papers in the BEJS of the past have done.