

## CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
ABSTRACT	ii
ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS	v
CONTENTS	vii
LIST OF TABLES	xiii
LIST OF FIGURES	xvi
LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS	xvii
<b>CHAPTER 1 : INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>1</b>
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

	<u>Page</u>
<b>CHAPTER 2 : REVIEW OF THE LITERATURE</b>	35
2.1 Studies Conducted in Bangladesh	35
2.2 Studies Conducted Outside Bangladesh	38
(a) Political Socialisation Explanation	40
(b) Situational Explanation	43
(c) Structural Explanation	44
2.3 Research Related to Political Socialisation and Family Background	46
2.4 Research Related to Socio-economic Background	54
2.5 Research Related to Political Career and Experiences	61
Conclusion	63
<b>CHAPTER 3 : WOMEN IN BANGLADESH: THEIR SUBORDINATE AND UNEQUAL STATUS</b>	64
3.1 Some Basic Facts About Bangladesh	64
3.1.1 The Country and Its Public Administration	65
3.2 A Profile of Women in Bangladesh	66
3.2.1 The Historical and Anthropological Background of Women in Bangladesh	66
3.2.2 Women and Social Relations in Bangladesh	69
3.2.3 Cultural Norm of the Segregation of Sexes	71
3.2.4 The Legal Status of Women in Bangladesh	72
3.2.5 The Educational Status of Women in Bangladesh	74
3.2.6 The Economic Status of Women in Bangladesh	79
Conclusion	82

	<u>Page</u>
<b>CHAPTER 4 : POLITICAL PARTICIPATION OF WOMEN IN BANGLADESH</b>	<b>84</b>
4.1 The Political History of Bangladesh	84
(a) The Pakistan Era	85
(b) The Post-Independence Era	88
4.2 History of Women's Political Participation in Bangladesh	90
4.3 Women in Bangladesh Politics: Constitutional and Legal Provisions	96
4.3.1 Women in Parliament and Electoral Politics	97
(a) Women's Participation in Voting	97
(b) Women's Participation in Parliament	98
4.4 Political Parties in Bangladesh	103
4.4.1 Organisational Setup	106
4.4.2 Women's Participation in Political Parties	108
4.5 Women at the Decision-Making Level	111
Conclusion	112
 <b>CHAPTER 5 : POLITICAL WOMEN IN BANGLADESH: PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC BACKGROUNDS</b>	 <b>114</b>
5.1 Profile of Political Women in Bangladesh - Personal Characteristics	114
5.1.1 Marital Status	115
5.1.2 Age of Political Women	116
5.1.3 Regional Origin and Background	119
5.1.3.1 Place of Birth	120
5.1.3.2 The Place of Upbringing	122
5.1.3.3 Residence	124
5.2 Socio-economic Status of Political Women	126
5.2.1 Educational Background	128

	<u>Page</u>
5.2.2 Occupational Background	134
5.2.3 Income	138
5.2.4 Status of Husbands	141
Conclusion	143
<b>CHAPTER 6 : POLITICAL SOCIALIZATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF POLITICAL WOMEN IN BANGLADESH: IMPACT OF FAMILIAL VARIABLES AND OTHER FACTORS</b>	<b>146</b>
6.1 Political Socialisation: Familial and Other Variables	147
6.2 Social Position of Parents	151
6.2.1 Educational Levels of Parents	153
6.2.2 Occupations of Fathers	156
6.2.3 Social Class Position of Parents	158
6.3 The Political Socialisation of Political Women - The Role of Family	162
6.3.1 The Salience of Politics in the Home	166
6.3.1.1 Political Interest of Parents	166
6.3.1.2 Political Discussion by the Parents	168
6.3.1.3 Political Involvement of Parents	171
6.3.1.4 Politicised Family Environment	173
6.3.1.5 Political Involvement of Other Family Members and Relatives	177
6.3.2 Time of Earliest Political Interest	180
6.3.3 Sources of Earliest Political Interest	184
6.4 Political Socialisation - Becoming Active in Politics	189
Conclusion	195

	<u>Page</u>
<b>CHAPTER 7 : POLITICAL WOMEN: CAREER, EXPERIENCE AND POLITICAL ASPIRATIONS</b>	199
7.1 Organisational Involvement Before Joining Political Party	200
7.2 Political Career and Experience	208
7.2.1 Length of Political Party Involvement	208
7.2.2 Age at Which Became Party Members	213
7.3 Experiences in Holding Party Offices	215
7.3.1 Present and Last Position in the Party Organisation	216
7.3.2 Length of the Experience in Holding Party Office	220
7.4 Electoral Participation and Public Office Holding Experiences	225
7.5 Political Ambition	230
Conclusion	235
<b>CHAPTER 8 : WOMEN IN PURSUIT OF AND REPRESENTATION IN LEGISLATIVE OFFICES IN BANGLADESH: PROBLEMS AS PERCEIVED BY THE POLITICAL WOMEN</b>	238
8.1 Problems of Women's Participation in the National Elections	239
8.2 Selection Barriers	244
8.2.1 Shortage of Eligible and Potential Women	244
8.2.2 Discriminating Attitude of the Selection Committee	251
8.2.3 Lack of Motivation	254
8.3 Election Barriers	256
8.3.1 Election Expenses and Financial Constraints	256
8.3.2 Voters' Negative Attitude and Problems of Campaigning	260
8.4 Women's Representation Through Reserved Seats in the National Parliament of Bangladesh: Attitude of Political Women	264
8.4.1 Attitude Towards Reserved Seats in the Parliament	269
Conclusion	275

	<u>Page</u>
<b>CHAPTER 9 : CONCLUSIONS</b>	280
Findings and Conclusions	281
9.1 Personal Characteristics and Socio-economic Backgrounds	281
9.2 Process of Political Socialisation	283
9.3 Political Career, Experience and Aspirations	286
9.4 Problems Related to Participation of Women in Electoral Contests and their Representation in the National Parliament	289
9.5 Concluding Remarks	293
9.6 Implications for Future Research	294
APPENDICES	296
APPENDIX 1 : Questionnaire	297
APPENDIX 2 : List of Persons Interviewed	306
BIBLIOGRAPHY	307