

# International Human Rights Association of American Minorities

# IHRAAM

*An International NGO in Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations*

European Office: Avenue des Arts 57  
1000, Brussels, Belgium

T: +32 2 505 5880 F: +32 2 505 5889  
E: [ihraam.eu@me.com](mailto:ihraam.eu@me.com)

Head Office: 1 - 5765 Turner Rd., Ste. 117  
Nanaimo, BC. V9T 6M4, Canada

T: +12507580449 F: +12507580449  
E: [ihraam@usa.net](mailto:ihraam@usa.net)

## **Item 6 - UPR Bangladesh**

This NGO would like to congratulate the Government of Bangladesh for the progress that it has made in recent years towards meeting the ideals set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The elections that took place in 2008 were promising, largely conforming to international norms, and the establishment in that same year of the National Human Rights Commission offers some hope that the Government of Bangladesh will continue to improve the human rights situation in the country.

Bangladesh has one of the lowest standards of living in the world. However; with the introduction of poverty alleviation programs and so on, overall levels of extreme poverty are being alleviated. This NGO considers that the continuation and expansion of these programs will allow more of the poor in Bangladesh to be lifted out of poverty bringing them closer to the realisation of their human rights.

However, although the Government of Bangladesh appears to be making some progress in the promotion of human rights there are still many areas that require attention. Corruption is still commonplace in a many institutions, torture, extra-judicial killings and custodial deaths are still reported, and despite some promising progress, the attainment of equality between men and women is still some way off.

This NGO would encourage Bangladesh to ratify the treaties as outlined in the recommendations in paragraph 94 of the UPR for Bangladesh. Furthermore it is critical that custodial deaths and torture whilst in custody are brought to a halt as quickly as possible. The value of an impartial judiciary that exacts its justice equally for all cannot be overemphasised in the pursuit of human rights. The government should also make further steps towards ending all forms of violence against women whilst also attempting to improve access to education. Child labor is still commonplace and steps should be made towards eradicating this practice.

Thank You Mr. President