

## Working Title and Abstract:

### From Moral Panic to Feminist Framework: Rethinking discourse of approaching trafficking of Rohingya women and girls in Cox's Bazar

Being subjected to miserable living conditions, inadequate access of basic needs, Rohingya women experience various forms of intersecting forces operate at individual, community and societal levels shaping inequalities and discrimination differently for men and women in the camp. Stateless situation in the form of lack of right to have rights of protection as a citizen, along with patriarchy only compound camp exploitation resulting, especially, in gender-based violence, including trafficking. Such vulnerabilities have been widely acknowledged by scholars and practitioners and, the severity demands a different prism of addressing trafficking women and adolescent girls among the Rohingya community living in Cox's Bazar. Trafficking of Rohingya women is a complex phenomenon which inter-linked with extremely sensitive array of concerns stem from beliefs, norms, and attitudes towards understanding and approaching the phenomenon itself. This paper argues that the concurrent discourse of addressing trafficking of Rohingya women is problematized by the construction of fear of family, community, state who perceived it as a threat to safety, security and society's core values as well as image of the state, resulted in lack of data and deep understanding on actual trafficking practices. On the other hand, focusing on trafficking as a security threat to the family, community and state neglects the voices of trafficked Rohingya women, whose human rights are compromised and unguarded in this process. The goal of the paper is two –fold: first, to understand the key current narratives of how actors perceived human trafficking by using the framework of moral panic; second, use this analysis as the foundation for exploring the existing attempts of approaching human trafficking through the lenses of feminists' framework. These approaches not only establish women as a referent of security and focus on gender-related human rights abuses but also, and perhaps more significantly, study the manner in which gender stereotypes in the name of moral panic are used to establish and reproduce categories of practices, perpetrators, and victims. The qualitative research methodology will be using to collect the information from the ground.