

Resume of Ishrat Zakia Sultana
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Present position in Bangladesh

Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science and Sociology April 2019 –until now
North South University (NSU), Bashundhara, Dhaka, Bangladesh

- Teaching Sociology undergraduate students
- Providing academic and counselling support to the students for their academic excellence
- Supervising national and international graduate students
- Performing academic and research works assigned by the university

Research areas

Refugee education, Refugees in South and South East Asia, Rohingya refugee in Bangladesh, Youth and Children, Policy, Bangladesh

Work Experience in Canada

Sept 2011-Mar 2019

1) *Media Consultant-Online (Bengali language)*, MIREMS, Canada, 2017 – 2019

- Monitoring Bengali media sources of Canada and USA on immigrants and refugee related news reports
- Translation and editing of immigrants and refugee related stories into English
- Preparing summaries based on key words and topics
- Helping ethnic communities make their voices heard

2) *Researcher*, 2011- 2019

a) Research Assistant, Department of Sociology, York University, 2016 – 2019

b) PhD Researcher, York University, 2013- 2019

Conducted 9-month ethnographic field work in Rohingya refugee camps in Bangladesh

c) Research Assistant, Department of Child and Youth Studies, Brock University, 2011-2013

3) *Teaching Instructor* 2011 – 2019

a) 2013- 2019: Teaching undergraduate courses, Sociology Department, York University

b) 2011- 2013: Teaching undergraduate course, Child and Youth Studies Department, Brock University

Work Experience in Bangladesh

Dec 2000-Aug 2011

4. *Consultant, UNICEF Bangladesh*, Dhaka, May 2011 – Aug 2011

- Conducting advocacy with Ministry of Social Welfare on inclusion of social work training
- Supporting the implementation of social services and life skills training
- Providing technical and managerial support to the Project Director for project implementation
- Facilitating budget planning and approvals from UNICEF and Ministry of Social Welfare (MSW)

5. *Manager (SVAW), ActionAid Bangladesh, Dhaka, July 2010- Aug 2010*

- Defining project activities to undertake advocacy
- Conducting advocacy workshop on women's rights
- Developing work plan on programs related to 'stop violence against women'
- Developing reporting formats and finalizing reports and minutes of meeting
- Serving as a member of the senior management team

6. *Consultant-Child Protection, UNICEF Bangladesh, Dhaka, July 2009- July 2010*

- Developing strategies for 'Protection of Children at Risk' project for UNICEF & MSW
- Maintaining coordination among government counterparts, NGO partners and UNICEF
- Organizing and facilitating advocacy workshops, seminars, meetings to promote child rights
- Organizing Professional Social Services Training (PSST) for 430 Govt.- NGO Social workers
- Assisting in developing PSST manual, and serving as an interpreter during the training
- Organizing Life-skills training for 50 GO-NGOs officials and 500 underprivileged children

7. *Advocacy and Research Specialist, UNICEF Bangladesh, Dhaka, Apr 2007- Mar 2009*

- Developing advocacy planning for Protection of Children at Risk (PCAR) Project
- Preparing staff hiring and NGO selection planning and strategies for the project
- Identifying best practices and disseminating them as part of knowledge mobilization
- Monitoring project progress through extensive field visits
- Providing technical support to the Department of Social Services (DSS) in organizing family/parents-children get-together for the children living in institutional care
- Negotiating and advocating program goals and strategies on behalf of UNICEF with high level and senior government officials and other stakeholders
- Organizing national advocacy workshops, seminars, meetings to promote child rights
- Developing advocacy materials (web content, leaflets, posters, statements, press releases)
- Preparing speeches and briefs for the Secretary and other high officials of the Ministry
- Organizing Basic Social Services Training (BSST) for 475 Government and NGO officials
- Facilitating the process of reintegration of children from institutions to their families/communities
- Preparing budgets for workshop and meeting

8. *Advocacy and Research Specialist, UNDP Bangladesh, Dhaka, Sept 2005- Mar 2007*

- Developing Technical Assistance Project Proposal (TAPP) for Planning Commission and UNDP
- Coordinating and supervising the activities leading to the preparation of the Situation Assessment and analysis of children in institutions

- Developing advocacy materials for promoting the rights of underprivileged children
- Developing project- meeting agenda and scheduling meetings for UNDP and MSW
- Conducting dialogue, workshops with media and policy-makers to advocate child rights
- Preparing quarterly and annual reports, presentation, statements, project briefs, press releases
- Participating in monitoring and evaluation exercises, program reviews with government and other counterparts to assess project progress
- Developing strategic program materials for management use, information and consideration
- Assisting the project director in efficient planning, monitoring and optimum use of program resources

9. Executive Officer (Public Relations), National Tourism Organization, Bangladesh, Apr- Sept 2005

- Developing yearly planning of tourism festivals and fairs
- Preparing follow up reports on tourism news, issues covered by media
- Designing and preparing brochure & handbook on tourist attractions
- Organizing tourism festivals, fairs and other relevant events at local and national level
- Maintaining liaison with media, and ensuring media coverage on tourism activities
- Preparing press releases
- Conducting assessment and appraisal of tourist attractions of Bangladesh

10. National Expert (Radio Program Development)

Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the UN, Cox's Bazar, Mar 2003- Apr 2005

- Providing update for program development based on monitoring and analyzing the socioeconomic trends affecting women and children in the community
- Developing half yearly and yearly planning of radio programs for coastal fishing communities
- Developing live radio programs for coastal fishing communities on regular basis
- Supporting partner NGOs in conducting community level meetings to develop awareness-raising messages and emergency preparedness plans for live and recorded radio programs
- Editing bi-monthly bilingual newsletter (Bengali-English)
- Organizing advocacy workshops, seminars and meetings at local and national level on the rights and empowerment of the coastal fishing community

11. Executive Officer (Commercial) National Tourism Organization, Bangladesh, Dec 2000- Feb 2003

- Maintaining coordination with the commercial units
- Placing the requirements of the units for the approval of the Chairman of the NTO
- Preparing monthly performance reports of 23 commercial units for concerned Ministry
- Assisting organizing national level tourism advocacy meetings,
- Organizing conferences and workshop for international delegates

Education

Ph.D. in Sociology 2019

York University, Canada

Research: Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh

Master of Arts in Child and Youth Studies 2013

Brock University, Canada

Research: Service provisions for unaccompanied minors in Canada

Master of Social Sciences in Women's Studies 2000

The University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Research: Situation of saleswomen in the shopping malls at Dhaka city, Bangladesh

Master of Social Sciences in Public Administration 1998

The University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Research: Client satisfaction in public hospitals at Dhaka city, Bangladesh

Bachelor of Social Sciences in Public Administration 1997

The University of Dhaka, Bangladesh

Publications

a) Sultana, Ishrat Zakia. (2018). "Rohingyas' education, social relations and governmentality in Bangladesh". *Journal of Identity, Culture & Politics: An Afro-Asian Dialogue*, Senegal.

b) Sultana, I. Z. (2016). *The Exploitation of Women Workers: Unveiling Capitalism in Bangladeshi Garment Industries*. In N. Mahtab, S. Parker, F. Kabir, T. Haque, A. Sabur, & A.S.M. Sowad (Eds.), *Revealing Gender Inequalities and Perceptions in South Asian Countries through Discourse Analysis*. USA: IGI Global.

c) Sultana, I. Z. (2014). *Unaccompanied Minors and Youth in Canada: Interventions and Challenging Contexts*. In D. Morgan, E. Zinck, & B. O'Bright (Eds.), *Intersections of Research and Practice: Children, Youth and Security Graduate Symposium*. Centre for Foreign Policy Studies, Dalhousie University, Halifax.

Conference Presentations

1) 'The Rohingya Refugee Crisis in Bangladesh: Challenges and Way of Forward (upcoming).' The 22nd National Metropolis Conference - Beyond 2020: Renewing Canada's Commitment to Immigration. RBC Convention Centre, **Winnipeg, MB, Canada** October 2020.

2) 'Education is not for Rohingya refugees: An exclusionary project of denying human rights'. International Conference on Rohingya Crisis in Bangladesh: Challenges and Sustainable Solutions. North South University, **Dhaka, Bangladesh**. July 2019.

3) Discussant on the Economic Impacts of Rohingya crisis in the International Conference on Rohingya Crisis in Bangladesh: Challenges and Sustainable Solutions. North South University, **Dhaka, Bangladesh**. July 2019.

- 4) 'Rohingya Identity: Perplexed by statelessness?' The IXth edition of the Race, Ethnicity, and Place Conference, the Mexican American Cultural Center in Austin, **Texas, USA**. October 2018.
- 5) 'Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh: A Story of Stratification and Inequality'. 2nd International Conference on Rohingya: Politics, Ethnic Cleansing and Uncertainty. The University of **Dhaka, Bangladesh**. September 2018.
- 6) 'Rohingya identity and what factored into the current genocide'. United South Asians at York (USAY), **Toronto, Canada**, April 2018.
- 7) 'The Social Relations and Networks on Rohingya Refugees' Education Attainment'. Canadian Association for Refugees and Forced Migration (CARFMS), University of Victoria, **Canada**, May 2017.
- 8) 'Neither an insider nor an outsider, but 'a guest': they shape your positionality'. The 29th Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference (EQRC), **Las Vegas, USA**, January 2017.
- 9) 'The exploitation of women workers: Unveiling capitalism in Bangladeshi garment industries'. The 3rd International Conference on Social Sciences Research (ICSSR), **Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**, June 2015.
- 10) 'Tolerance and security for Burmese refugees: A comparative analysis of geopolitical contexts in Bangladeshi and Thai borders'. The 39th annual conference of the Social Science History Association, **ON, Canada**, November 2014.
- 11) 'Myanmar refugees: Statelessness and lack of citizenship in Bangladesh'. The Conference of the Canadian Sociological Association (CSA), Brock University, **ON, Canada**, May 2014.
- 12) 'Rootless Identities? Statelessness and Access to Basic Entitlements Amongst Rohingya Refugees in Bangladesh'. The conference on 'Changing Vistas: Interdisciplinary Perspectives on the Asia Pacific', University of British Columbia, **Canada**, April 2014.
- 13) 'Risk and security of unaccompanied minors in Ontario: The urgency of a follow up policy'. York Student Graduate Association symposium, York University, **ON, Canada**, March 2014.
- 14) 'Unaccompanied minors and youth in Canada: Challenging contexts of social and legal services'. The Graduate Student Research Symposium on 'Children, Youth, and Security: Intersections of Research and Practice', Dalhousie University, **Halifax, Canada**, March 2014.
- 15) "Orchids' identity: non-citizenship status of stateless Rohingya refugees". The Critical Approaches to South Asian Studies (CASAS), York University, **ON, Canada**, January 2014.
- 16) 'Unaccompanied minors in Canada: How service provisions affect their lives' in the 'Mapping the New Knowledge' Conference at Brock University, **ON, Canada**, April 2013.

Language: English (fluent), **Bengali** (native)

Nationalities: Bangladeshi and Canadian

Volunteer works

- 1) Volunteer, Online motivational program moderator and program organizer, USA Virtual Cell, Quantum Foundation, 2011- till to date
- 2) Volunteer, Online motivational program organization and communication, Quantum Meditation Society, USA, 2017 – till to date
- 3) Intern- Summer Course, Center for Refugee Studies, York University, Canada, 2014
- 4) Humanitarian worker during post flood rehabilitation with Association for Rural Development Studies, Bangladesh in 1998
- 5) Community Worker, Project Genesis, Montreal, Quebec, Jan – Feb 2011
- 6) Co-translator (English to Bengali) of the book '*Child Rights: The Historical Evolution*' by Ghassan Khalil, published in 2012, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Membership

Canadian Sociological Association, Canada
Center for Peace Studies (CPS), NSU, Bangladesh