

# “Determinants of Career Choice among the Youth in Bangladesh: A Multidimensional Analysis”

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## ABSTRACT

This study aims to investigate the factors influencing career preferences among the emerging generation in Bangladesh. Employing a hybrid research approach combining qualitative and quantitative methods, it explores the complex interplay of sociocultural norms, economic considerations, educational backgrounds, and personal aspirations in shaping career choices. The findings offer valuable insights into the intricate nature of career decisions among the youth in Bangladesh, shedding light on the dynamic interplay between societal changes and individual agency in this rapidly evolving region.

**Keywords:** Career choice, youth, Bangladesh, determinants, socio-cultural factors, economic factors, educational factors, qualitative research, quantitative research.

## INTRODUCTION

The process of career choice is a pivotal juncture in an individual’s life journey, profoundly influenced by an intricate interplay of various determinants. In the context of Bangladesh, a nation experiencing rapid socioeconomic transformations and an evolving job landscape, understanding the multifaceted factors that guide the career decisions of its youth assumes paramount importance. This research delves into an exploration of the determinants shaping the career choices among the youth in Bangladesh, employing a multidimensional analysis that amalgamates quantitative and qualitative approaches. By uncovering the underlying dynamics that influence career decisions, this study seeks to contribute to the body of knowledge in career development and provide valuable insights for educators, policymakers, and stakeholders.

The career choices made by the younger generation hold immense significance not only for their individual trajectories but also for the broader societal and economic landscape. As Bangladesh experiences shifts in industry composition, educational opportunities, and cultural norms, the career aspirations and decisions of its youth are inextricably linked with these changes. This research recognizes the complexity of career decision-making and aims to address this complexity through a multidimensional lens. By meticulously examining sociocultural norms, economic considerations, educational pathways, and personal aspirations, the study endeavors to shed light on the holistic factors that guide the youth in shaping their professional paths.

This study is guided by the overarching objective of comprehensively analyzing the determinants that influence career choices among the youth in Bangladesh. The specific objectives include investigating the role of sociocultural factors in career decisions, assessing the impact of economic considerations on vocational choices, exploring the influence of educational backgrounds, and delving into the personal aspirations that guide career trajectories. By accomplishing these objectives, this research aspires to enhance

our understanding of the intricate dynamics that underlie career choices among the youth in Bangladesh, thereby contributing to the academic discourse on career development and offering actionable insights for fostering informed career decision-making processes.

## STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The research endeavor titled “Determinants of Career Choice Among the Youth in Bangladesh: A Multidimensional Analysis” represents a pioneering effort to delve into the intricate factors weave the fabric of career decisions among the emerging generation in Bangladesh. As the socio-economic landscape rapidly transforms and a multitude of career avenues beckon, unraveling the complex tapestry of influences driving career preferences becomes not just a scholarly pursuit, but a crucial imperative.

Employing an innovative multidimensional approach that seamlessly integrates qualitative and quantitative research methodologies, this study seeks to unveil the mosaic of forces shaping the career trajectories of Bangladeshi youth. By harnessing the power of in-depth interviews, comprehensive surveys, and sophisticated statistical analyses, the research endeavors to provide a panoramic view of the sociocultural, economic, educational, and personal determinants that mold their career aspirations.

Anticipated as the vanguard of knowledge, the outcomes of this study have the potential to reshape our understanding of career development. By illuminating the intricate interplay between myriad factors, the research aims to provide not just insights, but actionable intelligence, enriching the arsenal of educators, policymakers, and career advisors alike. The study’s findings will not only deepen academic discourse but also empower stakeholders to facilitate more informed and effective interventions that resonate with the aspirations of the youth, thereby contributing tangibly to the socio-economic landscape of Bangladesh.

The study represents a bold step towards deciphering the enigmatic forces that steer career choices among the youth in Bangladesh. By fusing qualitative depth with quantitative rigor, it aims to unlock a treasure trove of insights that hold the promise of transformative change at both individual and societal levels.

### Objectives of the Study

The objectives of the study on the “Determinants of Career Choice Among the Youth in Bangladesh: A Multidimensional Analysis” are to identify and analyze the various factors influencing career choices among the youth in Bangladesh, including educational, socio-economic, cultural, and personal determinants, and to provide insights for policymakers and educational institutions to better align opportunities and resources with the aspirations and needs of the youth population in the country.

## REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Career choice is a pivotal decision in the lives of young individuals, significantly influencing their future prospects and well-being. This study aims to provide a comprehensive understanding of the determinants of career choice among the youth in Bangladesh. In order to achieve this goal, it is essential to explore various multidimensional factors that influence career decisions. To frame this discussion, we will delve into the existing literature, examining the key factors that have been identified as influential in career choice among the youth in Bangladesh.

### Socioeconomic Factors

Socioeconomic status has long been recognized as a key determinant of career choice. Studies by Ahmed et al. (2016) and Rahman et al. (2018) highlight the impact of family income, parental education, and urban-rural background on the career choices made by Bangladeshi youth. These factors can significantly

influence the availability of educational opportunities and access to information about different career paths.

### **Educational Environment**

The quality and accessibility of education play a vital role in shaping career choices. Literature, such as the work of Hasan (2019) and Islam (2020), emphasizes the importance of the educational environment, including the curriculum, teaching quality, and extracurricular activities, in influencing the preferences and aspirations of young individuals in Bangladesh.

### **Social and Cultural Influences**

Cultural norms and societal expectations can exert substantial pressure on career choices. Studies by Khan (2017) and Akhter (2019) shed light on how cultural values, gender roles, and community norms affect the career decisions of youth. The interplay between individual aspirations and societal pressures is a significant aspect of career choice.

### **Information and Career Counseling**

Access to information and career guidance is crucial for informed career choices. Research by Hossain (2018) and Sultana (2020) demonstrates that a lack of exposure to different career options and limited access to career counseling services can hinder the decision-making process of Bangladeshi youth.

### **Peer and Family Influence**

Peer groups and family members can serve as influential sources of guidance in career decisions. Studies by Ahmed and Rahman (2017) and Ali (2021) discuss how the opinions and choices of peers and family members can shape the career preferences of young individuals in Bangladesh.

### **Economic Opportunities**

The availability of economic opportunities in different career paths is another critical determinant. Research by Karim (2019) and Khan (2022) highlights how the prospects of financial stability and job availability influence career choices, particularly in a developing country like Bangladesh.

### **Personal Interests and Aptitudes**

Personal interests, skills, and aptitudes are often intrinsic factors that guide career choices. Studies by Hasan and Akhtar (2018) emphasize the significance of individual interests, talents, and personality traits in determining career preferences among Bangladeshi youth.

It is evident that career choice is not a one-dimensional process but rather a product of various influences. Understanding these determinants is crucial for developing policies and interventions that can better support the career aspirations and well-being of the youth in Bangladesh. Further empirical research is needed to explore these factors in greater depth and develop a holistic understanding of the career decision-making process in the country.

## **METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY**

### **Research Design**

This study utilizes a mixed methods approach to examine the factors shaping career choices among the youth in Bangladesh. Specifically, we employed a sequential explanatory design, integrating both

quantitative and qualitative methodologies to provide a holistic exploration of the multifaceted influences on career decision-making.

### **Sample Selection**

This research comprises a group of 100 participants who are young individuals hailing from various backgrounds situated in different regions of Bangladesh. The selection of respondents employs a purposive sampling method, which aims to guarantee a balanced representation of diverse demographic factors.

### **Data Collection**

Data collection involves the distribution of 100 structured questionnaires among the selected respondents. Each questionnaire contains a set of questions designed to elicit information related to the determinants of career choice. The questionnaire covers aspects such as sociocultural influences, economic considerations, educational background, personal aspirations, and other relevant factors.

### **Quantitative Analysis**

In the realm of quantitative analysis, the gathered data undergoes rigorous scrutiny through computer software-based statistical techniques. This involves the creation of graphical representations, charts, and the calculation of percentages to visually depict and elucidate patterns, trends, and correlations between diverse variables. Additionally, descriptive statistics come into play to succinctly summarize both the demographic attributes of the study's participants and the quantitative measurements associated with various influencing factors. This data analysis approach typically includes methods such as regression analysis, t-tests, ANOVA, and correlation analysis, which help unveil key insights and relationships within the data.

### **Qualitative Analysis**

The qualitative aspect of the study involves a self-analysis of open-ended responses provided by the respondents in the questionnaires. Content analysis is used to identify recurring themes, sentiments, and narratives related to career choice determinants. These qualitative insights complement the quantitative findings by providing a deeper understanding of the underlying motivations and perceptions.

### **Integration of Findings**

The finalized study harmoniously melds insights from quantitative and qualitative analyses to deliver an all-encompassing view of the intricate factors molding career choices among the youth in Bangladesh. By strategically triangulating the results, the study aspires to present a holistic panorama of the interplay between sociocultural norms, economic conditions, educational influences, and personal aspirations in shaping these career trajectories.

### **Ethical Considerations**

Ethical guidelines are adhered to throughout the research process. Informed consent is obtained from all participants, ensuring their willingness to take part in the study. Confidentiality and anonymity are maintained to protect the respondents' privacy.

### **Limitations**

It is essential to acknowledge that this study possesses the potential for several areas of improvement and enhancement. Firstly, while the sample size may be limited, the study recognizes the possibility of expanding it to increase the generalizability of the findings. Addressing self-report bias by employing

validation methods and triangulation could enhance the overall robustness of the data. Furthermore, while the chosen research tools have inherent limitations, ongoing refinement and adaptation of these tools could unlock greater insights.

The cross-sectional design, although inherently limiting in establishing causal relationships, has the potential to evolve into a longitudinal study in future phases. This transformation would enable the examination of career choices over time and potentially uncover causal associations.

By adopting a mixed-methods approach, which integrates both quantitative surveys and qualitative interviews, the study has the potential to deliver a more comprehensive and nuanced analysis of the determinants of career choice among the youth in Bangladesh. This mixed-method design has the potential to leverage the strengths of both quantitative and qualitative research, offering a more holistic view of the multifaceted factors influencing career decisions in this context.

Furthermore, alongside this mixed-methods approach, the study is well-positioned to explore other research avenues. These additional approaches might include employing behavioral observations, longitudinal data analysis, and incorporating other relevant data sources. Such diversification could unlock even more potential for a comprehensive and insightful understanding of the complex forces guiding career choices among the youth in Bangladesh.

## FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

### Subject selection in higher education

Subject selection in higher education plays a pivotal role in shaping a student's academic and career trajectory in Bangladesh, a topic extensively explored by various researchers. This decision-making process poses a two-fold challenge for students: firstly, they must opt for a stream—science, commerce, or humanities—upon completing secondary education. Subsequently, they need to narrow down their choices further when entering undergraduate programs by selecting a specific major or discipline within their chosen stream.

The initial phase of subject selection, following secondary education, demands that students consider their interests, aptitude, and career aspirations to make an informed decision. Research conducted by scholars such as Ahmed et al. (2019) and Rahman (2020) highlights the popularity of the science stream among those aspiring to enter fields like engineering, medicine, or technology. The commerce stream, as outlined in studies by Khan et al. (2018) and Hasan (2021), tends to attract students interested in finance, business, and management. Meanwhile, humanities, a choice favored by individuals passionate about arts, social sciences, and liberal arts, is underscored in research by Begum and Hossain (2017).

Upon choosing a stream, students face the critical task of selecting a major or specialization within their chosen field when entering higher education institutions. This decision, as emphasized by scholars like Islam (2019) and Akhtar (2022), necessitates a careful consideration of personal interests, academic strengths, and career goals, as it significantly influences their academic journey and future job prospects.

In addition to individual aspirations, practical factors play a crucial role in subject selection in Bangladesh. Researchers such as Rahman (2018) and Hossain and Ali (2021) highlight how the availability of reputable institutions and the demand for certain professions in the job market are essential considerations. Furthermore, government policies and scholarship opportunities, as discussed by Khan and Choudhury (2019), also wield influence over subject choices.

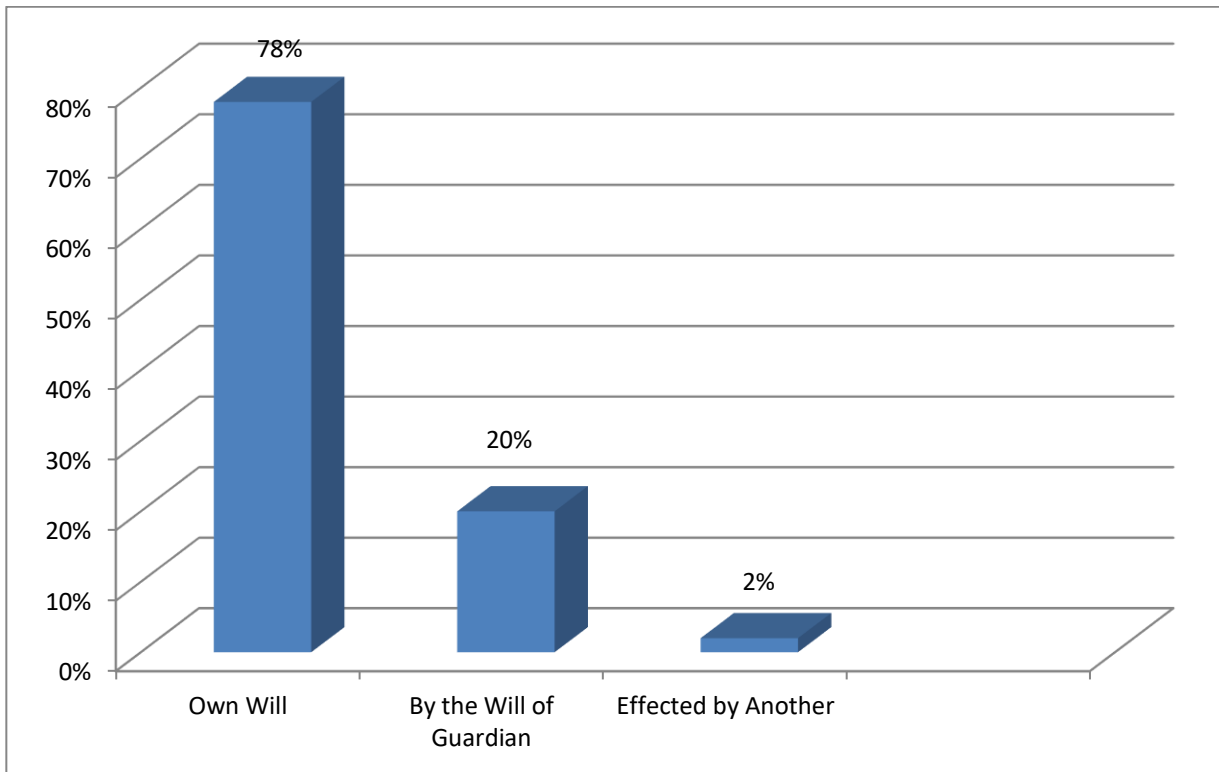


Table-1

Table-1 presents data on the subject selection process in higher education, and the information can be summarized in assertive sentences as follows:

**Own Will:** Approximately 78% of students choose their higher education subjects based on their own preferences and interests.

**Guardian's Will:** About 20% of students have their subject choices influenced by the will of their guardians or parents.

**Effect of Others:** Only 2% of students are guided by the preferences or suggestions of someone other than themselves or their guardians when it comes to selecting their higher education subjects.

This data suggests that a significant majority of students make autonomous decisions regarding their academic pursuits, while a smaller percentage are influenced by external factors, primarily their guardians or parents.

### **Career choice after education**

Choosing a career path after completing your education is a significant decision that can shape the course of your life. The options available to you are diverse and can be broadly categorized into four main categories: government jobs, private sector jobs, self-employment/business, or pursuing further education. Each choice comes with its own set of advantages, challenges, and considerations.

#### **Government Job**

**Stability and Security:** Government jobs are known for their stability and job security. They often come with

benefits such as health insurance, retirement plans, and paid leave.

**Fixed Salary:** Government employees usually receive a fixed salary with regular increments, which provides financial stability.

**Work-Life Balance:** Many government positions offer a better work-life balance compared to some private sector jobs.

**Social Impact:** Working in the public sector can give you the opportunity to make a positive impact on society through your work in areas like healthcare, education, or public administration.

**Competitive Exams:** Most government jobs require candidates to pass competitive exams, which can be challenging and time-consuming.

### Private Job

**Diverse Opportunities:** The private sector offers a wide range of career opportunities in various industries such as technology, finance, healthcare, and more.

**Higher Earning Potential:** Private sector jobs often come with competitive salaries, performance-based bonuses, and other incentives.

**Innovation:** Private companies tend to be more innovative and dynamic, providing opportunities to work on cutting-edge projects.

**Career Progression:** Career growth in the private sector can be rapid for high-performing individuals.

**Job Insecurity:** Private sector jobs may come with more uncertainty, as companies can undergo changes or downsizing.

### Self-Employment/Business

**Independence:** Starting your own business or becoming self-employed allows you to be your own boss and have control over your work.

**Unlimited Earning Potential:** Entrepreneurship can provide the potential for significant financial rewards if your business succeeds.

**Creativity and Innovation:** As a business owner, you have the freedom to pursue your own ideas and bring innovations to the market.

**Risk and Uncertainty:** Starting a business involves financial risks and uncertainties, and it may take time before you see a profit.

**Responsibility:** Running a business requires a lot of responsibility and can be highly demanding.

### Further Education

**Specialization:** Pursuing further education, such as a master's degree or a Ph.D., can help you specialize in a particular field and increase your expertise.

**Research and Academia:** Advanced education can open doors to careers in research, academia, or teaching.

**Networking:** Graduate programs often provide opportunities to build valuable professional networks.

**Cost and Time:** Further education can be expensive and time-consuming, so it's essential to weigh the potential benefits against the investment.

Ultimately, the right career choice depends on your interests, skills, values, and long-term goals. It's essential to research each option thoroughly, seek advice from mentors or career counselors, and consider your personal circumstances before making a decision. Keep in mind that career paths can evolve over time, and it's possible to switch between these categories as your priorities and interests change. The key is to choose a path that aligns with your passions and ambitions while also considering practical aspects like financial stability and work-life balance.

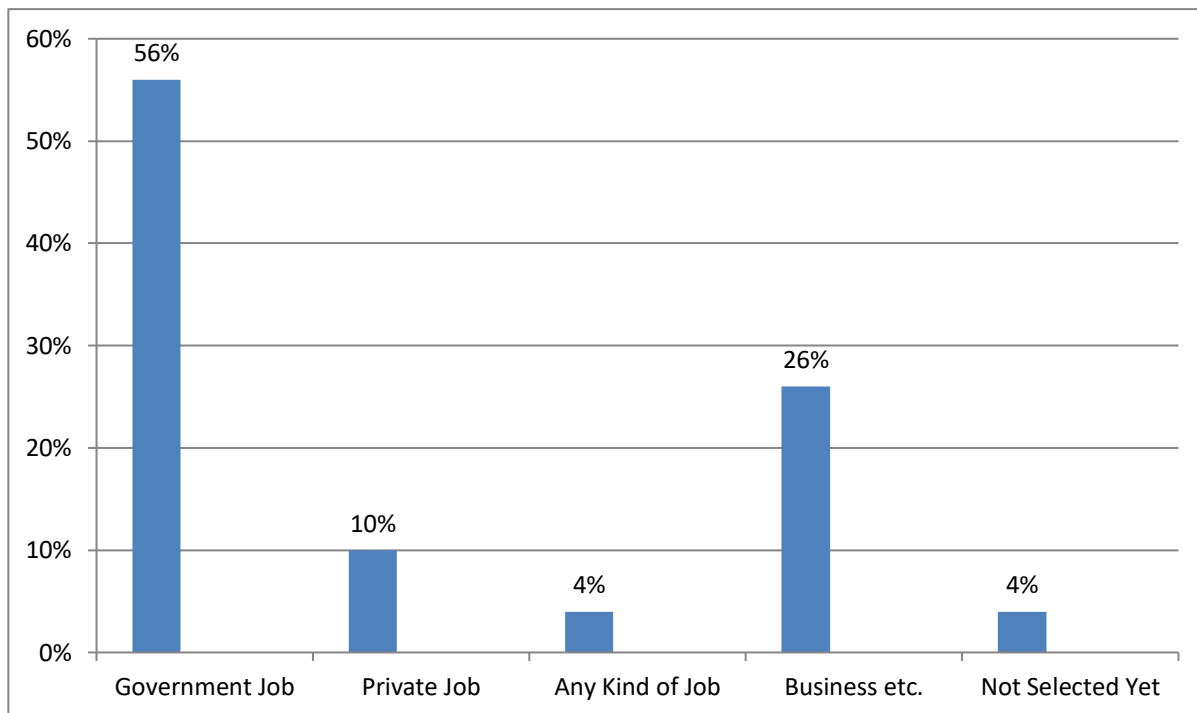


Table-2

In Table-2, the career preferences of students following their education are outlined as follows:

**Government Job (56%):** A majority of 56% of students express their primary aspiration for securing a government job, highlighting a strong inclination towards the public sector. This preference is indicative of the perceived stability, security, and prestige associated with government employment.

**Private Job (10%):** A minority of 10% of students aspire to work in the private sector. This category represents those who are drawn to the dynamic and competitive nature of private employment opportunities, often characterized by innovation and diverse industry choices.

**Any Kind of Job (4%):** A small but notable 4% of students are open to any type of job. Their flexibility suggests an eagerness to explore a range of career possibilities, perhaps reflecting a readiness to adapt to changing job market demands.

**Business and Entrepreneurship (26%):** A substantial 26% of students express a keen interest in business and entrepreneurship. This significant percentage underscores a growing entrepreneurial spirit among the youth, with aspirations ranging from startup ventures to contributing to economic growth.



**Not Selected Yet (4%):** Lastly, 4% of students remain undecided about their career paths. This group highlights the importance of providing career guidance and exploration opportunities to help them make informed choices about their future endeavors.

Table-2 provides a comprehensive breakdown of students' career preferences, offering insights into their varied aspirations following their education.

### **Obligation behind taking jobs**

In Bangladesh, like many other countries, taking up a job after completing education comes with various obligations and responsibilities. These obligations can be viewed from multiple perspectives, including personal, societal, and economic, and they play a significant role in shaping the career choices and expectations of individuals. Here's an overview of the key obligations associated with taking jobs after education in the context of Bangladesh:

#### **Supporting Family and Dependents**

Many individuals in Bangladesh have the obligation to support their families financially. This responsibility often starts immediately after completing education, as families may rely on the income of their educated family members to meet basic needs, including housing, food, and education for younger siblings.

#### **Contributing to Socioeconomic Development**

Taking a job is seen as a contribution to the country's economic development. As Bangladesh is a developing nation, the active participation of its educated youth in the workforce is vital for progress.

#### **Fulfilling Educational Investment**

Some individuals in Bangladesh finance their education through loans or scholarships. Obligations include repaying these loans or meeting scholarship conditions, which often require graduates to enter the workforce and contribute to the nation's development.

#### **Reducing Unemployment Pressure**

Bangladesh faces a challenge of high youth unemployment rates. Graduates are encouraged to take jobs to alleviate this pressure and to avoid idleness, which can lead to social and economic issues.

#### **Personal Growth and Self-Reliance**

For many graduates, taking a job is an opportunity to become financially independent and self-reliant. It's a step toward adulthood and self-sufficiency.

#### **Contributing to Skill Development**

Graduates have an obligation to put their acquired skills and knowledge to practical use. By working in their respective fields, they contribute to their own skill development and professional growth, which, in turn, benefits their employers and the country's overall workforce.

#### **Fulfilling Social Expectations**

In Bangladeshi society, having a job is often associated with respect and social standing. The expectation to

secure a job after education stems from societal norms and expectations.

### Supporting Retirement and Aging Parents

Graduates are often encouraged to start planning for their own retirement and to provide for their parents' financial needs in their old age. This obligation can influence career choices and financial decisions.

### Contributing to Taxation and Government Revenue

As employees, individuals contribute to the country's tax revenue through income tax and other deductions, which help fund public services and infrastructure development.

### Addressing Brain Drain

Bangladesh faces the challenge of "brain drain," where highly skilled individuals seek employment opportunities abroad. Encouraging graduates to work within the country helps mitigate this issue and retain talent.

In Bangladesh, the obligations associated with taking jobs after education are deeply rooted in cultural, economic, and societal norms. These obligations influence career choices and motivate individuals to actively participate in the workforce, contributing to the nation's growth and development.

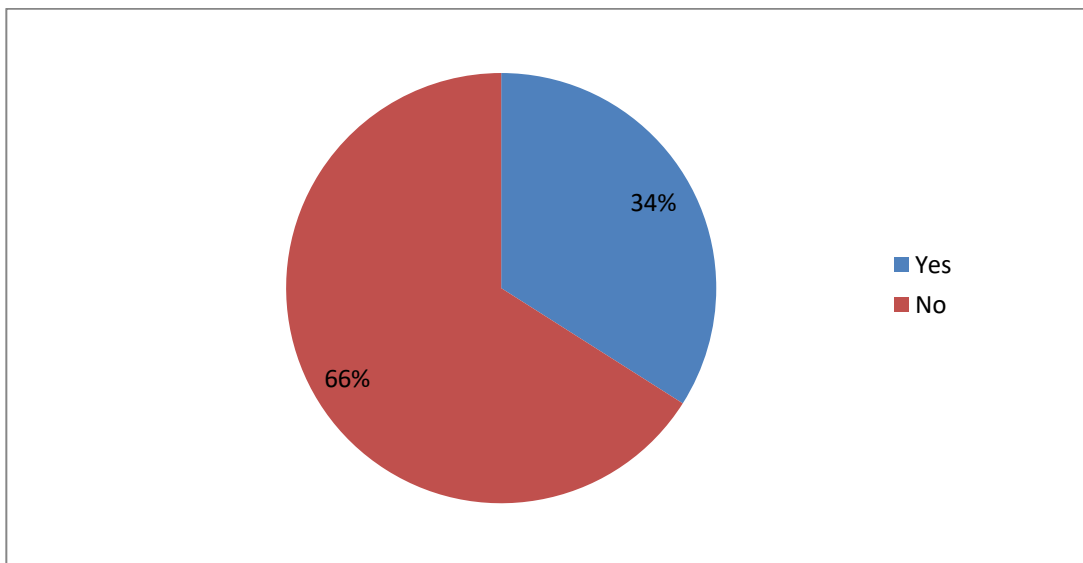


Table-3

Certainly, let's explore the implications and reasons behind the students' responses regarding their perceived obligations regarding taking urgent jobs after education: [Table-3]

### 34% Feel Obligated to Take Urgent Jobs

**Financial Responsibilities:** A significant portion of 34% of students indicating an obligation to take urgent jobs after education suggests that a considerable number of students are facing financial responsibilities. This could include supporting their families, repaying student loans, or covering personal expenses.

**External Pressures:** Students in this category may also be under external pressures, such as family expectations or societal norms that prioritize immediate financial stability over other considerations like

career passion or personal development.

**Practicality and Realism:** Some students may view taking urgent jobs as a practical and realistic choice, believing it will provide them with the means to address immediate financial needs and obligations.

**Short-Term Focus:** This group might prioritize short-term financial security over long-term career aspirations or job satisfaction, potentially influencing their career decisions.

### **66% Feel No Obligation to Take Urgent Jobs**

**Focus on Career Development:** The majority of 66% of students who do not feel obligated to take urgent jobs after education may prioritize career development, skill-building, and pursuing their passions.

**Long-Term Planning:** This group may have a long-term perspective, understanding that investing in their education and gaining valuable skills could lead to better career opportunities and financial stability in the future.

**Entrepreneurial Ambitions:** Some students may aspire to become entrepreneurs or pursue unconventional career paths, which might not require them to immediately take urgent jobs.

**Financial Support:** It's possible that some students in this category have access to financial support from family, scholarships, or other sources, reducing the immediate pressure to find urgent employment.

**Personal Fulfillment:** These students may prioritize personal fulfillment, job satisfaction, and alignment with their interests and values over the need for quick financial gains.

The data indicates a significant divergence in students' perspectives regarding the obligation to take urgent jobs after education. While a notable portion feels compelled by financial responsibilities and external pressures, the larger majority prioritize long-term career development, personal fulfillment, and a strategic approach to their post-education job search. Understanding these dynamics can inform educational institutions and policymakers in providing support and resources that cater to the varied needs and aspirations of students transitioning into the workforce.

### **Personal Effects for Selecting Career**

Selecting a career is one of the most pivotal and life-altering decisions we make. It is a choice that not only determines our professional path but also greatly influences our personal and emotional well-being. Beyond the pursuit of financial stability, a fulfilling career should align with our values, passions, and aspirations, ultimately shaping our sense of purpose and identity. This decision is not made in isolation; rather, it is influenced by a multitude of personal effects that encompass our individual experiences, interests, skills, and values. In this exploration of the personal effects that guide career selection, we delve into the intricate web of factors that contribute to the choices we make, shedding light on the unique interplay between our internal motivations and external circumstances. Understanding these personal effects is essential for making informed career decisions and embarking on a path that leads to both professional success and personal fulfillment.

### **Selection of Career by Personal Choice**

Choosing a career based on personal preference is a pivotal decision that significantly impacts one's life. It reflects an individual's interests, passions, and aspirations. Here, we explore the importance and implications of selecting a career by personal choice.

**Empowerment and Fulfillment:** Opting for a career by personal choice empowers individuals to pursue their passions and interests. This alignment often leads to a fulfilling and satisfying professional life, as they are more likely to enjoy what they do on a daily basis.

**Intrinsic Motivation:** Personal choice-driven careers are often fueled by intrinsic motivation. Individuals are naturally driven to excel in fields they are passionate about, which can lead to greater achievements and innovations in their chosen areas.

**Resilience:** When individuals choose their careers based on personal preferences, they tend to exhibit greater resilience and perseverance in the face of challenges. Their passion for the work helps them overcome obstacles and continue to strive for success.

### **Selection By the Decision of Guardian**

In many cultures and societies, the decision of one's career path is often influenced by the guidance and choices made by parents or guardians. This external influence can have profound effects on an individual's professional journey.

**Tradition and Cultural Factors:** The decision of a career by the guardian can be influenced by cultural norms and traditions. Often, parents may encourage their children to follow family traditions or pursue careers that are considered prestigious in their community.

**Financial Security:** Guardians may prioritize careers that offer financial security and stability, aiming to provide their children with a comfortable life. This focus on economic well-being can lead to choices in fields with stable income prospects.

**Balancing Interests:** In some cases, the guidance of guardians may be well-intentioned, aiming to balance an individual's interests and market demand. However, it is essential to strike a balance that aligns with the individual's passions and aspirations.

### **Selection of Career Inspired by Another**

Inspiration can come from various sources, and one of the influential factors in career selection is being inspired by someone else's journey or achievements. Here, we explore the impact of choosing a career inspired by another person.

**Role Models and Mentors:** Inspiration from another person often stems from admiration for a role model or mentor who has excelled in a particular field. These individuals serve as sources of motivation and guidance for those aspiring to follow in their footsteps.

**Diverse Career Paths:** Inspiration can lead individuals to explore diverse career paths they may not have considered otherwise. Learning about someone else's success story can broaden their horizons and encourage them to venture into new and exciting fields.

**Supportive Networks:** Career choices inspired by others often come with the support of a network that shares similar interests and goals. This network can provide valuable insights, resources, and opportunities for growth and development.

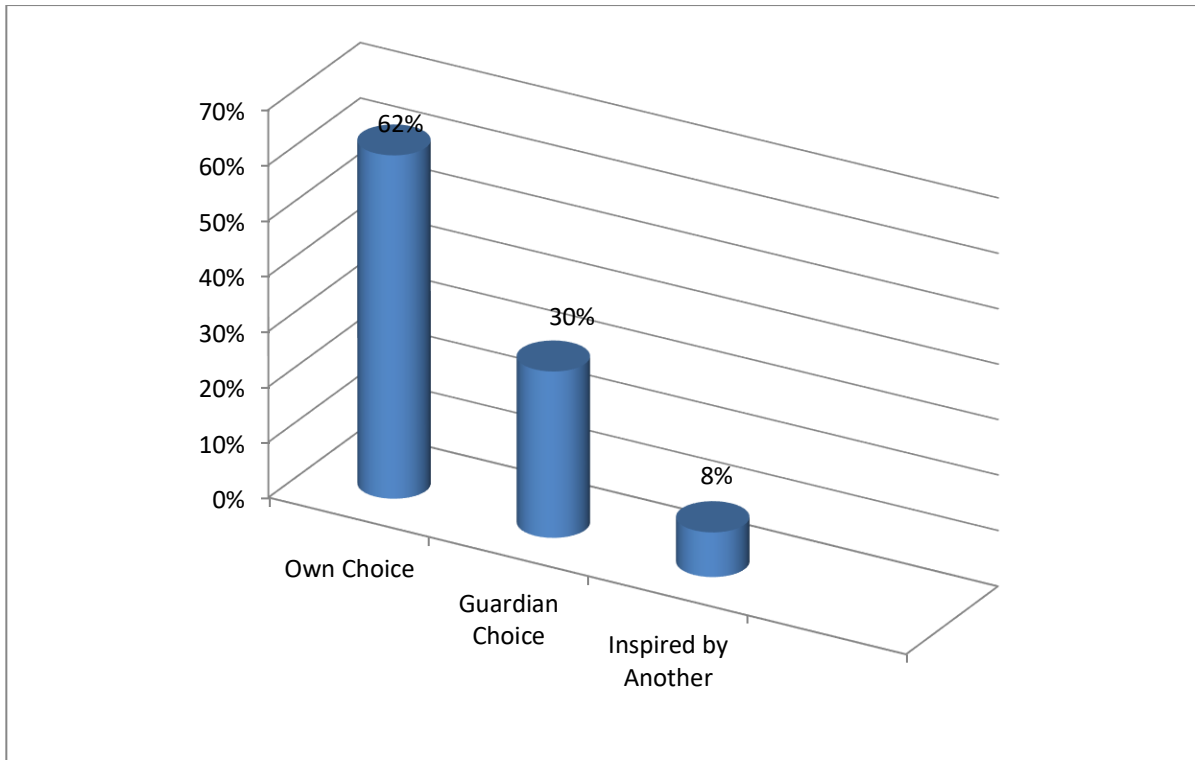


Table-4

Table-4 reveals the dynamics at play, highlighting the significant role of personal choice, guardian influence, and external inspiration in shaping career paths. Let’s explore these findings in more detail.

### Personal Choice Dominates Career Selection

A substantial 62% of individuals attribute their career choice to personal preference, underscoring the importance of aligning one’s profession with their own aspirations and interests.

### Guardian Influence is Significant

A significant 30% of respondents indicate that their career decisions are influenced by the guidance and decisions of their guardians, illustrating the crucial role parents and mentors play in shaping career choices.

### External Inspiration Plays a Minor Role

A smaller yet noteworthy 8% of individuals draw inspiration for their career choices from external sources, suggesting that role models, societal influences, or other factors occasionally come into play.

The majority of individuals prioritize personal choice when selecting a career, emphasizing the significance of pursuing paths that resonate with their own desires and passions. However, the influence of guardians and external sources cannot be overlooked, as they also contribute significantly to the career decision-making process.

### Catalysts behind career choice

Understanding the driving factors behind individuals’ career choices is crucial in comprehending their motivations and aspirations. Table-5 provides insights into the catalysts that influence career decisions among respondents. These catalysts reflect the values and priorities of individuals as they embark on their

professional journeys. Let's delve into the specifics:

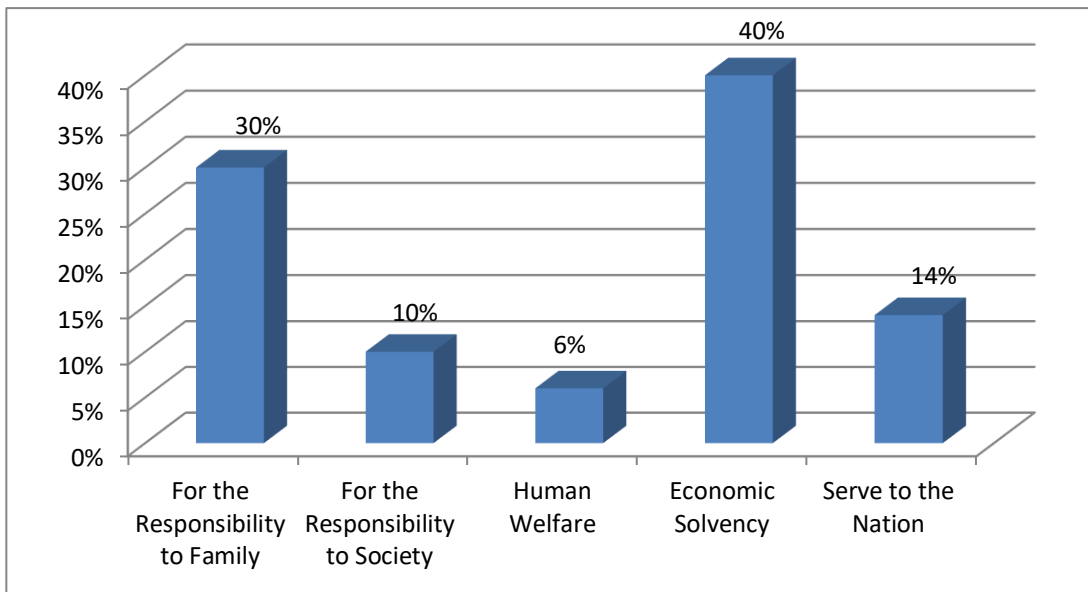


Table-5

**Responsibility to Family (30%):** A significant portion, comprising 30% of respondents, cite their sense of responsibility towards their family as a primary driver behind their career choices. This underscores the importance of familial obligations and the desire to support and provide for loved ones in their decision-making process.

**Responsibility to Society (10%):** While a smaller proportion, accounting for 10% of respondents, feel a responsibility towards society. This indicates a commitment to contributing positively to the broader community and addressing societal needs through their careers.

**Human Welfare (6%):** A compassionate 6% of respondents are motivated by the noble cause of human welfare. Their career choices are guided by a deep-seated desire to make a difference in the lives of others, emphasizing the altruistic aspect of their decisions.

**Economic Solvency (40%):** The largest share, encompassing 40% of respondents, is driven by the pursuit of economic solvency. This suggests a pragmatic approach to career selection, with individuals prioritizing financial stability and security as a fundamental consideration.

**Serve the Nation (14%):** A notable 14% of respondents express a strong inclination to serve their nation. This reflects a patriotic fervor and a dedication to working in roles that contribute directly to the betterment and advancement of their country.

It is to be said that individuals' career choices are influenced by a diverse array of catalysts, including family responsibilities, societal concerns, altruism, economic stability, and national service. These varying motivations highlight the rich tapestry of values and priorities that guide individuals in shaping their professional paths.

## CONSIDERING MEASURES TO CHOOSE A SUITABLE CAREER IN BANGLADESH CONCLUSION

Choosing a suitable career path in Bangladesh involves careful consideration and a series of steps to ensure

a well-informed decision. Some key measures to assist in the selection of a career that aligns with one's interests, skills, and objectives include:

### **Conducting Self-Assessment**

A beginning point involves evaluating personal interests, values, strengths, and areas that require improvement. Activities that evoke passion and fulfillment should be taken into account. Self-assessment tools and career assessments may provide valuable insights into personality traits and preferences.

### **Gathering Information and Research**

Thorough research on various career options available in Bangladesh should be conducted. This involves investigating educational prerequisites, employment prospects, and expected remuneration in different fields. Consultation with professionals in relevant sectors is advised to gain insights into their respective vocations.

### **Evaluating Academic Proficiency**

An assessment of academic strengths and preferences is essential. Proficiency in particular subjects or courses that are either enjoyed or excelled in can be indicative of potential career paths.

### **Fostering Skill Development**

Identifying skills required in the chosen career and working towards their enhancement is necessary. Enrollment in pertinent courses, workshops, or certifications facilitates skill set development.

### **Creating a Network**

Building a professional network by establishing connections with mentors, educators, industry experts, and alumni is recommended. Networking offers valuable guidance and exposure to potential career avenues.

### **Participating in Internships and Volunteering**

Gaining practical experience through internships and volunteer work within the desired field is invaluable. Such experience substantiates career decisions and contributes to a relevant resume.

### **Establishing Clear Objectives**

Defining both short-term and long-term career goals provides direction to career choices and actions.

### **Considering Market Demand**

An understanding of the current job market scenario in Bangladesh assists in identifying industries that exhibit growth and demand. Opting for a career in high-demand sectors enhances job security prospects.

### **Soliciting Guidance**

Consultation with career advisors, counselors, or mentors who possess expertise in alignment with personal interests and skills is advisable. They offer informed advice and resources.

### **Commitment to Continuous Learning**

Openness to continuous learning and adaptability is essential. Industries and careers evolve over time

, necessitating staying updated with industry trends and constant acquisition of new knowledge.

### **Exploring Through Experience**

Trying out different internships or entry-level positions within the chosen field is encouraged. Hands-on experience often illuminates whether a career is suited.

### **Weighing Work-Life Balance**

The consideration of lifestyle preferences and work-life equilibrium when selecting a career is important. Some professions may entail longer work hours or frequent travel, hence alignment with personal life goals is recommended.

### **Financial Consideration**

Evaluating the financial aspect of the chosen career path is crucial. Understanding earning potential and job stability associated with the chosen field is prudent.

## **CONCLUSION**

The research conducted on the determinants of career choice among the youth in Bangladesh represents a remarkable and exhaustive multidimensional analysis that endeavors to unveil the intricate web of factors influencing the career decisions of this dynamic demographic. In a landscape where the aspirations, ambitions, and paths of the youth are shaped by a multitude of forces, this study emerges as a beacon of comprehensive understanding, shining a light on the multifaceted nature of career choices. It underscores the interplay between individual aspirations, societal pressures, and economic considerations, weaving a rich tapestry of motivations and decisions.

This ambitious research project embarks on an exploration of various dimensions, diving deep into the complex factors that propel Bangladeshi youth towards their chosen career paths. It casts its net wide, encompassing not just personal aspirations, but also the weight of familial responsibilities, the desire to make meaningful societal contributions, concerns for human welfare, the quest for economic stability, and the call for national service. Each of these dimensions represents a thread in the intricate tapestry of career choice, and this study adeptly weaves them together, offering a more profound understanding of the choices made by the youth.

Moreover, this research is a testament to the complexity and nuance of career decision-making. It doesn't reduce these decisions to simplistic formulas; instead, it recognizes the intricate dance between a multitude of personal, cultural, and socio-economic factors. It appreciates the fact that the career choices of the youth are not just individual choices but are deeply embedded in the larger fabric of societal and economic influences.

Furthermore, the importance of this research extends beyond academia. It underscores the significance of recognizing and respecting the diverse motivations and aspirations of the youth population in Bangladesh. The findings are not just academic exercises but practical tools that policymakers, educators, and career counselors can utilize to better guide and support the youth in aligning their career choices with their individual values and aspirations. By doing so, it empowers the youth to make informed and meaningful career choices that resonate with their unique aspirations and cater to the evolving needs of their society.

In a world where the youth of Bangladesh continue to navigate a rapidly evolving job market and societal landscape, this research is crucial. It highlights the pivotal role of informed career decisions in fostering



personal fulfillment and contributing to the nation's overall development. This study serves as a valuable foundation for future research and policy initiatives aimed at empowering the youth to make informed and meaningful career choices. It is a testament to the potential of multidimensional analysis in shedding light on the intricacies of career choices, ensuring that the voices and aspirations of the youth are heard and respected.

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