

LAW IN PRACTICE SEMINAR SERIES

The **Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust (BLAST)** and
the **Department of Law, University of Dhaka**
are delighted to invite you to a seminar by

DR. LIVINGSTON ARMYTAGE

Director, Centre for Judicial Studies
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Visiting Fellow, University of Cambridge

on

Exchanging experiences of promoting justice: A role for lawyers in Bangladesh?

Abstract

Justice is fundamental to human well being and development. Over the past fifty years, development agencies have spent billions of dollars supporting legal and judicial reforms around the world. Official development assistance – foreign aid - has grappled with the challenges of improving ‘the rule of law’ through improving economic growth and good governance. But the results have usually been underwhelming and often dismal – *including in Bangladesh*. The unmet challenge is to address mounting concerns about equity and distribution. In his latest book, *‘Reforming Justice: a Journey to Fairness in Asia’*, (Cambridge University Press, 2014), Dr Armytage calls for justice to be positioned more centrally in evolving notions of equitable development. Building on new evidence from South Asia, in particular, he argues that there is now an imperative to realign ‘the rule of law’ movement to promote justice as fairness or equity. Fairness is attained through the enablement of rights, which embody the norms of civic wellbeing, whether vested in international, domestic or customary law.

It is now timely to exchange experience with Bangladeshi lawyers in order to consolidate efforts for improving human well being.

ন্যায় বিচার সকলের অধিকার
আমাদের অঙ্গীকার
Recognizing Rights
Realizing Remedies

Speaker Bio

Dr Armytage is an international specialist in judicial reform. He advises courts, governments and international development agencies on improving justice systems around the world. He has worked in senior roles for UNDP, World Bank, Asian Development Bank and AusAID in more than 30 countries including Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Nepal and Pakistan. Dr Armytage is Director of the Centre for Judicial Studies, Adjunct Professor of Law at the University of Sydney, and Visiting Fellow at University of Cambridge. His books include:

- *Reforming Justice: a journey to fairness in Asia’*, CUP, 2012.
- *Searching for Success in Judicial Reform*, OUP, 2009,
- *Educating Judges*, Kluwer/Brill 1996.

Examples of his professional work may be found at www.reformingjustice.net

Dr Armytage is currently visiting the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, at the invitation of the UNDP.