



Report
On
Child Killing by Mother and Its Causes, Impacts and Remedies:
Bangladesh Perspective

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Declaration

We hereby declare that the project entitled “**Child killing by Mother and its Causes, Impacts and Remedies: Bangladesh Perspective**” submitted to Centre for Research and HRD Publications, Prime University, Dhaka, Bangladesh is a proof of an unique work done by the researchers under the valuable guidance and supervision of Prof. Dr. Sarkar Ali Akkas, Chairman and Dean of the Department of Law, Jagannath University, Dhaka, Bangladesh. Wholly or partly it has not been presented in any other institution of Bangladesh.

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Executive Summary

Bangladesh's progress in many sectors such as: GDP growth, economic development, control of population, human development, empowerment and participation of women, gender equality in education, infrastructural and some social development, poverty reduction etc., are undoubtedly praiseworthy. Despite these progresses, children are remained deprived of their right to life. They receive different forms of subhuman treatment on a daily basis and they are becoming victims of violence including torture, killing, trafficking, abduction, rape, exploitation, and maltreatment, physical or mental or sexual or emotional abuse along with neglect. Recently in Bangladesh children are not safe at their own home and they are now killed or tortured by their own mother at their home. With the increasing number of child violence, newly child killing by mother has included on the rise.

This study focused on child killing by mother in the present context of Bangladesh. The paper made an inquiry on the factors that find out the reasons of child killing by mother. In addition, the investigation looked into the possible impacts on socio-economy of Bangladesh and way forwards on people's perception. In the paper, the significance of human rights education has also been highlighted. Descriptive survey technique has been used in the study and the sample size was two hundred twenty persons. The respondents in the study were 18 years old and above who were currently living in Dhaka city. In selecting respondents for the study simple random under probability sampling procedure was applied and to collect the data in the study questionnaire and structured interview were used as the research instruments. The study concluded that child killing by mother is an emerging social problem in Bangladesh which evidently abuses the protection of child rights and has impacts on socio-economy of the country. All the respondents agree and strongly agree that child killing by mother has implications if not checked. The study explored the root causes of child killing by mother are: family or conjugal dispute, social inequality, deterioration of the relationship between parents and children, absence of religious knowledge, guidance and education, immoral relationship, disappoints, tendency to quickly earn large amount of money, mental agony, financial difficulties, cultural degradation etc. The study recommended that child killing can be stopped by proper counseling, eradicating poverty, creating human rights and social awareness, increasing family relationship, enhancing amity/friendly terms, teaching religious and moral ideology and public cooperation. The study

argued that Bangladesh needs a careful attempt in support of the government, governmental or non-government organizations, civil society and general people to stop child killing by mother.

Key words: Child, Child Killing by Mother (Filicide), Causes, Human Rights Awareness, Remedies,

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Chapter: 1

Introduction

1.1 Background of the Study:

Family plays the most important role in a child's life. Parents are essential part of early life of every child. It has been echoed by the Early Years Framework (2008) that "parents are often said to be the first and best teacher for a child". David (2009) describes that "family pattern has a lot to do with child's moral development as well. Families where there is strong foundation of love, children there learn about family bonding and mutual trust. Family values also help developing children's mental and intellectual strength" (cited in Naomee, 2013). Taking into account David's observation Naomee (2013) further says that "without the active involvement of the family members specially the parents, it is quiet impossible for the children to develop strong physical, mental, moral and intellectual potential". From this point of view, the children have right to feel safe at home and every child have right to live in a protective environment. We all know mothers are very important and needed in child life. A mother is the best warden and nurturer of her children and families. So, a mother has a special connection with her children than a father. But recently in Bangladesh our children are not safe at their own home and they are now killed or tortured by their own mother at their home besides in the work places, in institutions and other places. Child abuse is the physical, psychological or emotional ill-treatment of children. Various categories of abuse in our society are increasing day by day. The present scenario of child abuse in Bangladesh is devastating and its increase day by day in everywhere from home of political leader to sports man and rich man (Islam, 2015). According to a statistics published by Bangladesh Shishu Adhikar Forum (BSAF), till July, 2015 at least 191, in 2014 at least 350, in 2013 at least 218 and in 2012 at least 209 children were killed. At least 968 children were killed after making suffer from 2012 to July 2015 (Daily Star, 2015 Prothom Alo, 2015 Haque, N. 2016). With the number of child violence and other such crimes, the recent brutal child killing by mothers has newly included on the rise. Following the recent gruesome murders of those children by their mother Governments-Non Governments Organizations, law enforcement agencies, right organizations and the people from all strata have expressed serious concern over this issue in Bangladesh. The alarming rise of child killing by their mothers has created grave concern among the people of Bangladesh.

1.2 Rationale of the Study:

Child abuse is the physical, psychological or emotional ill-treatment of children. Various categories of abuse in our society are increasing day by day. Bangladesh has nearly 50% children and they are called the future of the nation. Despite this, most of the children in Bangladesh are living in poor quality and many are being abused in many ways. These basic facts underline “the importance of protecting the rights of our children” (Ali, (2010).With the number of child violence and other such crimes, the recent brutal child killing by mother has newly included on the rise. On the sudden rise of child killing by mother it can be said that, this is the reflection of weak family bond, poor social interaction and cultural impunity. For these very reasons the concerned persons consider this issue as an emerging social trauma. So it is necessary to find out the present nature and extent of child killing by mother, its causes, impacts on society and others problem. Therefore, with the above discussions, it seems that the topic of this study on “Child killing by mother and its Causes, Impacts and Remedies: Bangladesh Perspective” is relevant and timely. Although there are some works on child killing by mother in Bangladesh, many studies have been conducted over child abuse in Bangladesh. The researcher has a little scope to review all these research works. The researchers have accessed to review a few relevant research works on this issue which has not covered the objectives of the present study. So this research work has been able to find out the gap between the previous research and existing research. Consequently, the findings of this study will be able to add the knowledge to the researchers, policy makers and practitioners to reduce child killing by mothers in proper way and which ultimately enhance the scope to diminish child abuse in Bangladesh.

1.3 Problem statement:

In the recent years child killing by mothers in Bangladesh is also on the rise besides all other forms of child abuse like kidnap, sexual harassment, murder, violence, trafficking and rape. The recent trends of child killing by mother perpetuated in the name of immoral relation, family dispute, anxiety about the future of children, economic difficulties and so on that create great concern to the people of the country. No matter what the cause may be, as per Article 35(5) of the Bangladesh constitution and Article 5 of the UDHR “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.” The United Nations Convention on the Rights of Child (UNCRC) declares, “States parties shall protect the child from all forms of

physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse” [UNCRC, Article 19]. According to Islamic declaration children are the means of trial as well as means of decoration (Quran 18:46 & 64:15). Islam is the divine rules which ensure the rights of all individuals in the society. It shows guidelines and protect child from all sorts of abuse in the society (Islam M. Saiful, 2015). According to Article 32 of the constitution of Bangladesh, “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and personal security.” In spite of all the Islamic guidelines, constitutional provisions and international laws that offer pledge and protection of each child from violence and stopping people from linking themselves in child abuse, the child killings by their mother are being happened in many forms likewise other incidents of violence against children. Therefore, it is time to know, why in this modern civilized era mothers are killing their own children in Bangladesh. Most of the research work has concentrated on the causes of child abuse, forms of child abuse, public understanding of child abuse, child abuse by parents and child killing by other forms also. After reviewing literature on child abuse and child killing in Bangladesh, it was found out that there is a little literature on child killing by mothers in the present context of Bangladesh. Therefore, this study assesses child killing by mothers in today’s Bangladesh, its causes, possible impacts and some preventive measures accordingly.

1.4 Conceptual Framework:

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989 mentions, “a child means any human person who has not reached the age of eighteen years” (CRC, 1989). Section 2 (a) of the Child Marriage Restraint Act, (1929) defines “a child and a minor if male as one under 21 years of age and if female under 18 years of age.” Section 2 (8) of the Bangladesh Labour Act, (2006) says “child means someone who has reached the age of 14 years but has not reached the age of 18 years.” The *Nari-o-Shishu Nirjatan Daman Ain* (2000) in section 2 (ta) provides that “a child is a person up to 16 years.” Under section 3 of the Majority Act (1875) “a person shall be deemed to have attained his majority when he shall have completed the age of eighteen years.” The term child, according to section 4 of the Children Act (2013) includes anyone up to the age of 18 years. Child killing is the murder of a child by another person (Medical Dictionary). The term ‘child killing’ is used in many ways. Other definitions associated with child killing include: Neonaticide, Infanticide, Filicide etc.

Neonaticide means the act of killing a baby in the first 24 hours of its life (Dictionary). The psychiatrist Phillip Resnick (2007) further limits *neonaticide* to the killing of an infant on the day of its birth. *Infanticide* means the killing of an infant (Merriam-Webstar). On the other hand, “filicide is the act of killing one’s own son or daughter” (Wikipedia-Encyclopedia). Filicide is two kinds: paternal filicide and maternal filicide. Child murder by mother is defined as maternal filicide. So, child killing by mother means the murder/killing of a child by a mother. There are many reasons behind child killing by mother which occurs in Bangladesh currently.

Figure-1: Conceptual Framework:



Source: Author

1.5 Research Question

The main research question for the study is whether children are being killed by their mothers in the present context of Bangladesh. The specific questions include:

- 1.** What are the reasons for child killing by mother?
- 2.** What is the level of human rights awareness rights among the people?

3. What are the views of general people on curbing child killing by mother?
4. What are the impacts of child killing by mother?

1.6 Research Objectives:

The main objective of the study is to assess child killing by mothers in Bangladesh. The specific objectives of the study are the following:

1. To find out the reasons behind child killing by mother in Bangladesh.
2. To review the level of human rights awareness rights among the people.
3. To examine the views of general people on curbing child killing by mother.
4. To ascertain the impacts of child killing by mother.

1.7 Literature Review:

The researchers made an attempt to review research reports and journal articles came out in the field of literature and child abuse.

Hatters F S and Resnick P J (2007) in their paper **Child Murder by Mothers: Patterns and Prevention** expresses that when a child is killed, the most common perpetrator is a parent or stepparent of victim. Their analysis on child killing by mother found filicidal mothers to have frequent psychosis, mental problem, sadness and suicidal thoughts. They observed “maternal filicide perpetrators have five major motives: a) in an *altruistic filicide*, a mother kills her child out of love; she believes death to be in the child's best interest (for example, a suicidal mother may not wish to leave her motherless child to face an intolerable world; or a psychotic mother may believe that she is saving her child from a fate worse than death); b) in an *acutely psychotic filicide*, a psychotic or delirious mother kills her child without any comprehensible motive (for example, a mother may follow command hallucinations to kill); c) when *fatal maltreatment filicide* occurs, death is usually not the anticipated outcome; it results from cumulative child abuse, neglect, or munchausen syndrome by proxy; d) in an *unwanted child filicide*, a mother thinks of her child as a hindrance; e) the most rare, spouse revenge filicide occurs when a mother kills her child specifically to emotionally harm that child's father. In developing countries, the preference for male infants may lead to sex-selective killings. Cultural and legal differences across countries may affect research findings. For example, one country's correctional sample

may be similar to another country's psychiatric sample, depending on the laws and attitudes toward prosecution”.

Srivastava P. K. (2014) in his paper “**Female Infanticide in 19th-Century India: A Genocide**” reveals that in post-colonial India the female foeticide, a practice evolved from customary female infanticide of pre-colonial and colonial period, committed though in separate incidents, has made it almost a unified wave of mass murder. It does not fulfill the widely accepted existing definition of genocide but the high rate of abortion of legitimate girl-foetus by Indian parents makes their crime a kind of group killing or genocide. The female foeticide in post-colonial India is not a modern phenomenon but was also prevalent in pre-colonial India since antiquity as female infanticide and the custom continued in the 19th century in many communities of colonial India, documentation of which are widely available in various archives. In spite of the Act of 1870 passed by the Colonial Government to suppress the practice, treating it a murder and punishing the perpetrators of the crime with sentence of death or transportation for life, the crime of murdering their girl children did not stop. During a period of five to ten years after the promulgation of the Act around 333 cases of female infanticide were tried and 16 mothers were sentenced to death, 133 to transportation for life and others for various terms of rigorous imprisonment in colonial India excluding British Burma and Assam where no such crime was reported.

Islam M. S (2015) in his paper “**Child Abuse and the Recent Trends in Bangladesh: A Critical Analysis from Islamic and Bangladesh Laws**” discusses that Bangladesh has realized a growth in child killing and abuse in current years; the majority sufferers are lowly and underprivileged children. He examines that, Islam strictly prohibits the all sorts of abuse towards child. Islamic basic norms to the child are love, mercy and compassion which are uniquely practiced by the Prophet (s.m).

Friedman, Susan H., Horwitz, S. M. and Resnick, P J., (2005) in their research “**Child Murder by Mothers: A Critical Analysis of the Current State of Knowledge and a Research Agenda**” describes that, maternal filicide occurs more commonly in the United States than in other developed countries. However, “little is known about factors that confer risk to children. Maternal filicide varied greatly by the type of sample studied”. They revealed that, *Neonaticide* was frequently committed by young, poor, unmarried women with little or no prenatal care.

Möller, A.,(2006) in her paper “**Methods of Murder in Maternal Filicide: An Analysis of Weapon Use and Mode of Death**” observes the causal factors for maternal filicide committed by mother. He describes analyzing twenty maternal filicide cases collected from various newspapers and determines the common methods of murder and types of weapons used by the mothers. He shows that younger victims were more at risk of physical attack than the use of conventional weapons. The victims were often killed through the use of personal weapons or suffocation. She opines that, most mothers killed their children at their home. Availability of weapons also seemed to play a role in the killing of a child by mother which was commonly found in the house.

Constitutional Safeguards for the Children in Bangladesh:

The Constitution of Bangladesh protects children’s fundamental rights to life, liberty, freedom from torture and prohibition from forced labor under the ideology of equal opportunity. These ideologies are found in article 14 that provides “ freedom from exploitation”, article 15 that provides “the basic necessities of life, including food, clothing, shelter, education and medical care, right to reasonable rest, recreation and leisure and the right to social security, to public assistance in cases of undeserved want arising from unemployment, illness or disablement, or suffered by orphans”, article 17 that provides “establishing a uniform, mass-oriented and universal system of education and extending free and compulsory education to all children to such stage as may be determined by law”, article 18 that provides “raising the level of education and improving public health,” article 19 (1) that provides “equality of opportunity to all citizens,” article 27 that specifies “all citizens are equal before the law and are entitled to equal protection of the law,” article 28 (1) that provides “the state shall not discriminate against any citizen on grounds only of religion, race, caste, sex, or place of birth,” and article 29 that provides “equality of opportunity and affirmative action and reservations for children; article 34 provides prohibition on forced labor” (Constitution of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh).

Bangladesh Legal Frameworks for Child Protection:

Bangladesh has enacted the Children Act, 2013 with a view to implementing the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) repealing the Children Act of 1974. This act features 11 chapters and 100 sections that prohibits certain form of violence against children and

protect children from cruelty, negligence, abuse and exploitation as well as upholds their advancement. The main aim of the act is to protect the children and this is why the act obliges various responsibilities and duties upon the state (Children Act, 2013). Moreover, Bangladesh enacted many laws including the Labor Act, 2006, which includes a chapter on child labor. Section 34 of this act forbids employment of children less than 14 years old as well as prohibits harmful child labor for children who are under the age of 18 (Labor Act, 2006). The Penal Code of Bangladesh provides some protections for kidnapping, slavery, sexual exploitation, selling and buying children with a view to prostitution, unnatural offences and forced labor of its children and prescribes some punishment (Penal Code, 1860). Bangladesh enacted *Nari O Shishu Nirjaton Daman Ain* (2000) to repress oppression against children which provides some provisions regarding trafficking, abduction, rape, sexual assault, mutilation or maiming against children. To protect children from domestic violence, Bangladesh enacted ‘The Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act, 2010’ repealing some loopholes of *Nari O Shishu Nirjaton Daman Ain, 2000*. Women and Children Repression Prevention (Special Provisions) Act, 2000 was amended in 2003. This Act was formulated to protect women and children from injury, rape and dowry. Except these laws, Bangladesh has been adopted National Children Policy (NCP)-1994. The main objectives of the policy are to go with all child improvement activities with the provisions of UNCRC in the country (National Policy on Children, 1994), National Education Policy, 2010 1st National Plan of Action (NPA) for the children in 1992 for the term of 1990-1995, 2nd National Plan of Action (NPA) for the children in 1999 for the term of 1997- 2002, 3rd National Plan of Action (NPA) for the children in 2003 for the term of 2004- 2009, Bangladesh Decade Action Plan for the Girl Child 1991-2000, initiated in 1993, National Policy on Children (NPC)–1994, National Children Council (NCC)–1994, The Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper (PRSP), approved in 2005, National Children's Task Force which has been working in all 64 districts in Bangladesh through the Integrated Development Approach since 2003 against sexual abuse, exploitation and trafficking of children and it works also for child rights and child protection, for monitoring other child rights issues, and creating space for participation of children in decision making (NCTF, 2003). The National Child Policy (NCP, 2011) highlights the necessity to esteem the rights and dignity of children in all relevant spheres from the family to the education institution. The subject of child labor has been included in all major national development plans, including the Sixth Five Year Plan (2011-2015), the National Plan of Action

to combat human trafficking (2012-2014), the National Child Labor Elimination Policy (NCLEP) 2010, the National Education Policy (2010), the National Plan of Action for Education for All (2003-2015), the National Skills Development Policy (2011), and the National Children Policy (2011). The Ministry of Labor and Employment has adopted the National Child Labor Elimination Policy, 2010 followed by a National Plan of Action that provides a framework to eliminate all forms of child labor by 2015. Thus Bangladesh has considerable legal support to protect her children. Moreover, many policies and acts also have been accepted also to fulfill the state's obligation towards child protection. Despite these laws and policies, the violation of child rights is a common phenomenon in Bangladesh. Various type of child abuse including child killing by mother across the country in recent times is manifold.

1.8 Scope and Limitation of the Study:

Child abuse is the physical, psychological or emotional ill-treatment of children. Thusly, various categories of child abuse in our society are increasing day by day. This study has focused on the child killing by mother only. However, the term 'child killing by mother' has been used all over the study since it is a widespread expression to mean the child abuse too. This study may be useful for the future researchers who will do research in this field. An enthusiastic attempt was applied to carry out the study to get a trustworthy and prolific outcome. Nevertheless there exist some restraints which acted as obstacle to carry out the study. The interviews were carried out by using interview schedule that consist of views and opinions of those particular respondents, which might raise hesitation, hide and seek of the information of the respondents. In some cases some of them were not able to provide concrete answer. In this case some assumptions had to be made. Other limitations are:

- Only two hundred and twenty respondents have been interviewed as sample respondents; the respondents are found to feel shy to answer some questions or to show over excited tendency to answer the questions regarding the issue.
- As a result of some restraints it was impossible to conduct wide-ranging case studies which could form the research paper more revealing. It lacks experts' opinions to ensure the quality as well as the standard of the research.
- The area of this study is not so wide rather the study considers only Dhaka city for collecting sample. It could be wider.

Besides these limits, the researchers have attempted their level best to make the study up to the mark. If these limitations are overcome, the findings consequence may be different.

1.9 Structure of the Report:

This report is planned in five chapters. **Chapter One** is a general introduction that includes the background and rationale, problem statement, conceptual framework, research questions and objectives, scope and limitation of the study, methodology, methods of data collection, analysis presentation and literature review. **Chapter Two** discusses reasons for child killing by mother in Bangladesh. **Chapter Three** shows human rights awareness among the people of Bangladesh. **Chapter Four** explores the respondents' views on curbing child killing by mother in Bangladesh. **Chapter Five** discusses implications of child killing by mother and finally **Chapter Six** includes major findings of the study and results with recommendations to curb child killing by mother.

1.10 Research Methodology:

The study concluded that child killing by mother is an emerging social problem in Bangladesh which evidently abuses the protection of child rights and has impacts on socio-economy of the country. All the respondents agree and strongly agree that child killing by mother has implications if not checked.

Descriptive survey method has been used in the study. This method was found suitable because it is an instrument that helps to investigate for comprehensive information about the characteristics and very easy to use. For this research project Dhaka, the capital city of Bangladesh has been chosen as study area. The reasons for selecting Dhaka as study area are: Dhaka is located in the geographic center of the country. The exceptional centrality of Dhaka has fascinated because it is the country's capital linking with the most important routes to other parts of the country and it turned into the center of the country's business, commercial, educational, industrial, political and cultural activities. It is one of the country's most inhabited cities, with a population of 2 million people. The respondents in the study were 18 years old and above who were currently living in Dhaka city. The sample size for the study was two hundred twenty respondents. Each respondent has been selected from the different suburbs of Dhaka City. The gender distribution of respondents was 69.86% male and 30.14% female. Among them 40.2% respondents were service

holder, 24.2% businessman, 26.0% unemployed while 7.3% were homemaker and 2.3% were others. Among the respondents, 54.8% of respondents are married while 45.2% are unmarried. The educational background of respondents was 5.96% below SSC, 6.42% SSC, 7.34% HSC and MPhil-Ph.D 0.92%. The sample is skewed (44.04%) in favor of those with post graduate and 35.32% of the respondents have graduation. In selecting respondents for the study simple random under probability sampling procedure was applied and to collect the data in the study questionnaire and structured interview were used as the research instruments. The respondents were chosen founded on their eagerness and capability to respond the questionnaire. The questionnaire has been used with the aim of obtaining an average of answers or responses. The use of structured interview assists the researcher to mould the questions to facilitate the information need for this study. The collected data has been processed and analyzed in the statistical process with the help of computer program i.e. Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS). In this study, we have assessed the facts and incidents of child killing by mothers from national daily newspapers of Bangladesh.

Chapter: 2

Reasons for Child Killing by Mothers in Bangladesh

3.1 Introduction

This chapter tries to respond the research questions through deeply discussion that combines the literature review and data analysis. It is stated in the primary data analyses that children in Bangladesh are abused in many ways and with the increasing number of child abuse, the recent child killing by mothers has newly included on the rise. As there are many factors that lead mothers to commit such type of heinous crime, therefore, this chapter, in view of the data analysis and literature review, confers the reasons for child killing by mother in Bangladesh.

Reasons for Child killing by Mother:

Several causes of child killing by mother have been assigned in our society. Some experts said “culture of impunity is indirectly encouraging the perpetrators to target children” (Asia Times, 2016). Dr. Mizanur Rahman, the Ex-Chairman of National Human Rights Commission bemoaned that, this is the reflection of the existing culture of impunity and a break-down of the rule of law in the society (Daily Star, 2015). Dr. MizanurRahman’s position is corroborated by BSAF Director AS Mahmood who said that the lack of proper investigation and trial procedures has created a culture of impunity (cited in Khan, 2016). BSAF reported that, from the last four years over 500 child killing cases are still pending. Islam and Hossen, (n.d.) revealed the following elements of the culture of impunity:

- Absence of suitable laws,
- Lack of people awareness,
- Non-existence of rule of law,
- Lack of proper investigation and Trial procedures

A further reason for child killing by mother is anxiety resulting from a family problem. In Banasree double murder case, Mahfuja Maleq Jesmin killed her two sons and she confessed to the police that she had been worried about her children’s studies and their future. She had believed her kids would not have a bright future (Independent, 2016). Two researchers Islam and Hossen, (n.d) identifies that in most of the cases either mother or father are engaged extra-marital relationship that in the view point of religion and social phenomena is not recognized, therefore,

everyone tries to take vengeance against each other and ultimate object is children. Kazi Reazul Haque, the acting chairman Bangladesh National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) said that the number of children killed by parents increased significantly due to social unrest (New Age, 2016). Advocate Towhida Khondker, Director of Bangladesh National Woman Lawyers Association (BNWLA) pointed out that in spite of many acts and policies; there is little consciousness about child rights among the stakeholders as well as the law enforcement agencies, government sections, parents, and people of the society. She further added that, most of the countrymen are not acquainted with what children rights demand (Asia Times, 2016). However, literature iterated that, inadequacy of the punishment to the perpetrators, cold ambition to be affluent within a short time, rising wants, a fast changing society, absence of legal and religious knowledge, economic aspirations, long presence of a spouse for work and the blow of television and the internet in Bangladesh are causative factors for child killing by mother. Many experts viewed that, sometimes extra-marital relationships force parents to murder their own children (filicide). Moreover, growing needs, financial desires and long absences of a spouse for work may effect on family bonding. According to Mohammad Ashraful Alam, chairman of the criminology and police sciences department at Maulana Bhashani Science and Technology University, child killing fall into two categories—child killing by relatives and child killing by outsiders. Social expectations are habitually seen as an obstacle to the family bonding, and the children are easy target of that hurdle. “Slaying the offspring appears to the perpetrators as the key to exiting the marriage” (Khan, 2016). Professor Dr Shah Ehsan Habib of Dhaka University said that “the increase in the gap between real life and expectations correlates with a rise in crime.” He further said that “frustrated aspirations can lead to violent crime and minors are easy prey” (ibid). Psychologist Dr. Mohit Kamal recognized that increasing of child killing towards a “loss of moral excellence and a cruel attitude” in society (ibid). Moreover, Islam and Hossen (n.d) observed a number of causes which are following:

- Domestic violence in home particularly between husband and wife drives to children killing.
- Extreme poverty and a lot of family are unable to fulfill the basic needs for unemployment and sometimes husband engaged with drug addiction which generate broil in the family and child is being victim.

- The urban family majority time isolate from their kin group. Therefore, they are not capable to share there any personal or family sadness or events and ultimately it creates lonesomeness and mentally sick which promotes aggressiveness, cruelty and ultimate effect goes to children.
- Every year Bangladesh faces a number of natural disasters such as cyclones, heavy flooding and tornados which make grounds of homelessness and displacement of people. By reason of absence of basic needs lack of social protection, economic security and legal support an alarming amount of family suffer depression and take attempt to murder child.
- Physical punishment to remove child wrong manners causes child killing.

Current Reports of Child Killing by Mother:

The statistics of child killing by mother have been based on news published in national dailies last year. According to a report of the Bangladesh Child Rights Forum (BASF) out of 366 children 41 in 2014, out of 292 children 40 in 2015 and out of 56 children 09 were killed by parents in February, 2016, (Daily Star, 2015). Another report also mentions that the number of children killed by parents was 40 in 2015, 14 in 2014 and below 10 in 2013 and 2012 (New Age, 2017). January to August, 2015 the total 27 number of children were killed (amongst them 13 were killed by their mother and 14 were killed by their father). Another report says: out of 265 children, 64 were murdered by their own parents killed in 2016 (Daily Star, 2017). Bangladesh ShishuAdhikar Forum (BSAF) informs that 64 children were killed by parents while the number of child killing by mother was 40 in 2015. BSAF says, the number of children killed by parents increased by an alarming 57.5 per cent in 2016 compared with the previous year. As per the report of BSAF 3,589 children were victims of violence in 2016 out of which 1,441 were victims of unnatural deaths and 686 of sexual violence and harassment. Last year, 64 children, an average of five children per month, were killed by their parents. This situation clears that, the murder of children has become increasingly commonplace across the country. The alarming rise of child killing by their mother in recent years has created grave concern among the people of Bangladesh. Being overwhelmed with sorrow in the sudden rise of child killing many people pointed out that violence against children, including recent brutal child killing by parents are the result of weak family bonds and poor social interaction in Bangladesh (Source Internet). The

following case studies/ incidents are enough to show the situation of child killing by mother in Bangladesh. For example:

- In Darussalam at Mirpur in Dhaka, a woman-Jesmin Akter (35) killed her two daughters-Hasiba Tahsin Himi (9) and Abida Tahsin Honey (5) slitting their throats by sharp weapons and then murdered herself due to unhappiness about her children's taking care, nurture and education (Dhaka Tribune, 1 May, 2018).
- On 23 Oct., 2016 at Uttar Badda in Capital Dhaka one mother named Shahana tried to commit suicide and attempt to murder swallowing poison her two daughters named Aria and Agomony due to conjugal dispute. Arai died during treatment in a hospital (Bangladesh Pratidin, 25. 10. 2016).
- On 19 April, 2016 1-year-old NehalSadik was killed by his mother Mukti Begum at her home in the capital's Uttarkhan area over a family feud before trying to commit suicide (bdnews24.com, 2016-04-19).
- In Chittagong, 35-year-old mother Shelly Shil was found hanging from the ceiling in her bedroom while daughter AntaraShil was found dead on the bed. (bdnews24.com,2016-04-20).
- On 05 November, 2015 in Pobaupazella of Rajshahi, mother Shokhimon killed her 14 year old daughter Arzina being aggrieved by a family dispute between the couple over a silly matter.
- On 08 February, 2016 at village Shyampur of Shirajgonj District 11 year old son TanvinHasan was murdered by his mother Rubina Khatun due to family dispute.
- On 29 February, 2016 at RampuraBanosree in Capital, mother MahfuzaJesmin killed her two sibilings—NusratJahanUrni (14) and her younger brother AlviAman (6) caused by an extramarital relationship or family problems and being worried about her children's studies and their future(The Independent, 4 March, 2016).
- On 12 August, 2016 at Uttar Basabo in Dhaka mother Tanzina Begum, killed her two children-Mashrafi Bin MahbubAbrar (7) and HumairaBinteMahbubTakia (6) (The New Age, August 13, 2016).
- On August, 2016 at Mothbaria in Pirojpur, mother Najmunnahar committed suicide after killing her two children named Maisha (2 years old son) and Mahia (8 month old daughter) due to conjugal dispute (Bangladesh Protidin, 25. 10. 2016).

- On 3 April, 2016 at Eksar village of Shatkhira district mother Selina Begum killed her 2 Years old daughter-Monira grabbing throat and threw into a pond after death due to immoral relationship with another's husband.
- On March 5, 2016 mother Salma Khatun of Parabhanga village of Kishoreganj killed her one and half year old child Mahathir Mohammad cutting throat with a weapon as he was crying for food (Asia Times, 2016).
- A woman, TanjinaAktar, in Dhaka killed -nine-year-old MashrafiIbneMahbub and his six-year-old sister HumayraBinteMahbub slitting their throats and she has admitted it during primary interrogation (Dhaka Tribune, 2016).
- In Palashbari (Ashulia) a woman, Yanur throttled her son Rabiul till he passed out. The victim was later taken to Hospital where the doctor on call declared him dead (Dhaka Tribune, 2016).
- A mother-Rehana Parvin (34) had committed suicide after murdering her three sons - Shanta (13), Shefa (9) and Saad (1) at Kamarpara under Turag in Dhaka (News Bangladesh.com, 2017).

The facts of the aforesaid case studies show the aggressive, destructive, severe and ill mind as well as behavior of mother while killing their child. These case studies are only indicating the facts of child killing by mother in Bangladesh. In other word, these case studies lead a specimen form of human rights violation in Bangladesh.

Along the lines of the aim of the research, the researchers asked the respondents the reasons of child killing by mother in Bangladesh. Researchers have discovered the reasons that are connected with either bigger or lesser threat of being killed. These reasons consist of characteristics of the doers. Below are several examples of factors.

Table 2: Reasons for Child Killing by Mother

Factors	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
1. Uncontrolled and displacement of anger	36	16.4	118	53.6	19	8.6	31	14.1	16	7.3
2. Family or Conjugal squabble and faithlessness	64	29.01	117	53.2	19	8.6	14	6.4	06	2.7
3. Immoral relationship or extra marital affairs	112	50.9	99	45.0	7	3.2	1	.5	1	.5
4. Ignorance of law, HR and religious knowledge and guidance	38	17.3	137	62.3	27	12.3	12	5.5	6	2.7
5. Out of anxiety over the future of the children	42	19.1	102	46.4	33	15.0	37	16.8	6	2.7
6. Deterioration of the relationship between parents & children	27	12.3	113	51.4	45	20.5	32	14.5	3	1.4
7. Mental Agony or psychological illness	49	22.3	128	58.2	25	11.4	17	7.7	1	.5
8. Weak family bond and culture of impunity	38	17.3	118	53.6	29	13.2	31	14.1	4	1.8
9. Wealth disparity and social inequality	28	12.7	103	46.8	38	17.3	42	19.1	8	3.6
10. Financial difficulties or Poverty	55	25.0	106	48.2	13	5.9	30	13.6	15	6.8
11. Social depreciation and moral erosion	44	20.0	139	63.2	21	9.5	14	6.4	2	.9
12. Affection to the foreign culture, internet, TV serial, etc.	81	36.8	99	45.0	12	5.5	19	8.6	9	4.1

From table 2, 16.36% respondents strongly agree that displacement of anger is a major cause of child killing by mother, 53.64% agree and 14.09% disagree with this claim. Family/Conjugal dispute has been acknowledged as a further cause of child killing by mother. The result indicates that 20.09% respondents strongly agree and 53.18% respondents agree with the issue of family dispute. Almost all the respondents 50.91% strongly agree and 45.00% agree with the claim that immoral relationship or extra marital affairs among the people married or unmarried is the major cause of child killing by mother in Bangladesh. The result indicates that 17.27% respondents strongly agree and 62.27% respondents agree with the issue of the absence of education, religious knowledge and guidance. 19.09% respondents strongly agree and 46.36% respondents agree that out of anxiety over the future of the children is one of the causes of child killing by mother. They think that some mothers are anxious over the future of the children in modern competitive society. This result finding supports Banasree double murder case, Mahfuja Maleq

Jesmin killed her two sons and she confessed to the police that she had been worried about her children's studies and their future (Independent, 2016), 16.82% respondents disagree with the claim. With the matter of deterioration of relationship between parents and children due to unhealthy competitive attitudes, greed and selfishness 12.27% strongly agree with this cause, 51.36% respondents agree whereas 14.55% disagree and 1.36% respondents strongly disagree with this claim. Majority opined that, greed or high ambition is the main cause of family dispute that weaken family bond. In this milieu, parents hanker after money in legal and illegal means and the relationship between parents and children are being deteriorated. Not only that growing needs, monetary ambitions, long absence for work, the impact of television and the internet and widespread social inequality are responsible for breaking down family bonds. In the study it is found that, 22.27% of the respondents strongly agree and 58.18% respondents agree that the most common reason for child killing by mother is psychological illness. This result finding supports Hatters F S and Resnick P J (2007) describes that "maternal filicide found filicidal mothers to have frequent depression, psychosis, prior mental health treatment, and suicidal thoughts". Break-down of the rule of law in the society, the absence of proper investigation and lengthy trial procedures in child related cases are indirectly encouraging the perpetrators to target children. It is evident that 17.27% respondents strongly agree and 47.03% respondents agree with the claim that, the sudden rise of child killing by mother is the reflection of weak family bond, poor social interaction and cultural impunity. It is evidently known from the finding that wealth disparity and social inequality is also the causes of child killing as 47.03% agree with this cause, 12.79% respondents strongly agree and 19.18% respondents disagree that wealth disparity is a factor thereby causing child killing. The 25% respondents strongly agree and 48.18% agree with the claim that poverty or financial difficulties is a cause of child killing by mother and 13.64% disagree and 6.82% strongly disagree with this claim. Social depreciation and moral erosion is one of the root causes of child killing as 20.00% respondents strongly agree and 63.18% agree with the issue of social depreciation and moral erosion. Finally, the sudden rise of child killing by mother in the various parts of the country is the result of affection to the foreign culture, internet, TV serial, crime related events which provoke people for doing crime. Majority of the respondents 36.82% strongly agree and 45% respondents agree with the claim. They opined that majority of the women of the country are seriously devoted to foreign TV serial.

3.4 Conclusions

In the discussion, the chapter examined why mothers in Bangladesh kill their biological children. From the discussion it is clear that mothers kill their child nowadays due to immoral relation, conjugal disputes, anxiety about the future of the children, mental agony, social depreciation and moral erosion in everywhere in the society i.e., almost all classes of people are engaged in unequal competition in getting money to be affluent in a short time. Moreover, social or mercantile or cultural instability prevailing in everywhere in the country, faithlessness between husband and wife due to follow the culture of another country, men are becoming self centered and are engaging day by day in mechanical life, breaking of joint family system, uncontrolled temper, improper love relations among the people married or unmarried due to excess use of mobile phone are creating believness in family and thus a mother does not feel hesitation to kill her child.

Chapter 3

Human Rights Education

Introduction:

Child killing violates human Rights of the children. Education is critical to human development, enlightenment and emancipation. So, educating people on human rights will be aware not to violate other's rights. The UDHR, 1948 as well as all other international human rights frameworks has underlined the need for the human rights education. Therefore this chapter endeavors to discuss the need of Human Rights education in Bangladesh. The function of human rights education is very much significance owing to the people's variety of understanding, knowledge and approach nowadays.

The Need of Human Rights Education:

The UDHR, 1948 defines human rights as the rights enjoyed by people whatever their gender, nationality or ethnic origin, sex, color, religion, language, age, race, socio- economic rank or any other status. All are whatever their nationality, sex, color, religion, language, age or any other status equally entitled to enjoy human rights. These rights are intrinsic to all person, regardless their sex, color, nationality, religion, ethnicity, language, place of birth or any other rank, class, position and status. From this point of view, without any bias or discrimination each and every one is equally allowed to enjoy human rights. Human rights are inseparable, interconnected and interdependent. "Universal human rights are often expressed and guaranteed by law, in the forms of treaties, customary international law, general principles and other sources of international law. International human rights law lays down obligations of Governments to act in certain ways or to refrain from certain acts, in order to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms of individuals or groups" (Source: <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Pages/WhatareHumanRights.aspx>).

The Plan of Action of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education defines human rights education as "training, dissemination and information efforts aimed at the building of a universal culture of human rights through the imparting of knowledge and skills and the molding of attitudes and directed to:

(a) The strengthening of respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms;

- (b) The full development of the human personality and the sense of its dignity;
- (c) The promotion of understanding, tolerance, gender equality and friendship among all nations, indigenous peoples and racial, national, ethnic, religious and linguistic groups;
- (d) The enabling of all persons to participate effectively in a free society;
- (e) The furtherance of the activities of the United Nations for the maintenance of peace” (Source: Plan of Action of the United Nations Decade for Human Rights Education 1995-2004).

The Human Rights Educators' Network of Amnesty International USA in 1991 published “the expanding definition of rationale for human rights education:

- Human rights education declares a commitment to those human rights expressed in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights of 1948, the UN Covenants, and the United States Bill of Rights. It asserts the responsibility to respect, protect, and promote the rights of all people.
- Human rights education promotes democratic principles. It examines human rights issues without bias and from diverse perspectives through a variety of educational practices.
- Human rights education helps to develop the communication skills and informed critical thinking essential to a democracy. It provides multicultural and historical perspectives on the universal struggle for justice and dignity.
- Human rights education engages the heart as well as the mind. It challenges students to ask what human rights mean to them personally and encourages them to translate caring into informed, nonviolent action.
- Human rights education affirms the interdependence of the human family. It promotes understanding of the complex global forces that create abuses, as well as the ways in which abuses can be abolished and avoided” (Source: The Human Rights Education Handbook (n.d).

Human Rights Education in Bangladesh:

In Bangladesh, National Human Rights Commission, the Mass Media, the various governmental and non-governmental organizations gives training and education on human rights. Not only that,

these organizations provide information about human rights violation, impart knowledge and increase consciousness on issues of human rights through conducting seminars, workshops, symposiums, research and by publishing the results as well. One researcher Begum (n.d) opined that, in school curriculums and in textbooks of primary, secondary, higher secondary and higher education levels of Bangladesh, human rights education is an important and integral part. She justified that, “when Bangladesh emerged in 1971 as an independent country, it emphasized human rights education for children, who early on learn their civil, social, political, and legal rights from reading poetry, tales, essays, and their textbooks in social science, history, civics, and religion.” According to Uttam Kumar Das [Das, (n.d)], human rights education in Bangladesh is imparted in (i) mass education and (ii) academic education. Despite these, human rights education system in Bangladesh is not praiseworthy as there are some loopholes prevail in that system. Most of human rights organizations are non-governmental and some of them are initiated by civil society organizations and some of them are donor-driven and time-bound. Moreover, in most of the human rights awareness programs corruption, absence of continuity, lack of skilled trainers and so on are the common hinders. The universities of Bangladesh also lack of independent program on the issue of human rights. Another constrain is: although human rights issue have been introduced in academic curriculum of Bangladesh, there is lack of skilled, qualified and trained faculty members. For these very reasons, in spite of human rights awareness programs extensively for a long time in Bangladesh, “50.2% of the population never heard of the term human rights” [(NHRC, 2011 cited in Das, (n.d.))].

To know about the position of human rights awareness the respondents were asked question on human rights awareness and the situation of human rights awareness amongst the general people of Bangladesh as they respond according to excellent, very good, undecided, average and satisfactory. According to table 3, 9.55% of the respondents rated human rights awareness among the people satisfactory, 61.82% rated it average, 7.73% rated very good and 5.00% rated it excellent. As per respondents’ perception more human rights education should be promoted so that people could be aware not to infringe human rights.

Table: 3 Human Rights Awareness among the People of Bangladesh

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Excellent	21	5.0
Very Good	136	7.7
Undecided	35	15.9
Average	17	61.8
Satisfactory	11	9.5
Total	220	100

Conclusions

The present situation of the human rights education of the people of Bangladesh suggests prospects and challenges in terms of their human rights awareness. With the advancement of the external factors of human rights education, the quality of human rights educations should be improved by engaging and growing the quantity of competent, qualified and skilled human rights trainer with proper training conveniences. Human rights could be achieved through a knowledgeable and continued demand on the part of people for their safeguard. In many cases it is evident that, mass people have almost no knowledge of human rights in the society. Hence, in a country like Bangladesh, government's plan does not all the time echo human rights and education needs, if there is no instant pecuniary and political cause. But, since there is a lack of sufficient knowledge of human rights, and simultaneously there is an increasing rate of human rights abuse in recent Bangladesh, human rights education should be encouraged and advanced throughout the country in order to increase the awareness of people in general.

Chapter 4

Implication of Child Killing by Mother:

Introduction:

More generally, child killing by mother is killing a child by a mother and this is carried out for many reasons, including family or conjugal dispute, deterioration of the relationship between parents and children, absence of religious knowledge, guidance and education, immoral relationship, disappoints, mental agony, financial difficulties, cultural degradation etc. Impacts of child killing on human rights are found in terms of right to life. The result of this study reveals that child abuse has some adverse effects and therefore, implies that the government, families and society in general should help to curb its occurrence. Child killing by mother has numerous implications on our social and personal life if not addressed.

Impacts of Child Killing by Mother:

The main task of the society is to give and defend the fundamental requirements, to care for social relations and to endow with wellbeing to the people living in the society. Child killing by mother weakens our family bondage and social interaction in everyday life, creates a hazardous situation in the society and hampers the law, peace, security and good order of the country. The most important responsibility of every individual to the society is to act for the welfare of all human beings and to perform a duty so that a balance can be maintained to live in peace. In realistic terms, man is a social being by nature and this is why, the first and foremost responsibility of a man is to form interpersonal relationship with each other. Social responsibility demands every individual will be accountable to the society, one will fulfill one's civic duty and one shall have a duty to act in a way that is advantageous to the general public in the society. If individual's action causes injury to the people subsequently that may be regarded as careless or irresponsible to the society. Child killing by mother violates child rights of the country, declines social values, and creates fear in the society. It demolish the historical belief of human that mother is the safest person in the world for a child (Islam and Hossen, (n.d).Moreover, child killing creates doubts in the mind of children about trustworthiness of their parents (ibid) and disregards religious guidance and existing law of the country. Child killing at all times causes

loss of life which extremely violation of right to life. In Bangladesh constitution, none can violate right to life. Article 31 and 32 of the Constitution of Bangladesh provides “right to life, liberty and personal security.” Article 35 (5) of the Constitution of Bangladesh stipulates that, “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.” But, following the current alarming rise of child killing by parents GOs-NGOs, law enforcement agencies, right organizations and the people from all strata have expressed serious concern over this issue. Under the circumstances, the concerned persons are saying this issue as a social offence or social trauma. This situation emphasizes the value of caring the rights of children in today’s Bangladesh.

To gain the purpose of this research study, the respondents were asked to state the impacts of child killing by mother if stern actions are not taken to tackle this problem.

Factors	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
1. . Weakens family bond and social interaction	76	34.5	136	1.8	5	2.3	1	.5	2	.9
2. Declines social values	57	25.9	149	67.7	10	4.5	1	.5	3	1.4
3. Reflects culture of impunity	42	19.1	139	63.2	21	9.5	14	6.4	3	1.4
4. Violates human rights	74	33.6	124	56.4	14	6.4	5	2.3	1	.5
5. Undermines the constitution	40	18.2	130	59.1	34	15.5	16	7.3	-	-
6. Disregards religious guidelines	68	30.0	137	62.3	13	5.9	1	.5	1	.5
7. Creates children insecurity and fear	59	26.8	140	63.6	12	5.5	8	3.6	1	.5
8. Causes loss of life	56	25.5	143	65.0	8	3.6	10	4.5	3	1.4
9. Disregards the existing law of the land	47	21.4	129	58.6	34	15.5	9	4.1	1	.5
10. Creates bad national image	67	30.5	120	54.5	22	10.0	8	3.6	2	.9
11. Affects the socio-economic life	59	26.8	131	59.5	20	9.1	8	3.6	2	.9

It is evident from the people’s perception that, child killing by mother has some consequences; such as- it is the sign of a society with fragile family bond, reflection of the existing culture of impunity, it shows a serious decline of social values, violates human rights, undermines the

constitution, creates children insecurity and fear, causes loss of life, creates poor national image, influences on the socio-economy of the country and so on.

According to table 5, 34.55% strongly agree and 61.82% agree that child killing by mother is the symptom of a society with weak family system because it weakens family bond and social interaction. Another implication associated with child killing by mother is the declination of social values. 25.91% respondents strongly agree and 67.7% respondents agree that child killing by mother declines social values.

Culture of impunity is the repeated violation of human rights within and across countries and it is opposed to a culture respectful of the rule of law. The respondents 19.09% strongly agree and 63.18% agree that child killing reflects culture of impunity. This result finding supports Dr. Mizanur Rahman, the Ex-Chairman of National Human Rights Commission bemoaned that, this is the reflection of the existing culture of impunity and a break-down of the rule of law in the society (Daily Star, 2015). A different serious implication coupled with child killing is the murdering of guiltless which is break-down of human rights in the society. The majority of the respondents (56.62%) agree that child killing by mother is the violation of human rights and 33.79% strongly agree with the view. According to Article 3 of the UDHR “everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.”

Furthermore, child killing by mother undermines the constitution of Bangladesh. Article 35(5) of the constitution of Bangladesh stipulates that, “No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.” According to Article 32, “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and personal security.” The respondents (18.18%) strongly agree and (59.09%) agree with the view that child killing by mother clearly undermines the constitution of the country.

According to Islamic declaration children are the means of trial as well as means of decoration (Quran 18:46 & 64:15). Islam is the divine rules which ensure the rights of all individuals in the society. It shows guidelines and protect child from all sorts of abuse in the society (Islam M. Saiful, 2015). 30.91% respondents are strongly agreed and 62.27% respondents are agreed with the view that in Bangladesh as a Muslim majority country, child killing by mother disregards religious guidelines. Not only those, 58.64% respondents agree and 21.36% respondents strongly

agree that child killing by mother indicates the people are uncultured and might decline social value since it disregards the existing law of the country.

Most of the respondents (63.64%) agree and 26.82% respondents strongly agree that child killing creates children insecurity and fear. Again 65.00% respondents agree and 25.45% strongly agree that it causes loss of life. They opined that if child killing by mother is frequently occurred, many of the children will feel insecurity. As a result they will less interest about their education after the incidents of killing and most of the children will suffer from stress and trauma that can lead to adverse psychological effects, insecurities and phobias.

Finally a greater part of the respondents (30.45%) strongly agree and (54.55%) respondents agree that it creates bad national image. Again 26.82% respondents strongly agree and 59.55% respondents agree with the view that child killing by mother influences the socio-economic life of the country.

Conclusion:

The study was undertaken to investigate the problem of child killing by mother and its consequences. It is evident by the study that, there is negative implication on the society and people's culture and to check the menace the government should adopt diverse measures.

Chapter 5

Public Views on Curbing Child Killing by Mother in Bangladesh

Introduction

This chapter attempts to explore a brief summary of research-based information related to checking child killing by mother i.e., child abuse in Bangladesh. This chapter focused on what can people do when a child is abused, what people have to do to report about abuse, how the child caring or law enforcing agencies interfere to save the children from harm or abuse, and what public can accomplish to check child exploitation.

Curbing Child Killing by Mother:

Many approaches have been developed to attempt to prevent child abuse and neglect. They may seek to prevent risk factors or may seek to put protective factors in place for children and families, or strengthen protective factors that are already present in children's lives. Some strategies are universal approaches (primary prevention) meant to reach all corners of society while others are individual approaches that target at-risk groups (secondary prevention) or families where abuse has previously occurred (tertiary prevention).

With the increase in child killing it was asked the sample what they think on curbing child killing. They opined that, for stopping child killing a laborious effort from the side of the state, state institutions, civil society organizations, government and non-government organizations and people from all walks of life is needed.

Table: 5 Public Views on Curbing Child Killing by Mother in Bangladesh

Factors	Strongly Agree		Agree		Undecided		Disagree		Strongly Disagree	
	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%	Freq.	%
1. Proper counseling	79	35.9	119	54.1	15	6.8	6	2.7	1	.5
2. Eradicating poverty	74	33.6	102	46.4	27	12.3	14	6.4	2	.9
3. Creating human rights and social awareness	78	35.5	128	58.2	10	4.5	2	.9	2	.9
4. Increasing family relationship	89	40.5	109	49.5	10	4.5	7	3.2	4	1.8
5. Teaching non-violence as well as religious and moral education and ideology	64	29.1	132	60.0	16	7.3	5	2.3	2	.9
6. Enhancing amity/friendly terms	46	20.9	114	51.8	44	20.0	12	5.5	4	1.8
7. Public cooperation	58	26.4	113	51.4	35	15.9	12	5.5	1	.5
8. Improving justice system	86	39.1	93	42.3	23	10.5	7	3.2	9	4.1
9. Setting up counseling and call centre for distressed people to overcome their challenges	60	27.3	110	50.0	36	16.4	12	5.5	2	.9
10. The Laws relating to child protection should be implemented	94	42.7	96	43.6	16	7.3	10	4.5	4	1.8

According to table 7, all the respondents were asked to state their views on stopping child killing in Bangladesh. Child killing by mother can be stopped by proper counseling. 35.91% respondents strongly agree and 54.09% respondents agree with the view. It is evident that 33.79% respondents strongly agree and 46.58% respondents agree with the view that child killing can be curbed if poverty is eradicated. They think poverty or financial difficulties are the source of all evil. Under the circumstances, some people become anxious over the future of their children. 35.45% respondents strongly agree and 58.18% respondents agree with the view that child killing by mother can be curbed by creating human rights and social awareness. It has been revealed that child killing by mother can be stopped if family relationship is increased. 40.64% and 49.77% respectively strongly agree and agree with the view. They opined that, for financial difficulties or for fulfilling the basic needs or for tendency to become well off within a very short moment many people are engaged in competition. They have a little time to pay their children and in this milieu the family relationship is deteriorated. This situation instigates the mothers to commit such heinous activities. Teaching non-violence, religious and moral ideology promotes

understanding of the means by which all sort of child abuses may be eliminated. The respondents 29.22% strongly agree and 60.27% agree that as child killing is rampant as a result of lack of knowledge religious and moral ideology it can be reduced by teaching of non-violence, religious and moral education and ideology. With the matter of enhancing amity or friendly terms with each other in a family, love, reverence and broadmindedness for all people irrespective of sex and age should be increased and any inhuman treatment or crime can be reduced. 20.91% respondents strongly agree and 51.82% agree with the view that child killing by mother can be curbed by enhancing amity or friendly terms. Cooperation is vital as it allows populace to work collectively to attain a common target. This can take place between individuals or between states. The respondents viewed that public cooperation is very much essential to reduce any type of child abuse in Bangladesh as 26.48% respondents strongly agree and 51.60% respondents agree with the view. The respondents 38.27% strongly agree and 42.47% agree that the justice system in the country should be improved. They opined that proper police investigation, reduction of backlog of cases, speedy trial must be ensured in this regard. Majority respondents think that, psychological distress often comes from unpleasant feelings or demands or emotions. Grief, anxiety, disruption, and psychological illness are expression of mental distress. 27.27% respondents strongly agree and 50% respondents agree that child killing can be curbed by setting up counseling and call centre for distressed women that may listen carefully and with sensitivity to overcome their challenges. It is evident that Bangladesh has considerable legal support to protect her children and many policies and acts have been approved also towards child protection. Most of the respondents opined that, despite these laws and policies, the violation of child rights is a common occurrence in Bangladesh. The respondents (42.73%) strongly agree and (43.64%) agree that, the situation of child protection in Bangladesh indicates the problem of turning laws into practice. Without the link between the laws and the practice, the children of Bangladesh will continue to suffer.

Conclusion:

The prevention and reduction of crime and violence is vital to prevent child abuse. Issues of child abuse, neglect, exploitation and abandonment have to be dealt with at the grass root level so that effective steps can be taken for creating child-friendly environment for a better future.

Chapter 6:

General Conclusion

6.1 Major Findings of the Study:

This research was aimed at investigating child killing by mother and its causes, impacts and remedies in Bangladesh perspective. From the data collection and analysis it is seen that children are being killed by mother in Bangladesh. The study is a social sample surveys and respondents of this study includes general people of Dhaka city as its study population. The topics selected regarding child killing issues while the country passing its crucial time. It had taken more representative samples from the targeted population. A total of 220 samples (people) were taken. Using these data the article has figured out the current state of child killing by mother and its impacts in Bangladesh. The major findings of the study have been summarized billow:

From table 2, 16.36%% respondents strongly agree that displacement of anger is a major cause of child killing by mother, 53.64% agree and 14.09% disagree with this claim. Family/Conjugal dispute has been acknowledged as a further cause of child killing by mother. The result indicates that 20.09% respondents strongly agree and 53.18% respondents agree with the issue of family dispute. Almost all the respondents 50.91% strongly agree and 45.00% agree with the claim that immoral relationship or extra marital affairs among the people married or unmarried is the major cause of child killing by mother in Bangladesh. The result shows 17.27% respondents strongly agree and 62.27% respondents agree with the issue of the absence of education, religious knowledge and guidance. 19.09% respondents strongly agree and 46.36% respondents agree that out of anxiety over the future of the children is one of the causes of child killing by mother. With the matter of deterioration of relationship between parents and children due to unhealthy competitive attitudes, greed and selfishness 12.27% strongly agree with this cause, 51.36% respondents agree whereas 14.55% disagree and 1.36% respondents strongly disagree with this claim. Majority opined that, greed or high ambition is the main cause of family dispute that weaken family bond. In the study it is found that, 22.27% of the respondents strongly agree and 58.18% respondents agree that the most common reason for child killing by mother is psychological illness. It is evident that 17.27% respondents strongly agree and 47.03% respondents agree with the claim that, the sudden rise of child killing by mother is the reflection

of weak family bond, poor social interaction and cultural impunity. It is clearly established from the result finding that wealth disparity and social inequality is also the causes of child killing as 47.03% agree with this cause, 12.79% respondents strongly agree and 19.18% respondents disagree that wealth disparity is a factor thereby causing child killing. The 25% respondents strongly agree and 48.18% agree with the claim that poverty or financial difficulties is a cause of child killing by mother and 13.64% disagree and 6.82% strongly disagree with this claim. Social depreciation and moral erosion is one of the root causes of child killing as 20.00% respondents strongly agree and 63.18% agree with the issue of social depreciation and moral erosion. Majority of the respondents 36.82% strongly agree and 45% respondents agree with the claim. They opined that majority of the women of the country are seriously devoted to foreign TV serial.

According to table 3, 9.55% of the respondents rated human rights awareness among the people satisfactory, 61.82% rated it average, 7.73% rated very good and 5.00% rated it excellent. More education about child abuse, how it violates human rights, the reasons it happens and how it can be avoided must be promoted.

According to table 4, 34.55% strongly agree and 61.82% agree that child killing by mother is the symptom of a society with weak family system because it weakens family bond and social interaction. Another implication associated with child killing by mother is the declination of social values. 25.91% respondents strongly agree and 67.7% respondents agree that child killing by mother declines social values. The respondents 19.09% strongly agree and 63.18% agree that child killing reflects culture of impunity. The majority of the respondents (56.62%) agree that child killing by mother is the violation of human rights and 33.79% strongly agree with the view. Article 3 of the UDHR states everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person. The respondents (18.18%) strongly agree and (59.09%) agree with the view that child killing by mother clearly undermines the constitution of the country. 30.91% respondents are strongly agreed and 62.27% respondents are agreed with the view that in Bangladesh as a Muslim majority country, child killing by mother disregards religious guidelines. Not only those, 58.64% respondents agree and 21.36% respondents strongly agree that child killing by mother clearly tells the people are uncivilized and could decline social value of a country because child killing by mother disregards the existing law of the country. Most of the respondents (63.64%) agree and 26.82% respondents strongly agree that child killing creates children insecurity and fear.

Again 65.00% respondents agree and 25.45% strongly agree that it causes loss of life. Finally majority of the respondents (30.45%) strongly agree and (54.55%) respondents agree that it creates bad national image. Again 26.82% respondents strongly agree and 59.55% respondents agree with the view that child killing by mother affects the socio-economic life of the country.

According to table 5, child killing by mother can be stopped by proper counseling. 35.91% respondents strongly agree and 54.09% respondents agree with the view. It is evident that 33.79% respondents strongly agree and 46.58% respondents agree with the view that child killing can be curbed if poverty is eradicated. 35.45% respondents strongly agree and 58.18% respondents agree with the view that child killing by mother can be curbed by creating human rights and social awareness. It has been revealed that child killing by mother can be stopped if family relationship is increased. 40.64% and 49.77% respectively strongly agree and agree with the view. The respondents 29.22% strongly agree and 60.27% agree that as child killing is rampant as a result of lack of knowledge religious and moral ideology it can be reduced by teaching of non-violence, religious and moral education and ideology. 20.91% respondents strongly agree and 51.82% agree with the view that child killing by mother can be curbed by enhancing amity or friendly terms. The respondents viewed that public cooperation is very much essential to reduce any type of child abuse in Bangladesh as 26.48% respondents strongly agree and 51.60% respondents agree with the view. The respondents 38.27% strongly agree and 42.47% agree that the justice system in the country should be improved. 27.27% respondents strongly agree and 50% respondents agree that child killing can be curbed by setting up counseling and call centre for distressed women that may listen carefully and with sensitivity to overcome their challenges. The respondents (42.73%) strongly agree and (43.64%) agree that, the situation of child protection in Bangladesh indicates the problem of turning laws into practice. Without the link between the laws and the practice, the children of Bangladesh will continue to suffer.

6.2 Recommendation:

The researchers have tried to explore some ways to improve the situation of child killing by mother in Bangladesh. In order to get rid of child abuse in Bangladesh, following recommendations should be considered:

1. Mothers with acute psychotic crisis for killing their child may be psychotic, disheartened, agitated, or confused. In this case, mental awareness, moral development and psychiatric attention with proper counseling should be given to every member. The mothers should be made understand to convince themselves what to do and what not to do. The mothers who are depressed and who have the possibility to murder their child can be recognized early. Mothers can be asked about the result at life if they are to take their child's life.
2. The government should create some special and strict laws protecting country's children and stopping aggressive attitude with children against all sorts of abuse or neglect. The country needs some child caring centers which will be amenable to caring the children. Speedy trial should be ensured so that other people cannot dare to do the same following that offence.
3. It is evident that most of the mothers who have less religious, moral and ethical values are engaged in child killing. So mothers should be taught religious, moral and ethical values to address the problem. In this regard, religious guidance and direction should be introduced and the civil society, the conscious section, the person with religious, moral and ethical background should come forward and should raise their voice against such incidents.
4. It has found that the relationship between parents and children are being deteriorated now a day for many reasons. But most of the time every child seek their parents love and care equally. So from this point of view every parent should give rapt attention to their children in the present context of Bangladesh. Amity/friendly terms between the parents and children should be enhanced.
5. People should be made conscious about child abuse. The conscious and educated person should play a vital role writing in newspaper, periodicals and magazines about this issue. In educational institutions or in every sphere of the society seminars and discussion about this issue should be organized. The media can educate people and create human rights awareness of the whole population. To make general people aware, media can broadcast frequently some programs on how and why child killing is being occurred by mother,

how it is a threat to country's law, order and peace and what people needs to do under the circumstances. Civil society can play also a vital role creating high consciousness of child killing by mother among the people and its bad impact on socio-economy of the country.

6. Curbing child killing by mother in Bangladesh needs an exact and careful attempt of the state, civil society, government and non- government organizations, and people from every corner of the country. The main causes of child killing by mother should be traced out and the steps should be found out accordingly. The government should take zero tolerance policy in this regard.
7. Bangladesh is an associate of all international human rights organizations with United Nations Human Rights Council (HRC). Resultantly, Bangladesh has incorporated some major human rights as fundamental rights for her citizens in the constitution. Furthermore, she has established a National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) that holds surveys regarding observation about human rights and campaigns against human rights abuse in Bangladesh. Despite these, a frequent human rights violation is a common scenario in Bangladesh. In this milieu, human rights awareness and education should be promoted countrywide. In this regard a National Policy on Human Rights Education can be adopted covering human rights issues in the academic or non-academic lines especially in the curriculum of primary to graduate levels together with various levels of education and training opportunities on human rights. Besides, it should be further improved the curriculum and incorporated more and more human rights concepts in the textbooks.

6.3 Conclusion:

The findings of the study clears that child killing by mother is an emerging social problem in Bangladesh which noticeably violates the fundamental human rights of the children and has some implications on the country's society accordingly. It is also clear in our findings that in Bangladesh mothers are killing their child due to immoral relation, conjugal disputes, anxiety about the future of the children and mental problem, social depreciation and moral erosion in everywhere in the society and other factors. The findings show that child killing by mother is the warning sign of country's weak family bond, result of declination of social values and indication

of the existing culture of impunity, break-down of human rights in the society, undermines the constitution of Bangladesh and Islamic guidelines as a Muslim majority country. Furthermore, it has bad images and affects the socio-economic life of the country. This situation emphasizes the value of protecting children rights and similarly they need governmental, political and social commitments that will address their safety and ensure their protection.

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Appendices:

Table 1: Gender of Respondents:

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Male		
Female		
Total		

Table 2: 2. Marital Status of the Respondents:

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Unmarried		
Married		
Total		

Table 3: Educational Level of Respondents:

Response	Frequency	Percentage
Below SSC		
SSC		
HSC		
Graduation		
Post graduation		
MPhil. Ph.D		
Total		

Table 4: Reasons for Child Killing by Mother:

Factors	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Undecided (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1.Uncontrolled and displacement of anger					
2.Family or Conjugal squabble and faithlessness between husband and wife					
3.Immoral relationship or extra marital affairs among the people married or unmarried					
4.Ignorance of law, Human Rights and religious knowledge and guidance					
5.Out of anxiety over the future of the children					
6.Deterioration of the relationship between parents and children due to unhealthy competitive attitudes and greed, Selfishness					
7.Mental Agony or psychological illness					
8.Weak family bond and culture of impunity					
9.Wealth disparity and social inequality					
10.Financial difficulties or Poverty					
11.Social depreciation and moral erosion					

12. Affection to the foreign culture, internet, TV serial, crime related events which provoke people for doing crime					
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Table 5: How would you rate the Human Rights Awareness among the citizens (Please put tick (√) in appropriate box)

Response	Please answer the questions truthfully or fill in the relevant box
5. Excellent	
4. Very good	
3. Undecided	
2. Average	
1. Satisfactory	

Table 6: Respondents Views on Curbing Child Killing by Mother in Bangladesh

Factors	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Undecided (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)
1. Proper counseling					
2. Eradicating poverty wife					
3. Creating human rights and social awareness					
4. Increasing family relationship					
5. Teaching non-violence as well as religious and moral ideology					
6. Enhancing amity/friendly terms					
7. Public cooperation					
8. Improving Justice System					
9. Setting up counseling and call centers for distressed people to overcome their challenges					

Table 7: Impacts of Child Killing by Mother

Factors	Strongly Agree (5)	Agree (4)	Undecided (3)	Disagree (2)	Strongly Disagree (1)

1.Weakens family bond and social interaction					
2.Declines social values					
3.Reflects culture of impunity					
4.Violates human rights					
5.Undermines the constitution					
6.Disregards religious guidelines					
7.Creates children insecurity					
8.Causes loss of life and creates fear					
9.Disregards the existing law of the land					
10.Creates bad national image					
11.Affects the socio-economic life					

Other aspects:

1. Major Reasonsof child killing by mother you think

.....

.....

2. Do you have any suggestion in this regard?

.....

The End