

## CURRICULUM VITAE

### RUBY GHUZNAVI

**Address-Office** : ARANYA CRAFTS LIMITED,  
Natural Dye Production & Marketing Organisation,  
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BANGLADESH.  
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**Address-Home** : `Aditi', 8, Road 3, Baridhara, Dhaka 1212, BANGLADESH.  
Phone: +880-2 989 6595

**Nationality** : Bangladesh

**Marital Status** : Married, with two children.

**Education** : M.A. Economics 1957 - Dhaka University.  
B.A. (Hons) Econ 1956 - Dhaka University.  
Schooling - Loreto Convent, Calcutta.

**Languages** : English, Bengali, Hindi, Urdu.

### WORK EXPERIENCE

**Managing Director  
Aranya Crafts Ltd.  
(1991 to date).** As a natural progression from the revival and development of natural dyes in Bangladesh, Ruby Ghuznavi set up Aranya to assess the commercial viability of natural dyes and promote its extensive use both within the country and abroad. Within a very brief period its cost effectiveness and demand at home and abroad has become an established fact and its popularity has grown enormously. Aranya retains a training component for national and international trainees, particularly craftspeople. Aranya has standardised 30 colourfast dyes which, singly or in combination, can provide an extensive range of colours. It has trained hundreds of craftspeople across Bangladesh as well as organized and conducted numerous international training workshops in natural dyeing techniques in countries like the U.K., Turkey, India, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Malaysia and Nepal. It is one of the foremost organizations of the region in the field of natural dyes.

**Project Director,  
Vegetable Dye  
Project,  
1982 to 1990.** Planned, initiated and developed the Vegetable Dye Project, which was taken up as a Research & Development project by the Govt. of Bangladesh, with the objective of reviving a traditional skill using eco-friendly indigenous raw materials and generated increased employment, particularly in the rural sector. Major craft organizations like Aarong, Kumudini, Karika, etc., with large female Memberships, availed of the training courses for their producer groups while hundreds of printers, weavers and dyers also trained in natural dye techniques.

**Country Delegate, Terre des hommes, Switzerland, 1975 to 1992.** A Swiss NGO working with children in rural and urban areas of Bangladesh. It has a major health care component and also provides education and skills training to thousands of underprivileged children. It was the first organization to start a Street Children's Programme in Bangladesh in 1989.

## PROFESSIONAL INTERESTS

### Crafts Promotion:

Working closely with crafts research and development since the early 1970's, particularly in the revival of natural dyes, as well as the unique craft traditions of Bangladesh.

A Founder Member of KARIKA, the Bangladesh Handicrafts Co-operative Federation.

A Founder Member of the National Crafts Council of Bangladesh(NCCB) – Bangladesh Jatiya Karushilpa Parishad – set up in 1985 and its President from 2002 to 2005 during which they hosted the World Crafts Council – Asia Pacific Regional Assembly in 2003. Presently member of NCCB's Executive Committee.

Honorary Member – World Crafts Council.

Convenor- Committee on Natural Dyes, WCC-Asia Pacific Region

### Activism:

Member of Naripokkho since 1986, and its Convenor between 1999-2001. Naripokkho is a women's activist organization formed in 1983. It undertakes advocacy, research and training on various issues related to women's rights and development. It places special emphasis on issues related to violence against women and human rights, environment and development, reproductive rights and women's health and representation of women in media and cultural politics.

Member of the Board of Trustees of Transparency International. Bangladesh Chapter, 1995 to date and its Secretary General from 2004 to 2006. The aim of Transparency International is to curb corruption and build public support for anti-corruption programmes through strengthening civil society activities and promoting good governance.

She has received national awards for her contribution in the revival of natural dyes and crafts development from the National Crafts Council of Bangladesh, Annanya and the Women Entrepreneurs Association of Bangladesh.

### Publications:

Her publications include "Naksha; Designs of Bangladesh", "Rangeen; Natural Dyes of Bangladesh", "Jamdani", in, "Textiles of Bangladesh". Apart from these she has written several articles in national and international journals and presented papers at conferences and seminars on textiles and natural dyes.