

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### Farzana Begum

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#### **Contact Information**

##### **Address**

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#### **Personal Information**

Date of Birth: 16.03.1979  
Place of Birth: Dhaka  
Nationality: Bangladeshi

#### **Present position**

Pursuing PhD at University of Delhi, India on “*Secularism and accommodation of Religious Minorities in Bangladesh*” under Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) scholarship (from December 2016).

Executive Director, Bangladesh Manobadhikar O Poribesh Andolon Foundation (June 2014- to date).

Advocate, Supreme Court of Bangladesh and Head of chamber, LAWSIFT, Barristers, Advocates and Consultants, Dhaka (April 2012- to date).

#### **Relevant Experience**

I am one of the co-founders of Bangladesh Manobadhikar O Poribesh Andolon (in English Human Rights and Environment Rights Movement for Bangladesh), an NGO dedicated to promote and protect human rights, religious minority rights and environmental rights of the people of Bangladesh. As the executive director of the said NGO, I have been working for the rights of religious minorities for last couple of years, which includes organising workshops on the problems of pursuing minority rights in Bangladesh, interfaith religious leaders’ dialogue and also providing legal aids to the victims of communal violence. I have presented papers on human rights and minority rights in numerous national and international seminars. I delivered my views on the rights and status of religious minorities in Bangladesh in conferences held- in Nepal hosted by Christian Solidarity Worldwide, in China organised by South South Human

Rights Forum, in Bangkok organised by South Asian Forum for Freedom of Religion or Belief, and in India hosted by South Asia Consortium for Religion and Law studies. Besides I also have written several articles on the same issue which were published in acclaimed daily news papers in Bangladesh. Recently an article titled 'Secularism and Religious Minority Rights-a case study of Bangladesh' is published in a Geneva based journal named Current Dialogue (volume-59).

### **Employment History**

Legal Consultant, Winrok International, CREL project, Dhaka (July 2014-March 2015).

National Consultant (Strategic Planning), Promoting Access to Justice and Human Rights in Bangladesh Project, UNDP, Dhaka (December 2011-May 2012).

Guest Lecturer, Northern University, Dhaka (December 2011-December 2013).

Legal Consultant, Jalila Sayed Law Office, Manama, Bahrain (October 2010- May 2011).

Legal Consultant, Bamehriz Law Office, Manama, Bahrain (June 2010- September 2010).

Legal Consultant, World Health Organisation (WHO) Dhaka, Bangladesh (July 2009-January 2010).

Legal Consultant, Ministry of Power, Energy & Mineral Resources of Bangladesh, under a project financed and governed by World Bank (October 2008- December 2009).

### **Educational background**

LLM (International and European Human Rights Law).

Educational Institution: University of Leeds, Leeds, west Yorkshire, UK.

Achievement: passed with merit; Completion date: November 2007.

Bar Vocational Course (BVC.)

Educational Institution: University of Northumbria, Newcastle Upon Tyne, UK.

Achievement: Competent; Completion date: September 2006.

LLB (Honours)

Educational Institution: University of London, London, UK.

Achievement: Second Class; Completion date: July 2005.

BA (Honours)

Subject: English Literature.

Educational Institution: University of Dhaka, Dhaka, Bangladesh.

Achievement: Upper Second Class; Completion date: May 2003.

Higher Secondary Certificate Examination (HSC)

Educational Institution: Viqarun Nisa Noon College, Dhaka.  
Achievement: 11<sup>th</sup> in arise of merit; completion date: May 1997.

Secondary School Certificate Examination (SSC)  
Educational Institution: Quamrunnesa Govt Girls High School.  
Achievement: Got nearly 83% marks, Completion date: April 1995.

### **Publication**

*A Review of Laws and Policies of Adolescents and Children's rights, under the Human Rights Framework, awaiting publication.*