

Pragyna Mahpara

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FIELDS OF INTEREST

Gender justice and equality

Domestic Violence

VAW in the Digital Space

Gendered Political Economy

Political Islam

EDUCATION

Master of Science (MSc) in International Development,

The University of Manchester, 2017

EMPLOYMENT

BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD)

- Senior Research Associate, Gender and Social Transformation Cluster, 2018-Present

PUBLICATIONS

Journal Article

- Mahpara, P. (2021). Unpacking Bangladesh's 'women's leadership paradox' through the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act of 2010. *Gender & Development*, 29(2–3), 529–545. <https://doi.org/10.1080/13552074.2021.1978727>

Working Paper

- Sultan, M. and Mahpara, P., (2020). Negotiating Policy and Legal Measures for Gender Equity in Bangladesh: Analysing the Formal and Informal. *Effective States and Inclusive Development (ESID) Research Centre*, The University of Manchester.

Op-ed

- Antara, I. J., Mahpara, P., & Pabony, N. A. (2021, December 13). A nascent threat in the digital space: Violence against women seems to know no bounds. *The Business Standard*. <https://www.tbsnews.net/author/iffat-jahan-antara>
- Mahpara, P., 2020. Is Ten Years Not Enough? The Politics of Implementing the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act. *The Daily Star*, [online] Available at: <<https://www.thedailystar.net/opinion/news/ten-years-not-enough-2010245>>

Upcoming Research

- Mahpara, P., Antara, I. J., & Pabony, N. A. (Forthcoming). Tracking Gender Based Violence and Backlash against Women's Rights in the Digital Space: Bangladesh. BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD).

Research Report

- Huq, L., Khondaker, S., Mahpara, P., Sultan, M., Khandaker, Z. and Syed, S., (n.d). New Forms of Adolescent Voice and Agency in Bangladesh through the Use of Mobile Phones and ICT. Gender and Adolescence Global Evidence (GAGE).

Research Brief

- Mahpara, P., (2020). Phase I: Media Tracking of Domestic Violence, Bangladesh. Media Tracking of Domestic Violence, Bangladesh. BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD).
- Mahpara, P., (2020). Phase II: Media Tracking of Domestic Violence, Bangladesh. Media Tracking of Domestic Violence, Bangladesh. BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD).
- Mahpara, P., (2020). Phase III: Media Tracking of Domestic Violence, Bangladesh. Media Tracking of Domestic Violence, Bangladesh. BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD).

RESEARCH PROJECTS

- Involved with the research project “Sustaining Power: Women’s struggles against contemporary backlash in South Asia”, in partnership with the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) commissioned by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).
- Currently involved in the project “Countering Backlash and Reclaiming Gender Justice” in partnership with the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) commissioned by the Swedish International Development Corporation Agency (SIDA)
- Worked in analyzing adolescent's voice and agency through the use of ICT under the Gender and Adolescence Global Evidence (GAGE) RREF project.
- Worked in the “Access to Justice for Domestic Violence Survivors during COVID 19” research commissioned by the Rule of Law Program of GIZ Bangladesh, with support from German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), and the UK Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO).
- Worked on a research project with the Effective States and Inclusive Development (ESID) research center, Manchester, in analyzing the role of informal practices and networks in negotiating policy and legal measures of Bangladesh.
- Worked with the BRAC SCOPE project that analyzed the impact of BRAC’s development interventions on factory worker’s production efficiency and wellbeing.
- Worked with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in organizing Gender Mainstreaming in Selected Sectors Workshops in all divisions of Bangladesh.

SEMINAR AND CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- **Speaker** at the **Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) 65** on “Protecting and Promoting Civic Space in Recovery: A Cross-Regional Study”
- **Panelist and Presenter at the upcoming Development Studies Association (DSA) 2022 Conference.** Paper: New shrinking spaces: violence against women in the digital space (Authors: Iffat Jahan Antara, Pragyna Mahpara)
- **Panelist and presenter at the Development Studies Association (DSA) 2021 Conference.** Paper: Countering Sexual Harassment in Educational Institutions (Authors: Pragyna Mahpara, Maheen Sultan)
- **Panelist at the Development Studies Association (DSA) 2020 Conference.** Paper: Exceptional Women?: Women's Leadership, Informal Networks Policy Change and Policy Change in Bangladesh (Authors: Sohela Nazneen, Maheen Sultan, Pragyna Mahpara)