

Student Wings BIMS

**International Mediation Conference
Paharpur, Badalgachi, Naogaon
Bangladesh**

**Volume-One
2026**



Student Wings BIMS



***A Historical Moment: World Mediation Analyst's (From left Mr. Kevin Brown (Europe)
Ms. Madeline C Kimei (Africa) (Mr. S.N. Goswami (Asia) & Mr. Dr. Richard Benkin (America)***

Student Wings BIMS

**International Mediation Conference
Paharpur, Badalgachi, Naogaon
Bangladesh**

**Volume-One
2026**

Student Wings BIMS

Student Wings BIMS Off-line International Mediation Conference, 2026

Advisory Board

**Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor
Dr. Namrota Pandey
S.N. Goswami**

Editorial Board

**Ms. Urja Acharya
Ms. Sohani Islam Somapty
Ms. Anni Islam**

First Print

18th April, 2026

Published & Printed by

**Dr. Rajib Kumar Goswami, Advocate
Room No.319 (Main Building)
Supreme Bar Building
Dhaka, Bangladesh.**

Greeting Price

**BDT. 100.00
US\$ 2.00**

Contents

1. Founding Resolution & Approval Note of the Bangladesh International Mediation Society BIMS for the establishment of the Student Wing (SWBIMS)	----- 1-8
2. Profile of Hon'ble Justice Madam Aynun Nahar Siddiqua, Judge, Supreme Court of Bangladesh	----- 9-10
3. Profile of Hon'ble Justice Madam Aisha Shujune Muhammad, Most Senior Judge, Supreme Court of Maldives	----- 11-11
4. Profile of Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor	----- 12-12
5. Life Sketch of Mr. Kaushalya Nawaratne	----- 13-15
6. Profile of Mr. S.N. Goswami	----- 16-16
7. Profile of Dr. Namrota Pandey	----- 17-17
8. Profile of Ms. Simran Napit Ph.D	----- 18-18
9. Profile of Ms. Fathimath Nafa Saleem	----- 19-19
10. Training Girls' Students in Mediation and Formation of Student Wing BIMS : Review in Contest of Bangladesh by Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor	----- 20-26
11. The Movement of Youth in Mediation by Dr. Namrota Pandey	----- 27-32
12. Speech of Hon'ble Justice Madam Aynun Nahar Siddiqua, Judge, Supreme Court of Bangladesh	----- 33-37
13. Speech of Mr. Kaushalya Nawaratne	----- 38-40
14. Well Come Address By Mr. S.N. Goswami	----- 41-42
15. Speech By Mr. S.N. Goswami (Bangla)	----- 43-43
16. Speech By Ms. Simran Napit Ph.D	----- 44-45
17. Speech By Ms. Padma Ghalleay	----- 46-46
18. Speech By Mr. Shah Md. Babar	----- 47-48
19. Speech By Ms. Urja Acharya, Chairman SW BIMS	----- 49-49
20. Profile of Ms. Fathimath Nafa Saleem	----- 50-52
21. Speech By Ms. Rifa Tamanna, Vice-Chairman, SW BMIS	----- 53-53

Continued.....

Contents

22. Speech By Ms. Rifa Tamanna, Vice-Chairman, SW BMIS (Bangla)	----- 54-54
23. Speech By Ms. Anni Islam, Treasurer, SWBIMS	----- 55-55
24. Speech By Ms. Anni Islam, Treasurer, SWBIMS (Bangla)	----- 56-56
25. Speech By Ms. Unish Ghalley	----- 57-57
26. Speech By Ms. Mehbazin Joya, Member, SWBIMS	----- 58-59
27. Speech By Ms. Mehbazin Joya, Member, SWBIMS (Bangla)	----- 60-60
28. Speech By Md. Mamunur Rashid, Headmaster, Paharpur Adibasi High School, Badalgachi, Naogaon	----- 61-61
29. Message by Dr. Namrota Pandey to the Magazine	----- 62-62
30. Message by Ms. Urja Acharya to the Magazine	----- 63-63
31. Message by Ms. Padma Ghalley to the Magazine	----- 64-64
32. Student Wing BIMS Executive Committee	----- 65-65
33. SWBIMS Conference Committee	----- 66-66
34. SWBIMS Girls' Guide Team	----- 67-67
35. SWBIMS Cultural Team	----- 67-67

FOUNDING RESOLUTION & APPROVAL NOTE OF THE BANGLADESH INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION SOCIETY (BIMS) FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE STUDENTS WING (SW-BIMS)

FOUNDING RESOLUTION

At a duly convened meeting / by circulation of the competent authority of the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS), the following resolution was adopted:

Resolution No.: BIMS / SW-BIMS / Constitution / 251231

Date: 31.12.2025

Place: Dhaka, Bangladesh

WHEREAS, the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) is a professional, non-profit organization committed to the promotion, development, and institutionalization of mediation and alternative dispute resolution (ADR) at national and international levels;

AND WHEREAS, BIMS recognizes the importance of nurturing mediation culture, skills, research, and ethical practice among students and young professionals across jurisdictions;

AND WHEREAS, it is considered expedient and desirable to establish a dedicated student-oriented body under the aegis of BIMS to advance education, training, and international collaboration in mediation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. A Students Wing of the Bangladesh International Mediation Society, to be known as the Students Wing of Bangladesh International Mediation Society (SW-BIMS), is hereby formally established with immediate effect from 31.12.2025.
2. SW-BIMS shall function as an affiliated and integral wing of BIMS and shall operate in accordance with the objectives, policies, and overall supervision of BIMS.
3. The Constitution and Bylaws of SW-BIMS, as placed before and approved by BIMS, are hereby adopted and ratified. Copy annexed with this document.
4. An Advisory Committee for SW-BIMS shall be constituted by the Chairman of BIMS, who shall

determine its composition, tenure, and scope of advisory functions. The first advisory committee shall comprise of;

- i Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor – Chairman of SAARC Mediators Forum
- ii Mr. S N Goswami – Chairman of BIMS
- iii Dr. Namrata Pandey – Regional Director BIMS in Nepal

5. SW-BIMS shall have an Executive Committee comprising a Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer, and Executive Members, ensuring representation from SAARC countries, as far as practicable. The first executive committee shall comprise of;

- i. Ms. Urja Acharya – Chairman
- ii. Ms. Rifa Tamanna – Vice Chairman
- iii. Ms. Sohani Islam Somapty – Secretary
- iv. Ms. Anni Islam – Treasurer
- v. Ms. Suborna Gupta – Office Secretary
- vi. Ms. Supriya Chamling – Member
- vii. Ms. Unish Ghalleay – Member
- viii. Ms. Mehbazin Joya – Member
- ix. Ms. Sawliai Farjana - Member

6. The Executive Committee of SW-BIMS shall function under the guidance of the Advisory Committee and in coordination with a Mentors-cum-PR Team, appointed in consultation with BIMS.

7. SW-BIMS shall be authorized to organize academic programs, training activities, workshops, conferences, competitions, research initiatives, and outreach programs consistent with the mission of BIMS.

8. All financial, administrative, and institutional activities of SW-BIMS shall remain subject to oversight, audit, and policy control of BIMS.

9. BIMS reserves the right to issue directions, guidelines, or clarifications from time to time to ensure alignment with its institutional objectives and international best practices.

10. In the event of dissolution or reorganization of SW-BIMS, all assets, records, and intellectual property shall vest in BIMS.

RESOLVED FURTHER THAT this Resolution shall come into force with immediate effect from 31.12.2025

APPROVAL NOTE

Subject: Approval for Establishment of Students Wing of Bangladesh International Mediation Society (SW-BIMS)

The proposal for the establishment of the Students Wing of Bangladesh International Mediation Society (SW-BIMS) has been examined and approved by the competent authority of BIMS.

The establishment of SW-BIMS is intended to:

- Promote mediation education and skills among students;
- Create a structured platform for student engagement at national and international levels;
- Encourage SAARC and cross-border academic collaboration in mediation;
- Develop future leaders, mediators, researchers, and practitioners aligned with BIMS values.

The Constitution and Bylaws of SW-BIMS (attached herewith) have been duly approved, and SW-BIMS is authorized to commence its activities in accordance with the approved framework, subject to continued supervision and guidance of BIMS.

All concerned are directed to take necessary steps to operationalize SW-BIMS in compliance with this Resolution and applicable policies of BIMS.

CERTIFICATION

Certified that the above Resolution and Approval Note were duly approved by the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS).

For and on behalf of Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS)

Signature:

Name: Mr. S N Goswami

Designation: Chairman

Date: 31.12.2025

Seal of BIMS:



CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

STUDENTS WING OF BANGLADESH INTERNATIONAL MEDIATION SOCIETY (SW-BIMS)

PREAMBLE

In order to promote the culture, study, practice, and dissemination of mediation and other forms of alternative dispute resolution (ADR), to specifically empower women among students at national, regional, and international levels, and to align with the objectives of the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS), this Constitution and Bylaws are hereby adopted for the Students Wing of Bangladesh International Mediation Society (SW-BIMS).

SW-BIMS shall function as an academic, professional, and skill-development platform for students interested in mediation, operating under the overall guidance, supervision, and patronage of BIMS, largely focusing on student and their related community, society and family dispute resolution.

ARTICLE I – NAME, STATUS, AND AFFILIATION

1. The name of the association / forum / organization shall be Students Wing of Bangladesh International Mediation Society, hereinafter referred to as SW-BIMS.
2. SW-BIMS shall be a student-oriented, non-profit, non-political, and non-commercial body.
3. SW-BIMS shall function as an integral and affiliated wing of the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS).
4. In case of any inconsistency, the Constitution, rules, and policies of BIMS shall prevail.

ARTICLE II – OBJECTIVES AND PURPOSES

The objectives of SW-BIMS shall include:

1. To promote awareness, education, and training in mediation and ADR among students.
2. To encourage academic research, practical exposure, and skills development in mediation.
3. To organize workshops, seminars, competitions, conferences, and certification-oriented programs on mediation.

4. To foster cross-border academic collaboration among students of SAARC and other jurisdictions.
5. To build a pool of trained student mediators and mediation researchers.
6. To encourage women students participation to create women empowerment.
7. To support and advance the mission, vision, and programs of BIMS.

ARTICLE III – MEMBERSHIP

3.1 Eligibility

1. Any high school / college student who is interested in learning mediation and ADR shall be eligible for membership.
2. Membership shall be open irrespective of nationality, subject to compliance with these Bylaws.

3.2 Categories of Membership

1. General Student Member – Students enrolled in any recognized educational institution from SAARC or developing countries
2. Associate Member – Recent graduates or research scholars with an interest in mediation, as approved by the Executive Committee.

3.3 Admission

1. Membership shall be granted upon application and approval by the Secretary or an authorized committee.
2. The Executive Committee may prescribe membership forms, fees (if any), and codes of conduct.

3.4 Rights and Duties

1. Members shall have the right to participate in activities of SW-BIMS.
2. Members shall abide by this Constitution, Bylaws, and decisions of BIMS and SW-BIMS.

ARTICLE IV – ADVISORY COMMITTEE

1. SW-BIMS shall have an Advisory Committee constituted / nominated by the Chairman of BIMS.

2. The Advisory Committee shall consist of eminent mediators, academics, and professionals as determined by BIMS.
3. The Advisory Committee shall provide strategic guidance, academic oversight, and policy direction.
4. The Advisory Committee shall not be involved in day-to-day administration.

ARTICLE V – EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

5.1 Composition

1. The Executive Committee of SW-BIMS shall consist of:
 1. Chairman
 2. Vice Chairman
 3. Secretary
 4. Treasurer
 5. Executive Members
2. The tenure of the members shall be for three (3) years. The members shall be allowed to continue for two (2) straight tenures.

5.2 SAARC Representation

1. The Executive Committee shall be constituted to ensure representation from SAARC countries, as far as practicable.
2. Each SAARC country may be represented by one or more members, subject to availability and approval.

ARTICLE VI – POWERS AND FUNCTIONS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. To manage and administer the affairs of SW-BIMS.
2. To formulate annual plans, programs, and activities.
3. To maintain coordination with BIMS and its organs.
4. To appoint sub-committees and task forces as required.
5. To ensure compliance with this Constitution and BIMS policies.

ARTICLE VII – OFFICE BEARERS AND THEIR FUNCTIONS

7.1 Chairman

1. Shall head the Executive Committee.
2. Shall represent SW-BIMS in official forums.
3. Shall preside over meetings.

7.2 Vice Chairman

1. Shall assist the Chairman.
2. Shall act in the absence of the Chairman.

7.3 Secretary

1. Shall handle administration and correspondence.
2. Shall maintain records, minutes, and membership registers.

7.4 Treasurer

1. Shall manage finances and accounts.
2. Shall present financial statements when required.

ARTICLE VIII – MENTORS-CUM-PR TEAM

1. SW-BIMS shall be guided by a Mentors-cum-PR Team.
2. Mentors shall provide academic, professional, and ethical guidance.
3. The PR function shall promote visibility, outreach, and international engagement.
4. Mentors shall be appointed in consultation with BIMS.
5. The tenure of the members shall be for three (3) years. The members shall be allowed to continue for two (2) straight tenures

ARTICLE IX – MEETINGS

1. The Executive Committee shall meet at least twice a year, with Mentor-Cum-PR Team members as special invitees.
2. Meetings may be held physically or virtually.
3. Notice, quorum, and procedure shall be as prescribed by the Executive Committee.

ARTICLE X – FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

1. SW-BIMS funds may consist of membership fees, donations, grants, and program revenues.
2. Funds shall be used solely for achieving the objectives of SW-BIMS.
3. Accounts shall be maintained transparently and subject to oversight by BIMS.

ARTICLE XI – CODE OF CONDUCT AND DISCIPLINE

1. Members shall maintain integrity, neutrality, confidentiality, and professionalism.
2. Any misconduct shall be dealt with by the Executive Committee, subject to principles of natural justice.

ARTICLE XII – INTERNATIONAL COLLABORATION

1. SW-BIMS may collaborate with international universities, mediation institutions, and student bodies.
2. All collaborations shall be aligned with BIMS policies.

ARTICLE XIII – INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

1. All publications, training materials, and research outputs shall remain the intellectual property of SW-BIMS / BIMS unless otherwise agreed.

ARTICLE XIV – AMENDMENTS

1. This Constitution and Bylaws may be amended with the approval of BIMS.
2. Proposed amendments shall be placed before the Advisory Committee for recommendation.

ARTICLE XV – DISSOLUTION

1. SW-BIMS may be dissolved only by a resolution of BIMS.
2. Upon dissolution, assets, if any, shall vest in BIMS.

ARTICLE XVI – INTERPRETATION

1. The interpretation of this Constitution shall rest with the Chairman of BIMS.
2. The decision of BIMS shall be final and binding.

ARTICLE XVII – SAVINGS AND TRANSITIONAL PROVISIONS

1. Existing members and committees shall continue until reconstituted under this Constitution.

ARTICLE XVIII – COMPLIANCE WITH LAW

1. SW-BIMS shall comply with applicable laws and regulations of Bangladesh and relevant jurisdictions.

ARTICLE XIX – NON-DISCRIMINATION

1. SW-BIMS shall not discriminate on the basis of nationality, gender, religion, or ethnicity.

ARTICLE XX – ADOPTION

This Constitution and Bylaws are hereby adopted and shall come into force upon approval by the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS).

Adopted on: 31.12.2025

Recommended by: Advisory Committee, SW-BIMS

Approved authority: Chairman, BIMS

Approved by: Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS)

Brief Profile
The Honorable Chief Guest
Madam Justice Aynun Nahar Siddiqua
Permanent Judge, High Court Division
Supreme Court of Bangladesh



Justice Aynun Nahar Siddiqua

Justice Aynun Nahar Siddiqua is a Permanent Judge of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. She assumed office as a Judge of the High Court Division on 9 October 2024.

She was born on 12 December 1967 at her maternal grandparents' residence in Sirajganj Sadar, Sirajganj District, Bangladesh.

Justice Siddiqua completed her Bachelor's Degree in 1992. She later obtained her Bachelor of Laws (LL.B.) in 1998 and a Master's Degree in Social Science in 1998.

She began her legal career as an Advocate in the District and Sessions Judge Court in 2000. She was permitted to practice before the High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh in 2004, and later obtained permission to practice before the Appellate Division in 2020.

Before her elevation to the Bench, she served as a Deputy Attorney General for Bangladesh from 13 August 2024 to 8 October 2024.

Throughout her professional career, Justice Siddiqua has been actively involved in human rights advocacy, particularly in the areas of women's rights and access to justice. She has served as a Penal Lawyer for several prominent legal aid and human rights organizations, including:

- ALRD (Association for Land Reform and Development)
- Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee
- Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST)
- Ain O Salish Kendra
- Bangladesh Mahila Parishad

She has also participated in numerous seminars, symposiums, and international conferences on the development of law and justice. Notably, she participated in the International Conference on SALISH (2018) held in Kathmandu, Nepal, focusing on mediation and community-based dispute resolution.

Justice Siddiqua has made significant contributions to the development of public interest litigation (PIL) in Bangladesh. Among her notable initiatives was a public interest litigation filed in 2011 advocating for the rights and safety of pedal rickshaw pullers in Dhaka, through which the Court issued important directions regarding motorcycle movement, zebra crossings near the Supreme Court premises, and restrictions on billboard installations on foot-over bridges.

She also filed an important public interest litigation challenging the requirement for citizens to provide thumb impressions to mobile operators, raising concerns about the protection of citizens' privacy and personal data. Subsequent data breaches have further highlighted the importance of such concerns.

In addition, she has contributed to legal reform initiatives including gender equality in Kabin-nama (Muslim marriage contracts) and reproductive health rights, where court directions have helped improve access to healthcare and protections for women.

Life Sketch of Honorable Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad



**Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad
Supreme Court of Maldives**

Honorable Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad was born in Malé, Republic of Maldives. She completed her Bachelor of Laws (Honours), under the University of London External program at the Royal Institute in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and read for her Master of Laws at the University of Western, in Perth, Australia.

Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad was appointed to the Supreme Court on 04th September 2019. While she was in private practice as Associate Partner at Nasheed & Co Law Practice prior to her appointment at the Supreme Court, since 1997, she has filled a number of positions, including, the position of Judge at the Civil Court; varied executive and legal positions at the Ministry of Justice and Juvenile Court; and project positions at the Ministry of Gender. Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad has also worked extensively with civil society

organizations on a number of issues, primarily with a focus on human rights and good governance.

Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad had also served as a member of the Judicial Service Commission of Maldives (2019 – 2024), a member of the Advisory Board of the Faculty of Sharia and Law, Maldives National University (2021-2024) and a member of the Advisory Board of the Judicial Academy of Maldives (2021-2024).

Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad was elected as a member of the first Executive Committee of the Bar Council of Maldives in 2019, from which she resigned upon appointment to the Supreme Court. In addition, she has served the United Nations Subcommittee on the Prevention of Torture (SPT), as its Vice Chairperson for Jurisprudence and SPT Rapporteur, from 2011 to 2018. Justice Aisha Shujune Muhammad was re-elected to the SPT and served as Vice Chairperson for National Preventive Mechanisms from 2021-2024. She was recently elected in as SPT Vice Chairperson and Rapporteur in 2025, for a period of 2 years.

Life Sketch of Prof. Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor

Prof. Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor - A Multifaceted Visionary in Law, Science, and Global Expertise.

Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor is a Lawyer, Physicist, and Applied Geophysicist with a Doctorate Degree, Chartered Engineer (UK), Certified Dredge Master, and a qualified expert in Finance, Port, and Logistics Management. As an approved guide for PhD/MS scholars, he contributes extensively as an Editorial Board Member, International Peer Reviewer, and National Committee Member for boards of studies globally, Skill Development. His diverse expertise makes him a beacon in academia and beyond.

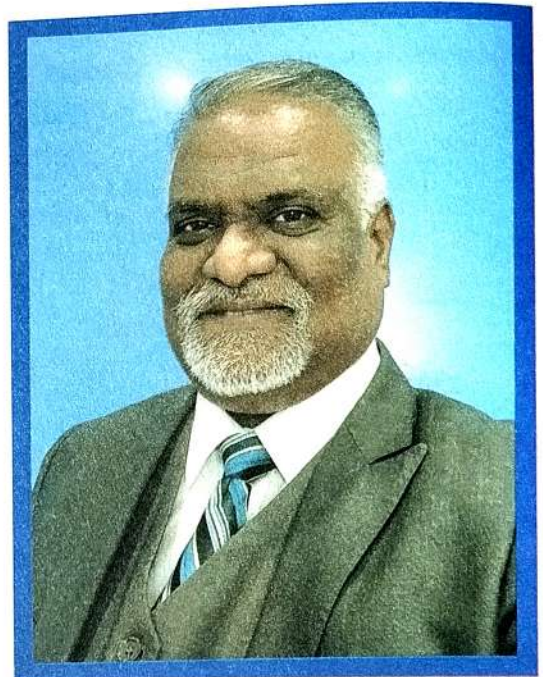
Dr. Victor excels in Admiralty, Marine, UNCLOS, Environmental, Insolvency, and Contract Law. As a Fellow Arbitrator, Mediator, and Dispute Board Member,

he provides expert opinions and resolves disputes for government bodies, public sector undertakings, and private companies. His experience spans roles as a Sole Arbitrator, Panel Arbitrator, and Emergency Arbitrator, handling Risk, Conflict, and Litigation Management at both national and international levels.

Dr. Victor's maritime contributions include serving as a member of the World Dredging Association (WoDA) and Eastern Dredging Association (India, Australia). He advises the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) and the International Seabed Authority on deep-sea mining and sustainable practices. As a mentor in the Sustainable Ocean Alliance and a member of the Global Network for Human Rights and Environment, he actively shapes policies for ocean conservation.

Dr. Victor has been recognized with prestigious awards such as the "Exemplary Achievement Award," "Maritime Award," "Top 100 Engineer," and "Award of Excellence" for his significant contributions to marine engineering and environmental sustainability. He was also honored with the Young Scientist Award by the Tamil Nadu Department of Science and Technology for his groundbreaking research in marine engineering and environment.

Dr. Victor is the Chairman - SAARC Mediators Forum, Chairman - Bangladesh India Mediators Forum, Chairman (Advisory Committee) - BIMS Student Wing, Member of Board for BIMS Training and Certification.



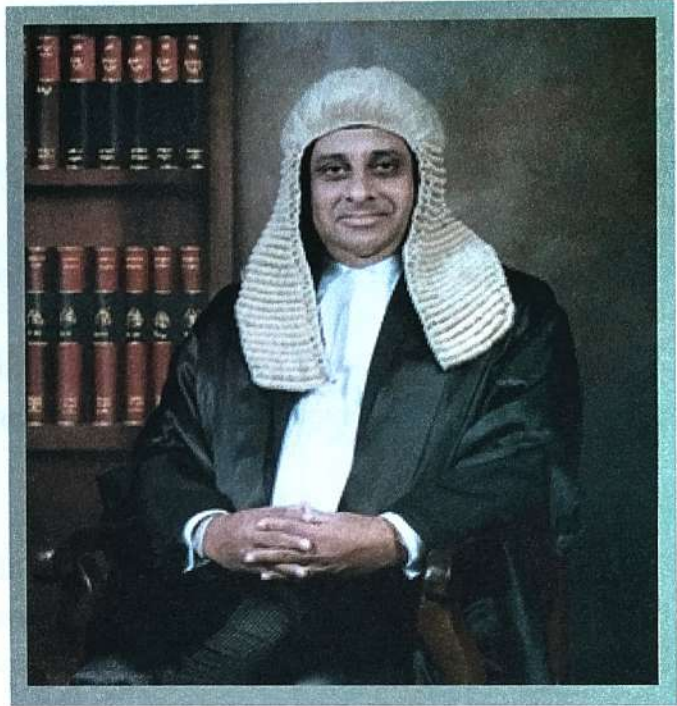
Prof. Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor
Advisory Member of Bims

Life Sketch of KAUSHALYA NAWARATNE

Presidents' Counsel

Mr. Kaushalya Nawaratne was called to the Bar in 1997 where his career as an Attorney-at-Law commenced in the Chambers of Mr. Kushan D' Alwis, President's Counsel.

Currently, Mr. Nawaratne heads his own chambers, with several juniors and appears as Senior Counsel in both original and appellate courts. He specializes in Civil Law and Commercial Law, with a focus on Civil and commercial Litigation, Alternate Dispute Resolution mechanisms such as Arbitration, Advising on Corporate Legal Matters, Regulatory frameworks, compliance requirements and legal due diligence. Further, Mr. Nawaratne is primarily engaged in the areas of Banking, Insurance, Intellectual



KAUSHALYA NAWARATNE
Presidents' Counsel

Property, and Litigation in terms of Companies Act, telecommunication whilst the civil work consists of litigation including Money Recovery, Testamentary, Defamation Matters, Matrimonial Disputes, Land, Partition and Rent and Ejectment matters. In Appellate Courts Mr. Nawaratne appears as a senior Counsel in Fundamental Rights Applications, Special Determination Matters, Writ Applications, and Leave to Appeal Applications, Special Leave to Applications, Labour Appeals and Appeals from the High Courts' etc.

In Addition to the aforesaid Mr. Nawaratne functions as an Arbitrator in many litigations adjudicating disputes relating to constructions, insurance claims etc. Further, he appears before the Labour Tribunals, Rent Board, Land Acquisition Board of Review, Industrial Court, Debt Reconciliation Board, Administrative Appeals Tribunal, Waqf Tribunal representing clients on respective Disputes. Further, Mr. Nawaratne functions as a Mediator, Adjudicator, Negotiator of disputes in array of disputes representing local and international clients and corporates.

Mr. Nawaratne has served as a member of the Board of Directors in companies such as, Sri Lanka Ports Authority, Jaya Container Terminals Limited (JCTL), Civil Aviation Authority of

Sri Lanka, Sri Lanka Accreditation Board and has gained extensive experience in the corporate world.

In recognition of the contribution of Mr. Nawaratne to the field of Law, he was conferred with Silk in the year 2023 by his excellency the President of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka in terms of the powers vested as per Article 33(e) of The Constitution of The Republic.

Ministry of Justice of Sri Lanka

- Chief Legal Advisor/Head of the Special Committee with regard to Commercial Law Reforms – 2020
- Additional Chief Editor of the Editorial Board for the publications of the Sri Lanka Law Reports -2020
- Member of the Civil Law Reforms Committee – 2021
- Member of the Committee appointed for the Digitalization of Court systems in Sri Lanka – 2021

Ministry of Labour Sri Lanka

- Appointed as a member of the panel of the Industrial Court established under the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act No. 43 of 1950 as amended by the His Excellency the President in terms of the Extra ordinary gazette No. 2252/4 dated 01.11.2021 for a period of 3 years.

Accreditation Board of Sri Lanka of Ministry of Science and Technology

- Member of the Governing Council of the Accreditation Board of Sri Lanka, Ministry of Science and Technology - 2016 to 2019

Bar Association of Sri Lanka

- President of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka (2023/2025)
- Secretary of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka (2018/2020)
- Zonal Vice President (Colombo) of the Bar Association of Sri Lanka and as a member of the Executive Committee and the Bar Council for many years.
- Panelist, speaker and as a moderator in many seminars, programs, junior law conferences, Provincial Law Conferences, National Law Conferences and many webinars conducted by the Bar Association of Sri Lanka.
- Conducted lectures on recent amendments to the Civil Procedure Code at the Provincial Law Conferences.
- Conducted lectures on Civil Procedure, Arbitration, Money Recovery Procedures and Law relating to grant of interim injunctions for law students during practical training lectures conducted by Sri Lanka Law College in collaboration with the Bar Association of Sri Lanka.

Presidential Secretariat

- Served as a member of the Committee appointed to make recommendations to grant presidential pardon to prisoners - 2020
- Served as a member of the committee appointed to inquire into irregularities and illegal activities of the Finance and Finance Leasing Business – 2020

Disciplinary Committee of the Supreme Court of Sri Lanka

- Member of the Disciplinary Committee appointed by His Lordship the Chief Justice under and in terms of the powers vested in terms of the Judicature Act No. 02 of 1978 as amended – 2021

The Incorporated Council of Legal Education

- Member of the Council of Legal Education

The Colombo Law Society

- President of Colombo Law Society - 2017/2018
- Secretary of the Colombo Law Society - 2014/2015, 2015/2016.
- Chairman of the District Court and the Commercial High Court Practitioners Committee - 2012/2013 and 2013/2014.

Law Asia

- Member of the Sri Lanka Delegation - Law Asia Conference - Japan, 2017.
- Member of the Sri Lanka Delegation - Law Asia Conference - Hong Kong, 2019.
- Elected as a Member of the Executive Committee of Law Asia - 2019/2020

Sri Lanka Lawyers Cricket Team

- Team Member - Lawyers Cricket World Cup – India, 2007
- Team Member - Lawyers Cricket World Cup –Barbados, 2012

Sri Lanka Law College

- Awarded Sri Lanka Law College Colours for Cricket
- Vice President – Law Student Buddhist Brotherhood.
- Vice-Captain of the Sri Lanka Law College Cricket Team in the Year 1994/1995. was awarded Colours for Cricket in the Year 1990/1991

Profile of

SAMARENDRA NATH GOSWAMI **Chairman, BIMS**



Mr. S.N. Goswami is the founder of Bangladesh International Mediation Society BIMS. BIMS is the non-profit, non-political government registered self contributed organization to promote peace through mediation training, workshop, seminar, conference etc.

Mr. S.N. Goswami was born on 1st January, 1953 at Naogaon (migrated) in a respectable Hindu family and schooling Devanagari language. He obtained M.A(Edn), LL.B, B.Ed, LL.M degree from University of Dhaka and University of Rajshahi respectively.

Goswami is senior advocate, Appellate Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh and is a specialized counsel and party appointed neutral arbitrator, commercial mediator and adjudicator.

He has facilitated commercial mediation and has extended advisory to local law firms on ADR mechanism. Goswami actively participates and promotes mediation and arbitration as well as other ADR mechanism in Bangladesh and abroad as an ADR enthusiast. Goswami also writes speaks on dispute regulation topics.

He is the founder of Naogaon Law College, Bangladesh and also founder and Chairman of Goswami Mediator's and Arbitrator's Society. He is the Co-Chairman of Africa-Asia Mediation Association and also Co-Chairman of SAARC Mediator's Forum, Co-Chairman of Dhaka-Berlin Mediator's Forum, Co-Chairman of Dhaka-Washington DC Mediator's Forum.

Goswami is the founder Editor and Publisher of a monthly Law Journal "Bangladesh Law Times" and is the author of "Bahai Personal Law". He is the life member of i) Bangla Academy, ii) Bangladesh Red Crescent Society, iii) Rajshahi University Registered Graduate, iv) ISKCON, v) Muktijoddha Jadughar.

Life Sketch of Dr. Namrata Pandey

Dr. Namrata Pandey is a senior Agribusiness, Agricultural Economics, and Social Development Expert with over 25 years of experience in Nepal and Japan. She holds a PhD in Agricultural Development and Symbiotic Society from the United Graduate School of Agricultural Sciences, Tokyo, Japan. Her core expertise includes agribusiness planning, value chain development, rooftop and urban farming, climate-resilient agriculture, market linkage (B2B/B2C), and cooperative systems.



Dr. Namrata Pandey
Bims Regional Director, Nepal

Dr. Pandey has provided technical leadership and advisory services to ADB, World Bank,

AIIB, FAO, SAARC, Government of Nepal, World Vision International Nepal, and Japan Agriculture (JA) institutions. Her professional work spans project design and implementation, social safeguards, GESI mainstreaming, livelihoods, food and nutrition security, monitoring and evaluation, and policy research, with a strong focus on inclusive and sustainable development for women and marginalized communities.

She brings significant international exposure through long-term academic and professional engagement in Japan, with practical experience in quality production standards, packaging, branding, agribusiness management, and farmer-cooperative strengthening, and has actively supported knowledge exchange between Japanese and Nepali agribusiness systems.

In addition to her technical expertise, Dr. Pandey is an Accredited Mediation Trainer (40-hour) and an active mediator and mediation campaigner, promoting dialogue-based conflict resolution and social harmony. She is also a certified trainer in yoga, meditation, leadership, and stress management, integrating psychosocial well-being into development practice. She is a recipient of the Nepal Bidhya Bhusan 'Ka' Award and the JASSO Scholarship (Government of Japan).

Life Sketch of Ms. Simran Napit



**Ms. Simran Napit, PhD
Scholar (Law) Judicial Officer,
Supreme Court of Nepal Joint Secretary, BNMF**

Ms Simran Napit serves as a Judicial Officer at Supreme Court of Nepal. An author of Judiciary's Dream: Sapana. A dedicated PhD Scholar and an influential advocate for Mediation in the legal field. As the host in ADR Week in Nepal, she contributed in the event aimed to explore the evolving mechanisms of ADR in Nepal. She has published many articles related to ADR and is also an strong advocate for Green Arbitration. An accredited mediator.

Life Sketch of Ms. Fathimath Nafa Saleem



Ms. Fathimath Nafa Saleem
Bims representative of Maldives

Ms. Fathimath Nafa Saleem is a final-year law student pursuing the University of the West of England (Bristol) LLB programme at Villa College, Maldives. She has demonstrated strong academic and extracurricular engagement throughout her studies, particularly in mooting and student leadership.

Ms. Nafa represented her institution at the LAWASIA International Moot Competition 2024 held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, gaining valuable experience in international legal advocacy. She further strengthened her skills by participating in the International Maritime Arbitration Competition 2025 organised by the Maldives Moot Court Society.

In addition to her academic pursuits, Ms. Nafa has taken on significant leadership roles within the Villa College Law Society. She served as Treasurer from 2024 to 2025 and currently continues to serve as Treasurer and Academic Events Coordinator, where she plays an active role in organising academic initiatives and managing society finances.

Alongside her studies, Ms. Nafa is currently working as an Administrative Assistant at Muizzu and Co LLP, where she is gaining practical experience in a professional legal environment.

Her combined experience in academics, competitions, leadership, and professional work reflects her commitment to developing a well-rounded legal career.

TRAINING GIRL STUDENTS IN MEDIATION AND FORMATION OF STUDENTS WING : REVIEW IN THE CONTEXT OF BANGLADESH

George Yesu Vedha Victor *

Chairman, SAARC Mediators Forum & Advisory Committee
Chairman of Students Wing, Bangladesh International Mediation Society

Abstract

United Nations SDG 16 promotes just, peace and inclusive societies providing access for justice to everyone equally without any discrimination. Mediation, an alternate dispute resolution mechanism is preferred as the decision to resolution of dispute is the responsibility of the parties to dispute. The Government and the Supreme Court enlarges the scope to mediation and refer disputes for mediation to decongest the pendency of backlogs. Women, Girl Students are the most neglected communities in the societies, although they constitute majority of population as home makers involved in all family, community and society affairs. Non-inclusion of women in dispute resolution affects to assert their fundamental rights to build peaceful and harmonious society. Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) resolution and formation of students wing to augment the society and the compelling reasons are reviewed in this paper

Key Words

UN SDG 16, BIMS, mediation, ADR, fundamental rights

Introduction

Kaniyan Pungundranar was an ancient Tamil philosopher and poet from the Sangam era (c. 6th century BCE – 3rd century CE) known for advocating universal brotherhood and equality, stated “Yaadhum Oore Yaavarum Kelir” meaning every human of every village and town is of the same value because they are related, hence, all people should be bound by one, same moral and legal code as depicted and inscribed in the United Nations Headquarters. Equal access to justice is essential for protecting the fundamental rights of everyone.

Courts of People’s Republic of Bangladesh

Bangladesh became an independent nation state in 1971. In 1972, a Constitution of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh was adopted that guaranteed fundamental human rights and freedom, securing rule of law, equality and justice without discrimination to all citizens. Part VI of the Constitution deals with the formal justice sector, accordingly, the Civil Courts Act 1887 provides for the subordinate civil courts and the Code of Criminal Procedure provides for the

courts of magistrates and sessions. Today, the legal system is well established, with possibilities for both grassroots legal empowerment and establishment of formal court system spans from the lowest body the village courts, with district-level courts and Supreme Court as Apex Courts.

Given the immense daily pressure and increased workload of the courts, the number of pending cases in the courts cumulatively is around five (5) million due to the delays in court proceedings and the shortage of judges to adjudicate. In addition, long adjournments and paucity of time of the courts cause delay of trials. Such delay results in negative effects of prolonged processes of disputes and dysfunctional resolution are more serious when the disputes concern the means of livelihood or living conditions of the people, such as divorce, child support, or domestic violence, more specifically for the socially vulnerable populations such as the poor and women.

Notwithstanding, in the adversarial court system, women litigants are at a key disadvantage, especially in light of the stigma attached to those who are perceived as litigants. In this context, mediation may be best suited and acceptable as a process that may better protect and preserve women's rights in Bangladesh, especially those in underserved communities. This demonstrates increasing options to resolve disputes within the community.

Mediation in Bangladesh

Historically, the dominant forum of dispute resolution within communities has been the shalish, a 'small-scale local council which is convened for conflict resolution. This typically involves village elders, religious leaders, elected representatives or other influential community members and dominated by men. In many parts of Bangladesh, women have historically been excluded from participating in traditional justice, rarely even attending even their own hearings. The state, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and women leaders have been working towards changing this situation for the better.

Considering the limitations of the formal court system and the socioeconomic context of Bangladesh, mediation is a promising alternative for ensuring access to justice, especially for the poor and women. This informal method can minimize the financial burden and ensure timely justice, without creating excessive delays. Mediation allows women to access justice without violating the social customs in Bangladesh, since it allows women to discuss their personal family matters in entirely confidential mediation sessions which they may otherwise choose not to discuss.

Justice and the Rule of Law

Bangladesh government has set "Justice and the Rule of Law" as one of the key areas in the

Eighth Five-Year Plan (2020-2025), the national development plan, and intends to promote alternative dispute resolution systems such as mediation. The history of mediation in Bangladesh can be traced back to two diverse viewpoints: firstly an informal and quasi-formal form of mediation, called shalish (a village-based court system) and secondly formal court-connected mediation under statutory requirements. Court-connected mediations were introduced in Bangladesh with the incorporation of mediation provisions in specific legislation, such as the Arbitration Act, 1940; Family Law Ordinance, 1961; Industrial Relations Ordinance, 1969; Muslim Family Courts Ordinance, 1985, and others. Later, mediation was introduced as part of a general civil dispute resolution process under the Code of Civil Procedure, 2003 and Money Loan Recovery Act, 2003.

Alternate Dispute Resolution

Court based Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) or Court-annexed ADR (sometimes also referred to as judicial ADR or court mandated ADR) is a process by which courts redirect certain cases to any of the forms of ADR rather than by way of trial. The Court Based ADR arises where after parties have presented their case to court, the same is referred by the court to one of the ADR machinery for resolution. Bangladesh for the first time incorporated the provisions of court based ADR into the Family Court Ordinance, 1985 but that was almost dysfunctional until the early 2000 when under the leadership of former Chief Justice Mustafa Kamal it was revived through initiating pilot projects in selected family courts in Dhaka. Witnessing the unprecedented results of the pilot projects in family courts the government was convinced to incorporate the ADR provisions into the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC), 1908. Though initially it was optional, the ADR provisions now have been made compulsory for every civil court by incorporation of sections 89A and 89C of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 through the Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2012.

Mandatory Mediation Process

The legislative intent behind incorporation of Sections in 89 of Code of Civil Procedure is to facilitate the settlement of conflicts between parties mutually so as to reduce the legal expenses of the parties and to ease the judicial workload. Mediation may be understood as a 'non-adjudicatory, and relatively informal process, wherein the parties participate to mutually negotiate and reach solutions to resolve their disputes. It is a flexible process with numerous variations, but the common underlying factors in all forms of mediation are self-determination and party participation and autonomy. Despite the evolving use of mediation as a tool for disputes redressal across the globe, private mediation in across the world for a long time, has been bereft of proper structure and legal recognition, thus, discouraging participation by the parties and consequently, increase judicial workload.

Eighth Five-Year Plan (2020-2025), the national development plan, and intends to promote alternative dispute resolution systems such as mediation. The history of mediation in Bangladesh can be traced back to two diverse viewpoints: firstly an informal and quasi-formal form of mediation, called shalish (a village-based court system) and secondly formal court-connected mediation under statutory requirements. Court-connected mediations were introduced in Bangladesh with the incorporation of mediation provisions in specific legislation, such as the Arbitration Act, 1940; Family Law Ordinance, 1961; Industrial Relations Ordinance, 1969; Muslim Family Courts Ordinance, 1985, and others. Later, mediation was introduced as part of a general civil dispute resolution process under the Code of Civil Procedure, 2003 and Money Loan Recovery Act, 2003.

Alternate Dispute Resolution

Court based Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) or Court-annexed ADR (sometimes also referred to as judicial ADR or court mandated ADR) is a process by which courts redirect certain cases to any of the forms of ADR rather than by way of trial. The Court Based ADR arises where after parties have presented their case to court, the same is referred by the court to one of the ADR machinery for resolution. Bangladesh for the first time incorporated the provisions of court based ADR into the Family Court Ordinance, 1985 but that was almost dysfunctional until the early 2000 when under the leadership of former Chief Justice Mustafa Kamal it was revived through initiating pilot projects in selected family courts in Dhaka. Witnessing the unprecedented results of the pilot projects in family courts the government was convinced to incorporate the ADR provisions into the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC), 1908. Though initially it was optional, the ADR provisions now have been made compulsory for every civil court by incorporation of sections 89A and 89C of the Code of Civil Procedure, 1908 through the Civil Procedure (Amendment) Act, 2012.

Mandatory Mediation Process

The legislative intent behind incorporation of Sections in 89 of Code of Civil Procedure is to facilitate the settlement of conflicts between parties mutually so as to reduce the legal expenses of the parties and to ease the judicial workload. Mediation may be understood as a 'non-adjudicatory, and relatively informal process, wherein the parties participate to mutually negotiate and reach solutions to resolve their disputes. It is a flexible process with numerous variations, but the common underlying factors in all forms of mediation are self-determination and party participation and autonomy. Despite the evolving use of mediation as a tool for disputes redressal across the globe, private mediation in across the world for a long time, has been bereft of proper structure and legal recognition, thus, discouraging participation by the parties and consequently, increase judicial workload.

United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16 (UN SDG 16)

Mediation as effective access of prompt and speedy justice is promulgated by United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 16 (UN SDG 16), "Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions," aims to foster peaceful, inclusive societies, provide access to justice for all, and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels by 2030. People everywhere should be free of fear from all forms of violence and feel safe as they go about their lives whatever their ethnicity, faith or sexual orientation.

Goal 16 aligns with the broader human rights framework by promoting societies that respect and uphold individual rights, as well as the right to privacy, freedom of expression, and access to information. Peace is a fundamental precondition for social and economic development. Without peace, societies are often plagued by conflict, violence, and instability, which can hinder progress and result in the loss of lives and resources. Equal access to justice is essential for protecting the rights of individuals, resolving disputes, and ensuring that vulnerable populations are not marginalized or mistreated. Crimes threatening peaceful societies, including homicides, trafficking and other organized crimes, as well as discriminatory laws or practices, affect all countries.

To achieve SDG 16, education and training becomes an important tool. The most affected are women, girls and lesser privileged. Training women and girl students in mediation in Bangladesh is crucial to enhance access to justice, as it empowers them to resolve conflicts, particularly family and land disputes, outside the clogged formal court system. This training provides skills to overcome gendered disadvantages, foster peaceful community dialogues, and promote gender justice through local, confidential mediation.

Bangladesh International Mediation Society

The Bangladesh Government with Supreme Court encourages and collaborates with various stakeholders to promote mediation, conduct training programs, certify such mediators and thereafter include them in the list of mediators. Amongst the stake holders, Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) proactively promotes mediation, educate train mediators for accreditation certification, train women and girl students in mediation for awareness to promote mediation as strong and successful tool for resolution of disputes.

In 1974 in the annual meeting of Goswami Trust at Scotland, "Mediation Society" was formed under leadership of Rupa Goswami. In 1995 annual meeting in Washington D.C. the Trust resolved to develop Mediation Society in other parts of the world to impart education and training on mediation as alternative dispute resolution mechanism across the globe.

In 2017, Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) a self-contributing organization

was established and launched to act as “think-tank” and promote the practice of Alternate Dispute Resolution (ADR) through quality education, training and development of professionals, subject experts, women and girl students in particular. BIMS works with all the stakeholders for sustained economic growth by avoiding disputes by creating awareness and networking with all stakeholders and ADR practicing professionals.

Accredited Mediators Training

BIMS recognizes the importance of nurturing mediation culture, skills, research, and ethical practice among students and young professionals across jurisdictions. BIMS on date conducted 51 training program for 40 hours to train 309 judicial officers, 4,301 practicing lawyers and 500 journalists, subject experts and other for 40 hours mediation training leading to be accredited mediators. BIMS conducted 20 international mediation conference, 19 workshops and 48 seminars in Bangladesh.

Why Girls Wing in Mediation Society

By establishing Mediation Forums and training local mediators, results in a community-based justice mechanism that is accessible, cost-effective, and grounded in local realities. It plays a vital role in promoting peace in families, communities and societies, especially in regions struggling with poverty and limited legal infrastructure. BIMS trained 120,000 women and girls on awareness and training in community and family mediation imparting one-day training sessions. 3,202 girl students from various schools and colleges completed 10 hours mediation training to help and assist their communities and societies.

BIMS recognizes the potential contribution to promotion of mediation culture among students, young professionals, family and communities and considered expedient and desirable to establish a dedicated student-oriented (SW BIMS) body under the aegis of BIMS to advance education, training.

The establishment of SW-BIMS is intended to, Promote mediation education and skills among students; Create a structured platform for student engagement at national and international levels; Encourage SAARC and cross-border academic collaboration in mediation; Develop future leaders, mediators, researchers, and practitioners aligned with BIMS values, to be a catalyst to promote mediation for peaceful co-existence of communities and resolution of family, community and school, college disputes.

Mediation institutions for a student wing, whether in universities or professional law schools provide a structured, voluntary, and non-adversarial process to resolve conflicts, foster a peaceful learning environment, and develop essential soft skills for the future. Such institutions are essential to handle interpersonal disputes, academic grievances, and disciplinary issues in a

way that is less intimidating and more collaborative than traditional formal, punitive procedures. Notwithstanding, the students wing (SW-BIMS) shall function as an academic, professional, and skill-development platform for students interested in mediation, operating under the overall guidance, supervision, and patronage of BIMS, largely focusing on student and their related community, society and family dispute resolution, to achieve UN SDG 16, access for justice for everyone.

BIMS encourage women, girl students through a separate vertical of Students Wing for girl students from SAARC nations because; there is strong societal prejudice against women, who are perceived as involved in litigation and fighting for their rights (family honor is stained if an individual, especially a woman, is involved in a court case or arrested, even under false charges); regarding family matters, very few women attempt to assert their rights within the judicial system, since formal procedures are lengthy, costly and complex, there is a widely held belief that turning to the courts for justice will only increase suffering; there is a lack of gender sensitization. Such an attempt will increase confidence among the women and girl students to contribute positively to the family, community and society at large.

Conclusion

Imparting training and education to women and girl students shall and formation of student's wing shall increase dispute resolution in the families, communities, societies and establish the language of gender equality appeared to be avoided in favor of appearing confident, logical and aware of the law to build families, communities and societies to live in peace and harmony, unity amongst diversity.

The Movement of Youth in Mediation: Advancing Global Peace and Dialogue with Lessons from Nepal

Dr. Namrata Pandey

Abstract

In a rapidly changing and interconnected world, peaceful conflict resolution has become a global priority. Mediation, a collaborative, dialogue-based method of dispute resolution, offers an effective alternative to adversarial legal systems. Increasingly, youth participation is recognized as a key driver of mediation and peacebuilding worldwide. Recently, the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) established an International Student Wing to engage students globally in spreading mediation practices and strengthening networks of young mediators. This initiative reflects a growing international movement recognizing the role of youth as catalysts for peaceful conflict transformation. This paper explores the emerging youth movement in mediation, highlighting the significance of student engagement in conflict resolution and peacebuilding. It also examines the historical development of mediation practices in Nepal, from traditional community dispute resolution to modern institutional mediation frameworks. By connecting global youth initiatives with Nepal's mediation experience, this paper argues that empowering youth mediators can strengthen dialogue culture, enhance social harmony, and contribute to sustainable peace at both local and global levels.

1. Introduction

Conflict is a natural and inevitable part of human interaction. Differences in interests, beliefs, identities, and resources often lead to disputes within families, communities, institutions, and nations. While conflicts cannot always be avoided, the methods used to address them determine whether societies move toward peace or prolonged division.

Traditionally, disputes have been resolved through litigation or authority-based decisions. However, these adversarial systems often produce winners and losers, escalate tensions, and damage relationships. In contrast, mediation offers a constructive and cooperative approach to resolving disputes by encouraging dialogue and mutual understanding.

Mediation is widely recognized as an effective Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) mechanism in which a neutral third party assists disputing individuals or groups to reach voluntary agreements through communication and negotiation.

In recent decades, the importance of youth participation in peacebuilding and conflict resolution has gained significant recognition. Young people constitute a large proportion of the global

population and play an essential role in shaping future societies. Engaging youth in mediation initiatives can cultivate future leaders who value dialogue, empathy, and peaceful problem-solving.

Recognizing this potential, the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) recently launched an International Student Wing to mobilize students around the world to promote mediation awareness, training, and research. This initiative highlights the emerging role of youth as global ambassadors for mediation and peaceful conflict resolution.

This paper examines the growing youth movement in mediation, explores the role of student networks in promoting dialogue culture, and highlights Nepal's historical and contemporary mediation practices as an important case study.

2. Mediation as a Tool for Peaceful Conflict Resolution

Mediation is defined as a voluntary process in which a neutral third party facilitates communication between disputing parties to help them reach mutually acceptable solutions. Unlike judges or arbitrators, mediators do not impose decisions but guide parties toward constructive dialogue.

The key principles of mediation include:

- Neutrality and impartiality of the mediator
- Voluntary participation of parties
- Confidentiality of discussions
- Mutual respect and constructive dialogue
- Collaborative problem-solving

Mediation has several advantages compared to traditional litigation.

First, mediation is efficient and cost-effective, allowing disputes to be resolved quickly without lengthy legal proceedings.

Second, mediation is relationship-preserving, as it encourages understanding and cooperation rather than competition.

Third, mediation promotes creative and flexible solutions tailored to the interests of both parties. Finally, mediation strengthens social harmony, as it encourages communication and reconciliation.

For these reasons, mediation is increasingly used in family disputes, labor relations, commercial negotiations, community conflicts, and international diplomacy.

3. The Rise of Youth in the Global Mediation Movement

The global peacebuilding community increasingly recognizes the importance of youth participation in mediation and conflict transformation. Young people are particularly well-positioned to promote mediation culture due to several factors.

3.1 Youth as Agents of Social Change

Youth possess creativity, energy, and openness to new ideas. They often challenge rigid social structures and advocate innovative approaches to conflict resolution. By participating in mediation initiatives, youth can become advocates for dialogue and peace within their communities.

3.2 Education and Mediation Training

Universities and educational institutions around the world are integrating mediation and negotiation courses into their programs. Student mediation initiatives help young people develop critical skills such as active listening, empathy, negotiation, and problem-solving. These skills are essential not only for conflict resolution but also for leadership and social development.

3.3 Youth and Digital Communication

The digital era has created unprecedented opportunities for youth to connect across cultures and borders. Social media platforms, online forums, and virtual dialogue programs allow young mediators to share experiences and collaborate internationally. Through these networks, youth can promote mediation awareness and encourage peaceful dialogue in diverse societies.

3.4 Youth Participation in Peacebuilding

International organizations increasingly emphasize youth participation in peace processes. The United Nations, for example, recognizes youth as key stakeholders in sustaining peace and preventing violent conflict. Youth mediators can play an important role in addressing community tensions, promoting inclusion, and encouraging dialogue among diverse groups.

4. The International Student Wing of Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS)

The establishment of the International Student Wing of the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) marks a significant development in the global mediation movement. This initiative aims to engage students worldwide in promoting mediation culture and strengthening youth leadership in conflict resolution.

The key objectives of the BIMS Student Wing include:

- Promoting mediation education among students
- Building global networks of student mediators
- Organizing international mediation workshops and conferences
- Encouraging academic research on mediation and conflict resolution
- Supporting youth-led peace initiatives

Through these activities, students gain practical skills in mediation while developing cross-cultural understanding and international cooperation. The creation of a global network of student mediators also helps expand the reach of mediation beyond legal institutions and into educational and social environments. Such initiatives represent an important step toward building a global generation of young peacebuilders.

5. Historical Roots of Mediation in Nepal

Nepal has a long tradition of community-based dispute resolution that predates modern legal systems. For centuries, conflicts within villages and communities were resolved through informal mediation by respected elders, religious leaders, and local councils who facilitated dialogue between disputing parties. These traditional practices emphasized social harmony, mutual understanding, and restoration of relationships rather than punishment. Such community-based mechanisms played an important role in maintaining peace and cooperation within society and laid the cultural foundation for the development of modern mediation practices in Nepal.

5.1 Traditional Dispute Resolution

Historically, conflicts in Nepali villages were often resolved through informal discussions facilitated by respected community elders, religious leaders, or local councils. These traditional mediation processes emphasized social harmony, collective responsibility, and consensus-building. Rather than imposing punitive decisions, community mediators encouraged dialogue and compromise between disputing parties. While these systems played an important role in maintaining social cohesion, they sometimes reflected social hierarchies related to caste, gender, or economic status. Nevertheless, traditional mediation laid the cultural foundation for modern mediation practices in Nepal.

6. Institutional Development of Mediation in Nepal

Modern mediation practices in Nepal began to develop through legal and institutional reforms during the late twentieth and early twenty-first centuries. The Local Self Governance Act of 1999 introduced provisions allowing local government bodies to resolve certain disputes through mediation processes. This marked an important step toward recognizing community-based conflict resolution within the formal governance framework.

Further developments occurred in the early 2000s when courts began introducing court-referred mediation mechanisms to reduce case backlogs and encourage amicable settlements. A major milestone was the enactment of the Mediation Act 2068 (2011), which established a legal framework for mediation practices in Nepal.

The Act created the Mediation Council, responsible for:

- Regulating mediation services
- Certifying mediators
- Establishing training standards
- Promoting mediation awareness

This legal recognition strengthened the credibility and institutionalization of mediation across the country.

7. Community Mediation Programs in Nepal

Community mediation programs have become one of the most successful dispute resolution mechanisms in Nepal. Since the early 2000s, various civil society organizations, government institutions, and international partners have supported community mediation initiatives.

These programs train local volunteers as mediators who help resolve disputes related to:

- Land and property
- Family conflicts
- Community disputes
- Resource management
- Social tensions

Community mediation centers operate at the local level and provide accessible and affordable dispute resolution services. Studies suggest that community mediation programs in Nepal have successfully resolved thousands of disputes with high settlement rates, helping reduce the burden on courts and strengthening local governance systems. Moreover, these programs contribute to social cohesion by promoting dialogue and reconciliation among community members.

8. Youth Engagement in Nepal's Mediation Landscape

Youth participation in mediation initiatives in Nepal is gradually increasing. Universities, civil society organizations, and youth networks are beginning to promote mediation training and awareness among students.

Young people are involved in activities such as:

- Legal aid clinics and mediation training programs
- Youth peacebuilding networks
- Community dialogue initiatives
- Awareness campaigns on alternative dispute resolution

Integrating mediation education into school and university curricula could significantly strengthen youth engagement and expand the mediation movement in Nepal. Young mediators can also contribute innovative ideas and digital tools to expand mediation awareness and accessibility.

9. Challenges and Opportunities

Despite its growing importance, the youth mediation movement faces several challenges. These include limited awareness about mediation among students, insufficient training opportunities, and limited institutional support for youth-led mediation initiatives. However, significant opportunities exist to strengthen youth participation in mediation.

Educational institutions can introduce mediation courses and establish student mediation clubs. Governments and civil society organizations can support youth training programs and international exchange initiatives. Global platforms such as the BIMS Student Wing can connect young mediators from different countries, enabling knowledge sharing and collaborative peacebuilding.

10. Conclusion

Mediation represents one of the most effective tools for addressing conflicts peacefully and constructively in contemporary societies. The growing youth movement in mediation reflects a global recognition that young people are essential partners in building sustainable peace. Initiatives such as the International Student Wing of the Bangladesh International Mediation Society demonstrate how student networks can promote mediation awareness and strengthen dialogue culture across borders.

Nepal's experience with traditional dispute resolution and modern community mediation provides valuable lessons about the importance of cultural context, legal frameworks, and community participation. Empowering youth to engage in mediation will not only strengthen conflict resolution mechanisms but also foster a global culture of dialogue, empathy, and cooperation. Ultimately, the future of mediation lies in the hands of young leaders who believe in the power of communication and collaboration to transform conflict into an opportunity for peace.

References:

- *Bush, R., & Folger, J. (2005). *The Promise of Mediation: The Transformative Approach to Conflict*. Jossey-Bass.
- *Moore, C. (2014). *The Mediation Process: Practical Strategies for Resolving Conflict*. Jossey-Bass.
- *Nepal Law Commission. (2011). *Mediation Act 2068*. Government of Nepal.
- *Community Mediators' Society Nepal. (2020). *Community Mediation in Nepal*.
- *United Nations. (2018). *Youth, Peace and Security Agenda*.
- *Weinstein International Foundation. (2016). *Mediation Development in Nepal*.
- *Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS). (2024). *International Student Wing Initiative*.

Speech Of

The Honorable Chief Guest Madam Justice Aynun Nahar Siddiqua Mediation Conference 18 April 2026 | Paharpur, Naogaon

Distinguished guests, respected organizers, esteemed mediators, all honoured participants.

A very good day to you all.

It is an honour for me to be present at this important conference at Paharpur Adibasi High School. This historic place represents knowledge and wisdom. It is a meaningful setting for a discussion on justice and dispute resolution.

I sincerely thank the organizers for bringing together nearly five hundred trained female mediators from across the South Asian Countries. The presence of such a large number of women mediators reflects commitment, professionalism, and leadership. Seeing huge number of female Mediators gathered here gives me confidence that the vision of Begum Rokeya was indeed correct — that our women would not remain in darkness, but would move forward with education, dignity, and empowerment.

Today, I will speak about the necessity of ADR, the present reality of our courts, the importance of mediation, and the powerful role women can play in strengthening justice and empowerment.

What is ADR and What is Mediation?

ADR or Alternative Dispute Resolution, refers to methods of resolving disputes outside the traditional court process. It includes mediation, arbitration, and negotiation. ADR aims to provide faster, less costly, and less adversarial solutions.

Mediation is one of the most important forms of ADR. In mediation, a neutral and trained third party assists disputing parties in reaching a mutually acceptable settlement. The mediator does not impose a decision. The parties themselves control the outcome. This makes mediation flexible, respectful, and solution-oriented.

Mediation in Bangladesh:

Mediation in Bangladesh is a mandatory. There is compulsory Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) process under section 89A/89C of the Code of Civil Procedure 1908 and Money Loan

Act 2003 to reduce case backlogs. It enables neutral third parties to facilitate nonbinding, voluntary settlements for civil, family and commercial disputes.

Key Aspects of Mediation in Bangladesh: -

- ** Legal Framework: Introduced into the Code of Civil Procedure (CPC) 1908 by amendment in 2003 to make it mandatory for courts to refer civil suits and appeals to mediation.
- ** Type of Disputes: Covers civil suits, Family law cases and loan recovery disputes.
- ** Benefits: Offers a faster, less expensive and confidential alternative to traditional litigation.
- ** Challenges: Despite legal mandates, some areas experience low settlement rates and it is not suitable for serious criminal matters.
- ** Institutions: Organizations like the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) and Bangladesh Institute of Arbitration (BIARB) promote mediation and training.

Common Mediation Styles: -

Mediation in Bangladesh often utilize different sometimes blended, styles to resolve disputes, including:

Facilitative: - Mediation helps parties communicate and understand their own interest.

Evaluative: - The Mediator provides an opinion on the merits of the case.

Transformative: - The Mediator focuses on changing the relationship between the parties.

Key Legal Provision-

- ** Section 89A of CPC- Empowers courts to adjourn hearing and refer cases to mediation.
- ** Section 89C of CPC- Addresses mediation in appeals.
- ** Family Court Ordinance 1985: Specifically promotes reconciliation in family disputes.
- ** The Four- 'Cs'- Mediation: Candor, Co-operatives, creativity and courage.

Since mediation has become a mandatory first step in all civil suits aimed at reducing the significant backlog in the Bangladesh Judicial System and providing faster access to Justice.

The Reality of Our Court System

We must speak honestly.

The number of pending cases across the country is extremely high. The volume is so large that without ADR, courts alone cannot solve all disputes in a timely manner.

Our judges are dedicated and hardworking. Yet the caseload continues to increase.

When courts become overburdened:

- Justice is delayed.
- Litigants suffer financially.
- Business activities slow down.
- Social tension increases.

Justice delayed often feels like justice denied.

In business and trade, time is money. A delayed resolution means financial loss. A pending dispute creates uncertainty. Investors lose confidence when disputes take years to conclude.

Without ADR, courts alone cannot stabilize society or support economic growth effectively.

ADR is not a substitute for the judiciary. It is a support system. It reduces pressure on courts. It allows judges to focus on serious and complex matters.

Why Mediation Is the Most Practical Form of ADR

Among the different forms of ADR, mediation is the simplest and most dependable method.

Let us compare briefly.

In negotiation, there is no third party. The parties try to resolve the dispute themselves. But when trust is broken and emotions are high, negotiation often fails.

In arbitration, there is a third party who gives a binding decision. However, arbitration can sometimes feel strict and formal. Often, dissatisfied parties challenge arbitral awards before the courts. The dispute may continue again.

Mediation is different.

There is a trained and neutral third party. The mediator guides the process. But the mediator does not impose a decision.

The presence of the mediator is not a pressure. It is assistance.

The mediator helps identify the real issues. The mediator improves communication. The mediator encourages understanding.

Because the final agreement is created by the parties themselves, they are more likely to accept it. They are less likely to challenge it later.

Mediation is:

- Faster
- Less expensive

- Less confrontational
- More sustainable

It saves time. It saves money. It preserves relationships.

Mediation and Economic Development

Bangladesh is moving forward. Trade and commerce are expanding. Contracts are increasing. With development comes disputes.

If every dispute goes to court, the system will be overwhelmed.

In trade, time truly is money. Delay can mean frozen capital, lost opportunities, and damaged business relationships.

Mediation provides speed. It reduces uncertainty. It strengthens business confidence.

A strong ADR system supports economic stability.

Women's Role in Justice and Empowerment

I am deeply encouraged to see so many trained female mediators gathered here today.

Women must come forward for justice.

If rights are violated, do not remain silent. The law protects you.

Women must come forward for mediation and ADR practice. These are modern and powerful tools. They require skill, intelligence, and integrity.

Women must also come forward for education and self-development.

Education builds confidence.

Knowledge creates independence.

Training builds professional strength.

Without education, empowerment remains incomplete.

When women become educated and skilled mediators, they strengthen families, communities, and institutions.

You are not only resolving disputes. You are building peace.

Responsibility of Mediators

With authority comes responsibility.

You must maintain:

- Neutrality
- Integrity
- Confidentiality
- Professional discipline
- Equal treatment of parties

Public trust is essential.

Courts derive authority from the Constitution and the law.

Mediation derives authority from credibility and voluntary confidence.

If mediators maintain high ethical standards, ADR will continue to grow.

The Way Forward

We must:

- Spread awareness of mediation nationwide.
- Encourage referral of appropriate disputes to ADR.
- Strengthen institutional frameworks.
- Promote continuous training.
- Ensure transparency and accountability.

ADR must remain accessible, affordable, and trustworthy.

Conclusion

The high number of pending cases reminds us of one important truth: courts alone cannot carry the entire burden of dispute resolution.

ADR is not optional. It is essential.

Mediation, in particular, offers a balanced, humane, and practical solution.

When disputes are resolved through dialogue, society becomes stable.

When businesses resolve conflicts quickly, the economy grows.

When women rise through education and empowerment, the nation progresses.

Let women stand confidently at the centre of justice.

Let mediation become a pillar of our legal system.

Let ADR strengthen our courts and our country.

Thank you for your dedication and service.

May your work continue to bring peace, fairness, and stability to our society.

Thank you.

Speech given by KAUSHALYA NAWARATNE

Presidents' Counsel, Sri Lanka

Honorable Chief Guest, Your Lordship Justice Aynun Nahar Siddique- the Judge of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, Honorable Guest of Honour, Your Lordship Ayesha Shujune Muhammad-most senior Judge of the Supreme Court of Maldives, Mr. S. M. Goswami- Senior Advocate the Chairmen of BIMS and the other office bearers, Foreign Delegates, Distinguished invitees, Dear Participants and Ladies and Gentlemen.

I consider it to be a great honor and privilege to be invited and to share some thoughts on the area of mediation which area in the field of Law has become one of the most impactful resolution of disputes in all Jurisdiction all over the world.

Mediation, at its core, is a consensual and interest-based process. It is a process where a third party helps facilitate a discussion between two or more parties in conflict, not to impose a decision, but to assist them in reaching a decision.

This represents a significant shift from traditional adjudication, where outcomes are imposed based on strict legal rights, to a more flexible system that prioritizes the underlying interests of the parties and the preservation of relationships.

At the international level, mediation has gained increasing prominence, particularly in the context of cross-border commercial disputes. In a globalized economy, where business relationships often span multiple jurisdictions, there is a growing need for dispute resolution mechanisms that are not only efficient and cost-effective but also capable of maintaining long-term commercial relationships. Mediation answers this need by offering confidentiality, flexibility, and party autonomy—qualities that are often absent in formal litigation.

A landmark development in the international recognition of mediation is the Singapore Convention on Mediation. This Convention represents a significant step forward by providing a uniform framework for the enforcement of international mediated settlement agreements. Historically, one of the principal criticisms of mediation was the lack of enforceability of its outcomes across borders. The Convention directly addresses this concern, thereby enhancing confidence in mediation as a reliable method of dispute resolution.

In this respect, the Singapore Convention may be seen as analogous to the New York Convention,

which has long supported the global enforceability of arbitral awards. However, it is important to appreciate the fundamental distinction between mediation and arbitration. Arbitration results in a binding decision imposed by a tribunal, whereas mediation preserves party autonomy by enabling the parties themselves to shape the outcome. These differing approaches reflect two distinct philosophies of dispute resolution—one adjudicative and the other collaborative.

The development of mediation at the international level has been significantly influenced by the work of the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law. Through instruments such as the Model Law on International Commercial Mediation, UNCITRAL has sought to harmonize legal frameworks across jurisdictions, thereby promoting consistency, predictability, and legitimacy in mediation practices. Similarly, institutions like the International Chamber of Commerce have incorporated mediation into their dispute resolution mechanisms, recognizing their value in preserving commercial relationships and achieving timely settlements.

Notwithstanding these advancements, it would be remiss not to acknowledge the limitations of mediation. Concerns remain regarding imbalances of power between parties, the risk of undue pressure in ostensibly voluntary processes, and the absence of procedural safeguards that are typically present in formal adjudication. These challenges underscore the importance of developing regulatory frameworks that ensure fairness while preserving the inherent flexibility of mediation.

Turning to Sri Lanka, mediation occupies a unique and deeply rooted position within our legal system. It is primarily governed by the Mediation Boards Act No. 72 of 1988, which established a network of community-based Mediation Boards across the country. This framework reflects a long-standing cultural preference for amicable dispute resolution, emphasizing reconciliation, dialogue, and social harmony.

Under this system, certain categories of disputes are required to be referred to mediation as a preliminary step before recourse to the courts. This policy has played a significant role in alleviating the burden on the judiciary while fostering a culture of settlement at the community level. It is, in many respects, a model of accessible and participatory justice, where individuals are empowered to resolve their disputes through dialogue rather than confrontation.

However, the Sri Lankan approach also raises important jurisprudential considerations. The requirement of mandatory mediation, while effective in reducing litigation, sits in some tension with the principle of voluntariness that underpins the legitimacy of mediation. This tension invites a careful re-examination of how mediation is structured and implemented within our legal system.

Moreover, while the Mediation Boards system has been successful in addressing minor civil and quasi-criminal disputes, it remains largely confined to the grassroots level. In contrast, mediation in the commercial and international spheres is still at a relatively early stage of development in Sri Lanka. In an era of increasing globalization, this represents both a challenge and an opportunity.

If Sri Lanka is to position itself as a competitive destination for international trade and investment, it must expand and modernize its mediation framework. This would involve the development of institutional mediation centers, the professional training and accreditation of mediators, and the introduction of legislative reforms to support commercial mediation. It would also require a shift in mindset among legal practitioners and litigants, who may still view litigation as the default mechanism for dispute resolution.

In this context, Sri Lanka's potential engagement with international instruments such as the Singapore Convention assumes particular importance. Accession to such frameworks would not only align our domestic practices with international standards but also enhance investor confidence by ensuring the enforceability of mediated settlements across borders.

Mediation is no longer merely an alternative to litigation; it is an essential component of a modern, efficient, and responsive system of justice. Its growth at the international level reflects a broader recognition that disputes are best resolved not through adversarial confrontation, but through cooperation, dialogue, and mutual understanding.

For Sri Lanka, the path forward lies in building upon its strong foundation in community-based mediation while embracing the opportunities presented by the global evolution of dispute resolution. By doing so, we can create a system that is not only efficient and accessible but also aligned with the needs of a rapidly changing world.

In conclusion, mediation represents a profound shift in the way we conceive of justice—not as a contest to be won, but as a problem to be solved. It is this spirit of collaboration and shared responsibility that will define the future of dispute resolution, both internationally and within Sri Lanka.

Thank You

KAUSHALYA NAWARATNE
Presidents' Counsel, Srilanka

Welcome address of Mr. S. N. Goswami Founding Chairman, BIMS

(International Mediation Conference on Paharpur, Badalgachi, Naogaon)

Good morning all of you.

It is my great pleasure and Honour to well come to you Hon'ble Justice Madam Aynun Nahar Siddiqua, Judge, Supreme Court of Bangladesh, Hon'ble Justice Madam Aisha Shujune Muhammad, Most Senior Judge, Supreme Court of Maldives, Dr. George Yesu Vedha Victor, Chairman, SAARC Mediator's Forum, Dr. Namrota Pandey, BIMS Regional Director, Nepal, Mr. Kaushalya Nawaratne, BIMS representatives, Sri Lanka, Ms. Fathimath Nafa Saleem, BIMS representatives, Maldives, Ms. Simran Napit Ph.D, BIMS International Trainer, Ms. Padma Ghalleay, BIMS representatives, Bhutan and distinguished guests from Bangladesh and India, Nepal, Bhutan, Sri Lanka and Maldives, ladies and gentleman namastey. On behalf of Bangladesh International Mediation Society I extend a heartfelt well come to each one of you to the beautiful country of the South Asia, the vibrant historical place of Paharpur, Naogaon, Bangladesh.

I would like to express my sincere gratitude to Ms. Urja Acharya, Chairman, SWBIMS, Ms. Rifa Tamanna, Vice-Chairman, SWBIMS, Ms. Sohani Islam Samapty, Secretary General, SWBIMS, Ms. Anni Islam, Treasurer, SWBIMS, Ms. Unish Ghalleay, Member SWBIMS and Ms. Mehbazin Joya, Member SWBIMS as the guiding force for the Mediation Campaign.

Mediation plays a very important role in establishing social justice in modern society. It is a peaceful method of resolving disputes where a neutral third person, called a mediator, helps the parties reach a mutual agreement.

In countries like Bangladesh, the courts are burdened with a large number of pending cases. As a result, people often have to wait for a long time to get justice. Mediation helps reduce this backlog by resolving disputes quickly and effectively. It saves time, reduces costs, and provides faster relief to the parties.

One of the most important contributions of mediation to social justice is ensuring access to

justice for all. Court cases can be expensive and time-consuming, which makes it difficult for many people to seek justice. Mediation is more affordable and flexible, allowing people from all backgrounds to resolve their disputes. In this way, it supports equality and fairness in society.

In this regard, the Bangladesh International Mediation Society (BIMS) is playing a significant role. BIMS is a pioneer organization in promoting mediation in Bangladesh. Over the past several years, it has been organizing seminars, workshops, and training programs to educate lawyers, students, and community members about mediation.

Through these activities, BIMS is developing skilled mediators who can effectively resolve disputes outside the courtroom. This not only helps reduce the pressure on courts but also promotes a culture of peaceful conflict resolution.

Mediation also helps maintain relationships. Unlike court judgments, where one party wins and the other loses, mediation focuses on mutual understanding and cooperation. This is especially important in family and community disputes, where preserving relationships is essential for social harmony.

Another key role of mediation is promoting peace in society. It encourages dialogue instead of conflict and helps people understand each other's perspectives. In this way, mediation contributes to building a peaceful and stable society.

Moreover, mediation empowers individuals by involving them directly in the decision-making process. The parties themselves decide the outcome, which increases their satisfaction and willingness to follow the agreement. It also protects human dignity by providing a respectful and confidential environment.

In conclusion, mediation is a powerful tool for establishing social justice. With the active efforts of organizations like BIMS, mediation is becoming more popular and effective in Bangladesh. By reducing case backlog, ensuring access to justice, and promoting peace and harmony, mediation helps build a just and balanced society.

Thanks for attention and patient hearing.

বিমস চেয়ারম্যান জনাব এস.এন. গোস্বামী কর্তৃক প্রদত্ত বক্তব্য

সামাজিক ন্যায়বিচার প্রতিষ্ঠায় মধ্যস্থতার ভূমিকা (বিমস-এর কার্যক্রমসহ)

মধ্যস্থতা আধুনিক সমাজে সামাজিক ন্যায়বিচার প্রতিষ্ঠায় অত্যন্ত গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা পালন করে। এটি একটি শান্তিপূর্ণ বিরোধ নিষ্পত্তির পদ্ধতি, যেখানে একজন নিরপেক্ষ তৃতীয় পক্ষ, যাকে মধ্যস্থতাকারী বলা হয়, পক্ষগুলিকে পারস্পরিক সমঝোতায় পৌঁছাতে সহায়তা করেন।

বাংলাদেশের মতো দেশে আদালতগুলো বিপুল সংখ্যক মামলার চাপে ভারাক্রান্ত। এর ফলে মানুষকে ন্যায়বিচার পেতে দীর্ঘ সময় অপেক্ষা করতে হয়। মধ্যস্থতা দ্রুত ও কার্যকরভাবে বিরোধ নিষ্পত্তি করে এই জট কমাতে সাহায্য করে। এটি সময় বাঁচায়, খরচ কমায়ে এবং পক্ষগুলিকে দ্রুত প্রতিকার প্রদান করে।

সামাজিক ন্যায়বিচারে মধ্যস্থতার অন্যতম গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অবদান হলো সকলের জন্য ন্যায়বিচারের সুযোগ নিশ্চিত করা। আদালতের মামলা পরিচালনা ব্যয়বহুল ও সময়সাপেক্ষ হওয়ায় অনেক মানুষের পক্ষে ন্যায়বিচার পাওয়া কঠিন হয়ে পড়ে। মধ্যস্থতা তুলনামূলকভাবে সাশ্রয়ী ও নমনীয় হওয়ায় সমাজের সকল স্তরের মানুষ তাদের বিরোধ নিষ্পত্তি করতে পারে। এভাবে এটি সমাজে সমতা ও ন্যায় প্রতিষ্ঠায় সহায়তা করে।

এই ক্ষেত্রে বাংলাদেশ ইন্টারন্যাশনাল মিডিয়েশন সোসাইটি (BIMS) গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা পালন করেছে। BIMS বাংলাদেশে মধ্যস্থতা প্রচারে একটি অগ্রণী প্রতিষ্ঠান। গত কয়েক বছর ধরে এটি আইনজীবী, শিক্ষার্থী এবং সমাজের বিভিন্ন স্তরের মানুষকে মধ্যস্থতা সম্পর্কে সচেতন করতে সেমিনার, কর্মশালা এবং প্রশিক্ষণ কর্মসূচির আয়োজন করে আসছে।

এই কার্যক্রমগুলোর মাধ্যমে BIMS দক্ষ মধ্যস্থতাকারী তৈরি করেছে, যারা আদালতের বাইরে কার্যকরভাবে বিরোধ নিষ্পত্তি করতে সক্ষম। এর ফলে আদালতের ওপর চাপ কমে এবং সমাজে শান্তিপূর্ণ বিরোধ নিষ্পত্তির সংস্কৃতি গড়ে ওঠে।

মধ্যস্থতা পারস্পরিক সম্পর্ক রক্ষা করতেও সহায়তা করে। আদালতের রায়ে যেখানে একজন জয়ী হয় এবং অন্যজন পরাজিত হয়, সেখানে মধ্যস্থতা পারস্পরিক বোঝাপড়া ও সহযোগিতার ওপর গুরুত্ব দেয়। এটি পরিবার ও সামাজিক বিরোধে বিশেষভাবে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ, যেখানে সম্পর্ক বজায় রাখা অত্যন্ত প্রয়োজনীয়।

মধ্যস্থতার আরেকটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা হলো সমাজে শান্তি প্রতিষ্ঠা করা। এটি সংঘাতের পরিবর্তে সংলাপকে উৎসাহিত করে এবং মানুষকে একে অপরের দৃষ্টিভঙ্গি বুঝতে সাহায্য করে। এর মাধ্যমে একটি শান্তিপূর্ণ ও স্থিতিশীল সমাজ গড়ে ওঠে।

এছাড়াও, মধ্যস্থতা ব্যক্তিকে ক্ষমতায়িত করে। এতে পক্ষগণ নিজেরাই সিদ্ধান্ত গ্রহণে অংশগ্রহণ করে, যা তাদের সন্তুষ্টি বাড়ায় এবং চুক্তি মেনে চলার প্রবণতা বৃদ্ধি করে। একই সঙ্গে এটি মানবিক মর্যাদা রক্ষা করে, কারণ এখানে একটি সম্মানজনক ও গোপনীয় পরিবেশে মতামত প্রকাশের সুযোগ থাকে।

পরিশেষে বলা যায়, সামাজিক ন্যায়বিচার প্রতিষ্ঠায় মধ্যস্থতা একটি শক্তিশালী মাধ্যম। BIMS-এর মতো প্রতিষ্ঠানের সক্রিয় প্রচেষ্টায় বাংলাদেশে মধ্যস্থতা ক্রমশ জনপ্রিয় ও কার্যকর হয়ে উঠছে। মামলার জট কমানো, ন্যায়বিচারের সুযোগ বৃদ্ধি করা এবং সমাজে শান্তি ও সম্প্রীতি প্রতিষ্ঠার মাধ্যমে মধ্যস্থতা একটি ন্যায়ভিত্তিক ও ভারসাম্যপূর্ণ সমাজ গঠনে সহায়তা করেছে।

Speech for Bangladesh International Mediation Society Conference (Revised with Legal Context)

Honorable Chief Guest, Justice Aynun Nahar Siddique,

Distinguished Special Guests: Dr. George Yeusu Vedha Victor, Dr. Namrata Pandey, and Ms. Yousra Hasona,

Respected Organizers, Legal Luminaries, and most importantly, the Future of Global Diplomacy: our young leaders,

A very warm greeting to you all.

To stand here in Bangladesh today is to stand in a land that understands the price of peace and the value of resilience. Bangladesh is no longer just a model of socio-economic progress; it is becoming a global laboratory for inclusive justice. Under the vision of your newly elected government, we are witnessing a shift where "justice for all" is moving from a slogan to a lived reality.

My deepest gratitude to Mr. S.N. Goswami. Sir, your invitation is more than a gesture of hospitality; it is a bridge between our nations. You are not merely organizing a conference; you are architecting a movement.

Today, we celebrate a staggering figure: 30,000 girl students trained in mediation. Numbers tell a story, but these numbers represent a revolution. To the 5000 young women in this room: do not see yourselves as mere students of the law. See yourselves as social engineers. In a world that is increasingly polarized, you have chosen the difficult, noble path of the bridge-builder. You are the antidote to the "litigation culture" that has for too long burdened our South Asian courts.

We are united by more than geography; we are united by a shared evolution of thought.

In my home, Nepal, our Mediation Act of 2011 was a watershed moment. It didn't just create a procedure; it shifted the soul of our legal system toward neutrality and confidentiality, proving that the most sustainable solutions often happen across a table, not a bench.

Similarly, here in Bangladesh, the legal landscape is transforming. With the Legal Aid Services Act and the visionary 2025 reforms making mediation mandatory in key disputes, you are leading the way in clearing backlogs and healing communal rifts.

The message is clear: The courts exist to provide "judgment," but mediation exists to provide "resolution." One ends a case; the other restores a community.

To the young mediators before me:

You are entering an era where your gender is your greatest asset in this field. Mediation requires radical

empathy, active listening, and the ability to find the "unspoken" interest behind the "spoken" demand. These are the hallmarks of great female leadership.

As you move forward, remember:

1. Conflict is inevitable, but combat is a choice. Your job is to offer a third way.
2. Justice is not a zero-sum game. For one side to win, the other does not have to lose.
3. Silence is a tool. Sometimes, the most powerful thing a mediator does is allow for the silence that lets the truth emerge.

I bring you the warmest regards from the Supreme Court of Nepal. Our judiciaries are no longer isolated; we are partners in a South Asian symphony of peace. When Bangladesh prospers in its pursuit of harmony, the entire region stands taller.

To the organizers: Thank you for building this platform. To the students: Go forth and be "Fearless Negotiators." The world is tired of shouting; it is waiting for someone to listen.

The future of justice will not be found in the gavel of a judge, but in the hands of the peacemaker.

Jai Mediation. Thank you, Bangladesh!

Speech given by Ms. Padma Ghalley

From the peaceful mountains of the Kingdom of Bhutan, I bring warm greetings and goodwill to all of you.

I am deeply honored to stand here today, and I would like to sincerely thank BIMs for bringing us together and for creating this meaningful platform where young voices—especially those of girls—can be heard.

In a world where disagreements and divisions often make the loudest noise, our generation has the power to choose a different path. Instead of quarrels, we can choose dialogue. Instead of anger, we can choose understanding. True strength is not in winning arguments, but in building peace.

When young women lead with empathy, courage, and wisdom, we become powerful bridges between communities and nations. Our voices can turn conflict into conversation and differences into opportunities for cooperation.

Let us be the generation that listens more, understands more, and works together to create a peaceful future for our region.

Because peace is not only made in conference rooms—it begins with us.

Thank you.

Unish

BIMS Member, Bhutan

Speech given by Shah Md Babar

Bangladesh International Mediation Society - Student Wings Conference Paharpur Adibashi High School

Honourable Chair, distinguished guests, dear members of the Bangladesh International Mediation Society Student Wings, and all others present—

Assalamu Alaikum and a very good morning to you all.

It is a great honour for me to speak at this important conference today. We are gathered here not only to discuss a legal concept, but also to understand a powerful tool for building peace in society — mediation.

At its core, mediation is a voluntary and confidential process in which a neutral third party, called a mediator, assists disputing parties in reaching a mutually acceptable solution. Unlike litigation, mediation does not impose a decision; rather, it empowers the parties themselves to control the outcome.

Mediation has several important characteristics.

First, it is voluntary, meaning no one is forced to accept a solution.

Second, it is confidential, ensuring that sensitive matters remain private.

Third, it is flexible and informal, allowing solutions that courts may not always be able to provide.

Finally, it is interest-based, focusing on the real needs of the parties rather than strict legal positions.

Now, let us reflect on the advantages of mediation.

Mediation is time-saving and cost-effective. It reduces the burden on courts and helps parties avoid lengthy and expensive litigation.

It helps to preserve relationships, which is especially important in family, community, and business disputes.

Most importantly, it promotes a culture of dialogue, tolerance, and mutual respect—values that are essential for a peaceful society.

Mediation is not limited to local or national levels. It is recognized and practiced globally through various international platforms and institutions. For example, the United Nations

Commission on International Trade Law has developed model laws and rules that guide international commercial mediation. Similarly, within the United Nations system, dispute resolution mechanisms such as Ombudsman and mediation services play a vital role in resolving internal conflicts through dialogue and negotiation.

These global initiatives show that mediation is not just an alternative—it is increasingly becoming a preferred method of dispute resolution worldwide.

My dear young friends,

As future leaders, you have a crucial role to play. If you learn and practice the principles of mediation today, you can contribute to building a more just and harmonious Bangladesh tomorrow. You will be able to resolve conflicts in your families, institutions, and communities with wisdom instead of confrontation.

Let us remember:

Justice is not only about winning a case; it is about restoring peace and understanding.

Before I conclude, I would like to sincerely appreciate the organizers for arranging this conference. Your efforts are shaping a generation that believes in peaceful coexistence.

Let us all take a pledge today—
to promote mediation, to practice patience, and to choose dialogue over dispute.

Thank you all for your kind attention.

Wishing you a successful and inspiring conference.

Shah Md Babar

Advocate Supreme Court of Bangladesh.

Accredited Mediator.

Speech from Chairman SW BIMS

It is a great honor and privilege to extend my warm greetings to all distinguished guests, respected members of the judiciary, mediation professionals, and participants gathered for the SW BIMS International Conference.

This conference represents an important step forward in strengthening dialogue, cooperation, and commitment toward peaceful conflict resolution in our region. At a time when societies across the world are seeking more humane and collaborative approaches to resolving disputes, mediation stands as a powerful bridge between justice, understanding, and social harmony.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the organizers and partners who have made this important gathering possible. It is particularly inspiring to have the presence and support of eminent members of the judiciary whose dedication to justice continues to guide and influence mediation practices across borders.

The vision of SW BIMS is to promote mediation as a transformative tool for peacebuilding, dialogue, and community empowerment. By bringing together mediation activists, legal professionals, and leaders from different countries, we aim to build a strong regional network that encourages cooperation, knowledge sharing, and sustainable conflict resolution practices. This conference in Bangladesh marks the beginning of a larger journey. As we strengthen our collective efforts today, we also look forward to expanding these initiatives through future seminars and workshops in other parts of the region, creating greater opportunities for training, collaboration, and public engagement.

I hope this conference will inspire meaningful discussions, innovative ideas, and long-lasting partnerships that contribute to building more peaceful and resilient communities.

I extend my best wishes for the success of this conference and look forward to the valuable insights that will emerge from our shared dialogue.

Urja Acharya
Chairman
SW BIMS

Speech given by Ms. Fathimath Nafa Saleem Bims representative of Maldives

Good afternoon esteemed guests,

Today, I want to speak about something both urgent and inspiring: encouraging women and girls to step into the field of mediation—and the challenges they face along the way.

Mediation is, at its core, about dialogue, understanding, and resolution. It is about bringing people together, even when they feel worlds apart. It is about listening—not just to respond, but to truly understand.

And here's something important: the very skills that define effective mediation—empathy, communication, and emotional intelligence—are skills that women have long demonstrated, often without recognition.

Yet despite this, women remain underrepresented in mediation, especially at higher levels. Let me put this into perspective.

Globally, women make up only a small proportion of mediators and negotiators in formal peace processes. In 2022, women represented just 16 percent of negotiators in UN-led or co-led peace processes—a decline from 23 percent in 2020. In several major conflicts, including Ethiopia, Myanmar, Sudan, Yemen, and the Balkans, women were not included in negotiating teams at all. Out of eighteen peace agreements reached that year, only one had a woman signatory. And yet, the evidence clearly shows that this is a missed opportunity.

When women are involved in peace processes, outcomes improve significantly. Their participation increases the probability of a peace agreement lasting at least two years by 20 percent, and lasting fifteen years or more by 35 percent.

More broadly, research shows that countries with higher levels of gender equality are less likely to experience violent conflict in the first place. They are also less likely to rely on military force to resolve disputes. In contrast, countries with wider gender gaps are more likely to be involved in both internal and international conflicts.

In other words, including women is not just fair—it is essential for peace and stability.

This understanding led to a major global commitment in 2000, when the United Nations adopted Security Council Resolution 1325, calling for increased representation of women at all levels of decision-making in conflict prevention, management, and resolution.

And while there has been some progress, it is still not enough.

Women now make up around 43 percent of UN mediation support teams, up from 30 percent in 2019. Even within peace agreements themselves, only about one-third include provisions that address the needs of women and girls.

Therefore, despite decades of effort, we are still far from achieving the United Nations' goal of equal and meaningful participation of women in peace processes by 2030.

So the question is: why does this gap still exist? The challenges begin early.

For many girls, confidence is shaped by the environments they grow up in. In classrooms, boys are often encouraged to speak more assertively, while girls may be praised for being cooperative or quiet. Over time, this can affect how girls see their role in conflict—whether they lead discussions or step back from them.

But mediation requires confidence—not dominance, but the confidence to guide difficult conversations and hold space for others.

As girls grow into women, the barriers become more structural. There is the challenge of visibility.

Mediation is a field built on networks—who you know, who trusts you, who refers you. These networks have historically been male-dominated, making it harder for women to access high-profile opportunities.

Then there is perception.

Women mediators often face a double standard. If they are calm and empathetic, they may be seen as too soft. If they are assertive, they may be judged as too aggressive. This constant balancing act can make it harder for women to establish authority and credibility.

There are also structural realities.

Women are more likely to experience career interruptions due to caregiving responsibilities. In a profession where reputation is built over time, these interruptions can limit opportunities and slow career progression.

And yet—despite all of this—women are not just participating in mediation, they are transforming it.

Women often bring more inclusive approaches to conflict resolution. They emphasize collaboration over competition, long-term relationships over short-term wins, and dialogue over division.

These are essential skills.

Because mediation is not about winning—it is about resolving.

So how do we encourage more women and girls to enter and thrive in this field? First, we start with education.

We must introduce mediation to girls early—through schools, workshops, and leadership programs. When girls learn that their voices can resolve conflict, they begin to see themselves as leaders.

Second, mentorship is critical.

When young women see other women succeeding in mediation, it reshapes what they believe is possible. Representation builds confidence—and confidence builds careers.

Additionally, we must address structural barriers.

Institutions must actively create opportunities for women through inclusive networks, fair case allocation, and flexible working environments that reflect real-life responsibilities.

Moreover, we must change the narrative.

We need to stop dismissing communication and empathy as a core skill and start recognizing them as powerful tools for resolving conflict.

And finally, we must empower women themselves.

To every girl who has ever been told to stay quiet,

To every woman who has ever doubted whether she belongs in the room— This field needs you.

Because mediation is not just about resolving disputes. It is about building bridges, restoring relationships, and creating understanding in a divided world.

And the evidence is clear: when women are included, peace is stronger, agreements last longer, and societies become more stable.

So, encouraging women and girls in mediation is not just about equality—it is about building a better, more peaceful future for everyone.

Let us commit today to breaking barriers, opening doors, and amplifying voices.

Let us ensure that the next generation of mediators reflects the diversity of the world they serve.

And let us move toward a future where women are not the exception in mediation—but the norm.
Thank you.

Ms. Fathimath Nafa Saleem

Bims representative of Maldives

Speech given by Vice Chairman SW BIMS

Judicial System in Bangladesh

Good morning everyone,

Today, I would like to speak about the judicial system of Bangladesh. The judiciary is one of the most important pillars of our state, ensuring justice, rule of law, and protection of fundamental rights.

The judicial system of Bangladesh is established under the Constitution of 1972, particularly Part VI. It follows the common law system, influenced by British legal traditions.

At the top of the judiciary is the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, which consists of two divisions: the High Court Division and the Appellate Division. The High Court Division exercises original, appellate, and writ jurisdiction, while the Appellate Division is the highest court of appeal in the country.

Below the Supreme Court, there are subordinate courts, including District and Sessions Courts, as well as various specialized tribunals such as Labour Courts, Family Courts, and Administrative Tribunals.

One of the key principles of the judiciary is independence. Over the years, Bangladesh has taken steps to separate the judiciary from the executive, especially after the landmark reforms in 2007.

However, the system still faces challenges, including case backlog, delay in justice, and limited resources. Despite these issues, ongoing reforms and digitalization efforts are improving efficiency and transparency.

In conclusion, a strong and independent judiciary is essential for democracy and justice. It is our responsibility, as legal professionals, to uphold its dignity and ensure fair justice for all.

Thank you.

Ms. Rifa Tamanna

Vice Chairman SW BIMS

রিফা তামান্না প্রদত্ত বক্তব্য

বাংলাদেশের বিচার ব্যবস্থা

সুপ্রভাত সবাইকে,

আজ আমি বাংলাদেশে বিচার ব্যবস্থা সম্পর্কে কিছু বলতে চাই। বিচার বিভাগ আমাদের রাষ্ট্রের অন্যতম গুরুত্বপূর্ণ স্তম্ভ, যা ন্যায়, আইনের শাসন, এবং মৌলিক অধিকার রক্ষায় গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা পালন করে।

বাংলাদেশের বিচার ব্যবস্থা ১৯৭২ সালের সংবিধানের আওতায় প্রতিষ্ঠিত, বিশেষত অংশ-৬ অনুযায়ী। এটি সাধারণ আইন (Common Law) পদ্ধতির উপর ভিত্তি করে গঠিত, যা মূলত ব্রিটিশ আইনি প্রভাব দ্বারা প্রভাবিত।

বিচার বিভাগের শীর্ষে রয়েছে বাংলাদেশের সর্বোচ্চ আদালত, যা দুটি বিভাগে বিভক্ত: উচ্চ আদালত বিভাগ (High Court Division) এবং আপিল বিভাগ (Appellate Division)।

উচ্চ আদালত বিভাগ মূল (original), আপিল (appellate) এবং রিট (writ) ক্ষেত্রের ক্ষমতা প্রয়োগ করে, যেখানে আপিল বিভাগ দেশের সর্বোচ্চ আপিলকারী আদালত।

সর্বোচ্চ আদালতের নীচে রয়েছে নিম্ন আদালত, যেমন জেলা ও সেশন আদালত, এবং বিভিন্ন বিশেষায়িত ট্রাইবুনাল, যেমন শ্রম আদালত, পারিবারিক আদালত, এবং প্রশাসনিক ট্রাইবুনাল।

বিচার ব্যবস্থার অন্যতম মূল নীতি হল স্বাধীনতা। বিগত বছরগুলোতে, বিশেষ করে ২০০৭ সালের গুরুত্বপূর্ণ সংস্কারের পর, বিচার বিভাগের স্বাধীনতা নিশ্চিত করার প্রচেষ্টা হয়েছে।

তবে, এই ব্যবস্থা এখনও কিছু চ্যালেঞ্জের মুখোমুখি, যেমন মামলার দৈর্ঘ্য, ন্যায়ের বিলম্ব, এবং সীমিত সম্পদ। এদের সত্ত্বেও চলমান সংস্কার ও ডিজিটাইজেশনের প্রচেষ্টা কার্যকারিতা ও স্বচ্ছতা বাড়াচ্ছে।

শেষে, একটি শক্তিশালী ও স্বাধীন বিচার ব্যবস্থা গণতন্ত্র ও ন্যায়ের জন্য অপরিহার্য। আমাদের দায়িত্ব, বিশেষত আইন পেশাজীবীদের, এর মর্যাদা রক্ষা করা এবং সকলের জন্য ন্যায় নিশ্চিত করা।

ধন্যবাদ।

Speech given by Treasurer, SW BIMS

Good morning respected guests, honorable Guest of Honour, and dear participants,

It is a great pleasure for me to stand before you today. First of all, I warmly welcome our distinguished Guest of Honour and express my heartfelt gratitude for joining us on this important occasion.

Today, we are proud to present a group of dedicated individuals who have successfully completed 10 hours of training in mediation. They have taken their first meaningful step toward becoming peacemakers in society. Mediation is not just a skill—it is a responsibility to promote understanding, reduce conflict, and establish justice in a peaceful way. Dear participants, completing 10 hours is only the beginning. You have already discovered the power of dialogue, patience, and neutrality. Now, I encourage each of you to take the next step—to complete the full 40 hours of mediation training. This advanced journey will deepen your knowledge, strengthen your confidence, and prepare you to handle real-life disputes effectively.

To our respected Guest of Honour, I am pleased to introduce these promising participants. They are the future mediators who can contribute to building a more harmonious and just society.

Let us continue this journey together—with commitment, courage, and a vision for peace.

Thank you all.

Ms. Anni Islam

Treasurer, SW BIMS

অগ্নি ইসলাম প্রদত্ত বক্তব্য

সুপ্রভাত সম্মানিত অতিথিবৃন্দ, মাননীয় প্রধান অতিথি এবং প্রিয় অংশগ্রহণকারীরা,

আজকের এই অনুষ্ঠানে আপনাদের সামনে দাঁড়াতে পেয়ে আমি অত্যন্ত আনন্দিত। সর্বপ্রথম, আমাদের মাননীয় প্রধান অতিথিকে আন্তরিক স্বাগত জানাই এবং এই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অনুষ্ঠানে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য কৃতজ্ঞতা প্রকাশ করছি।

আজ আমরা গর্বের সাথে এমন একদল উদ্যমী অংশগ্রহণকারীকে পরিচয় করিয়ে দিতে যাচ্ছি, যারা সফলভাবে ১০ ঘণ্টার মেডিয়েশন প্রশিক্ষণ সম্পন্ন করেছেন। এটি তাদের জন্য একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ প্রথম পদক্ষেপ। মেডিয়েশন শুধু একটি দক্ষতা নয়, এটি একটি দায়িত্ব-সমাজে শান্তি প্রতিষ্ঠা, বিরোধ কমানো এবং ন্যায্যবিচার নিশ্চিত করার একটি কার্যকর উপায়।

প্রিয় অংশগ্রহণকারীরা, ১০ ঘণ্টার এই যাত্রা কেবল শুরু। আপনারা ইতিমধ্যেই সংলাপ, ধৈর্য এবং নিরপেক্ষতার শক্তি উপলব্ধি করেছেন। এখন আমি আপনাদের সবাইকে অনুপ্রাণিত করতে চাই, যেন আপনারা পূর্ণ ৪০ ঘণ্টার প্রশিক্ষণ সম্পন্ন করেন। এই উন্নত প্রশিক্ষণ আপনাদের জ্ঞান আরও গভীর করবে, আত্মবিশ্বাস বাড়াবে এবং বাস্তব জীবনের বিরোধ নিষ্পত্তিতে আরও দক্ষ করে তুলবে।

মাননীয় প্রধান অতিথি, আমি আনন্দের সাথে আপনাকে এই সম্ভাবনাময় অংশগ্রহণকারীদের সাথে পরিচয় করিয়ে দিচ্ছি। তারাই ভবিষ্যতের মধ্যস্থতাকারী, যারা একটি শান্তিপূর্ণ ও ন্যায্যভিত্তিক সমাজ গঠনে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রাখবে।

ধন্যবাদ সবাইকে।

Speech given by Ms. Unish Ghalley

Respected guests, mediators, and dear friends, Kuzu zangpo la. My name is Unish, and I am honored to represent the Kingdom of Bhutan here today. It is a privilege to address this gathering dedicated to mediation, a crucial aspect of building harmonious societies. I am also proud to serve as an ambassador for the Renew Board, an organization committed to promoting peace, dignity, and justice within our communities.

Mediation plays a vital role in fostering peaceful coexistence. Conflicts are an inevitable part of human relationships, but our approach to resolving them defines the strength of our communities. Mediation provides a safe and respectful platform for individuals to engage in constructive dialogue, understand diverse perspectives, and collaborate towards mutually beneficial solutions.

In Bhutan, our culture places great emphasis on harmony, compassion, and mutual respect – values that resonate deeply with the principles of mediation. By promoting dialogue over confrontation, mediation helps preserve relationships, restore trust, and fortify community bonds. As an ambassador for the Renew Board, I have witnessed the transformative impact of mediation in supporting individuals and families navigate challenging situations.

Today's program offers an opportunity to learn mediation techniques and cultivate a mindset of empathy, patience, and understanding. Each of us has the power to bridge conflict and peace. Let us continue to foster dialogue, respect, and cooperation in our homes, schools, and communities. Together, we can create a future where conflicts are resolved with wisdom and compassion.

As His Majesty, Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, aptly said, "The future of our nation lies in the hands of our youth. With strong values and compassion, they will build a peaceful and stronger nation." In line with this vision, introducing the BIMS student wing is a significant step towards a peaceful and innovative future.

Thank you for your attention, and I wish this program great success.

Unish Ghalley

BIMS Member, Bhutan

Speech By Ms. Mehbazin Joya, Member, SWBIMS

A Young Voice for Mediation

Good morning respected chief guest, honorable guests, respected organizers from the Students' Wing of BIMS, and my dear friends,

Assalamu Alaikum.

My name is Mehbazin Joya, and today I stand before you not just as a participant of mediation training, but as someone whose way of thinking has truly changed.

Before joining this training, I used to think that conflict means argument, anger, and sometimes even breaking relationships. Like many young people, I believed that winning an argument was more important than understanding others. But after attending this mediation training, I realized something very powerful—conflict is not the problem, the way we handle it is the real issue.

During this training, I learned how to listen—not just to reply, but to truly understand. I learned how to control my emotions, how to respect different opinions, and how to find peaceful solutions where everyone feels heard and valued.

This training has not only improved my communication skills, but it has also changed my personal life. Now I feel more confident, more patient, and more responsible in dealing with people around me—whether it is in my family, among friends, or in society.

Dear friends,

We live in a world where misunderstandings are increasing day by day. Small issues often turn into big conflicts. Relationships break, and sometimes even communities suffer. But imagine—what if more young people like us become trained mediators?

We can stop conflicts before they grow.

We can bring people together instead of pushing them apart.

We can build peace where there is tension.

That is why I truly believe—every mediator is a peacemaker for society.

And as a young girl, I feel especially proud to be part of this journey. Because mediation empowers us. It gives us a voice, confidence, and the ability to make a positive change.

Today, I want to give a special message to all young girls like me—

Do not think you are weak.

Do not think your voice does not matter.

You have the power to lead, to solve problems, and to bring peace.

I strongly encourage you to join this wonderful mediation program. It will not only help you in your personal life but will also prepare you to become a responsible and active member of society.

Let us come forward together.

Let us learn, grow, and become peacemakers.

Let us build a society where understanding replaces conflict, and peace becomes our strength.

Finally, I would like to express my heartfelt gratitude to the Students' Wing of BIMS for organizing such an impactful training and giving us this opportunity.

Thank you all for listening.

Ms. Mehbazin Joya,

Member, SWBIMS

মেহজাবিন জয়া প্রদত্ত বক্তব্য

এক তরুণীর কণ্ঠে মধ্যস্থতার কথা

সুপ্রভাত সম্মানিত প্রধান অতিথি, সম্মানিত অতিথিবৃন্দ, স্টুডেন্টস উইং অব BIMS-এর সম্মানিত আয়োজকবৃন্দ এবং আমার প্রিয় বন্ধুগণ, আসসালামু আলাইকুম।

আমার নাম জয়া, এবং আজ আমি আপনাদের সামনে দাঁড়িয়েছি শুধুমাত্র একজন প্রশিক্ষণপ্রাপ্ত অংশগ্রহণকারী হিসেবে নয়, বরং এমন একজন মানুষ হিসেবে যার চিন্তাধারা এই প্রশিক্ষণের মাধ্যমে সত্যিই পরিবর্তিত হয়েছে।

এই প্রশিক্ষণে অংশগ্রহণের আগে আমি মনে করতাম-সংঘাত মানেই তর্ক, রাগ, এবং অনেক সময় সম্পর্কের অবনতি। আমাদের অনেকের মতো আমিও ভাবতাম, তর্কে জয়ী হওয়াটাই সবচেয়ে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ। কিন্তু এই মধ্যস্থতা প্রশিক্ষণে অংশ নেওয়ার পর আমি একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ বিষয় বুঝতে পেরেছি-সংঘাত নিজে সমস্যা নয়, আমরা কীভাবে সেটিকে সামলাই সেটিই আসল বিষয়।

এই প্রশিক্ষণের মাধ্যমে আমি শিখেছি কীভাবে মনোযোগ দিয়ে শুনতে হয়-শুধু উত্তর দেওয়ার জন্য নয়, বরং সত্যিকারের বোঝার জন্য। আমি শিখেছি কীভাবে নিজের আবেগ নিয়ন্ত্রণ করতে হয়, কীভাবে ভিন্ন মতামতকে সম্মান করতে হয়, এবং কীভাবে এমন সমাধান খুঁজে বের করতে হয় যেখানে সবাই নিজেকে মূল্যবান মনে করে।

এই প্রশিক্ষণ শুধু আমার যোগাযোগ দক্ষতা বাড়ায়নি, এটি আমার ব্যক্তিগত জীবনেও বড় পরিবর্তন এনেছে। এখন আমি নিজেকে আরও আত্মবিশ্বাসী, ধৈর্যশীল এবং দায়িত্বশীল মনে করি-পরিবারে, বন্ধুদের মাঝে এবং সমাজে।

আমরা এমন একটি সময়ে বাস করছি যেখানে ভুল বোঝাবুঝি দিন দিন বাড়ছে। ছোট ছোট সমস্যা অনেক সময় বড় সংঘাতে পরিণত হয়। সম্পর্ক ভেঙে যায়, এমনকি সমাজেও এর প্রভাব পড়ে। কিন্তু একটু ভাবুন-যদি আমাদের মতো আরও বেশি তরুণ-তরুণী প্রশিক্ষিত মধ্যস্থতাকারী হয়ে ওঠে?

আমরা সংঘাত বড় হওয়ার আগেই থামাতে পারি।

আমরা মানুষকে দূরে ঠেলে না দিয়ে কাছাকাছি আনতে পারি।

আমরা উত্তেজনার জায়গায় শান্তি প্রতিষ্ঠা করতে পারি।

এই কারণেই আমি বিশ্বাস করি-প্রতিটি মধ্যস্থতাকারীই সমাজের একজন শান্তির দূত।

একজন তরুণী হিসেবে আমি এই যাত্রার অংশ হতে পেরে গর্বিত। কারণ মধ্যস্থতা আমাদের ক্ষমতায়ন করে। এটি আমাদের কণ্ঠ দেয়, আত্মবিশ্বাস দেয়, এবং সমাজে ইতিবাচক পরিবর্তন আনার শক্তি দেয়।

আজ আমি বিশেষভাবে আমার মতো সকল তরুণীদের উদ্দেশ্যে বলতে চাই-
নিজেকে দুর্বল মনে করবেন না।

ভাববেন না যে আপনার কণ্ঠের কোনো মূল্য নেই।

আপনার মধ্যেই রয়েছে নেতৃত্ব দেওয়ার, সমস্যা সমাধানের এবং শান্তি প্রতিষ্ঠার শক্তি।

আমি আপনাদের সবাইকে এই অসাধারণ মধ্যস্থতা প্রোগ্রামে অংশগ্রহণ করার জন্য আন্তরিকভাবে আহ্বান জানাচ্ছি। এটি শুধু আপনার ব্যক্তিগত জীবনে উপকার করবে না, বরং আপনাকে একজন দায়িত্বশীল নাগরিক হিসেবে গড়ে তুলবে।

আসুন আমরা একসাথে এগিয়ে যাই।

শিখি, নিজেকে গড়ে তুলি এবং সমাজের শান্তির দূত হয়ে উঠি।

আসুন আমরা এমন একটি সমাজ গড়ি, যেখানে সংঘাতের পরিবর্তে বোঝাপড়া থাকবে, আর শান্তিই হবে আমাদের শক্তি।

সবশেষে, আমি স্টুডেন্টস উইং অব BIMS-এর প্রতি আন্তরিক কৃতজ্ঞতা প্রকাশ করছি, যারা আমাদের জন্য এমন একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ প্রশিক্ষণের আয়োজন করেছে এবং এই সুযোগ করে দিয়েছে।

সবাইকে ধন্যবাদ।

Speech given by Md. Mamunur Rashid

সুপ্রভাত সম্মানিত অতিথিবৃন্দ,
মাননীয় প্রধান অতিথি এবং প্রিয় অংশগ্রহণকারীরা,

আজকের এই অনুষ্ঠানে আপনাদের সামনে দাঁড়াতে পেরে আমি অত্যন্ত আনন্দিত। সর্বপ্রথম, আমাদের মাননীয় প্রধান অতিথিকে আন্তরিক স্বাগত জানাই এবং এই গুরুত্বপূর্ণ অনুষ্ঠানে উপস্থিত থাকার জন্য কৃতজ্ঞতা প্রকাশ করছি।

আজ আমরা গর্বের সাথে এমন একদল উদ্যমী অংশগ্রহণকারীকে পরিচয় করিয়ে দিতে যাচ্ছি, যারা সফলভাবে ১০ ঘণ্টার মেডিয়েশন প্রশিক্ষণ সম্পন্ন করেছেন। এটি তাদের জন্য একটি গুরুত্বপূর্ণ প্রথম পদক্ষেপ। মেডিয়েশন শুধু একটি দক্ষতা নয়, এটি একটি দায়িত্ব-সমাজে শান্তি প্রতিষ্ঠা, বিরোধ কমানো এবং ন্যায়বিচার নিশ্চিত করার একটি কার্যকর উপায়।

প্রিয় অংশগ্রহণকারীরা, ১০ ঘণ্টার এই যাত্রা কেবল শুরু। আপনারা ইতিমধ্যেই সংলাপ, ধৈর্য এবং নিরপেক্ষতার শক্তি উপলব্ধি করেছেন। এখন আমি আপনাদের সবাইকে অনুপ্রাণিত করতে চাই, যেন আপনারা পূর্ণ ৪০ ঘণ্টার প্রশিক্ষণ সম্পন্ন করেন। এই উন্নত প্রশিক্ষণ আপনাদের জ্ঞান আরও গভীর করবে, আত্মবিশ্বাস বাড়াবে এবং বাস্তব জীবনের বিরোধ নিষ্পত্তিতে আরও দক্ষ করে তুলবে।

মাননীয় প্রধান অতিথি, আমি আনন্দের সাথে আপনাকে এই সম্ভাবনাময় অংশগ্রহণকারীদের সাথে পরিচয় করিয়ে দিচ্ছি। তারাই ভবিষ্যতের মধ্যস্থতাকারী, যারা একটি শান্তিপূর্ণ ও ন্যায়ভিত্তিক সমাজ গঠনে গুরুত্বপূর্ণ ভূমিকা রাখবে।

ধন্যবাদ সবাইকে।

মোঃ মামুনুর রশীদ
প্রধান শিক্ষক, পাহারপুর আদিবাসী উচ্চ বিদ্যালয়
বদলগাছী, নওগাঁ

Message

Message from Regional Director, BIMS Nepal

As an Advisory Board Member, I am pleased to witness this important milestone marked by the Student Wings BIMS International Conference 2026. In a time of growing complexity within our societies, mediation stands as an essential pathway for dialogue, mutual understanding, and peaceful resolution. I highly appreciate the initiative of the BIMS Student Wing in bringing together diverse voices and young mediation advocates, fostering a culture of collaboration and shared learning. This conference and its magazine reflect a strong regional commitment toward constructive and inclusive dispute resolution. I extend my sincere best wishes for the continued success of this initiative and the advancement of mediation across our region.

Dr. Namrata Pandey

Regional Director, BIMS Nepal

Message from Chairman SW BIMS

It is a privilege and honor to present the official magazine of the SW BIMS International Conference 2026. This publication is not merely a collection of messages and articles, but a reflection of our shared vision, collective commitment, and evolving dialogue on mediation, justice, and peacebuilding.

In an increasingly complex and interconnected world, the importance of constructive dialogue and peaceful conflict resolution continues to grow. Mediation, as both a philosophy and a practice, offers a meaningful pathway toward understanding, reconciliation, and sustainable harmony within communities and across nations.

This magazine stands as a testament to the collaborative spirit of SW BIMS, bringing together voices from diverse backgrounds, including members of the judiciary, mediation practitioners, and emerging leaders. Each contribution reflects a commitment to fostering awareness, strengthening networks, and advancing the practice of mediation as a tool for social transformation.

As we mark this significant gathering, I hope this magazine serves not only as a record of the conference but also as a source of inspiration for continued dialogue, collaboration, and progress in the field of mediation.

Urja Acharya

Chairman SW BIMS

Message

Message from Ms. Padma Ghalley



Padma Ghalley
BIMS Member, Bhutan

"True strength lies not in winning battles, but in resolving them with wisdom, courage, and an open heart."

I am Padma Ghalley from Bhutan, and I am honored to be a member of BIMS. I firmly believe that today's youth are the architects of tomorrow, and I want to inspire young people—especially girls—to recognize their potential, embrace their ambitions, and lead with confidence and integrity.

Equally important is the practice of mediation in our lives. Thoughtful mediation allows us to navigate conflicts with wisdom, foster understanding, and build stronger, more harmonious

relationships. By listening deeply, communicating respectfully, and seeking common ground, we create pathways to solutions that benefit all.

My message to the youth is simple yet vital: cultivate self-belief, pursue your goals with courage, and approach every challenge with patience and empathy. Through mindful action and peaceful resolution, we can shape a future that is both meaningful and harmonious.

Student Wing BIMS Executive Committee



Chairman
Ms. Urja Acharya (Nepal)



Vice Chairman
Ms. Rifa Tamanna



Secretary General
Ms. Sohani Islam Samapty



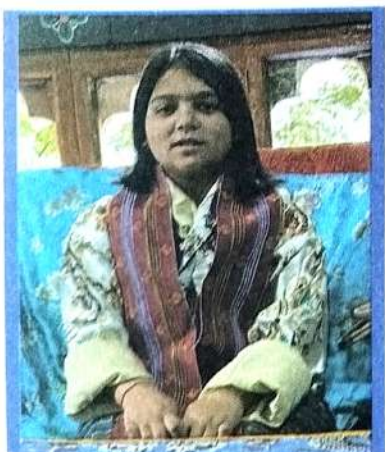
Treasurer
Ms. Anni Islam



Office Secretary
Ms. Subarna Gupta



Members
Ms. Supriya Chamling



Members
Ms. Unish Ghalleay



Members
Ms. Mehbazin Joya



Members
Ms. Sawlia Farjana

SWBIMS Conference Committee

- 1. Convener** : Ms. Anni Islam
- 2. Joint Convener** : Ms. Nawroj Sharmin Moni
: Ms. Panna Rani
: Ms. Monisha Akter
: Ms. Mehbazin Joya
: Ms. Jesmin Akter Runa
- 3. Members** : Ms. Mim Akter Shanti,
: Ms. Umme Habiba,
: Ms. Nushrat Jahan Jui,
: Ms. Rima Akter,
: Ms. Sathi Akter,
: Ms. Jui Akter,
: Ms. Trisha Rani Mandal,
: Ms. Dola Akter,
: Ms. Momi Akter Mimi,
: Ms. Ruli Parveen,
: Ms. Rakhi Akter,
: Ms. Juthi Akter,
: Ms. Misty Akter,
: Ms. Habiba Akter Juthi,
: Ms. Renu Parveen

Girls' Guide Team of SWBIMS

1. Ms. Tamanna
2. Ms. Samiha
3. Ms. Zeniya
4. Ms. Nushrat
5. Ms. Jannat Zeem
6. Ms. Anjuman Akhi
7. Ms. Rumees
8. Ms. Sahara
9. Ms. Prarona
10. Ms. Aabritee
11. Ms. Suchee
12. Ms. Nameeya
13. Ms. Medha
14. Ms. Ahona
15. Ms. Moztoneeba
16. Ms. Jui
17. Ms. Aafeefa

Cultural Team of SWBIMS

1. Ms. Mahbuba
2. Ms. Namrata Sarkar
3. Ms. Manha
4. Ms. Sampritee
5. Ms. Zerma
6. Ms. Asha Mandal
7. Ms. Agomoni
8. Ms. Tapan Barman
9. Ms. Mriteeka

Pictorial - Two



Form left : Sohani Islam Somapty Secretary general BIMS Student wing, Rifa Tamanna Vice Chairman BIMS Student wing, Ms Yomuna first Secretary Nepal Embassy in dhaka Bangladesh & then Anni Islam accredited Mediator.

Regd. No.-D/A-1569
BLT: 01712-281344

The Bangladesh Law Times

(A Monthly Law Journal)

A Source of Current Legal Advice

Editor: Samarendra Nath Goswami (M.A.(Edn), LL.B, B.Ed, LL.M)

Senior Advocate, Appellate Division, Supreme Court of Bangladesh, & Accredited Mediator



Books Name

Price

Digest

Set (8 Pcs) -3850/-

1. BLT's 16 years Civil Digest (1993-2008) 800/-
2. BLT's 5 years Civil Digest (2009-2013) 500/-
3. BLT's 6 years Civil Digest (2014-2020) 500/-
4. BLT's 5 years Civil Digest (2021-2024) 500/-
5. BLT's 15 years Criminal Digest (1993-2007) 400/-
6. BLT's 5 years Criminal Digest (2008-2012) 350/-
7. BLT's 7 Years Criminal Digest (2013-2020) 400/-
8. BLT's 6 Years Criminal Digest (2021-2025) 400/-

Bare Act With References

Set (15 Pcs) -8250/-

9. Evidence Act (With Reference) 700/-
10. BLT's 31 Yrs' References on CRPC 1000/-
11. Negotiable Instruments Act (19 Acts With Reference) 600/-
12. Succession Act (With Reference) 600/-
13. Nari-O-Shishu Nirjatan Daman Ain (19 Acts With Reference) 500/-
14. তথ্য প্রযুক্তি ও ডিজিটাল নিরাপত্তা আইন (17 Acts With Reference) 550/-
15. Limitation Act (With Reference) 300/-
16. Specific Relief Act (5 Acts With Reference) 450/-
17. Law on Drugs (25 Acts with References) 500/-
18. Law on Co-Operative Societies (20 Acts With Reference) 500/-
19. Aviation Law বিমান পরিবহন আইন (41 Acts With Reference) 800/-
20. Christian Personal Law (14 Acts With Reference) 600/-
21. Baha'i Personal Law 150/-
22. Int'l Laws on Contempt of Court (7 Acts With Reference) 600/-
23. বাংলাদেশের অর্পিত সম্পত্তি আইন প্রয়োগ ও পরিপত্তি (With Reference) 400/-

Famous / Renowned Judgments

Set (10 Pcs) -3220/-

42. Landmark Judgment on Rivers 500/-
43. Judgment On Arrest & Remand (Section-54&167 Crpc) 250/-
44. বাংলাদেশের "প্রথম স্বাধীনতা ঘোষণা" এর মামলা 220/-
45. "ঐতিহাসিক রমনা রেসকোর্স ময়দান" এর মামলা 220/-
46. "শহীদ মিনার এর পবিত্রতা সংরক্ষণ" এর মামলা 200/-
47. International Tribunal for The Law of the Sea 130/-
48. Judgment On Bangladesh Bar Council Rules Case 100/-
49. Judgment On Zia Orphanage Trust Case (HCD) 200/-
50. Judgment On Zia Orphanage Trust Case (AD) 200/-
51. Judgment on Indian Babri Masjid Case (Indian) 1200/-
- 51A. পিলখানা (বি.ডি.আর) হত্যা মামলার রায় (৫ খণ্ড) 10,000/-

Books Name

Price

Constitution Amendment Case Set (7 Pcs) -2900/-

23. The Constitution (5th Amend) Act's Case 450/-
24. The Constitution (7th Amend) Act's Case 250/-
25. The Constitution (13th Amend) Act's Case 450/-
26. The Constitution (15th Amend) Act's Case (HCD) 300/-
27. The Constitution (16th Amend) Act's Case (HCD) 350/-
28. The Constitution (16th Amend) Act's Case (AD) 600/-
29. Making Development of Contitution of BD 500/-

Murder Cases Judgment Set (6 Pcs) -1900/-

30. Bangobondhu Murder Case 350/-
31. National 4 Leader Murder Case (Jail Killing Case) 250/-
32. Seven (7) Murder case at Narayanganj 600/-
33. Judges Murder case Versus Jihad (বাংলা ভাই মামলা) 300/-
34. Abrar Fahad Murder Case 200/-
35. Con'l Taher Murder Case 200/-

Arbitration/Mediation Set (6 Pcs) -1600/-

36. Definition of Mediation (Majid & Goswami) 150/-
37. Mediation (Prianka Chakraborty India) 300/-
38. Indian Judgments on Mediation & Arbitration 500/-
39. বঙ্গবন্ধুর দ্যুতিময় মেডিয়েশন (আমিনুল হক হেলাল) 150/-
40. মধ্যস্থতায় মহাত্মা গান্ধী (আমিনুল হক হেলাল) 200/-
41. মেডিয়েশন: ন্যায় বিচারের নিরব সেতুবন্ধন (রাশিদা চৌধুরী নিলু) 300/-

Other Publications

Set (8 Pcs) -3000/-

52. BLT's Special Issue-1995 150/-
53. Judge in Camera:
A Compilation of judgment of J. Abdur Rashid 1200/-
54. Selected Kye Note Paper of J. Delwar Hossain 150/-
55. দারুনা সাম্প্রদায়িক দাঙ্গা, ১৯৬২ 200/-
56. Law & A Brilliant Police Officer 250/-
57. হাইকোর্টের বিতর্কিত রায় ও জুলাই গনঅভ্যুত্থান (মেহেদী হাসান ডালিম) 350/-
58. আমার দেখা গনঅভ্যুত্থান (অল্লি ইসলাম) 400/-
59. তিন বিজ্ঞানী (ইন্ডি: শম্পা বসু) 300/-

বি.এল.টি এর যে কোন বই হোম ডেলিভারী পেতে
যোগাযোগ করুন ফোন: ০১৭১২-২৮১৩৪৪
(ডেলিভারী চার্জ ফ্রী)

BLT's Full Volume Set (33 Pcs) Discounted Price: 27,000/- For More Information, Just Call or Whatsapp +8801712281344

BLT's Full Combo Pack (80 Pcs Book) (All publications with full Set Volumes) Only Tk.50,000/-

Correspondence Address: BLT Sales Center, Supreme Court Bar Bhaban (3rd Floor), & 23 Segunbagicha Dhaka.
Contact: +88-01712281344, Email: bangladeshlawtimes@gmail.com, Facebook: BLT Bangladesh Law Times