CONTENTS

ABSTRACT ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS v
CONTENTS vii
LIST OF TABLES xiii
LIST OF FIGURES xvi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS xvii

CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION 1
1.1 Introduction to a study of the Women Political elites in Bangladesh 1
1.2 Statement of the Problem 3
1.3 Objectives of the Study 6
1.4 Scope of the Study 7
1.5 Significance of the Study 9
1.6 Theoretical Framework 10
1.7 The Conceptual Framework 18
1.8 Research Methodology 20
  1.8.1 The Sampling Methodology 21
    (a) The Mode of Selection of the Political Parties 21
    (b) Respondents in the Study 23
  1.8.2 Data Collection Procedure and Instrument 28
    (a) Primary Sources - Data from Questionnaire 28
    (b) Secondary Sources 29
1.8.3 The Survey 30
1.9 Processing and Analysis of Data 31
1.10 Problems and Limitations of the Study 32
1.11 Presentation of the Study 34
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Chapter</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2.1</td>
<td>Studies Conducted in Bangladesh</td>
<td>35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.2</td>
<td>Studies Conducted Outside Bangladesh</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(a) Political Socialisation Explanation</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(b) Situational Explanation</td>
<td>43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(c) Structural Explanation</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.3</td>
<td>Research Related to Political Socialisation and Family Background</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.4</td>
<td>Research Related to Socio-economic Background</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>Research Related to Political Career and Experiences</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1</td>
<td>Some Basic Facts About Bangladesh</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.1.1</td>
<td>The Country and Its Public Administration</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2</td>
<td>A Profile of Women in Bangladesh</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.1</td>
<td>The Historical and Anthropological Background of Women in Bangladesh</td>
<td>66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.2</td>
<td>Women and Social Relations in Bangladesh</td>
<td>69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.3</td>
<td>Cultural Norm of the Segregation of Sexes</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.4</td>
<td>The Legal Status of Women in Bangladesh</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.5</td>
<td>The Educational Status of Women in Bangladesh</td>
<td>74</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2.6</td>
<td>The Economic Status of Women in Bangladesh</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Conclusion</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
CHAPTER 4 : POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN BANGLADESH

4.1 The Political History of Bangladesh  
(a) The Pakistan Era  
(b) The Post-Independence Era  

4.2 History of Women’s Political Participation in Bangladesh  

4.3 Women in Bangladesh Politics: Constitutional and Legal Provisions  
4.3.1 Women in Parliament and Electoral Politics  
(a) Women’s Participation in Voting  
(b) Women’s Participation in Parliament  

4.4 Political Parties in Bangladesh  
4.4.1 Organisational Setup  
4.4.2 Women’s Participation in Political Parties  

4.5 Women at the Decision-Making Level  
Conclusion

CHAPTER 5 : POLITICAL WOMEN IN BANGLADESH: PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUNDS

5.1 Profile of Political Women in Bangladesh - Personal Characteristics  
5.1.1 Marital Status  
5.1.2 Age of Political Women  
5.1.3 Regional Origin and Background  
5.1.3.1 Place of Birth  
5.1.3.2 The Place of Upbringing  
5.1.3.3 Residence  

5.2 Socio-economic Status of Political Women  
5.2.1 Educational Background
CHAPTER 6 : POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF POLITICAL WOMEN IN BANGLADESH: IMPACT OF FAMILIAL VARIABLES AND OTHER FACTORS

6.1 Political Socialisation: Familial and Other Variables

6.2 Social Position of Parents
   6.2.1 Educational Levels of Parents
   6.2.2 Occupations of Fathers
   6.2.3 Social Class Position of Parents

6.3 The Political Socialisation of Political Women - The Role of Family
   6.3.1 The Salience of Politics in the Home
      6.3.1.1 Political Interest of Parents
      6.3.1.2 Political Discussion by the Parents
      6.3.1.3 Political Involvement of Parents
      6.3.1.4 Politicised Family Environment
      6.3.1.5 Political Involvement of Other Family Members and Relatives
   6.3.2 Time of Earliest Political Interest
   6.3.3 Sources of Earliest Political Interest

6.4 Political Socialisation - Becoming Active in Politics

Conclusion
CHAPTER 7: POLITICAL WOMEN: CAREER, EXPERIENCE AND POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS

7.1 Organisational Involvement Before Joining Political Party
7.2 Political Career and Experience
  7.2.1 Length of Political Party Involvement
  7.2.2 Age at Which Became Party Members
7.3 Experiences in Holding Party Offices
  7.3.1 Present and Last Position in the Party Organisation
  7.3.2 Length of the Experience in Holding Party Office
7.4 Electoral Participation and Public Office Holding Experiences
7.5 Political Ambition

Conclusion

CHAPTER 8: WOMEN IN PURSUIT OF AND REPRESENTATION IN LEGISLATIVE OFFICES IN BANGLADESH: PROBLEMS AS PERCEIVED BY THE POLITICAL WOMEN

8.1 Problems of Women's Participation in the National Elections
8.2 Selection Barriers
  8.2.1 Shortage of Eligible and Potential Women
  8.2.2 Discriminating Attitude of the Selection Committee
  8.2.3 Lack of Motivation
8.3 Election Barriers
  8.3.1 Election Expenses and Financial Constraints
  8.3.2 Voters' Negative Attitude and Problems of Campaigning
8.4 Women's Representation Through Reserved Seats in the National Parliament of Bangladesh: Attitude of Political Women
  8.4.1 Attitude Towards Reserved Seats in the Parliament

Conclusion

xi
CHAPTER 9 : CONCLUSIONS

Findings and Conclusions

9.1 Personal Characteristics and Socio-economic Backgrounds

9.2 Process of Political Socialisation

9.3 Political Career, Experience and Aspirations

9.4 Problems Related to Participation of Women in Electoral Contests and their Representation in the National Parliament

9.5 Concluding Remarks

9.6 Implications for Future Research

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 : Questionnaire

APPENDIX 2 : List of Persons Interviewed

BIBLIOGRAPHY