

### Note from the Editor

This journal has often trodden in areas where few reputed journals venture and delved into areas that are often overlooked by others. One such area is covered in this issue, that of “sexuality”, in an African context, but with a twist. Mafongoya Owen reports a case of “female rapists” in the city of Harare in his “When the Hunter Becomes the Hunted: An Exploratory Study on the Proliferation of Female Rapists in Harare, Zimbabwe” in which he tackles the issue of gangs of women enticing men, largely weary “defenceless” travellers, in the bus stations and “raping” them for an even more bizarre purpose of harvesting semen. Whether a sexual act perpetrated on men by women can be called a rape is a matter of legal definition, the Zimbabwean law doesn’t call it so, but of far greater interest is the matter of collecting semen by these women forcing men to use condoms and collecting these for some later use. The author is at a loss to untangle the mystery as to the purpose of such collection and from the interviews with knowledgeable respondents ventures to suggest that the semen may either be sold in some market or used by traditional healers or magician for some unknown practices. What may be the actual purpose remains untold in this study.

Further studies in future may uncover the secrets of such practices but the issue of newly found “sexuality” and such bizarre behaviour in a developing country normally with so many taboos against the same do raise interesting questions. Due to the onslaught of the West dominated media, social media inclusive, sex and human sexuality, and their aberrations, which had remained largely a private matter in the countries of Asia and Africa are now finding new and increasingly open public outlets. Not that some such sexual behaviours were not practiced earlier in these lands, Kama Sutra comes from ancient India, but that sexuality, and bringing it in the open, seem to be equated these days with the liberal and democratic thinking both within these countries and vigorously preached in the West, particularly in the USA and Western Europe. You are not liberal and democratic enough if you object to the such. Russia’s refusal to accept “gay marriage” and the subsequent backlash from the Western media is a case in point. Development, modernization, liberalism and democracy are ideas imported from the West but imposition of the same on other cultures has never been an easy matter, infringement and deviations are bound to result. The case of female rapists, for whatever hidden purpose, may well have resulted from such imposition of the Western media.

This issue of the journal, however, largely focuses on the question of “leadership”. Four articles, three of which deal directly with the question of leadership in varying contexts, while the fourth looks at entrepreneurship in the context of industrial development, cover a range of issues. First, Nghamula Nkuna and Mokoko Sebola take up the issue of the “leadership persona” in administration and how leadership change with each regime can affect the nature of administration and the whole process of development in their “Coping with Leadership Persona in South African Public Administration Practice: Implications on Macro-policy Initiatives and Implementation”. Using the case of South Africa in the recent times, they show how the “practice of public administration cannot be separated from the persona of those in charge of leadership”.

Johannes Tsheola and Phophi Nembambula take up the issue of “transformational leadership” focusing again on South Africa in the historically disadvantaged universities (HDUs) in their “Governance and Transformational Leadership Dilemmas for Merged Universities in a Democratic South Africa”. They define transformational leadership as “diametrically inconsistent with over-bureaucratization and managerialism, because its qualities, principles and roles are characterised by charisma, inspiration, intellectual stimulation and individual consideration”. These qualities of leadership are best suited for the mergers of HDUs but, they argue that, “the state has incrementally legislated for extension of its powers over higher education sector, thereby creating inherent dilemmas for transformational leadership”.

The third in line of leadership studies is “An Empirical Research on Relationship between Quality of Work Life and Leadership Styles in SMEs”. T S Nanjundeswaraswamy and D R Swamy also focus on the transformational leadership style and in their study of mechanical manufacturing SMEs around Bangalore, India, find that “Under Transformational leadership style employees enjoy high level of Quality of Work Life”. The research itself is a first in associating quality of work life with leadership style.

The next study delves into the question of entrepreneurial leadership. Salah Saliman Tunde in his "Entrepreneurial Social Work: The Position of Professional Practitioners for Industrial Development in Nigeria" argue that under globalization "entrepreneurship still denotes skilful manipulations of opportunities, which have hitherto culminated in corporate and individualised exploitation, in the name of profit maximisation and industrial development". Instead, industrial development, particularly in Nigeria, they feel, requires the kind of entrepreneurial social work which is gaining momentum in the developed world. The paper, therefore, "challenges the fundamental requirement of entrepreneurial social work and the practice of pragmatic social entrepreneurship, where professional social workers could be exposed to theoretical bases and empirical research as a bottom-up approach to address industrial development imbalances".

In the past we have covered a number of issues related to education, particularly students' achievement levels in the school. This time around, Mohd. Zia-Ul-Haq Rafiqi looks at the vulnerable region of Jammu and Kashmir state and the contrast in school achievements between the nomadic tribal students vis-à-vis the students from more settled communities. Rafiqi argues that the needs, strength and interest of each learner are unique and determined by the socio cultural and demographic background and circumstances. Through a multivariate test of his data Rafiqi finds that the tribal students in general have poor achievement scores but the nomadic tribal students are even worse off in their school achievements.

Basing his study on the labelling theory by Erving Goffman, Adeyemi Johnson Ademowo, in the next paper on "Stigma, Violence and the Human Agents on the Motor Park Space in Ibadan Metropolis, Southwest Nigeria", seeks to understand the process and the consequences of "stigma" associated with the motor parks in Ibadan. Using participant observation and key informant interviews they "provide explanations for the sustained violence image of the motor park, the ability of/attempt by the marked to live with/rise above the marked expectations and why the public is so imbued with the negative stereotypes that they have refused to appreciate the likely effects of the sustained label on urban development, crime control and security of the state".

The next three studies are of Bangladesh. Mohammed Faruque Uddin tackles the rather sensitive issue of "Access to Food Transfers and Social Protection in Bangladesh". Uddin in his paper addresses the issue of targeting, participation, and accountability in governance for food transfer programs in Bangladesh. The targeting and participation issue in social policies, he argues, "is crucial to achieve an efficient outcome". The study finds "the prevalence of notable errors in targeting, participation and accountability in governance" regarding food aid provisions for the poor. Shahadat Hossain Shakil and Tazrina Habib Ananya look at the Effectiveness of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in Bangladesh. They feel that EIA system in Bangladesh is on the right track with effort being made by the government through establishing basic legal and administrative setup, though the EIA system is still far from fulfilling good practice requirements. Md. Roknuzzaman Siddiky looks at the effectiveness of training imparted by Korea's Technical Cooperation to Develop the Skills of the Trainees of the Bangladesh-Korea Technical Training Centre. The study found that vocational training as a whole was effective to develop the skills of the trainees of the BKTTC. But the training was not very effective due mainly to the lack of alignment between trainees' needs and government's policy, along with the shortage of absorptive capacity.

The issue, therefore, continues to explore new areas as well as encouraging young, often first time, authors to contribute, thus fulfilling one of our avowed objectives. The other objective, that of building up a sociology of Bangladesh is also well on its way and we are planning to take out a volume of articles published in this e-Journal over the last eleven years and beyond, fulfilling a long felt need. Towards this end we encourage authors to send in fresh articles on Bangladesh, on areas that we may have left uncovered so far.