

## **Seema Haider Chaudhury**

Associate Professor

School of Business Administration

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### **KEY QUALIFICATIONS:**

I am a legal practitioner with over seventeen years of experience, with special focus on corporate matters and company laws. I have in the beginning of my career had the opportunity to work for leading law firms of the country. I have worked in the capacity of a partner in an internationally renowned law firm named Juris Counsel". Areas of practice include, litigations, writing opinions, drafting, vetting legal instruments including contracts, agreements, lease deeds, trusts etc. Briefs include matters relating to company, banking, investment, financing, telecommunications, hotels, cement, infrastructure in the area of gas, power plants, real estate etc.

I have later moved on to work as in house legal counsel for multinational companies. I worked as legal counsel for two leading multinational companies in Bangladesh i.e. Lafarge Surma Cement Limited and Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited (KAFCO). This provided me with the opportunity of dealing with wide range of company matters including but not limited to regulatory legal and corporate matters.

I have also done research works in the field of constitutional laws, human rights and women's empowerment and was involved in drafting laws for violence against Women. I have in association with office of Attorney General drafted the proposed Victim/witness Protection Act. I have worked as local counsel for a world bank financed project on drafting proposed Financial Reporting Act ensuring accountability on public sector.

I have taught Company laws as a part time lecturer in the Master of Business Administration (MBA) class at a private university for two years.

#### **Currently**

Practicing independently as a legal practitioner. Works in the firm involve briefs in a wide range of matters covering civil, criminal, corporate and also family matters. We are counseling several international and multinational investors in infrastructure projects, housing and finance. I am personally involve for overall functions of the firm, litigation, opinion writing, drafting deeds and contracts, monitoring and delegating works to associates, follow up on the matters handed over to them.

#### **Recently:**

#### **Worked as Legal Counsel for KAFCO: From June 2005 to March 2011**

Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited (KAFCO) is a joint venture of Japan, Denmark, Netherland and Bangladesh. I functioned in an advisory capacity but ensuring implementation while being a monitoring cell for various departments of the Company. Responsibilities in particular included prompt and efficient handling and delivery of all legal matters, ensuring regulatory, legal and corporate compliance of the company in all matters and transactions, defending company against all kinds of legal disputes and allied

matters, drafting, vetting contracts, agreements, lease deeds, other legal documents, conduct legal research on the documents correspondences with regulatory and government organizations, negotiations, liaison with external Lawyers and resolving Industrial Relations Dispute and land matters.

**Previously:**

**Legal Counsel for Lafarge Surma Cement Limited:  
From February 2000 till 2002**

Responsibilities included litigations for matters relating to Lafarge, legal research, writing opinions, drafting, vetting contracts, liaison with external international and national lawyers and assisting in company secretarial services.

**Worked as Local Legal consultant for World Bank financed projects.  
From June 2006 to December 2006**

Service includes drafting the proposed Financial Reporting Act and Financial Reporting Council on behalf of Emerging Market Groups Ltd for World Bank.

**Worked at Juris Counsel  
Law Offices of Tawfiq Nawaz and Associates  
From January 1997 to January 2000**

I have worked in Juris Counsel an internationally reputed law firm situated in Bangladesh first as an associate and then in the capacity of a partner. Works in the firm involved briefs in a wide range of matters covering company, contract, banking, telecommunication, and other civil and family matters. From the firm I was engaged in the implementation of reform task by the Central Bank in Bangladesh; Writing opinion on matters for Central Bank, other commercial banks and financial institutions. I was deeply involved in briefs concerning International Finance Corporation's (IFC) investments in Bangladesh infrastructure projects. I was the lender's counsel from Juris Counsel in the investment of Grameenphone between Telenor and Grameen Telecom. I have been deeply involved in the

incorporation and establishment of the 225 million-dollar Infrastructure Development Company Limited (IDCOL) that provide financing to power, gas pipeline, water and telecommunication projects and also provided company secretarial services from the law firm;

**Research Work:**

**Senior Research Officer  
Bangladesh Women's' Lawyers Association BNWLA  
From January 2003 to May 2005**

Carried on studies on comparative legal rights of women and children in south East Asia, organized and conducted seminars, drafted proposed Victim/witness protection Act and assisted in research work of drafting Repression Against Women's Act.

**Research Officer:**

**Bangladesh Institute of laws and international Affairs (BILIA)  
From December 1995 to January 1997**

Carried on research on Sustainable Human Rights and Economic Development

**Judicial Assistant to Justice of Supreme Court of Bangladesh:  
From January 1993 to December 1993**

Carried on research on constitutional matters

**Part Time Lecturer at a private university (University of Asia Pacific):  
From February 2003 to March 2005**

Taught Commercial Laws at Master of Business Administration (MBA) class.

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**EDUCATION:**

- 1 1992 LL M (Master of Laws) – Second Class, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
  - 2 1990 LL B (Bachelor at Law) – First Class, University of Dhaka, Bangladesh
  - 3 1984 H.S.C (Higher Secondary School Certificate) – First Division, Holy Cross College, Dhaka, Bangladesh
  - 4 1982 S.S.C (Secondary School Certificate) – First Division, Ninth position in the merit list of humanities, Shaheed Anwar Girls School, Dhaka, Bangladesh
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**MEMBERSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS:**

- Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association: Bangladesh;
- National Women’s Lawyer’s Association (BNWLA)
- Member ZONTA Club (a US based international charitable organization for advancement of women and girls through services and advocacy, Club III, District 25)
- Gulshan Society. Executive member, Subcommittee Legal
- Member , Dell She Power

**Other Training**

- Attend 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual General meeting of corporate legal Counsel at Mumbai, India in 2012. The seminar and workshop addressed issues like merger, joint ventures, e contacts, trademark, copy rights & patents and IT laws.
- Attended Finance for corporate counsel workshop organized 2010 by the same Organization in KL, Malaysia
- Attended conference on legal Contract Excellence organized by Marcus Evans in Kualalampur, Malaysia, Speakers from Common Law countries spoke extensively on various kinds of contracts covering Construction, Construction and Design, EPC, EPCM, Alliance Contract, BOT etc. The key area of discussion being risk assessment and management and dispute resolution. Also spoke on negotiating skill focusing on win scenario.
- 1993 to 1994 Research Associate to Hon'ble Mr. Justice A.T.M. Afzal the then Chief Justice of Bangladesh, carried out research on issues arising on point of Law and case studies.
- Attended workshop on money laundering cases in Bangladesh
- Attended International Convention in Melbourne Australia on behalf of Zonta Club

**Language:**

	<u>Speaking</u>	<u>Reading</u>	<u>Writing</u>
English	Good	Good	Good
Bengali	Good	Good	Good

**Employment Record:**

From	To	Name of the Organization	Position Held
2012	2020	Judicare (Office of Law consultants and Legal Practitioners)	Senior Partner
2005	2011	Karnaphuli Fertilizer Company Limited	Head, Legal Department
2003	2005	Bangladesh National Women's Lawyers Association (BNWLA)	Senior Research Officer
2000	2002	Lafarge Surma Cement Company Limited	Law Officer
1997	2000	Juris Counsel (Law office of Tawfiq Nawaz, Partner's & Associates)	Associate- 1 year Partner – 2 Years

1995	1997	Bangladesh Institute of law and Research Associate International affairs (BILIA)
1994 1993	1995 1993	Apprenticeship under a senior lawyer Judicial Assistant under the then Hon'ble Justice & the Supreme Court & Bangladesh.

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