SECTION TWELVE
SOUTH ASIAN MUSLIM WOMEN’S HEALTH

A. Women’s Physical Health Status


The lack of education of mothers is the strongest factor responsible for infant and child mortality. Skill training programmes and other activities outside the home are found to have a great impact in reducing female fertility. This sector-wise detailed report on the status of women in Bangladesh examines strategies and the programmes adopted for development and studies their results.


This thesis addresses political dimensions of women’s health. It aims at analyzing women’s perceptions about their health which keep women subservient to men, perpetuates their low social status, and makes them participate in the process of their own exploitation.


A cross-sectional case control study was conducted comparing working women employed at the Women’s Work Centres of the Orangi Pilot Project, Karachi, with non-working matched controls. Results of the study are discussed in this work.


The aim of the article is to increase awareness among Muslim women about the priority issues in women’s health. In national statistics, tables of morbidity and mortality are not classified by sex. It is found that Muslim women are comparatively amongst the least educated.

This report provides information on health problems of Pakistani women and identifies steps to address them.


This paper studies women’s beliefs and health in an urban slum and in one rural settlement in the Punjab. Health has a very low priority in their lives. Health problems reported by women were seen as a necessary part of womanhood; if treatment was sought, it was often from a traditional healer. Findings showed that ‘women’s health was not a high priority in these women’s or their families’ lives.’

**I. Women with Disabilities**


This book includes a biographical sketch of Fatima Shah, a medical doctor who lost her eyesight in 1957. From 1947 Dr. Shah worked for the rehabilitation of refugee women who migrated to Pakistan from India following Independence in 1947. Later she established the Pakistan Association for the Blind in 1960 and received several international awards for services rendered to the cause of the blind in Pakistan.


This is the story of Salma Maqbool, an army medical doctor who later gave up her job due to blindness. It describes her pioneering services to the cause of women with disabilities. Today she is deeply involved in the welfare work of blind persons both on the national and international level.


This unique book is a mother-daughter creation. Raihana Hasan has edited and translated into English, the autobiography of her mother Dr. Fatima Shah, describing her early life, marriage, and birth of her children, education, travels, and many more events in the life of this courageous woman. Valuable information is included about the All Pakistan Women’s Association of which Shah was an active member since its inception. The book includes several photographs of Fatima Shah and of her parents, husband, children, and friends.