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Master's Thesis of International Studies

The Impact of Child Marriage on Girl's Education Aspects of Bangladesh

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Abstract

The Impact of Child Marriage on girl's education aspects of Bangladesh

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In Bangladesh, child marriage is one of serious societal issue among others issue which is directly hampering the development of country. In Bangladesh, traditionally parents are always very hurry to marry off their daughter in early age ignoring girl's willingness. Due to this common mentality, the child marriage (59% and 4th position) rank is high in Bangladesh over the world. Again, Bangladesh is in the highest position among the south Asian countries. The Government of Bangladesh is taking this issue very seriously and enacted new law (2017) by revising previous (1929) law. But the scenario of child marriage is not satisfactory level. This study tries to find out the impacts of child marriage on girl's education and overall society. To reach the study goal the data of DBHS (Bangladesh Demography and Health Survey), BBS (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics) and other scholarly articles are being analyzed.

By analyzing these data and other scholarly articles this study tries to reach the research goal. Study finds that, the child marriages are happening more in rural and poor area, child marriage is also a common phenomenon in rich and urban areas. Facing the practical situation, it is very challenge to continue education after marriage. Eventually, girl's education stops immediate after marriage. Though the child marriage has so many aspects in Bangladesh society, but all aspects are rooted educational determinant. Child marriage directly hampers girl's education impacting on country's literacy rate.

This study also finds that, the impacts of child marriage on society which is created by ignoring girl's education. At the present time Child marriage significantly effecting on girl's life and her own society which is almost hampered her self-development and carried out future generation. Again, study finds that, where poor and illiterate people are more, child marriage is also more which indicates the co-relation between child marriage and education. This study is showing that Child marriage has negative influence on dropout, illiteracy and overall, in society. Study finds that girls' employment opportunity motivates to continue education and helps to reduce child marriage. Only the light of education can eradicate traditional thought, patriarchies and fundamentalism of religion and ensure the rights of girls. This study also showing that Promoting girl's education can control the child marriage in society. During pandemic (covid-19) situation, many girls have been married by stopping their education due to school closer and squeeze family income.

This phenomenon strengthen the study objective to prove the importance of educational opportunity for girls to stop the child marriage. This study suggests to promote the girl's education, Government need to take more active participatory program and implement it drastically collaborate with on going programs. Findings of the study may help to understand the importance of girl's education and take proper step to promote girl's education.

Key Words- Child marriage, Dropout, Illiteracy, DBHS, NGO, Social Impacts, Patriarchies, Religious Fundamentalism,

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1. Introduction

Every society has different norms and culture. In Bangladesh, the common societal norms are in favor of child marriage. Child marriage is not only the issue of Bangladesh; it is also a global issue. It is very widespread issue including advanced and developing country. Bangladesh has been suffering acquit child marriage practices as like other developing countries which makes Bangladesh in high rank position. Due to societal phenomena, child marriage is a common practice in Bangladesh. People hardly consider, the child marriage is illegal or violation of women rights. This is the primary reason of high rate of child marriage in Bangladesh, though the Government has introduced special law and other initiatives to reduce child marriage.

This study aim is to find the root causes of child marriage in Bangladesh. This study finds what co-relation between child marriage and girl's education exists. Study also finds how child marriage did impact greatly on girl's education and overall country's education, resulting in poverty, unemployment and numerous societal hazards. To reach the study aim, data of DBHS (Bangladesh Demography and Health Survey), scholarly articles and other related survey (Bureau of Bangladesh Statistics) will be deeply analyzed. Descriptive analyzing method will follow to reach the study goal. Study shows that; child marriage enhances girl's illiteracy, dropout and numerous social hazards. Patriarchies society, religion, poverty and societal tradition are mostly liable leading child marriage. Promoting girl's education and minimizing traditional cultural mentality may be a solution to tame child marriage in Bangladesh. Study shows that, Child marriage and its societal negative impacts can be reduced only ensuring girl's education. Role of NGO is also noticeable to lessen the child marriage in Bangladesh. Finally, after the discussion, study will make some suggestions and recommendations to the Government which will help to take further initiatives to overcome the situation.

1.1 Background of the study

Of these changes Bangladesh has as a developing country, child marriage is the most serious one which is exacerbating social crisis and directly hampers Bangladesh development. The present scenario of Bangladesh is that-there are 18% child marriage are happening before the girl's age 15 and 52% child marriage are happening before the girl's age 18. As a result, Bangladesh is the Forth position over the world in terms of child marriage. Again, Bangladesh is the first position among south Asian countries. Even though- the Government of Bangladesh regulates child marriage restraint act- in 2017 and government administration is trying their best to minimize the situation, scenario is remaining almost unchanged. According to the present act, the marriage before 18 of girl and before 21 of boy is called child marriage and it's illegal in Bangladesh. Only main cause is the lack of awareness of people especially in rural area.

There are so many inter-connections between education and child marriage, which is sometimes directly or indirectly affecting national development. There are so many social crises in Bangladesh society such as poverty, illiteracy, superstition, religious blindness, malnutrition, dowry system, polygamy of male, unemployment, high growth rate of population, gender discrimination, Increased the juvenile delinquency, child mortality and begging. These multiple problems are directly related with education. With the light of formal education these sorts of crisis may be removed from society. Lacking formal education, girls are keeping away from school and easily ending up with child marriage. Study shows that those who are getting formal education they are less involved in child marriage. But people never realize that lack of formal education brings child marriage. There is a direct relation between formal education and child marriage. Even richer and middle-income family

people also never realize the importance of girl's education. That is why the scenario of child marriage has not been changing at the expected range.

There were so many studies about child marriage. But there is little research on how child marriage is related with education and illiteracy. Child marriage is also a Gender related issue because most of the time child marriage means girl's issue. Very few times it means for boys. Most of the time parents think that girls are burden in their family. They never think that educated girls are not burden of their family at all. Their aim is to settle a marriage for their daughter as soon as possible. Again, they never think that this illiterate mother will bring another illiterate child again and this chain will move on for unlimited time. So, child marriage is happening and creates multiple social crises. But researchers tried to find out holistic approach in child marriage related issue such as social crisis versus child marriage, Health issues versus child marriage nutritious, population growth and so on (-M, Kabir,-2019).

Only traditional causes of child marriage are focused by some researchers of Bangladesh (Jisan-2016). Normative cause of child marriage and structural cause of child marriage are discussed by some researchers (Child marriage in Bangladesh-Trends and Determinants-2014)

A very few people are realizing that numerous problems come from child marriage. What issues are barrier for national development, child marriage is the most considerable of them because, it's has chain effect on society. Now it remains to be seen what the link is between child marriage and education. This study tries to find out how the child marriages are related with education attainment and how illiteracy is created by child marriage.

Little research is done for the impact of child marriage in education immediate after starting early family life and future generation. Since family life is started without formal education, so many crises appeared before them after some days. So many family crises and social crises have appeared within new family, society and overall, in the country when a girl victims' early marriage.

The fact is that people are not significantly aware of child Marriage, how damages the girl's life by creating so many social crises. Only the light of education can remove all sorts of crisis. This study will find how education is directly or indirectly related with child marriage. How the chance of education can remove child marriage from society and society can get rid of the curse of child marriage.

1.2 Literature Review

This study explains the impact of child marriage on Bangladesh education. Actually, child marriage is a great challenge of all developing countries. Despite the certain law to restrain child marriage of Bangladesh, child marriage is happening massively. Child marriage rate of Bangladesh is in the highest position among south Asian countries (UNICEF Bangladesh-2016). Bangladesh Government took so many initiatives to stop child marriage such as enacting the Child marriage restrained Act -2017, Expand social safety net program, Awareness program, collaborate with NGO activity. Government is imposing the law very strictly. Other initiative is mandatory birth registration act. According to the act birth registration certificate is mandatory to have for bride and groom before marriage registration. Therefore, all these measures improved the trend and attitude of child marriage after noticing such legal activity in Bangladesh.

According to the survey report of Bangladesh Demographic Health Survey (DBHS- 2017), Child marriage rate of Bangladesh is 59% and 65% was in 2011. But after 2014(59%), the rate is not declining. Although the Government has so many initiatives, child marriage rate is not declining in satisfactory level. Child marriage has a solid connection with education. A wide range of educational activities of girls as well as in society development are hampering by child marriage.

In the meantime, there have been so many studies conducted by some researchers about child marriage in different way in Bangladesh. Child marriage trends, determinants and effects in education attainment are described in literature review where also explained that child marriage rate is higher in before 16 age that leads higher rate of incomplete secondary education and lower rate of women secondary education (Islam, - 2016). Another study explained the determinants of child marriage and its effect in poor child health outcome in Bangladesh. It also identified the socioeconomic status of child such as wealth status, education, place of residence and religion is very important determinants of child marriage (Hammann, L., 2014).

Early marriage in Bangladesh and impact on society in various ways are pointed out by study (Jisan,-2016). Researcher explained the relation between child marriage and social component and education. Causes, prevalence and consequences of child marriage and various outcomes in reproduction and reproductive health in Bangladesh are explained in literature review (Susmita Gush- November 2019). Child marriage and its impacts on social aspects and countries economy are identified in research's introduction. Researcher also has shown how child marriages are closely related with all sorts of social determinants (Asma- 8, August 2017). Another study focused that child marriage is associated with geographical variation. Respondent's individual characteristics such as birth place, age, education and religious belief demonstrate significant variation of that geographical region on rate of child marriage in Bangladesh ((Kamal, S. M., 2010). Women's education and her husband's education, place. Religion and respondents' status of work are the main factors for early marriage in Bangladesh (Farzana, T.J., -2016).

Main reason of child marriage is poverty, lack of social security and violence against women, superstition in society and awareness. This study recommended that Government should ensure the legal protection for women and young girls to stop the child marriage (Ferdousi, N., 2014). Customary mentality, Social pressure, Girls interest, poverty, Lack of child rights, Aspiration,

Engagement in paid works, Education and Lack of girl's employment are the causes of child marriage in Bangladesh (Plan International Bangladesh-2013). Due to lack of awareness and law, superstition, poverty is the vital cause of early marriage in Bangladesh (Blomgren, L-2013). Another important study focused the influence of child marriage opportunity on schooling attainment and gave advanced prediction of impact on imposes of consent laws (Field, E., et al, 2006). In the literature review highlighted the current situation of Bangladesh in terms of early marriage and explained the causes and factors of early marriage in Bangladesh (icddrb-2013). Lowering the age limit of girl's marriage age 18 to 16 ages in draft law in 2016 of Bangladesh and following impact on girl's education and employment are predicted in study problem area (Shamnaz Arifin -2017)

Dhaka tribune, the noted daily newspaper in Bangladesh reported that, during the pandemic (Covid -19) situation around 3178 school girls were married off from March 2020 to September 2021 in Bagerhat District due to school closer. Same scenario is also in other districts of the country but in Bagerhat district happened more than other districts. It indicates how child marriage impacts education opportunity. No research has been done on the child marriages that have taken place across the country during pandemic situation and the impacts on education and society as a whole.

The kind of research that has already been done, that focuses the trend of child marriage and societal impacts of child marriage in broader way. Some researchers have shown the cause and social belief and consequences of child marriage. Some organizations stated the present scenario and trend of child marriage in Bangladesh. Few researchers discussed the education attainment and employment in shorter way in parallel of other attainments. Most of the research has shown the impact of girl's health, production, employment and social issues A very few researchers studied the relation between child marriage and education. How illiteracy and dropout rate are closely related with child marriage and impacts on societal norms.

This study's aim is to find the close relation between child marriage and education. This study also tries to find out the impacts of child marriage on girl's education as well as consequence on society. In the first part of study data will be analyzed and try to show the relation with education and finally try to explain the impacts on total education and society.

1.3 Research Question/Goal and Method

The actual objectives of this study are to investigate the impact of child marriage on girl's education attainment and literacy in Bangladesh. The specific objectives of the research are listed below:

- (i) To identify how illiteracy issue effects on child marriage.
- (ii) To identify the significant relationship between child marriage and education/literacy of Bangladesh.
- (iii) Finally, formulate some suggestions to prevent child marriage and reducing illiteracy.

This research aims to find, how the child marriage impacts on education attainment and to finds the relation between child marriage and education perspective of Bangladesh. I will try to analyze the data collect from the yearly report of DBHS (Bangladesh Demographic and Health survey) which survey is conducted from 1993 to 2017 and respondents through direct interview.

1.4 Outline (of this thesis)

To reach the study goal, analyze the current situation of Bangladesh by using the data of DBHS (Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey). From this discussion the present scenario of country in terms of child marriage will be very understandable and the rationale for choosing this topic will be easy to understand. How negative influence in girl's education such as dropout, illiteracy and impacts on society by child marriage will be discussed. What causes are behind the ignoring of girl's education also narrated in this study.

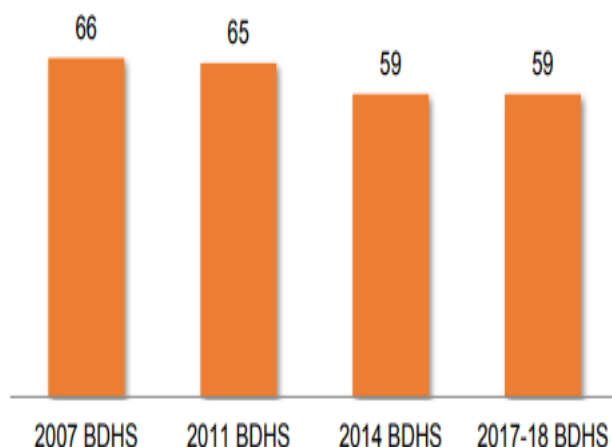
Government initiatives and what more initiatives need to take to avoid the worse situation will be discussed which may help the Government to take the further initiatives. The data, scholarly article and current news articles will be analyzed to discuss the whole issue in details. Finally descriptive statistics will use to give details about the child marriage as well as identify the effects of child

marriage and show the significant relationship between child marriage and education aspects of Bangladesh.

1.5 Child Marriage Scenario of Bangladesh

According to the survey report of Bangladesh Demographic and Health Survey in 2007 child marriage rate was 66% and in 2011 it came down to 65% where in 1990 it was 75%. In 2014 the child marriage rates came to 59% but after 2014 child marriage rate are not decreasing gradually according to the survey data of 2017-2018.

Figure-1, Trend Of child marriage- 2007-2017



There has a research report by GAZI et al, namely Child Marriage in Bangladesh – 2013 (Findings from National Survey) in some places of Bangladesh such as Chattogram, Sylhet, Chapainawabganj, Rangpur, Jessore, and parts of Khulna district have the worst situation of early child marriage. Another study conducted by ICDDR, B revealed that 64% of Bangladeshi women age 20-24 were married off before reaching the lawful age of marriage.

In rural area girls have a high risk of early marriage and 73% of them got married before they reached the age of 18. On the other hand, according to “Plan International of Bangladesh” research in 2015, 27% of the rural girls got married between the ages of 12 and 14. Another study carried out in rural areas of Hatia, place of chattogram District found out the rate of early marriage was more than 80% and at least 20% of them had one or two children before the age of 18 years (Kabir et al., 2019). Moreover, village girls are rarely consulted with others when it comes to their marriage. After happen the marriage, numerous family and social crisis have shown within short time, which is totally unbearable by family, society as well as Government.

From 2014 child marriage are continuing 59% up to the survey time of 2017-18 and its no further declining over last three years of survey. According to the ministry of “Women and Children affairs” explanation in terms of child marriage declining issue is that- In 2014 ministry formulated new law draft by revising and banning previous law. But many of feminist protested against some clauses of new law. On the other hand, local administration could not do anything to prevent child marriage other than only police action or only can regular case filling instead of immediate action according new law. But child marriage prevent action is immediate action rather than regular criminal case filling against offenders. If once marriage happens, it’s not bringing any meaningful result by taking after marriage action on regular criminal case filling in the court and it is also huge legal procedural hazard. Realizing feminist voice and local practical hazards, finally Government revised the new law and enacted in 2017. During that time there was huge dilemma to implement the law by local

administration. As a result, during this unstable period many of rural people took the chance and massive child marriage was occurred. After that from 2019, the covid-19 pandemic situation was another key indicator which was the cause of not declining child marriage rate in Bangladesh. In this regard “The Daily Star” published investigate report in last September 2021.

According to the report, local administration, police and local leaders were highly busy to maintain covid-19 situation such as relief distribution, maintaining quarantine facilities, treatment facilities and other issues which was highly related with pandemic issue. Eventually their main focus was to pandemic controlling issue and very little attention was to preventing child marriage issue. Again, some people took the chance and child marriage frequency was high compare to other normal time. According to the report around 3178 school girls were married off between March 2020 and September 2021 only in Bagerhat District. The same scenario is also in another District of Bangladesh during covid-19 situation. Sometimes it has been worse condition than previous condition results the increasing child marriage rate. These two main causes are key factors not to declining child marriage after 2014 according. But Government is promised to pay full attention to control the child marriage issue after pandemic situation. In 2019, Government has taken action plan and associated national committee along with local, district committee to monitor the situation closely. To achieve the SDG goal by 2030 and to meet the country’s target by 2041 the child marriage issue needs to take as priority.

2. The Negative Influence of Child Marriage on Girls' Education

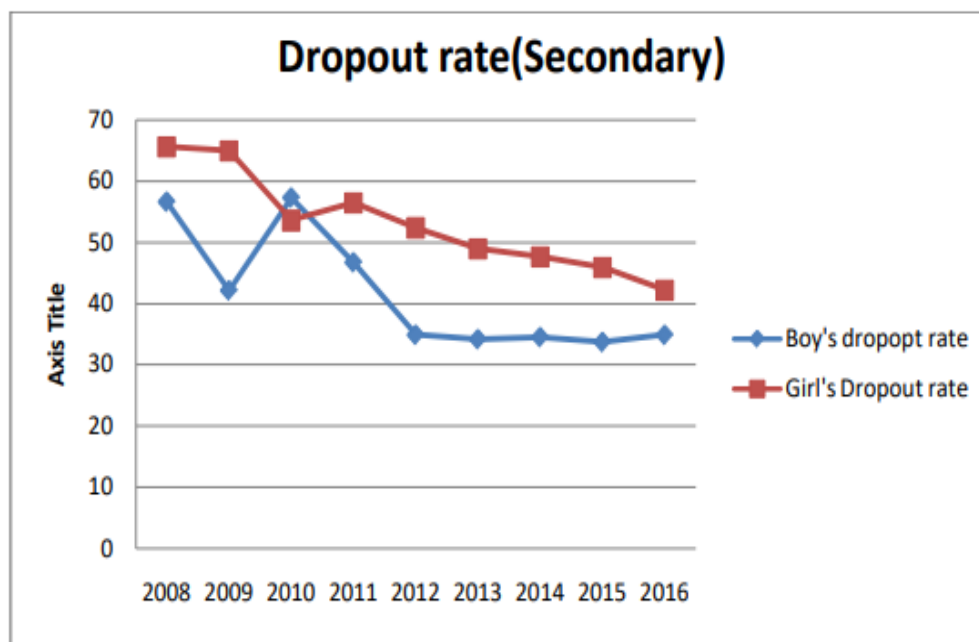
The Education of Early Married Girls

Child marriage denies the access of girl's education and eventually leads to illiteracy, dropout and unemployment. How these determinants are substance of the child marriage are discussed as follows-

2.1 Dropout Rate

Child marriage has directly bad impacts on girl's education. It causes high dropout rate of school girl's and it denies the fundamental rights of education of girls. This is also a denial of the state fundamental principal as stated in country's constitution article-17; the state shall ensure educational right for all children.

Figure-2



“Bangladesh Bureau of Education Statistics Report-2019”

According to the data of Bangladesh Bureau of Educational statistics 43.1% of girls' dropout from secondary school where 33.1% of boy's dropout in 2016.

“A challenge of dropout in primary and secondary school in Bangladesh” studied by Mustafa Zaman BRAC University-2014 discussed that Dropout issue has so many factors such as poor health, parent's poor condition and parent's education, weak teaching system, early marriage, early pregnancy and fairness of school. From all of these factors, 43% of girls stop their secondary schooling which is directly linked with early marriage and early pregnancy. Married girls are not well treated by their teachers and other students. When any girls are getting married, she needs support from teachers, parents and husband to continue education. But common trend is instead of supporting manner she usually gets negative behavior and sometimes criticism from teachers and students. Another social dimension is that, after marriage girls need to shift laws house permanently. As a result, she needs to change her school to continue education. Sometimes, school authority does not allow married girls to admit. Besides this, the society people of laws house area also not to consider the issue as a normal that newly married girl continue her schooling. Eventually she loses her interest to continue education. Sometimes husband and in-laws' family members also do not allow girls to continue her schooling after marriage by ignoring her willingness. Eventually girls are likely to discontinue and finally stop her education. It means that early marriage enlarges the dropout rate and bad impact on country's education.

UNICEF-2019 reported that Bangladesh has higher girls' dropout rate compared with the other south Asian countries as child marriage is happening higher in Bangladesh. Parent's first choice is to arrange education facilities for their boy. It is because; according to their thinking the boy is the only breadwinner for their family. As this attitude of parent's girls cannot get fully support from their family. Though girls are admitted in the school due to Government national program

(Mandatory primary education Act- 1990) but due to lack of proper support of family it is very challenging for her to continue studentship.

According to Bangladesh Education Statistics-2018, girl's enrolment in primary school is 98.16% but in secondary school enrolment declines up to 53.99% and from here drop-out rate is 40.19% which is higher than boys (Bangladesh Education Statistics-2018). This statistic clearly shows that girls are not in good atmosphere in their studentship. Due to lack of proper care and friendly environment day by day they lose interest in earning formal education. Due to early marriage girls cannot bloom their ability and intellect (Action Aid-2011-12). In the meantime, parents also appear before their teenage girls with marriage proposal. Considering the whole situation at the one stage girls are agreed with marriage proposal. It is common scenario that after marriage, they lose their interest to continue to education. As a result, dropout rate is high in Bangladesh. Dropout and child marriage are correlated with each other. Due to child marriage dropout rate is high in Bangladesh and at the same time due to dropout issue child marriage is also happening. Parent's turns into the early marriage of their daughter when parents stop their schooling because of poverty. Society does not consider it as common matter that teenage girls are passing their days idly in house. Parents take it as social burden. To get rid of poverty burden and social burden parents are compelled to marry off their daughter early. Due to dropout girls are remaining less educated and less skilled and after marriage they are fully dependent to their husband income in their married life. They lead their life as a dependent family member (Dhaka Ahsania Mission -2014).

Basically, the root of gender discrimination starts from here. It legitimizes the process in which girls gradually lose their ability to make choices in their lives due to having lack of education. Moreover, the way in which both boys and girls are getting socialized is still problematic in this 21st century because it promotes the gender hierarchies where the sex role socialization of the girls often keep them lagging behind (Lever- 2013).

Girls are considered as a wife and after a mother. That is why parents and social stereotype thinking is that education is not much needed for girls. But for the betterment of her children and reducing dependency in husband's income and gender equality, education is mandatory and attitude should be changed (Human Development Resource Centre 2011:4). Primarily parents think that early marriage is a solution for their girls and also their future. But in the long run it never returns any benefit. Rather numerous hazards appear in the future.

This less educated or illiterate mother becomes a burden family member in her laws house and not capable to handle her family and upcoming child. This situation creates another problem and it is multiplying day by day. It is general thinking that illiterate mother cannot create literate children.

E-Governance unit of Prime Minister's office published that 5169 girl's student did not attend the JSC (junior school certificate-grade 8 public exams) exam in 2017 due to child marriage and finally they stopped their schooling. This report also explained that very few girls continue their education because of early pregnancy, domestic works of in-law's house and social negative attitude. Society and laws house members' expectation is to see the newly married girls as a punctual house wife. The more punctual house wife she is, the better wife she is. Because of this traditional attitude few students can get chance to complete secondary education. The situation is almost like this, once married-education finish or once dropout from school-early marriage is imminent. Family and parents cannot avoid the responsibility that they are liable to destroy their girl's life in the name of marriage.

In sum, due to early marriage girl's dropout rate is very high from primary and secondary school though the enrolment rate is satisfactory. Moreover, the dropout rate also depends on place such as dropout rate is higher in rural area than urban area (The Financial Express -2013).

The convention of rights of child (CRC) in 1989 stimulates that the rights of children need to protect from the traditional practices which is directly harmful for children. That convention also

provides equal rights of educational opportunity for young girls in article of 28 and 29. Once married young girls, dropout of the school and becomes full time housewife or almost house servant in-laws house that negative impacts on community as well society. This practice is directly conflict of SDG goal such as ensure basic education, fight against poverty and ensure gender equality (Bukhosi Madliwa,-2011).

2.2 Illiteracy Rate

Early and forced marriage invites poverty and illiteracy in girl's life. According Human Development Resource Centre (2011: 3) where early and forced marriage events is more, birth rate, death rate and poverty is comparatively high. Due to forced marriage girls are directly deprived from formal education which makes her unemployed and depended on husband's income. Dhaka Ahsania Mission reported in 2014 that literacy rate and per capita income is inter dependable with child marriage. DBHS-2017-18 survey shows that those who completed secondary education 30.8% early marriage happening of them but those have no education, there 60.7% of marriage are happening before reaching legal age. Here also shows that those who are married before legal age, 70% of them have lower income compete with other women. This data indicates that early marriage has directly relation with education and which is refer the research question two (02). Child marriage rate in rural area higher (60%) than urban (54%) area.

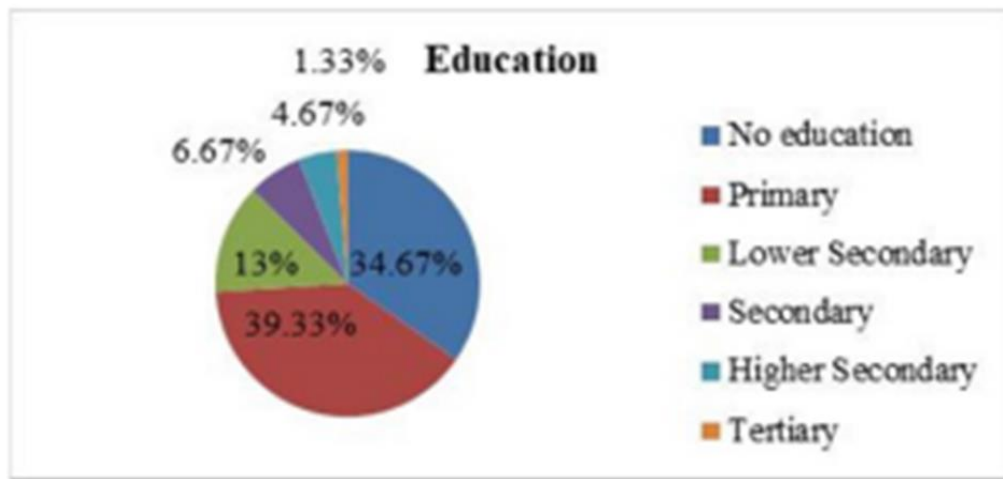
At the age of 15, 3.4% girls are giving first birth those who have no education or less than primary education (DBHS-2017). Parents think that since the real destination of their daughter is the father – in-law's house, it is not profitable to spend money on their education. On the other hand due to poverty, they need to make prioritizes selection among the children for education which is always goes to the favor of boy. Eventually girls are getting less priority for education and parents feel

societal and mental pressure to marry off their girls as early as possible to shorten poverty condition (The Financial Express -2013).

Sometimes, child marriage happens by false birth certificate which is easily collected from local authority by the transition of bribe. Marriage registrars also involved with illegal money transition to legalize the child marriage. Numerous child marriages are happening around here and there especially in rural area in this way. This illegal practice ignores girls educational right and hampers girls education opportunity which is carried out future generation to multiply illiterate and unaware generation (Monjur Hossain Patwary-2020).

Nationally literacy rate in Bangladesh is 73.1% where 67.6% are in rural area and 80.1% are in city area. On the other hand literacy rate of male are little higher (in rural male 69.7% and female 65.5%, in urban area male 82% and female 78.2%) than female both rural and urban area(Bangladesh Bureau of statistics Report-2018). But figure-3 shows that where child marriage rate is higher than other place the literacy rate is lower compared to other place. Child marriage and education has negative correlation with each other. Illiterate parents hardly realize the necessary of education of their children. Those children are not going to school for receiving formal education, most of them are children of illiterate and early marriage victim mother. Illiterate parent's general thinking is that, after marriage she will be a permanent member of laws house and they will not get any benefit from girl's education so no need to spend money for girl's education. This mentality invites high frequency of illiteracy. Ultimate result is where child marriage frequency is high, illiteracy rate is also high. It indicates that child marriage produce illiterate generation in absence of their realizing.

Figure-3



This above survey data collected from particular slum area of chattogram city in Bangladesh where illiteracy rate is 34.67% and less educated (incomplete primary) rate is 39.33% and here child marriage rate is higher than another place of Bangladesh

(Monjur Patoari -2020).

This study shows that when parents are illiterate, their common and intimate thinking is not to send their daughter to school. Instead of schooling parents engage them in household works for financial benefit of family. Eventually parents are getting hurry and feel burden how quickly merry off them to reduce the burdened. As a result, girls are remaining illiterate. Study also finds that victim of early marriage girls is becoming mother early. Again, her children are also not going school. Hardly their children go to school. This illiterate and early marriage victim mother hardly realizes the importance of education of her children. Eventually this practice enlarges the illiteracy rate or it considers the great hindrance to develop the country's literacy rate. This scenario is going on repeatedly which impacts on country's total literacy. Country's literacy rate is also not increasing in expected level. According the data of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, after 2015 the progress of country's literacy rate is very little. In 2015 the rate was 72.6% and in 2018 it came 73.1%. At the

same time, early marriage rate was also not declining from the previous rate. It indicates that child marriage and illiteracy have positive correlation.

On the other hand, Illiterate and less educated men's first choice is to marry before 18 age girls. Their traditional thinking is that lower aged girls are good as wife and easy to dominate them. From this attitude men always are knocking less aged girls to marry and most of the time they are success. Subsequently, same trends are also happening in their children's turn. Again, these types of parents think about their children that, to perform household works, formal education is not necessary at all. From this attitude, they are always reluctant to send their children to school for getting formal education. These trends are moving generation to generation and sharply ignored the education. Eventually the numbers of illiterate girls are not decreasing over time. This illiteracy trend which is closely bondage with traditional attitude push the girls towards child marriage. Child marriage is not only poverty case, most of the time it is traditional and primitive thinking issue to push the girls towards child marriage. These illiterate men's traditional attitude does not help to decrease child marriage rather ultimate cause of high number of child marriage. Study also finds that Child marriage rate is lower in educated girls and less in uneducated and less educated girls (Islam- 2016).

2.3 Impacts on Family and society

Girls are being denied from school due to early marriage. Family members also discourage her to continue to go to school, especially their parents. Actually, performing conjugal life and family issues she gets hardly chance to pay attention to her study and school program. Due to lack of sexual knowledge, they become early mother and due to look after her new born babies they get a few chances for study. As a result, day by day, they lose interest in their studies and eventually performance is declining. That is why some renowned schools denied admission for married students (Plan Bangladesh- 2013). Due to family responsibilities and fundamentalists religious values in society especially in rural area married girls do not feel comfortable to continue to go to

school. Finally, girls are deprived from the lite of education very early and forced to caring babies and family because already she turns into a care giver in her family.

Patriarchal society and patriarchal family putt off her life before blooming. So, girls dropout rate are not declining. Because, early marriages and dropout rates has positive correlation with each other. Without stopping child marriage, stop the dropout is almost impossible. Early marriages limit girl's education opportunity and push them to an indefinite future which is totally depended and non-dignified life. The total population of Bangladesh is 164.6 million. Male portion is 82.4 million and women portion is 82.2 million. According these statistics almost half of the total population is women. But literacy rate of male is near 76% and female literacy rate is near 70% (Bangladesh bureau of statistics Report-2019). This scenario indicates that still girls' education is not same priorities as boys by parents.

According the report of DBHS-2017, those who gets early marriage (within 15 ages) they have more children than the after 20 age marriage and become early mother due to lack of awareness of health issues. This early pregnancy and early motherhood are the sources of poverty and illiteracy. Generally, victim girls are either illiterate or less educated and due to this fact, they are unemployed. Eventually poverty is common scenario in her family. Malnutrition, health hazard, poverty and so many unanimous crises are actively presents in their daily life. In this situation that immature parents hardly realize the necessity of education for their children. Most of their children grown up without getting formal education, less care and proper family support which is much needed for all children. Eventually they committed various social crimes and again they are also in child marriage cycle. This trend and practice directly impact on country's literacy rate and overall society.

Asma-2017 showed that child marriage directly impacts on about eight social components in various ways. Due to child marriage, increase maternal and child mortality, family financial crisis and decrease living standard, family and social conflict and rate of divorce, population growth and

dependent people, mental and physical violence against women, suicide and transaction of dowry, juvenile delinquency. These all components are also inter-connected with each other and these all-social components are moving generation to generation in repeated order. This study also showed that due to these social hazards which are connected with child marriage also connected with education. Due to facing these sorts of social phenomenon parents has been losing their interest to send children to school. Due to high rate of divorce cause of child marriage, their children are getting more vulnerable. Most of the time that children are involve in begging here and there instead of schooling. At the same time, they are growing up with little family and social facilities. Eventually very few children are getting chance to go to school. Many of children are remaining without schooling and suffered various crises and involve social crimes. But those children are getting chance of education of victim mother; their children are less involved such type of social hazards.

Another reality is that Parents and other family members are also expect quick babies from teenage mother. Teenage mother cannot avoid her husband's and parent's desire. But to do this teenage mother invites so many health risk and numerous diseases of her own. By dint of supporting her parents and husband send her dark aimless path. Girls need space to flourish them. Patriarchal family and society take the responsibility to promote girls' bright life with understanding the curse of child marriage.

3. The Reasons of Ignoring Girls' Education

There has some reality within family and society to ignore or to put fewer priorities on girl's education. Religious motivation, poverty, societal attitude and social security are closely related with child marriage which factors push the parents to marry off their daughter before legal age.

3.1 Poverty

Study shows that poverty encourages illiterate parents to arrange early marriage for their girls to get rid of burdens (Ahmed 2005). Early and forced marriage invites poverty and illiteracy in girl's life. According Human Development Resource Centre -2011: 3) where early and forced marriage events are more, birth rate, death rate and poverty are comparatively high. Due to forced marriage girls are directly deprived from formal education which makes her unemployed and depended on husband's income. Dhaka Ahsania Mission reported in 2014 that where early and forced marriage is high, literacy rate and per capita income is noticeably low.

24.3 percent (%) people of Bangladesh are live below the upper poverty line and 12.9 percent (%) people are live below the lower poverty line (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics Report-2019). Poverty situation motivates the poor parents to marry off their daughter in early age. Child marriage is less common those parents' economic condition is good but if the financial condition is not good the child marriage rate is high in that poor families. Due to poverty case parents usually does not send their girls to school. Rather than schooling parent's makes them fit for marriage as early as possible to reduce their economic burden. Primarily their thinking is regarded as not bad but after some days they can realize that their decision was not convenient. Since girl's parents are poor, so they find another poor family to marry off their girls and aftermath scenario is that future generation is also away from schooling due to poverty and traditional thinking. (Islam- 2016).

(Causes of Poverty-The Daily Star Report-26/4/2020, noted daily news of Bangladesh) reported in their investigative report that, those girls are victimized by early marriage, they are not only deprived from education rights, their future generation also fall into worse situation. The report also shows that those children are not going to school most of their mother was victim of child marriage. Because of early marriage girls became an unemployed, unskilled and depended member of husband's family. As a result, poverty is common scenario in their family. Due to poverty case their children are not going to school. The frequency of poverty and illiteracy are high in that type of family. Ultimate result is family unrest. So, due to early marriage the girls are not only destroying her life also are destroying her future generation creating so many social hazards

Where poverty is acute, parents allowed their girls early marriage to reduce expenses of food, education, clothes and other necessities. Sometimes Parents are intended to marry off their daughters at younger age to avoid much dowry transaction. When girls getting older the demand of dowry are high and fewer offer of marriage. Those girls are not standard of beauty, tall and fair are harder to marry off and requirement of dowry amount is more. That is why parents always try to arrange early marriage. Groom's family is similarly poor and demand is also younger and harder girls who can additionally work as unpaid care workers in their family. This traditional thinking of both bride's and groom's family continuing with poverty machine. (OXFAM-2019)

Study shows that 81% of girls are victimized of early marriage before 18 ages that are from poor household as compared with 56% from higher income household. In the rural area and urban slum area where poverty is very common scenario, child marriage is comparatively higher than the same age group of non-slums or urban area. This study also shows that most of child marriage victim girls are either illiterate or less educated. Their future generation is also getting little chance of education due to some social reality and poverty. Lack of education and awareness again their children's future is also same condition. Most of time child marriage is a cause of poverty and child

marriage also invites again poverty within family. Due to poverty borne causes child marriage affected mothers highly careless of her children's education. Though, child marriages are the result of poverty but its direct impacts on education. This condition points to link among poverty, education and the phenomenon of child marriage (IDRC- 13, 2021).

Some parents are offered bride price to marry of their daughter early. Considering poverty condition parents generally accept the offer to minimize poverty condition. Girls cannot say anything against of parents willing realizing the situation and betterment of other brothers and sisters. Primarily these are happening to reduce poverty burden but in absence of thinking they invites another poverty issue. The Poverty chain is moving resulting ignoring their children's educational opportunity and it is also happening repeatedly (World Vision-2020).

3.2 Labor Market

Unemployment leads the child marriage and finally brings poverty. Countries with the lowest gross domestic product (GDP) tend to have the highest rate of child marriage (ICRW, 2006). Only 36.37% women are involved in labor market in Bangladesh and 28.4% are engage in unpaid domestic works. This data indicates that large number of women is absent in paid and formal works due to family reason, less education, less skill and finally social and religious norms. Due to less education and less skilled they are less paid than the man. Moreover, early marriage victim women are less choice by some employers because of more children they have which is regarded as hazard to perform as employer desire level. Because of being less paid, they cannot afford to have their children's education and they are not interested in sending their children to school. Rather than schooling children are engaging rigorous job with mother for earning money to meet the daily necessity. Due to this trend, child labor rate is also high in Bangladesh. This situation totally ignored educational

opportunity. Eventually their children are also getting married very early life as their mother to reduce the economic burden of family (ILO-2013).

According DBHS-2014 report, 24.1% of women are in employment where 64.7% men are there. Girls' enrollment rate in primary education is 98.16%. Due to various reasons leaving high numbers of girls only 53.99% girls are enrolled in secondary education. Unfortunately, all enrolled girls cannot complete secondary education. 40.19% of girls drop their education before completing secondary education (Bangladesh Education Statistics-2018).

Due to limited opportunity of education, high numbers of girls are continuing their life with less education and less life skill resulting unemployment. Child marriage is the leading cause of unemployment and economic vulnerability followed by overspread poverty of girl's life. This unemployment-poverty game is endless game. This unemployment creates poverty within daily life and due to poverty, their children are not getting proper food and clothes. In this situation parents generally are not thinking of their children's education. Again, parents feel financial pressure to manage daily necessity of family members. This situation pushes them to make the decision to marry off their teenage girl to reduce financial pressure. (Gazi et al,2013).

In Bangladesh, some family believes that early marriage is financially benefited for them. Dowry amount will be increased over time if girls get older. In addition, family believes that they don't need to financially support anymore the girls once they married off (Plan International, 2015 and 2019).

Unemployment, illiteracy and child marriage has inter- relation with each other. High unemployment rate leads the little chance of education and push them child marriage and again due to child marriage unemployment rate is going eventually high. Where child marriage rate is high, unemployment rate is also high. In rural area of Bangladesh child marriage rate is 60.07% which is more than urban area 51% (DBHS Report- 2017).

On the other hand, 31% of women are in wage employment in rural area where 39% women are in wage employment in urban area (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics Report-2019 and Noted NGO Aid Foundation report 2017). Besides this average income of women especially rural women are lower than urban women as well as women are engaging high amount of unpaid care works and domestic works. Fewer engaging in wage works and sometimes little income pushes them severely dependent on husband's income. This situation doesn't help the women to promote social status, lead dignified life and to prove the importance to her children and family members in need (Herz and Sperling-2004).

Due to early marriage girls are remaining less educated or uneducated resulting unemployed. Unemployment and poverty are inter-linked. Due to this common phenomenon, their children are also hardly getting educational chance and eventually their children are also goes to uneducated and unemployed and counted as a burden family member as their mother. Mother's unemployment trend directly touches her children and due to this situation, they are suffering poverty case which keeping away their children from education. Those women are unemployed and engaged in unpaid works such as domestic works, agriculture, poultry the child marriage rate is 66.9% and on the other hand only 11.7% child marriage those who are in paid works such as professional and business. Where unemployed women are more, illiteracy rate and child marriage rate are also more. This data also indicates that unemployment women are in more risk of child marriage due to absence of education opportunity. (Jisun-2016).

3.3 Patriarchies

Most of the developing countries are enjoying traditional patriarchal society. Bangladesh is not exceptional of that tradition. It is common culture in Bangladesh society that father or husband is

always decision maker within family as well as society. A woman has very few chances to participate in decision making process in family. Although sometimes women get chance to put her valuable input but cannot dominate or influence the husband's decision. Actually, the real scenario is, without the consent of husband women nothing can do in family. Due to Poverty child marriage rate is high in northern part of Bangladesh. During the covid-19 situation 152 school girls of grade 8-10 of Rangpor the northern district was married only the father's wish (The Daily Prothom Alo, Report 25-08-2012).

When girls getting more aged dowry money also need more and due to social and religious norms girls need to protect virginity before marriage. Poor father always motivates to marry off their daughter early age to reduce financial burdens and save from social violence (UNICEF report-2015).

Groom and his parent's desire are to marry under aged girls since it is easy to dominate and obliged to laws house and sincere to perform domestic works. Eventually husbands always dominate wife in various decision-making stage. In the true sense, women have not any voice against husband's desire. All decision comes from husband's side and wives are bound to follow whether that decision may right or wrong. Poor fathers always ignore his daughter's education. A little number of poor girls is getting educational chance. Absence of educational chance pushes them to receive early marriage offer. Considering all aspects and social trend fathers are generally welcome that offer and finally early marriage happen. This patriarchal attitude dominates and mobilizes the child marriage in Bangladesh especially in poor and village area. (Kamal- 2014).

Peoples think that girl's marriage should be early age for familial happiness and need to familiar with household chores and responsibilities as early as possible. Since women's final destination is to performing domestic job in husband's house, so women education doesn't carry any value. It is just abuse of money and time. Instead of sending school it is more useful to teach household works. This is traditional thinking in poor and illiterate family those who are mostly living in rural and

slum area. Besides this some of family's attitude is to in favor of boys. If they have financial ability to send school one of more children, then they select boy for sending school but never girl. Eventually those families have little financial ability to send their few children to school that chance always goes for boys. This social trend goes against women education and ultimately girls are victim of early marriage.

Patriarchal attitude is also against women education but in favor of early marriage. Traditionally in Bangladesh society, man is always family head, even if he is a lay man. No one bother it whether man has capacity or not capable to run the family properly. Man is always dominating family member. A father always thinks that he has sole authority to make any decision in any time. It depends on father's decision whether his daughter will get educational chance or not or how far his daughter will get educational opportunity. As a result of this trend many of girl's are ignored from education and girls are remaining illiterate or less educated than boys. Society peoples also take it as a normal fact. From this mentality father often arranges marriage for his teenage girl's without consulting his daughter and even with his wife. As a head of the family, he always thinks that he is running the family in good way and this feeling makes him an autocrat (Tithe Farhana-2012).

3.4 Religion

Religious belief and norms predominantly effects on promoting child marriage in Bangladesh society. Basically, most of the people of Bangladesh are Muslim and few are other religious people. Here 90.4% people are Muslin, 8.5% people are Hindus and rest of people are others religion (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics Report-2021). In Bangladesh most of the child marriages are happening in Muslim community. 88.8% child marriages are happening in Muslim family where 11.2% early marriages are happening in non-Muslim family (Jisun-2016).

The practices of child marriage are not exclusive in Bangladesh as Muslim majority country since Christian majority countries (Central African Republic, Ethiopia and Mozambique) and Hindu majority countries (India, Nepal) are also in the list of countries which are most affected by child marriage (UNICEF-2016).

Muslim religious leaders (Mawlana) are always instigating parents to be hurry for arranging marriage ceremony. Aim is to protect girls from pre-marital physical (pre-marital physical relation are strictly prohibited in Islam) relation and any sexual connectivity which is illegal in the eye of Islamic Sharia. Some Mawlanas are also against of women education. They motivate the people that, if women get educational opportunity, women will not obey the leadership of men. Besides this they also instigate parents that educated women are careless about religious activities and domestic activities. They also deliver speeches in favor of early marriage and explain the benefit of child marriage in various wrong ways and people blindly belief this. Many of parents are motivated by that type of religious leader. In Bangladesh generally poor and illiterate people has acquit belief in religion and acquit respects over religious leader such as Moulana. Moulana's speech contains highly importance to the common people. Religious leaders always motivate parents only to teach the girls religious education and that education is limited within holy Quran reading capacity. Only reading capacity of holy Quran is regarded enough education quality. Due to these types of motivational speech, people's mindset up is becoming changes and that mind set up is very acquit. Eventually parents are careless about their daughter's school education and try to get chance to marry off girls. Study also finds that these religious beliefs are acute in parents mind and as a result the high frequency of child marriage and ignoring formal education in poor and rural areas of Bangladesh community (Ahnaf-2020)

Some modern educated religious leaders are strongly against girl's marriage before reaching puberty age which is closely related with legal age of Bangladesh but not in favor of women

education. Their argument is that, women are for domestic works and staying inside the house. Outgoing works are not for women, their prim job is inside the house and look after children. These sorts of influential speeches derived people towards ignoring girl's education and instigate to child marriage. Moreover, some fundamentalist religious leaders are in primitive belief which is in favor of child marriage. Rural peoples are closely associated with fundamentalist leaders and motivated by them. Those parents are trying to educate their girls; they are not welcomed by local religious leaders. Eventually parents are indirectly compelled to ignore girl's education and make them ready to marry off (Girls not Bride-2019)

4. Promoting Girls' Education

Education is regarded as a main tool to promote human civilization. It is also a same stance for women to promote themselves. Report shows that, any type of social hazard as like Child marriage can reduce globally by 64% only ensuring 12 years education for girls (The global education monitoring report-2017). School offers change of girl's mentality, develop life skill and enrich social connections which are needed for teenage girls. School also offers safe place to learn about country's law and effect of early marriage. Every year of secondary school reduces likelihood child marriage before 18 by 5% more respectively (World vision Child marriage report-2020).

4.1 Personal Success Story

There are few success stories on those who are victim by child marriage. Almost all are carrying misery life with introducing so many family and social crisis. Their life is far away from the lite of real tasteful life. But some are real warrior who overcomes the barrier of child marriage. Mala (alias name), one of my colleagues, who have come from very poor family. Her parents were ultra-poor and lived in village where no facilities had like city. From childhood Mala was very meritorious in schooling activities. Due to extreme poverty her parents decided to arrange marriage when she was a student of just grade-8. Considering situation Mala could not resist the marriage occasion. But she was firm in her aim. Bearing the test of poverty and lows house barrier she passed secondary exam where as she became mother of her first child. Anyhow she completed her post graduate degree demolishing so many social and family obstacles with two children. It was her immense struggle to continue education and finally graduated from renowned university of Bangladesh.

After completing daily care works and maintaining her babies it was tremendous struggle to pay attention to study. But she did it. Whenever we asked her how you can be motivated to do so, she

replied, Sofia Kamal and Begum Rokeya were her model (Both of women were legend in women education in Bangladesh when women were prohibited to go outside for any issue and education in the name of religious norms). If those women conquered their times, why I cannot win in my life she added. Sometimes she shared her story with tears that numerous nights she did not sleep properly and did not prepare her for exam due to family responsibility and babies. After completing graduation, she just dreamed to be a prestigious person on her family and society and to be exemplary women to others teenage girls who already lost their destination. Finally, she was selected as a Magistrate by competing in government job competition exam which job is contains dignity in society. Now she is higher Government official in Bangladesh. Her babies are also continuing their studies in renowned university. Though she experienced bitter pathway, now she is not only a proud member of her family, also a proud woman of her community. She is an icon of many teenage girls. This case is very few in Bangladesh society. It may take just as an example; there is no chance to generalize an example. But teenage girls may be encouraged and gear-up by seeing Mala's struggling story and surviving way and overcoming social barrier technique and teenage girls can follow her footstep.

4.2 Motivation by Social context and Government Programs

In every success issue have some inner factors that work as a motivator. It is very difficult to achieve the goal without any motivational factors. Only self-willing power is not enough for achieving something or fulfill the hidden desire of life. In this case, though “Mala” had indomitable willing power and desire to touch the destination point but it would be very difficult without taking any assistance or active support from any corner.

Traditionally educational part is almost over after girl's marriage. Mala's schooling was at the stake when she was married at the time of school grade-8. Overcoming poverty issue and social tradition it was tremendously difficult to continue education after marriage. Some factors gave her strength to be firm to continue her education. By seeing her firmness local NGO (Shakti Foundation) came forward to help her mentally and financially. This NGO also motivated her husband and in-laws family members to help her to continue education. Government programs also helped her to continue education and cherishing dream.

From 1998 Government of Bangladesh started free education (No tuition fees) for women up to grade-12 and free school book distribution. Mala took this benefit easily and got financial support from NGO for maintaining other educational expenditure. Another Government initiative was to introduce 30% reserve quota for women in Government service. Due to this reservation quota system, women can get chance in Government service easily than man. This opportunity to come in Government service motivates her to continue education.

By taking the benefit of Government initiatives and support of NGO 'Mala' finally graduated on time. Eventually now she is in prestigious Government service. There are so many examples that girls are continuing their education after marriage but finally many of them are not graduated and in prestigious government service. But Mala' made historical remark by her acute hardworking and also made herself as new inspiration to other victim girls.

4.3 Government Initiatives

Government is very much concerned about child marriage and considers the issue as priority. Government sets the target is to be middle income country within 2021 and advanced country

within 2041 by achieving SDG target successfully. Child marriage is also an immense considering item to reach the country's goal. Government initiatives are follows-

4.3.1 Commitment of the Government

At the time of 2014, Girl's summit in the United Kingdom (UK), The Prime Minister of Bangladesh pledged to end all under 15 age child marriage by 2021 and all under 18 age child marriage by 2041. Government is actively going ahead along with so many initiatives to meet the commitment.

4.3.2 Easy access of Education

To ensure the primary education for all children, Government set a particular law 'The mandatory primary education act-1990'. According to this law parents are compelled to send their school and if otherwise it is punishable. Local administration, local leaders and teachers are also giving emphasis into the matter. As a result, the enrollment rate of primary school is 98.16% both boys and girls (BBS Report 2020). Girl's education is totally free of cost up-to grade 12. In addition, girls' student is getting free books and enjoying monthly stipend from the government.

Now girls are more encouraged and motivated to come to school and continue their studentship. To make the school more attractive, Government urged and influenced local philanthropists' people to help the school management to start mid-day meal from 2015. According to that Government initiative, the mid-day meal program started privately in some primary schools especially in rural area.

4.3.3 Poverty Reduction

Poor peoples are in the shelter of various social safety-net program such as Test relief (TR), Food for works, forty days food program, Maternity allowance, Lactating Mother allowance, old age allowance, and so on to eliminate their poverty condition. This is yearlong continuous program that all enrolled poor person is getting assistance in every month. Besides these, in order to building skill and make the girls ready for individual works,

The Department of Youth Development continuing various market-oriented time bound training program and micro-credit loan for women in every Upazila level. In 2019, 21940 young women received loan for starting small business and about 35000 young women received various training to smartly handle their small entrepreneurship (Yearly Report of Youth Development Department-2019).

4.3.4 Enact Law

To check the child marriage Government revised earlier law (The Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929) which was unusual and non-practical compare with time. Eventually Government introduced new and more upgraded specific law (The Child Marriage Restrained Act 2017). To implement the law drastically, Government formed various committees in nationally, district and upazilla level such as District Child marriage protection committee and Upazila child marriage protection committee. In every school there has a committee comprising girl's student under the monitoring of school management committee (SMC) and teachers to check the child marriage and motivate girl's student so that they cannot marry early. As a government official, Upazila women affairs officer is solely assigned to check child marriage within upazila level. Moreover, Law enforces agency (police), local administration and local leaders' performing as regular duties and closely monitoring and taking acute action where needed.

4.3.5 Increase Employment Opportunity

TO empower women and promote their economic condition and social status 60% quota are reserved in primary teaching sector and 30% quota are in secondary teaching sector for women. In other Government services, 10% quotas are reserved for women. Also, Government has direction and close monitoring to the semi-Government and non-Government/private organization to maintain quota and reserve opportunity for women in every employment. Women employee can

enjoy six-month maternity leave twice in service life with pay both Government and private services. Gender equality and balance of power and balance of property are more ensure compering previous time due to these initiatives.

4.3.6 Women Friendly Workplace

To make the women friendly work place Government introduced child care center, breast feeding center and separate rest room in every Government office. All private organizations are strictly instructed to follow the government initiatives and they are also following it. Sexual harassment including other violence and discrimination are drastically monitored and ensure competent justice. To ensure quick and proper justice Government set special court and special law for women which court is run by women justice.

4.3.7 Awareness Building Program

Upazila and District child marriage restrained committee arrange monthly awareness meeting engaging school girls, local leaders, religious leaders (imam), teachers, farmers, victim women, local journalist, parents and other common professional peoples. Sometimes it is in school yard or any village area. Local NGO is also doing such type of awareness building meeting individually and collaborate with Government's programs. Due to this awareness program, people are realizing and starting to know that child marriage is illegal and harmful for their girls and society in future.

4.3.8 Co-operation with NGOs

NGO are playing very admirable role to prevent child marriage and forced marriage from Bangladesh. Their activities are community based to accelerates social awareness and make the girls understanding about their rights. So many local, national and international NGOs are working individually and collaborate with Governments such as UNICEF, USAID, Plan International of Bangladesh, BRAC, CARE Bangladesh, OXFAM, Voluntary Health Service (VHSS), Bangladesh

population and Health Consortium (BPHC), Action Aid, Save the Children-USA are operating and supporting with plan and finance about 100 local organization for the betterment of adolescent girls such as birth registration, early marriage, dowry prevention and mobilize awareness among the young women and girls .

Some International NGO are working collaborate with Government. UNICEF and UNFPA working jointly collaborate with Government to end child marriage by the program namely “Global Program “. By the program about 12million adolescent girls got life skill and school attending since 2016. UNICEF and Ministry of Women and Children Affairs jointly organized the National Action Plan (NAP) to stop child marriage by 2030. As the SDG (Sustainable Development Program) goal is to end of child marriage from the country with the targeted time.

Besides these, local NGO personal are helping the local administration by providing the instant information of happening child marriage and working as a supporting hand of local administration. BRAC, the noted NGO of Bangladesh who is also working in number of countries has trained 25000 men, women and adolescents to prevent child marriage, stop dowry practices and provide continuous support to women those who are victim of violence (BRAC MDG fund by 2015). NGOs are helping the Government to taking up to the global level about the dreadful outcome for recognition (Unnayan Onneshan, 2011).

5. Conclusion

To control the early marriage there has a particular law but nobody is interested in and follows the law. Everybody condones child marriage because in society peoples are overwhelmed with traditional thinking. It is well known that child marriage is a great challenge of all developing countries. This issue is related with so many social, religious and cultural factors. From above analysis we have learned that education is the root of all challenges. The girls are victims of gender inequalities in patriarchal society.

Parents are showing negligence with girl's education. So, they get little chance to discover the practical world and are not aware of their rights. Only chance of education removes the darkness and can ensure the girls right. To do this social awareness is very important. Government and Non-Government organization can work to collaborate. Girls need to get chance of education without any interrupt. Family and social discrimination towards girls should minimize. Awareness program can change the parents, social leaders and religious leader's attitude towards girls. Government needs to arrange training program for young girls to achieve skill so that they can earn for livelihood and discourage child marriage in their early age. As women are half of the total population of Bangladesh, so depriving them, real development is not possible to reach country's goal of 2041(vision 2041of Bangladesh to be advanced country within frame time).

6.1 Summary

This study tries to show that the relation between child marriage and girls' education. It also tries to examine the impacts of child marriage on girl's education of Bangladesh. It analyzed the data from last eight nationally representative Demographic and Health survey conducted during 1993-2017 and data of Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and other scholarly article. Here are also analyzed various daily news article, related various journals and expert's article.

This study explains in various way to relate the study aim that how girl's education is hampered and make an aimless future spreading greater impacts in society by occurring child marriage. According to the survey conducted in 2014, the 59% marriage categorized as child marriage which is 10% decreased compared with 1994–2011-year survey average but after 2014 there is no change in rate of child marriage which is again 59% according to 2017 survey. At the same time literacy rate is almost unchanged according the data of Bangladesh Bureau of statistics (72.89% in 2016 and 73.01% in 2019). Despite some initiatives from Government and Non-Government Organization, situation is not much better in terms of child marriage in Bangladesh. The risk of child marriage significantly higher when girl's have no education or less education and her husband also have no education or less education. When wives are unemployed and unskilled the situation goes in severely worse. Child marriage enhance girl's dropout rate by ignoring the necessity of their education and make them unemployed. Eventually makes them acute dependent on husband's income and leads vulnerable life and insecure life.

This situation accelerates poverty situation and so many unanimous social hazards. In the pandemic (Covid-19) situation child marriage rate in drastically going high due to school closing and narrowing parent's earnings. Rural and uneducated girls are in more risk than educated and urban girls. Religious and societal norms are predominant in Bangladesh. Majority people are Muslims

here and the frequency of child marriage is more in Muslim community. Religious leaders (MOULOBI) motivate peoples in favor of early marriage by delivering wrong explanation of religion message (Hadis and Fikha). Their spirit of explanation of religion is to check pre-marital sexual activity which is prohibited by the norms of Islam.

According their explanation, if girl's marriage is late, there has huge chance to meet with pre-marital sexual activity. From that reason they always motivated parents to be hurry to marry off their girls. Girl's education levels are very single significant negative determinant of child marriage. Poverty, husband's education, place of living, religion, employment and others variables are co-related with girl's education as well as child marriage. To reduce the burden of poverty related issues and lack of social security, parents are devoted to marry of their daughter early. To overcome the challenge of child marriage, Government and NGO initiatives should be more concrete and stricter to implementation. An initiative to keep girls in school and motivate them to continue to studying is not only reduce child marriage but also country's development and overall women development will go fast with desire. Government rigidity and drastically implementation of law will help to decreasing child marriage.

6.2 Suggestions

Overcoming the challenge of child marriage from Bangladesh, Government needs to take proper and collective efforts. Government can engage civil societies, mass media and NGOs to meet the challenge which is treated great hindrance for the development of Bangladesh. To prevent child marriage Government can take following steps -

6.2.1 Promoting Education opportunity

Education is the main tools to protect child marriage from country. Study also shows that educated girls are fewer victims than uneducated and less educated girls in child marriage. To attract the girls

in education program Government should increase monthly stipend and each and every girl's student free admission up to higher secondary education.

Most of the village girls are from poor family and they suffer malnutrition. So, Government can introduce mid-day meal for every school student rather than private system. Government also can provide all sorts of books; pen/pencil paper (khata), bag and other educational materials in free manner. To eliminate child marriage Government should ensure free and compulsory education for every girl up to secondary and higher secondary level. After introducing all forms of facilities enrollment rate will increase and on the other hand dropout rate will decrease. Dropout rate and child marriage rate are co-related. If dropout rate declines, child marriage rate will decrease dramatically. To do this Government should allocate more budgets for country's education sector. At present time Government are spending less budget for education. Only 2.08% of total GDP are allocated for education sector in current fiscal year 2021-22 which is fewer budgets (2.09%) than last fiscal year (Bangladesh budget report on education, Daily New Age-16th September 2021). It is fewer budgets than the other south Asian countries. But UNESCO's recommendation is to allocate minimum 4-6% GDP for education. So, Government should increase education budget to promote education sector as well as women's education to protect girls from the curse of child marriage.

6.2.2 Promote Social Awareness

Awareness can reduce the curse of child marriage. Most of the parents are trying to marry off their girls as traditional attitude. In the name of Poverty, Insecurity, violence, religious compulsion and other unanimous cause's parents are hurry to arrange early marriage for their teenage girls which brings numerous negative chain effects in future. Awareness program is much needed to break the primitive tradition from society.

Media such as social media, newspaper and various TV programs can help to enhance awareness program. Facebook and YouTube may use to disseminate various awareness message, story and

comedy events. In 2018 according to the Telecommunication Report of ICT ministry Dhaka is the city of highest Facebook user. Daily newspaper can publish the negative impact of child marriage by collecting real story from various corners of country. Nowadays almost in every family has TV and enjoy so many popular programs. So, TV media can telecast many programs describing various social issues such as dowry, child marriage, violence, women education which will impacts on child marriage. Noted film stars, popular singer and players may cast to impress the people to the programs.

Neighbor country India has been successful to aired program (Satya Meva Jayata, TV reality show in Star Plus channel) to increase awareness of various social crises by casting famous film star Amir Khan. Bangladesh also can start awareness promoting TV program by following India's success program. Field and yard awareness meeting also need to mobilize to enhance the campaign collaborate with Government and NGO to build up awareness level of social leaders and religious leaders as well as parents in rural area.

6.2.3 Creating Economic opportunity

Anyhow poverty has interred connection with country's child marriage. Where mostly poor peoples are living, the rate of child marriage there is high. At the present time 20.6% people of Bangladesh are living in under the poverty line and 10.5% are in extreme poverty (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics-2019). But in the pandemic (Covid-19) situation poverty rate goes up to 29.5% due to lose their job. Causes of poverty level improving and school closing child marriage case is also increasing than the earlier (Dhaka Tribune-17 September 2021). So, Government needs to address the situation properly to reduce the poverty condition.

Actually, poor parents have no alternative choice to marry off their teenage girls before the legal age to lessen the financial burden of family. Currently Government is supporting young women by giving loan and training in shorter range. Government can support more the poor people financially

and promote the women as social entrepreneur providing various training. Women can engage various small business, sewing clothes, small producer, poultry farming and other income generated works to remove their poor condition not only engaging domestic works. Government can run this program to eliminate poverty (Both financial and training) collaborate with NGO.

6.2.4 Promote social security

Ensuring social security Government can reduce child marriage from the country. Sometimes parents stop schooling their daughters due to protect from street harassment and eve teasing. Teenage boys and local hoodlums are frequently doing this malpractice without facing any acute legal action. These local miscreants are so called powerful by managing local leaders as well as local administration. Due to these common practices many parents take a measure to stop schooling girls and finally arrange early marriage to save themselves from unpredicted fears. So, Government should make law enforcement stricter to remove such type of sexual harassment. Besides these, Government needs to assert giving direction to the local administration and police to be strict to take action against local miscreants.

6.2.5 Proper implementation of Law

Implementation of law properly and sincerely can play role to reduce child marriage. Flexibility of law implementation and reluctance of local administration are not helpful to control child marriage. Strictly implements of “The child marriage restrained act 2017” and exemplary punishment for those who are involved in arranging child marriage can control the situation of Bangladesh.

Moreover, those local leaders are involved in supplying false birth certificate which is the vital document to prove child marriage; they should come under much punishment. Sometimes child marriages are happening without legal marriage registration and using notary public certificate (Illegally birth date change by advocate which is common practice) which is totally illegal practice

in Bangladesh must stop according to the probation of law and ensure punishment against involved persons. None-registration marriage and notary public marriage should be considered as offence.

6.2.6 More engagement of NGO and civil society

Total 2498 registered NGO are working in Bangladesh where 240 are international NGO (Bureau of NGO Affairs website, Prime minister's office). But most of the NGO are working in rural area of Bangladesh for providing health service, Micro credit function, sanitation, education, women employment and women empowerment and so on. Somehow all of NGO are engaging in microcredit policy. None of NGO is working only the area of child marriage. They are not directly working for controlling child marriage.

Nevertheless, some of NGO are working notably in this arena but many of NGO has child marriage program as a sub-program with other priority program. To get better benefit, some of NGO need to work in this arena with sole target. NGO can play active and important role collaborating with Government to raise social awareness regarding the bad impact of child marriage and the negative affect of early motherhood for young mother and her child. Government needs to take initiatives to actively engage NGO's and socially influence personality to control child marriage which is great challenge for Bangladesh development.

6.2.7 Changing attitude

To promote the women status in society, people need to change their attitude. Boys and Girls are needed to be equally evaluated within family by their parents and also by society. Behavior of people towards women must need change. Parents need to understand that both boys and girls are equally important in their family, society as well as country. Parents have to aware and change their attitude that girls are also economically important and they are not burden of the family and society. Parents have to ensure equal opportunity for both boys and girls in every sort of activities. This

good practice will impact on society which will inspire society people to change their primitive attitude towards women and gradually traditional attitude turns into modern thinking.

6.2.8 Ensuring Birth certification

Ensuring birth registration in legal time frame is another key component to remove child marriage. Bangladesh Government has introduced act namely “The Birth and Death Registration Act -2004” and according this act it is mandatory to register new born child within 45 days of birth. But many people are not registering their children within legal days. According the survey report of DBHS-2014, in the survey year only 19% of children of rural area registered the birth date in legal time and in the urban area 23% children registered the birth date.

It is the common scenario of Bangladesh that few parents are showing their eagerness to register their children’s birth case. Eventually at the time of marriage, parents collect birth certificate by giving false information to legalize child marriage. In the time of marriage, it is very hard to prove the real age of bride and take proper action by administration. So, many child marriages are happening in society by this sort of cheating way. To prevent the child marriage, Government should implement the law drastically and need to take societal awareness building program to meet the challenge of child marriage.

6.2.9 Incorporate in school curriculum

Teenage girls are common victims of child marriage. Health related chapter needs to include in school curriculum describing the impacts of child marriage and aftermath health hazard. In this regard teachers may put valuable effort in school level. Learning the impacts of child marriage girls can get chance to be aware and motivated not to say yes to child marriage. Moreover, also there has enough opportunity to influence the parents by school activities not to be hurry for marry off their daughters and stop the schooling at the early stage in the name of poverty and unidentified cause.

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추상적 인

“조혼이 방글라데시의 여아 교육 측면에 미치는 영향”

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키워드- 조혼, 중퇴, 문맹, DBHS, NGO, 사회적 영향, 가부장제, 종교적 근본주의,

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