

Vol. 02, No. 01, November 2020

ISSN: 2618-0200



IIUB STUDIES

A Multidisciplinary Research Journal



ISHAKHA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

B A N G L A D E S H

IIUB STUDIES: A Multidisciplinary Research Journal

ISSN: 2618-0200; Volume 02, Number 01, November 2020

Published by: Choudhury Khairul Hasan

Registrar (Acting), Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

Office: Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

461, Nilganj Road, Sholakia, Kishoreganj-2300

Contact: +8801776181318, +8801977181318

Email: iiubreview@gmail.com & ishakhauniversity@gmail.com

Web: www.ishakha.edu.bd

Cover Design: Gravity Advertising

Puran Thana, Kishoreganj

Printed by:

Published in: November 2020

Price: BDT 400

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Editorial Note

It is an immense pleasure and glory for me to announce the publication of the 2nd volume of the research journal of Ishakha International University, Bangladesh titled “**IIUB STUDIES: A Multidisciplinary Research Journal (ISSN 2618-0200)**”. As a matter of fact, through this journal publication, we are going to establish a platform for multidisciplinary research works, and it will act as an immense inspiration for the researchers worldwide aspiring to prove their credibility in the field of research work.

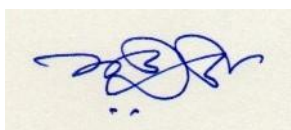
However, after a year-long toilsome endeavour, we have successfully materialized our efforts, thanks to the members of the Editorial Board. The current volume contains 10 research articles encompassing the disciplines of Agricultural Science, Business Administration, Law, English Literature, ELT and Applied Linguistics.

Our journal is published once a year, and articles for the journal are collected throughout the year from researchers home and abroad via circulation. The eligibility of articles for being published in the journal is subject to the decision of the Editorial Board. We have a rich and strong Editorial Board comprising of nation-wide renowned scholars from various disciplines.

IIUB STUDIES is obviously a blind peer reviewed journal. Articles selected for the journal are reviewed by the renowned faculty members of different recognised universities of the country having expertise in the relevant fields.

We are greatly thankful to the honorable Chairman of IIUB Trustees, Prof. Dr. Durgadas Bhattacharjee, and other members of the Board of Advisors whose inspiration and counsels have worked as a driving force in the realm of materializing the publication process.

Finally, we urge for wishes and contributions of the researchers and opinions from scholastic individuals for the out and out success of the journal.



(Prof. Dr. Md. Sultan Uddin Bhuiya)

Editor-in-Chief, IIUB STUDIES &
Vice-Chancellor, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

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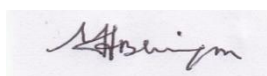
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(Md. Abdullah Bhuiyan)

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Effect of Weeding Regime on the Performance of *boro* Rice Cultivars

Dr. M.S.U. Bhuiya¹

M.A. Salam²

K. Sarkar²

A. Sultana²

Abstract

The experiment was conducted at the Agronomy Field Laboratory, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh during the period from November 2016 to May 2017 to study the effect of weeding regime on the performance of boro rice cultivars. The experimental treatments comprised two factors. Factor A: four varieties and Factor B: four weeding regimes. The experiment was laid out in a RCBD design with three replications. Weed density and dry weight were not significantly affected by rice varieties but their dry weight was significantly affected by weeding regimes at 35 and 50 DATs. BRRI dhan58 produced the highest grain yield due to highest number of grains panicle⁻¹. Application of Pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT produced the highest grain yield. From the interaction effects it is observed that although rice yield was not significantly influenced but visually the highest grain yield was obtained from BRRI dhan58 with the application of Pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT. From the results of the study it may be concluded that cultivar BRRI dhan58 with the application of pre-emergence herbicide and one hand weeding at 35 DAT might be the best option for controlling weed as well as obtaining higher grain yield in boro rice.

Keywords: Weeding regime, yield performance, *boro* rice.

Introduction

Production of rice sector contributes one-half of the agricultural GDP and one sixth of the national income in Bangladesh. Almost all of 13 million farm families grow rice in our country (BRKB, 2017). *Boro* is the most important and single largest crop in Bangladesh in respect of volume of production. The average yield of rice is almost less than 50% of the world average rice grain yield.

¹Vice Chancellor, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

²Department of Agronomy, Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh-2202

The increasing rate of population is 1.05% (BBS, 2018) and decreasing rate of agricultural land by 1% per annum (Hussain *et al.*, 2006) limit the horizontal expansion of rice area. Since it has not possible to have horizontal expansion of rice cultivatable area so rice yield per unit area should be increased to meet this ever increasing demand of food in the country. To overcome this situation increment of rice production per unit area is only the alternative to bring self-sufficiency in food production.

Rice cultivar has tremendous impact on the growth and infestation of weed in the rice field. Usually short stature cultivars face more weed infestation than the taller ones. Studies have examined the competitive ability of rice cultivars with the weeds *Echinochloa colonum*, *E. phyllopogon*, *E. oryzoides*, *Brachiaria brizantha* or *B. decumbens* (Fischer and Gibson, 2001). The results indicate that it is not necessary to develop high erect cultivars (normally susceptible to lodging) in order to achieve a high level of competitiveness; modern high-yielding, semi-dwarf cultivars are also able to compete with weeds efficiently. Competitive rice cultivars (e.g. semi-dwarf cv. M-2002) effectively suppressed the infestation of *Echinochloa oryzoides* and *E. phyllopogon* helped to reduce herbicide dependency and decreased selective pressure for resistance (Gibson *et al.*, 2001).

Weed is one of the most important agricultural pests. Infestation of weed is one of the most important causes for low yield of rice. There is no doubt that maximum benefit from costly inputs like fertilizers and pesticides in rice can be fully derived when the crop is kept free from weed infestation. In Bangladesh, weed infestation reduces the grain yield by 70-80% in *Aus* rice (early summer), 30-40% for transplanted *Aman* (autumn) rice and 22-36% for modern *boro* (winter) rice cultivars (Mamun, 1990; BRRI, 2008). Production cost of rice increases due to increase in weed control cost. High competitive ability of weeds exerts a serious negative effect on crop production causing significant losses in crop yield. Poor weed control is one of the major factors for yield reduction in rice, the extent of which depends on type of weed flora and their intensity of infestation. Yield losses due to weed infestation are greater than the combined losses of insect pests and diseases. The traditional method of weed control is hand weeding which is very much laborious and time consuming. Mechanical weeding and herbicides are the alternative to hand weeding. Herbicides are effective in controlling weeds alone or in combination with hand weeding (Ahmed *et al.*, 2005). Herbicides in combination with hand weeding would help to obtain higher crop yield with less efforts and cost (Prasad and Rafy, 1995; Sathyamoorthy *et al.*, 2004). In view of the above facts this piece of work was carried out to find out the effect of cultivars and weeding regimes on the yield performance of *boro* rice.

Materials and Methods

The experiment was conducted at the Agronomy Field Laboratory, Bangladesh Agricultural University (BAU) during November 2016 to May 2017 in *boro* season to study the performance of *boro* rice as influenced by methods of weeding regimes. The soil of the experimental field was characterized by non- calcareous dark grey floodplain

soils with 1.29 % organic matter content. The experimental field was a medium high land with flat and well drained condition. The pH value of the soil ranged from 5.9-6.5. The experiment consisted of four cultivars viz., BRRI dhan28, BRRI dhan29, BRRI dhan58, BRRI dhan59 and four weeding regimes viz., no weeding (W_0), two hand weedings at 15 and 35 days after transplanting (DAT) (W_1), application of pre-emergence herbicide pretilachlor (Commit) @ 1 L ha⁻¹ (W_2), application of pre-emergence herbicide pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT (W_3). The experiment was laid out in a randomized complete block designed with three replications. Each of the replication represents a block in the experiment. Each block was divided into 16 unit plots where 16 treatment combinations were allocated at random. There were 48 unit plots in the experiment. The sprouted seeds were sown in the nursery bed on 30 November 2016. The experimental plots were fertilized with urea, TSP, MoP, gypsum and ZnSO₄ @ 300, 100, 120, 60, and 10 kg ha⁻¹, respectively. The entire amount of TSP, MoP, gypsum and zinc sulphate were applied at the time of final land preparation. Urea was top dressed in three equal installments at 15, 35 and 50 days after transplanting. Seedlings were transplanted in the well prepared puddle field on 16 January 2017 at the rate of two seedlings hill⁻¹, maintaining row and hill distances of 25 cm and 15 cm, respectively. The experimental plots of BRRI dhan28 and BRRI dhan29 were harvested on 2 May 2017 at 145 DAT and BRRI dhan58 and BRRI dhan59 were harvested on 11 May 2017 at 155 DAT. Data were collected at different growth stages and finally at harvest stage. Before harvesting rice five hills were collected randomly from each plot excluding border plants and uprooted carefully for data recording of different yield components. The grains were cleaned and finally the weight was adjusted to moisture content of 14%. The straw was sun dried and the yields of grain and straw plot⁻¹ were converted to t ha⁻¹. Data on weed density and weed dry weight were also recorded. All the collected data were analyzed following the analysis of variance (ANOVA) technique and mean differences were adjusted by Duncan's Multiple Range Test (DMRT) (Gomez and Gomez, 1984) using a computer operated program MSTAT-C.

Results and Discussion

Effect of variety on weed density and weed dry weight

Weed density was not significantly affected by variety at 15, 35 and 50 DATs. Numerically, the highest weed density (9.1 m⁻²) was found in BRRI dhan29 and the lowest one (7.6 m⁻²) was found in BRRI dhan58 (Fig. 1) at 15 DAT. At 35 DAT numerically the highest weed density (9.5 m⁻²) was observed in the variety BRRI dhan28 and the lowest one (7.7 m⁻²) was found in BRRI dhan59 (Fig 1). At 50 DAT numerically the highest weed density was (14.4 m⁻²) found in BRRI dhan28 and the lowest one (12.1 m⁻²) was found in BRRI dhan58 (Fig. 1). Variety had no significant effect on total weed dry weight at different DATs. At 15 DAT numerically the highest weed dry weight (1.2 g m⁻²) was observed in BRRI dhan28 and the lowest one (0.94 g m⁻²) was observed in BRRI dhan29 (Fig. 2). At 35 and 50 DATs numerically the

highest weed dry weight was observed in BRRI dhan29 and the lowest one in BRRI dhan59 (Fig 2).

Effect of weeding regime on weed density and weed dry weight

Weed density was significantly influenced by weeding regimes at 35 and 50 DATs except 15 DAT. At 35 DAT, the highest weed density (12.8 m^{-2}) was found in W_0 (no weeding) and the lowest one (5.8 m^{-2}) was found in application of pre emergence herbicide followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT (Fig. 3). At 50 DAT, the highest weed density (16.4 m^{-2}) was found in no weeding and the lowest (10.3 m^{-2}) was found in two hand weedings at 15 and 35 DATs (Fig 3). Rekha *et al.* (2002) and Mou *et al.* (2017) reported that weed density was lower in all weeding practices compared to the unweeded control plot. Significant variation on weed dry weight (g m^{-2}) at 35 and 50 DATs due to weeding regime was observed. At 35 DAT, the highest weed dry weight (3.4 g m^{-2}) was observed in no weeding and the lowest one (1.7 g m^{-2}) was observed in application of pre emergence herbicide pretilachlor (Fig 4). At 50 DAT, the highest weed dry weight (7.5 g m^{-2}) was observed in no weeding and the lowest one (2.3 g m^{-2}) was observed in application of pre emergence herbicide pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT treatment (Fig 4). Mou *et al.* (2017) also reported that weeding treatment produced lower weed dry weight than unweeded plots.

Interaction effect of variety and weeding regime on weed density and weed dry weight

The interaction between varieties and weeding regime was found to be insignificant at 15, 35 and 50 DATs. At 15 DAT, the highest weed density (11.3 m^{-2}) was found in BRRI dhan28 \times no weeding and the lowest one (6.7 m^{-2}) was found in BRRI dhan58 \times application of pre emergence herbicide pretilachlor (Table1). At 35 DAT, the highest weed density (16.3 m^{-2}) was found in BRRI dhan28 \times no weeding and the lowest one (4.3 m^{-2}) in BRRI dhan29 \times application of pre emergence herbicide pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT. At 50 DAT, the highest weed density (19.0 m^{-2}) was found in BRRI dhan28 \times no weeding and the lowest one (10.00 m^{-2}) in BRRI dhan58 \times two hand weedings at 15 and 35 DATs. There was no significant variation observed in weed dry weight at 15, 35 and 50 DATs due to interaction effect of variety and weeding regime. At 15 DAT, numerically the highest weed dry weight (1.6 g m^{-2}) was observed in BRRI dhan28 \times no weeding and lowest weed dry weight (0.6 g m^{-2}) was observed in BRRI dhan29 \times two hand weeding at 15 and 35 DATs (Table1). At 35 DAT, numerically the highest weed dry weight (4.5 g m^{-2}) was found in BRRI dhan29 \times no weeding and the lowest one (1.3 g m^{-2}) was observed in BRRI dhan28 \times Application of pre emergence herbicide pretilachlor (Table1). At 50 DAT, numerically the highest weed dry weight (8.8 g m^{-2}) was found in BRRI dhan29 \times no weeding and the lowest dry weight (1.9 g m^{-2}) was observed in BRRI dhan59 \times application of pre emergence herbicide pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT (Table1). Non-significant variation in weed dry weight was also observed by Mou *et al.* (2017) in their experiment.

Effect of variety on yield and yield attributes

Variety exerted significant effect on plant height. Results showed that cultivar BRRI dhan29 produced the tallest plants (87.6 cm) while BRRI dhan59 produced the shortest plant (73.9 cm). Plant height is a genetic character and it varies from cultivar to cultivar. Variation in plant height due to cultivars was also reported by Mou *et al.* (2017) and Salma *et al.* (2017) in their research findings. The variety BRRI dhan29 produced the highest number of total tillers hill⁻¹ (14.2) which was statistically identical with BRRI dhan58 (13.9) while the variety BRRI dhan59 produced the lowest number of total tillers hill⁻¹ (9.80). The highest number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ (12.79) was found in BRRI dhan58 which was statistically similar with BRRI dhan29. The lowest number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ (8.2) was obtained in BRRI dhan59 (Fig 6). Numerically the highest number of grains panicle⁻¹ (107.7) was observed in BRRI dhan58 and the lowest one was found (99.3) in BRRI dhan28. The variety BRRI dhan59 produced the highest number of sterile spikelets panicle⁻¹ (10.7) which was statistically similar with BRRI dhan58 while the lowest one (5.7) was attained by the variety BRRI dhan29. The heaviest 1000-grain weight (22.5) was found in variety BRRI dhan58 and the lowest one (21.2) was found in variety BRRI dhan59 (Table 2). These variations might be due to the genetic makeup of the varieties (Table 2). The highest grain yield (5.5 t ha⁻¹) was obtained in BRRI dhan58. The highest grain yield was attributed due to highest number of effective tillers hill⁻¹, highest number of grains panicle⁻¹ and heaviest 1000-grain weight in this treatment. But this grain yield was statistically identical with the grain yield obtained from BRRI dhan29 and BRRI dhan59. The lowest grain yield (4.7 t ha⁻¹) was obtained in BRRI dhan28 (Table 2). Straw yield was not significantly influenced by the cultivar. Numerically the highest straw yield (8.9 t ha⁻¹) was found in BRRI dhan29 and the lowest straw yield (5.6 t ha⁻¹) was found in BRRI dhan59 (Table 2). Harvest index was not significantly affected by variety. Numerically the highest harvest index (45.21%) was found in BRRI dhan59 and the lowest one (39.87%) was found in BRRI dhan29 (Table 2).

Effect of weeding regime on yield and yield attributes

Plant height was not significantly influenced by different weeding regime treatments. Similar research finding was also reported by Mou *et al.* (2017) and Salma *et al.* (2017) who reported that plant height was not significantly affected by weeding regimes. Number of total tillers hill⁻¹ was significantly influenced by different weeding regimes. The highest number of total tiller hill⁻¹ (14.2) was observed in two hand weeding at 15 and 35 DATs which was statistically similar with application of pre emergence herbicide pretilachlor. The lowest number of total tiller hill⁻¹ (9.3) was obtained from no weeding. The result reveals that effective weeding regime enhanced tiller production. Number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ was significantly influenced by different weeding regime practices. The highest number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ (12.3) was obtained from application of pre emergence herbicide Pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT which was statistically identical with two hand weeding at 15 and 35 DATs and application of pre emergence herbicide Pretilachlor. The lowest

one (8.4) was obtained from no weeding treatment. The result reveals that effective weeding regime enhanced effective tiller production (Table 3).

Number of non-effective tillers hill^{-1} and panicle length was not significantly influenced by different weeding regime practices. Numerically, the longest panicle (21.9 cm) was observed in two hand weedings at 15 and 35 DATs and the shortest panicle (21.1 cm) was observed in no weeding treatment (Table 3). Number of grains panicle^{-1} was significantly influenced by different weeding regimes. The highest number of grains panicle^{-1} (111.4) was produced by application of pre-emergence herbicide followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT which was statistically similar with two hand weedings at 15 and 35 DATs and application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor. The lowest number of grains panicle^{-1} (81.9) was produced by no weeding treatment (Table 3). Number of sterile spikelet's panicle^{-1} was significantly influenced by different weeding regimes. The highest number of sterile spikelet's panicle^{-1} (9.1) was produced by no weeding treatment, while the lowest one (8.4) was produced by application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor (Table 3). Thousand-grain weight was not significantly affected by weeding regime. Numerically the heaviest 1000-grain weight (22.1 g) was observed in application of pre emergence herbicide Pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT and the lowest one (21.6 g) was observed in no weeding treatment (Table 3). Grain and straw yields and harvest index were significantly influenced by different weeding regimes (Table 3). The highest grain yield (6.2 t ha^{-1}) was produced by application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT treatment which was statistically identical with application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor, while the lowest grain yield (3.3 t ha^{-1}) was produced by no weeding treatment (Table 3). Weeds compete with rice crop for nutrient, moisture, sunlight and space in no weeding treatment and thereby reduced grain yield. The increased yield was attributed with application of pre-emergence herbicide followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT treatment. These might be due to the fact that the weeding kept the rice field weed free and soil was well aerated which facilitated the crop for absorption of greater amount of plant nutrients, moisture and greater reception of solar radiation for better growth. The highest straw yield (7.9 t ha^{-1}) was observed in application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor and the lowest straw yield (6.2 t ha^{-1}) was observed in two hand weedings at 15 and 35 DATs (Table 3). The highest harvest index (48.7%) was observed in two hand weeding at 15 and 35 DATs and the lowest harvest index (30.87%) was observed in no weeding condition (Table 3).

Interaction effects of variety and weeding regime on yield and yield contributing characters

Plant height was not significantly affected by interaction between varieties and weeding regime. Numerically, the tallest plant height (89.4 cm) was obtained from the variety BRRI dhan29 with no weeding treatment and the shortest one from the variety BRRI dhan59 with application of pre emergence herbicide (Table 4). There was significant variation in total tillers hill^{-1} due to interaction between variety and weeding regime.

The highest number of total tillers hill⁻¹ (16.6) was produced by BRRI dhan29 in application of pre emergence herbicide, which was statistically similar with BRRI dhan29 with application of pre emergence herbicide followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT while the lowest number of total tillers hill⁻¹ (8.2) was produced by BRRI dhan59 variety in application of pre emergence herbicide pretilachlor which was similar with BRRI dhan59 × no weeding treatment (Table 4). Significant variation was found in number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ due to interaction effect of variety and weeding regime. The highest number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ (15.0) was produced by BRRI dhan29 in application of pre emergence herbicide which was statistically identical with BRRI dhan58 with application of pre emergence herbicide. The lowest number of effective tillers hill⁻¹ (7.5) was produced by BRRI dhan59 variety in application of pre emergence herbicide (Table 4). Number of non-effective tillers hill⁻¹, panicle length and grains panicle⁻¹ was not significantly influenced by the interaction between variety and weeding regime. The interaction of variety and weeding regime had significant effect on number of sterile spikelets panicle⁻¹. The highest number (11.7) of sterile spikelets panicle⁻¹ was obtained from BRRI dhan58 with application of pre-emergence herbicide followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT and the lowest number (4.8) of sterile spikelets panicle⁻¹ was found from BRRI dhan29 with application of pre-emergence herbicide followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT (Table 4). Grain yield was not significantly influenced by interaction of variety and weeding regime. Numerically the highest grain yield (6.5 t ha⁻¹) was produced by BRRI dhan58 × application of pre-emergence herbicide followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT (Table 4). Similar results were also observed by Gogoi *et al.* (2000) and Mou *et al.* (2017). Straw yield and harvest index was not significantly influenced by variety and weeding regime.

Conclusion

From the results of the study, it could be concluded that, for the control of weeds in effective manner and in order to get higher grain yield in *boro rice*, application of pre-emergence herbicide followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT might be useful. However, further studies at different locations are needed to draw a concrete conclusion.

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Appendix

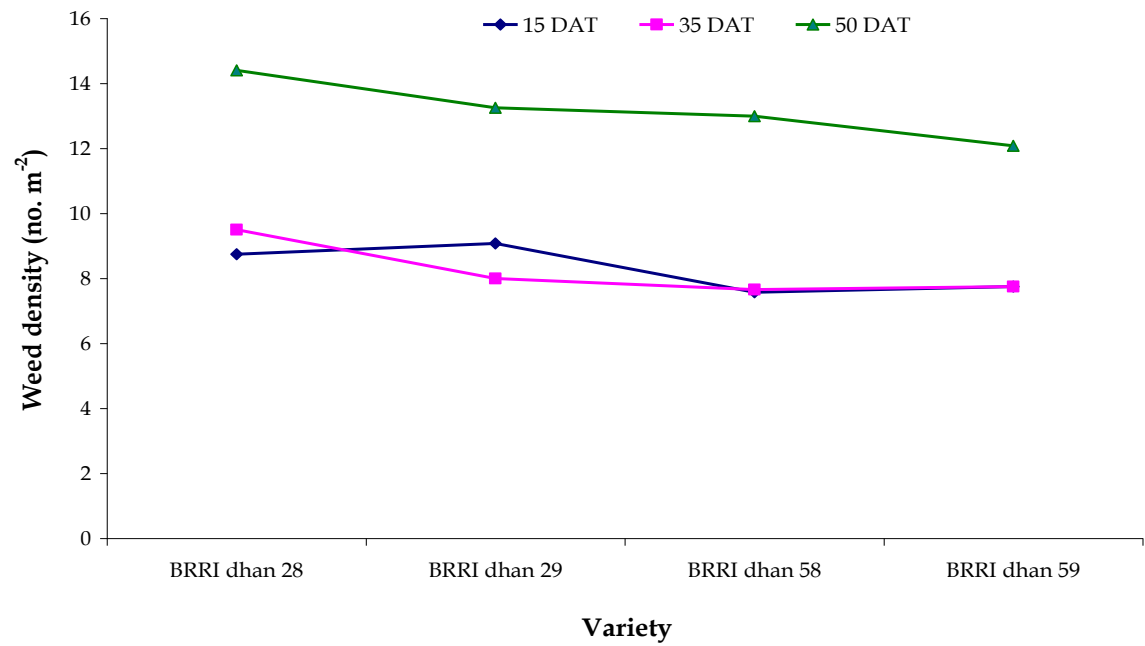


Figure 1: Effect of variety on weed density

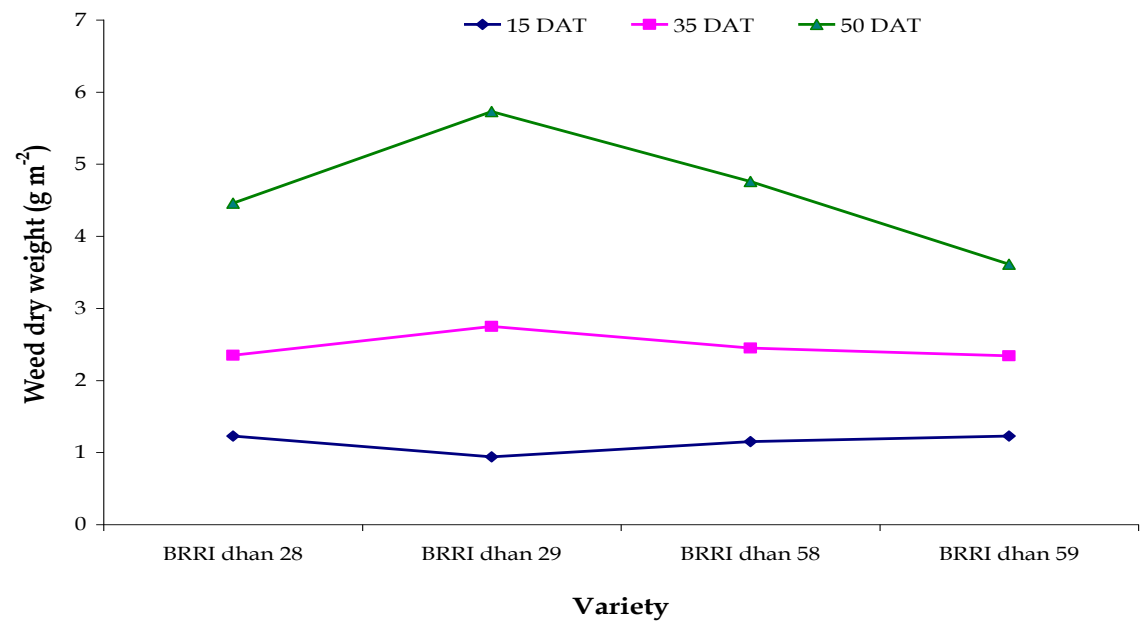


Figure 2: Effect of variety on dry weight of weed

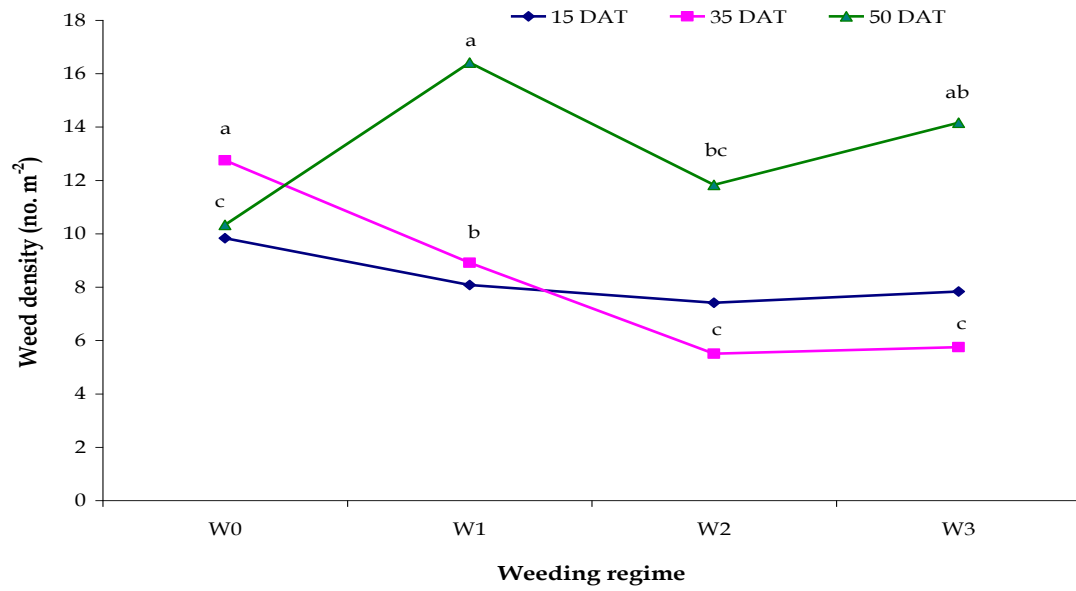


Figure3: Effect of weeding regime on weed density

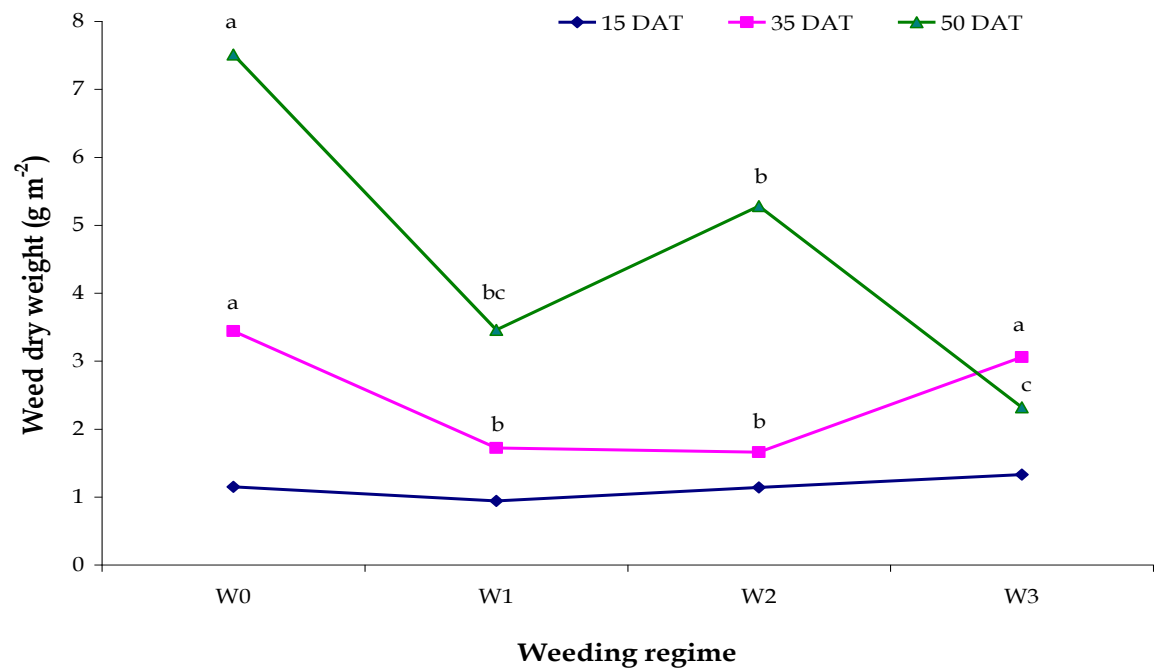


Figure 4: Effect of weeding regime on dry weight of weed

Table1. Interaction effects of cultivars and weeding regime on weed density and dry weight of *boro* rice

| Variety × weeding regime | Weed density (no. m ⁻²) | | | Weed dry weight (g m ⁻²) | | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------|-------|--------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| | Days after transplanting (DAT) | | | | | |
| | 15 | 35 | 50 | 15 | 35 | 50 |
| V ₁ W ₀ | 11.3 | 16.3 | 19.0 | 1.6 | 2.9 | 6.9 |
| V ₁ W ₁ | 8.3 | 11.0 | 10.3 | 1.0 | 1.8 | 2.9 |
| V ₁ W ₂ | 8.3 | 4.7 | 14.0 | 1.0 | 1.3 | 5.3 |
| V ₁ W ₃ | 7.0 | 6.0 | 14.3 | 1.3 | 3.3 | 2.8 |
| V ₂ W ₀ | 11.0 | 16.0 | 11.0 | 0.9 | 4.5 | 8.8 |
| V ₂ W ₁ | 9.0 | 7.0 | 16.3 | 0.6 | 1.9 | 4.7 |
| V ₂ W ₂ | 7.7 | 4.7 | 11.3 | 1.1 | 2.2 | 7.2 |
| V ₂ W ₃ | 8.7 | 4.3 | 14.3 | 1.2 | 2.4 | 2.3 |
| V ₃ W ₀ | 8.3 | 10.3 | 16.0 | 1.0 | 2.7 | 8.3 |
| V ₃ W ₁ | 7.3 | 10.3 | 10.0 | 1.1 | 1.7 | 3.5 |
| V ₃ W ₂ | 6.7 | 5.0 | 10.7 | 1.2 | 1.7 | 4.9 |
| V ₃ W ₃ | 8.0 | 5.0 | 15.3 | 1.3 | 3.7 | 2.3 |
| V ₄ W ₀ | 8.7 | 8.3 | 10.3 | 1.1 | 3.7 | 6.0 |
| V ₄ W ₁ | 7.7 | 7.3 | 14.0 | 1.1 | 1.5 | 2.8 |
| V ₄ W ₂ | 7.0 | 7.7 | 11.3 | 1.2 | 1.4 | 3.8 |
| V ₄ W ₃ | 7.7 | 7.7 | 12.7 | 1.6 | 2.8 | 1.9 |
| Level of significance | NS | NS | NS | NS | NS | NS |
| CV (%) | 45.26 | 42.88 | 31.29 | 35.45 | 54.49 | 50.20 |

NS = Not significant.

V₁ = BRRI dhan28, V₂ = BRRI dhan29, V₃ = BRRI dhan58, V₄ = BRRI dhan59

W₀ = No weeding, W₁ = Two hand weeding at 15 and 35 DAT, W₂ = Application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor, W₃ = Application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT

Table 2. Effect of variety on yield and yield contributing characters of *boro* rice

| Variety | Plant height (cm) | Total tillers hill ⁻¹ | Effective tillers hill ⁻¹ (no.) | Non-effective tillers hill ⁻¹ (no.) | Length of panicle (cm) | Grains panicle ⁻¹ (no.) | Sterile spikelets panicle ⁻¹ (no.) | 1000-grain weight (g) | Grain yield (t ha ⁻¹) | Straw yield (t ha ⁻¹) | Harvest index (%) |
|---------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|--|--|------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| BRRI dhan28 | 79.9b | 12.4b | 11.2b | 1.2 | 22.1 | 99.3 | 8.4b | 21.8ab | 4.7b | 6.7 | 41.1 |
| BRRI dhan29 | 87.6a | 14.2a | 12.3ab | 1.9 | 21.4 | 105.0 | 5.7c | 21.8ab | 5.5a | 8.9 | 39.9 |
| BRRI dhan58 | 80.3b | 13.9a | 12.8a | 1.1 | 21.1 | 107.8 | 10.5a | 22.5a | 5.5a | 7.5 | 42.3 |
| BRRI dhan59 | 73.9c | 9.8c | 8.2c | 1.7 | 21.5 | 101.1 | 10.7a | 21.2b | 5.2a | 5.6 | 45.2 |
| Level of sig. | 0.01 | 8.9 | 15.4 | NS | NS | NS | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | 0.01 | NS |
| CV (%) | 4.62 | 12.36 | 11.23 | 110.30 | 4.91 | 11.78 | 14.01 | 4.30 | 7.81 | 21.08 | 17.71 |

In a column, figures with same letter (s) or without letter do not differ significantly whereas figures with dissimilar letter differ significantly (as per DMRT).

Table 3. Effect of weeding regime on yield and yield contributing characters of *boro* rice

| Weeding regime | Plant height (cm) | Total tillers hill ⁻¹ (no.) | Effective tillers hill ⁻¹ (no.) | Non-effective tillers hill ⁻¹ (no.) | Length of panicle (cm) | Grains panicle ⁻¹ (no.) | Sterile spikelets panicle ⁻¹ (no.) | 1000-grain weight (g) | Grain yield (t ha ⁻¹) | Straw yield (t ha ⁻¹) | Harvest index (%) |
|----------------|-------------------|--|--|--|------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| W ₀ | 79.6 | 9.3b* | 8.4b | 0.9 | 21.1 | 81.9b | 9.1 | 21.6 | 3.3c | 7.6a | 30.9b |
| W ₁ | 80.8 | 14.2a | 11.9a | 2.3 | 21.9 | 108.8a | 9.0 | 21.7 | 5.6b | 6.2b | 48.7a |
| W ₂ | 80.3 | 13.2a | 11.8a | 1.3 | 21.8 | 111.0a | 8.4 | 22.0 | 5.9a | 7.9a | 43.7a |
| W ₃ | 81.0 | 13.7a | 12.3a | 1.3 | 21.3 | 111.4a | 8.9 | 22.1 | 6.2a | 7.0ab | 45.2a |
| Level of sig. | NS | 0.01 | 0.01 | NS | NS | 0.01 | NS | NS | 0.01 | 0.05 | 0.01 |
| CV (%) | 4.62 | 8.88 | 15.38 | 110.30 | 4.91 | 11.78 | 14.01 | 4.30 | 7.81 | 21.08 | 17.71 |

*In a column, figures with same letter (s) or without letter do not differ significantly whereas figures with dissimilar letter differ significantly (as per DMRT).

NS = Not significant.

W₀ = No weeding, W₁ = Two hand weeding at 15 and 35 DAT, W₂ = Application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor, W₃ = Application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT

Table 4. Interaction effects of variety and weeding regime on yield and yield contributing characters of *boro* rice

| Interaction (Variety × weeding regime) | Plant height (cm) | Total tillers hill ⁻¹ (no.) | Effective tillers hill ⁻¹ (no.) | Non-effective tillers hill ⁻¹ (no.) | Length of panicle (cm) | Grains panicle ⁻¹ (no.) | Sterile spikelets panicle ⁻¹ (no.) | 1000-grain weight (g) | Grain yield (t ha ⁻¹) | Straw yield (t ha ⁻¹) | Harvest index (%) |
|--|-------------------|--|--|--|------------------------|------------------------------------|---|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-------------------|
| V ₁ W ₀ | 75.7 | 9.6e* | 8.4de | 1.2 | 20.8 | 82.2 | 9.29 | 21.7 | 2.9 | 7.7 | 27.6 |
| V ₁ W ₁ | 81.8 | 13.1cd | 12.9abc | 0.6 | 23.1 | 99.6 | 8.90 | 22.1 | 4.9 | 6.4 | 43.3 |
| V ₁ W ₂ | 80.7 | 12.3d | 10.3cde | 2.0 | 22.8 | 105.1 | 7.62 | 21.5 | 5.3 | 6.0 | 47.8 |
| V ₁ W ₃ | 81.3 | 14.5abc | 13.3abc | 1.2 | 21.8 | 110.2 | 7.85 | 21.9 | 5.6 | 6.6 | 45.9 |
| V ₂ W ₀ | 89.4 | 9.6e | 8.8de | 0.8 | 21.0 | 78.8 | 5.96 | 21.6 | 3.6 | 8.9 | 28.6 |
| V ₂ W ₁ | 87.3 | 14.9abc | 11.2bcd | 3.7 | 22.2 | 111.4 | 6.08 | 21.9 | 5.7 | 7.1 | 51.8 |
| V ₂ W ₂ | 88.8 | 16.6a | 15.0a | 1.6 | 21.6 | 114.9 | 5.72 | 21.3 | 6.2 | 10.8 | 36.5 |
| V ₂ W ₃ | 84.8 | 15.9a | 14.3ab | 1.6 | 21.0 | 115.1 | 4.84 | 22.4 | 6.3 | 8.7 | 42.5 |
| V ₃ W ₀ | 79.5 | 9.3e | 8.2de | 1.1 | 21.6 | 87.6 | 9.86 | 22.4 | 3.2 | 8.4 | 27.8 |
| V ₃ W ₁ | 80.5 | 15.0abc | 14.2ab | 0.8 | 21.1 | 117.0 | 10.52 | 22.1 | 6.1 | 6.5 | 48.5 |
| V ₃ W ₂ | 79.9 | 15.7ab | 14.5a | 1.2 | 20.8 | 115.5 | 10.07 | 22.9 | 6.3 | 8.3 | 43.3 |
| V ₃ W ₃ | 81.5 | 15.6ab | 14.2ab | 1.3 | 20.8 | 110.8 | 11.70 | 22.7 | 6.5 | 6.8 | 49.4 |
| V ₄ W ₀ | 73.7 | 8.9e | 8.3de | 0.6 | 21.1 | 79.0 | 11.27 | 20.5 | 3.4 | 5.3 | 39.5 |
| V ₄ W ₁ | 73.5 | 13.6bcd | 9.4de | 4.2 | 21.3 | 107.3 | 10.48 | 20.6 | 5.5 | 4.7 | 51.3 |
| V ₄ W ₂ | 71.9 | 8.1e | 7.5e | 0.7 | 21.9 | 108.6 | 10.08 | 22.4 | 5.9 | 6.3 | 47.3 |
| V ₄ W ₃ | 76.5 | 8.73e | 7.6e | 1.1 | 21.5 | 109.4 | 11.10 | 21.4 | 6.10 | 5.9 | 42.8 |
| Level of significance | NS | 0.01 | 0.01 | NS | NS | NS | NS | NS | NS | NS | NS |
| CV (%) | 4.62 | 8.88 | 15.38 | 110.30 | 4.91 | 11.78 | 14.01 | 4.30 | 7.81 | 21.08 | 17.71 |

*In a column, figures with same letter (s) or without letter do not differ significantly whereas figures with dissimilar letter differ significantly (as per DMRT).

NS = Not significant.

V₁ = BRRI dhan28, V₂ = BRRI dhan29, V₃ = BRRI dhan58, V₄ = BRRI dhan59

W₀ = No weeding, W₁ = Two hand weeding at 15 and 35 DAT, W₂ = Application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor, W₃ = Application of pre-emergence herbicide Pretilachlor followed by one hand weeding at 35 DAT

Alternative Concern on the Remittance Increases Investments and Financial Sustainability

Amitab Bhattacharjee¹
 Mohammad Rashed Hasan Polas²
 Munir Ahmed³
 Kazi Falguni Eshita⁴

Abstract

The proper utilization of remittances in investment grows financial sustainability at both individual and country level. This study focuses on the existing pathway of remittance utilization and the necessity of developing new pathways to increase financial sustainability of the country and individuals. In doing so, investigating the impact of remittances on consumption, saving tendency and investment is the first objective in this research. The secondary objective of the study is to find the mediation effect of the alternative concern between the remittance and the investment. Therefore, the current study develops a new remittance-investment pathway or model that could be executed to accumulate large funds for the monopoly market investments. This newly developed RIPs model delimits the alternative concern on the remittance would be raising fresh revenue scope by changing the traditional remittance receiving system in the country. In this study all participants are Bangladeshi and currently working in the foreign countries stately Japan, USA, Malaysia, and Dubai. The frequency of sending funds of maximum respondents (68.40%) is found bimonthly. The result depicts that the remittance positively changes the consumption intention of individuals. In contrast, the higher consumption tendency decreases the investments and even saving scopes too. Additionally, the study findings also apprise that adopting alternative concern on remittance would help to achieve financial sustainability by investing accumulated funds in the monopoly sector. Among the individual level control variables, family size and remittance amount found as significant to investment intention and saving tendency. However, by Top 2 Box Score analysis, nearly 83% of the participants accepted the new developed model (Remittance-Investment Protocol System or RIPs Model) to make funds and investments.

Keywords: Alternative concern, financial sustainability, RIPs Model, Remittance, Investment, Savings tendency.

1. Introduction

The utilization of remittance by traditional way does not increase direct investment and productivity as well. Most remittance splits out in two different portions just after it receives. Based on family size and having other interests, the maximum portion of remittance spends out on regular consumption (Litan, 2009) instead of savings or investments. The rest of the amount goes to a savings plan, which was agreed by 78% respondents in the current study. The prior studies on the similar issue only described traditional effects of remittances on consumption (Litan, 2009) or investments (Bjuggren and Dzansi, 2008). Any investigation

¹Research Associate, Department of Business Administration, Toyo University, Tokyo, Japan

²PhD Researcher, Center for Post Graduate Studies, Limkokwing University of Creative Technology, Malaysia

³Chairman, Drop Communication Limited, Dhanmondi, Dhaka. & Member, IIUB Trust, Ishakha International University Bangladesh, Sholakia, Kishorganj, Bangladesh

⁴Associates in business administration and management, Pasadena City College, Pasadena, California, United States

hasn't been done on developing specific funds rising model or plan of the remittance that could be used in the new investments. Which is why, this necessity is figured out as the existing research gap. Therefore the current study concentrated over this research gap and developed new funds rising and an investment model of remittance that ensures maximum financial growth for the country and individuals. According to the new developed model (RIPs Model) the government should put control over the changing of the remittance receiving system and its implementation to ensure the investment process (Bjuggren and Dzansi, 2008).

To make the secured and large investments in the monopoly market such as investing funds in the electricity generating industry or railway sector or construction industry, our model suggests governmental concern instead of individual concern. The specific objective of the study is to find the impact of the remittance on consumptions, savings tendency and investments. Another objective of the study is to find the mediation effect of the alternative concern between the remittance and the investment. Therefore, this study emphasizes on maximum accumulating funds of the remittances that could be used for long term monopoly investments. Investing funds in the monopoly sector would enhance the governmental economic growth and the financial sustainability of individuals or micro investors (Bjuggren and Dzansi, 2008). By increasing the governmental concern over the system of remittance received would significantly develop large funds.

Most of the migrants have an entrepreneurial intention but somehow it diminishes due to lack of opportunity or investment risk. In this point of view, a large portion of the investment funds could be accumulated by implementing a new remit system in the country. In the literature, many researchers argued regarding the yearly remittance amounts, remittances and GDP or consumption only. So, the current research develops a guide how the remittances could be a fresh revenue source for the government to increase the financial sustainability at the country and individual level. It is assumed that the savings tendency of the remittance receivers (in the home country) would significantly grow if they know extra benefits on savings or time deposits. Furthermore, extra intention or concern on savings would dramatically decline the unnecessary consumptions of the people in the country. If there is an opportunity to be a part of a large investment with a little amount of savings then eighty percent (more or less) of the migrants would agree to invest. This is why the current study introduces a new remittance-investment pathway to develop savings and investment tendency among remittance receivers in the country. The study also encouraged governmental aspects to execute the remittance-investment plan. Thus, the government and individuals would achieve sustainable fresh revenue growth.

2. Literature Review and Hypothesis Development

This study was conducted by focusing the maximum utilization of the remittance in sustainable investment. Prior studies on the remittance only briefed out mainly on the consumption and the investment but our study concentrated on to develop the new RIPs model that shows how to get financial sustainability by investing remittance funds in the monopoly sectors.

2.1 Impact of Remittance on Consumption and Investment

Prior research shows that more remittance inflows would increase the overall consumptions (Bjuggren, & Dzansi, 2008). According to Incaltarau and Maha (2012) consumptions might change because of having availability of funds to spend. The basic consumptions like expenses on food, house expenditures could not be possible to make zero. Investigator Incaltarau and Maha (2012) described that a large amount of funds comes from the remittances but the consumption takes away a major portion that reduces the investment intention and savings. Additionally, more remittance spikes up more consumption. In contrast, the consumption would decrease or in control if the savings tendency or investment increases. Such a statement is also evidenced many times in the literature.

Remittance is a high source of spending funds (Bjuggren and Dzansi, 2008). Therefore, more remittance increases more expenditure in many ways. The utilization of the remittance depends

on either sender's or receiver's purposes. Generally, investment tendency or intention grows as a second consideration just after fulfilling the basic consumptions. Mostly, an excess of funds from remittance deposits into savings, and then savings creates capital for the investments. This kind of fund accumulating process is supported by the theory of capital and investment by Fisher (1906). In specific, more available excess amount of the remittance causes an increase in the capital of investment, where total savings equals to total investment (Fisher, 1906). Therefore, the study suggests that an increase in the savings or funds of the remittance causes an increase in investment.

H₁: There is a positive and significant relationship between remittance and consumption.

H₄: There is a positive and significant relationship between remittance and investment.

2.2 The Consumption, Saving Tendency and Investment

The funds remain for further purpose or investment accumulates from the savings account (Fisher, 1906). Many researchers explored the fewer portions of the remittance deposits into savings accounts (Haider, Hossain, & Siddiqui, 2016). It deals with the large portion of earnings or remittances spent out on the consumption (Incaltarau and Maha, 2012). In doing so, Savings tendency decreases because of having high expenses on consumption (Incaltarau and Maha, 2012; Haider, Hossain, & Siddiqui, 2016). Moreover, savings amount could be used as the capital of investment (Fisher, 1906) but lack of Savings tendency among the remittance receivers results in the minimum contribution of the remittance in the overall productivity (Bjuggren, and Dzansi, 2008). In words, high consumption reduces the scope of large amounts of savings that causes increasing the scarcity of capital of formation.

H₂: There is a negative and significant relationship between consumption and savings tendency.

H₃: There is a negative and significant relationship between consumption and investment.

2.3 The Remittance, Alternative Concern and Investment

In the literature, many researchers suggested that capital rising opportunity increases the total investment. This assumption is supported by the theory of capital and investment (Fisher, 1906). By supporting this statement, this study assumed that the funds accumulated from the remittance (Bjuggren, and Dzansi, 2008) should be considered as investment-capital. At this stage, governmental impact would be required to implement new opportunities for the investors, especially individuals with small amounts of savings because every small or large investment opportunity should be trustworthy (Bhattacharjee et al., 2018) to every individual, entities and the government authority. Government concern might be able to execute such opportunities by reducing tax on the remittance funds especially having a savings account at post office or other governmental banks. These opportunities may increase retention level of general individuals (Bhattacharjee et al., 2019) towards continuing savings plans and decreasing the percentage of unnecessary consumptions as well (Incaltarau, and Maha, 2012). According to Fisher (1906), investment deals with the investor and investment project that increases productivity. Similarly, the current study stated that raising savings plan benefits would encourage the general individuals (Haider, Hossain, & Siddiqui, 2016) to save their earnings (the remittance). So, any increase in the number of accounts causes an increase in the volume of funds that could be invested by the project implementer (here the role player is the government authority) to increase the overall productivity in the long term (Fisher, I., 1906). Therefore, implementing alternative concern techniques positively changes the investment flow in the country to achieve financial sustainability.

Figure one describes that the remittance receiver decides the originator then the originator sends the transaction data to ODFI or order of distributable-remit to a financial institution (Dang et al., 2005). After that data and confirmation from ODFI transmits to the ACH or automated clearing house-network (Dang et al., 2005). The ACH operator then sends remittance data to RDFI or remit distributes to financial institutions. RDFI is connected to the remittance receiver and the governmental authority activities over remittance receiving that must be followed up

by remittance receiver (Dang et al., 2005). Here, our study focused on the activities of remittance and government aspect over remittance to increase investments.

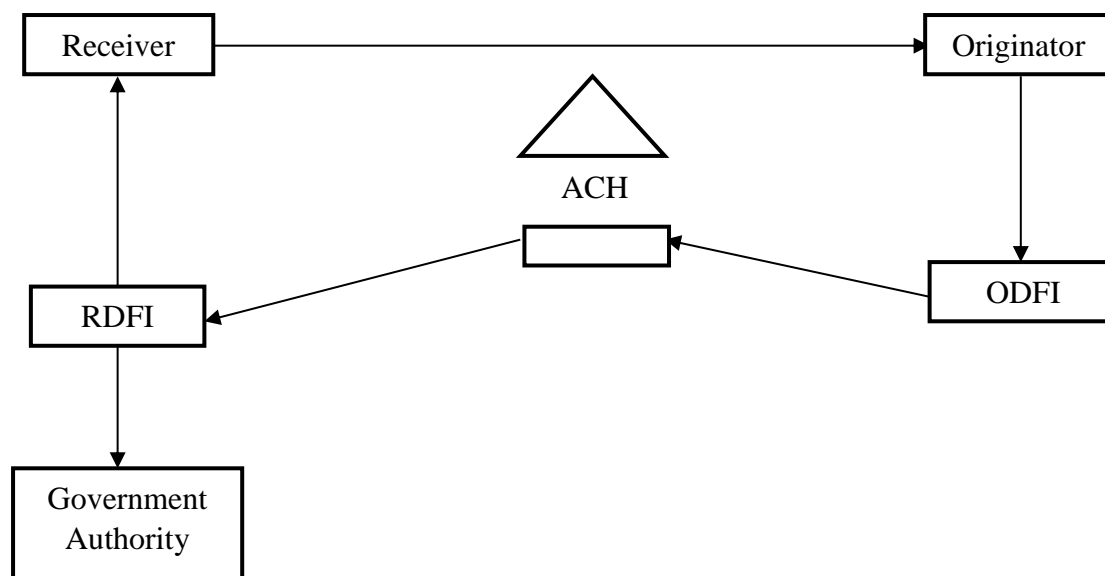


Figure 1: Governmental impact in receiving remittance
Source: Dang et al. (2005)

In the traditional method (figure 2), the sender remits funds through bank transfer or agents or merchants such as MoneyGram, Western Union etc. to their home country (Dang et al., 2005). In this way, receivers are able to withdraw remittance from directly bank accounts or agents or merchants approved banks only. After withdrawing the remittance, the receiver decides what portion is supposed to expense and the rest of the amount may be kept in a savings account (Haider, Hossain, & Siddiqui, 2016). In this perspective, consumptions take first consideration of the receiver and the secondly comes savings or investment decisions. If the receiver has any monthly or pre-planned savings then required funds pre-decided for savings. To enhance the maximum contribution from the remittance, the new developed model concentrated at the remittance transferring system from abroad to the home country. It deals that getting extra concern at the remittance receiving point may increase the opportunity of accumulating large funds. Specifically, the large funds lead to the large investment.

According to the traditional remittance receiving method (see figure 2), in the beginning of transferring remittance, the sender needs to select or use any media or authority (Dang et al., 2005) like a bank, or agents or merchants (e. i. MoneyGram, Western Union etc.). After authorizing the transferring media, remittance is sent to a pre-selected destination (Dang et al., 2005). Then only, the receiver in the home country withdraws funds from the banks or other designated agents. Once the fund converts in cash, the receiver can start its consumption. Thus the traditional remittance flow might work out. Therefore, the current study concentrated on the remittance utilization (remittance sending system and its contribution) and developed the RIPS Model or remittance-investment protocol system (see figure 3). Following this model, the remittance sender would remit funds as before but the receiver in the home country (Bangladesh) could only use the governmental banks or post bank (post office banking system that need to develop) to withdraw the remittances.

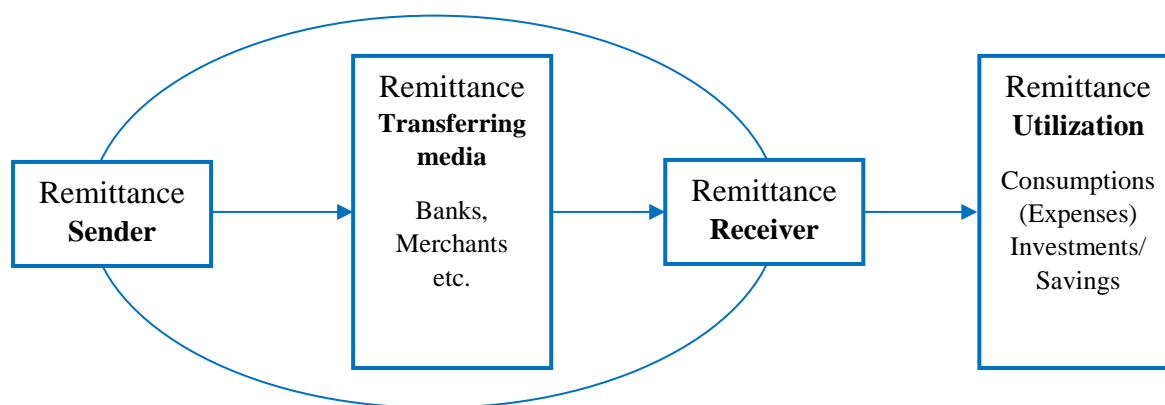


Figure 2: Traditional remittance receiving method

Source: Author's compilation

In this process, the government needs to develop a service for the customers who would come to withdraw the remittance on time. Additionally, the government should offer some attractive investment plans for the remittance senders or receivers such as savings deposit from remittance will be taxed at minimum rates or free, and even low charges on the remitting funds from abroad to home country (Bangladesh). Ensuring such kinds of facilities would increase a large amount of funds that the government could invest in the monopoly sector. Government may utilize those accumulated funds in the electricity-generating industry, railway sector or other toll-based infrastructures development that provides fresh revenues in the long term. Thus investing the remittance in the government's scheme would increase financial sustainability at the country and individual level (Fisher, 1906).

Furthermore, the fixed and variable costs of the project would reduce if the existing governmental banking chains or post-office outlets use remittance withdrawal points. Finally, this RIPs model is based on three assumptions. First assumption deals that total accumulated funds from remittance should be equal to total investment ($\sum af = \sum i$). Second assumption states that the period of investment should be a long term basis that increases overall productivity ($Ph \geq 5y$). Thirdly this model suggests that the funds should be invested in a sector that does not access solely and internal & external corruption on funds snatching must be zero level ($Cie = 0$).

H₅: Alternative concern mediates the relationship between remittance and investment.

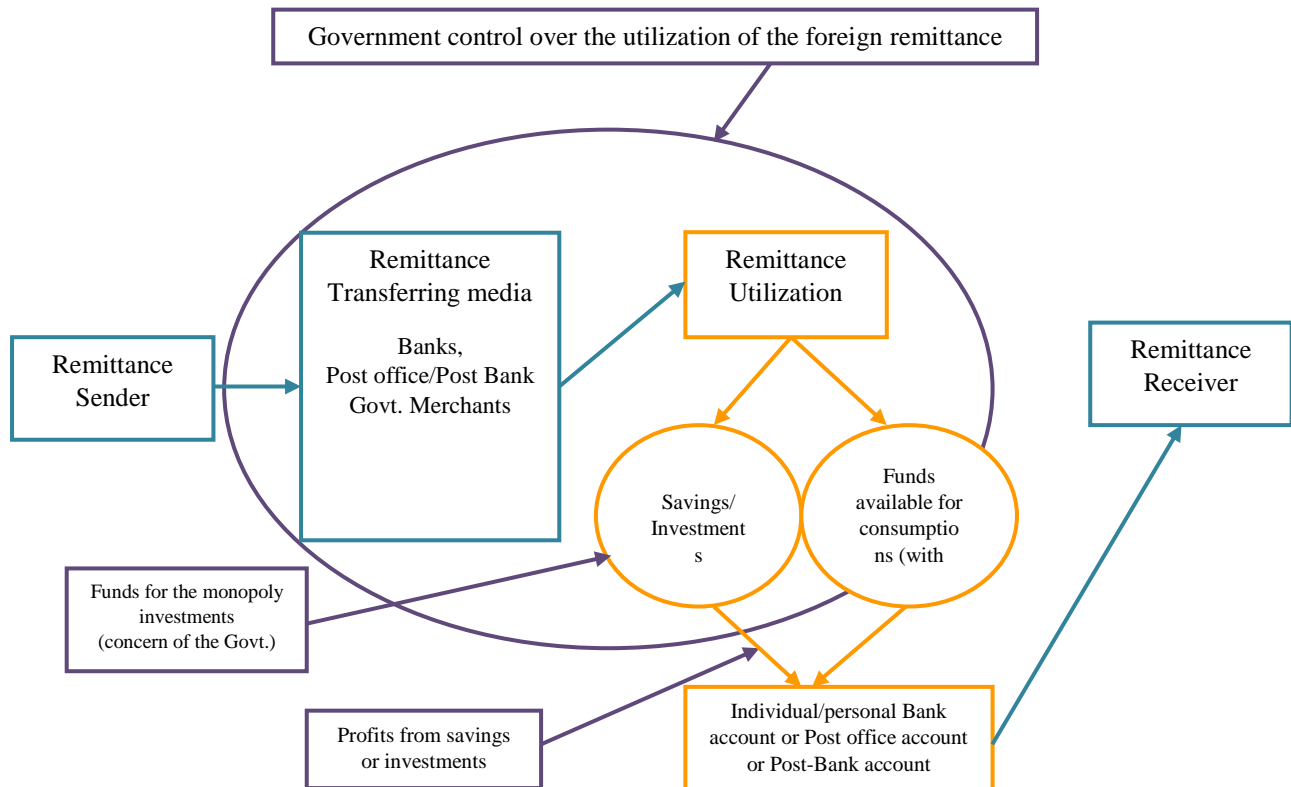


Figure 3: Remittance-investment protocol system (RIPs model)

Source: Author's compilation

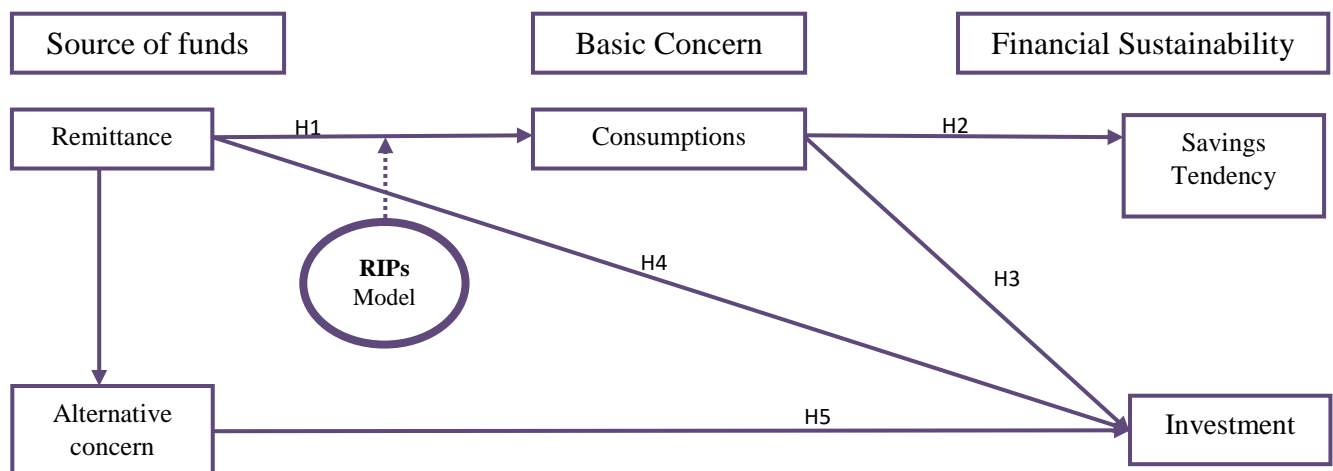


Figure 4: Theoretical model of the study

Source: Author's compilation

3. Methodology

3.1 Data Collection

To collect data, we have conducted our survey on a local and international region basis by one round from October, 2018 to April, 2019. The survey zone was designed following the income level. According to the report of World Bank (evidence from

<https://data.worldbank.org/income-level/high-income?view=chart>), we considered Japan, United States (U.S.) and Dubai as high income level country and Malaysia as upper-middle income level country (see here, <https://data.worldbank.org/income-level/upper-middle-income?view=chart>) in the world. The original survey items were translated to the official language of Bangladesh (Bengali) following the Back Translation Method (Brislin, 1970; Jahanshahi and Brem, 2017; Jahanshahi, Brem, & Shahabinezhad, 2018). Before launching the survey, the survey-questionnaire was pre-tested by several academic experts so that we might reach our objectives. As a result minor changes in some items have been done. In the original survey, the survey questionnaire was distributed with a cover letter/consent form that informed all participants about the main objective of the research. Following the most similar studies in the South Asian context (Jahanshahi and Bhattacharjee, 2019; Jahanshahi, Brem, & Bhattacharjee, 2017), we have used drop and collect survey method for collecting our data (Ibeh, Brock, & Zhou, 2004). Accurately 168 respondents currently working in the foreign country (Japan, Malaysia, Dubai and U. S.) received our survey and we received back 119 fully completed and usable responses. The nationality of all migrants (participants) was Bangladeshi.

3.2 Data Sources

In the questionnaire (section one), all respondents answered the close ended questions of the control variables. In the second section, they provided numerical answers (amounts in BDT or TAKA) for remittance, consumption, alternative concern, savings tendency and investment. The study respondents disclosed their most recent remit transactions (the last four transactions, regular basis) for the items of the remittance. Similarly, they also provided the approximate consumption values (expenses of the last four months), which had occurred during the same period of the remittance sent to their home country.

The previous studies investigated the remittance and consumption by historical data but the current study relied on only the primary data received directly from the study respondents to examine the actual effect of the remittance on the study variables. In the literature, to measure the investment, GDP is used as a secondary data source but the primary data is highly appreciated while developing a new financial measure or plan. Therefore, in this study, we used firsthand data to measure investment. The participants filled open ended questions (two questions) of investment and each question tailed by two different amounts of investments. The first question was asked about their present investments (amounts of two investments) while the second question was asked about the amounts of the near future investments (amounts of two investments). In the questionnaire, we mentioned that 'you have been requested to write your future investment values, if you completely support the RIPs Model. Additionally, the answer of this question also denotes that you would invest remit funds if the Government executes the remittance-investment system of RIPs model in the future.

As next, the same technique was followed to collect the samples of savings tendency except the tenor condition. We included the tenor condition for the savings tendency only. Many studies argued that short term savings amount would be the prime source of expected consumption while long term deposits/savings (with tenor locked form such as fixed deposit scheme at bank) would be used for the future investment. Therefore, we informed the respondent to provide the long term time deposit amounts and the tenor must be more than one year. The question one and two described the respondent's present (two values) and future (two values) savings status respectively. However, we added three items for alternative concern in the second section of the questionnaire. The respondents were rated each item by Five-Point Likert scale. However, the secondary data used in the study was properly cited in the body and reference.

3.3 Sample Analysis Techniques

In the first phase of data analysis, we prepared an excel database. The inserted values of all study variables except alternative concern were divided into two major categories, lower limit value and higher limit value. For example, values of remittance are written as BDT 2000.00, 3000.00, 2500.00, 5000.00. Then these amounts are separated based on two lower values (2000;

2500) and two higher values (3000; 5000). After that these values were converted into 'Thousand K' form (such as 2000 → 2K or 2; 2500 → 2.5). We used K values to calculate the mean of lower limit (item one) and higher limit (item two). In the second phase of the statistical analysis, these mean values were inserted in the STATA database to execute the study analysis. The reliability of the study variables was found above the risk level ($>.70$). In addition, 'Top 2 Box Score' analysis was adopted to evaluate the respondent's opinion on the RPs Model. In the third phase of data analysis, path analysis (PLS Algorithm) was tested on SmartPLS-3 platform to check the direct relationship between the study variables and the model accuracy.

3.4 Measurements

The items and measurement of remittance, and investment were included in our study followed by Bjuggren and Dzansi (2008). We developed three items for alternative concern on investment and each item was measured by a five point Likert scale. The variables namely consumption was adopted from Litan (2009) and savings tendency was taken from Haider, Hossain, & Siddiqui, (2016).

In our study we used individual level and income level control variables. Control variables namely migration destinations, education, family size, profession, were used as individual level control variables. The remittance inflow to the receiver (the amount of funds, receiver receives as remittance), frequency of remittance transfer, and the household income by other family members, were included as income level control variables in this study.

4. Results

In the beginning of our analysis, we have done an exploratory factor analysis (EFA) on the items for remittance, consumption, savings tendency, investment and alternative concern on investment. We extracted five main factors. The EFA resulted in a Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin (KMO) Measure of Sampling Adequacy of 0.802, and Bartlett's Test of Sphericity revealed a significant chi square of 973.588 ($p < 0.001$). Results of these factors paraded eigenvalues higher than value 1. However, we did not find any indication of multicollinearity constraints. Now as we can see the table 1, that showed the significant relationship between our study variables and independent variables. We found that family size and remittance amount were negatively correlated with investment 0.293 ($p < 0.05$) but positively 0.209 ($p < 0.05$) correlated with consumption. In the control variables, we found that most of the respondents were living in the USA (57.29%). By education, around 89.11% of the migrants completed the graduate level degree and 71.42% of them had joint family in the home country. By profession, approximately 85.24% of the participants were working in the service industry. Around 63.91% migrants of the study confirmed their regular remittance amounts limit around 200K. The remittance transfer frequencies of 68.40% participants were bimonthly. Additionally, around 43.22% migrants were confirmed another source of household income.

Table 1: Descriptive statistics and correlations of the measures

| Variables | Mean | Std. Dev. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
|---|------|-----------|-------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------|--------|--------|--------|----|
| 1. Migration destination | 1.26 | 1.05 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | | |
| 2. Education | 3.29 | 1.79 | .185 | 1 | | | | | | | | | | |
| 3. Family size | 3.42 | 1.94 | .118 | .297** | 1 | | | | | | | | | |
| 4. Profession | 2.19 | 1.03 | .092 | .153 | .181 | 1 | | | | | | | | |
| 5. Remittance Inflow to the receiver | 4.42 | 2.94 | .087 | .248* | .257** | .341** | 1 | | | | | | | |
| 6. Frequency of remittance transfers | 1.72 | 1.3 | .103 | .136 | .179 | -.172 | -.153 | 1 | | | | | | |
| 7. Household income by other family member(s) | 3.65 | 1.23 | .132 | -.056 | .052 | .320** | .161 | .084 | 1 | | | | | |
| 8. Consumptions | 3.28 | 1.82 | .177 | .197 | .209* | .188 | .134 | .106 | .172* | 1 | | | | |
| 9. Savings tendency | 2.85 | 1.14 | .138* | .198* | .189 | .156 | .192 | .076 | .299* | .306** | 1 | | | |
| 10. Investments | 4.88 | 1.62 | .217 | .247* | -.293* | .118 | .162 | .091 | .148* | .324** | .258** | 1 | | |
| 11. Alternative concern | 4.59 | 1.73 | .114 | .231* | .129 | .184 | .145 | .073 | .164 | .229* | .137 | .341** | 1 | |
| 12. Remittance | 3.64 | 1.89 | .146 | .199* | .118 | .288* | .098 | .256* | .096 | .343*** | .291** | .294** | .237** | 1 |

*. Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed). Source: STATA outputs, compilation of authors
 **. Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).

In the second phase, we have done regression analysis. To test each hypothesis, we entered four individual level control variables, and three income level control variables in this analysis. One of the study variables, consumption was used as bi-foliate measurement type variable. In the model 1, the consumption was added as dependent variable whereas it was used as independent variable in model 2 & 3 (see the table 2). The regression analysis (see the table 2) shows the tested results of four different models to justify each hypothesis. Model 1 measured the relationship of the remittance with the consumption and the investment. In the first hypothesis, we proposed that the remittance positively influences the consumption. According to the model statistical summary (see the table 2), we found a positive and significant ($\beta = 0.449$; $p < 0.003$) relation between the remittance and the consumption. It deals that any increases in the remittance would increase in the overall consumption. Thus our first hypothesis is accepted. The second hypothesis tested in the model two (see Table 2). This hypothesis described that the consumption is negatively correlated with the savings tendency. The findings showed that high consumptions causes decrease in the savings tendency. The statistical results (see the table 2) presented that the negative and significant ($\beta = -0.374$; $p < 0.05$) relationship or direct effect between the consumption and the savings tendency. Therefore the second hypothesis is fully supported by the study results. Next, the third hypothesis apprised about the impact of consumption on the investment. The result of B value deals that the relationship between the consumption and the investment is negatively significant at ($\beta = -0.419$; $p < 0.01$) level (see table 2, model 3). This is why, any increase in the consumption causes decrease in the investment and any decrease in the consumption causes increase in the investment. So, the third hypothesis is statistically accepted.

Table 2: Results of the regression analysis

| | <i>Model 1</i> | <i>Model 2</i> | <i>Model 3</i> | <i>Model 4</i> |
|--|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| | <i>Consumption Direct effect</i> | <i>Savings tendency Direct effect</i> | <i>Investment Direct effect</i> | <i>RIPs Model Investment Indirect effect</i> |
| 1. Migration destination | 0.096 | 0.098 | 0.091 | 0.073 |
| 2. Education | 0.203* | 0.237* | 0.305** | 0.238* |
| 3. Family size | -0.257** | -0.286** | -0.249** | -0.289** |
| 4. Profession | 0.117 | 0.089 | 0.161 | 0.097 |
| 5. Remittance Inflow to the receiver | 0.162 | 0.147 | 0.173 | 0.088 |
| 6. Frequency of remittance transfers | 0.068 | 0.085 | 0.105 | -0.067 |
| 7. Household income by other family member(s) | 0.234** | 0.191** | 0.296** | 0.253** |
| 8. Remittance | 0.449** | | 0.451*** | -0.216 |
| 9. Consumption | | -0.374* | -0.419** | |
| 10. Alternative concern | | | | 0.537*** |
| <i>R</i> ² | 0.349 | 0.340 | 0.421 | 0.397 |
| <i>Adj. R</i> ² | 0.291 | 0.284 | 0.322 | 0.359 |
| <i>F</i> | 8.296*** | 7.622*** | 7.890*** | 8.893*** |
| *p<0.05, **p<0.01, ***p<0.001; †p<.10 | | | | |
| Source: STATA outputs, compilation of authors | | | | |

The fourth hypothesis was constructed to measure the relationship between the remittance and the investment. It was measured in the model 3 (see the table 2). Any increase or decrease in the remittance causes increase or decrease in the investment. This assumption was found as significant and positive ($\beta = 0.451$; $p < 0.001$). Thus hypothesis four is fully supported. The last or fifth hypothesis deals that alternative concern mediates the relationship between the remittance and the investment. It is specifically described that executing alternative concerns (RIPs model) would raise the contribution of the remittance on the investment. Therefore future investments would be increased at the country level as well as the individual level. This hypothesis was measured in the model 4 (see the table 2). As seen the results of the model 4 in Table 2, denoted the positive and significant indirect effect between the remittance and the investment, where alternative concern was mediator ($R \rightarrow AC \rightarrow I$; $\beta = 0.537$; $p < 0.001$). Additionally, the direct effect between the remittance and the investment was found negative and nonsignificant ($R \rightarrow I$; $\beta = -0.216$; $p > 0.05$). In the literature, scholars described that the full mediation role exists when the indirect effect is positive with significant and direct effect is negative or nonsignificant (Bhattacharjee and Juman, 2020). Therefore, hypothesis five is statistically accepted.

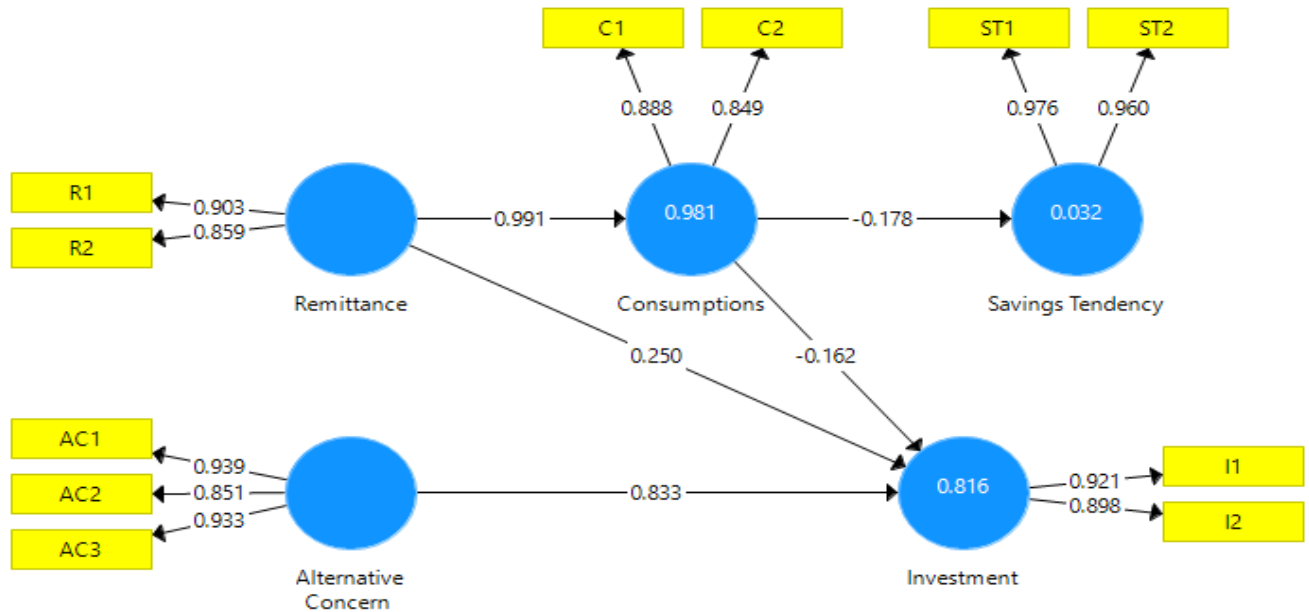


Figure 5: The model-illustration of path analysis (*direct effects*)

Source: SmartPLS outputs, compilation of authors

In the third phase data analysis, we evaluated the direct and indirect effects of the study models by path analysis (PLS Algorithm) on SmartPLS3 platform. The results (direct effects) of path analysis were illustrated by figure 5. As seen in this figure, we found that remittance has a positive-direct effect on consumption ($\Gamma = 0.991$; $p < 0.003$; $R^2 = 0.981$) and investment ($\Gamma = 0.250$; $p < 0.01$; $R^2 = 0.816$). Additionally, alternative concern has a positive and direct relationship with investment ($\Gamma = 0.833$; $p < 0.001$; $R^2 = 0.816$). Dissimilarly, consumption has a negative and direct relationship with savings tendency ($\Gamma = -0.178$; $p < 0.019$; $R^2 = 0.032$) and investment ($\Gamma = -0.162$; $p < 0.012$; $R^2 = 0.816$). In addition, the model-illustration of path analysis (figure 6) demonstrated that the mediation effect between the remittance and the investment existed. The indirect effect ($R \rightarrow AC \rightarrow I$) between the remittance and the investment was positive (with higher value) and significant ($\Gamma = 0.778$; $\Gamma = 0.834$; $p < 0.006$; R^2 of $AC = 0.605$; R^2 of $I = 0.818$) while the direct effect ($R \rightarrow I$) between the remittance and the investment was positive (with lower value or near to negative) but not significant ($\Gamma = 0.089$; $p = ns$; $R^2 = 0.818$). Therefore, the path analysis results (figure 5 & 6) and the regression model outcomes (model 1, 2, 3 & 4; Table 2) described the similar assumptions. Which is why, the RIPs model is accepted. Additionally, executing this model would increase the contribution of the remittance in the investment to gain long term financial sustainability.

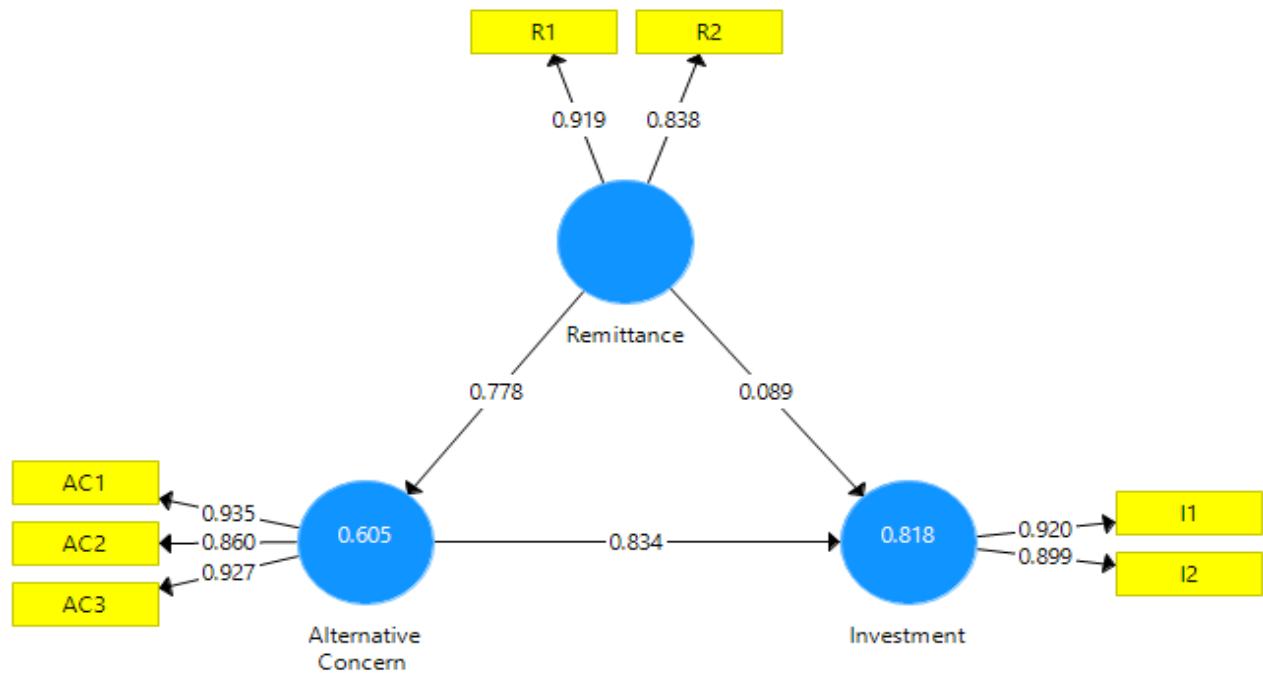


Figure 6: The model-illustration of path analysis (*direct and indirect effects*)

Source: SmartPLS outputs, compilation of authors

Table 3: Top 2 Box score of accepting alternative concern (RIPs Model)

| Rating Scale | in number | in percentage |
|--|-----------|---------------|
| ‘Strongly agree’ to accept the alternative concern (RIPs Model) to participate in the new funds rising and investment process. | 64 | 53.78% |
| ‘Agree’ to accept the alternative concern (RIPs Model) to participate in the new funds rising and investment process. | 35 | 29.41% |

Source: STATA outputs, compilation of authors

Based on the rating scale, we completed Top 2 Box Score analysis to find the total positive value in number and percentage of the respondent’s opinion regarding the RIPs Model idea. The results arranged in Table 3 describe that around 53.78% migrants or respondents ($n=64$) of the study were rated ‘Strongly agree’, they accepted RIPs model path way. Additionally, the next positive score ‘Agree’ was rated by approximately 29.41% respondents of the study ($n=35$).

5. Discussion

This study focused on investigating the pathway of gaining maximum benefits from the remittance. Applying the new funds accumulating concern on the remittance may create a large amount of fresh capital for the new investment (Fisher, 1906). According to our applied theory (Fisher’s theory of capital and investment, 1906) in the current study, savings amounts of the remittances are the source of new capital that could be used for monopoly investment. Following this assumption, we constructed that extra advantages with investment and return opportunities would increase the savings tendency among migrants (the remittance sender). Here additional opportunities should be implemented by the government authority. The current

study developed the RIPS model that has two dimensions, head side and tail side that describes how to increase the contribution of the remittance on the investment and to raise the savings tendency among the migrants as well as the remittance receivers. The savings portion of the remittance could be utilized in the long term investment. Specially, long-term investments would be the best strategic choice to gain financial sustainability (Fisher, 1906). Following the RIPS model, the head side is always responsible to accumulate funds whereas tail side ensures the proper utilization of those funds by investing in the different monopoly sectors like generating electricity, natural gas distribution system, and toll based infrastructures development etc. that would generate fresh revenues for both the Government and funds providers as well.

In the regression analysis of the first model, we entered individual level and income level control variables, remittance used as independent, while consumption was inserted as dependent variable. We found that the remittance positively correlated with the dependent variable. The same effect was evidenced by the previous studies in the literature (Litan, 2009; Bjuggren and Dzansi, 2008). In model two, we used seven control variables, consumption (because basic needs might never equal zero) as independent and savings tendency as dependent variable. The results illustrated that the relationship between the consumption and the savings tendency was negatively significant. This relation seems that extra edge on consumption decreases funds available for savings or investment, which was supported by many early studies (Litan, 2009; Bjuggren and Dzansi, 2008). In the other way, we defined that any level of decrease in the consumption (intentional control on unnecessary expenses or other purposes) would of course raise up savings volume that also creates opportunity for investment (Bhattacharjee et al., 2019) or invest in startups (Polas et al., 2019).

The results of the model three disclosed that the remittance has a positive relationship with the investment but the consumption has a negative effect on the investment. The alternative concern (RIPS model) measured in the model four. In this model, four individual level and three income level control variables entered then alternative concern added as mediator when investment dealt as dependent variable and the remittance included as the independent variable. We found that the indirect effect ($R \rightarrow AC \rightarrow I$) between the remittance and the investment was positive and significant but the direct effect ($R \rightarrow I$) wasn't significant. The mediation role suggests that a positive and significant indirect effect with insignificant direct effect indicates the mediation effect (Bhattacharjee and Juman, 2020). Therefore, the mediation effect of alternative concern between the remittance and the investment exists and is accepted. These statistical outcomes also indicated that executing the alternative concern would significantly maximize the contribution of the remittance on the investment. Therefore, any increase in the monopoly investment (suggested by the RIPS model) would help to achieve financial sustainability at the country level and the individual level. Lastly, the current study outcomes are specifically proven that investing accumulated capital (remittance) in the monopoly sector generates adequate and expected fresh revenues until the internal and external corruption ($Cie = 0$) remains at the zero level to gain financial sustainability in the long term.

6. Conclusion

The remittance is now explored as an ambidextrous opportunity for Bangladesh. The remittance inflows into this country have been growing day by day (Haider, Hossain, & Siddiqui, 2016). The current study revealed that accumulating funds from the remittance would be another profitable choice that benefits not only individuals but also increases the government revenues as well. The result of the study apprises that the remittance is positively correlated with the consumption and the investment. Eventually, the major portion of the remittance might be used for consumption (Incaltarau and Maha, 2012) because of less investment opportunities and risks. Therefore, the study suggests a path to refine such issues successfully. According to the results we found, the new developed model (RIPS model) is statistically accepted to gain financial sustainability. We also measured the relationship between the alternative concern and

the investment/savings, which were found as positive and significant. In contrast, the consumption was negatively significant with savings tendency and the investment.

Furthermore, implementing extra concern to accumulate funds from remittance may decrease the overall consumption (focused unnecessary expenditures) that increases investment opportunities (Bjuggren and Dzansi, 2008). To make a reliable fiscal process, governmental concern (legal and ethical) should be involved to implement the new monopoly investment. Such progress may reduce investment risks for micro investors (remittance senders) and build the faith in the government projects. As a result, the savings or investment tendency among the fund providers (the remittance receivers & senders) or micro investors including rural women entrepreneurs would surprisingly increase (Bhattacharjee and Jahanshahi, 2020). Finally, following the RIPs model idea, investing accumulated funds in the monopoly industry may ensure maximum contribution of the remittance that enhances the financial sustainability at the country level and individual level. In overall, the findings of the current study might add value to the migrant-investors, micro investors, women entrepreneurs and governmental investment decisions and help to develop the green-economy system in the country.

7. Recommendations

This study suggests upgrading the traditional post office system to a modern post bank system (including desk and online facilities). In addition, every remittance receiver or sender must have a post bank account to get the Governmental investment and benefit schemes on remittances. Moreover, the Government should ensure a reliable remittance maintenance system to execute the RIPs model plan. To achieve the maximum contribution of the remittance, the remittance-investment should be equal to the remittance-savings funds (in the monopoly sector). Lastly, at every transaction (remittance withdraw) except medical reason, receiver or sender should deposit a certain portion of remittance-amount into the savings account that would be utilized for the investment by the Government of the country. This savings system must be pre-declared as default with a limit (automated savings conversion system).

8. Limitations and Opportunities for Future Research

As of similar studies this research faced some limitations. Our survey could not cover the large sample due to having sufficient time, budget (Bhattacharjee and Jahanshahi, 2020; Jahanshahi, Brem, & Bhattacharjee, 2017) and geographical constraints that might affect to the generalizability our explored results (Bhattacharjee and Jahanshahi, 2020; Jahanshahi and Bhattacharjee, 2019). Therefore another study in this context might measure these correlations by covering a large sample group. Furthermore, all participants in our survey were of the same nationality. Which is why, conducting the future study in the same issue among different nationalities would show factors of interest on entrepreneurial investment. Most of the participants in our survey were not specified their fund transferring method (remitting method such as bank transfer, transfer by merchants e. i. MoneyGram, Western Union etc.); therefore we were inapt to identify the interest of fund transferring to their home country (Bangladesh). Especially in Bangladesh, the Hawala money transfer system still exists and is used by many individuals. Finally, getting more comprehensive justifications future researchers may investigate our research concept in fund transferring system and investment intention.

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A Critique on Soyinka's *The Lion and the Jewel*: A Journey from Afrocentricity towards Modernity

Md. Badrul Huda Sohel¹

Abstract

Wole Soyinka, a Nigerian playwright in African literature, shows a pen picture of African socio-cultural community in his play The Lion and the Jewel with a constant clash between tradition and modernity. The play reveals the post-colonial concepts of oppression, subjugation and search for identity. The paper is an endeavour to explore cross-cultural counter discourse on socio-economic issues of African society. Cultural supremacy, colonial expansion, legacies, norms and values are the traits Soyinka draws through a clash between the colonizer and the colonized. The paper is also an attempt for cultural analysis between the hegemonic and the inferior, between the African and the European.

Keywords: Afrocentricity, modernity, cultural conflict, hegemonic.

Introduction

The play *The Lion and the Jewel* was produced in 1959, when Nigeria was struggling for independence from British colonial rule. Nigeria was, at that time, undergoing a critical situation whether it was ready for achieving emancipation or freeing it from western European dominion. Some Nigerians felt that it was time for change while others wondered if they should move from their native culture to an alien one. The three characters revolving round the plot are Lakunle, Sidi and Baroka. Lakunle symbolises modernity, while Sidi and Baroka stand for tradition. The difference between Lakunle and Baroka with the issue of marrying Sidi has conformity between their two ways of life.

The village teacher Lakunle representing western values wants to modernize Yuroba village. The researcher tries to impose modernity as an influence of British culture on Nigerian ways of life. The conflict in this study has different aspects. Therefore, the conflict here may have its origin in generation gap, or education (old and new) or mind and belief. The school teacher Lakunle wants to marry Sidi but Sidi refuses him as he is reluctant to pay the bride-price on the pretext that it is an outdated and barbaric practice. Sidi does not agree otherwise she would be suspected of losing her virginity before marriage. Therefore, their marriage is delayed because of the confrontation between tradition and modernity. On the other hand, Baroka, The Bale, proposes to marry Sidi seeing her in a magazine. However, Baroka is rejected.

¹Assistant Professor & Chair, Department of English, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

Cultural Identity

The natural tend of human being is to recognize him/her within his/her native norms and values. Even the colonized ones tag to restroom and rediscover their pre-colonial cultural identity because they always nourish their own culture and history in spite of their distortion and perversion. Frantz Fanon openly claims, “Colonialism is not satisfied merely with holding a people in its grip and employing the native’s brain of all forms and contents. By a kind of perverted logic, it returns to the past of oppressed people, and distorts, disfigures and destroys it.” (210)

Soyinka also feels this and gets shocked at the entry of Lakunle’s idea of progress in his own traditional African societies. This picture is evident as the readers find a conflict over bearing the water pot between Lakunle and Sidi at the beginning of the play.

Cultural Conflict

From a cursory reading of the play it is seen superficially that Baroka wins Sidi’s hand in marriage. It suggests Baroka’s victory of tradition over modernity, but we cannot accept that Soyinka rejects modernity. Lakunle’s failure of understanding some books bears the testimony of his being representative of modern ideas. Besides, he uses tradition, at the end of the play, as a weapon when he tells Sidi that she cannot now demand bride-price as she is no more a virgin. So in a sense, Lakunle is regarded as a hollow modernist who has his feeling for tradition with a number of flaws in his character. Thus the issue of cultural conflict enters into a critical juncture in the play. In this context, LeBaron says, “Culture is always a factor on conflict, whether it plays a central role or influences it subtly and gently. For any conflict that touches us where it matters, where we make meaning and hold our identities, there is always a cultural component.” (Para 19)

Soyenka’s dramatic action starts in a typical Nigerian village with the creation of the Bale, Baroka, a symbol of strength of a lion, who metaphorically embodies the traditional good and bad holding so-called norms and values. Lakunle, on the other hand, an agent of western European, wants to impose modernity to bring a change.

Bride Price and its Importance

Wikipedia defines “Bride price, bride wealth, or bride token” as “money, property, or other form of wealth paid by a groom or his family to the family of the woman he will be married to or is just about to marry. Bride price can be compared to dowry, which is paid to the groom, or used by the bride to help establish the new household, and dower, which is property, settled in the bride herself by the groom at the time of marriage.” (“Bride Price”). The tradition of bride price is noticed in many counties in Asia and Africa in one form or another but it is highly maintained in Africa, Bride price does not denote any fixed amount, because it is usually fixed by bride or bride’s family on the basis of negotiation with the family members of bride-groom. A bride’s honour and importance are assessed by the price she receives in her marriage. If a girl marries or is married off without a bride price, she is considered to be suspected of losing her chastity

or virginity before her marriage and she is thought by the people that she is compelled to marry without bride price. In the play, Sidi always persists Lakunle to pay the bride price, but Lakunle refuses to pay terming it a barbaric and archaic practice. On the other hand, she cannot come out of the cocoons of the tradition for the fear of being called unchaste or impure. She cannot think of marrying a man without bride price for the sake of love and remain untouched by the advances of western civilization.

“I shall marry you today, next week
Or any day you name.
But my bride price must first be paid.....
But I tell you Lakunle, I must have
The full bride price. Will you make me
A laughing stock? Well, do as you please
But Sidi will not make herself
a cheap bowl for the village spit
They will say I was no virgin
That I was forced to sell my shame
And marry you without a price. (Soyinka, 15)

Lakunle, educated in the west, considers the custom of bride price as disgraceful to women,

“To pay the price would be
To buy a heifer off the market stall”. (Soyinka, 17)

Child Rearing and Aristocracy

In the African community, doing household chores and rearing children are the prime concerns of rural wives whereas it is given less importance in case of the western ones. Lakunle, being a representative of western role, will never allow his wife Sidi (if marries) to engage herself with trifling household tasks like fetching water with a pail or rearing children rather he assures Sidi that they will work together, walk together and dine together with knives, forks and breakable plates. The knives, forks and breakable plates symbolize the crockery, utensils used by the western. He will allow them because he does not like the age-old lifestyle maintained by the Africans. Thereby, Lakunle tries to recognise Sidi as a civilized modern urban European woman.

Polygamous Society

The picture of polygamous society is successfully portrayed by Soyinka in the play showing Baroka, the Bale of Ilujinle, having many wives. Nigerian custom allows marrying multiple wives as legal and it is very common in Yoruba community. Whatever the age is, the Bale can marry a girl of any age. Baroka is no exception and shows his desires to have Sidi and expresses his wish to his first wife Sadiku to woo Sidi for him. Referring the tradition, Sadiku convinces Sidi that she (Sidi) would become the first wife of the next Bale if she marries Baroka. That is, the wife of a Bale

becomes the wife to his step-son. Therefore, a woman becoming wife to both father and son is not considered illicit in African community, rather the first wife is termed as head wife who is also in a position of topmost honour and power in the family. Thus, the head wife becomes the guardian of all wives of the Bale. The uncommon trend of the head wife is that she bears the responsibility of arranging all things if the Bale desires to marry a new girl. Here, in the play, Sadiku is the head wife of Baroka and she was the last wife of Baroka's father Okiki. Una Maclean calls the play a "Nigerian bedroom farce" for its convention of polygamy. (51)

Role of Women in the Society

The play, to a large extent, from the very inception, bears the testimony of degradation of women community manipulated by male society. Sexism, especially the unequal and unfair treatment of women is depicted as inferior, mean and powerless as they are shown unable to accept or change the so-called social setup. Though in Yoruba Community of African society, women have always their active part in agriculture, trade and commerce and other economic enhancement, they are undermined in policy making and in other socio-political issues. The touch of modernism is paralyzed degrading women as they cannot take the decision of their own marriage which is encoded with the evil custom like bride price. Lakunle's utterance of words like "women have smaller brain than man, that is why they are called the weaker sex" (Soyinka, 13) explores the writer's effort to show women's degrading position in the society. Women, instead of paternal property, have been considered as heirloom that men inherit from the predecessors. Soyinka's women characters represent love for native culture and hatred against colonial movement. Their persistence for nourishing own norms and values works as a resistance against colonizers' process of subjugation and subordination. Though women are treated as timid, fragile, subordinate, weaker, inactive and ignorant, paradoxically they have also been shown as equal partners of life. Women have also been degraded since the criterion of the progress of the society is measured by the number of seductive women pictures printed in newspapers. That means, the progress of the African society is judged by the illusive girls who win beauty contests.

Expressionism and Afro-centricity

The play *The Lion and the Jewel* records the playwright's own feelings, thoughts and ideas about Yoruba community discarding objective surface reality of the subject. It may be a crack on previous forms of trends like realism and naturalism. What Wole Soyinka sees and experiences is presented and interpreted through the persona of character formation though there may be grotesque distortion of reality. The play is a projection of expressionism through self-perception. Therefore, what he thinks or speculates as beautiful or good may be ugly or bad to others. The play may also be marked by unreal atmosphere, nightmarish action, distortion and over simplification.

Yoruba folklore, opera theatre, custom— all arouse Soyinka's victorious notion of Afro-centricity. The parts of dancing and drumming in the play remind the readers

about opera theatres and encourage the writer to hold his pen to write about the history and culture of Africa.

Conclusion

The play is an endeavour to establish Africanness over Eurocentric hegemonic power, culture and values. That 'love loves money' becomes one of the prominent themes of the play by showing Baroka's winning Sidi over Lakunle. Soyinka's disapproval of the western cultures over his native ones neither proves his denial of modernizing Yoruba community, nor approves the adoption of western traits. The play is not in favour of reckless progress and false imitation of so called western practices. Again, it does not teach to remain at a standstill. Women are not disparaged by Soyinka though a bird's eye view reading may not agree. The playwright values women regardless of gender as he uses the word "Jewel" in the title symbolizing ornaments, the centre of attraction of all. The juxtaposition of the two characters Lakunle and Baroka is his art of characterization through which he conveys the two distinct cross-cultural effects on normal ways of life. The contrasting beliefs and norms reflect cultural conflict as a means of postcolonial concept. As a Nigerian playwright, he rationally holds his pen to untie the gamut of old and new.

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Misuses of Bangla Language Through Bengali-English Codemixing and Codeswitching in Social Media

Md. Abdullah Bhuiyan¹

Raifa Akter²

Abstract

The research paper aims to illustrate the practice of codemixing and codeswitching in social media to find out various types of misuses of Bangla language by the aforementioned practices and to investigate whether or not such malpractices are a threat to Bangla language. To collect data of this research, a large number of Facebook IDs and their conversational patterns have been followed. This study reveals that the practice of codemixing and codeswitching is very high in social media and most of the participants practice these in different ways. On the other hand, various types of misuses have been constantly done by codemixing and most of the participants have said that codemixing and codeswitching are a threat to Bangla language. Findings have been presented following both quantitative and qualitative method.

Keywords: Codeswitching, codemixing, language, social media, misuse.

Introduction

Using two or more languages in conversation is not an unfamiliar issue. Nowadays, in social media, codemixing (CM) and codeswitching (CS) have become a very popular and interesting way of communication among multilingual speakers.

Codemixing is the use of one language in another language; in other words, the mixing of two or more languages or language varieties in a speech. Codemixing often happens when the use of two languages usually occurs in a bilingual or multilingual community or society. For example:

“tnx bro amn sundor 1kta jigar sondan deoar jonno Yesterday gecilam bro onnek valo lagee bt bristyr janno beshi enjoy korte parlam na”.

According to kachru (1983), Codemixing refers to the transfer of linguistic units from one language into another and the units may be morphemes, words, phrases, clauses or sentences.

¹ Assistant Professor, Department of English, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

² BA (Hons) in English, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

According to Hoffmann (1991), there are four types of codemixing. These are:

1. Intra-lexical codemixing
2. Involving a change of pronunciation
3. Intra-word (within word) codemixing
4. Inter-word mixing

Codeswitching is a speaker's alternation between two or more languages, or language varieties in a single conversation. According to Hudson (1996), Codeswitching refers to a condition when a bilingual speaker chooses to speak certain language according to the circumstances.

Vlades Fallis (1976) referred to codeswitching as the alternation of two languages at the word, phrase, clause, and sentence levels (as cited in Moquit, 2014). Codeswitching occurs mostly in bilingual communities. For example:

আমার life এ কিছু করতে পারি নাই।

What are you doing now? আমি তুমাকে নিয়ে বাহিরে যেতে চেয়েছিলাম।

According to Hoffmann (1991), there are three types of codeswitching. These are:

1. Inter-sentential switching
2. Tag switching
3. Intra-word switching

There are some differences between codemixing and codeswitching. Codeswitching is a universal language contact phenomenon that reflects the grammars of both languages working spontaneously. Codemixing is also a language contact phenomenon that does not reflect the grammars of both languages working spontaneously. It borrows words from one language and adapts it in other language.

Codemixing and codeswitching in practice are not a very recent issue. According to Banu and Sussex (2001), the practice of codemixing and codeswitching is commonly seen in spoken language in Bangladesh (as cited in Moquit, 2014). It has been observed that nowadays many Bangladeshis consciously or unconsciously mix different languages or varieties of a language in their conversations. Sometimes they switch from one language to another and sometimes mix some words of different languages for the purpose of communication. Both educated and uneducated people practice codemixing and codeswitching in their conversations. Various types of codemixing and codeswitching have been practiced by them. And, most of the people do so without knowing its bad impact.

Problem Statement

Though the practice of Codemixing and Codeswitching is a popular pattern of writing conversation, it is harmful for both Bengali language and Bengali native speakers. The main reason of practicing this pattern is the interest of the Bengali speakers towards western culture and their language.

Objectives of the Research

One of the objectives of the study is to highlight the practice of English-Bengali CS and CM in the social media and the second objective is to highlight the misuse of Bangla language by using CS and CM. The last aim of this research is to investigate whether or not Bangla-English CS and CM is a threat to Bangla language.

Central Research Questions

This research attempts to answer the following questions:

- What is the rate of the practice of English-Bengali codemixing and codeswitching on social network?
- How is the Bangla language being misused by the practice of codemixing and codeswitching in social network?
- Are codemixing and codeswitching a threat to our Bangla language? If so, to what extent?

Significance of the Study

A number of researches have been conducted before based on codemixing and codeswitching. But this research is something different than all other researches. The research has especially focused on those things which are very important for codemixing and codeswitching users. In this study, the researchers have illustrated how a language is being misused by the practice of codemixing and codeswitching and how much threatening it is for Bangla language. These information will be beneficial for the researchers and for those people who intentionally and unintentionally practice codemixing and codeswitching in their daily conversations without knowing its bad impact.

Literature Review

The objective of literature review is to explore other researches on the relevant topic which have been done before. To collect information, some relevant articles were collected by using internet (Google) and gone through for broadening the knowledge to do the research easily.

Alabi (2007) asserts that codemixing is often an unconscious illocutionary act in naturally occurring conversation. (as cited in Kasyulita, 2017)

Gumperz (1982) referred code switching as the juxtaposition of the same speech exchange (as cited in Gulzar 2010; and Khadim 2014).

Sutrismi (2014) conducted a research on “The use of Indonesian English Code-mixing in Social Media Network by Indonesian Youngsters”. The study aims to describe the types of code-mixing and the reasons of using code-mixing in social media network (facebook) by Indonesian youngsters. Based on the data analysis, the researchers found several forms of code mixing and also found three reasons of using code mixing. To

enrich the knowledge about the forms and reasons of using code mixing, this paper has been chosen.

Soumil Mandal, Sainik Kumar, Mahata and Dipankar Das (2018) conducted a research on “Preparing Bengali-English Code Mixed Corpus for Sentiment Analysis of Indian Language”. In this paper, the researchers have described the steps involved in building the system which they used for collecting and preparing gold standard Bengali-English code mixed data for sentiment analysis such as system-based annotation, annotators’ guidelines, raw twitter data educations etc. Though this research article is not fully similar to the present research, this article has been collected because it has some relevant information which are similar to the present research.

Suraiya Alam (2006) conducted a research on “Code Mixing in Bangladesh: A Case Study of Non-government White Color Service Holders”, and the objective of this research was to find out the causes and patterns of codemixing among the target people. According to the discussion, three kinds of patterns and nine causes of codemixing have been found by the researcher. This article has been collected by the researchers because it bears some relevant information which will be helpful for the present researcher to do this research easily.

Aysha Alam Talukder (2016) conducted a research on “Code switching- Pragmatic Aspect of Everyday Life in Bangladesh”. The aim of this research was to try to focus on the pragmatic aspect of codeswitching in different domains of everyday life. The researcher found that code switching occurs when there is no suitable lexis in one language. In that case, speakers have to switch code to use an appropriate lexical item of another language.

Nafisa Moquit (2014) conducted a research on “Codemixing and Codeswitching between Bangla and English: Undergraduate Private University Students”. The result of her study shows that different types of code mixing and code switching have been practiced by them and most of the participants have expressed their attitude towards using CS and CM that these are creating negative impact on Bangla language.

Amitava Das and Björn Gambäck (2013) have made a research on “Code-Mixing in Social Media Text”. The objective of this research was to present an initial study to understand the characteristics of code mixing in the social media context and to introduce a system developed to automatically detect language boundaries in code mixing social media text. The language identification system described here mainly uses standard techniques such as character s-gram, dictionaries and SVM classifiers.

Evi Kasyulita (2017) has conducted a research on “Analysis of Students’ Code Mixing in Facebook Social Networking”. The result of this research is that the researcher found 160 timelines and 35 comments based on using code mixing in the form of words, phrases, idioms, and reduplication.

Safura Nahar Khan Khadim (2014) has conducted a research on “Code Switching in Facebook by Bangladeshi Facebook Users”. The result of this research shows that the occurrence of codeswitching in Facebook is regular. But the type of codeswitching varies based on social relation. This thesis has been reviewed to extend the knowledge about code switching.

Methodology

In this chapter, description of the method of collecting data, participants, data collection, data collection method and data analysis have been explained.

Participants

200 active facebook users have been selected for data collection. Among them, 77% are male and 23% female. 65% participants belong to the age group of 17-23. All the participants are Bangladeshi and native Bengali speakers. Each of them is educated. Most of the participants are secondary, higher secondary and university students. A few of the participants are professionals. Some participants willingly participated in this project. The participants of this study have been selected randomly.

Data Collection

The data (a large amount of conversations) have been collected from the target people who constantly practice codemixing and codeswitching in their social media communication. Data have been collected from 7 March 2018 to 5 May 2018.

Data Collection Method

To collect data of codemixing and codeswitching conversations, the researchers have used two methods. Firstly, majority participants' Facebook ID has been followed by the researcher to identify the use of CM and CS in their conversations. Secondly, the researchers have made conversations with some participants in their way to gather their method of conversations. The main instrument which has been used by the researchers is internet. The entire data have been gathered by using internet.

Data Analysis

Data have been analyzed according to the research questions. The rate of the practice of English-Bengali codemixing and codeswitching is described by illustrating some common conversations of the participants and percentage. The various types of misuses of Bangla language have been described step by step according to the data. And participants' opinions have been described for showing whether or not codemixing and codeswitching is a threat to Bangla language and Bengali culture as well.

Results and Findings

This chapter deals with the answer of three research questions which have been found by the researchers' careful observation on and investigation into the 200 participants and 450 data. In the first part, findings have been presented step by step according to the research questions. The rate of the practice of codemixing and codeswitching in

social media has been presented by percentage and codemixing and codeswitching conversation patterns which have been much practiced by the target people have been illustrated through a few conversations of the participants. In the second part, various types of misuses of Bangla language by codemixing and codeswitching have been presented in the light of the target people's conversations. Participants' opinions have been described in the last part to show whether or not codemixing and codeswitching is a threat to Bangla language.

Various Types of CS & CM

Through careful observation and deep investigation into the 200 participants and 450 data, the researchers have come to know the practice rate of codemixing and codeswitching in social media. It has been found that among the 200 participants, 95% participants practice codemixing and other 5% participants practice codeswitching in their daily conversations. Besides, by deep analysis of 95% codemixing users' data, it has also been found that two types of codemixing have been practiced by them— inter-word and intra-word codemixing. Each of the participants practices intra-word codemixing when it is needed in the conversation. But, inter-word codemixing is a regular pattern of their conversations. They practice both inter-word and intra-word codemixing through a variety of Banglish (Mixing Bangla and English) and English words. Among other 5% codeswitching users, 3% participants practice intra-sentential codeswitching and 2% practice inter-sentential codeswitching. They constantly change the pronunciation of word using wrong Banglish alphabet. The target people's codemixing and codeswitching patterns have been given below:

Inter-word Codemixing

Inter-word codemixing means inserting English word or phrases in Bangla sentences or utterances. Some recorded conversations of this pattern are:

- i) Md. Rahat's conversation with someone:

SP 1: H/W Apu ans din na keno
 SP 1: Jodi kotha e bolben na tahole
 friend request accept korlen keno.
 SP 2: Amni kn ur plm hoila block dia den
 SP 1: ce ami to ata boli nai
 SP 2: tahole ami karo sathe kotha boli na sry.

- ii) Rafiqul Islam's conversation with someone:

SP 1: Insha allah
 SP 1: mim er sthe ktho boice?
 SP 2: Hmm
 SP 1: gd
 SP 2: accca tahole pro ----- take care Allah hafez
 SP 2: ok bro
 SP 2: Allah hafez

- iii) Salim's conversation with Turjo:
- SP 1: Eid Mubarak
- SP 1: tme bro amn sundor akta jigar sondan dewar jnno.....
- kal gecilam bro annék vlo lagee.
- bt bristyr janno beshi enjoy krte prlm no.....
- SP 2: h great. pic den dekhi
- SP 1: okay.
- iv) Mahadi's conversation with someone:
- SP 1: kno ki bly
- SP 2: able tbl
- SP 1: oky ask korta amn kno mny hoy.
- SP 2: okk amr shate ktha ble na
- SP 1: kno
- SP 2: rag krche
- v) Faisal's conversation with someone:
- SP 1: or kbr vi ami cc krmu
- SP 2: r bridoy vaire eigula janaiyen na
- SP 1: ami to sudu sojjo krta c
- SP 2: hmm
- SP 1: oky ----- pb
- SP 2: oi group or porichoy holo o single
- SP 1: just w8 n see ki ki kta hoisa to ki jono.

Intra-word Codemixing

Intra-word codemixing occurs within the words. Such as English root word + Bangla suffix/ Bangla root word + English suffix. The participants have practiced intra-word codemixing through using English root word + Bangla suffix when it is needed in a sentence. Some recorded intra-word codemixing conversations are given below:

- SP 1: Bhai tor **profile ta** khob e valo lage re.
- SP 2: **School a function a** asbi na.
- Ajk thaka **grp ar** sub shuru hobe. **grp** er gula kmn diahs.
- SP 3: Moner vitore ekta voy kaj kore
- jdi tui **mind** koros ar amago **friendship ta** nosto hoy jay
- SP 4: kon **group ar** tome
- SP 5: amar **room mate** ra to voiya kadte kadte shesh.
- Akhn ----- bt der sate kotha bola shru korce phn a
- er cheye amar primary schl e volo chilo mama
- tbou 11 ta class 1.20 mnt kore **without break** a 4 ta.
- Sir ra eto **cruel**
- SP 6: kire dost ki **situation** e achis tor kono **news** ei nai
- Amar xm er obstha khb kharap
- SP 7: **life** e khrap **time** asby, **tension** koris na.

SP 8: kire sob pora shes?

ami sob **easy sub** gula sesh kore felci agei.

Inter-sentential Codeswitching

In this type of codeswitching, the language switch is done at sentence boundaries. A few recorded conversations has been given below:

i) Hasnat's conversation with his friend Bappi:

Hasnat: is there any problem? ফুন অফ রাহো কেন?

Bappi: আম্মুর থেকে ফোন নেওয়া So much difficult.

Hasnat: trying to understand ফোন ছাড়া চলতে পারবি না।

Bappi: Ok, দেখি কি করি?

ii) Sitat's conversation with his classmate Lucky:

Sifat: কিরে what are you doing now?

Lucky: বাসের উপর Sleeping.

Sifat: বাহ্ best feeling?

Lucky: you don't feel.

iii) Ramim's conversation with his cousin Rodela:

Ramim: কই ভুমি? Are you going to home?

Rodela: নারে যাইনি, তবে I will go soon.

Ramim: you will inform me আমিও যাব

Rodela: Ok, পরে কথা হবে।

iv) Angel's conversation with her friend Zara:

Angel: Who is this bullisht!!! কেডা এই বেডা?

Zara: কেডা জানে, I dont know.

Angel: হুল surprising.

Intra-sentential Codeswitching

The shift is done in the middle of sentences, with no interruptions, hesitations, or pauses indicating a shift. A few recorded conversations have been given below:

i) Adori's conversation with her friend Rakib:

Adori: oh ----- তাইলে download দিতে হবে.

Rakib: Dew.

Adori: by the way? কেমন আছো? fine.

Rakib: ভালো খারাপ মিলিয়েই continue হচ্ছে।

Adori: এ কেমন থাকা। এই situation কেন?

ii) Biplob's conversation with his classmate Sagor:

Biplob: কিরে ফোন off ছিলো কেন?

Sagor: ফোনের condition ভালো না। charge থাকে না।

Biplob: ফোনটা তো new আর এখনি এই condition?

Sagor: ভালো service দেয় না।

iii) Urmi's conversation with her sister Rumki:

Urmi: কিরে তোর mood off কেন?

Rumki: আমার exam ভালো হয়নি।

Urmi: কেন? study ভালোভাবে complete করিসনি?

Rumki: করেছি কিন্তু book mark করে পড়িনি। তাই result ভালো হবে না may be

Urmi: tension করো না, result ভালোই হবে।

Misuses of Bangla Language through CS & CM

Various types of misuses of Bangla language are being done by codemixing. Through a deep analysis of 450 data, the researchers have found a few kinds of misuses of Bangla language by codemixing. These are:

Linguistic Misuse

This is the main element of misuse of Bangla language. Native Bangla speakers express their ideas mixing Bangla and English. This is known as Banglish. By this style, Bangla language is being misused and all other misuses have constantly occurred. For example:

- ✓ Bhai tor profile ta khob e valo lage re.
- ✓ Tore onek din doira ekta kotha bolbo vabtesi.
- ✓ Ami tumake chini. Tumi amar classmate chila.
- ✓ ajke all sub a pass korba?

Semantic Misuse

By abbreviating Banglish alphabet, the meaning of the word always is bieng changed in a sentence without the speaker's concern. This is a big misuse of Bangla language. Some recorded conversations have been given below:

- ✓ **Ajk** thaka **grp** ar sub shuru hobe
- ✓ Bangla to **vlo** hoy nai.
- ✓ Ahary toder teacher **amn kn** 2 jon kei ki bahir **kry** disy.
- ✓ Vala, tumi **kry** boltasos bah ba
- ✓ **Amro** ajke din ta krp gese.
- ✓ ar **tmr** college ki off naki.
- ✓ bah! aj first karo mukh **thke ei ktha** sunlam.
- ✓ Tumar ki **khbr**.

Syntactic Misuse

Syntactic misuse is always being occurred by abbreviating Banglish word. Sometimes people make sentences by abbreviating words in the extreme level. As a result, the meaning of the sentence and the structure change and break. Some recorded conversations of this type are-

- ✓ Vlo kre prle to cmmn prbei.
- ✓ oky ask krta amn kn mny hoy.
- ✓ amr shte ktha ble na.
- ✓ Amk mna krsa u k blty.
- ✓ bujty hby to pb bolly kta.
- ✓ kb e ksto lagtyso
- ✓ akn khily syhyre ty kaw a jy na.
- ✓ Saty tik mto blly pre.
- ✓ j mil dea pic del krbo

Phonetical Misuse

By using Banglish alphabet, the pronunciation of the Bangla word is constantly being misused. Some incorrect words which contain the wrong pronunciations are given below along with their correct forms:

| Wrong | Correct |
|---------|-----------|
| Balo | valo |
| ekon | ekhon |
| obosta | obostha |
| bondhu | bondhu |
| kisu | kichhu |
| kota | kotha |
| cinta | chinta |
| ace | achhe |
| posondo | pochhondo |

Lexical Misuse

Using English word instead of Bangla is a big misuse of Bangla language. Due to this practice, a significant number of Bangla words are being abolished day by day. People cannot remember Bangla word when it is needed. A few recorded sentences of this pattern are-

- ✓ **Friend** mane na **thanks** na **sorry**
- ✓ **Mood off** kno bondhu?
- ✓ **Class** e **break** kotokkhon chilo.
- ✓ Apu **answer** den na keno?
- ✓ Jodi kotha e bolben na tahole **friend request accept** korlen keno?
- ✓ Ami tumake **inform** korechilam to.
- ✓ Trust korinai bole kin2 tmk **asked** korci.
- ✓ Ajke **private off** dito koitase.
- ✓ **Id** ta purai **fake**
- ✓ Se eisob korbe na **may be**.
- ✓ oi luker **ego** beshi

Threat of CS & CM on Bengali Language

The researchers have found various opinions from the participants by investigating the question whether codemixing and codeswitching are a threat to Bangla language or not. The participants have given mixed opinions about that.

1. 10% participants have said that it is dangerous. It corrupts the purity of Bengali language.
2. 40% participants said that codemixing and codeswitching is a harmful pattern for Bangla language because they cannot write the correct Bangla word spelling due to practicing codemixing constantly; and for using English word instead of Bangla, they cannot remember many Bangla words when needed. So, it is a big threat to Bangla language.
3. 20% participants have asserted that they do not get interest in Bangla writing without mixing Bangla and English because of practicing codemixing and codeswitching. So, it also poses a big threat to Bangla language.
4. 20% participants have given their opinion that Bangla language itself is a hybrid language. It has been developed by borrowing words from other languages. In this regard, codemixing and codeswitching is not a threat for Bangla language.
5. 10% participants have claimed that they do not forget their language and its element. They practice codemixing and codeswitching for easy communication.

Overall Findings

The findings show that the practice of codemixing and codeswitching in social media is paramount and majority of the participants practice codemixing in different patterns. A few people practice codeswitching. The researchers have found a few types of misuse of Bangla language by codemixing such as linguistic misuse, semantical misuse, syntactic misuse, lexical misuse and phonetical misuse. And, this research also shows that 70% participants asserted that practicing of codemixing and codeswitching is a threat to Bangla language because it spoils the purity of Bangla language, they cannot write correct Bangla word spelling and they do not get interest in pure Bangla writing for practicing Bangla-English codemixing and codeswitching etc. On the other hand 30% participants showed positive attitude on the practice of codemixing and codeswitching. They said that Bangla language is itself a hybrid language. Therefore, they did not see any threat in practicing CS and CM.

Recommendations and Conclusion

Summary and Recommendations

The research has been fulfilled by maintaining all rules and categories related to the research. To reach the aim of this study, various criteria of research method have been followed. The researchers tried their utmost to collect essential and relevant data based on the topic. This study tried to illustrate the range of the practice of codemixing and codeswitching in social media and to find out the misuse of Bangla language by

codemixing and codeswitching and also investigate whether or not codemixing and codeswitching is a threat to Bangla language.

Recommendations

The practice of codemixing and codeswitching is very harmful for both Bangla language and Bengali native speakers. Through the practice of codemixing and codeswitching, Bangla language is being misused and being abolished day by day. So, to reduce the practice of Bangla-English codemixing and codeswitching, the authority of the schools, colleges and universities should take various steps like publishing journals, making reports and giving projects based on the bad impact of the practice of codemixing and codeswitching. In the viewpoint of the researchers, through these ways the practice of codeswitching and codeswitching might be reduced.

Limitations of the Study

This research has some limitations. This work was conducted with a small participants and limited area. Since Facebook is more popular than other social sites of communication, the researchers have collected data from only 200 active facebook users. All facebook users and other social sites have not been selected for data collection. So, all other facebook and social media users' conversations method might be different.

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The Fictionalization of the Self: A Study of Joyce Carol Oates' *them*

Raihana Akter¹

Abstract

Unlike most social and psychological novels, them is a little concerned about cause and motive. "Things" happen, and establishing cause and effect relationships becomes less important than getting on with the day-to-day business of living. In her conception of and execution of the novel, Oates mitigates between fictional order and chaotic reality, the literary equivalents of the forces which fragment the lives of her characters. Less naïve than many contemporary writers, Oates realizes that we are not always better off for our painful experiences that suffering and disaster do not always lead us to self-discovery but often leave us constricted and terrified of change and what the future holds. She knows that perhaps the most dreadful thing about apocalyptic events is that too often they do not destroy us but leave us to face another "ordinary morning." And, if we can survive without succumbing to the urge to fictionalize our own lives and without dividing the external world into "them" and "us", then we have done very well indeed.

Keywords: Accusatory, confession, depression, fictionalization, optimism, mystical, vision of order, unreality, American Dream, land of promise, denial, New World, "them", instinct for survival.

Modern fiction focuses on the quest to define its significance in an environment of 'contradictions and sociological nuances'. In *Academic Fiction: Satire, Ethics, Community*, Kenneth Wormack posits: "How do academic fictions create meaning and value through satirical narratives in a critical era that bemoans the cultural relevance of poststructuralist hermeneutics ...in a postmodern world? (2). In this regard, two letters written by Maureen Wendall, one of the novel's main characters, to Joyce Carol Oates, the novel's author and Maureen's former teacher, are significant and central to an understanding of *them*. The letters are passionate, angry, accusatory and confessional.

In one of them, Maureen confronts Oates with a statement she made in a class and challenges her with questions: "You said, 'Literature gives form to life,' I remember you saying that very clearly. What is form? Why is it better than the way life happens, by itself?"(Oates 138) The notion that there is something which can shape our experiences in a meaningful way both fascinates and infuriates Maureen, who, like all of the Oates' characters, moves in a world in which "Nothing follows" and "anything" can, and as often as not does, happen. An ardent desire, born of despair, for "something

¹Assistant Professor, Department of English Language & Literature, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University

to come to us and give a shape to so much pain," pitted against a street-wise sense that there can be no deliverance from a world so out of control that it "can't be lived", constitutes the conflict which determines so many of the lives in *them*. The tension this conflict produces forces the characters, after attempts to provide order for their lives have failed, to deny the substantiality of their shattering experiences and perceive their lives as a kind of fiction.

Oates herself addressed the issue which Maureen raises of the dichotomy between literary form and "the way life happens" at the very beginning of *them* in her "Author's Note". Here she announces that she intends the novel to be "a work of history in functional form." About the life of Maureen Wendall, the subject and source of this personal history, Oates intimates: "My initial feeling about her life was 'This must be fiction, this can't all be real!' My more permanent feeling was, 'This is the only kind of fiction that is real!'" Oates, of course, is aware that by the very act of writing about the lives of Maureen and her family, she is organizing their experiences in ways which can only be described as literary. However, she stringently resists easy explanations and interpretations for events, and struggles to have her readers experience the action of the novel as immediately as her characters themselves do. Unlike most social and psychological novels, *them* is relatively little concerned with questions of cause and motive. "Things" happen, and establishing cause and effect relationships becomes less important than getting on with the day-to-day business of living. In her conception and execution of *them*, Oates mitigates between fictional order and chaotic reality, the literary equivalents of the forces which fragment the lives of her characters.

In Oates' world, maturity consists of realizing and accepting that there is no design or permanence in one's surroundings and that contentment and hope are taunting invitations to disaster. The future, so much "dangerous time," brings change and change of any kind is terrible and threatening. Optimism is conceivable only by those too young, too dumb, or too deranged to know better. Early in the novel, Oates gives us a sunny portrait of Loretta, Maureen Wendall's mother. It is 1937, the country is in the midst of the Depression, and her family is having difficulties, but, nonetheless, Loretta is young, cheery and feels full of possibility. In an exuberant moment, she tells her older friend Rita, "Sometimes I feel so happy over nothing I must be crazy!" Rita's reply is at once reassuring and premonitory, the advice of a survivor: "'Oh, you're not crazy... you just haven't been through it yet'" (10). Anne Sexton in her poem "Housewife" says that "A woman is her mother. That is the main thing." (77) Janet Berliner, however, does not agree: "Certainly a woman isn't her mother...A woman is the sum of all her influence.—genetic, environmental, personal and impersonal. I know this; I believe this." (2)

Madness and violence with which it is associated always lurk as threats in *them*. The disorder and unpredictability of the external world impose monstrous burdens on its inhabitants, and those who do not succumb to madness, live in fear of it. After her boy-friend is murdered in her bed by her brother, Loretta's thoughts are described by

the narrator: "And what if she went crazy... [She] had seen other crazy people, had seen how fast they changed into being crazy. No one could tell how fast they changed into being crazy. No one could tell how fast that change might come" (p. 31). It is the matter of an episode over which we have no control. John Knowles in *A Separate Peace*, projects a similar situation. Phineas, Gene and Lepellier, all eventually head toward tragedy because of their failure to discern reality. Phineas the idealist, the brilliant athlete is maimed for life because he falls from a tree which Gene had jounced. And tragically in *A Separate Peace* Gene can't explain why: "No, I don't know how to show you how I can show, Finny? Tell me how to show. It was just some ignorance inside me, some crazy thing inside me, something behind, that's all it was." (Knowles 239)

Madness and violence do not build up over a period of time, but like the fires which recur in the novel, appear out of nowhere and immediately rage out of control, reducing all supposed permanence and solidity to cinders. The line which separates violence and order, madness and sanity, is too thin to be recognizable and one can pass from one realm into the other without even realizing it. Nadine, Jules Wendall's girlfriend who emerges from a love-making session with him to pump two bullets into his chest, speaks frequently, as does Maureen, of her fear "Of everything, of going over the edge" (367).

In the chaotic, impoverished atmosphere of *them*, money is perceived not in economic or political, but in mystical terms. Money, even in small sums, enables one to exert some semblance of control over one's environment and all control is magical when cause and effect are inoperative. When Maureen prostitutes herself, she cultivates a pathological detachment from the sexuality of her acts and thinks only of the money she will receive: "It was supposed to be out of sight and out of her concern for the moment. But she thought keenly about it, its passing from his hands into hers, its becoming her money...Its power would become hers, it was magical in her hands and secret from all the world..." (191). Maureen saves and hides the money she earns and thinks about it to an extent clearly out of proportion to what it can do for her. The obsessive accumulation of money becomes and ends in itself; its mystique as a charm against disaster overpowers its practical significance.

Access, or seeming access, to large sums of money accords one virtually god-like status in *them*. A wealthy man can raise you out of the mire of your daily existence and set your life to rights by a mere act of will. When Jules Wendall is befriended by Bernard Geffen, who tosses checks and large bills around with a mad self-assurance, he experiences not mere joy at his good fortune but a sense of revelation about the nature of life itself. Bernard gives Jules several hundred dollars per week and promises to finance his college education. Jules reflects that never before "had he really been given a gift, a surprising gift of the kind that stuns the heart that lets you know why people keep on living--why else, except in anticipation of such gifts, such undeserved surprises?" (231). Money is a sign of the gods' favor. It is not only architectural

similarity which reminds Jules of a church when he walks into a bank to cash one of Bernard's checks.

But, finally, money itself is not permanent protection against the sweeping flood of calamitous events in *them*. Bernard turns out to be a second-rate shabby gangster with no real wealth. His throat is slit in an abandoned tenement. Jules' opportunity, later in the book, to rise to power in his millionaire uncle Samson's business never is realized either. Money also does not prove the solution to Maureen's problems. Her step-father discovers her hidden wealth, as well as her means of earning it, and brutally beats her. The promise which money holds out to the poor, who can only obtain it through humiliation or semi-divine fiat and do not have the means to hold onto it, is insubstantial and only leaves them feeling greater rage and frustration.

Their inability to shape their destiny in any positive way makes the characters in *them* yearn for permanence and stability in their lives. If they cannot be what they want to be, if they cannot live how they want to live, they want their circumstances at least to remain constant. The permanence that they desire is usually couched in traditional American values: a home, a family and for the women, a housewife's role. As they emerge and are articulated in the characters' minds, these values seem not so much to be genuinely desirable in themselves but empirical proofs that one has "settled down," that one has established an entrenched position in the battle of life.

Oates dramatizes this search for permanence early in the novel, when Loretta marries Howard Wendall. Loretta, while she does not seem to love him, is grateful to Howard for marrying her and providing an escape from her troubled home and neighborhood. She and her new married friends share a sense that "they had all come very close to the edge of something" and had managed to avoid going over. Determined not to take risks with their survival, they are pleased to see "how uniform" everything is in their new neighborhood. Indeed, "They were anxious for everything to be uniform" (44). Loretta happily thought that "she had come to the end of her life" and "would probably live here forever." One of the characteristic traits of Oates' poor is their extraordinary resiliency. Having avoided or survived disaster, they are proud of having fought life at least to a draw and struggle to re-establish their lives in less vulnerable circumstances, only to be disappointed again in the not-so-distant future.

Maureen Wendall subscribes to the same domestic ideals as her mother, despite Loretta's life having collapsed around them both innumerable times. Trying to rebuild her life after her spell as a prostitute, her savage beating at the hands of her step-father and a lengthy period of near-catatonia, Maureen describes her ideal future situation in one of her letters to Oates:

I'd be living in a house out of the city, a ranch house or a colonial house, with a fence around the back, a woman working in the kitchen, wearing slacks maybe, a baby in his crib in her baby's room, thin white gauzy curtains, a bedroom for my husband and me, a window in the living-room looking out onto the lawn and the street and the house

across the street. Every cell in my body aches for this! My eyes ache for it, the balls of my eyes in their sockets, hungry and aching for this, my God how I want that house and that man, whoever he is. (315)

It is evident from the passion and precision of detail in this passage that Maureen has experienced this fantasy more intensely than she has the pain and frustration of her own life. Indeed, this vision of order has more reality for her than her own unspeakable past.

In John Didion's *Play it as it Lays*, the protagonist Maria is clearly at the end of her tether because of the sordidity and disorder in past relationships and life. She also conjures up a vision of order, looking for a trace of happiness in the simplest of things. In this, She spells her dreams out methodically: "....my plans for the future are these: (1) get Kate, (2) live with Kate alone (3) do some canning. Damson plums, apricot preserves. Sweet India relish and pickled peaches." (1971)

The obsession, this search for order seems to be a major concern in 20th century fiction. This vision of suburban bliss contrasted to urban chaos and decay, has a profound sense of reality, which his own life lacks, for Maureen's brother Jules, as well. Having run away to the South with a girl he had met only two days earlier, Jules wanders about looking for a house from which he can steal some money. He spots a housewife walking barefoot across her lawn to pick up a newspaper: "This sight pleased Jules--it was so ordinary and reasonable. Walking alone here, even in his sweaty clothes, he was close to the secret workings of things, the way people lived when they were not being observed. In himself there were no secret workings: he had no ordinary, reasonable life" (287). It is important to note that Jules' sense of his own unreality is so acute in this passage that he discounts even his own role as an observer. If he is watching, then it is as if no one is watching. Jules' desire to experience this orderly existence is so strong that having stolen into one of these houses, "On an impulse he lay down on the bed, his feet side by side. He smiled. So this was what it was like" (287-88). Real life for Jules, and for so many of Oates' characters, is not found in one's own existence but in the way they, and who they are depends upon who you are, live.

This ideal of the "ordinary, reasonable life" is an aspect of the American Dream which has particular appeal for Oates' characters. There are magazines which package this ideal figure significantly in certain situations in *them*. If great works of art attempt to give shape to people's suffering, these magazines try to deny pain and reduce the complexities of life to a series of simple-minded rules. Jim Randolph's wife, whom he is about to abandon along with their three children for Maureen Wendall, reads these magazines and one is described to us in some detail. There is a cake on the cover of this issue, which includes such articles as "A Doctor Looks at Intimate Problems of Marriage" and "The Five Basic Don'ts" which are "Don't worry needlessly. Don't expect too much, particularly from your husband. Don't compare yourself to your friends. Don't take anything for granted. Don't daydream!" (391).

This magazine, and others of its kind, performs a double-function for their readers. They sugarcoat and simplify life while simultaneously endorsing the same fearful passivity and timidity which was reflected in the lives of Loretta and her friends. The "Five Basic Don'ts," these secular commandments, are unrelenting in their cautions against expecting or demanding too much from life. Exerting the merest pressure, even on one's spouse, will reveal the precariousness and the emptiness of one's existence. In this light, the significance of the fact that in the climactic final scene of the book, when Jules visits Maureen after she has married Jim Randolph, she is reading one of these women's magazines. The magazine, the presence of Jules as a symbol of a past she can never completely escape, and the physical instability of her new surroundings ("he reached out to touch the railing of the stairwell—it was plastic—and she saw how wobbly it was, ready to fall off if someone bumped against it") combine to demonstrate how tenuous Maureen's hold on an "ordinary, reasonable life" is.

The movies provide another standard by which the characters in *them* measure the "reality" and orderliness of their own lives. Loretta and Jules, particularly, regard films as expressions not of how life should be, but of how life is.

They perceive the disparity between the optimistic movies they watch and their own disaster-ridden lives not as the result of a cinematic distortion of reality but as an indication of something unidentifiable, but nevertheless very real, lacking in their own lives. In this sense, their lives become fictionalized. Their experiences have all the drama and passion of movies but want singleness of focus and inter-relatedness of event. In contrast to the quietistic advice of the housewives' magazines, the movies portray a world in which heroics are daily events and boldness and aggression, traits which could easily get one killed in the treacherous world of *them*, are always rewarded.

The joy, optimism and promise of Loretta's youth, lost to her through events which she cannot comprehend, are associated in her mind with the movies. She watches movies uncritically, too delightfully absorbed in the actions unfolding before her to judge them in any way. "Oh, it was real nice, I like it fine" is her standard opening remark when discussing a film she's seen (106). She describes one movie at some length. The wind-up of the complicated plot, which pivots on the sudden financial, collapse of a wealthy man's investments, is "the stock market goes back up. The daughter gets married. The butler marries one of the maids....It ends all right" (107). The contrast between the cinematic neatness of this ending and the maddening lopsidedness of Loretta's own life is obvious and she is not unaware of it. Her further remarks are revealing in this regard. "I want to be like people in that movie, I want to know what I'm doing," she tells her children, "I wasn't meant to be like this--I mean, stuck here. Really I wasn't. I don't look like this. I mean, my hair, and I'm too fat. I don't really look like this, I look a different way" (108). The violence of the "real" world has somehow distorted Loretta's true self; not only has her life not proceeded the way it was "supposed" to, her very physical appearance is a deception. The real world has created

a fictional Loretta, whose "true" existence is only seen on the screen. Things do not seem as if they will end "all right"; Loretta is living episodes which, in the edited world of film, would have wound upon the cutting-room floor.

Not surprisingly, since he is her first and favorite child, Jules shares Loretta's fascination with the fictional world of the movies. We are told that "Much of Jules' life had come from the movies, much of his language and his good spirits" (133). Jules' optimism and survival skills are tougher than Loretta's. He goes even further than she does in fictionalizing the real world. A great part of Jules' charm comes from his irrepressible sense that he has a personal destiny to meet, that his future holds success and fulfillment. Like many Americans, both real and fictional before him, he associates the land of promise with the west and particularly with California, to which he is heading as the bookends.

Jules' sense of himself as an individual predestined for future good fortune can be traced directly back to his perception of himself as a character in a fiction. As a young boy, Jules "thought of himself as a character in a book being written by himself, a fictional fifteen-year-old with the capacity to become anything, because he was fiction. What couldn't he make out of himself?" (99). Jules continually distances himself from his own life in this way and comments upon it as a spectator might. "This looks like Chapter One," he exclaims to himself when it seems as if Bernard Geffen is going to help him realize all his hopes (235). "This is Jules in Texas," he thinks as he is running away with Nadine, so alienated from his surroundings that he refers to himself, as he will at subsequent points in the book, in the third person (286). "Endlessly Jules had pursued Jules in endless stories and dreams" (363). Like Loretta, he has an inner sense of a "true Jules" to whom certain events and situations are grossly inappropriate, indeed, unreal, and betrayals of his "true" self.

The extent to which Jules and Loretta view the world in which they move as unreal in some elemental way indicates how little their lives have measured up to their expectations. They are intensely disappointed people. Denial is the only psychic mechanism which can keep them functional in the face of the astonishing catastrophes which characterize their lives. Jules' feeling that his "life is a story imagined by a madman" conveys fully how bizarre and frightening his existence seems to him (255). Loretta's resiliency is the virtue of a woman who has been so battered by incessant blows that she cannot fully comprehend how appalling her life has been. As the novel goes on, it becomes more and more clear that Jules' "optimism" is a delusion of psychotic proportions. Even disaster becomes fictionalized for him as he becomes convinced that he is "not a character in 'real life'" (354). In a striking premonition of his fate at Nadine's hands, Jules' imagination, "heated by the memory of movies," tells him that being shot down "was the price that had to be paid for being important" (355). In Jules' desperate and confused mind, his dreadful experiences are twisted into a curious kind of negative affirmation of his specialty.

As a schoolgirl, Maureen Wendall, terrified by the nightmarish world which surrounds her, turns to literature, particularly the novels of Jane Austen, for succor and release. Like Loretta and Jules, however, she perceives the structured world of fiction as real and her own life as false and insubstantial. Reading novels, Maureen feels like someone waking up from a horrible dream, escaping not from but into, reality. Oates writes that Maureen "liked novels set in England. As soon as she read the first page of a novel by Jane Austen she was pleased, startled, excited to know that this was real: the world of this novel was real. Her own life, up over Elson's Drugs or back on Labrosse, could not be real" (165-166). For Maureen, the less like her own life these books are in tone, setting and event, the more real they become.

The money which Maureen earns as a prostitute becomes associated in her mind with the literature she loves. The money she receives for her acts is described as being "as real as a novel by Jane Austen." She hides her money, significantly, in a book, *Poets of the New World*. In some magical way, her money will provide her life with the order and sense of reality that she experiences when reading fiction. She will live in a "New World"; her own life will be as "real" as an Austen novel.

Though similar in her willingness to distrust the reality of her own experiences, Maureen never becomes as vapid as her mother or as psychotically deluded as Jules. Like them, she is intensely angry that her life will not sort itself out as precisely as a work of fiction, but she finally rebels against the feeling that her experiences are any less authentic for that reason. Her own life, maddening and disorganized as it is, comes eventually to have full significance for her. She writes in one of her letters to Joyce Carol Oates: "Why did you think that book about Madame Bovary was so important? All those books? Why did you tell us they were more important than life? They are not more important than my life" (312). Maureen reviles Oates for her knowledge of literature, for "knowing so much that never happened" and, against the claim that literature gives form to life, asserts that "I lived my life but there is no form to it. No shape" (320).

Clearly, Maureen's vehemence is generated by her desire for control over her life, her wish for a "law. Something that will come back again and again, that I can understand" (410). Maureen only begins to exercise some power over her fate, as morally questionable and precarious as that power is, when she refuses to persist in fictionalizing her life as Jules and Loretta do. By respecting and rooting herself in her own experiences, she shows that she has learned the most important lesson art has to teach. If, at the end of the book, Maureen's life is not as firmly grounded as she would like to think it is, she is at least not being swept along by the tide of events as directly as Loretta and Jules are. It is significant that she is virtually unaffected by the Detroit riots which burn down her mother's home and turn her brother into a murderer. Though Maureen does not realize it, *Madame Bovary* and the novels of Austen have helped her achieve what grade-B movies and housewives' magazines never can provide: a sense of the dignity and importance of her own life.

The psychological impulse of individuals to turn, in the face of appalling social conditions, to fictional forms for meaning, indeed, to attempt in some way to fictionalize their own lives, cannot help but strike the reader as convincing. It nonetheless regrettable, however, that in a novel so much concerned, both explicitly and indirectly, with such issues as urban blight, white flight, poverty, race relations and violence, political analyses and solutions are treated as shabbily as they are in *them*. Mort Piercy, the most important political figure in the book, is depicted as an overgrown, spoiled, upper-middleclass child, quite probably insane, who wages an irresponsible war against the "Establishment" on government Poverty Program grants. His friends are privileged University "radicals" with frightening delusions of grandeur. Their idealism is quickly revealed to be a shallow cover for paranoia and repressed sociopathic impulses and their political discussions revolve around whether, during the Detroit riots, it would be more in the interest of the revolution to assassinate President Johnson or murder Martin Luther King and blame it on the right wing. Oates clearly suggests that the Detroit riots were not the result of an explosion of Black rage following centuries of intolerable oppression but were orchestrated from behind the scenes by a small band of cynical and deluded whites.

That Oates diminishes the motives and intellects of engaged white radicals by creating a stick-figure like Mort to represent them is not really the point. That she perpetuates the reactionary falsehood that Black urban unrest is not the autonomous response of oppressed people to an oppressive situation but the product of manipulative white agitation is more serious, but still is not the main issue. Oates is by no means required to conform to a specific ideological position. However, that a novel so much concerned with the efforts of people to establish some kind of control over a disordered social reality should not discuss the political aspects of the problem with more grace and insight than Oates does here is disturbing. It is not a sufficient defense to say, as some might, that characters like Mort and his friends did, and do, exist. Individuals of all kinds exist in all kinds of situations. The novelist has a responsibility to make choices of characterization which do not express unsophisticated perceptions of complex matters central to the novel at hand.

By her very title Oates seems to demand at least some discussion of a collective solution to the problems which her novel confronts. The radical alienation of characters from themselves, the condition which is expressed by their fictionalizing their own lives, may be seen as the reflection within the individual than many contemporary writers, Oates realizes that we are not always better off for our painful experiences, that suffering and disaster do not always lead us to self-discovery but often leave us constricted and terrified of change and what the future holds. She knows that perhaps the most dreadful thing about apocalyptic events is that too often they do not destroy us but leave us to face another "ordinary morning", by "laying bare the assumptions about human beings and society and the hierarchy of values that govern the world," an approach that Rosenblatt supports (149-150). The instinct for survival becomes a virtue in this connection. And if we can survive without succumbing to the urge to fictionalize

our own lives and without dividing the external world into "them" and "us," then we have done very well indeed.

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Expression of Indianness in Nissim Ezekiel's Poetry

Md. Aziz-ul-Bari Khan¹

Abstract

Poetry is a vast area of literature which reflects the history and the lifestyle of contemporary society. As a Post-Independence native poet of India, Nissim Ezekiel sketches his contemporary society, its traditions and cultures, norms and rituals, and overall the Indianness of the Indian people. The false fascination of the Indian people for foreign countries and their typical mentality regarding Indianism have been represented in his poetry with irony. His mockeries to the Indianness make his poetry credible with originality. This study aims to focus on the expression of the Indianness in Ezekiel's poetry "The Professor", "Soap" and "Night of the Scorpion" where the poet has drawn his contemporary society with his excellent wit and sarcasm.

Keywords: Indianness, Indian People, Fascination, Tradition, Sarcasm.

I

Indo Anglian Poetry achieved new heights in the post-independence era of Indian Writing in English. Although the emergence of modern English poetry in India was a part of modernization that brought a great social change, the presence of Indianism was vividly observed in the Indian English poems. The Indian poets started using English language in their own Indian style and gave it a different but unique taste. This made Indian English literature not only artistic but also worthy by sociological, cultural and philosophical views. The emergence of new poets brought new themes in poetry. 'Indianness' is one of the common themes in Indian English poetry. The typical, stereotyped and superstitious thinking and false fascination for English language rather than mother tongue- all can be considered as a part of Indianness. As one of the pioneers in postcolonial Indian literature, specifically for Indian writing in English, Nissim Ezekiel's treatment towards 'Indianness' in his poems undoubtedly has a great significance. Indian English poetry started as a new basis rooted in the tradition of modern poetry with him (Gautam, 184). He is one of the most popular and prominent Indian poets of the Post-Independence Era in Indian sub-continent.

His poetry has the quality of authenticity related to Indian life and settings. He finds Indian life in conventional tone and sketches it ironically with different thought and style. Ezekiel's writings have the profundity which is very much unsentimental,

¹ Associate Professor & Head, Department of English, City University

realistic and sensible. This made him influential on the course of succeeding Indian English poetry. Ezekiel's poems express genuine Indianisms with an artistic purpose in a very sarcastic but realistic way. In Ezekiel's writings Indianness is always persistent (Patil, 178). As an Indian, he holds the root of his nation and portrays it in his writings. He says,

“India is simply my environment. A man can do something for and in environment by being fully what he is, by not withdrawing from it. I have not withdrawn from India” (As cited in Parthasarathy, 5)

His writings have the profundity which is very much unsentimental, realistic and sensible. He has presented the real India in his poems with the follies, foibles, weaknesses, identity crisis, superstitions and deficiencies of the Indians from a reformatory point of view. This has made him influential on the course of succeeding Indian English poetry. Indian English language poetry has been enriched and established by Nissim Ezekiel, through his modernist innovations and techniques. Indianness is quite evident in his poetry. All his poems are composed in his own style that is free verse, clear, simple, precise and full of Indian flavor. With the aforementioned, this study intends to focus on the expression of Indianness in Ezekiel's poems “The Professor”, “Soap” and “Night of the Scorpion”.

II

Ezekiel's poems bear the postmodern aspects that deal with the theme of irony, playfulness, satire and so on. He is aware of Indian social reality and observed profoundly the habits and manners of Indian speakers. His poem “The Professor” is a manifest of satire on Indian English where he has portrayed the typical urban mentality of the Indian people. In the poem, the poet points out the urban mentality of Indian people. This poem is presented in a conversation style between a professor and his ex-student though the conversation seems to be a monologue due to the silence of the student as a listener. Here, the professor ridicules himself by the way he speaks or thinks. Although the professor is the speaker of this poem and by profession he is to educate others, he himself seems to lack the proper command of the medium he utilizes. As a man of excellent academic background, he is supposed to be far above from that of a common man. “Instead of having a broad thinking, the professor has a narrow, stereotyped thinking. His views are confined to his family, children and their material achievements in life.” (Trisha). He talks about his sons who are a sales manager and a bank manager respectively and they both have cars. He says-

“By God's grace, all my children
Are well settled in life
One is Sales Manager,
One is Bank Manager,
Both have cars.” (Ezekiel, 20)

Again, he talks about her daughters who are happily married. Here, the poet makes fun of the Indian tradition of using of rhyming names for their kids too as the professor says,

“Sarala and Tarala are married

Their husbands are very nice boys” (Ezekiel, 20)

The poet portrays the Indian society’s stereotyped mentality where it is considered as the highest achievement for girls to get married and have children and for boys to have a good job with high salary. Through the amusing language of the professor, the poet makes mockery of the use of English language of Indian people. It seems to be a direct translation of the native language with the same structure and tone though the tone is serious; the subject is very trivial in nature.

The speaker asks the listener a very different but traditional question which is considered as an essential question to be asked to someone known in Indian society. The professor asks his student,

“How many issues you have? Three?” (Ezekiel, 20)

To Indian people talking about the family issues with known persons is measured as very vital and common thing. This is sort of their social tradition that the professor in the poem follows.

The professor who is sketched in this poem proves to be a good one neither academically nor morally. Rather he appears to be hopelessly egocentric who is obsessed with his own matters. He holds the Indian tradition and stereotyped mentality in both his thoughts and actions. Thus, Indianness has been presented in the poem.

III

The false fascination to English language in ‘Indian form’ is quite visible in Ezekiel’s poem “Soap”. The poet has composed the poem with a humorous tone where the words are in English, but the grammar and diction have an Indian feel. This is a poem about an ordinary incident of buying a soap. Here, the narrator is concerned about the ill-manner of the shopkeeper who is trying to sell a ‘defective soap’ to him (Durbanville). The ‘defective soap’ symbolizes the narrator’s snobbish attitude towards the Indian commodities as they are the local thing, not imported from foreign. The narrator says,

“...but this is defective version of well-known brand soap.”
(Ezekiel, 14)

The narrator finds the soap as a ‘defective version’ of a ‘well-known brand’ which basically represents the Indian peoples’ mentality of buying something branded products or imported from foreign countries. They rely on such kinds of products than their own products. It’s a sort of fascination that the Indian people hold in themselves. Moreover, being over fascinated to English language, the Indian people prefer the language even more than their own mother tongue to communicate others, as it is narrated in the poem,

“So I’m saying very politely-
though in Hindi I’m saying it,
and my Hindi is not so good as my English...” (Ezekiel, 14)

Again, when the narrator and the shopkeeper seem to be tangled in a quarrel, a crowd is seen there which is another typical and common practice of Indian people. The poet criticizes the incident in a sarcastic way that also shows the narrator’s Indian use of English language,

“Now small crowd is collecting
and shopman is much bigger than me...” (Ezekiel, 14)

The use of English language in the poem mocks at the snobby attitude of Indian people towards their own language and points to their love and charm for foreign countries. The poet intensely scorns the core Indianness of the Indian people in the poem “Soap”.

IV

As an Indian, Ezekiel was quite familiar with the simplicity of the Indian village people and their superstitious and stereotyped mentality which he portrays with suspense in his poem “Night of the Scorpion”. Here, the poet presents a terrifying picture of the Indian people where an insect is given a monstrous dimension. The poem depicts the irrational attitude of the Indian society and at the same time explores the compassionate love of a mother for her child, which is itself a conspicuous feature of Indianness. In the poem, the poet focuses on a single incident of his family where a scorpion was forced by constant rain to take shelter under the sack of rice in the poet’s house. It ended up stinging his mother that made active the surrounding people to lessen his mother’s pain (Andrew Spacey). The poet depicts,

“I remember the night my mother
was stung by a scorpion. Ten hours
of steady rain had driven him
to crawl beneath a sack of rice.” (Parthasarathy, 31)

All this was observed by the narrator when he was just a young boy. The narrator remembers the moment when the villagers tried to search for the insect to restrain it so that the poison would not spread, because they had a strong belief that the more the insect would move, the more the poison would spread inside the victim's body. As the narrator says here,

“With every movement that the scorpion made his poison moved
in Mother's blood, they said.” (Parthasarathy, 32)

Apart from that, the poem mocks to the lack of proper medical and scientific knowledge that takes away the lives of so many people in Indian society. Here, the blind beliefs of the typical ignorant Indians about the connection between the physical sickness and the spiritual philosophy have been portrayed intensely,

“May your suffering decrease
the misfortunes of your next birth, they said.
May the sum of all evil
balanced in this unreal world.” (Parthasarathy, 32)

The superstitious villagers tried to lessen the pain of the narrator's mother by their words of consoling. Their primitive impulse led them to bring candles and lanterns to give her treatment. They considered the scary pain of poison as a symbol of reducing all the sins of her past life as well as of next birth. These are the blind beliefs of Indian people that derive from orthodox religious view. Here, Ezekiel wants to show the wound of superstition seems to be more dangerous and harmful than the wound of the poisonous scorpion. The poison of the scorpion seems to be increased similarly as the poison of the superstitions and the blind religious beliefs of the ignorant people. The scorpion is poisonous, so is the ignorance of the villagers.

Finally, the poem ends up with the calmness of the mother. After her whole night agony, she triumphed over the poisonous pain and relieved from her sufferings. At that time, her first words surprised the presented ones as she said,

“Thank God the scorpion picked on me
And spared my children.” (Parthasarathy, 32)

These words show a mother's unconditional love and concern for her children and expresses the selflessness of a mother.

V

Ezekiel's poems are full of irony that reflects the typical Indian society and its customs and norms. Unlike the earlier poets in the Indian English literature, he avoids the emotional indulgence and focuses on the facts and flaws of human nature especially

that of Indian people. His poems expose the various ugly aspects and the agony of human life. His poetry shows all the typical features of a modern Indian poet that express the problems of the Indian society, the depiction of the common people and the portrayal of the varied culture with great sarcasm, irony and wit (Karmakar, 64). His presentation of the theme and style of sketching the characters of the poem add more attraction and rhythm to its subject. His poems represent the archetypal temperament and vibe of the profound Indianness. The poems “The Professor”, “Soap” and “Night of the Scorpion” are the exact and appropriate examples of that deep-rooted Indianness. As one of the most popular and eminent Indian poets of the post-independence era, Ezekiel is successful in expressing Indianness in his poetry intensely that creates a place in his readers’ minds.

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An Overview on the Testamentary Disposition of Property or Will under Hindu Law in Bangladesh

Md. Abu Hanif*

Mohosin Khan**

Abstract

Testamentary disposition of property or a will is a process of legally declaring the future of the property, made by any person, after his death. The concept of will is not recognized under traditional Hindu law. The early wills in Hindu law were in the form of a deed of gifts or settlement made by the Hindus before their death and intended to operate inter vivos. In Bangladesh, laws relating to wills are based on statutory as well as religious principles. Generally, wills under Hindu Law are regulated by the Succession Act 1925. On the other hand, wills for Muslims are regulated under the Muslim Personal Laws in this country. This paper tries to explore and make an overview of the existing laws of wills prevailing for Hindus in Bangladesh.

Keywords: Will, bequest, testamentary disposition, testator, probate, Codicil

I. Introduction

Hindus living in Bangladesh mostly follow the Dayabhaga School. A person's property is devolved to his heirs in two established ways after his death. One is testamentary i.e. by way of will; and another is non-testamentary i.e. according to the respective law of succession. There is no effect of will during the lifetime of the testator but it becomes effective and enforceable only after the death of a testator.¹ Traditional Hindu law does not recognize the mechanism of making will.² Will, among the early Hindus may be considered a development of gift *inter vivos*, and the concept of gift gave rise to the concept of will among the Hindus.³ The testamentary disposition of property among the Hindus can be seen as the additional room of gift. Nonetheless, the power of making will under Hindu law is well established and properly recognized.⁴ In *Beer Pertab v. Rajender Pertab*⁵, it has been said by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council that:

***Lecturer, Department of Law, Bangladesh University of Professionals, Dhaka, Bangladesh**

****Lecturer, Department of Law, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh**

¹Ashish Gupta, "Rules Governing Transfer of Property through Will" (*The Economic Times*, July 17, 2010) <<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/consumer-legal/rules-governing-transfer-of-property-through-will/slideshow/6180123.cms> > accessed July 20, 2020.

²M. Badaruddin, *Hindu Ain* (3rd ed., Mokta Law Book House, 2003) 221.

³Mridul Kanti Rakshit, *The Principles of Hindu Law* (8th ed., Karmrul Law Book House, 2016) 762.

⁴*Soorjeemoney Dossey v. Denobundoo Mullick* (1862) 9 MLA 123, 136

⁵(1867) 12 MLA 1, 37-38

“It is too late to contend that, because the ancient Hindu treatises make no mention of wills, a Hindu cannot however make a testamentary disposition of his property. Too numerous decided cases to be now questioned, have determined that the testamentary power exists, and can be exercised, at least within the limits which the law prescribes to alienation, by gift *inter vivos*.”

Practically testamentary disposition of property by Hindus appears to be the extension of gift. Will first came into vogue among the Hindus of Bengal after the Privy Council decision in *Tagore v. Tagore*⁶ and subsequently in the rest of India.⁷ At the origin, Hindus did not distinguish between will and gift. They are perceived identically back then. Early wills among the Hindus were virtually deeds of gifts or settlements made by them before their death and intended to operate after their death. Currently, the Succession Act of 1925 is the governing law which sets out the legal framework for the will by Hindus. Before this Act, there were the Succession Certificate Act, 1889 Probate and Administration Act, 1881, and Wills Act, 1870, which used to govern wills of Hindus. Aforementioned Succession Act defines will in following words: “the legal declaration of the intention of a testator concerning his property which he desires to be carried into effect after his death”.⁸ It is to be remembered that the Hindu Wills Act, 1870 was the first enactment relating to will. This Act was repealed by the Succession Act, 1925 which was subsequently adopted by the Bangladesh Laws (Revision and Declaration) Act, 1973 in Bangladesh. Interestingly Buddhist, Jain and Sikh are also subject of the Succession Act, 1925 along with Hindus. However, Muslims follow their own sets of personal law for the procedure of will.⁹

This study is descriptive and analytical in nature. It has been completed based on the sources and materials available in the original statutes, case laws, journal and newspaper articles, books and other reliable online materials, etc. This piece of writing is expected to add another feather by giving a clear overview to the relevant field of law in Bangladesh.

II. Objectives of the Study

The broad objective of this study is to explore and describe the existing laws relating to testamentary disposition of property or Will prevailing in Bangladesh. Besides, there are some specific objectives, such as: to show the state of pure Hindu Law in regard to testamentary disposition of property or disposition of property by way of will and to examine and analyze the statutory and case laws relating to will in Bangladesh.

⁶(1872) 9 BengLR 377

⁷Rakshit, (n 3) 763

⁸The Indian Succession Act, 1925, s 2(h)

⁹Helplinlaw.com, “Wills Under Indian Succession Act, 1925” (*Helpline Law*)

<<http://www.helplinlaw.com/real-estate-wills-probate-and-trust/WISA/wills-under-indian-succession-act-1925.html>> accessed September 20, 2020.

III. Conceptual and Theoretical Framework

Will: A will means “the legal declaration of the intention of a testator with respect to his property which he desires to be carried into effect after his death.”¹⁰ A person who has attained the age of majority (18 years)¹¹ and possesses a sound mind can transfer his property by way of will.¹² Thus, under the Succession Act, anyone of sound mind and above eighteen is eligible to make a will.¹³

If a document merely gives authority to adopt it without any actual disposal then it will not be a will, even if it is described as a will by its maker.¹⁴ If a party writes or prepares a will to benefit from it, or if any suspicion arises due to circumstantial reason, it is for those who propounded the will to eliminate all doubt and show affirmatively that the testator understood the contents of the will and accepted it. Then the burden of proving fraudulent activity or any undue influence will shift to the opposers of the will.¹⁵ A document to be considered a will must contain a declaration by the testator for the disposal of his property. The person who makes the will is called a Testator, who receives property is called legatee and who is appointed to carry it out is called Executor.¹⁶

Probate refers to a document which is issued under the seal and signature of a Court officer that certifies that a particular will was proved. For that purpose, a copy of the will must be annexed. The petition for probate or letters of administration of the will is barred by a limitation period. It should be filed within three years from the date of demise of the testament maker. On the other hand, Christian and Muslim wills do not require any probate.¹⁷

In case of Hindu will, right of executor or legatee cannot be established until the probate of the will is granted by a competent Court.¹⁸ If a will maker wants to make a few changes to the Will, he can do so by making a codicil to the Will without altering the entire Will. It is possible to execute the codicil in a similar way as the Will.¹⁹

IV. Discussion and Analysis

Will under Hindu law can be termed as a latest development compared to other

¹⁰The Succession Act, 1925, s 2(h)

¹¹The Majority Act, 1875, s 3

¹²The Succession Act, 1925, s 59

¹³Aiman R. Khan, “Bangladeshi Law on Wills: A comparative study”, LawyersClubBangladesh.com, July 16, 2019. <<http://lawyersclubbangladesh.com/en/2019/07/16/bangladeshi-law-on-wills-a-comparative-study/>>, Accessed on January 10, 2020.

¹⁴*Jagannatha v Kunja* (1921) 48 IA 482

¹⁵*Rash Mohini v Umesh Chunder* (1898) 25 Cal 824

¹⁶Khan, (n 13)

¹⁷P B Ramanujam, “A will can resolve vexatious family issues” (*The Economic Times*, July 14, 2010), <<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/consumer-legal/a-will-can-resolve-vexatious-family-issues/slideshow/6166973.cms>>, accessed July 20, 2020.

¹⁸S. K. Routh, *Elements of Hindu Law* (2nd ed., Comilla Law Book House, 2011), pp. 261-273.

¹⁹Gupta, (n 1)

discussing issues. For the better understanding of the concept of will, it requires an analysis from a recent legal development perspective. Thus, this issue is discussed in the light of statutes and case laws hereinafter.

- *Who can make wills:*

Whatever may have been the nature and forms of the Hindu law of wills and whatever law was applicable to Hindu wills before the enactment of the Succession Act, 1925, after the passing of this Act the Hindu law relating to will have been administered by this Act.

According to section 57 of this, all the provisions incorporated in Part VI which are set out in its Schedule III shall apply to all wills and codicils made by the Hindus of Bangladesh subject to the restrictions and modifications specified therein. Section 59 of this Act provides every Hindu who is of sound mind and not a minor may dispose of his property by will.²⁰ Minor is unable to make a will. Here, minor means any person who according to the Majority Act, 1875, has not reached his majority; any other person who has not reached the age of eighteen. Will by a woman who is married may dispose of any property that she may alienate during her life by her own act. If they are able to discern what they do by doing so, people who are deaf or dumb or blind can make a will. Nevertheless, a person is unable to make a will, if due to intoxication or illness or some other reasons he does not have the knowledge as to what he is doing. During the minority, a Hindu father can appoint guardians to his child. A will or any part of a will that has been made by fraud, intimidation or without the testator's free consent is invalid. A will, if it is competent to dispose of its property by a subsequent will, can be revoked or altered by its creator at any time. Marriage cannot revoke a will.

- *What property may be disposed of by will:*

No Hindu can alienate any property by will if it could not be alienated by gift between living persons. Moreover, he cannot dispense with his property by will in order to deprive his wife or any other person from any legal rights or maintenance.²¹ In other words, a Hindu may dispose of all those properties by will of which he could make a gift provided that the payment of maintenance to those persons whom he is obligated to provide maintenance. A Hindu can dispose of by will the following properties:²²

- (i) A Hindu may dispose of by will his separate or self-acquired property and this is supported by all the schools of Hindu law.²³ Nevertheless, no Hindu would have been able to dispose of his entire property in order to defeat the demands

²⁰D. F. Mulla, *Principles of Hindu Law* (21st ed., LexisNexis, 2011), pp. 261-273.

²¹*Sonatun v Juggutsoondree* (1859) 8 MLA 66-88.

²²R. K. Agarwal, *Hindu Law* (24th ed. Central Law Agency, India 2014) 414-417.

²³*Beer Pertab v Rajender Pertab* (1867) 12 MIA 1.

of his wife and of other persons entitled to his maintenance.²⁴

- (ii) The authority to make wills could be applied regarding the separate or self-acquired property of the testator under all schools. Nevertheless, the power to make will differs according to the different schools of Hindu law regarding coparcenary property. According to the law of Dayabhaga, a father can dispose of all his properties, whether ancestral or self-acquired, by will. Additionally, a coparcener can dispose of all his interest in the joint family property by will.²⁵ Alternatively, no coparcener or not even father in Mitakshara law can dispose of by will his undivided coparcenary interest.²⁶ The explanation is that the right to survivorship of the other coparceners contrasts with the right by devise at the moment of death; the title by survivorship precedes the exclusion of that by devise. However, as long as it was his separate property, a single surviving coparcener could dispose of the joint family property. A will shall work from the date on which the testator dies; therefore, if a coparcener subsequently comes into existence such as a son adopted by him, a son subsequently born to him, including a posthumous son or the posthumous son of a deceased coparcener, the will, so far as it deals with the coparcenary property, will be inoperative and the property will pass to him by survivorship. Nevertheless, if the son, whether natural-born or adopted dies in the lifetime of the testator, the will stands, and the devisee is entitled to the property given to him by the will.²⁷ Currently, in India, under section 30 of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, a Hindu can also dispose of his interest in coparcenary property by will or some other testamentary disposition.
- (iii) A Hindu woman can absolutely dispose of her *saudayika* stridhana property even during her coverture by will, but in the case of *non-saudayika* stridhana she cannot validly do it without the consent of the husband. A Hindu widow cannot dispose of her widow's estate or property obtained by inheritance from her deceased husband. In India, under the section 14 of the Hindu Succession Act, any property obtained by a Hindu woman, either before or after the beginning of the Act, becomes her absolute property and she is considered to be the absolute owner of such property. As a consequence, she is entitled to dispose of those properties by will.
- (iv) Unless there is a special custom, banning such alienation or the tenure is of such a nature that it cannot be alienated, the owner of an impartible property will dispose of it at will.²⁸

²⁴*Promothanath v Nagendrabala* (1908) 12 CWN 808; see also The Indian Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act 1956, ss 18-22

²⁵ *Rani Sartaj v Deoraj* (1888) 10 All 272, 283.

²⁶ *Harilal v Bai Mani* (1905) 29 Bom 351.

²⁷ *Bodi v Venkataswami* (1915) 30 Mad 369.

²⁸ *Mulla, (n 20)*, p. 467; see more *Sri Raja Venkata Surya v Court of Wards* (1899) 22 Mad 383.

(v) Although it may be said that a property that can be disposed of by will, may be disposed of by gift *inter vivos*, but it does not follow that every kind of property that can be alienated by gift can be disposed of by will. A single surviving coparcener will dispose of its property by will but against any son who is subsequently born or an adopted son, such disposition will remain inoperative. In relation to coparcenary property, this rule is applicable, but a Hindu adopting a son will make a will regarding his separate property, and that right may not be contested by the adopted son.²⁹ By his will, a Hindu governed by the Dayabhaga law can deprive his wife of the share she would receive on a partition between her sons, but in that case the wife is entitled to an appropriate portion for her maintenance from the estate of her husband.³⁰ If he wants to defeat the rights of his sons, wife, or other descendants, even to the point of fully disinheriting them, there is nothing to stop a Hindu from disposing of his property at will.³¹ No express words are necessary to disinherit the heirs; it is sufficient if the property is bequeathed to some other person.³² But, when the bequest to that person is not valid, to that extent there will be an intestacy, and the property will go to the heir, despite express instructions in the will that he will not take. The estate must go to someone and it must go to the beneficiary if there is no valid disposition.³³ Similarly, where under the terms of a will the corpus of the estate is not to vest until the happening of a certain event, it will in the meantime vest in the heir.³⁴ Any Hindu adopting a son does not therefore deprive himself by will of the power to dispose of his separate land, but by will he cannot dispose of ancestral property.³⁵ Though a Hindu governed by the Mitakshara law cannot dispose of by will his undivided interest in coparcenary property, he may bequeath his self-acquired property to his coparcener and his undivided interest in the coparcenary property to a third person.³⁶ Such a disposition is valid and the coparcener to whom the self-acquired property is bequeathed will have to elect, after the testator's death, as to which of the two properties he would take. He cannot have both.³⁷

- *Forms of Will:*

No Hindu will was required to be in writing, the will could be oral or in writing before the Wills Act, 1870.³⁸ It did not require to be signed or attested, if the will was

²⁹*Raja Ram Narayan v Pertum Singh* (1873) 11 BengLR 397

³⁰. *Debendra v Brojendra* (1890) 17 Cal 886.

³¹*Subbayya v Surayya* (1887) 10 Mad 251

³²*Prosunno v Tarrucknath* (1873) 10 BengLR 267

³³*Tagore v Tagore* (1872) 9 BengLR 377.

³⁴*Amulyav Kali Das* (1905) 32 Cal 861

³⁵*Paramananda v Sheo Charandas* (1921) 2 Lah 69

³⁶Mulla, (n 20) 472.

³⁷*Kishan Chand v Narinjan* (1929) 10 Lah 389.

³⁸*Bhagwan v Kala* (1877) 1 Bom 641

in writing.³⁹ Probate was granted of oral as well as written wills.⁴⁰ The Wills Act was the first enactment which required Hindu wills to be in writing. This Act applied to certain wills which were specified in it; all other wills were not required to be in writing, they could be made orally. All wills are required reduced in writing after the enactment of the Succession (Amendment) Act, 1926. As a result, all Hindu wills made after the 1st January 1927 were required to be in written form, as well as signed by will-maker and attested by minimum two witnesses as provided in the section 63 of the Succession Act, 1925.⁴¹

A will need not be in any particular form; it is sufficient if it contains the testamentary wishes of the deceased. So a matrimonial agreement deed, *amooktiarnamah* or power of attorney,⁴² a deed made during adoption of settlement, and a *tamlikanama* or deed related to assignment containing testamentary dispositions of property, has been held to amount to a will.⁴³

- *Revocation of Will:*

According to section 62 of the Succession Act, 1925, a will can be revoked or altered by its creator at any time when it is competent to dispose of its property by will. However in the manner given in section 70 of the Succession Act, 1925, no will can be revoked without it. It cannot be amended either, except in the manner provided for in section 71 of the Act. Section 70 specifies that no will or any part thereof can be removed other than by marriage or by another will or by any written declaration announcing the intention to remove the same and executed in the manner in which the will is expected to be executed, or by the means of burning, tearing or otherwise abolishing the same by the testator or by a person attending and directed by the testator with the intention to do so.⁴⁴ Importantly, a will may be revoked by the execution of a subsequent will, but it cannot be revoked by the way of alienation of property. The mere desire of a testator to revoke a will is not sufficient to revoke it. Any expression of intention by the testator to revoke in the future does not amount to revocation, nor does the loss of a will imply its revocation. The revocation may be effected (i) by the operation of law; (ii) by writing another will; or (iii) by destruction or burning of an existing will.

Therefore for making a direction of the intention of the testator, certain formalities are necessary to comply with those formalities and if they are not so

³⁹ *Janaki v Kallu Mal* (1909) 31 Al 236

⁴⁰ *Gokul Chand v Mangalsan* (1903) 25 All 313

⁴¹ Syed Gouseuzzaman Haideri Ali, "Transfer of Immoveable Property" Law and our rights, (*the Daily Star*, July 18, 2009) < <https://www.thedailystar.net/law/2009/07/03/life.htm>>, accessed on March 2, 2020.

⁴² *Kollanay v Luchmee* (1875) 24 WR 395

⁴³ Mulla, (n 20) 469.

⁴⁴ J. D. Maine, *Treaties on Hindu Law and Usage*, (17th ed., Bharat Law House, New Delhi, India, 2014) p. 1546.

followed, the instrument may not be considered a true will. From the above, however it can be assumed that a declaration to be deemed as a will, it must have the following basic elements: (i) it must be legal; (ii) it must relate to the disposition of property; (iii) it must relate to the testator's property or property over which the testator has the power to dispose of; (iv) the disposition must take effect from the date of the death of the testator; (v) the disposition may be revoked or varied by the testator at his pleasure before death; (vi) the testator must be a person of sound mind and not a minor or of unsound mind (A Hindu widow cannot make a will of her husband's property)⁴⁵; (vii) the subject matter of the will must be the valid property of the testator and he must have the capacity to transfer it; (viii) the will must be in writing and attested by at least two witnesses; (ix) the will must contain a legal declaration of the intention of the testator to dispose of the property.

In consideration of the status of the testator, a will may be either a privileged or unprivileged will. The rules of execution of wills are determined according to the nature of the will, whether it is a privileged or unprivileged will. Where the testator is not a soldier participating in an expedition in active combat or an airman engaged or engaged or a sailor at sea, his will must be executed in compliance with the following laws⁴⁶:

- i. The testator must sign or affix his mark to the will, or it may be signed in his presence and under his guidance by another person on his behalf.
- ii. The signature or mark of the testator or of the signatory on his behalf must be put in such a way that it appears to have been meant as a will to give effect to the written document.
- iii. Two or more witnesses, each of whom has seen the testator sign or affix his mark to the will, certify the will.

Thus, every Hindu who is of sound mind and not a minor can make a will, but there is no restriction in matters of acceptance of bequests under a will. Even a minor or an idiot or a lunatic can take under a will.⁴⁷ Where the testator is a privileged person employed in an expedition or engaged in actual warfare or an airman employed or engaged or any mariner at sea he may, if he has completed the age of eighteen years, dispose of his property by executing a will in accordance with the following rules.⁴⁸

- *Will to unborn person:*

The provisions of sections 113 to 116 of the 1925 Succession Act relating to transfer to unborn child are similar to those of sections 13 to 16 of the 1882 Transfer of

⁴⁵Rakshit, (n 3), p. 773.

⁴⁶The Succession Act 1925, s 63.

⁴⁷B. M. Gandhi, *Hindu Law*, (4th ed. by Samuel Malik, Central Law Agency, Alahabad-2, India, 2016), p.156.

⁴⁸The Succession Act 1925 ,ss 65-66

Property Act.⁴⁹ For a transfer to an unborn child, a prior interest in life must be created in favor of another living person, and the legacy must be of complete interest to the testator.⁵⁰ In *Girish Dutt v. Datadin*⁵¹ case, the transfer of interest was not absolute rather limited, the transfer was considered as invalid. A will may be lawful in that the vesting of the bequeathed thing may be postponed beyond the lifetime of one or more persons living at the death of the testator and the minority of some person who will remain at the expiration of that period, and to whom the bequeathed thing is to belong if he reaches full age.⁵² Thus, transfer made in perpetuity is void. If a bequest is made to a class of persons with regard to some of whom it is inoperative by reasons of the fact that the person is not in existence at the testator's death or to create perpetuity, such will shall be void in regard to those persons only and not in regard to the whole class.⁵³ A number of persons are considered to be a class where they may be designated by any general name as grandchildren, children and nephews where any legacy found in the same. Will is void in relation to that person or the whole of that class by reason of any of the rules contained in sections 113 and 114 and bequest for a person of a class of persons is void in relation to that person or the whole of that class and intended to take place after or on failure.⁵⁴ The rule of this section is based upon the presumed intention of the testator that the person entitled at the subsequent restriction is not intended to be benefited except at the fall down of the prior restriction.⁵⁵

V. Concluding Remarks

In pure Hindu law the idea of a deed of transfer of property in the form of will was totally absent; no Hindu could make a testamentary disposition of his property. During the British Administration in India will became an extension of the English rule of equity among the Hindus and thus testamentary power of Hindus became recognized and the Hindus started to dispose of property by testament. Virtually, before the Privy Council decision in *Beer Pertab v Rajender Pertab*⁵⁶ case, there was no distinction in Hindu law between gift and will; their Lordship observed that as there was no mention of will in ancient Hindu treatise, a Hindu could not make a 'testamentary disposition of his property'. The leading case on Hindu Gift and will is the *Tagore v Tagore*.⁵⁷ It was observed, if any Hindu could not have been alienated by gift *inter vivos*, he could not bequeath property by will. In 1870 the Hindu Wills Act was passed; before enacting this Act wills were not required to be made in writing, it could be made orally; it could be made verbally as well as in writing. Section 2(h) of the Succession Act, provides that the legal declaration of the intention of the testator in relation to his property which

⁴⁹ Badaruddin, (n 14)

⁵⁰ The Indian Succession Act 1925, ss 113

⁵¹ (1934) AIR Oudh 35

⁵² The Succession Act 1925, ss 114

⁵³ The Succession Act 1925, ss 115

⁵⁴ The Succession Act 1925, ss 115

⁵⁵ Sahil Shah, "An Overview of Wills under Hindu Law" (Legal Service India)

<http://www.legalserviceindia.com/articles/will_hindu.htm>accessed September 10, 2020

⁵⁶ (1867) 12 MIA 1, 37-38

⁵⁷ (1872) 9 BengLR 377

he wishes to carry out after his death is a will. Bangladesh Government can take initiatives in regard to modify the will related issues in comparing with India. The Hindu Succession Act, 1956, brought about a shift in the Indian legal framework as a whole in respect of the law that a Hindu should not dispose of his property in order to defeat his wife's or any other person's legal right to maintenance.⁵⁸ The principle that indicates that a Hindu should not bequeath property by will that he could never have alienated by gift *inter vivos* has now been modified by section 30 of the 1956 Hindu Succession Act, enabling any Hindu to dispose of any property or other testamentary provision by will that is capable of being disposed of by him in this manner under the provisions of the 1925 Succession Act.

The concept of will under Hindu law developed mainly by statutory laws and case laws. In India, lights have been shed upon this topic with sheer importance. Unlike India, Bangladesh is yet to witness the development of the Hindu law. Since Bangladesh is a pluralistic country, it should not overlook the development of the laws of the minority sects like the Hindus. So, in Bangladesh, it is time demanding to take steps in remoduling the laws relating to will.

Acknowledgement: We would like to convey our homage to Almighty Allah. We acknowledge the supports of BUP and IIUB librarians who helped in many ways in gathering research materials. Special gratitude to the Editorial Board of IIUB STUDIES: A Multi-disciplinary Research Journal for co-operating us throughout the publication.

⁵⁸ The Hindu Adoptions and Maintenance Act, 1956, ss 18-22.

The Role of Classroom Interaction in Reducing Language Anxiety to Accelerate Language Learning

Md. Rakibul Hasan¹

Abstract

'Classroom Interaction' between the teacher and the learners plays a vital role in learning a second or foreign language. It is believed that a positive classroom interaction helps the learners to learn spontaneously and they learn better when they are exposed to such an environment. It is seen that 'language anxiety' impedes language learning and a positive classroom interaction can reduce it to a great extent. This descriptive research article aims at assessing the role of classroom interaction between the teacher and the learners in reducing the 'language anxiety' to accelerate language learning. This paper, firstly, defines 'Interaction' with special focus on 'Classroom Interaction' between the teacher and the learners. It also defines 'language anxiety' and points out the sources of learners' anxiety in learning a language and finally, it analyses the effects of language anxiety on language learning and shows how teacher-learner interaction in the classroom can reduce language anxiety to contribute to language learning.

Keywords: Interaction, teacher learner interaction, language anxiety

Introduction

Classroom interaction is the verbal and non-verbal communication between the teacher and the learners and it creates a relationship between them to develop mutual understanding and it has an influence on each other (Hedge, 2000). Contemporary language teaching and learning put a remarkable importance on effective classroom interaction among the learners and teacher. The interactions are of various types, for example, teacher-learner, teacher- learners/group of learners, learner-learner or learners-learners. The purpose of organizing various types of interaction is to accelerate language learning especially second language learning because second language learning is a very intricate task. It's very dissimilar with first language learning that we learn subconsciously. In learning a second language, the learners have to face a number of impediments. 'Language Anxiety' is such an impediment and perhaps one of the most complex phenomena that the learners experience in learning a second language. It negatively affects the learning of a second language. 'Language Anxiety' generally means the anxiety, apprehension, discomfort that the learners feel while learning a second language (Brown, 2000). The sources of language anxiety are many. Among them, social, cultural, individual, interpersonal and academic sources of language anxiety are generally discussed in language learning and teaching repertoire. The purpose of this paper is to identify the sources of language anxiety and find out a way

¹ Lecturer, Department of English, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

how teacher-learner interaction in the classroom can reduce language anxiety and contribute to language learning.

Interaction & Classroom Interaction

The Oxford Advanced Learners Dictionary (7th Edition) defines the verb ‘to interact’ as ‘to communicate with somebody especially while you work, play or spend time with them.’ The second meaning is, ‘if one thing interacts with another, or if two things interact, the two things have effect on each other.’ The adjective form of the word ‘interact’ is ‘interactive’ which means, ‘That involves people working together and having an influence on each other.’ On the other hand, Douglas Brown (2000) pointed interaction as ‘the heart of communication, it is what communication is all about.’ He also explains the idea of communication as, ‘we send messages, we receive them, we interpret them in a context, we negotiate meaning, and we collaborate to accomplish certain purposes. And after several decades of research on teaching and learning languages, we have discovered that the best way to learn to interact is through interaction itself.’ (Brown 2000)

Interaction in the classroom or the term ‘Classroom Interaction’ bears, more or less, similar meaning to the word interaction. The only difference is that where interaction can take place among any people, classroom interaction takes place among the learners and teachers in different forms. Classroom interaction occurs in the classroom between teacher and learners and in such interaction teacher stands on a side and the learners on the other (if not opposite) side. In such type of interaction, according to Richards & Rodgers (1986), ‘the teacher has two main roles: the first one is to facilitate the communication process between all participants in the classroom and between these participants and the various activities and texts. The second role is act as an independent participant within the learning-teaching group’. Hence, from this point of view, we can define classroom interaction as a two way process of communicating between the learners and the teacher in the classroom. Both the teacher and the learners are the participants of learning activities in an interactive classroom. But, the problem with such view is that, in such type of interaction only the teacher influences the learners heavily, and the teacher is hardly influenced by the learners. So, the general idea of classroom interaction has, more or less, a conflict with the idea of interaction. The classroom interaction is a two-way process where the learners are influenced. Interaction in the classroom between the learners and the teacher can be either auspicious or propitious. Here, the term auspicious interaction means the interaction in which the teacher and the learners are friendly and the learners feel comfortable to take part in classroom conversation and other learning activities. This type of classroom interaction makes a classroom successful in learning a language. On the other hand, propitious classroom interaction indicates the classroom environment or classroom set up which is not comfortable enough for the learners to take part in the conversation or interaction. The learners in such classroom set up feel uncomfortable. They remain fearful and anxious. Thus, learning is decelerated. Whether the classroom interaction will be auspicious or propitious mainly depends on the participants’ attitude and

intentions about one another. It should be mentioned here that learning occurs better when there is cooperation between both sides of the participants. Successful learning in the classroom is a cooperative effort between the teacher and the learners. Gower et al. (1995) explained some activities that a teacher should arrange in the classroom such as whole class discussion, individual work, pair work, group work etc. These are very important activities in the classroom for increasing classroom interaction.

Different Types of Classroom Interaction

In classroom, there are learners and a teacher. Interaction takes place among them in different ways. Interaction is a two ways process among the learners and the teacher. The organization of the process of interaction depends on who are the participants and who are interacting with whom. They may be classified into two, these are:

1. Learner-Learner Interaction and
2. Teacher-Learner Interaction

In an effective language classroom, both types of interactions are useful for the learners to accelerate their language learning. Both teacher-learner and learner-learner interactions play a major role in the classroom to reduce language anxiety and thus accelerate language learning.

1. Learner – Learner Interaction

In this type of classroom interaction, teacher plays the role of an observer in the class. He lets the learners discuss about a specific topic and lets them come with their own opinion. Again, learner-learner interaction can be of two types. To solve a specific problem, a pair can be made by two learners. They are supposed to discuss with each other and come up with their solution; or, they are told to make groups of five or ten learners. These types of interactions in the classroom help the learners to feel free in the classroom and thus they can perform better without being tensed or anxious about the language they are learning.

2. Teacher- Learner Interaction

In language learning and teaching, classroom interaction chiefly refers to the teacher-learner interaction. The teacher initiates the interaction, the learners respond and finally the teacher provides feedback. So, teacher-learner interaction is mainly follows the Initiation – response – feedback (IRF) structure:

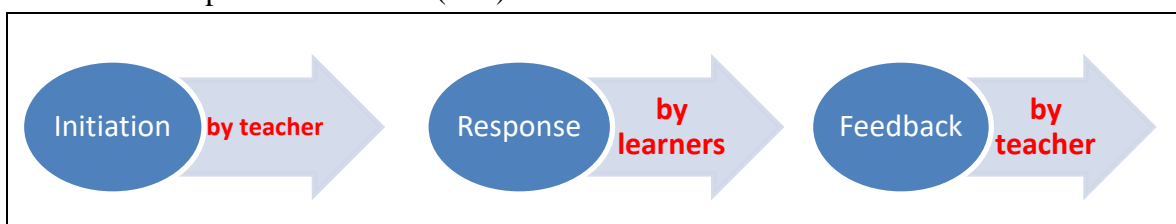


Diagram: Traditional Teacher –learner interaction in the classroom

If the teacher thinks himself an authoritative person and behaves as such, it will be difficult for the learners to participate spontaneously in interactive activities in the language classroom. Language learning is a collaborative function of both the teacher and the learners. So, teacher-learner interaction is a very prominent concept in second language learning.

Defining Language Anxiety

'Anxiety' interferes more or less in all types of learning. And when this anxiety interferes in language learning or more specifically in second or foreign language learning, it is called '*Language Anxiety*'. Learning means experiencing something new and it is always apprehensive. So, the learners become anxious while learning something new. Language anxiety is not related to F1 learning. We learn L1 (first language) subconsciously and we learn L1 before we reach to an age of feeling anxious about something. But, in case of learning L2 (second language), we become mature enough to react of different social and cultural actions. And thus, anxiety becomes apparent in our behavior. With the advancement of SLA (Second Language Acquisition) research, it is found that language anxiety is mainly related to speaking and listening skills. Reading and writing skills do not demand for interlocutors directly. So, language anxiety is less in reading and writing skills. But, listening and speaking skills are the integral part of interaction. There is no listening without speaking and vice versa. So, interaction demands two ways of deliverance and reception. And there is a possibility of making mistakes in front of the other interlocutor, the anxiety of the beginner level learners rises. This hampers the natural flow of development in speaking and listening or in general in learning a language.

Language teachers and language researchers have defined the term '*Language Anxiety*' from different perspectives. Some researchers have identified language anxiety as a type of social anxiety; some have opined it as situation created anxiety and others as related performance anxiety. For the better understand of the topic, we need to discuss language anxiety from all of these perspectives.

Those who mentioned language anxiety as a type of social construct explained that language anxiety derives from the communication facets of the second language learning, making it a social anxiety. They opined that the persons who experience social anxiety have negative evaluation towards learning and most of such persons withdraw from further learning. Other SLA researchers opined that learners who have social anxiety worry about others' perceptions on them and thus become anxious on interacting with the people. The learners in such case feel anxious, apprehensive to interact with teachers, peer learners and other interlocutors. Thus, this types of learners face difficulty in learning a language effectively. The reason of their placing language anxiety as a type of social anxiety is that language learning occurs in a social setting and involves interpersonal communication among the interlocutors living in the social range.

Sources of Language Anxiety

To find out a way of reducing language anxiety to accelerate learning, first of all, it is necessary to identify the sources of language anxiety in a language classroom or outside classroom. It is now a well-established fact that language anxiety affects language learning. Many of the language researchers opine that it affects language learning negatively. It decreases the rate of language learning. Considering anxiety as a highly influential construct in second language learning, the language teachers and researchers of SLA tried to identify the sources of language anxiety. This is a comparatively new area of study and research is yet to be done. If we have a close review of the literature on language anxiety so far have been done, we will find at least six potential sources of language anxiety in the classroom. Among these sources, some are related to learners own, some are to teacher and others are related to instructional procedures in the class. Most of the researches so far done have focused on the *personal and interpersonal* sources of anxiety. Competitiveness creates anxiety when learners compare themselves with others or to an idealized self-image. Similarly, the degree of self-esteem also refers to the degree of anxiety. People with low self-esteem are worry about what their peers think of them and most of the time they are very much concern about pleasing others. By thinking that if they cannot please others, they become anxious. They always suffer from mental dissatisfaction of not satisfying others and they create anxiety inside them by themselves. Metal ability is also responsible for language anxiety. Other sources of personal and interpersonal language anxiety are communication apprehension, social anxiety, and anxiety specific to language learning. *Learners' belief about language learning* is also a remarkable source of language anxiety. For example, if the beginner of language learners believes that pronunciation is the most important part of language learning and they cannot pronounce like the native speaker, it may create language anxiety. So, in such case, a teacher has a huge responsibility in creating or building up learners' proper belief in the target language. *Instructor's belief on language teaching* can be a source of language anxiety. If the instructor believes that he is an authoritative person in the classroom and thus he set up the classroom in such way, it might create language anxiety among the learners. The same thing happens when the instructor thinks that his role is only to identify learners' mistake and correct them, the learners become anxious in the classroom. Another source of language anxiety is *teacher-learner interaction technique* inside the classroom. While interacting with the learners, if the teacher is busy with identifying mistakes of the students and correct them always, the learners might feel shy and it might create language anxiety among them. *Classroom procedure* may also create language anxiety among the learner. For example, if the learners are at primary level of language learning and if the class is conducted totally in target language and if the learners are forced to perform their language activities in the target language, the learners are supposed to be anxious. *Language testing* or more importantly, language testing formats can create language anxiety among the learners. But, Arthur Hughes (2003) expressed the importance of taking test. According to him tests are the measurement whether the learners are learning the language or not.

Effects of Language Anxiety on Language Learning

A noticeable number of studies have been done to explain how and to what extent language anxiety affects language learning. Though most of the researchers have agreed that language anxiety badly affects language learning but opposite statement is also available. Some would rather say it is a controversial or unresolved issue. But, in case of second language learning language anxiety may impede the production of speech and the achievement of the language.

Many learners state that language anxiety lead them to frustration and sometimes, even to anger towards the target language and its culture. And it is natural that if someone is stressed to learn or do something whatever the subject is (such as mathematics, science etc.), s/he will get frustrated and even angry. As result, s/he might be reluctant to learn it or to do it. So learning will be impeded. Besides, Evaluation is important in language class. Trevor Write (2005) has discussed the importance of evaluation in every language class. According to him, 'We need to evaluate the learning before the lesson ends, so that we can modify our plans for tomorrow' (Write, 2005). But putting more importance on negative evaluation in the classroom leads the learner to be anxious about learning and the learner who experiences negative evaluation in the class is supposed to be demotivated in learning the language better in future.

Some of the SLA researchers, through their studies on language anxiety, show that language anxiety does not affect first language (L1) learning. They explained further that the learners in case of learning L1 are not aware of learning, so there is nothing to be anxious. But in case of second language (L2) learning, they are dealing with something they don't know about. From the study of other researchers it is seen that learners experiencing greater level of anxiety would make more mistakes in sentence correction especially if they are speaking in a language they are not fully confident in using.

Teacher-Learner Interactions in Reducing Language Anxiety

The studies so far done and the researches so far conducted indicate that if language anxiety can be reduced in the language classroom, the learning of language can be accelerated. There are a huge number of suggestions given by SLA researchers and language teachers to reduce language anxiety among the learner. Rod Ellis (1985) discussed the importance of input and interaction for the rate and route of success. He claimed that though interaction hardly affects route of success in language learning but it strongly affects the rate of success.

Teachers' role in teacher-learner interaction is very significant. His positive and friendly role in classroom interaction plays a remarkable role in reducing learners' language anxiety. On the other hand, his authoritative role can raise language anxiety. Teacher-learner effective interaction is an important component for creating an environment where learners feel safe and relaxed. Error correction is an important issue while interacting in the classroom. The teacher should be strategic in correcting

learners' errors in making sentences. He should try to avoid embarrassing the learners by directly indicating their errors. Rather he can indirectly point to the error of the learners by modeling a correct sentence. Thus, the learners won't be anxious. Moreover, he can just follow communicative approach to teaching and put importance on meaning not on the structure of the sentences produced by the learners. Thus, the learners will be less anxious and more motivated.

At the time of teacher-learner interaction, another way to reduce anxiety of the learners is to change the role of a teacher. In traditional language teaching practices, teachers are the authoritative persons and take the major amount of time in delivering their lectures. In classroom interaction, the teacher must change his role so that the learners can be participants in the interactive activities. Littlewood (1981) suggested the following roles of a teacher in an interactive classroom:

- (a) *An overseer*
- (b) *A manager*
- (c) *An instructor*
- (d) *A consultant or advisor*
- (e) *A co-communicator*

Jeremy Harmer (2001) also suggested many other roles of teachers in an interactive classroom such as controller, organizer, assessor, prompter, participant, resource, tutor, observer, performer and provider of comprehensible input etc. Avoiding the role of a teacher, who is always an authoritative person; the teacher should take the above mentioned roles in the language classroom. If the learners feel free with him, they will be motivated and it will accelerate their learning. According to Douglas Brown (2000), "the most important key to creating an interactive language classroom is the initiation of interaction by the teacher". But, initiating of interaction is not everything a teacher can do. As an instructor of language learning in a language classroom, s/he must ensure the ceaseless flow of interaction among the learners. For the continuous flow of interaction in the language classroom, Douglas Brown (2000) has suggested the language teachers to follow the questioning strategies in the classroom. A language teacher can start interaction by posing a simple question to the learners. Initiating interaction by posing a question not only paves the way for teacher-learner interaction but also serves a number of functions which are important to motivate learners and accelerate learning. Initiating interaction by posing a question to the learners gives the learners impetus opportunity to produce language comfortably without taking the risk of initiating interaction by themselves. If the learners are to initiate interaction, it might lead them to be anxious and result would be a complete silent in the classroom. At the same time, if appropriate and interesting questions are asked, the reticent learners will also be eager to take part in the interaction. Again, if the questions are appealing enough, this might lead to a chain reaction in the class and the learners may initiate asking more questions like these and some other learners will respond to the question eagerly. It will accelerate learning. The response of the questions posed by the teacher might help the teacher to find out the weaknesses of the learners in producing the

languages. There might be grammatical or phonological mistakes or anything else. The teacher can decide what he will have to do next for removing or reducing these weaknesses of the language learners. Through answering the questions of the teacher, the learners are able to achieve the power of self-discovery which helps them to develop their language skills. Another important thing is the selection of questions the teacher is going to ask. The questions should be interesting and stimulating. If a question is asked to a learner that may insult or devalue the learner, this may lead to a disaster in learning process. Again, asking a lot of questions, doing nothing else may lead to a boring classroom. So, the teacher should be aware of it.

Besides, questioning in the classroom, there are many other activities that can be performed in a language classroom to promote interaction. A teacher can work as co-communicator in group or pair works and by taking part in learners' activities, he can reduce language anxiety among the learners. Again, by lecturing in the classroom, the teacher can encourage the learners to be self-dependent in learning the language.

Conclusion

Language anxiety as well as other affective filters impedes or decelerates second language learning. There are many theoretical and practical strategies that the teachers follow to reduce language anxiety inside the classroom. Classroom interactions both teacher-learner and learner-learner interactions play a conspicuous role in reducing language anxiety among the learners. The teacher should be the initiator of interaction in the classroom and thus the learners will feel free to come up with response. This type of interaction is very useful to stimulate and encourage learners to learn the target language. If various types of interactive activities can be executed in the classroom successfully, the learners will feel less anxious and more comfortable to interact using target language in the classroom.

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Nexus of Fund Management and Economic Value Added of BRAC Bank: An Economic Focus

Dr. Subrata Kumar Dey¹
Nibedita Datta²

Abstract

The projected study tries to look at the impact of fund management and Economic Value Added (EVA) of BRAC Bank Limited on the operational activities between 2004 and 2015. There are different views on profitability, fund management, and EVA considering an important tool regarding its performance evaluation. The main objective of this study is to observe the trend of financial profit, fund management, and EVA. Purposively the study is conducted on BRAC Bank Limited, a private sector third generation bank in Bangladesh. Primary and secondary data and information are collected from the annual reports of the selected bank. The findings of the study exposed that efficient fund management plays a major role in the success of financial achievement. The trend of profitability and EVA are steeply upward, and the coefficient of determination produces very significant results in almost every dimension of profitability and EVA.

Keywords: EVA, NOPAT, WACC, ROI, ROTA, ROIC, PAT and Fund Management

1.1 Introduction

In the economy of Bangladesh, banking sector plays a vital role to speed up the process of economic growth by mobilizing the sprinkled savings and channeling the same into various prolific investments. The bulk of the savings generated by the household sectors in the economy is transferred to the deficit sectors through the banking channel. Generally, commercial banks divert and employ the funds in such avenues which are aimed to develop economy of a country and add to national wealth. So, the development of banking sector is necessary for the economic growth and development of Bangladesh. In recent times banking business had a sharp change in its character and composition due to a number of measures and growing demand of a variety of customer services. The attention of the bank management is no longer concentrated only to the traditional banking business that is accepting deposits and making loans, rather to the provision of a number of ancillary services bringing them risk free or less risky income to sustain profitability.

BRAC Bank Ltd. (BBL) is a new generation bank and started its operation from the 4th July, 2001 with an authorized capital of BDT 1000 million and paid-up capital of BDT 500 million. BBL undertakes all types of banking transactions to support the development of trade and commerce in the country. The bank gives special emphasis on export, import, trade finance, SME finance, retail credit and finance to woman entrepreneurs. BBL is committed to satisfy the diverse needs of its customers through an array of products at a competitive price by using appropriate technology and providing timely service so that a sustainable growth, reasonable return and

¹ Dr. Subrata Kumar Dey, Professor & Head, Department of Accounting and Information Systems, Jatiya Kabi Kazi Nazrul Islam University

² Nibedita Datta, Lecturer, Department of Business Administration, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

contribution to the development of the country can be ensured. It is one of the pioneers among the third generation banks. The bank always feels to keep in touch with modern technology, try to ensure optimum customer satisfaction, maintain close contact and relationship with associates, strengthen shareholders' values, and always comply with regulatory requirements. The bank also takes care of its employees, through competitive compensation package, safe and congenial working atmosphere and extends handsome service benefits.

1.2 Objectives of the Study

The major objective of the study is to evaluate the fund management, profitability and EVA of BBL during 2004-2015. To this end, the study demonstrates the following specific objectives:

- a. To measure and analyze the growth and development of BBL during the study period of 2004 to 2015;
- b. To expose the trend of profitability during the study period of 2004 to 2015;
- c. To explore the efficiency of fund management;
- d. To know the financial performance through the trend of EVA; and
- e. To provide necessary suggestions for the policy makers of the financial sector of Bangladesh.

1.3 Methodology of the Study

Methodology means a way of doing something. It also means the underlying principles and rules of organization of a philosophical system or inquiry procedure. Primary data, as well as secondary data both, are used to justify the main and specific objectives of the report. The data are collected mainly from the annual reports of *BRAC Bank Limited*, articles of *Bank Parikrama*, seminar papers, newspapers, Economic Review of Bangladesh, etc. The study covers a period of 2004 to 2015. Many statistical tools and mathematical models are applied as per the need of objectives of the study. Purposively the bank is selected as a sample, and data are arranged as per the availability in published documents.

1.4 Limitations of the Study

It has already been mentioned that BBL is a third-generation bank and started its banking operation on 4th July 2001. Eventually, the data of 12 years are incorporated in the present study from 2004 to 2015. In fact, we know that the data of 12 years are not sufficient for trend analysis. Mainly financial performance is evaluated using three important dimensions, i.e., profitability, fund management, and EVA. Due to time and cost constraints, mainly secondary data are analyzed to satisfy the study objectives. Moreover, annual reports of the initial periods of the bank did not formally incorporate its EVA. So, the EVA is computed based on the availability of the data.

1.5 Conceptual Issues Relating to the Study

A concept is typically associated with a corresponding representation in a language such as a single meaning of a term. Many philosophers consider concepts to be a fundamental ontological category of being. The meaning of "concept" is explored in mainstream cognitive science, metaphysics, and philosophy of mind. It is a description of a *general idea*. According to Locke, a general idea is created by abstracting, drawing away, or removing the common characteristic or characteristics from several particular ideas.

1.5.1 Profitability

Profitability refers to the potential of a venture to be financially successful. This may be assessed before entering into a business or it may be used to analyze a venture that is currently operating. In fact, it may be stated that profitability is an ability of a business firm to generate its net income on a reliable basis.

1.5.2 Fund Management

The concept of funds management is related with the management of the cash flows of a financial institution. Efficient fund management acts like an integral part of the bank strategy and thus helps to create shareholders value. It implies the efficient and effective acquisition, allocation and utilization of funds. An efficient fund manager ensures that the maturity schedules of the deposits coincide with the demand for loans. To do this, the manager looks at both the liabilities and the assets that influence the bank's ability to issue credit.

1.5.3 Return on Investment (ROI)

The return on investment is a concept that measures the profit which a firm earns on investing a unit of capital. 'Yield on Capital' is another term employed to express the idea and it is broadly defined as net income divided by investment. The term investment is used in three dimensions, such as –

- a. Return on Total Assets;
- b. Return on Owners' Equity; and
- c. Return on Invested Capital.

1.5.4 Return on Total Assets (ROTA)

Return on Assets is a form of return on investments and measures the profitability of a business in relation to its total assets. It reflects how much the firm has earned on the investment of all the financial resources committed to the firm. It is a useful measure if one wants to evaluate how well an enterprise has used its funds. Top management uses this indicator for evaluating the profitability of a firm. The higher the return, the more productive and efficient management is in utilizing economic resources. So it is calculated on the basis of the following formula:

$$ROTA = \frac{\text{Net Income}}{\text{Total Assets}} \times 100$$

Return on Assets is commonly used by analysts performing financial analysis of a company's performance. Assuming that, two companies and one of them has net income of Tk. 50 million and assets of Tk. 500 million where the other company has net income of Tk. 10 million and assets of Tk. 15 million. Here, the first company earns a return on assets of 10% and the second one earns a ROTA of 67%.

1.5.5 Returns on Owners' Equity (ROE)

It reflects how much the firm has earned on the funds invested by the shareholders. In operation of the fund, the manager is primarily concerned with the efficient use of assets rather than with the relative roles of creditors and shareholders in financing those assets. ROE is expressed as a percentage and calculated as:

$$ROE = \frac{\text{Net Income}}{\text{Shareholder's Equity}} \times 100$$

Return on Equity measures an entity's profitability by revealing how much profit a company generates with the money shareholders have invested. That's why it is also known as "Return on net worth". ROE is a measure of how efficient a company is at

generating profits. The ratio of ROE calculates how much money is made based on the investor's investment in the company, not the company's investment in assets or something else.

1.5.6 Return on Invested Capital (ROIC)

The third indicator of profitability performance of a firm is ROIC. This invested capital is also known as permanent capital which is equal to non-current liabilities plus shareholders' equity and hence represents the funds entrusted to the firm for relatively long period of time. This measure is appropriate for the managers those have a significant influence on decisions regarding asset acquisitions. The ROIC formula is:

$$ROIC = \frac{NOPAT}{InvestedCapital} \times 100$$

Here, NOPAT is the operating profit in the income statement less taxes.

Invested Capital is the total amount of long term debt plus the total amount of equity, whether it is from common or preferred.

ROIC provides the percentage amount that a company is making for every percentage point over the weighted average cost of capital.

1.5.7 Value Added

Value added (VA) is a performance metric that calculates the creation of shareholder value, but it distinguishes itself from traditional financial performance metrics such as net profit and earnings per share (EPS). In economics, difference between the sale price of a product and the cost of materials and outside services to produce is the value added. Simply, it can be stated that value added is equivalent to revenue less direct consumption of materials and services. The calculation of GVA in financial sector can exhibited in the following table:

Table 01: Structure of Value Addition and Distribution

| Particulars | Amount (BDT) |
|--|--------------|
| Value Created: | |
| Income from banking services | 000 |
| (-) Cost of service rendered (Except Salary and Allowances & Depreciation) | 000 |
| Non-Banking Income | 000 |
| (-) Provision for loans and advances and Off Balance Sheet items | 000 |
| Gross Value Added | |
| Value Distributed: | |
| To Employees as salary and allowances | 000 |
| To Government as income tax | 000 |
| To Shareholders as dividend | 000 |
| Value Retained: | 000 |
| Statutory reserve | 000 |
| General reserve | 000 |
| Depreciation | 000 |
| Retained earnings | 000 |

Note: Value Added = Value Distributed Among the Stakeholders + Value Retained in the Bank

Source: Self-generated

1.5.8 Economic Value Added (EVA)

EVA is a financial performance method to calculate the true economic profit of the bank. It provides a measurement of a company's economic success or failure over a period of time. Investors feel better confidence with the concept of EVA and retain their fund for better earnings as compared to other industry. Actually the idea indicates that shareholders gain maximum return from the capital employed when NOPAT is much greater than the weighted average cost of capital. EVA can be identified from the following arbitrary example:

| | |
|------------------------------|------------|
| Net Operating Income | 1,000 |
| Less: Net Operating Expenses | 600 |
| EBIT | 400 |
| Less: Income Tax | 100 |
| NOPAT | <u>300</u> |

| | |
|--|------------|
| NOPAT | 300 |
| Capital Charges (Average economic bases \times (10.50 + 2)% | <u>200</u> |
| Economic Value Added | <u>100</u> |

Note: EVA = NOPAT – weighted average cost of capital employed. Cost of capital: Based weighted average rate of *Sanchaypatra*³ issued by the rate of Bangladesh Government + 2% risk factor.

1.6 Data Analysis and Interpretation

Data analysis and interpretations are confined in 8 tables and 3 graphs which are attached in the appendix part of the study.

Table 01 exposes the vital issues of financial positions of the selected bank. It is remarkably observed that the growth trend of equity is rising upward from 2004. In 2004, the figure was BDT. 590 million and increased to BDT 18,815 million in 2015. So, equity was increased by 31.89 times during the study period of 12 years. Another important issue is deposit which is completely dependent on the confidence of the investors. The figure was increased by $(143321 \div 8169)$ 17.54 times during period of 12 years. The Advance of the bank was BDT. 5820 million in 2004 and it was also followed an increasing trend and stood at the amount at BDT. 1, 47,434 million i.e., trend was 25.33 times higher than the very beginning of this study period. Investment of the bank was followed by an increasing trend up to 2012 but in 2013, 2014, 2015 it was quite unstable due to the reason of many unavoidable situations in financial market. In 2015, the volume of investment of the bank was BDT. 19,779 million which was much lower in comparison of previous three years.

In the context of co-efficient of variation CV (%), the lowest variation (64.94%) is found in the case of deposits and the highest fluctuation is seen in the case of idle money of the selected bank. In fine, it can be assured that the financial strength of the bank is gradually more strengthen because of efficient liquidity operation.

Table 02 shows the efficiency of fund management of the bank during the period of 2004 to 2015. In 2005, the bank faced the problem of liquidity. This syndrome is not acceptable and to face this type of adverse situation, obviously, the bank had to bear high call money rate to maintain its normal banking operation. But the scenario of 2014

³Sanchaypatra is one kind of Government security which offers a fixed rate of interest to its Owners.

was quite different from the year 2015. But, in fact, overall fund management of the bank during 12 years was smooth and efficient since the value of 'r' denotes 0.9929 (correlation between fund and investment).

Table 03 shows the productivity of interest income and interest expenses during the study period. The productivity ratios explore the satisfactory figures which are more than '1' except in the financial year 2014 and 2015, probably it is happened due to political unrest. In the context of coefficient of variation, the variation in interest income and interest expense is almost same.

Table 04 highlight the picture of the total income and total expenditure of the bank from 2004 to 2015. It is clearly observed that the amount of income and expenditure growing upward gradually except the year 2014. However, it is seen that growth percentage of 2007 is the highest in the study period. The average figure of the productivity ratio (1.87) is highly satisfactory as because it is more than 1. But the variation in total income is 67.71%, total expenditure is 69.90% and it is 99.93% in case of productivity. In fact, it is simply affirmed that the productivity ratio is the highest in 2015 (7.36).

As we know that the traditional function of bank capital is to protect bank depositors against loss. Bank capital is in effect a first line of deposit guarantee. On the other hand, equity to asset ratio is used to determine the financial health and long-term profitability of the selected bank. Equity represents the total current value of the money invested in the bank by all of its shareholders plus retained earnings generated by its operations. Assets represent the entire value of the bank such as its equity, its inventory, its accounts receivable and any revenue generated from loans. A high equity to asset ratio means that the bank is mostly owned by its shareholders, while a low ratio represents that the burden of cost of debts.

It is seen in the Table 05 that the ratio of capital to deposit has gradually increased. It has happened due to increasing the ratio of capital to deposit. The variation in capital to deposit is 14.20% and it is 13% in the case of equity to asset. It is revealed from the above analysis that the ratios are of capital to deposit and equity to asset is more or less fluctuating but in maximum time they follow an increasing trend. In 2014 and in 2015 the equity to asset ratio is 8.68 and 8.38 respectively. The higher the equity to asset ratio denotes the less leveraged the firm is meaning that a larger percentage of its assets are owned by the company and its investors.

Table 6 computes the ratio of return on assets which is a financial ratio that shows the percentage of profit a company earns in relation to its overall resources. ROA is used internally by companies to track asset-use over time, to monitor the company's performance in light of industry performance and to look at different operations by comparing them one to the other. The higher the return, the more efficient management is in utilizing its asset base.

The respective table shows the computation of profitability trend of the selected bank through return on assets and return on investment. The average return on assets is 1.23% and it is 8.93% in the case of return on investment. But the variations are observed in both cases (i.e., 35.81% and 38.80%). As we know that the higher the ROA, the better the management. An increasing trend of ROA is maintained except the year 2012 (0.35%) and 2013 (0.78%) and this increasing trend indicates that profitability of the company is improving.

Return on investment is the benefit to an investor resulting from an investment of some resource. A high ROI means the investment's gains compare favorably to its cost. As a performance measure, ROI is used to evaluate the efficiency of an investment or to compare the efficiencies of several different investments. ROI is expressed usually as a percentage and it is a measure of profitability that indicates whether or not a company is using its resources in an efficient manner. In case of the selected sample bank the trend of ROI is followed by an upward trend up to the year 2011 and in 2012 and 2013 this trend is shaping downward.

Table 07 exposes that the profitability trend of all dimensions is highly adequate. The variation is seen in the case of profit after tax (45.09%) and the lowest variation is observed in the case of profit before tax (38.60%). As a matter of consequence, it is assured that the bank always maintains a steady increasing trend up to the year of 2011 and the amount of PAT is decreased by the amount of BDT 1162 million than the immediate preceding year. However, in the year 2013, 2014, and 2015, the growth rate of PAT was 158.70%, 49.68% and 16.45% respectively.

Table 08 shows the position of EVA of the bank which is a modern measurement tool for financial evaluation and it determines economic profitability and its actual cost of capital. The trend of EVA is highly satisfactory. In the context of coefficient of variation, the variation in NOPAT (47%) and WACC (46%) is almost similar where the EVA has variation in 51%. In fact, it is simply affirmed that the trend of EVA is increasing gradually. So, it is truly assured that the bank has focused on the maximization of shareholders wealth and at the same time satisfies all of the stakeholders.

Graphical representations (Graph 01 to 03) indicate the trend of selected variables like fund availability, use of fund as advance and investment, and profit before tax and profit after tax and Net operating profit after tax, Weighted average cost of capital and Economic value added. In almost all the cases, coefficient of determination exposes the significant values and that the trends of the variables are moving upward. In case of graph 1, the trend of Fund availability and Advance and Investments are steadily upward. The respective value of R-square is 0.98 and 0.99 in case of Fund availability and Advance including Investments. The graph 1 denotes that the respective bank is highly efficient in cash management. In case of NOPAT and EVA the trend was increased by escalating with the slight decrease in the year of 2014. The value of R-square is 0.95 in both trend lines.

1.7 Concluding Remarks

Financial growth and development are the vital issues of for evaluating the financial positions of the selected bank. It is remarkably observed that the growth trend of equity is rising upward from 2004. In the financial sector, equity, advance and deposit are the main ingredients for any bank. In this study, it is observed that all the elements are steadily moving upward during the study period. As a matter of fact, it can be affirmed that the financial strength of the bank is gradually more strengthen because of efficient operation of fund. But unfortunately, the selected bank suffered in liquidity crisis and faced severe problem in 2005. As a whole, fund operation during the study period was smooth and created a good flow in value addition. Moreover, the stated bank maintained its various dimensions of productivity trend very satisfactorily. The trend of income and expenditure of the sample bank is moving upward very steeply. Income-expenditure productivity of is 1.87 which is highly satisfactory. Moreover, the equity

line of the bank is represented a worthy picture and creates more confidence among the depositors of the stated bank. Here it is also added that the ROA of the bank is displayed very satisfactorily. In fact it can be assured that the performance and efficiency of the fund management are undoubtedly making a strong bridge for the bank on the basis of proper its functional activities. As a result, it is shown that profitability trend of the selected bank turns upward on the basis of ROA and ROI. The above discussion explores the accounting profit of the bank but actual profit of the bank is presented through EVA. It is well known to all that EVA highlights the accurate and perfect trend of profitability. In this study, the researchers address the key issues of profitability and it also shows the pleasing outcome of the bank. In brief, it can be certainly concluded that the stated bank is also careful and successful regarding the issue of the maximization of shareholders wealth and all the stakeholders of the bank are confident and satisfied about the banking performance, efficiency and above all, the dynamic and modern fund management of the bank.

The previous concept of profit maximization is an old-age concept where wealth maximization is matured but now-a-days value maximization concept treated as wisdom one. The selected profitability study shows the expansion and diversification of the selected bank for the year of 2004 to 2015. The projected study finds out the trend of profitability of the selected bank using the ideas of EVA and efficient fund management. In this study it is remarkably indicated that the growth trend of the bank is flourishing. The profitability trend of the selected bank is highly adequate. The definitive study reveals the bank is usually increased the Economic value so that it is called the bank now focus on the maximization of shareholders value.

Appendix

Table 01
Position of Equity, Deposits, Advance and Investments during 2004 to 2015
(Figure in Million BDT)

| Year | Equity | Deposits | Advance | Investment | Idle Money |
|---------|-----------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| 2004 | 590 | 8169 | 5820 | 1625 | 1314 |
| 2005 | 783 | 13409 | 11791 | 2163 | 238 |
| 2006 | 2117 | 23002 | 19557 | 3768 | 1794 |
| 2007 | 3058 | 37368 | 32461 | 4997 | 2968 |
| 2008 | 5438 | 58007 | 52677 | 8245 | 2523 |
| 2009 | 8151 | 75220 | 64151 | 10375 | 8845 |
| 2010 | 9412 | 88158 | 84303 | 12856 | 411 |
| 2011 | 9603 | 103726 | 90822 | 14199 | 8308 |
| 2012 | 10155 | 134646 | 103624 | 25373 | 15804 |
| 2013 | 11883 | 127892 | 117111 | 21299 | 1365 |
| 2014 | 17755 | 148464 | 121941 | 23899 | 20379 |
| 2015 | 18815 | 143321 | 147434 | 19779 | -5077 |
| Total | 97,760.00 | 961,382.00 | 851,692.00 | 148,578.00 | 58,872.00 |
| Average | 8,146.67 | 80,115.17 | 70,974.33 | 12,381.50 | 4,906.00 |
| STDEV | 6,095.93 | 52,025.23 | 47,161.21 | 8,576.85 | 7,207.86 |
| CV (%) | 74.83 | 64.94 | 66.45 | 69.27 | 146.92 |

Source: Annual Reports of BBL

Table 02
Efficiency of Fund Management of BBL during 2004 to 2015
(Figure in Million BDT)

| Year | Fund Available | Advance & Investment | Idle Money |
|---------|----------------|----------------------|------------|
| 2004 | 8759 | 7445 | 1314 |
| 2005 | 14192 | 13954 | 238 |
| 2006 | 25119 | 23325 | 1794 |
| 2007 | 40426 | 37458 | 2968 |
| 2008 | 63445 | 60922 | 2523 |
| 2009 | 83371 | 74526 | 8845 |
| 2010 | 97570 | 97159 | 411 |
| 2011 | 113329 | 105021 | 8308 |
| 2012 | 144801 | 128997 | 15804 |
| 2013 | 139775 | 138410 | 1365 |
| 2014 | 166219 | 145840 | 20379 |
| 2015 | 162136 | 167213 | -5077 |
| Total | 1,059,142.00 | 1,000,270.00 | 58,872.00 |
| Average | 88,261.83 | 83,355.83 | 4,906.00 |
| STDEV | 57,857.29 | 55,252.23 | 7,207.86 |
| CV (%) | 65.55 | 66.28 | 146.92 |

Source: Data are compiled from the annual reports of 2004 to 2015

Table 03
Growth and Productivity of Interest Income and Interest Expenses during 2004 to 2015
(Figure in Million BDT)

| Year | Interest Income | Change | Growth % | Interest Expense | Change | Growth % | Productivity Ratio |
|---------|-----------------|---------|----------|------------------|---------|----------|--------------------|
| 2004 | 816 | 0 | 0 | 440 | 0 | 0.00 | 0.00 |
| 2005 | 1464 | 648 | 79.41 | 850 | 410 | 93.18 | 1.58 |
| 2006 | 2792 | 1328 | 90.71 | 1634 | 784 | 92.24 | 1.69 |
| 2007 | 4633 | 1841 | 65.94 | 2571 | 937 | 57.34 | 1.96 |
| 2008 | 8021 | 3388 | 73.13 | 4865 | 2294 | 89.23 | 1.48 |
| 2009 | 9476 | 1455 | 18.14 | 6073 | 1208 | 24.83 | 1.20 |
| 2010 | 10841 | 1365 | 14.40 | 5777 | -296 | -4.87 | -4.61 |
| 2011 | 13610 | 2769 | 25.54 | 8164 | 2387 | 41.32 | 1.16 |
| 2012 | 16714 | 3104 | 22.81 | 10195 | 2031 | 24.88 | 1.53 |
| 2013 | 18134 | 1420 | 8.50 | 11283 | 1088 | 10.67 | 1.31 |
| 2014 | 16794 | -1340 | -7.39 | 9192 | -2091 | -18.53 | 0.64 |
| 2015 | 17373 | 579 | 3.45 | 8657 | -535 | -5.82 | -1.08 |
| Total | 120668 | 16557 | 394.64 | 69701 | 8217 | 404.46 | 6.86 |
| Average | 10055.67 | 1379.75 | 32.89 | 5808.42 | 684.75 | 33.70 | 0.57 |
| SD | 6520.05 | 1336.09 | 34.51 | 3773.09 | 1297.14 | 40.75 | 1.84 |
| CV (%) | 64.84 | 96.84 | 104.94 | 64.96 | 189.43 | 120.90 | 321.50 |

Source: Data are compiled from the annual reports of 2004 to 2015

Table 04
Growth and Productivity of Total Income and Total Expenditure during 2004 to 2015
(Figure in Million BDT)

| Year | Total Income | Change | Growth % | Total Expenditure | Change2 | Growth %2 | Productivity Ratio |
|---------|--------------|---------|----------|-------------------|---------|-----------|--------------------|
| 2004 | 679 | 0 | 0 | 359 | 0 | 0.00 | 0 |
| 2005 | 1173 | 494 | 72.75 | 593 | 234 | 65.18 | 2.11 |
| 2006 | 2077 | 904 | 77.07 | 1027 | 434 | 73.19 | 2.08 |
| 2007 | 6114 | 4037 | 194.37 | 4168 | 3141 | 305.84 | 1.29 |
| 2008 | 10901 | 4787 | 78.30 | 7727 | 3559 | 85.39 | 1.35 |
| 2009 | 13335 | 2434 | 22.33 | 9619 | 1892 | 24.49 | 1.29 |
| 2010 | 15316 | 1981 | 14.86 | 10348 | 729 | 7.58 | 2.72 |
| 2011 | 18299 | 2983 | 19.48 | 13329 | 2981 | 28.81 | 1.00 |
| 2012 | 21063 | 2764 | 15.10 | 15945 | 2616 | 19.63 | 1.06 |
| 2013 | 23939 | 2876 | 13.65 | 17832 | 1887 | 11.83 | 1.52 |
| 2014 | 22600 | -1339 | -5.59 | 15827 | -2005 | -11.24 | 0.67 |
| 2015 | 23785 | 1185 | 5.24 | 15988 | 161 | 1.02 | 7.36 |
| Total | 159281 | 23106 | 507.55 | 112762 | 15629 | 611.71 | 22.44 |
| Average | 13273.42 | 1925.50 | 42.30 | 9396.83 | 1302.42 | 50.98 | 1.87 |
| SD | 8988.012 | 1748.73 | 56.61 | 6568.59 | 1647.80 | 86.02 | 1.87 |
| CV% | 67.71 | 90.82 | 133.83 | 69.90 | 126.52 | 168.75 | 99.93 |

Source: Data are compiled from the annual reports of 2004 to 2015

Table 05
Ratio of Capital to Deposit and Equity to Assets during 2004 to 2015

| Year | Capital to Deposit | Equity to Asset |
|---------|--------------------|-----------------|
| 2004 | 7.96 | 5.89 |
| 2005 | 7.38 | 4.64 |
| 2006 | 10.85 | 7.05 |
| 2007 | 10.15 | 6.77 |
| 2008 | 10.55 | 7.51 |
| 2009 | 11.02 | 8.57 |
| 2010 | 13.62 | 7.9 |
| 2011 | 12.33 | 7.21 |
| 2012 | 9.47 | 5.85 |
| 2013 | 11.2 | 6.61 |
| 2014 | 13.28 | 8.68 |
| 2015 | 14.22 | 8.38 |
| Total | 105.84 | 67.48 |
| Average | 11.76 | 7.50 |
| STDEV | 1.67 | 0.97 |
| CV (%) | 14.20 | 13.00 |

Source: Data are compiled from the annual reports of 2004 to 2015

Table 06
Return on Assets and Return on Investment of BBL during 2004 to 2015

| Year | Return on Assets (%) | Return on Investments (%) |
|---------|----------------------|---------------------------|
| 2004 | 1.36 | 8.57 |
| 2005 | 1.43 | 8.54 |
| 2006 | 1.43 | 9.69 |
| 2007 | 1.62 | 11.64 |
| 2008 | 1.64 | 12.61 |
| 2009 | 1.56 | 12.3 |
| 2010 | 1.55 | 9 |
| 2011 | 1.36 | 12.41 |
| 2012 | 0.35 | 3.44 |
| 2013 | 0.78 | 5.7 |
| 2014 | 1.09 | 7.13 |
| 2015 | 1.13 | 6.13 |
| Total | 11.08 | 80.36 |
| Average | 1.23 | 8.93 |
| SD | 0.44 | 3.46 |
| CV% | 35.81 | 38.80 |

Source: Data are compiled from the annual reports of 2004 to 2015

Table 07
Growth Trend of Profitability During 2004 to 2015
(Figure in Million BDT)

| Year | PBT | Change | Growth (%) | PAT | Change | Growth (%) |
|---------|---------|--------|------------|---------|--------|------------|
| 2004 | 210 | | | 99 | | |
| 2005 | 340 | 130 | 61.90 | 193 | 94 | 94.95 |
| 2006 | 705 | 365 | 107.35 | 334 | 141 | 73.06 |
| 2007 | 1264 | 559 | 79.29 | 618 | 284 | 85.03 |
| 2008 | 2023 | 759 | 60.05 | 973 | 355 | 57.44 |
| 2009 | 2144 | 121 | 5.98 | 1304 | 331 | 34.02 |
| 2010 | 2916 | 772 | 36.01 | 1664 | 360 | 27.61 |
| 2011 | 3007 | 91 | 3.12 | 1702 | 38 | 2.28 |
| 2012 | 1988 | -1019 | -33.89 | 540 | -1162 | -68.27 |
| 2013 | 3176 | 1188 | 59.76 | 1397 | 857 | 158.70 |
| 2014 | 4163 | 987 | 31.08 | 2091 | 694 | 49.68 |
| 2015 | 4621 | 458 | 11.00 | 2435 | 344 | 16.45 |
| Total | 25302 | 3916 | 252.40 | 12724 | 2101 | 362.94 |
| Average | 2811.33 | 435.11 | 28.04 | 1413.78 | 233.44 | 40.33 |
| STDEV | 1085.30 | 655.48 | 35.29 | 637.43 | 574.62 | 61.65 |
| CV (%) | 38.60 | 150.65 | 125.84 | 45.09 | 246.15 | 152.87 |

Source: Data are compiled from the annual reports of 2004 to 2015

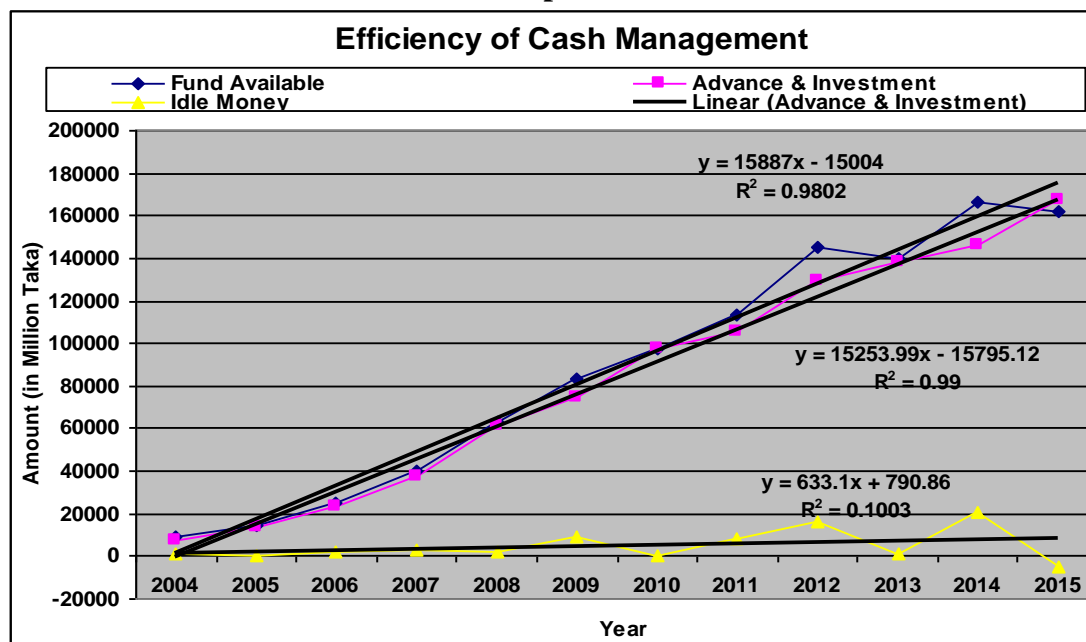
Note: PBT = Profit before Tax, and PAT = Profit after Tax

Table 08
Table of Economic Value Added of BBL During 2006 to 2015

| Year | NOPAT | WACC | EVA |
|---------|-------|------|-------|
| 2006 | 679 | 250 | 429 |
| 2007 | 1299 | 452 | 847 |
| 2008 | 2124 | 771 | 1353 |
| 2009 | 2877 | 953 | 1924 |
| 2010 | 3718 | 1251 | 2467 |
| 2011 | 3666 | 676 | 2990 |
| 2012 | 3697 | 578 | 3119 |
| 2013 | 4329 | 887 | 3442 |
| 2014 | 4701 | 1418 | 3283 |
| 2015 | 5611 | 1419 | 4192 |
| Total | 32701 | 8655 | 24046 |
| Average | 3270 | 866 | 2405 |
| STDEV | 1537 | 401 | 1228 |
| CV (%) | 47 | 46 | 51 |

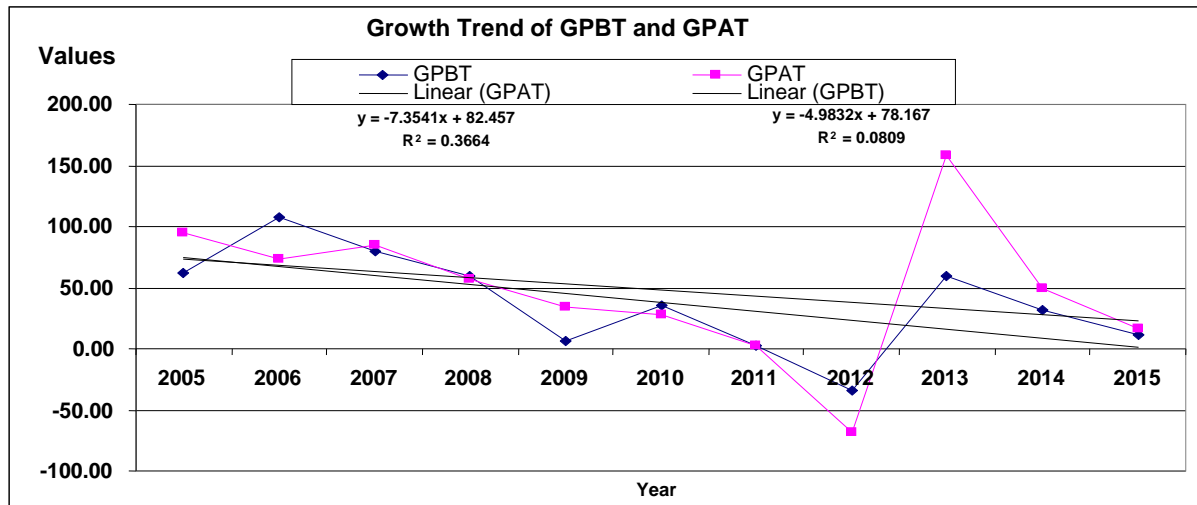
Source: Data are compiled from the annual reports of 2006 to 2015

Graph 01



Source: Table no. 02

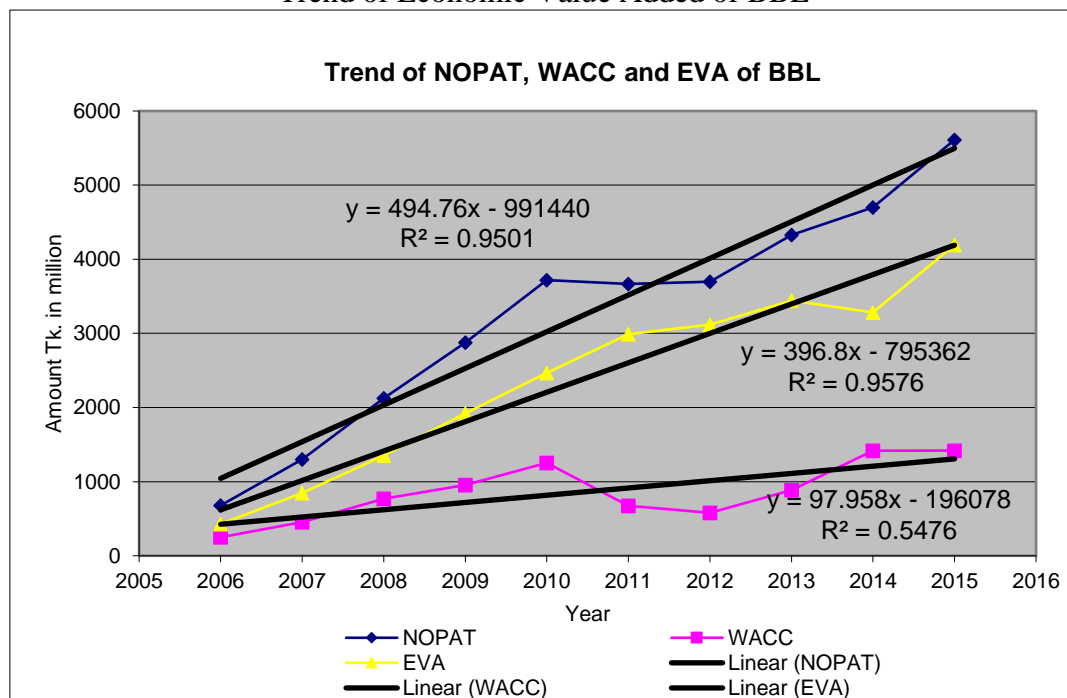
Graph 02
Growth Trend of BBL



Source: Table no. 07

Note: GPBT= Gross Profit before Tax; GPAT= Gross Profit after Tax

Graph 03
Trend of Economic Value Added of BBL



Source: Table No. 08

Note: NOPAT= Net Operating Profit after Tax, WACC= Weighted Average Cost of Capital and EVA= Economic Value Added

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Doctrine of Repugnancy and the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh

Ayesha Akter Lucky¹

Abstract

Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh was not a grant rather it was achieved for a sea of blood. It is the embodiment of the aspirations and emotions of millions of Bangalees. This constitution is reckoned as beacon light of the nation. And that is why it is the supreme law of the land. It is the touchstone or yardstick to test the validity of all other laws. It has a rich preamble. In spite of all these, there are some sinister lookings and inconsistencies within its articles. Such kind of repugnancy threatens the high ideas of the preamble and basic structures of the constitution. This article is an attempt to find out such kind of inconsistency or contradictory nature in the provisions of the constitution and also to recommend for removing such repugnancy to increase autarky of the constitution.

Keywords: Repugnancy, constitution, Bangladesh.

Introduction

The Constitution of Bangladesh is rigid and written in nature and declares itself as the supreme law of the land. It is placed above all laws: no law is above the constitution and all ordinary laws get their validity from it. It is the fundamental law of our country. Constitutional law is considered as the touchstone or yardstick to test the validity of all other laws. If any other law is inconsistent with this constitution that other law shall to the extent of the inconsistency be void, when many provisions of this constitution itself express the doctrine of repugnancy, its supremacy fall into threat, its high ambitions fall into fragile. Doctrine of Repugnancy is defined "as an inconsistency or contradiction between two or more parts of a legal instrument (Such as a statute or a contract)" (Garner, 2009). This kind of inconsistency vitiates the high ideals of a constitution. In the constitution, there are some articles which show contradictory nature or inconsistency with other articles of it. This article is an attempt to bring out such kind of repugnancy relating to the constitution of Bangladesh.

Review of Literature

There is no separate complete study or research regarding the repugnancy of the whole constitution of Bangladesh. In some constitutional books, few Articles have been criticized due to their contradictory nature. Mahmudul Islam (2012), in his *Constitutional Law of Bangladesh* has raised the issue how the rule of law is being

¹ Lecturer, Department of Law, Ishakha International University, Bangladesh

infringed practically such as by “cross fire” and “shoot out”. But, he has abstained himself from criticizing the provisions against the rule of law, as there are many provisions in the constitution of Bangladesh which go against the rule of law. He has stated the purposes of many provisions but has not pointed out the opposite sides of these Articles. However, Md. Abdul Halim (2012), in his book *Constitution, Constitutional Law and Politics: Bangladesh Perspective*, criticizes many Articles of the constitution of Bangladesh which are naturally contradictory. But a complete study relating to contradictory or inconsistent nature of the constitution of Bangladesh is still absent. In this study, an endeavor has been made to bring out all of the repugnancy of the constitution. Mahmudul Islam (2012) mentioned the purposes behind enacting Article 70, but did not use any word about how this Article curbs the freedom of speech and thought etc.

Articles 96, 115, 116 directly contradict the Articles 22 and 116A. Not only that, Articles 7B, 26(3) and 142 are very confusing. This study also discusses how fundamental rights of a victim are infringed by Article 49 of the constitution of Bangladesh.

Objectives of the Study

The major goals of this study are -

- a) to find out the repugnancy of the constitution of Bangladesh;
- b) to recommend for removing all of the contradictions or inconsistencies; and
- c) to suggest for bringing balance between preamble and other parts of it.

Methodology

A clear conception and a critical analysis of the contradictory or the inconsistent articles of the constitution of Bangladesh are required. A deep study about the positive and negative sides of these articles is necessary. Doctrinal method has been applied in this article.

Repugnancy in the Constitution of Bangladesh

There are many articles in the constitution of Bangladesh which show contradiction or inconsistency with other articles of it. Especially, the 15th and the 16th amendments have created some contradictions among some articles of the constitution of Bangladesh. Some contradictory articles are discussed as follows:

A. Articles 22, 94(4), 116(1), 94(2), 115, 116, 95 and the Independence of the Judiciary: A sound and independent judiciary system is the *sine qua non* and prerequisite of a healthy society. If the judiciary is not independent, it can hardly be expected to render impartial justice. The independence of the judiciary truly means that the judges are in a position to render justice in accordance with their oath of office and only in accordance with their own sense of justice without submitting to any kind of pressure or influence be it from executive or legislative or from the parties themselves

or from the superiors and colleagues. And this concept of independence of the judiciary, as recent international efforts to this field suggests, comprises following four meanings of judicial independence:

- (a) Substantive Independence of the Judges,
- (b) Personal Independence of the Judges,
- (c) Collective Independence of the Judges, and
- (d) Internal Independence of the Judges.

B. Conditions for the Independence of the Judiciary: The independence of the judiciary depends on some conditions which are as follows:

- ☐ Mode of appointment
- ☐ Security of tenure, and
- ☐ Adequate remuneration and privileges.

Now, the question is how far the judiciary is independent in Bangladesh. For answering this question, it would be convenient to discuss the present system of the Judiciary in two broad divisions:

A. Higher Judiciary

B. Lower Judiciary

Article 22 of the constitution of Bangladesh says about the separation of the Judiciary from the executive. According to this Article— “The state shall ensure the separation of judiciary from the executive organ of the state”. That means, the judiciary will be free from the executive. But, if we see the Articles 95, and 115, 116, the appointment in both the Higher Judiciary and the Lower Judiciary depends upon the executive.

According to **Article 95(1)**, the Chief Justice shall be appointed by the President and the other judges shall be appointed by the President after consultation with the Chief Justice. That means that the appointment depends upon the sole wish of the executive which may create personal favoritism and political bias in the appointment.

Article-94(4) says, “Subject to provisions of this constitution, the Chief Justice and the other judges shall be independent in the exercise of their judicial function.

Article 116(A) also says, “subject to the provisions of the constitution, all persons employed in the judicial service and all magistrates shall be independent in the exercise of their judicial function.”

These two Articles indicate the independence of the Judiciary subject to the provisions of the constitution. Now we will see Articles 98, 96, 99, 115 and 116.

Under **Article 98**, the President is empowered to appoint one or more qualified persons as additional judges for two years. Moreover, in the “Proviso” of this article, it has been

said that the President may appoint such an additional judge as a regular judge or for a further period.

Article-115 lays down, “Appointment of personals to offices in the judicial services or as magistrates exercising judicial functions shall be made by the President in accordance with rules made by him in that behalf.

Moreover, **Article 116** says: “The control (including the power of positing, promotion and grant of leave) and discipline of persons employed in the judicial service and magistrates exercising judicial functions shall be vested to the President and shall be exercised by him in consultation with the Supreme Court.”

So, from the above mentioned articles, it is clear that, the appointment in both the Higher Judiciary and the Lower Judiciary is conducted by the President. Besides, the posting, promotion and grant of leave of magistrates depend solely upon wish of the executive. Now, the question arises how much the judiciary is independent or separated? In one side, this constitution vests huge power on the executive to control the judiciary, on the other hand, it also speaks about the separation of judiciary from the executive. Also, we know that the Lower Judiciary was separated from the clutches of the executive on 01 November 2007 through the Masdar Hossain Case². But still now, the judiciary is being overlapped by the executive through the constitution.

C. 16th Amendment and the Independence of the Judiciary: 16th amendment of the constitution was passed by the Parliament on September 17, 2014 which gave powers to the *Jatiyo Shangshad* (National Assembly) to remove judges if allegations of incapability or misconduct against them are proved. On May 5, 2016, the Supreme Court of Bangladesh declared the 16th amendment illegal and contradictory to the constitution.

Article 96 says, “A Supreme Court judge can be impeached by a two-third majority in the parliament on the ground of incapacity or misbehavior.” However, the apex court’s own mechanism for removing judges has been initiated, and the Supreme Judicial Council (SJC), and clauses 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 7 of Article 96 of the constitution has been restored with the amendment being scrapped.

Neither individual judges nor the judiciary should be accountable to the executive because the branch of the state is inimical to judicial independence that is a necessary requirement for the judges to discharge their responsibilities to resolve any disputes fairly and impartially, the text reads.

The court in the 799-page appeal verdict expunged some remarks made by the High Court in its verdict regarding the members of parliament (MPs), saying courts or judges

² Secretary, Ministry of Finance v Masdar Hossain (1999) 52 DLR (AD) 82

should have a mutual respect. It also approved a code of conduct for the judges and said that failure to comply with the code would be considered as gross misconduct. Since this amendment is *ultra vires* the constitution, the provision prevailing before the substitution is restored. The appeal is accordingly dismissed, the apex court said in the verdict. It also said that they cannot be removed or punished for *bona fide* errors or for disagreeing on a particular interpretation of law. Also, the judges act according to ethical standards and are held accountable if they fail to do so, the verdict states. International law clearly establishes that judges can only be removed for serious misconduct or incapacity. Disciplinary proceedings must be conducted by an independent and impartial body.

About Article 70, the bench said: We are of the view that with Article 70 in the constitution, it is for a Member of Parliament to express an opinion independently ignoring the directives given by the high command of his / her political party. The Chief Justice Sinha said, “If the removal mechanism is left with the executive or the legislature, it will be difficult to accept the government’s view that the independence of the judiciary will be protected.”³ “There will be threat to the judicial independence. Therefore, it is to be ensured that the removal process cannot be used as an instrument to penalize or intimidate judges,” he added. “Generally, the courts do not interfere in policy decision, but there are certain situations in which they have no choice but to interfere,” said Sinha. He also said, “It will not be correct to contend that the court shall lay aside its judicial hands when it comes to its notice that by a constitutional device, the executive wants to intrude into the judicial affairs, jeopardizing its independence.”⁴

The two judges ruled that the 16th amendment is a colorable legislation and is violative of the principle of separation of powers among three organs of the state, namely, the executive, the legislature and the Judiciary; and the independence of the Judiciary is guaranteed by Articles 94 (4) and 147 (2), two basic structures of the constitution and the same is also hit by Article 7B of the constitution.

D. Article 39 and Article 70: In the 15th amendment of the constitution of Bangladesh, Article 70 has been substituted. According to this Article –

“A person elected as a Member of Parliament at an election at which he was nominated as a candidate by a political party shall vacate his seat if he – (a) resigns from that party; or (b) votes in the Parliament against that party.”

That means a Member of Parliament cannot cast vote against his / her party in the Parliament. He / she cannot go against his / her party’s decision. This Article takes the right to oppose any bill which does not serve the people’s interest, which directly contradicts Article 39 of the constitution as Article 39 (1) speaks about freedom of thought and conscience.

³ The 16th Amendment Case

⁴ The 16th Amendment Case

A Member of Parliament who is elected directly by the people is always expected to act in a democratic spirit. People's mandate is to respond on him not to act on undemocratic party line but to raise voice against whimsical or undemocratic decisions. But as the provision goes, it is quite impossible for a group of a parliamentary party inside the parliament to revolt and form a dissident group.

Neither an individual nor a group has the right to dissent. It is compulsory for MPs to vote on party lines. No MP can dare raise his voice against his party decision, even if it goes against the nation's interest. Article 70 is contradictory to the principle of democracy and right of conscience as guaranteed by the constitution.

However, it may be said that the purpose behind Article 70 is to stable a particular parliament so that no one can change or leave the political party by which he or she is nominated. But this mere purpose is not significant compared to the nation's interest.

Article 70 goes against the Articles 7(2) and 26 of the constitution. According to these Articles, any law which is inconsistent with the other laws of the constitution shall, to the extent of the consistency, be void. Article 70 is contradictory with Article 39.

E. Article 2A and Article 12: Another repugnancy of the constitution of Bangladesh lies between Article 2A and 12. Article 2A says the state religion of the Republic is Islam. On the other hand, it also places secularism. According to Article 12, the principle of secularism shall be realized by the elimination of —

- (a) Communalism in all of its forms;
- (b) The granting by the state of political states in favor of any religion;
- (c) The abuse of religion for political purpose; and
- (d) Any discrimination against or persecution of person practicing a particular religion.

F. Articles 31, 32, 33 and Preventive Detention: Article 31 and 32 speak about right to protection of law and protection of right to life and personal liberty; and Article 33 speaks about safeguards as to arrest and detention which are important fundamental rights of a person. Article 33 (3b) also speaks about the preventive detention. According to this Article, rights given by this Article cannot be applied for that person who is arrested under preventive detention. Preventive detention means detention of a person without trial and conviction by a court, but merely on suspicion in the minds of the executive authority. Preventive detention is an abnormal measure whereby the executive is authorized to impose restraints upon the liberty of a man who may not have committed a crime but who, it is apprehended, is about to commit acts that are prejudicial to public safety etc. According to the Chief Justice Badrul Haider Chowdhury (1990), "Preventive detention means detention the aim of which is to prevent a person from doing something which is likely to endanger the public peace or safely or cause public disorder."

The philosophy lying behind the preventive detention is the interest and security of the state and nation. National security and interest are more important than the personal liberty of citizens; for the enjoyment of personal liberty itself is dependent on the safe security of the state. This is why, in times of grave emergency threatening to the security of the state, preventive detention is authorized by the law in all democratic countries including England and USA.

Though there are logical ground behind preventive detention, it is sometimes said that the power of preventive detention carries with it the risk of abuse of power. In India Pakistan and Bangladesh, preventive detention is allowed also in peace time. As the socio-political culture is not so developed in our country, there is a fear of detention of opposite parties' people.

Article 33 provides preventive detention and does not fix the maximum period of detention. Thus, it curtails the fundamental rights of a person. In the constitutions of Pakistan and India, the initial period of detention is 3 months. But, in the constitution of Bangladesh, the initial period is 6 months. In Pakistan under Article 10 (7), a person cannot be detained more than 8 months in a year. In India, the maximum period is 2 years. But, neither the constitution of Bangladesh nor the special Powers Act specifies any fixed period. It means a person can be detained for an indefinite period once the Advisory Board opines that there exists sufficient cause for such detention.

In democratically developed countries like USA, it is specifically mentioned that only in time of emergency preventive detention law would be applied. But in the constitution of Bangladesh no such specification is provided. As a result, preventive detention law has been an integral part of the constitution of Bangladesh and every government is using this law as a permanent weapon to crash down opposition and throttle personal liberty guaranteed by the constitution. The statistics shows that every year a large number of political workers and leaders are detained without trials under the preventive detention that contradicts the fundamental right 'the right to life and liberty'.

G. Rule of Law and The constitution of Bangladesh: Rule of law is one of the basic features of the constitution of Bangladesh and also the fundamental aims of it. There are some provisions in the constitution for ensuring rule of law and at the same time there are also some provisions against the rule of law.

H. Positive Articles relating to Rule of Law: Rule of law has been pledged in the preamble to the constitution of Bangladesh that — "It shall be fundamental aim of the state to realize through the democratic process a socialist society, free from exploitation – a society in which the rule of law, fundamental human rights and freedom, equality and justice, political economic and social will be secured for all citizens."

In accordance with this pledge the following positive provisions for rule of law have been incorporated in the constitution:

Article 27 guarantees that all citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law.

Article 31 guarantees that to enjoy the protection of the law, and to be treated in accordance with law is the inalienable right of every citizen, wherever he may be, and of every other person for the time being within Bangladesh and in particular no action to the life, liberty, body, reputation or property of any person shall be taken except in accordance with law. 18 fundamental rights have been guaranteed in constitutional arrangement for their effective enforcement has been ensured in Articles 44 and 102. Article 7 and 26 impose limitation on the legislature that no law which is inconsistent with any provision of the constitution can be passed.

In accordance with Articles 7, 26 and 102 (2) of the constitution, the supreme court exercises the power of judicial review whereby it can examine the extent and legality of the actions of both the executive and the legislative and can declare any of their actions void if they do anything beyond their constitutional limits. Right to be governed by a representative body answerable to the people has been ensured under Articles 7(1), 11, 55, 56, 57 and 65 (2) of the constitution.

I. Provisions of the Constitution Contrary to the Concept of Rule of Law: There are many provisions in the constitution of Bangladesh which are contrary to the rule of law.

The most important condition for ensuring rule of law in a country is the independence of the Judiciary. And, to what extent the independence of the judiciary is maintained in the constitution of Bangladesh has already been discussed.

Preventive detention measures can be supported only in time of emergency. But Article 33 of constitution allows the government to use this measure in peace time. The right to protection of law, protection of right to life and personal liberty and safeguard as to arrest and detention as guaranteed in Articles 31, 32 and 33 cannot be ensured. So, the provisions allowing preventive detention in peace time as provided for in Article 33 is against the concept of rule of law. Also, preventive detention in peace time is an ordinary power which has no place in the institution of rule of law.

Article 70 is frustrating all positive devices in the constitution for ensuring rule of law.

Ordinance making power can be supported only in emergency situations like national crisis, national calamity, severe economic situation etc. demanding for immediate legislative action. But, Article 93 of the constitution allows the President to promulgate ordinances anytime during the recesses of parliament sessions. And, in practice a huge number of ordinances are promulgated by- passing the parliament. Ordinance made

laws are fully undemocratic since they are made by the executive almost in an unrestricted way. These laws are, therefore, contrary to the concept of rule of law.

Except in war time situations, declaration of emergency cannot be supported. But article 141A empowers the President to declare emergency wherever he wishes. By declaring emergency in peace time the government can suspend fundamental right and suppress the opposition movement. This amounts to avowed arbitrary exercise of power on the part of the government which is contradictory to the concept of rule of law.

The above discussion makes it clear that though there are some positive provisions for ensuring rule of law in the constitution of Bangladesh, they are being outweighed by the negative provisions.

J. The President's Power of Mercy: Article 49 says, the President shall have power to grant pardons reprieves and respites and to remit, suspend or commute any sentence passed by any court, tribunal or other authority.

This Article gives unlimited power to the President. According to this Article, the President can pardon any sentence passed by any court, tribunal or other authority. In Bangladesh, the President belongs to the ruling political regime.

We know that AHM Biplob was convicted in the case of murdering a lawyer whose body was cut into pieces and thrown into the river. The session court awarded him the death penalty for the murder in his absence. He was further convicted for the murder of two other persons on separate occasions. The High Court held the judgment of the courts of session in the case of murdering the lawyer but remitted the death penalties of two cases to life imprisonments. Following applications from Biblob's mother, he was pardoned in the murder case of the lawyer in July 2011 and now, remitted the two other life imprisonments to 10 years imprisonment.

BNP leader Mohiuddin Jhantu was pardoned by the then president. Now a question may arise, when a child who lost his father, a wife who lost his husband or a mother who lost her child under such kind of brute political person who kills innocent person one after one showing ruling party's power and when he is pardoned under this Article, is the victim party satisfied on this clemency power? Does it ensure justice for the victim party? Can they enjoy their fundamental rights? Does it establish rule of law?

It is pertinent to mention here that the purpose of this Article is not to criticize any individual president's functions of any special political regime. He is vested this power through the constitution of Bangladesh, so he can exercise this pardoning power. The purpose of this paper is to make Article 49 relating to clemency power more reasonable.

On the other hand, it is also true that our socio-political culture is not much developed and the President is not beyond the political party. That is why, he cannot use his clemency power independently sometimes.

So, in the researcher's opinion if the following recommendations were considered before using pardoning power on an offender, it would be fairer—

- Whether the offender is a habitual offender or not?
- Whether the offender is a brute political person or not?
- Does the victim party agree with the pardon?
- What are the past activities of the offender?
- The purposes or grounds of pardoning an offender should be stated.
- Adequate compensation to the victim party.

K. Amendment of the Constitution (Article 7B, 26, 142): Article 7B, 26 and 142 of the constitution of Bangladesh are related to the amendment of the constitution.

Article 7B says, “Notwithstanding anything contained in article 142 of the constitution, the preamble, all articles of part I, all articles of part II, subject to the provisions of part IXA all articles of part III, and the provisions of articles relating to the basic structures of the constitution including article 150 of part XI shall not be amendable by way of insertion, modification, substitution, repeal or by any other means.”

Article 142 says, “Notwithstanding anything contained in this constitution, any provision thereof may be amended by way of addition, alteration, substitution or repeal by the Act of the Parliament.”

The 15th Amendment inserted Article 7B which narrowed the width of Article 142. It is an essential principle of the constitutional law that a parliament cannot bind its successor.

Article 7B not being a part of the original constitution and thus not being a basic feature of the constitution, a future parliament, having the requisite majority, may repeal Article 7B and then amend any of the provisions mentioned in Article 7B except the provisions which relate to the basic structure of the constitution.

Article 26 says—

1. All existing laws inconsistent with the provisions of this part shall, to the extent of such inconsistency, become void on the commencement of this constitution.
2. The state shall not make any law inconsistent with any provision of this part, and any law so made shall, to the extent of such inconsistency, be void.

3. Nothing in this article shall apply to an amendment of this constitution made under Article 142.

This Article does not limit Article 142 whereas Article 7B imposes strong limitation to the amendment of the constitution. This Article (7B) impedes the development of the constitution because, according to this Article, Part-I, Part-II and Part-III are non-amendable, though we know that the amendment of the constitution means change or alteration for improvement or to make it effective or meaningful and not its elimination or abrogation. But, it is pertinent to mention here that the amendment is subject to the retention of the basic structure. So, Article 7B obstructs the development of Part I, II, and III.

Findings and Recommendations

Findings from this study are –

- Articles 94(4), 116(A), 22 and 96, 115 and 116 are reciprocally contradictory though the independence of the Judiciary is *sine qua non* and pre-requisite of a healthy society. But this high ideal is destroyed by some articles of the constitution of Bangladesh. The executive has strong control over the judiciary.
- Freedom of speech, thought and conscience is one of the fundamental rights (39) which can be judicially enforced. Article 70 of the constitution of Bangladesh curtails this right strongly. A Member of Parliament cannot speak against his party in the parliament though the bill is harmful for the society.
- Rule of law is one of the basic structures of the constitution of Bangladesh. There are many articles in the constitution of Bangladesh which are supporting this basic pillar; on the other hand, there are also some articles which strongly go against the rule of law. Right to life which is a very crucial fundamental right is also being ruined by the alarming preventive detention.
- The state religion of Bangladesh is Islam according to Article 2A of the constitution. It starts with BISMILLAH-AR- RAHMAN-AR- RAHIM and it is natural that our country is a Muslim country. On the other hand, it did not forget to place secularism in it.
- Amendment of the constitution is confusing according to Articles 7B, 26, 142.

It should be remembered that the ingrained spirit of the constitution is its intrinsic power. It is its soul. It is invaluable with soul. The constitution of a country is its source of power. It strives a nation to move forward. But if the said spirit is lost, the constitution becomes a mere stale and hollow instrument. Without its life and force, it becomes a dead letter. The United Kingdom, although does not have any written constitution, has got the spirit of the constitution and that is why the people of that country can feel proud of their democracy. There are countries with constitution written and amended many

times, but without the said spirit, the democracy remains a mirage.⁵ Constitutional law is the fundamental law of our country. So, when many provisions of this constitution itself express the doctrine of repugnancy, its supremacy falls into threat, and its high ambitions fall into fragile. From this study, we got many articles which are contradictory with each other. Such kind of contradictory articles vitiate the high ideals of the constitution of Bangladesh.

- For a free fair and impartial judiciary, separation from the other organs, namely the executive and the legislature, is necessary. Article 96 will make the judiciary crippled. It should be amended.
- Article 33 can detain a person for an unlimited period which curtails the fundamental right of 'right to life'. In India or Pakistan, there is a fixed period for preventive detention. But in Bangladesh, there is no fixed time to detain. A person can be detained for years without any trial. So, this Article should also go through suitable amendment.
- Article 70 is a black law. It can pass a negative bill in the parliament which goes against the interest of the nation.

So, all articles which are directly contradictory to the basic structure of the constitution or show repugnancy to the fundamental rights should be altered through the amendment.

Conclusion

The constitution is the fundamental law and also the supreme law of the land. Any inconsistency in the constitution weakens the strengths, hopes and high ideals of it. So, the constitution itself should be free from any repugnancy among its provisions and all kinds of contradictions or inconsistencies should be removed through appropriate amendments.

⁵ Shamima Sultana Seema V Bangladesh (5 DLR (2005) 201, Para 108.

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