



WOMEN AND JUSTICE

These cards commemorate twelve women lawyers, lawmakers or law teachers, litigants, organisers and campaigners, and individuals whose experiences of violence sparked demands for justice and accountability. They are being produced as part of an effort to document histories of individuals and organisations who have fought to establish rights and justice in Bangladesh.

The Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust was set up after a resolution of the Bangladesh Bar Council in 1992 as a dedicated non-governmental legal services organisation, which operates from the frontlines of the legal system - Village Courts and Magistrates' Courts - up to the Supreme Court, providing advice, assistance and representation in criminal, family, civil, land and constitutional law matters, alternative dispute resolution, and undertakes public interest litigation, and legislative advocacy, providing a comprehensive approach to justice for marginalised and vulnerable persons.

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Ila Mitra | 1925-2002 | Organiser | Political Activist

Leader of the Tebhaga movement, Nachole, Chapai Nawabganj. Survivor of police torture. Mobiliser of public opinion and supported the Liberation War of 1971.



Kamini Roy | 1864 – 1933 | Writer | Campaigner for Voting Rights

First woman honors graduate in British India. Member of the Women’s Labour Investigation Commission. Successful campaigner for suffrage in Bengal (achieved in 1925).



Mehrunnessa Khatun | 1923 – 2013 | Lawyer Lawmaker | Rights Organisation Founder

Member of Parliament, 1954. Member of Jukta Front Government. Woman lawyer enrolled in the Dhaka High Court, 1961. Founding President, Bangladesh National Women’s Lawyers Association.



Nasreen Pervin Huq | 1958 – 2006 | Campaigner Health and Feminist Activist

Member of Naripokkho for 20 years. Founder of a national campaign against acid violence against women. Country Director of Action Aid Bangladesh. Member of the Special Program on Reproductive Health, World Health Organisation.



Salma Sobhan | 1937 – 2003 | Lawyer | Teacher Writer | Rights Organisation Founder

Woman barrister in Pakistan. Teacher at the Faculty of Law, Dhaka University. Co-Founder of Ain o Salish Kendra. Founding Trustee of BLAST. Founder of the Human Rights and Legal Service Programme of BRAC. Founding member of Women Living Under Muslim Laws. Public interest petitioner on women’s and worker’s rights. Author of publications on law and justice and women’s rights.



Sufia Kamal | 1911 – 1999 | Poet | Social Activist Women’s Organisation Founder

Poet. Editor, *Begum* magazine. Founder of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad. First Chairperson of BRAC.



Budrunnessa Ahmad | 1929 – 1974 | Lawmaker Women’s Organisation Founder

Elected member of the East Bengal Legislative Assembly, 1954 to 1958. Member of the Constituent Assembly of Bangladesh, 1972. Member of Parliament, 1972. State Minister of Women, Education, Sports and Cultural Affairs, 1974. Vice-President of the Mahila Samity.



Noorjehan Murshid | 1924 – 2003 | Lawmaker

Member of the Constituent Assembly, 1972. Member of Parliament, 1972. President, Bangladesh Mahila Samity. Founding President, Azimpur Ladies Club. Editor, *Edesh Ekal*.



Kamrun Nahar Laily | 1935 – 1984 | Lawyer Women’s Organisation Founder

Woman lawyer in the Dhaka High Court in the 1960s. Woman notary public in Bangladesh. Founding member of the Bangladesh National Women’s Lawyers’ Association.



Ferdousi Priyabhashini | 1947 – 2018 | Campaigner Survivor

Birangona. Vice President, Ekattorer Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee. Recipient of the Independence Day Award, 2010.



Kalpana Chakma | 1976 – missing from 1996 Organiser | Political Activist

Organising Secretary of the Hill Women’s Federation, Rangamati, Chittagong Hill Tracts. Allegedly abducted on 12 June 1996 from her home at Lallyaghona village, Rangamati.



Jahanara Imam | 1929 – 1994 | Campaigner Teacher | Writer

Convener of the Gono Adalat (People’s Tribunal), 1992. Campaigner for justice and accountability for victims of war crimes. Headmistress of Siddeshwari Girls’ School. Editor, *Khawateen*. Author of *Ekattorer Dingulee*.



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Ferdousi Priyabhashini

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Campaigner | Survivor

Birangona. Vice President, Ekattorer
Ghatak Dalal Nirmul Committee.
Recipient of the Independence Day
Award, 2010.

Photo Source: The Daily Star
Photograph used for commercial purpose.



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Kalpona Chakma

**Kalpana Chakma | 1976 – Missing from 1996
Organiser | Political Activist**

Organising Secretary of the Hill Women's Federation, Rangamati, Chittagong Hill Tracts. Allegedly abducted on 12 June 1996 from her home at Lallyaghona village, Rangamati.

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Budrunnessa Ahmad

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Lawmaker | Women's Organisation Founder

Elected member of the East Bengal Legislative Assembly, 1954 to 1958. Member of the Constituent Assembly of Bangladesh, 1972. Member of Parliament, 1972. State Minister of Women, Education, Sports and Cultural Affairs, 1974. Vice-President of the Mahila Samity.

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Sufia Kamal

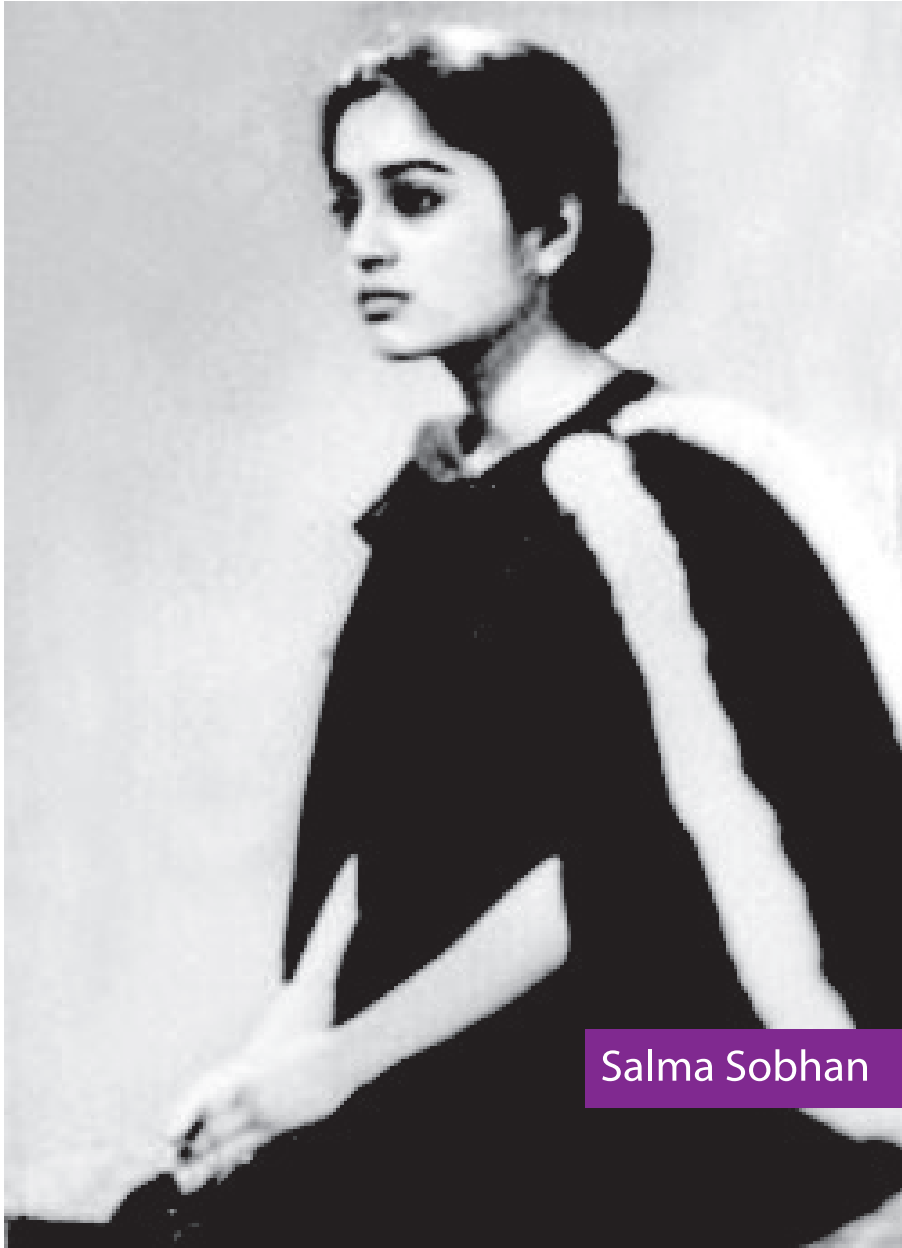
Sufia Kamal | 1911 – 1999
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Women's Organisation Founder

Poet. Editor, *Begum* magazine. Founder of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad. First Chairperson of BRAC.

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Salma Sobhan

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Lawyer | Teacher | Writer | Rights Organisation Founder

Woman barrister in Pakistan. Teacher at the Faculty of Law, Dhaka University. Co-Founder of Ain o Salish Kendra. Founding Trustee of BLAST. Founder of the Human Rights and Legal Service Programme of BRAC. Founding member of Women Living Under Muslim Laws. Public interest petitioner on women's and worker's rights. Author of publications on law and justice and women's rights.

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Mehrunnessa Khatun

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Lawyer Lawmaker | Rights Organisation Founder

Member of Parliament, 1954. Member of Jukta Front Government. Woman lawyer enrolled in the Dhaka High Court, 1961. Founding President, Bangladesh National Women’s Lawyers Association.

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Kamrun Nahar Laily

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Lawyer | Women's Organisation Founder

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Ila Mitra

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Nasreen Pervin Huq

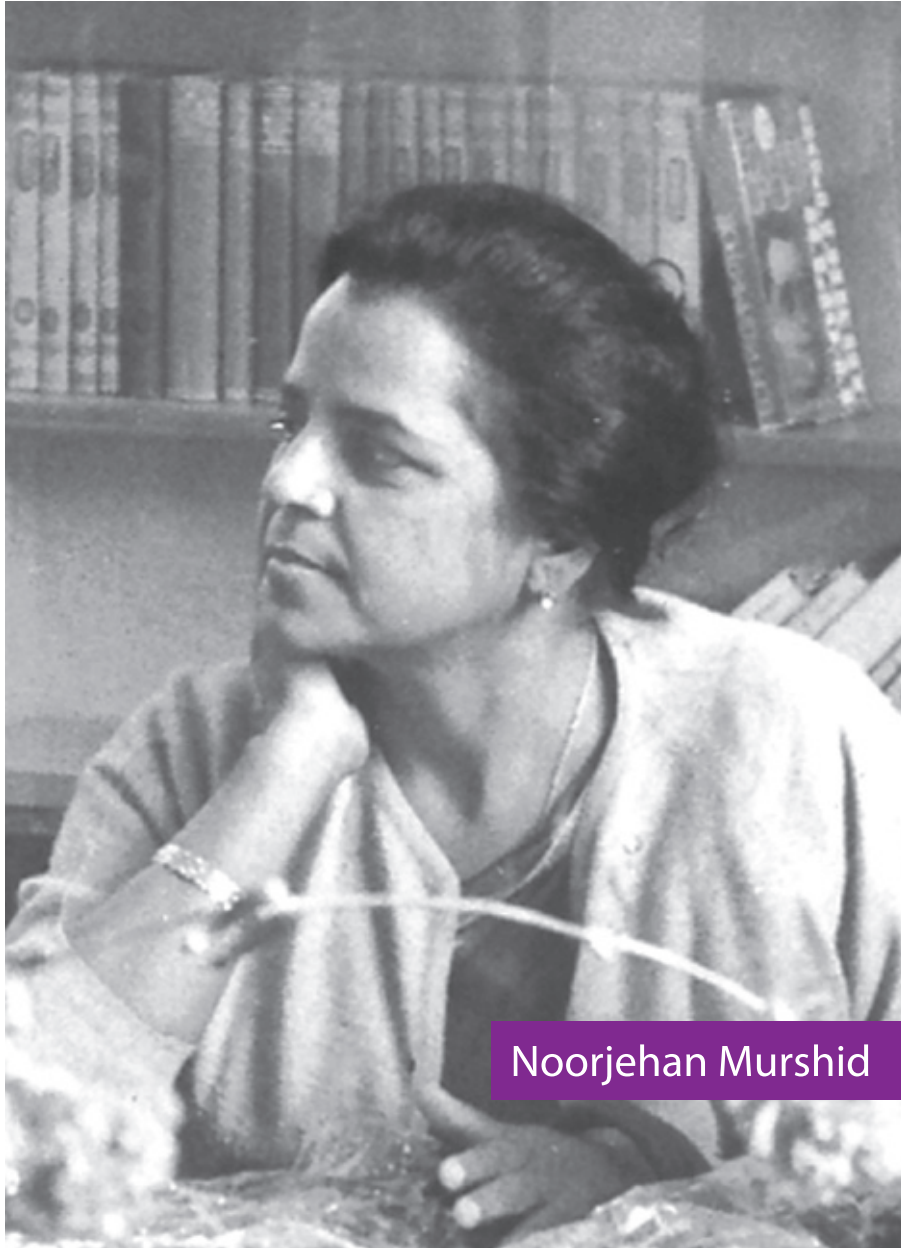
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