

Tahrunnesa Abdullah

Tahrunnesa Abdullah is a founder Trustee of Education, Science, Technology and Cultural Development Trust (ESTCDT), the founding Trust of the Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB). She received a Master of Science degree in Agriculture Extension Education in 1968 from Michigan State University, USA. She also received a Diploma in Public Health in 1962 from American University of Beirut, Lebanon. Before that, she completed her M.A. in Social Welfare in 1960 from University of Dhaka.

She worked for various Government and Non-Government organizations throughout her distinguished career. She was a member of Board of Trustees (1991-1994) of Aga Khan University, Pakistan. Currently she is the Adviser, Democracywatch, Gender and Governance Unit. She is the Chairperson, Board of Directors, ASA, Bangladesh and Chairperson, Board of Trustees, Gono Bishwabidyalay. Besides, she is holding different important positions in different socio-economic organizations at present.

Throughout the years she wrote a number of papers and articles on her work. She is the co-author of the book named 'Village Women of Bangladesh: Prospect for Change'.

As recognition of her role in "leading rural Bangladeshi Muslim women from the constraints of purdah toward more equal citizenship and fuller responsibility" Tahrunnesa Abdullah was awarded Ramon Magsaysay Award for community leadership in 1978.