

Inaugural Session of the Martha C. Nussbaum Study Circle Today; Antara Deb Sen to Chair

Dhaka, 3 September 2026. Registration for the international academic lecture series ‘**Martha C. Nussbaum Study Circle,**’ organised by the Banglar Pathshala Foundation, is now in its final phase. The inaugural session of the study circle will be held today, 4 September (Friday), starting at 10:00 PM and running until 12:00 AM. Regular classes will begin on 12 September, held every Saturday from 9:00 PM to 11:00 PM, with a total of 11 regular sessions to be held through February 2027.

Held on the online Zoom platform, the study circle's central theme has been set as ‘*Vulnerability and the Search for Justice: Martha C. Nussbaum on the Task of Philosophy.*’

Inaugural Session

The Chief Guest and keynote speaker will be **Professor Martha C. Nussbaum**. Her lecture is titled: ‘*Justice for Animals: Extending the Capability Approach to Non-Human Beings.*’

The session will be chaired by **Antara Deb Sen**, Managing Trustee, Pratichi (India) Trust, and Senior Fellow, Henry J. Leir Institute, The Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy, Tufts University.

Remarks as discussants will be delivered by **Professor Rehman Sobhan**, Chairman, Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), and **Dr. A. I. Mahbub Uddin Ahmed**, Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Dhaka.

International Lecture Series

The study circle's international speakers will also include philosophers Philip Kitcher, Jeremy David Bendik-Keymer, Breena Holland, Frances Mangina, Sara Protasi, Eva Feder Kittay, Amy Lynch, Morten Fibieger Byskov, Elaine Unterhalter, Harry Brighouse, and Yuko Kamishima, along with other distinguished researchers and academics from around the world.

Objective of the Programme

According to the organisers, the aim of this study circle is to bring young researchers from Bangladesh and the developing world into international-level discussions on a range of subjects — justice, human dignity, democratic citizenship, humanistic education, women and human development, the scope of justice (disability, ageing, and human development), ethics toward animals, literature, law, and social reasoning, among others. Students, teachers, researchers, rights activists, lawyers, policy practitioners, and anyone interested in justice and human development are welcome to participate. Participants with at least 80 percent class attendance will be presented with a certificate at a dedicated ceremony.

Registration

Registration for this study circle remains open until 12 September. The registration fee is BDT 800 for participants in Bangladesh and USD 20 for international participants; however, payment of the fee is not mandatory. Detailed registration information is available on the Banglar Pathshala Foundation's website and Facebook page.

Ahmed Javed Chowdhury, Founder and Chairperson of the Banglar Pathshala Foundation and Assistant Professor in the Department of Economics at City University Bangladesh, is serving as the coordinator of this study circle.

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