

A CONFERENCE ON



Gender& Inclusion

A FOCUS ON THE MOST VULNERABLE & MARGINALISED



Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Gachibowli, Hyderabad, Telangana













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GENDER IN THE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

The Centre for Development Policy and Practice works on the broader issues of inclusion and development. However, development cannot be distanced from the discussion of gender. CDPP looks to explore gender and development issues such as health, education, violence against women and economic empowerment. Last time, our conference on gender covered themes of equal opportunity and social inclusion. This year the conference aims to delve into the intersectionality of gender and religious and social identity. Muslim women in India are caught in the crossfire of Hindutva politics – the Hijab row, the Triple Talaq issue, and the mock-auction of Muslim women who have been dare to raise their voices. In the midst of all this we have on the other hand women who been flag-bearers of the anti-CAA movement with their formidable display of resistance.

THE WAY FORWARD

Gender studies investigate this construct in issues such as labor conditions to healthcare access to popular culture. Gender is also the disposition of factors such as race, class, ability, religion, region of origin, citizenship, and access to resources. The conference will take on pressing challenges in the field and the barriers that communities face on a global, regional and local level in their movement towards gender justice.





Working with Vulnerable Populations - Naghma Mulla

There are roughly 3.7 million civil society organisations worldwide with an estimated 2 million of them in India. A vast majority of NGOs in India work tirelessly towards providing quality education, promoting the social and economic empowerment of women, and building resilience among communities. However, the challenges are exacerbated manifolds when dealing with marginalised groups. Naghma Mulla shares her experiences of working with NGOs and helping them develop capacity and leadership to reach underserved areas and populations.

Issues faced by Muslim Women - Fatima Khan

Muslim women in India are doubly disadvantaged, first being a minority, then as women, and find themselves caught between being loyal to their religious identity and a desire for freedom and equal rights within those communities as well. From being targeted during communal riots, to having to defend and claim their rights, Muslim women in India are battling simultaneous challenges. Fatima Khan throws light on what it means to be a Muslim in contemporary India in the present-day communal climate.

Born a Muslim Woman - Ghazala Wahab

Ghazala Wahab in her book 'Born a Muslim' shares her real-life stories and incidents recounting the journey of navigating through her faith. The book highlights the insecurities and fear among the Muslims of the country amid rising Islamophobia and communal violence. In this conversation, Ghazala Wahab takes the narrative of her book further by describing what it means to be a Muslim woman in the present times.

Multi-Disciplinary approach to research on social issues - Farida Siddiqui

In an ever-evolving world, we observe the complexity of the challenges we face are advancing too. Social problems are multilayered and not only affect one sector but various sectors in society. Therefore, to fully understand the issue and address the various facets it requires a multi-disciplinary approach. Policy discourse in the country is multi-faceted which makes it crucial for upcoming research to be integrative in nature. Farida Siddiqui as an academic researcher and educator strongly advocates the importance of a multi-disciplinary approach to social sciences research.

Where do we look for data on Marginalisation and Vulnerability?

Panel Discussion - 1

This panel comprising India's most credible data experts will look at what the data that quantifies marginalisation and vulnerability covering aspects of education, political empowerment, access, and employment.

Media and Gender: How are Muslim Women Represented Panel Discussion - 2

There is a significant amount of media coverage on Muslim women, particularly regarding their dress code. A major part of debate on this topic is disputed in an unpleasant manner by politicians and the media. Moreover, Muslim women journalists are also exposed to discrimination at their workplace, face harassment and their reportage is often undermined. Furthermore, whether the Indian media represents the interests of the Muslim community or just portrays a subverted image of the community needs further exploration. This panel with the nation's finest media persons will discuss all the pressing issues concerning Muslim women and their portrayal in the media today.

Entrepreneurial Challenges: Solutions from Soochnapreneurs

Panel Discussion - 3

According to the World Economic Forum Global Gender Gap Report 2021, India is ranked 140th out of 156 countries slipping 28 places on the list. Even though there has been a steady growth of skilled professionals among women, it is not significant enough as female representation in leadership positions is barely 27 per cent. Entrepreneurship is challenging irrespective of gender, but in the case of the Indian rural woman and specifically Muslim women the challenges are far greater. This panel consists of Soochnaprenuers from various parts of the countries, sharing their experience and discussing solutions as social entrepreneurs in their respective geographic locations.

Health Indicators: What causes vulnerability?

Panel Discussion - 4

The NFHS data highlights the growing levels of anaemia among Indian women. Women face multiple levels of deprivation which translate into poor health outcomes. These challenges are further intensified with poverty and illiteracy. This panel discusses health concerns and indicators for women. It also delves into the representation of women in health, technology and science.

Education and Livelihoods: Low Participation and Falling further

Panel Discussion - 5

The enrolment and attendance levels of vulnerable groups have improved substantially. Only 64% of women were literate as per the census 2011. According to the All-India Survey on Higher Education 2017-18,27% of women are enrolled in higher education. Despite strides in education, women have the least workforce participation rates. This panel discusses the gap between educational advances and livelihood opportunities for

marginalised women, while also exploring the challenges in increasing labour force participation.

Women in difficult locations, sectors and occupations Panel Discussion - 6

The marginalisation of women is often aggravated in difficult geographical terrains, political crises, religious and cultural conflicts and climate change. In India, too, women in the Northeast face are worse off than in mainland India. Women in areas prone to communal riots live in a constant sense of insecurity, in areas with draconian laws such as AFSPA in place women experience violence of an unprecedented level of violence and in remote areas women bear the maximum brunt of poverty.

Discrimination in the labour force: Gender and Religion Bias

Amitabh Kundu will present his pathbreaking study on labour market discrimination. This study quantifies discrimination in the labour markets, especially in post COVID times. These findings are based on Kundu's work done for Oxfam India looking at how the labour market responded to the pandemic when unemployment went up and both the formal and informal sectors got seriously disrupted.

Working with Marginalised Women: A civil society perspective

Four civil society veterans who have worked tirelessly for uplifting and empowering women speak about their experiences and concerns about working with the marginalised women.

The effect of social identity on labour market during crises

Data from the recent Periodic Labour Force Survey indicates that the economic downturn of the pandemic has affected different communities in different ways. Amitabh Kundu quantifies labour market discrimination, in conversation with P.C. Mohanan, Meera Shenoy, Sanghmithra Acharya and Abdul Shaban.

6 JUNE, 2022 DAY - 1

09:30 am - 10:00 am

REGISTRATION

10:00 am - 10:10 am

GENDER IN THE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

NAHIA HUSSAIN, Vice President (Public Policy), CDPP

10:10 am - 10:20 am

GENDER STUDIES: THE WAY FORWARD

SHAHIDA MURTAZA, Director, Centre for Women's Studies, MANUU

10:20 am - 10:35 am

OPENING ADDRESS: WORKING WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

NAGHMA MULLA, CEO, EdelGive

10:35 am - 10:50 am

SPECIAL ADDRESS: ISSUES FACING MUSLIM WOMEN TODAY

FATIMA KHAN, The Quint

PANEL DISCUSSION - 1

10:50 am - 12:10 pm

WHERE DO WE LOOK FOR DATA ON MARGINALISATION AND VULNERABILITY?

Moderator: AMIR ULLAH KHAN, Research Director, CDPP

Panelists: AMITABH KUNDU. Senior Economist

AFROZ ALAM, Professor, Department of Pol. Sc., MANUU HASINA KHARBHIH, Founder, Impulse NGO Network OSAMA MANZAR, Founder and Chairperson, DEF

Discussants: SANGHMITRA ACHARYA, Professor, C.S.M.C.H., JNU

12:10 pm - 12:30 pm

KEY NOTE ADDRESS - BORN A MUSLIM WOMAN

GHAZALA WAHAB, Author and Executive Editor, FORCE

12:30 pm - 12:40 pm

DEAN'S ADDRESS: MULTI DISCIPLINARY APPROACH

TO RESEARCH ON SOCIAL ISSUES

FARIDA SIDDIQUI, Dean, School of Arts & Social Sciences, MANUU

12:40 pm - 01:00 pm

VC'S ADDRESS

SYED AINUL HASAN, Vice-Chancellor, MANUU

Rapporteurs: KARISHMA MALIK, ISMAIL SHAIKH and DEEPAK KUMAR

01:00 pm - 02:00 pm

LUNCH

PANEL DISCUSSION - 2

02:00 pm - 03:00 pm

MEDIA AND GENDER: HOW ARE MUSLIM WOMEN REPRESENTED

Moderator: SOMA WADHWA, Fellow, India Development Foundation

Panelists: EHTESHAM AHMAD KHAN, Dean, School of Mass Communication

and Journalism, MANUU FATIMA KHAN, The Quint

ARFA KHANUM, Senior Editor, The Wire

03:00 pm - 03:20 pm

Rapporteurs: MADHAV MALHOTRA, DEEPAK KUMAR and KARISHMA MALIK

PANEL DISCUSSION - 3

03:20 pm - 05:00 pm

ENTREPRENEURIAL CHALLENGES:

SOLUTIONS FROM SOOCHNAPRENUERS

Moderators: OSAMA MANZAR, Founder and Chairperson, DEF

Discussants: LALITHA IYER, Managing Trustee, PlusTrust

SOMA WADHWA, Fellow, India Development Foundation

Rapporteurs: KARISHMA MALIK, ARPITA MALLICK and MADHAV MALHOTRA

7 JUNE, 2022 DAY - 2

PANEL DISCUSSION - 4

10:30 am - 11:40 am

HEALTH INDICATORS: WHAT CAUSES VULNERABILITY?

Moderator: SHAZIA FAZLI, Asst. Professor, AMU **Panelists:** MEENAKSHI GUPTA, Co-founder, Goonj

SANGHMITRA ACHARYA, Professor, C.S.M.C.H., JNU

MUJTABA ASKARI, Founder, Helping Hands NILANJAN BANIK, Professor, Mahindra University

Discussants: SHEELA PRASAD, Professor, University of Hyderabad

AYESHA RUBINA, Former GHMC Corporator and Educationist

Rapporteurs: ARPITA MALLICK, HABIBA KHANAM B. and ISMAIL SHAIKH

PANEL DISCUSSION - 5

11:50 am - 01:00 pm

EDUCATION AND LIVELIHOODS:

PARTICIPATION LOW AND FALLING FURTHER

Moderator: SUMAIRA NASER, Educationist

Panelists: ANJUM BABUKHAN, Director, Glendale Group of Schools

S. SAMEEN FATIMA, Registrar & Head, Dept of AI, Anurag University P. C. MOHANAN, Former Member, National Statistical Commission KHALID KHAN, Asst. Professor, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, Delhi

Discussants: REKHA PANDE, Director, SEED

ARVINDER ANSARI, Director, CESIP, Jamia Milia Islamia

Rapporteurs: MADHAV MALHOTRA, DEEPAK KUMAR and KARISHMA MALIK

01:00 pm - 02:00 pm

LUNCH

PANEL DISCUSSION - 6

02:00 - 03:10 pm

WOMEN IN DIFFICULT LOCATIONS, SECTORS AND OCCUPATIONS

Moderator: MANISHA SETHI, Professor, NALSAR University

Panelists: VAHIDA NAINAR, Founder-Director, Women's Research & Action Group

ANSHU GUPTA, Founder and Chairperson, Goonj

SUNEETHA ACHYUTHA, Director, Anveshi Research Centre for

Women's Studies

SHIREEN AZAM, Doctoral Researcher, University of Oxford

Discussant: RUBINA MAZHAR, Founder and Chairperson SAFA

ASEEM PRAKASH, Professor, TISS, Hyderabad

03:10 - 03:30 pm

TEA

Rapporteurs: ARPITA MALLICK, HABIBA KHANAM B. and ISMAIL SHAIKH

PAPER PRESENTATIONS: SESSION - I

03:30 - 05:00 pm | Saiyid Hamid Library (Central Library), MANUU

EDUCATION, ECONOMY AND LIVELIHOODS

CHAIR - MANISHA SETHI, Professor, NALSAR University

SOMA WADHWA, Fellow, India Development Foundation

SHARAN AHLUWALIA, Social Impact Cons. & Campaigner, Yuvaa, E&H Foundation

VAISHALI, Assistant Professor Dept. of Education, University of Delhi

MALIKA MISTRY, Faculty, University of Pune

SAHEED MEO, Professor, Sociology, MANUU

SALMA AZIZ, Faculty, Abeda Inamdar Sr. College, Pune

Rapporteurs: ISMAIL SHAIKH, HABIBA KHANAM B. and DEEPAK KUMAR

PAPER PRESENTATIONS: SESSION - II

03:30 - 05:00 pm | Committee Room, Polytechnic Dept., MANUU

CHAIR - ARVINDER ANSARI, Director, CESIP, Jamia Milia Islamia

AFRAH SALEEM, Ph.D. Scholar, University of Hyderabad

IMTIYAZ QUADRI, Asst. Prof., GITAM University, Hyderabad

MAINUDDIN, Asst. Prof. in Sociology (W.B.E.S), Govt. General Degree College, Salboni

ZULAIKHA HAQ, Independent Professional Consultant, Afghanistan

RUHA SHADAB, Founder, LedBy

SHAHZADI PAKEEZA, Post Doctoral Fellow, University of California, Davis

ANUBHAV BISHEN, Ph.D. Scholar, NLSIU

Rapporteurs: MADHAV MALHOTRA, ARPITA MALLICK and KARISHMA MALIK

WORKING WITH MARGINALISED WOMEN: A CIVIL SOCIETY PERSPECTIVE

6:00 pm | Lamakaan, Banjara Hills, Hyderabad

06:30 pm - 07:10 pm

DISCRIMINATION IN THE LABOUR FORCE:

GENDER AND RELIGION BIAS

AMITABH KUNDU. Senior Economist

P. C. MOHANAN, Former Member, National Statistical Commission

07:10 pm - 08:10 pm

WORKING WITH MARGINALISED WOMEN:

A CIVIL SOCIETY PERSPECTIVE

Speakers: OSAMA MANZAR, Founder and Chairperson, DEF

ANSHU GUPTA, Founder and Chairperson, Goonj

NAGHMA MULLA, CEO, EdelGive MEERA SHENOY, Founder, Youth4jobs

Rapporteurs: KARISHMA MALIK, ARPITA MALLICK and MADHAV MALHOTRA

08:30 pm - 09:00 pm

DINNER

8 JUNE, 2022 DAY - 3

INCLUSION IN LABOUR MARKETS

02:00 pm | Saiyid Hamid Library (Central Library), MANUU

THE EFFECT OF SOCIAL IDENTITY ON LABOUR MARKETS DURING CRISES

Chairperson: SYED AINUL HASAN, Vice-Chancellor, MANUU

Speaker: AMITABH KUNDU, Senior Economist

Panelists: P. C. MOHANAN, Former Member, National Statistical Commission

MEERA SHENOY, Founder, Youth4jobs

SANGHMITRA ACHARYA, Professor, C.S.M.C.H., JNU

ABDUL SHABAN, Prof., School of Development Studies, TISS, Mumbai

03:30 - 03:50 pm

TEA

Rapporteurs: ISMAIL SHAIKH, HABIBA KHANAM B. and DEEPAK KUMAR

Please Click on below links for Live stream on IMC MANUU YouTube Channel

DAY-01

INAUGURAL SESSION | 10:00 AM

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= ecPl3mfPqY

PANEL DISCUSSION - 1 | 10:50 AM

Where do we look for Data on Marginalisation and Vulnerability? https://www.voutube.com/watch?v=cJVOuoP dCI

PANEL DISCUSSION - 2 | 02:00 PM

Media and Gender: How are Muslim Women Represented https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A2LYd3p3-T4

PANEL DISCUSSION – 3 | 03:20 PM

Entrepreneurial Challenges: Solutions from Soochnaprenuers

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6ebVI HsZ3g

DAY-02

PANEL DISCUSSION - 4 | 10:30 AM

Health Indicators: What Causes Vulnerability?

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bgx2wdJSSFE

PANEL DISCUSSION – 5 | 11:50 AM

Education and Livelihoods: Participation Low and Falling Further

https://www.voutube.com/watch?v=Hh8w-ocXa-Q

PANEL DISCUSSION - 6 | 02:00 PM

Women in Difficult Locations, Sectors and Occupations https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4M6pM-pRDso

DAY-03

INCLUSION IN LABOUR MARKETS

The Effect of Social Identity on Labour Markets During Crises

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7EIr 7Fvvkl

Please Click on below links for Live streaming on:

MANUU Facebook Page

https://www.facebook.com/manuuhydofficial

MANUU Twitter page

https://twitter.com/officialmanuu?s=08

IMC MANUU Facebook Page

https://www.facebook.com/imcmanuuofficial

IMC MANUU Twitter page

https://twitter.com/imcmanuu

SYEDA SAMEEN FATIMA

Registrar and Head, Dept. of AI, Anurag University

Syeda Sameen Fatima did her post-graduation from University of Massachusetts, USA and received her Doctorate in Computer Science & Engineering from Osmania University, Hyderabad. She has 37 years of rich teaching, research and administration experience from OU, UoH, BITS and University of Massachusetts at Amherst in USA.



AMITABH KUNDU

Senior Economist

He was Professor and Dean of the School of Social Sciences at Jawaharlal Nehru University and chaired the Post Sachar Evaluation Committee and that for estimating Urban Housing Shortages.



NAGHMA MULLA

CEO of EdelGive Foundation

Naghma Mulla serves as the CEO and Director of EdelGive Foundation. She is also a General Board Member at Goonj, a part of the core committee at India Climate Collaborative and provides strategic guidance to the operationalisation of the Migrants Resilience Collaborative, the largest migrant collective in the world.



P.C. MOHANAN

Former Member of National Statistical Commission

P.C. Mohanan is Former Member, National Statistical Commission. He is also working as a consultant for the Food and Agricultural Organization (FAO) of the United Nations (UN). He was also a member of several high powered committees like Post-Sachar Evaluation Committee and the Technical Group to estimate housing shortage.



SHAHIDA MURTAZA

Dean, Department of Women Education, MANUU

She is a Professor of Women Studies at Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, India. She is also Director, Centre for Women's Studies. She has served as Dean, SA & SS, Joint Proctor and has chaired the Committee against Sexual Harassment and served as Central Public Information Officer, (RTI), etc.



SYED AINUL HASAN

Vice-Chancellor, MANUU

He is Vice Chancellor of Maulana Azad National Urdu University. He was a Professor of Persian & Central Asian Studies School of Language, Literature & Culture Studies at Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. He has had experience with teaching and research for a period of over thirty-two years. He was awarded President of India certificate of honor award in 2017.



MEERA SHENOY

Founder, Youth4jobs

A pioneer in job-linked skilling of rural, tribal and now youth with disabilities. She set up Youth4Jobs 9 years back which has grown to be the largest organisation in South Asia skilling less educated and educated youth with disabilities and linking them to jobs. It is a one stop shop for 650+companies and has won the highest National & International awards.



AMIR ULLAH KHAN

Research Director, CDPP

Amir Ullah Khan is a Development economist and Professor at the MCRHRDI of the Government of Telangana. Dr Khan has been Head of Strategy at the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, Director at the India Development Foundation and Executive Director at Encyclopaedia Britannica.



ARVINDER ANSARI

Director, Centre for the Study of Social Inclusion and Economic Policy, Jamia Milia Islamia

She is a founder convener of RC-26, Minority Studies of Indian Sociological Society and is currently serving as Head, Department of Sociology, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi. Her interest areas are Sociology of Gender, Cultural studies, Sociology of violence, Sociology of Ethnicity & Minority Studies, and Globalization studies.



OSAMA MANZAR

Founder & Chairperson, Digital Empowerment Foundation,

Osama Manzar is a global leader on the mission of eradicating information poverty from India and the global south using digital tools through an organisation he co-founded in 2002. With over 25 years of experience, Osama has worked in the areas of journalism, new media, software enterprise.



MEENAKSHI GUPTA

Co-founder, Gooni

She is passionate about Goonj's work on mainstreaming & repositioning Menstruation as a human issue beyond just 'women's issue.' Widely traveled nationally and internationally, she is also on the board of Catalyst 2030, a global network of social entrepreneurs.



ANSHU GUPTA

Founder and Chairperson, Goonj

He was listed as one of India's top social entrepreneurs by Forbes Magazine. He structured imaginative solutions with urban surplus, to outside the radar of the development sector and the civil society. He is popularly known as the 'clothing man of India' for his mission of bringing basics like clothing into the mapping of development work



SOMA WADHWA

Fellow, India Development Foundation

She is a development studies academic, with grounding as a media practitioner. She is Fellow and Qualitative Research Lead at the India Development Foundation. She is an Associate Professor at the School of Modern Media at UPES in Dehradun. She is the recipient of the Sanskriti Award for Journalism and the Press Council of India Award.



AFROZ ALAM

Professor, Dept. of Political Science, MANUU

Afroz Alam is presently serving as Professor and Head, Department of Political Science, Maulana Azad National Urdu University. He did his Ph.D. on "Caste and Community in UP: A Study of Electoral Politics since 1990" from Aligarh Muslim University.



ARFA KHANUM

Senior Editor, The Wire

She is an 'Advisor in Residence' for the Led By Foundation, a leadership program for young Indian Muslim women incubated at Harvard's Centre for Public Leadership.She has previously worked with NDTV, Rajya Sabha TV and Bollywood superstar Aamir Khan's TV show, 'Satyamev Jayate.'She has spent two decades in the broadcast news sector covering politics, policy and governance issues with a special focus on social justice.



ABDUL SHABAN

Professor, School of Development Studies, TISS, Mumbai

He is an urban geographer and economist with research interests on issues related to cities, entrepreneurship, creative industries, and religious minorities. He has been a member of various committees, commissions also been visiting professor / fellow at several leading universities outside India, which include LSE, Muenster University, Erasmus University, and Paris Diderot University.



MANISHA SETHI

Professor, NALSAR University

Manisha Sethi is a Sociologist by training. At Nalsar, she is associated with the Centre for Criminal Justice Reform and Research. She's research interests encompass a wide range: from gender, politics and religion, to law and counterterrorism. She has taught at Jamia Millia Islamia, Delhi.



NILANJAN BANIK

Professor and Program Director at Mahindra University, India

Nilanjan has a Ph.D. in Economics from Utah State University, USA and a Master of Economics from Delhi School of Economics, India. His focus is on the application of econometrics in understanding issues relating to international trade, market structure, and development economics. He has project experience with Geneva Network, UK; Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Australia; Laffer Associates, USA; RIS, New Delhi.



FATIMA KHAN

Journalist, The Quint

She covers politics, communalism and social justice for The Quint. She has reported extensively on elections, riots, and gender crimes from multiple states. She specialises in rigorous ground reports, deep dives, and interviews with top leaders. Before joining The Quint, she worked at The Print.



ASEEM PRAKASH

Professor, TISS, Hyderabad

Aseem has more than 20 years of experience in research and teaching which also includes a stint at the University of Oxford as a Fell Fund Fellow. His research interests include the interface between the state and markets; regulation and institutions; sociology of markets, social discrimination, human development.



HASINA KHARBHIH

Founder, Impulse NGO Network

She has been working to provide sustainable livelihood in a safe environment for women and children. Impulse Social Enterprises aims to promote local artisans and create sustainable livelihoods that helps prevent unsafe migration and human trafficking.



EHTESHAM AHMAD KHAN

Dean, School of Mass Communication & Journalism

Working as Professor at the Department of Mass Communication and Journalism and Dean, School of Mass Communication and Journalism, Maulana Azad National Urdu University, Hyderabad, Telangana State, India.



SHIREEN AZAM

Doctoral Researcher, University of Oxford

She currently co-runs India Ink — a public history project which makes accessible explainer videos based on peer-reviewed academic history. Her research is centred on the uncomfortable fit between caste and secularism, and specifically on the invisibilisation of caste among Muslims. She was formerly Assistant Editor at the journal Economic & Political Weekly, where she founded the digital platform EPW Engage.



KHALID KHAN

Assistant Professor, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, Delhi

His research interests are Economics of Education, Labour Economics and Ageing with special focus on marginalised groups and social exclusion. He has an interest in methodological advances in Logit analysis, Panel Regression, Time series analysis and Measurement of inequality.



GHAZALA WAHAB

Author and Executive Editor, FORCE

Ghazala Wahab started FORCE in August 2003 along with Pravin Sawhney. Apart from writing on issues like homeland security, terrorism, Jammu and Kashmir, Left-Wing Extremism and religious extremism, She is the author of the best-selling book, Born a Muslim.



RUBINA MAZHAR

Founder and Chairperson SAFA

She is the CEO of SAFA INDIA, a Hyderabad based non-profit that works on education and livelihood building with marginalised communities since 2008. She has been awarded the Sadguru Gnanananda Fellowship for Social Entrepreneurs 2013, the FICCI Ladies organisation Woman Achiever Award, 2017, Pride of Telangana, NGOs category 2019.



LALITHA IYER

Managing Trustee, PlusTrust

She is a consultant with a special interest in institutional change facilitation in social sector, a board member of Sathi (Bangalore), (Ananda Bharathi Hyderabad) and former Dean (Professional Excellence) Indian Society for Applied Behavioral Sciences (ISABS).



SHAZIA FAZLI

Asst. Professor, AMU

Her areas of interest include reproductive health and reproductive rights of women. She was associated with different NGOs, particularly Bill and Melinda gates Foundation and UDAAN Society Aligarh, working on women related issues. She has worked as a Research Associate in "Migration, Poverty and Access to Health" funded by Indian Council of Medical Research.



AYESHA RUBINA

Former GHMC Corporator and Educationist

She is an educationist, social entrepreneur, social worker and former corporator and a former co-opted member of GHMC. She has been in the top eight of The Times of India's "Lead India" initiative and a participant of the prestigious International Visitor Leadership Program (IVLP) of the U.S Department of State as an Advisory Committee member.



ANJUM BABUKHAN

Director, Glendale Group of Schools

Author of ABCs of Brain Compatible Learning, Dr. Anjum Babukhan, with an Ed M in Human Development in Psychology from Harvard, is an awarding-winning educationist, empowering trainer, and lifelong learner. She provides key insights for educators, parents and lifelong learners to navigate education in the 21st century.



VAHIDA NAINAR

Independent Researcher and Consultant

She is working on issues and spaces of women's/human rights, gender crimes, impunity, international law and justice in the capacity of coordinator and jury member in India and internationally. She has been the founder-director of WR&A Group, Mumbai and led the advocacy efforts of the Women's Caucus for Gender Justice at the UN.



SUMAIRA NASER

Educationist

She is a Philanthropist, Educationist and Environmentalist. She is also a Patron for 'Telangana Science Fair Academy' (promoting scientific temperament among youth), an advisor at the International Women's Startup corridor (IWSC) with a focus to promote Women's health and Natural Birthing.



REKHA PANDE

Director, SEED

She is currently the Director of Society for Empowerment through Environment Development (SEED). She was the former Director of the Centre for Women's Studies and a Professor of History in the University of Hyderabad. She is a well-known and well published scholar in the inter-disciplinary areas of History and Women's Studies.



SHEELA PRASAD

Professor, University of Hyderabad

She is currently a Professor at Centre for Regional Studies, UoH. Her research interests include urban & regional geography, health, gender and environment issues. She is a Member of the Women's Complaint Committee of CCMB, Hyderabad and Executive Committee of Anveshi Research Centre for Women, Hyderabad.



SUNEETHA ACHYUTHA

Director, Anveshi Research Centre for Women's Studies

She is a Senior Fellow and Coordinator of Anveshi Research Centre for Women's Studies. She is a political theorist who is invested in the questions of gender and minority. Her research interests include gender and violence, secularism and the Muslim women's questions.



SANGHMITRA ACHARYA

Prof. Centre of Social Medicine & Community Health, JNL

She is Professor at the Centre of Social Medicine and Community Health, School of Social Sciences, JNU, and is currently on deputation as Director, Indian Institute of Dalit Studies, New Delhi. She is on the editorial board of academic journals.





The Centre for Development Policy and Practice is a research institute that works on development concerns and public policy challenges.



Maulana Azad National Urdu University is a Central University established by an Act of Parliament in 1998. The University is named after Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, the freedom fighter and outstanding scholar, who as the first Education Minister of Independent India envisioned and laid the foundation of technical, scientific and higher education in India.



Sahayata Trust is a not-for-profit non-governmental organization (NGO) based out of Hyderabad, India. Sahayata Trust works with the objective of contributing to the welfare of society by reaching out to the underprivileged and economically weaker sections of India, irrespective of caste, color, gender or faith.



Digital Empowerment Foundation (DEF) is a Delhibased nonprofit organization working towards empowering people to gain access to better healthcare, education, skills and livelihood opportunities through digital literacy and digital tools.



"Soochnapreneurs" are community information agents who will bridge the gap between government and citizens and will make information available to the last mile rural beneficiaries. They operate both at Panchayat and Block levels by empowering their immediate surroundings. This is an initiative which hones and incubates the entrepreneurial abilities and qualities of a person.



Thus SAFA stepped into the picture in June, 2006 to reach the untouched slums of Hyderabad with education, skill trainings, placements, livelihood through the production of multiple products and capacity building for their socio-economic betterment.



Goonj envisions to grow as an idea across regions, economies and countries using urban discard as a tool to alleviate poverty and enhance the dignity of the underprivileged people of the world. Address basic but neglected issues of the poor by involving them in evolving their own solutions with dignity and urban material as reward.



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