

Editor's Note

This year has been a terrible year of widespread concern and fear for pain and suffering spawned by the worldwide pandemic called Covid-19 partly due to the obscurity as to how long this Covid-19 pandemic is going to last. We have been subject to isolation, physical and social distancing, quarantine, curfew, and even total lockdown. Our lifestyle has remarkably changed, as we are currently poising between life and livelihood—a 'new normal' frame, *that is*, a new way to live, think, work, and socially interact with other people. This new normal frame may be seen as a new paradigm, since normal is as usual/methodical. As UNESCO also notes: "Indeed, for teachers, students, and humanity, this is an important opportunity to understand that what we have considered normal is not inevitable, but is a choice—a result of our decisions." Under this new normal way of life, we are delighted to be able to bring out the December issue of SUST Journal of Social Sciences—both print and electronic formats—in due time.

This journal, published under the auspices of Shahjalal University of Science & Technology (SUST), Sylhet, Bangladesh, is a major outlet for scholarly articles, review essays, research reports and notes, conference reports, and book reviews in the field of social sciences. Our commitment is to create a vibrant academic space to explore and publish truly interdisciplinary up-to-date, high-quality, and original scholarship across the Social Sciences including Anthropology, Cultural Studies, Economics, History, Political Science and Public Administration, Psychology, and Sociology. The journal also ushers in articles on business and humanities that address relevant social, economic, and cultural issues. Publishable articles in this journal cover a theoretical or methodological model as well as literary or statistical methods. All articles undergo rigorous peer review right after initial

editor screening and anonymized refereeing by the referees. The current volume brings forth five very different but equally compelling papers on social sciences, culture, and literature.

This issue opens with "The Foreseen and the Seen: White Community's marauding bearing towards their Own Kind in *The Late Bourgeois World*" by Professor Muhammad Alamgir Toimoor, PhD. To write on African literature in general and Nadine Gordimer in particular, is well worth considering. Of Gordimer's novel, *The Late Bourgeois World* is the most neglected and critics tend to show it is an interesting failure. In his scholarship, however, Professor Dr. Toimoor has attempted to throw new light on it, which appears to be a fresh attempt especially in the context of Bangladesh. It portrays the inevitable end of Max, the major character who, being a white man, feels affinity with the black in South Africa. The author of this paper has cogently organized his ideas, raised issues, which constitute the focal point of the novella—a personal tale told within a general political framework. And most importantly, it may turn a viable for discourse its post-colonial and communist undertones.

The second article, "James Joyce's Eveline: A Victim of Transgenerational Trauma" by Talukdar Mohammad Misbah Uddin, sets to explore the psychological inertia of the eponymous protagonist of the story that debilitates her capacity to take a decision about her own life. "Eveline" is one of the short stories that makes up James Joyce's compilation of *Dubliners* (1914)—a classical work of modernist fiction. "Eveline" revolves around a young nineteen year old Irish woman who aspires to leave her abusive father plus the destitute lifestyle and seek after a new, better life for herself and her lover Frank in Buenos Aires. In his article, Mr. Misbah Uddin succeeds in credibly illustrating that Eveline's (in)actions are the results of a transgenerational trauma that she receives from her mother and, therefore, she lives a life with the symptoms and crises of a trauma victim.

Shahnaz Mahmud in her article titled "The Role of Rehearsal in L2 Writing" has attempted to understand the role of rehearsal that a learner covertly performs during writing. Rehearsal has long been recognized as a valuable aid in language acquisition. Data and

arguments in this paper establish that the subjects' rehearsal pattern in varying degree comprised of planning, rereading, repeating, rehearsing and self-questioning which facilitated them for self-regulating, reassuring and developing content and language.

Zafir Uddin in his paper titled "The Upstream and Downstream Forms of Sylheti Dialect" has stated that Sylheti has had its recognition as a distinct dialect of the Bengali language since the very beginning of 20th century. This dialect not only remarkably varies in its forms in rural and urban contexts but it also fluctuates in regards to social strata i.e. caste, religion, gender, age, and community. Both physical and social aspects of this region has substantially contributed to the making of its distinctive features. In this paper, the author has focused on the upstream and downstream forms of this dialect in particular.

This issue concludes with "Corporate Engagement to Address Child Labor in Ready Made Garments: A Focus on the Periphery of Dhaka," by Mohammad Monjur-ul-Haider and Sheikh Tawhida Rahman. As we know, millions of children around the world are forced into labor. Often, they are entangled with poverty, insufficient educational opportunities, and gender disparity. While the prevalence of child labor in Bangladesh has been decreasing over the past few years, some 3.4 million children are still working in Bangladesh of whom some 1.3 million are trapped in its worst forms. Due to buying companies zero-tolerance policies, child labor in RMG sector has been substantially reduced, but still child labor persists in Bangladesh garment sector. In their study, Monjur-ul-Haider and Rahman focus on appropriate approach of eradicating child labor in RMG sector in Bangladesh. The researchers in this study argue that there should be a combined effort by the government, the private sector, and development agencies to reach a consensus on the eradication of child labor by making the adolescents a part of the productive workforce.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude to our honorable Vice-Chancellor Professor Farid Uddin Ahmed for his generous support, advice, and inspiration in publishing the journal on time. Many thanks to all the contributors not only for their excellent work but also for their patience and co-operation. I would also like to thank all the members of the editorial board and the associate editor for their

dedication and hard work to make this volume possible. All members of the editorial board truly believe in the Journal's mission to publish outstanding research works and articles in social sciences and related fields. Thanking my dedicated members, I would like to confidently say that we are on the right track to meet our motto.

Needless to say, any papers that you wish to submit, either individually or collaboratively, are much appreciated and will make a substantial contribution to the development and success of the journal. Best wishes and thank you in advance for your contribution to the SUST Journal of Social Sciences.

Professor Dr Mohammad Jasim Uddin

Editor-in-Chief