

Professor Rounaq Jahan



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Expertise

Politics, Governance, Gender, Development and Health

Professor Rounaq Jahan was a Senior Research Scholar and Adjunct Professor of International Affairs at Columbia University (1990-2010), and a Professor of Political Science, Dhaka University (1970-1982). She headed the Women's programs at UN Asia-Pacific Development Centre, Kuala Lumpur, (1982-84), and the International Labour Office, Geneva (1985-89). She was a Research Fellow at Harvard, Chicago and Boston universities and Chr. Michelsen Institute, Bergen, Norway. She was the Rajni Kothari Professor of Democracy at the Centre for the Study of Developing Society (CSDS) Delhi in 2010.

Professor Jahan received her Ph.D. in Political Science from Harvard University, USA. She obtained BA (Hon's) and MA degrees from Dhaka University both with a First class.

She is the author of several internationally acclaimed books which include: *Pakistan: Failure in National Integration*, New York: Columbia University Press, 1972; *Women and Development: Perspectives from South and South East Asia* (co-editor), Dhaka: Bangladesh Institute of Law and International Affairs, 1979; *Bangladesh Politics: Problems and Issues*,

Dhaka: University Press Ltd., 1980 and 2005; *The Elusive Agenda: Mainstreaming Women in Development*, London: Zed Books, 1995; *Bangladesh: Promise and Performance* (editor), London: Zed Books, 2000; *Political Parties in Bangladesh: Challenges of Democratization*, Dhaka: Prothoma Prokashan, 2015.

She has authored numerous articles in edited books and peer reviewed journals on a wide variety of issues related to politics, governance, democracy, health, gender, and development. Her articles have appeared in *The Journal of Legislative Studies*, *Lancet*, *American Journal of Public Health*, *Round Table*, *Legislative Studies Quarterly*, *Orbis*, *Asian Survey*, *Reproductive Health Matters*, *Third World Quarterly* and *Journal of Women's Studies*.

Professor Jahan represented Bangladesh in the 32nd Session of the UN General Assembly in 1977 and participated in the drafting of CEDAW. She chaired panel discussions in the NGO forums of all four UN World Conferences on Women: Mexico (1975), Copenhagen (1980), Nairobi (1985) and Beijing (1995). She has been a consultant to many multilateral, bilateral and philanthropic organizations including UNDP, UNFPA, UNWOMEN, ILO, WHO, OECD/DAC, Sida, NORAD, USAID, Ford Foundation, Rockefeller Foundation.

Professor Jahan is the founder-President of *Women for Women*, a research and study group in Bangladesh and is a board member of Research Initiatives, Bangladesh (RIB) and the CPD. She serves on the advisory boards of *Human Rights Watch: Asia*, New York, South Asia Program of Cornell University, *Journal of Human Rights* (U-Conn), *Journal of Bangladesh Studies* (BDI), *Social Change* (Sage, India) and *Protichinta*, (Prothoma, Bangladesh). She is the Chair of the Advisory Group of Bangladesh Health Watch (BHW).

Professor Jahan was awarded the Radcliffe Institute Graduate Society award of Harvard University in 2008.