



11 December 2021

Press Release

Conference held by BLAST, UAP and SAILS on *Comparative Constitutionalism, Human Rights and Gender Equality* to mark 50 Years of Bangladesh

A two-day conference – *50 years of Bangladesh: Comparative Constitutionalism, Human Rights and Gender Equality* – was held on 10- 11 December 2021 and streamed live on Zoom, Youtube and Facebook. The Department of Law and Human Rights, University of Asia Pacific (UAP), The Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST) and UNESCO Madanjeet Singh South Asian Institute of Advanced Legal and Human Rights Studies (UMSAILS) jointly organized this conference to celebrate 50 years of the independence of Bangladesh.

The aim of the conference was to provide a forum for early career researchers, scholars, and Ph.D. students of law, history, anthropology, sociology, human rights and other relevant disciplines to present their original and unpublished research on both historical and emerging issues and/or innovations of law, rights, and justice in Bangladesh. It brought together scholars, practitioners and activists from the country and abroad.

The first session was on **Development of Constitutional Institutions: Institutional Perspectives**. The second session focused on **Women’s Rights and Legal Consciousness**. The third session was titled **Rights and Remedies under the Constitution**.

Discussants at the conference included: Prof. Aziz Huq, University of Chicago, Dr. Cynthia Farid, Advocate Supreme Court of Bangladesh, Professor Dina Siddiqui, NYU, Professor Faustina Pereira, Brac University, Professor Manan Ahmed, Columbia University, Barrister Mustafizur Rahman Khan, Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh and Professor Shahnaz Huda, University of Dhaka.

Papers were presented in the conference from academics and early career researchers in Bangladesh and abroad, including Gayanthi Ranatunga, Jaya Yadav, Peter Reid, Salwa Haque, Shadika Hoque Monia and Taqbir Huda. The sessions were moderated by Barrister Sara Hossain, Advocate Supreme Court of Bangladesh and Executive Director BLAST and Dr. Chowdhury Ishrak Ahmed Siddiky, Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh and Head of Department, Department of Law and Human Rights, UAP.

This conference provided a platform for researchers to hone their unpublished work and made a significant contribution to legal scholarship, to commemorate the 50 years of the independence of Bangladesh.

For further information, contact

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