

## Note from the Editor

Since my last editorial, lamenting the failure of sociology in Bangladesh in general and lack of contribution from the Bangladeshi sociologist for the BEJS, I was mildly surprised and extremely happy to receive a number of papers from Bangladeshi authors for this issue and the next one. We have not accepted all of them but the ones being published here, meeting our rigid criteria, encourages me to be hopeful.

I am particularly excited about the first two papers where attempts have been made to explore new methodological territories. Yesmin Akhter, Md. Mahsin and Mohammad Zakaria Mohaimin, seek to use factor analysis technique to assess the contributions of 17 variables to the gross domestic product (GDP) of Bangladesh. After examining the different options they settle for the factor analysis techniques and report the best factor loading possibilities. While on the other hand, Mostafa Murshed examines two estimating models to measure intergenerational mobility, namely, the OLS and Quintile Regression models, and finds that neither of these two is exempted from biases. He then suggests ways of correcting these biases.

As of before, in this issue well, the largest number of contributions comes from Nigeria. Peter Ezeah after portraying the horrid picture of poverty in Sub-Saharan Africa, and Nigeria in particular, argues that the poverty trap and the technology inertia are “due to the absence of a strong innovation component in the policies and that, Nigeria’s technological progress is flawed as a result of the underutilization of indigenous talents for technological development and the undue emphasis placed on academic credentials”.

Bunmi Omolayo working with both junior and senior police officers in the Ekti State of Nigeria tries to estimate the job related stress and conclude that while there is no difference in job related stress between junior and senior officers, there is significant difference between the male and female officers. Olufemi Adejare Adewole looks at the cultural differences in work related values and concludes that “culture significantly affects reasons why people engage in work activities, the needs they seek to satisfy through their work, and motivation for work”.

Keeping to Africa, Nelson Jagero and Faith Mbulwa look at the plight of the youth and how they are enticed into drugs and other substance abuse. They focus on Makindu Town, Kenya and show how, particularly the girls, get entangled in drug abuses. The major findings of the study are that the extent to which female youth were vulnerable to drug and substance abuse “was high due to; peer pressure, unemployment, availability of drugs and substance and availability of money to purchase the drugs and substance”.

K.S. Latha and Simi John report on the predicament of the spouses of HIV/AIDS affected husbands in India. They note the level of discrimination and stigmatization suffered by these spouses, who often fall victims to the affliction later. Their agonies are, thus, multiplied as they are also required to live up to the expectations of the society.

The other two studies are also from South Asia. Yawar Hamid and Asmat Hamid show how the Mid-Day Meal scheme in district of Anantnag, in Jammu and Kashmir, India, has positively influenced the school attendance. Khandaker Mursheda Farhana, Syed Ajjur Rahman and Mahfuzur Rahman record causes of the migration of the poor to Rajshahi city, in Bangladesh. They note that the “migration of the rural poor to the urban centers has caused a direct transmission of rural poverty and backwardness to the towns, engendering the process of ‘ruralization’ of the urban areas”

These studies will, hopefully, continue to fill the need for sociological interpretation of the third world societies.