

By: Navaid Ali Khan and Priya Sharma

Effect of Women autonomy on Maternal Care among Muslim: a cross countries comparative study in India, Bangladesh and Indonesia

Introduction:

Autonomy is ideally define as self-sufficient or capability of a women in decision making. The dimensions of women's autonomy in terms of outside mobility, access to economic resources and involvement in household decisions has association with maternal and child health. Women's "status" refers to both the respect accorded to individuals and the personal power available to them. While women value prestige, it is the level of personal autonomy that appears to influence demographic behavior and resulting outcomes. Autonomy has been defined as the capacity to manipulate one's personal environment through control over resources and information in order to make decisions about one's own concerns or about close family members (Basu 1992; Dyson and Moore 1983; Miles-Done and Bisharat 1990). Women's autonomy thus can be conceptualized as their ability to determine events in their lives, even though men and other women may be opposed to their wishes.

Social and economic status of women uses to judge the status of a country in terms of development. Women autonomy is a composition of decision making of women within and outside the family, mobility, freedom from threatening relations with husband, and access to and control over economic resources. India is second Populated country in the world with 1.27 billion population and containing approximately 17.5% of the world's population. Some of the well known reasons for India's rapidly growing population are poverty, illiteracy, high fertility rate, rapid decline in death rates or mortality rates and immigration. Currently, there are about 51 births in India in a minute, if current trend of population growth continue, it is projected to be the world's most populous country by 2025. India has more than 50% of its population below the age of 25 and more than 65% below the age of 35. It is expected that, in 2020, the average age of an Indian will be 29 years.

People live in India belongs to different regions speak different languages and they have different culture but fallow mainly four religions Hindu, Muslim, Sikh, Christian and a small proportion also share by Buddhist. Muslim is a second majority in India. Women's belong to Muslim religion consider as more vulnerable In India. Female autonomy has widely been acknowledged as a major factor that contributes to better demographic outcomes. Female autonomy is a multi-dimensional entity, which

refers to different aspects of women's life. We cannot imagine the better future without contribute of female. The Current sex ratio of India is 940 females for every 1000 males. It continuously decreases from birth to ages. This indicates towards gender disparity which is exists not only in India, Indonesia and Bangladesh but all over the world and especially in Asian. Muslim women are poor in autonomy and social capital; many national and international study and research address the poor autonomy and social capital which is directly linked with poor health and demographic outcome of women among Muslim, such as Caldwell state that Islam restricts women's activities in ways that other religions do not (Caldwell 1986). Many argue that Muslim societies are predisposed to high fertility, unmet need for contraception, pron-atalism, and infant and child mortality (e.g. Caldwell 1986; Faour 1989; Kirk 1968; Nagi1984;Youssef 1978). One hypothesis that has been offered to explain this poor demographic performance is that Islam promotes restrictions on women's power and autonomy in way that compromise women's ability to limit fertility or secure good health for themselves and their children. In India and Bangladesh the status of women has been subject to many great changes over the past few millennia. From equal status with men in ancient times through the low points of the medieval period, to the promotion of equal rights by many reformers, the history of women in India has been eventful. Still the status of women is not equal men.

The Meaning of Women's Autonomy:

Autonomy defines as the capacity for a woman to achieve well being and a role in decision-making. Female autonomy has widely been acknowledged as a major factor that contributes to better health, demographic and social outcomes and health of children as well. Female autonomy is a multi-dimensional entity, which refers to different aspects of women's life.

Autonomy as 'the capacity to manipulate one's personal environment and the ability – technical, social and psychological to obtain information and to use it as the basis for making decisions about one's private concerns and those of one's intimates'.

Need of the study:

Some of the well known reasons for India's rapidly growing population are poverty, illiteracy, high fertility rate, rapid decline in death rates or mortality rates and immigration from Bangladesh and Nepal. Development having slower growth rate and our resources are not capable to cope up with rapid growing population, rapid growing population is a result of decline in mortality and high fertility rate which was high in older time and also high at this time. Low level of literacy is due to lower level of education among female, male get the preference at all resources as well as in education also. Female education and work participation are being considered as the two major proxy variables of women's autonomy. Studies conducted in the context of developing countries have documented the relative significance of these two factors particularly that of female education, in determining better demographic outcomes such as low fertility, child mortality and better health status etc.

The female disadvantage in less-developed countries like India and Bangladesh and in India also with regard to health and well-being has been documented abundantly (Santow 1995). The health status of both women and children, particularly female children, suffers in relation to that of males in areas where patriarchal kinship and economic systems limit women's autonomy (Caldwell 1986). Gender is a salient source of social stratification across many societies and the study of the autonomy and power of women relative to men reveals important insights about women's wellbeing (Presser 1997). Constraints on women's autonomy are also thought to relate to a variety of Demographic and health outcomes.

Women with closer ties to natal kin are more likely to have greater autonomy in each of these three areas. Women with greater freedom of movement, excess to economic resources and decision making in large and small household matters obtained higher levels of antenatal care and are more likely to use safe delivery care and personal and child health care. The influence of women's autonomy on the use of health care appears to be as important as other known determinants such as education. Female education, work participation and excess of economic resources and more importantly decision making power are being considered as the major proxy variables of women's autonomy. Particularly female education and excess to resources are use in determining better demographic outcomes such as low fertility, child mortality and better health status etc.

Muslim is the second majority in India and spread all over the India. Indonesia and Bangladesh are they countries where Muslim are in Majority. In India Muslim are most vulnerable people they are at the lower level in terms of education, social and economically according to Sachar Committee report, so

we can understand the condition of Muslim and imagine the status of women among Muslim. The report is first of its kind revealing the backwardness of Indian Muslims, according to Sachar Committee report some of the major concerns are:

- The status of Indian Muslims is below the conditions of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- The overall percentage of Muslims in bureaucracy in India is just 2.5% whereas Muslims constitute above 14% of Indian population.

When compared to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes the growth in literacy for Muslims was lower than for the former. The female urban enrolment in literacy ratio for the SCs/STs In Hindu was 40 percent in 1965 that rose to 83 per cent in 2001. The equivalent rate for Muslims—that was considerably higher in 1965 (52 per cent)—recorded a figure of 80 per cent, lower than the figure for the SCs / STs in Hindu.

So, we can understand the social, economic and educational condition of the Muslim community in India. Women's belong to Muslim religion consider as more vulnerable In India. Many study based on women autonomy and empowerment in Asia and India address that Islam is an obstacle in the development of women. The poor outcome of demography such as high fertility, poor health and nutritional condition of women and child among the people belong to the Muslim religion and low status and poor autonomy among Muslim women not only in India and Bangladesh but also in all over the Asia especially in South-east Asia. And these factors which mention above are strongly associated with maternal, infant and child health and subsequent maternal mortality, But the infant mortality (including parental and neonatal) are approximately equal to the people belong to Hindu religion.

Yet the relationship of these broad socio-demographic characteristics to actual behavior patterns and resulting health outcomes is not consistent across or within cultures. For example, greater selective discrimination against girls and higher birth order was observed among younger, more highly educated women in Punjab, India (Das Gupta 1987). Several studies in South Asia have observed variation in the effects 67% of these factors on direct measures of women's behavior and have concluded that socio-demographic variables are not reliable indicators of women's position. Rather, investigation~ of the impact of women's position on demographic and health outcomes should use direct measures reflecting women's degree of control and autonomy and in their lives. Evidence Show that Muslims in India are poor in terms of social and demographic indicators compare to the Bangladesh and Indonesia.

In this context this study, is an attempt make the understanding about the factors determining female autonomy among Muslim In India, Bangladesh and Indonesia and the relative significance of the some proxy variables of Autonomy which affect the maternal. Also, more important is to understand the indicators of the well being of women, which are often expected as the outcome of exercising their autonomy. Hence, the association between female autonomy and selected indicators of their well being such as health, Child care and survival and education in broad sense better demographic outcome, incidence of domestic violence and contraceptive acceptance also having need to analyzed.

Objective of the Study:

- To examine the state of women autonomy and its determinants among married Muslim women
- To examine the effect of women autonomy on maternal care.

Data Source and Methodology:

Present Study uses the data from Demographic Health Survey (DHS) .DHS 2007 for Bangladesh and Indonesia and for India DHS 2006, which is global standard for systematically monitoring. DHS have large sample sizes (usually between 5,000 and 30,000 households) and typically are conducted about every 5 years, to allow comparisons over time. Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) are nationally-representative household surveys that provide data for a wide range of monitoring and impact evaluation indicators in the areas of population, health, and nutrition etc. The 2007 Bangladesh Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS) is a nationally representative survey of 3,771 men age 15-54 from 10,400 households.

In Indonesia DHS is a nationally representative survey of 40,701 households, 32,895ecer married women age 15-49 and 8,758 currently married men age 15-54. In India DHs which is popularly known as National family Health Survey 2005-06 NFHS-3 collected information from a nationally representative sample of 109,041 households, 124,385 women age 15-49, and 74,369 men age 15-54. The NFHS-3 sample covers 99 percent of India's population living in all 29 states. From among all the women and men interviewed nationwide, 102,946 were tested for HIV. This data provide the information such as religious and cultural contribution in empowerment and autonomy, health information and reported health problem., through which this cross-sectional study will provide a 'snapshot' of the autonomy of women, social capital, condition and use of health care services, provision of maternal services, and the level of child and maternal health care utilization.

Bi-variate and logistic regression techniques have been used for analyzing the level and differentials of Autonomy of women and its impact on Maternal care across the selected countries. Where Bi-variate show the relationship between two variables (dependent and independent) and logistic regression use to observed the effect of independent variables on dependent variables since data is also providing information of family planning, maternal care use. Family planning, maternal cares have been considered as dependent variables.

The Level of women autonomy and its determinants among married Muslim women across the selected countries

Table 1 shows the level of autonomy, mean value gives the average value of women autonomy or decision making across the countries and within the different background categories, if women take decision alone. Women's in Indonesia are having higher value of autonomy in all background characteristics followed by India and Bangladesh. Table shows as age of women increasing autonomy of women also increasing till age group 40-44 and then get decline with elder ages in Indonesia and Bangladesh but in case of India it get starts decline with 35-39 age group. The variation of autonomy or decision making power with age of women varies with faster rate in India and in Bangladesh which is not happening in Indonesia. In Indonesia it is fluctuating from younger to elder ages. By the place of residence it is always high in urban area in all selected countries, by the education of women it is high among educated women and low among uneducated women both In India and Bangladesh but in Indonesia the situation is inverse, it is high among uneducated although very less proportion of women in Indonesia belongs to non-educated category .Table shows that sex of head of household is very crucial in building women autonomy if the head of household is male there is low autonomy among women. If it is females, women are having great autonomy and it is seem more crucial factor in Bangladesh. Wealth of women is not showing any significant impact on women autonomy in all selected countries although is varies from poor to higher but with fluctuation and with very small difference. Occupations of women are showing as important factor for autonomy, women who are professional, services and skilled and unskilled manual they are rich in autonomy.

Figure 1.1 Mean score of women alone autonomy across the countries

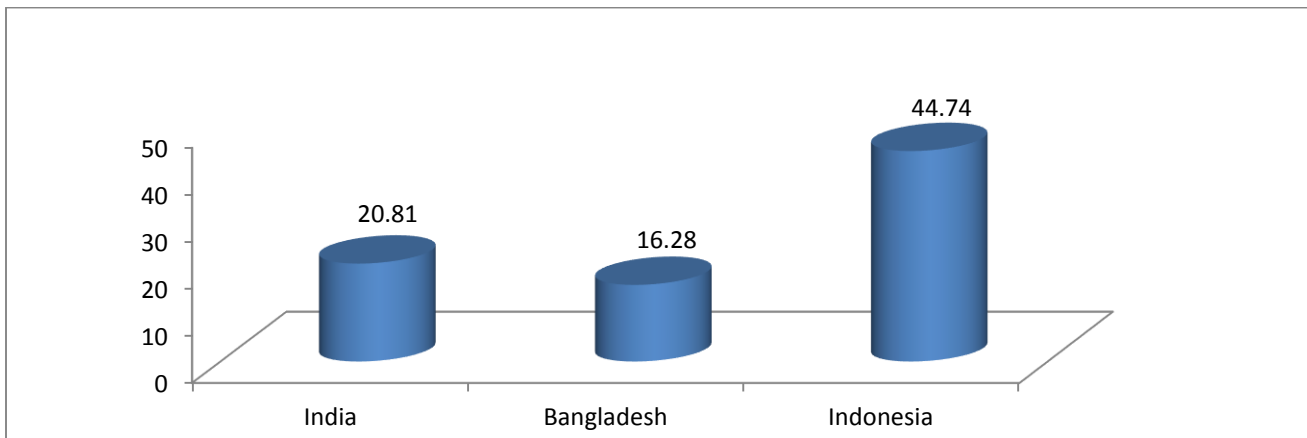


Figure shows the level of autonomy, mean value gives the average value of women autonomy or decision making across the countries, if women take decision alone. Figure shows that women's in Indonesia are having higher value of autonomy followed by India and Bangladesh.

Figure 1.2 Percentage distributions of women alone Autonomy across the selected countries:

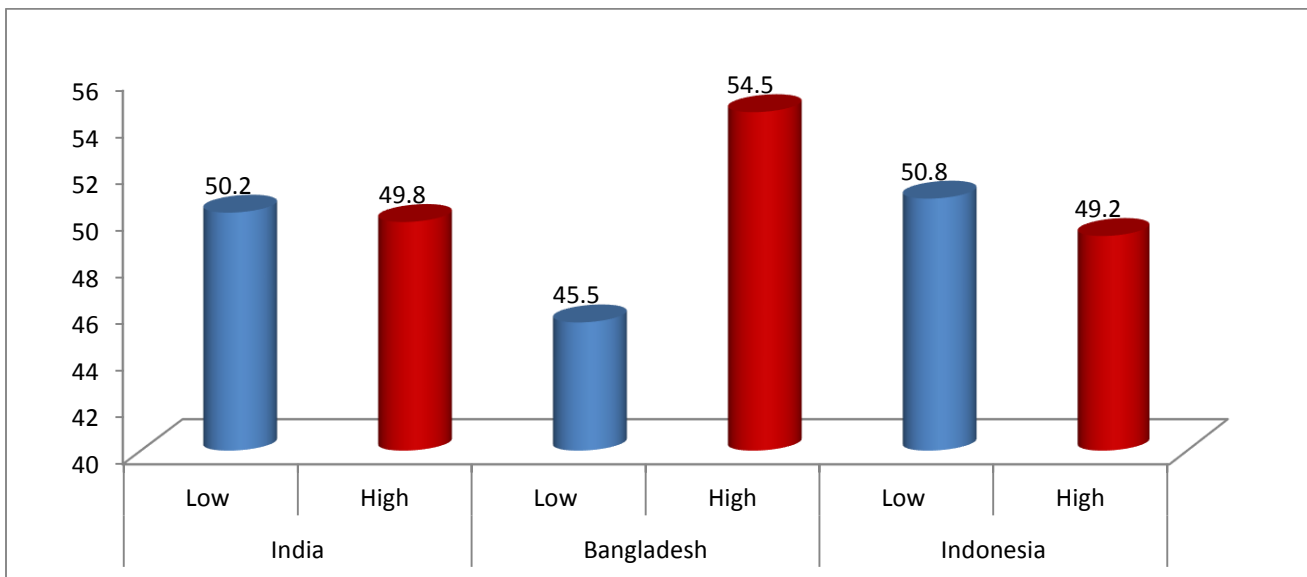


Figure shows women's in India and Indonesia are having approximately equal distribution of women alone autonomy but women in Bangladesh over all are having higher autonomy.

Figure 1.3 Mean score of women alone autonomy by age group of women in across selected countries

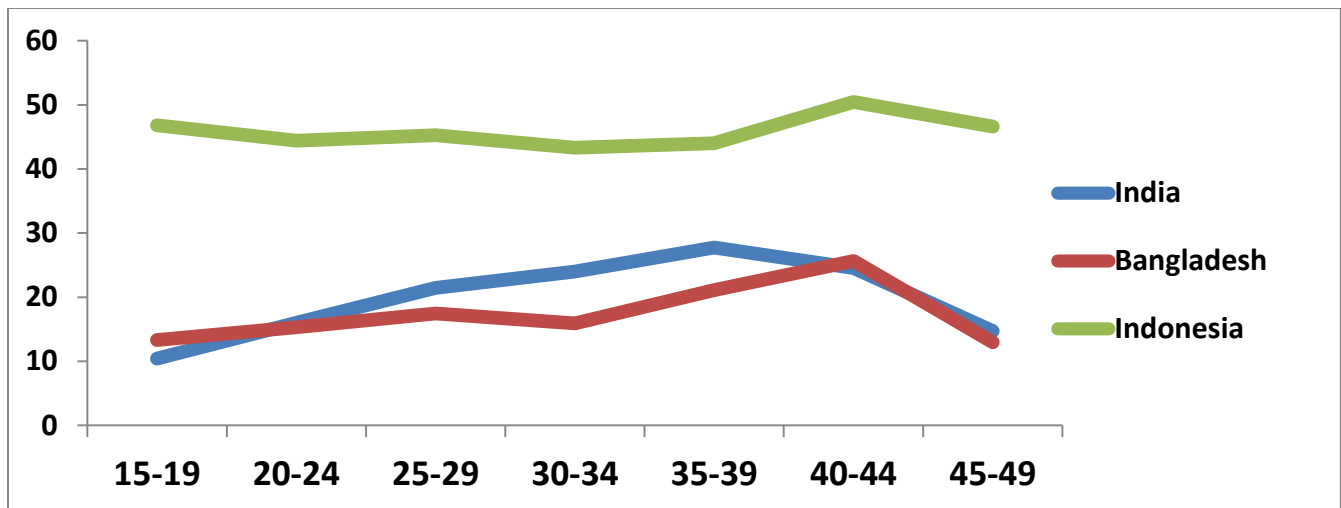


Figure shows as age of women increasing autonomy of women also increasing till age group 40-44 and then get decline with elder ages in Indonesia and Bangladesh but in case of India it get starts decline with 35-39 age group. The variation of autonomy or decision making power with age of women varies with faster rate in India and in Bangladesh which is not happening in Indonesia. In Indonesia it is continue fluctuating from younger to elder ages.

Figure 1.4 Mean score of women alone autonomy by place of residence in across selected countries

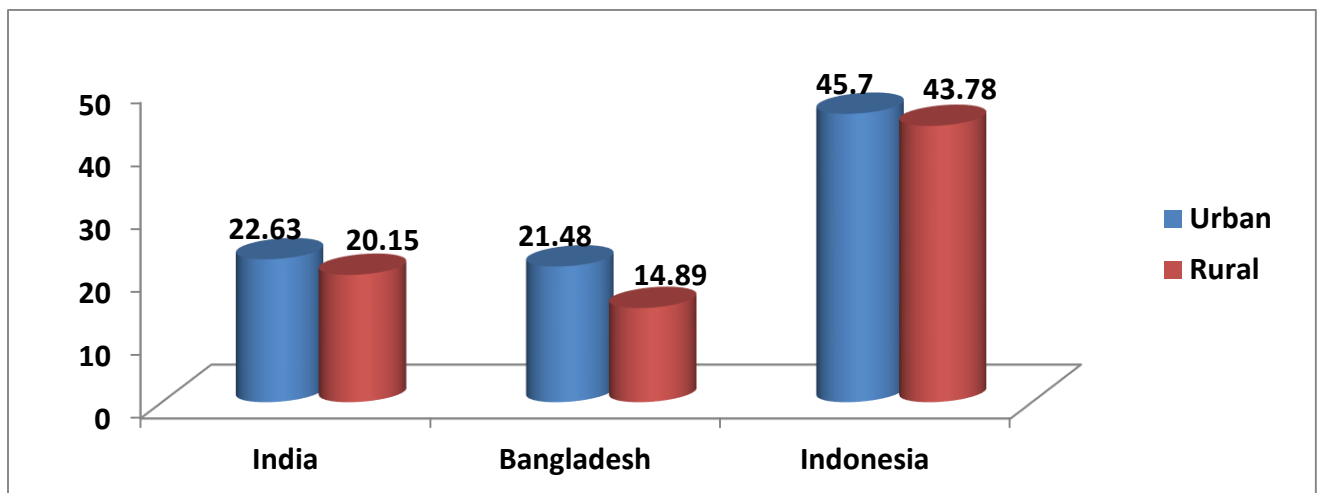


Figure Shows that the level of autonomy of women alone by the place of residence it is always high in urban area in all selected countries compare to the rural areas but higher differences observe in Bangladesh followed by India and Indonesia.

Figure 1.5: Mean score of women alone autonomy by the education of women across the selected countries

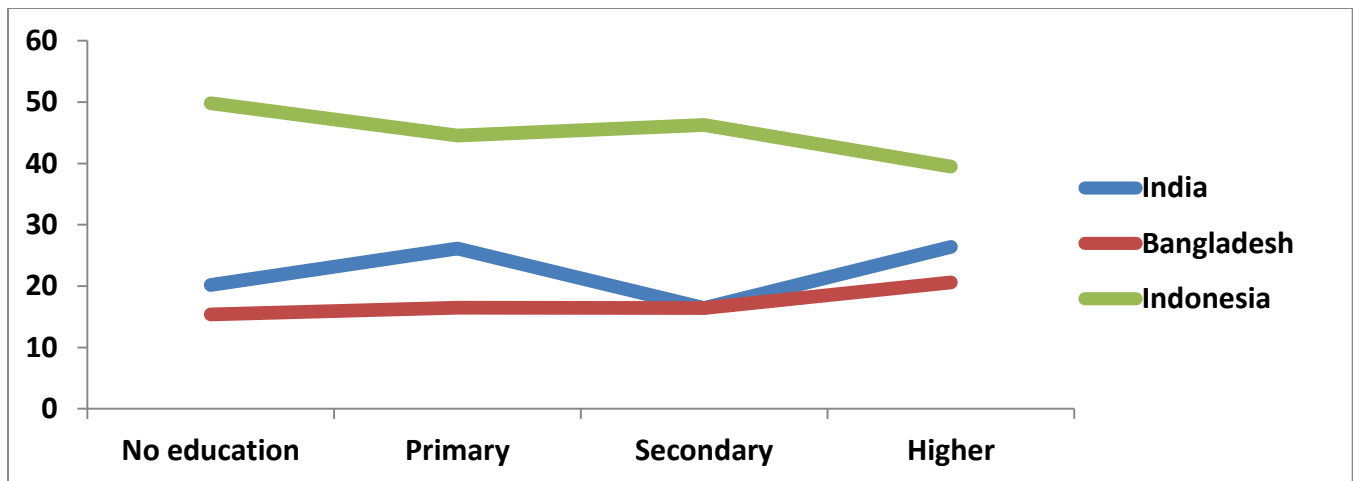


Figure shows the autonomy of women alone by the education of women is high among educated women and low among uneducated women both In India and Bangladesh but in Indonesia the situation is inverse, it is high among uneducated, although very less proportion of women in Indonesia belongs to non-educated category. In India it is high among primary educated women and approximately equally high among higher educated women and low among secondary educated women.

Figure 1.6: Mean score of women alone autonomy by sex of household head across the selected countries

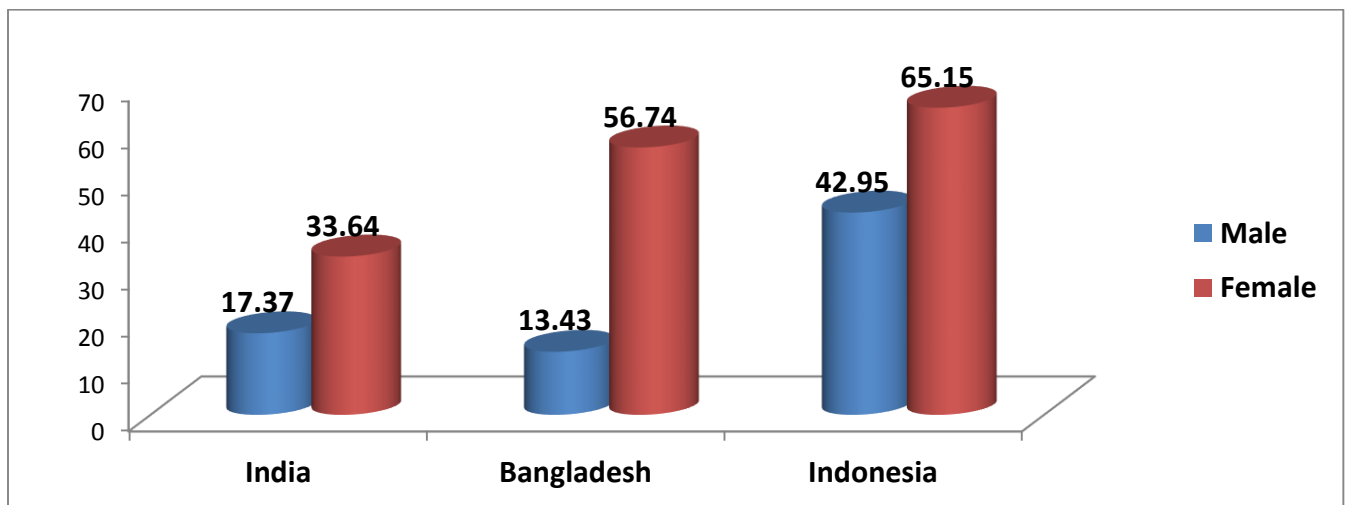


Figure shows the sex of household head of is very crucial in building women autonomy if the head of household is male there is low autonomy among women across the all selected countries. If it is females, women are having great autonomy and it is seem more crucial factor in Bangladesh followed by India and Indonesia.

Figure 1.7: Mean score of women alone autonomy by wealth of women across the selected countries

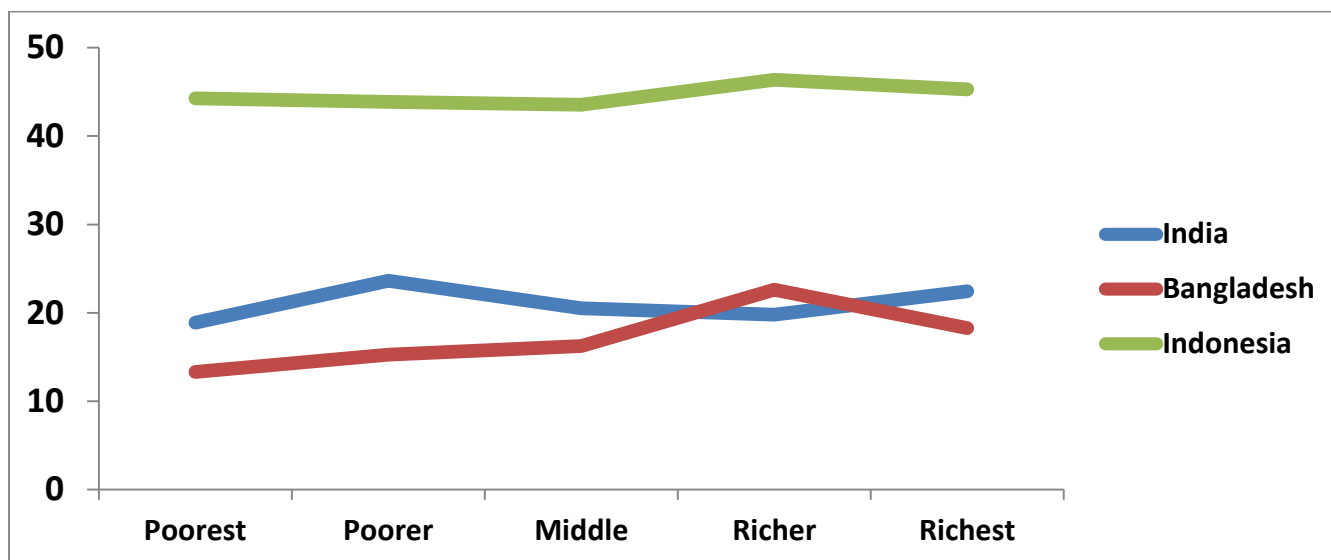


Figure shows the autonomy score of women with wealth quintile of women. Figure shows as the level of wealth of women increase autonomy of women also increase. In Indonesia and Bangladesh autonomy of women is high among rich and richest women but in India it is high among poorer women than among the women belong to richest wealth quintiles.

Figure 1.8: Mean score of women alone autonomy by profession of women across the selected countries

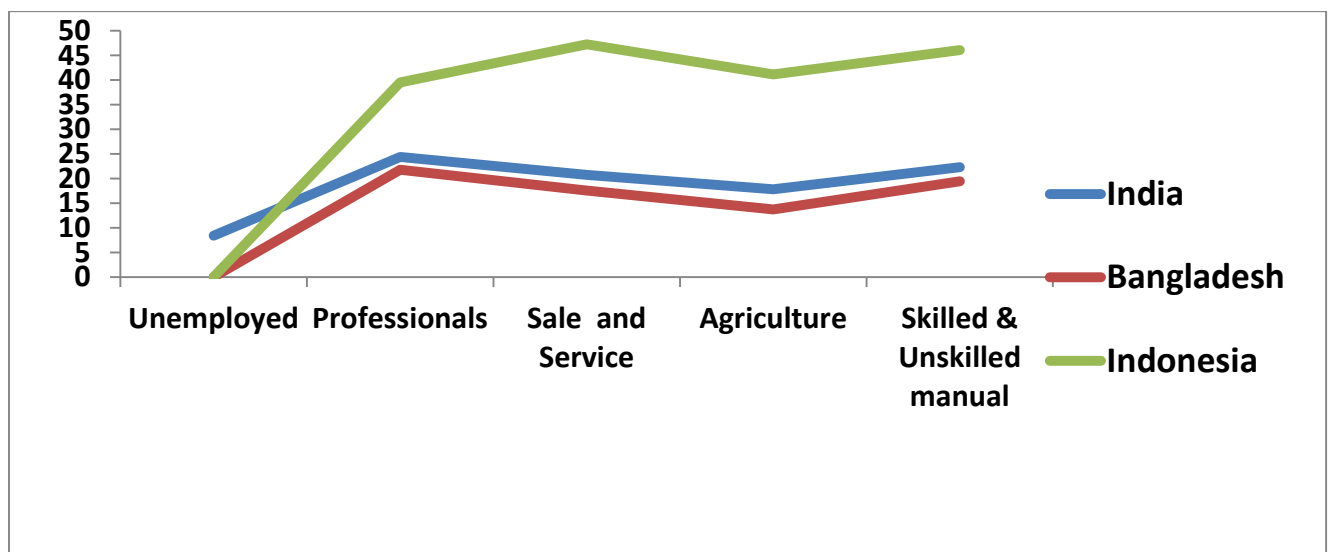


Figure shows that women who are professional (including teacher, professor, bankers, clerks etc.) are having higher autonomy in India and in Bangladesh but in Indonesia higher autonomy associated with sales and services than skilled and unskilled manual.

Table 2 shows that women with joint autonomy are having higher value in all background categories as compare to women with alone autonomy. Women with joint autonomy (Including women, husband and other family member’s decision combine) get 3-4 fold up in autonomy, in Bangladesh it is more than 4 time high joint autonomy compare to women alone autonomy followed by India and in Indonesia. And the variation of autonomy within the different background categories is very less, if we compare to women alone autonomy.

Figure 2.1 mean autonomy score of women joint autonomy across the countries

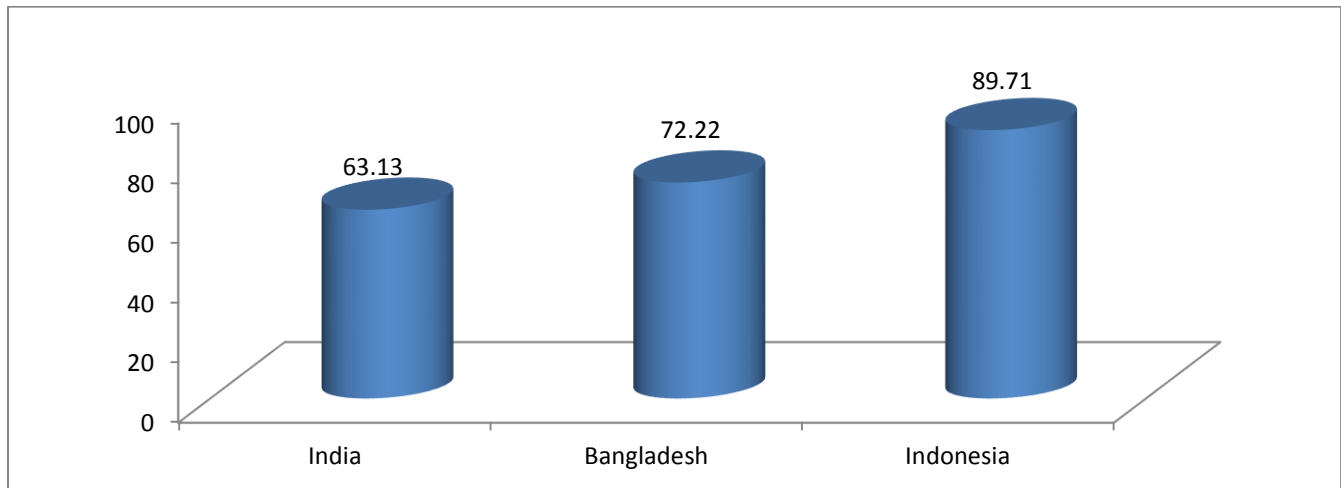


Figure shows that women with joint autonomy (Including women, husband and other family member’s decision combine) get 3-4 fold up in autonomy, in Bangladesh it is more than 4 time high joint autonomy compare to women alone autonomy followed by India and in Indonesia.

Figure 2.2 Percentage distributions of women joint Autonomy across the selected countries:

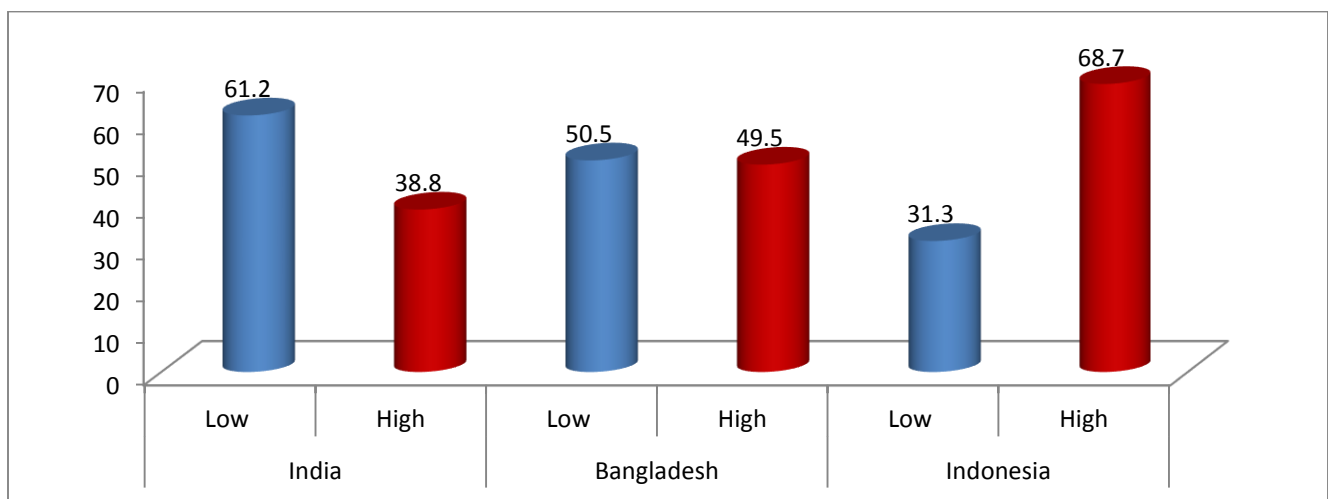


Figure shows that if women take joint decision with husband and other family members. The percentage distribution of low women joint autonomy gets higher in India and in Bangladesh. In India

this difference gets higher percentage if we compare to women alone autonomy and in Bangladesh also but in Indonesia percentage of women with higher joint autonomy increase when women take joint decision. This was approximately equal if woman take alone decision.

Figure 2.3: Mean autonomy score of women joint autonomy by age group of women across the selected countries.

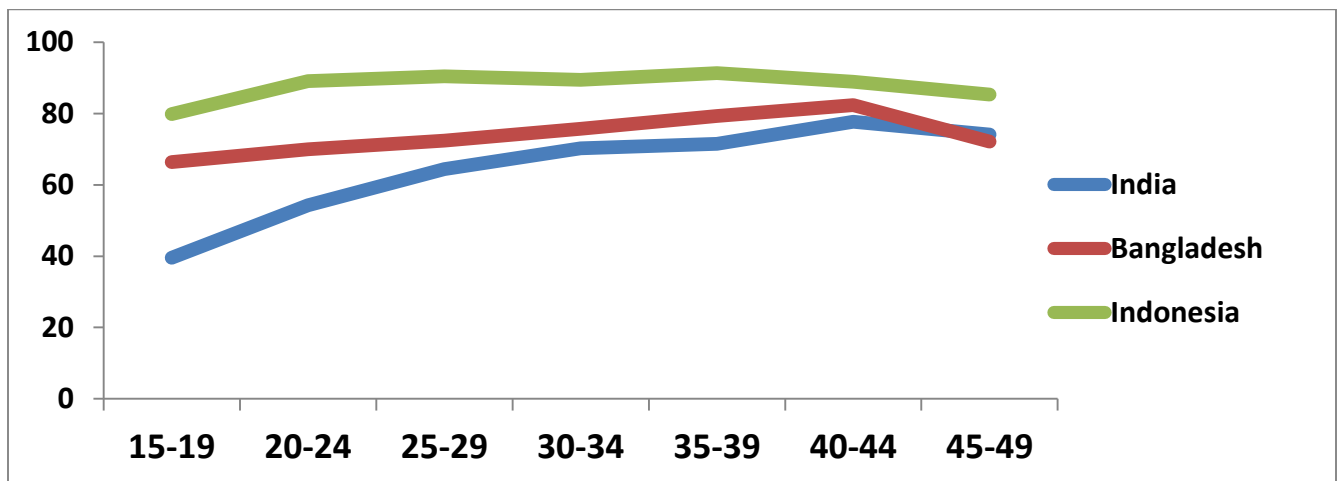


Figure shows that women joint autonomy increasing with increasing age but a certain point come from where autonomy goes down in all selected countries same as women alone autonomy in India and in Bangladesh it starts down with 40-44 age groups where in Indonesia it starts decline with 35-39 age group and in Indonesia it is also more fluctuation in autonomy with age.

Figure 2.4: Mean score of women joint autonomy by place of residence across the selected countries

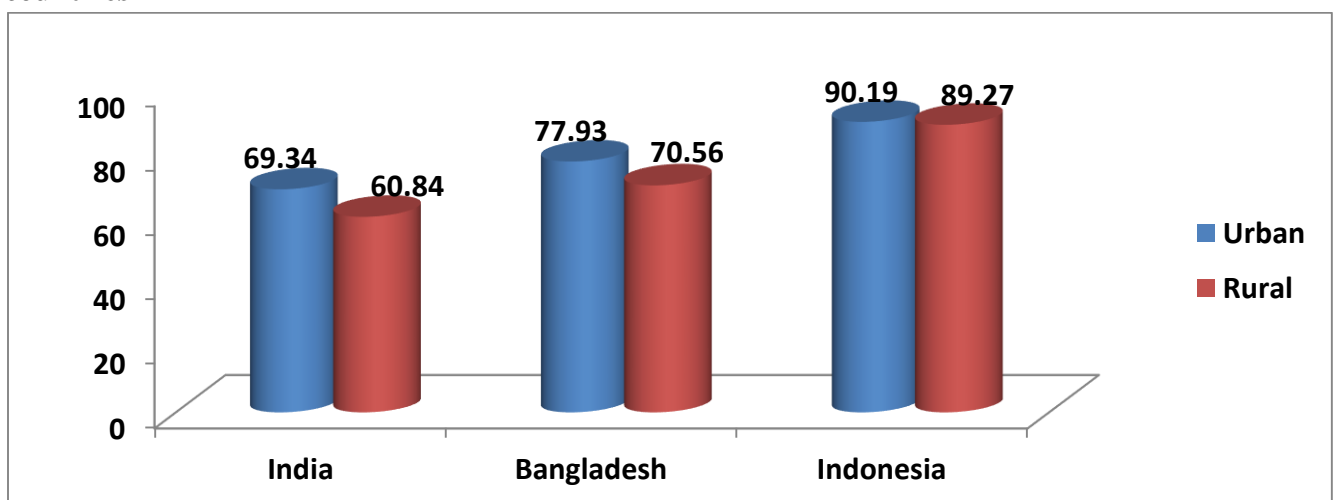


Figure shows that the women who belong to the urban areas having higher joint autonomy compare to the rural areas in all selected countries, more variation observed in India followed by Bangladesh and less in Indonesia.

Figure 2.5: Mean score of women joint autonomy by the education of women across the selected countries

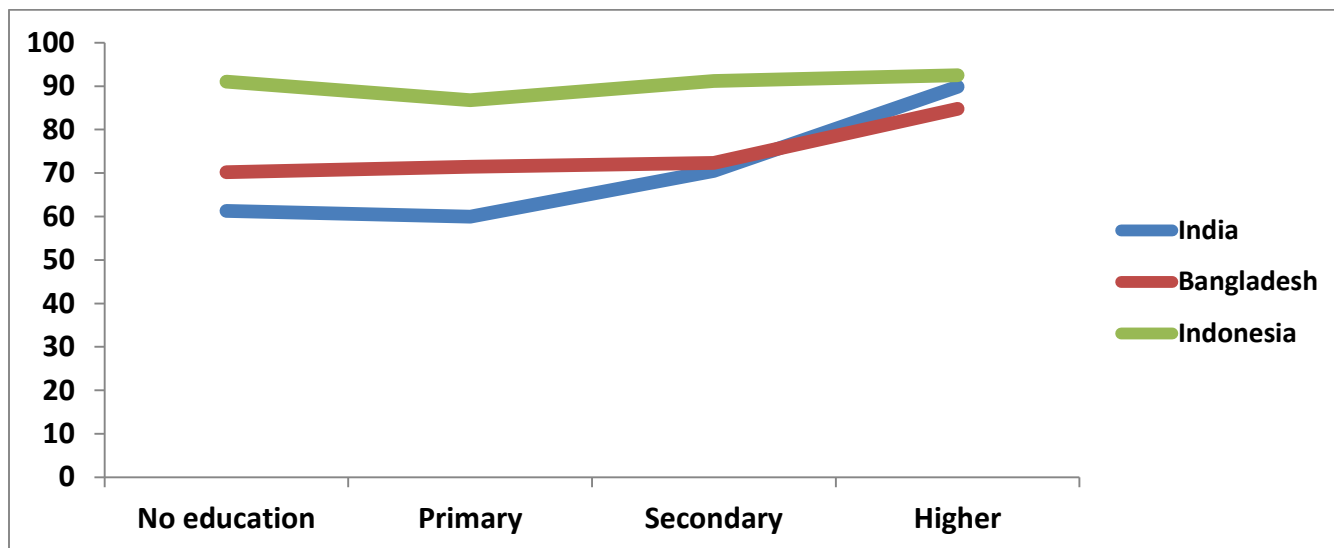
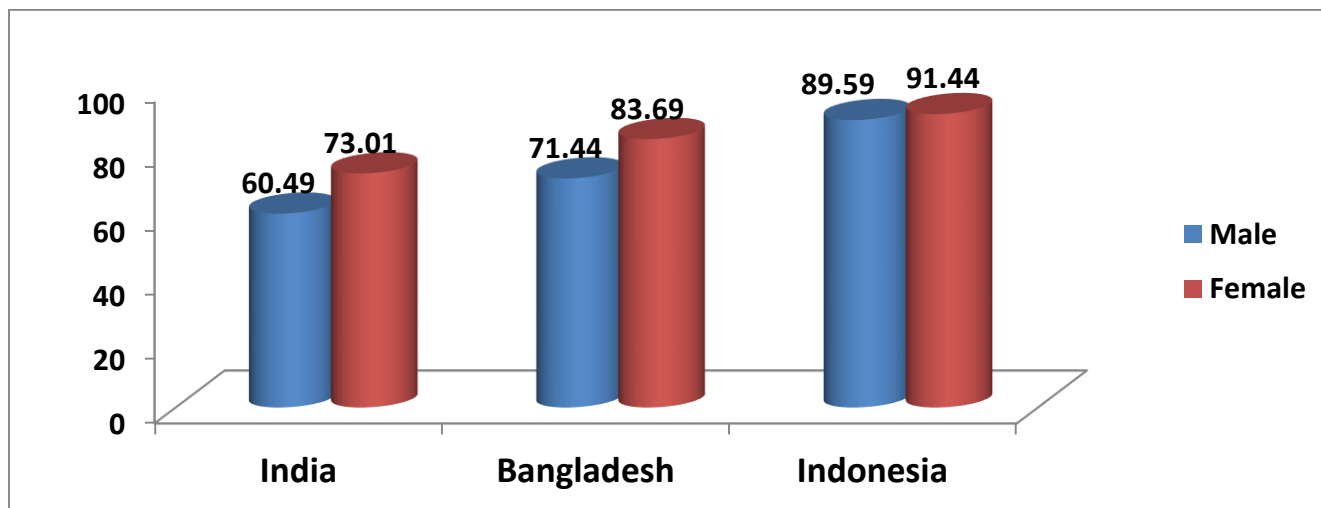


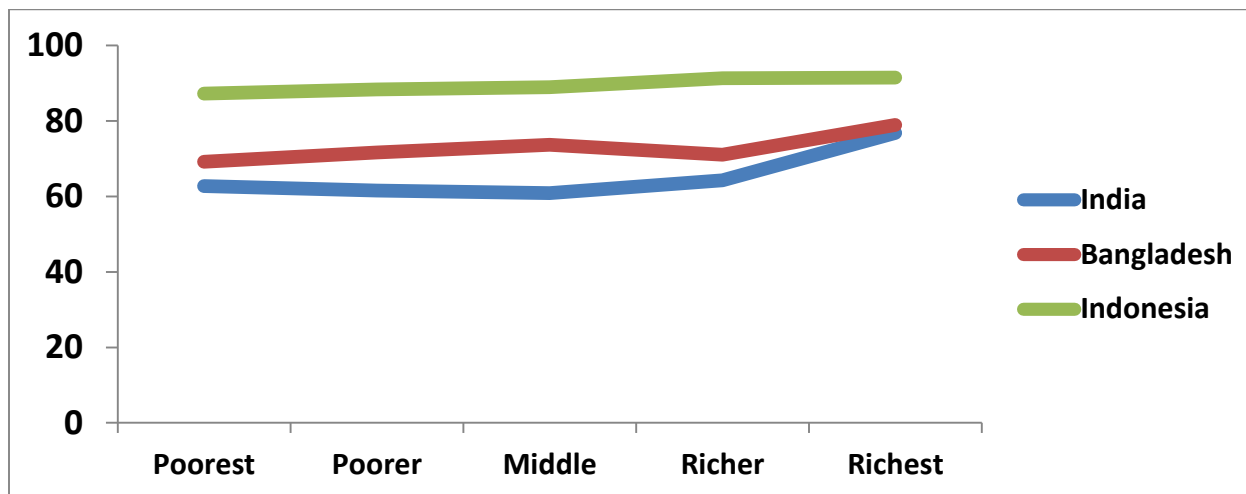
Figure shows that education playing very crucial role for building the autonomy. It is lower among no educated and primary educated women and high among secondary and higher educated women. Women who are higher educated having higher autonomy in all the selected countries. Less variation in autonomy of women with education level shows in Indonesia.

Figure 2.6: Mean score of women joint autonomy by sex of household head across the selected countries



This figure shows the state of joint autonomy by the sex of household head. Figure shows that if females are household head, women autonomy is always high in all the selected countries. In India and Bangladesh there is more variation between male and female as household head but in Bangladesh it is not much difference compare to India and Bangladesh.

Figure 2.7: Mean score of women joint autonomy by wealth of women across the selected countries



Economic status of person which is considered as very crucial in decision making. This figure shows the women who belong to the richer and richest wealth quintile having higher autonomy but variation is very less among all quintiles and fluctuating. In India from poorest to middle it goes down then goes up till richest. In Bangladesh it goes up from poorest to middle among richer it goes down and again goes up among richest. In Indonesia it continues to increase with wealth of women from poorest to richest.

Figure 2.8: Mean score of women joint autonomy by profession of women across the selected countries

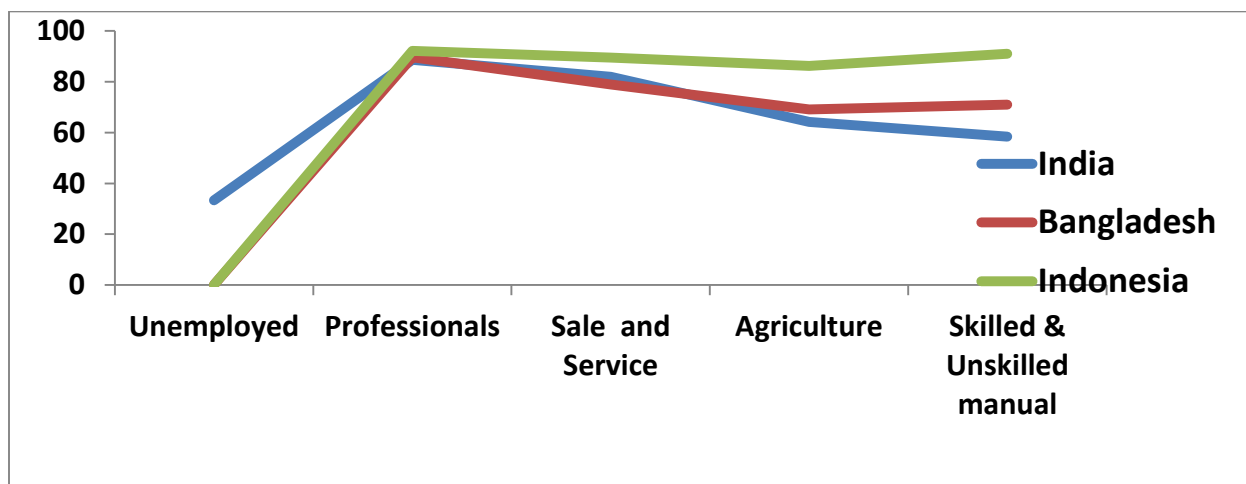


Figure shows that the women joint autonomy is higher among the women who are professional in all the selected countries.

Differentials in Maternal Care by Autonomy of women across the selected Countries:

Table 3 shows the distribution ANC cares among No, full and partly ANC Care across the selected countries by background characteristics. In India, Muslim women who take ANC care for last child out of total 46.3 percent women are partly and 34.7 percent full and 19 percent are No ANC care, in Bangladesh 66 percent partly and 16.3 percent full and 17.7 are take No ANC care and in Indonesia 50.6 percent partly, 46.2 percent take full ANC care and only 5.9 percent are No ANC care. By the Age of women as the age of women increases women are shifting from full to partly and No ANC care and it is also happen in Indonesia but in Bangladesh although it very less percentage of full ANC, there is fluctuating as the age of women increase shifting from partly and full ANC care to No ANC care. By the education of women in India higher percentage of partly ANC among partly ANC among no educated women and higher Full ANC percentage among higher educated women which is also in Bangladesh and Indonesia but in India women with higher percentage of ANC among higher educated women. By the place of residence higher percentage of full ANC in urban area all countries and lower in rural area. There is no much affect of sex of household in India and Indonesia but in Bangladesh high percentage of full ANC associated with female as household head. By the wealth quintile, high percentage of full ANV among the women belongs to rich and riches wealth quintiles and lowers among poorest and poor. By occupation of women high percentage of full ANC among Professional in India and in Bangladesh, in Indonesia is higher among skilled and unskilled manual.

Figure 3.1: Percentage distribution of ANC care across the selected countries.

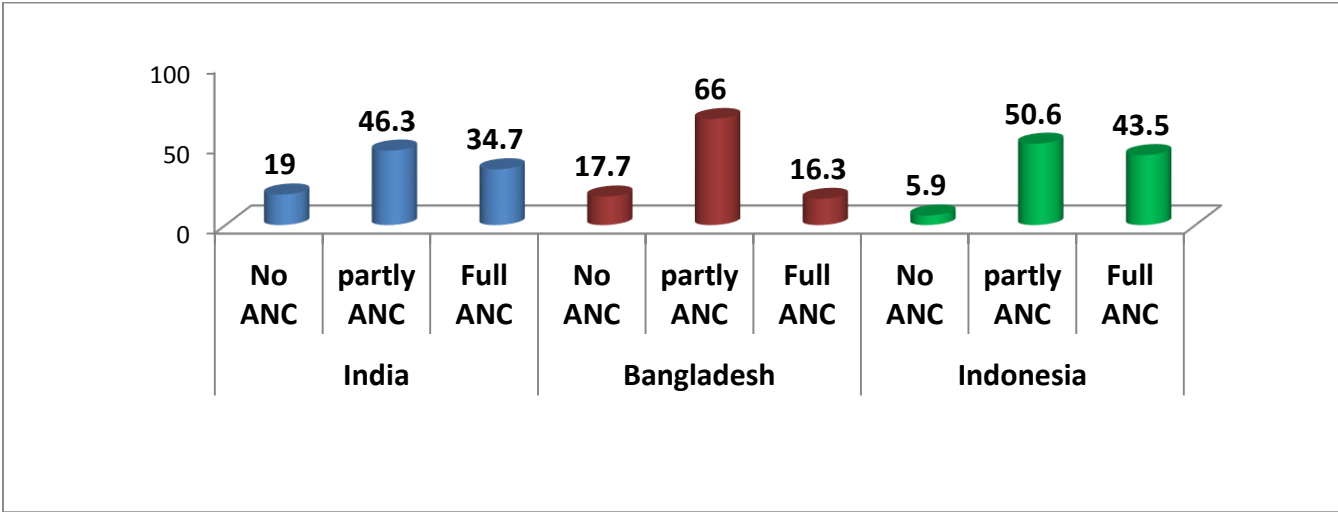


Figure shows that the percentage of partly ANC care is high in all selected countries among the women than full ANC care but in Bangladesh percentage of No ANC care high compare to Full ANC. In India and in Indonesia there is less difference between the percentages of partly and Full ANC care but this gap is big in case of Bangladesh.

Table 4 shows the percentage distribution of delivery assistant: by trained and untrained. In India more than 50 percent delivery assist by trained person, in Indonesia it is 74.6 percent which is higher among all countries but in Bangladesh it is only 19.2 percent. By the age of women the percentage of delivery assist by trained person increase from first to second age group than get drop and continue to drop with increasing age in all countries. Education of women is strongly associated with delivery assist by trained person with higher education it is also higher among the countries it is higher in Indonesia. By the place of residence delivery assistant by trained high in urban area as compare to rural area in all countries in rural area it is lower in Bangladesh. By the sex of household delivery assistant by trained person high among them whose household heads are female. Wealth quintile is the factor which is behaving in similar way as in ANC care. By the occupation of women high percentage of full ANC among Professional in India, Bangladesh and in Indonesia is higher among skilled and unskilled manual.

Figure 4.1: Percentage distribution of delivery assistant by trained and untrained person across the selected countries.

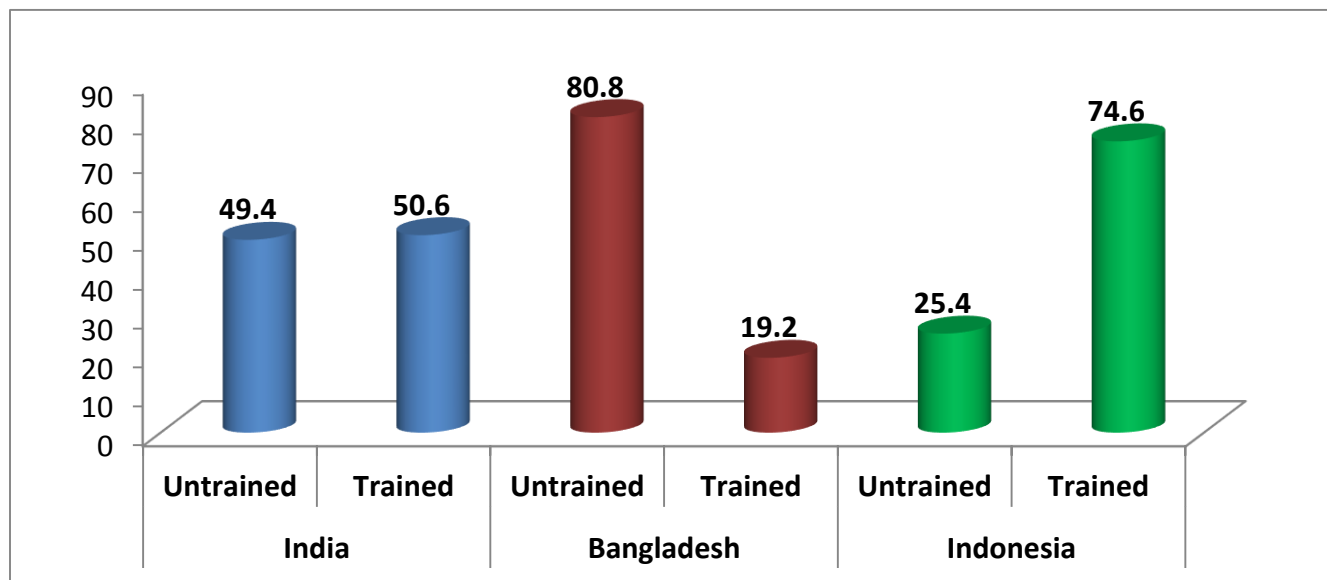


Figure shows the percentage of delivery assistant by trained person is slightly high in India compare to untrained person. In Bangladesh more than 80 percent deliveries assist by untrained person where only

19 percent5 deliveries assist by trained person but in Indonesia this scenario is completely opposite, in Indonesia more than 74 percent delivery assist by trained person where only fourth delivery assist by untrained person.

Table 5 shows that the distribution of Muslim women between home and institutional delivery which is based on last child. Institutional delivery across the selected countries is lower as compare to home delivery and it is lower in Bangladesh among all selected countries. Place of delivery at institute by the of women it increase from first to second age group and then continue to reduce till above ages. Education of women which is shows by the table is strongly associated with institutional delivery and home delivery, institutional delivery is high among higher educated and lower among non educated women. Place of residence is also strong influence on institutional delivery, in urban are it is high and in rural area it is low. If female is household head there is high percentage of institutional delivery in All countries. In India and in Indonesia women from richer and riches wealth quintiles are having more institutional delivery but in Bangladesh home delivery is high among all the women belong to any wealth quintiles. By the occupation of women, professional women are having higher percentage of institutional delivery

Figure 5.1: Percentage distribution of Place of delivery across the selected countries.

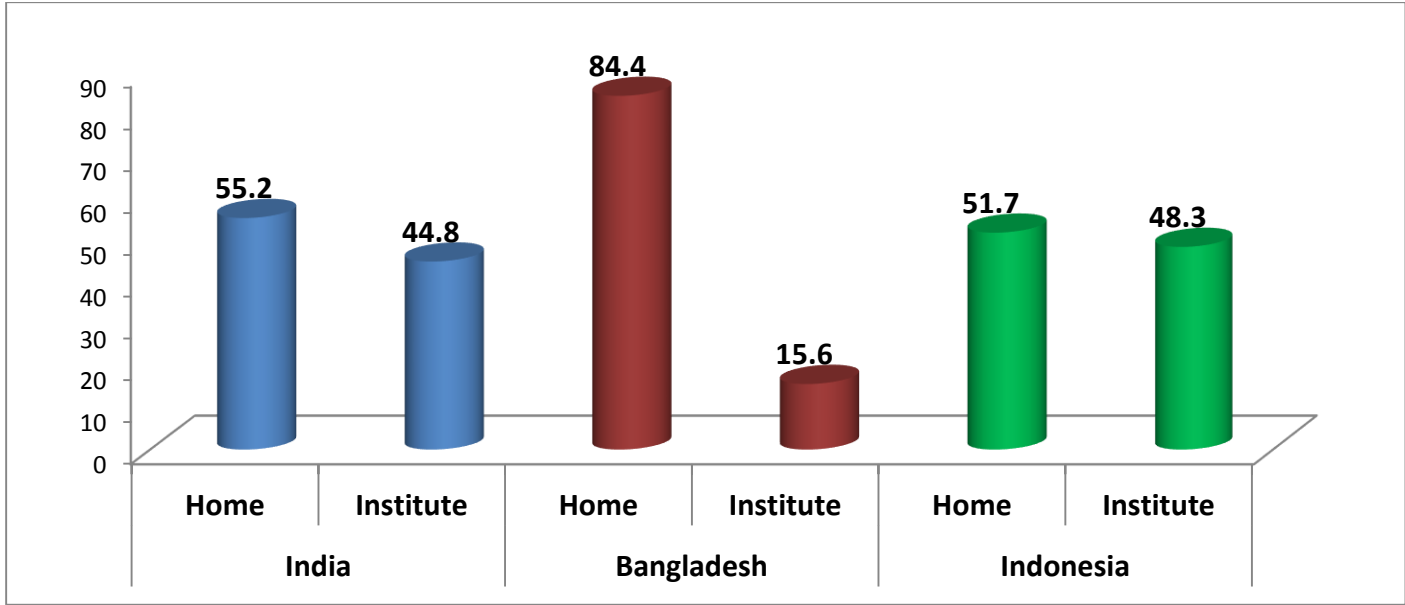


Figure shows the percentage of delivery take place at home in India is high compare to institutional delivery, in Bangladesh percentage of delivery take place at home is very high which is more than 84 percent and approximately 16 percent delivery take place at institute, if we compare among all the

selected countries Bangladesh has the higher percentage of home delivery. In Indonesia there is slight difference between the percentage of home and institutional delivery although, like other countries in Indonesia the percentage of home delivery is high.

Table 6 shows the affect of women autonomy in India on maternal care including ANC care, delivery assist by person and place of delivery if women take decision alone. All response variable are in dichotomous form 0 and 1 (0= partly ANC, 1= Full ANC) (0= Delivery assist by trained person, 1= delivery assist by trained person) (0= delivery at home, 1 = delivery at institute). This regression table shows the uncontrolled and control effect of autonomy on our response variables. Without controlling the background factor odds shows the female with higher autonomy are significantly 0.833 times less likely to have full ANC care as compare to women with lower autonomy which is reference category but in Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery is significantly more likely in higher autonomous women compare to lower autonomous women. If we control the background factors full ANC is significantly less likely and Delivery assists by trained person and institution delivery are significantly more likely among the women who are with higher autonomy compare to the women with lower autonomy which is reference category.

Table 7 shows the affect of women autonomy on maternal care including ANC care, delivery assist by person and place of delivery in Bangladesh, if women take decision alone. Model-1 of table show the effect of autonomy on our response variable without controlling the background factor odds shows the female with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to have full ANC care Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery. Model -2 shoes the effect of autonomy on our response variable with controlling the effect of background factors. Women with higher autonomy are significantly more likely have full ANC care Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery.

Table 8 shows the affect of women autonomy on maternal care including ANC care, delivery assist by person and place of delivery in Indonesia, if women take decision alone. Model-1 of table show the effect of autonomy on our response variable without controlling the background factor, odds shows the female with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to have full ANC care Delivery assist by trained person and less likely to have institution delivery. Model -2 of table shows the effect of autonomy on our response variable with controlling the effect of background factors. Odds shoes the Women with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to have full ANC care and less like significantly less likely to Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery.

Table 9 shows the affect of women joint autonomy in India on maternal care including ANC care, delivery assist by person and place of delivery if women take decision jointly with husband and other family members in India. Model-1 of table show the effect of autonomy on our response variable without controlling the background factor, odds shows the female with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to have full ANC care Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery. Model -2 shoes the effect of autonomy on our response variable with controlling the effect of background factors. Odds shows that the women with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to having full ANC care Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery as compare to the women with lower joint autonomy, which is reference category.

Table 10 shows the affect of women joint autonomy in Bangladesh on maternal care including ANC care, delivery assist by person and place of delivery if women take decision jointly with husband and other family members in Bangladesh. Model-1 of table show the effect of autonomy on our response variable without controlling the background factor, odds shows the female with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to have full ANC care Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery. Model -2 shoes the effect of autonomy on our response variable with controlling the effect of background factors. Odds shows that the women with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to having full ANC care and significantly less likely to having Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery as compare to the women with lower joint autonomy, which is reference category.

Table 11 shows the affect of women joint autonomy in Indonesia on maternal care including ANC care, delivery assist by person and place of delivery if women take decision jointly with husband and other family members in Indonesia. Model-1 of table show the effect of autonomy on our response variable without controlling the background factor, odds shows the female with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to have full ANC care Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery. Model -2 shoes the effect of autonomy on our response variable with controlling the effect of background factors. Odds shows that the women with higher autonomy are significantly more likely to have full ANC care Delivery assist by trained person and institution delivery as compare to the women with lower joint autonomy, which is reference category.

Discussion and conclusion:

The dimensions of women's autonomy in terms of outside mobility, access to economic resources and involvement in household decisions. All these dimensions are positive with socio-economic, linked to good maternal health care. In this study, the findings are the social –economic demographic factor of women is not affecting their autonomy in similar way. From younger ages to elder ages women are getting autonomous and a certain point come when they starts losses the autonomy. Which is in Bangladesh and Indonesia come at 40-44 age groups but in India in come early at 35-39 age groups? Female joint autonomy although increase with increase the social-economic and demographic level but if we talk about women alone as autonomous. In India it is high among poorer women but in Bangladesh it high among richer and richest women. As the level of education of women increase mean of autonomy start increase in India and in Bangladesh autonomy of women is high among higher educated women but in Indonesia it is high among non educated women. The affect of household sex if it female, female autonomy ultimately increase.

In India if women alone autonomy is high results more institutional delivery and delivery assist by trained person and but if women take decision jointly means if joint autonomy is high results good maternal care compare to alone.

In Bangladesh if women are alone having high autonomy results good maternal cares compare to low autonomy. High Joint autonomy of women is not much affective in Bangladesh.

In Indonesia there is no much effect of alone lower and higher autonomy of women on maternal care but if joint autonomy of women is high, resulting better maternal care .

Table 1 Mean Autonomy score of Women for alone autonomy By Background Characteristics:

	India		Bangladesh		Indonesia	
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Mean	Std. Deviation	Mean	Std. Deviation
Age groups						
15-19	10.4	16.24	13.32	19.54	46.82	23.83
20-24	16.01	19.92	15.31	23.79	44.41	25.34
25-29	21.45	25.05	17.47	24.88	45.27	25.03
30-34	24.01	25.15	15.91	23.13	43.34	24.61
35-39	27.75	24.27	21.12	29.82	44.03	27.3
40-44	24.57	31.86	25.66	31.88	50.48	28.92
45-49	14.69	25.66	12.95	17.1	46.62	28.08
Place of residence						
Urban	22.63	26.61	21.48	27.54	45.7	25.3
Rural	20.15	23.02	14.89	22.99	43.78	26.19
Highest educational level						
No education	20.2	23.69	15.41	25.21	49.82	28.35
Primary	26.15	23.87	16.5	24.93	44.57	26.07
Secondary	16.44	23.89	16.43	22.6	46.3	25.89
Higher	26.41	29.31	20.62	23.69	39.51	23.16
Sex of household head						
Male	17.37	22.47	13.43	20.14	42.95	24.47
Female	33.64	25.47	56.74	36.46	65.15	30.69
Wealth index						
Poorest	18.9	23.56	13.31	21.74	44.26	28.19
Poorer	23.63	25	15.25	24.78	43.87	26.94
Middle	20.5	22.61	16.23	25.99	43.55	24.00
Richer	19.79	24.13	22.61	27	46.38	26.13
Richest	22.42	26.46	18.26	22	45.29	24.33
Women occupation						
Unemployed	8.39	13.98	NA	NA	NA	NA
Professionals	24.38	30.68	21.75	23.54	39.5	22.62
Sale Service and Domestic	20.75	27.37	17.54	28.6	47.21	26.71
Agriculture	17.82	22.21	13.7	21.63	41.14	25.31
Skilled & Unskilled manual	22.31	23.9	19.4	24.17	46.07	25.36
Business man	NA	NA	18.49	29.19	Na	NA
Total	20.81	24.08	16.28	24	44.74	25.77

Table 2 Mean Autonomy score of Women for joint autonomy By Background Characteristics:

	India		Bangladesh		Indonesia	
Age groups	Mean	Std. Deviation	Mean	Std. Deviation	Mean	Std. Deviation
15-19	39.58	29.66	66.39	30.58	79.82	23.14
20-24	54.29	33.0	69.97	31.87	89.08	19.9
25-29	64.39	33.96	72.41	30.73	90.44	16.54
30-34	70.24	31.33	75.72	28.11	89.48	19.05
35-39	71.51	31.69	79.33	30.01	91.34	16.26
40-44	77.68	27.65	82.4	29.59	88.97	19.21
45-49	74.16	18.23	72.1	31.77	85.3	20.3
Place of residence						
Urban	69.34	33.63	77.93	26.8	90.19	18.22
Rural	60.84	33.19	70.56	31.65	89.27	18.22
Highest educational level						
No education	61.29	34.07	70.17	33.4	91.07	15.37
Primary	59.99	30.07	71.49	29.47	86.77	20.23
Secondary	70.49	33.14	72.34	30.16	91.21	16.88
Higher	89.88	23.49	84.76	22.95	92.54	16.2
Sex of household head						
Male	60.49	34.43	71.44	30.86	89.59	18.42
Female	73.01	27.77	83.69	26.59	91.44	15.69
Wealth index						
Poorest	62.73	33.15	69.22	31.57	87.22	21.21
Poorer	61.59	33.36	71.67	30.76	88.4	18.13
Middle	60.88	32.85	73.7	31.18	88.97	18.46
Richer	64.31	35.3	71.08	32.85	91.36	17.39
Richest	76.83	32.2	78.92	24.78	91.51	16.41
Women occupation						
Unemployed	33.31	24.54	NA	NA	NA	NA
Professionals	88.71	23.76	89.61	13.42	92.22	16.04
Sale Service and Domestic	82.01	26.79	79	27.85	89.49	18.43
Agriculture	64.25	33.41	69.08	31.48	86.31	20.65
Skilled & Unskilled manual	58.38	33.17	71.07	31.61	91.03	16.87
Business man	NA	NA	77.1	27.84	NA	NA
Total	63.13	33.5	72.22	30.71	89.71	18.24

Table 3 Percentage Distribution of ANC care among women across the selected countries by background Characteristics:

	India			Bangladesh			Indonesia		
	No ANC	partly ANC	Full ANC	No ANC	partly ANC	Full ANC	No ANC	partly ANC	Full ANC
Age group									
15-19	9.4	52.0	38.6	15.6	67.4	17.0	5.6	52.8	41.6
20-24	13.7	45.7	40.6	13.7	68.4	18.0	5.4	52.0	42.6
25-29	18.0	46.3	35.7	19.5	64.9	15.6	4.6	51.4	44.0
30-34	21.6	46.9	31.5	21.5	64.3	14.2	4.9	49.1	45.9
35-39	33.6	44.3	22.1	21.2	64.9	13.9	6.8	49.0	44.2
40-44	42.5	43.0	14.5	34.4	53.3	12.3	10.3	52.2	37.5
45-49	54.8	38.1	7.10C	23.5	52.9	23.5	24.1	45.8	30.0
Place of residence									
Urban	10.3	41.8	47.9	13.8	59.3	26.8	2.7	50.5	46.7
Rural	23.3	48.5	28.2	18.8	67.8	13.4	8.3	50.7	41.0
Level of Education									
No education	30.2	51.8	18.0	30.1	63.3	6.6	31.0	52.5	16.5
Primary	8.5	49.4	42.1	18.6	69.7	11.7	9.6	54.1	36.3
Secondary	3.5	36.0	60.5	10.9	66.6	22.4	2.1	47.8	50.1
Higher	0.0	16.4	83.6	3.4	55.2	41.4	.1	48.3	51.6
Sex of Household head									
Male	18.4	46.2	35.4	18.0	66.2	15.8	5.9	50.6	43.6
Female	22.4	46.7	30.9	15.3	64.6	20.1	6.4	51.2	42.3
Wealth Quintiles									
Poorest	32.8	52.9	14.3	27.8	64.4	7.8	14.7	52.3	32.9
Poorer	24.8	53.4	21.8	20.5	70.5	9.0	8.3	50.3	41.4
Middle	20.2	46.2	33.6	18.0	67.3	14.7	4.4	51.4	44.2
Richer	7.3	42.1	50.6	12.9	68.2	18.9	2.1	46.0	51.8
Richest	2.9	30.5	66.6	7.2	59.3	33.5	.5	53.3	46.2
Occupation of women									
Unemployed	17.9	45.7	36.4	16.9	66.1	17.0	5.1	50.0	44.9
Professionals	6.0	26.0	68.0	0.0	47.8	52.2	.2	52.7	47.2
Sale Service and Domestic	22.0	43.1	35.0	22.5	63.6	13.9	4.8	50.8	44.4
Agriculture	31.3	47.0	21.8	23.2	66.2	10.6	12.9	52.3	34.8
Skilled & Unskilled manual	15.8	52.0	32.2	13.7	67.7	18.5	3.3	50.2	46.4
Businessman	NA	NA	NA	13.8	75.9	10.3	NA	NA	NA
Total	19.0	46.3	34.7	17.7	66.0	16.3	5.9	50.6	43.5

Table 4 Percentage Distribution of Delivery Assist by person among Muslim women by background Characteristics:

Age	India		Bangladesh		Indonesia	
	Untrained	Trained	Untrained	Trained	Untrained	Trained
15-19	54.9	45.1	82.6	17.4	39.7	60.3
20-24	45.7	54.3	79.5	20.5	27.4	72.6
25-29	46.1	53.9	79.1	20.9	23.5	76.5
30-34	50.7	49.3	81.6	18.4	23.4	76.6
35-39	56.0	44.0	82.6	17.4	22.4	77.6
40-44	76.1	23.9	90.2	9.8	30.9	69.1
45-49	89.7	10.3	100.0	NA	41.9	58.1
Education						
No education	69.8	30.2	94.6	5.4	60.8	39.2
Primary	52.8	47.2	90.6	9.4	40.9	59.1
Secondary	22.6	77.4	71.3	28.7	13.4	86.6
Higher	4.4	95.6	34.3	65.7	1.3	98.7
Place of residence						
Urban	33.3	66.7	61.9	38.1	12.6	87.4
Rural	64.5	35.5	86.0	14.0	35.2	64.8
Sex of Household head						
Male	49.9	50.1	81.4	18.6	25.6	74.4
Female	46.0	54.0	76.1	23.9	22.4	77.6
Wealth Index						
Poorest	87.2	12.8	95.1	4.9	53.4	46.6
Poor	74.8	25.2	92.8	7.2	34.6	65.4
Middle	57.1	42.9	87.8	12.2	22.5	77.5
Richer	31.2	68.8	75.2	24.8	13.4	86.6
Richest	14.3	85.7	49.0	51.0	4.6	95.4
Occupation						
Unemployed	47.0	53.0	78.7	21.3	24.5	75.5
Professional	14.3	85.7	26.1	73.9	3.1	96.9
Sale & service	48.9	51.1	92.0	8.0	17.1	82.9
Agriculture	64.9	35.1	92.3	7.7	49.3	50.7
Skilled & Unskilled manual	57.6	42.4	70.6	29.4	19.3	80.7
Businessman	NA	NA	93.1	6.9	NA	NA
Total	49.4	50.6	80.8	19.2	25.4	74.6

Table 5 Percentage Distribution of place of delivery among Muslim women by background Characteristics:

Age	India		Bangladesh		Indonesia	
	Home	Institute	Home	Institute	Home	Institute
15-19	62.3	37.7	85.5	14.5	67.6	32.4
20-24	51.9	48.1	83.5	16.5	52.7	47.3
25-29	51.0	49.0	83.5	16.5	50.8	49.2
30-34	56.2	43.8	85.0	15.0	49.3	50.7
35-39	63.6	36.4	84.6	15.4	49.5	50.5
40-44	78.7	21.3	91.7	8.3	55.6	44.4
45-49	92.3	7.7	100.0	00.0	63.5	36.5
Education						
No education	76.7	23.3	96.8	3.2	82.6	17.4
Primary	57.8	42.2	93.0	7.0	69.0	31.0
Secondary	27.7	72.3	76.6	23.4	40.2	59.8
Higher	5.2	94.8	38.5	61.5	15.8	84.2
Place of residence						
Urban	38.1	61.9	67.9	32.1	29.4	70.6
Rural	71.1	28.9	88.9	11.1	68.7	31.3
Sex of Household head						
Male	55.7	44.3	84.7	15.3	51.9	48.1
Female	51.3	48.7	82.1	17.9	49.1	50.9
Wealth Index						
Poorest	92.5	7.5	95.4	4.6	84.6	15.4
Poor	81.2	18.8	94.7	5.3	67.8	32.2
Middle	63.6	36.4	91.7	8.3	52.0	48.0
Richer	38.1	61.9	80.2	19.8	38.6	61.4
Richest	17.7	82.3	56.4	43.6	16.7	83.3
Occupation						
Unemployed	52.4	47.6	82.6	17.4	50.8	49.2
Professional	14.3	85.7	28.3	71.7	25.0	75.0
Sale & service	56.8	43.2	93.4	6.6	41.9	58.1
Agriculture	71.8	28.2	93.8	6.2	80.1	19.9
Skilled & Unskilled manual	65.6	34.4	78.2	21.8	43.3	56.7
Businessman	NA	NA	96.6	3.4	NA	NA
Total	55.2	44.8	84.4	15.6	51.7	48.3

Table 6 Women joint Autonomy in India:

	Modal 1			Modal 2		
	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery
Joint autonomy						
Lower	1	1	1	1	1	1
Higher	1.385**	1.577***	1.565***	1.051**	1.224**	1.05**
Age						
15-19				1	1	1
20-24				1.118	0.982	1.157
25-29				0.948	0.705	1.018
30-34				1.194	0.839	1.084
35-39				0.698	1.181	1.099
40-44				0.315	0.267**	0.587
45-49				3.077	0	0
Education						
No education				1	1	1
Primary				1.831***	1.469*	1.915***
Secondary				2.372***	3.494***	4.659***
Higher				6.484***	5.048**	7.442**
Place of residence						
Urban				1	1	1
Rural				0.952	0.954	0.754
Sex of Household head						
Male				1	1	1
Female				0.608**	0.747	0.674
Wealth Index						
Poorest				1	1	1
Poor				1.98**	1.787**	2.099**
Middle				3.939***	3.43***	3.928***
Richer				3.979***	4.788***	5.708***
Richest				6.02***	12.861***	14.095***
Occupation						
Unemployed				1	1	1
Professional				2.5	8.2	6.7
Sale & service and domestic				3.19	6.21	3.275
Agriculture				3.441	5.146	3.356
Skilled & Unskilled manual				3.344	4.906	2.914
Business				NA	NA	NA
Constant				0.838	0.05	0.041

Table 7 Women Alone Autonomy in Bangladesh:

	Modal 1			Modal 2		
	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery
Autonomy of women Alone						
Lower	1	1	1	1	1	1
Higher	1.10**	1.50***	1.70***	1.047**	1.099**	1.228**
Age						
15-19				1	1	1
20-24				0.649	0.742	0.985
25-29				0.0538**	1.125	1.625
30-34				.0.499**	1.259	1.402
35-39				0.406**	2.018	3.120**
40-44				0.926	3.320*	4.767**
45-49				2.532	1.45	3.039
Education						
No education				1	1	1
Primary				2.062**	1.726	3.030**
Secondary				3.525***	4.917***	8.118***
Higher				4.620***	12.859***	23.477***
Place of residence						
Urban				1	1	1
Rural				0.754	.527***	0.534**
Sex of Household head						
Male				1	1	1
Female				0.87	0.939	1.088
Wealth Index						
Poorest				1	1	1
Poor				1.045	0.851	0.992
Middle				1.357	0.953	0.681
Richer				1.213	1.972*	1.942
Richest				2.439***	4.067***	3.158***
Occupation						
Unemployed				NA	NA	NA
Professional				1	1	1
Sale & service and domestic				0.647	0.338**	0.263**
Agriculture				0.591	0.385**	0.356**
Skilled & Unskilled manual				0.471*	0.556	0.445**
Business				0.588	0.409	0.417**
Constant				0.335***	0.276***	0.227***

Table 8 Alone women Autonomy in Indonesia:

	Modal 1			Modal 2		
	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery
Autonomy of women Alone						
Lower	1	1	1	1	1	1
Higher	1.101***	1.109**	0.967**	1.05**	0.893*	0.935**
Age						
15-19@				1	1	1
20-24				1.246	1.147	0.682
25-29				1.449	0.861	0.612
30-34				1.473	1.087	0.659
35-39				1.438	1.011	0.638
40-44				1.283	0.879	0.629
45-49				0.811	0.631	0.716
Education						
No education				1	1	1
Primary				1.879**	1.376	1.23
Secondary				2.203***	2.850***	2.347***
Higher				2.319***	10.066***	4.236***
Place of residence						
Urban				1	1	1
Rural				1.263***	.538***	.387***
Sex of Household head						
Male				1	1	1
Female				0.774**	0.983	1.007
Wealth Index						
Poorest				1	1	1
Poor				1.019	1.669***	1.990***
Middle				1.250*	3.153***	3.675***
Richer				1.429***	3.624***	4.743***
Richest				1.012	9.103***	9.202***
Occupation						
Unemployed				NA		
Professional				1	1	1
Sale & service and domestic				0.88	.508***	1.253*
Agriculture				0.733**	.401***	0.744
Skilled & Unskilled manual				0.821	0.686	1.872***
Business				NA	NA	NA
Constant				0.594***	5.673	0.857

Table 9 Women joint Autonomy in India:

	Modal 1			Modal 2		
	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery
Joint autonomy						
Lower	1	1	1	1	1	1
Higher	1.385**	1.577***	1.565***	1.051**	1.224**	1.05**
Age						
15-19				1	1	1
20-24				1.118	0.982	1.157
25-29				0.948	0.705	1.018
30-34				1.194	0.839	1.084
35-39				0.698	1.181	1.099
40-44				0.315	0.267**	0.587
45-49				3.077	0	0
Education						
No education				1	1	1
Primary				1.831***	1.469*	1.915***
Secondary				2.372***	3.494***	4.659***
Higher				6.484***	5.048**	7.442**
Place of residence						
Urban				1	1	1
Rural				0.952	0.954	0.754
Sex of Household head						
Male				1	1	1
Female				0.608**	0.747	0.674
Wealth Index						
Poorest				1	1	1
Poor				1.98**	1.787**	2.099**
Middle				3.939***	3.43***	3.928***
Richer				3.979***	4.788***	5.708***
Richest				6.02***	12.861***	14.095***
Occupation						
Unemployed				1	1	1
Professional				2.5	8.2	6.7
Sale & service and domestic				3.19	6.21	3.275
Agriculture				3.441	5.146	3.356
Skilled & Unskilled manual				3.344	4.906	2.914
Business				NA	NA	NA
Constant				0.838	0.05	0.041

Table 10 Women joint Autonomy in Bangladesh:

	Modal 1			Modal 2		
	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery
Joint autonomy						
Lower	1	1	1	1	1	1
Higher	1.69***	1.40**	1.50***	1.536***	0.863**	0.885**
Age						
15-19				1	1	1
20-24				0.625*	0.752	1.000
25-29				0.507**	1.162	1.678
30-34				0.468**	1.312	1.469
35-39				0.355**	2.128*	3.290**
40-44				0.868	3.481*	5.046**
45-49				2.263	1.484	3.018
Education						
No education				1	1	1
Primary				2.155**	1.708	3.048**
Secondary				3.468***	4.994***	8.252***
Higher				4.576***	13.079***	23.831***
Place of residence						
Urban				1	1	1
Rural				0.752	0.525***	0.529**
Sex of Household head						
Male				1	1	1
Female				0.840	0.978	1.156
Wealth Index						
Poorest				1.0	1.0	1.0
Poor				1.032	0.85	0.987
Middle				1.306	0.964	0.692
Richer				1.202	2.008*	2.012*
Richest				2.377**	4.127***	3.222***
Occupation						
Unemployed				NA	NA	NA
Professional				1	1	1
Sale & service and domestic				0.657	0.338**	0.261**
Agriculture				0.630	0.378*	0.315**
Skilled & Unskilled manual				0.496	0.553	0.446*
Business				0.438	0.41	0.42
Constant				0.320***	0.286***	0.239***

Table 11 Women joint Autonomy in Indonesia:

	Modal 1			Modal 2		
	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery	Full ANC	Delivery Assist by Trained	Institutional Delivery
Joint autonomy						
Lower	1	1	1	1	1	1
Higher	1.035***	1.224***	1.351***	1.01	1.201**	1.099
Age						
15-19				1	1	1
20-24				1.267	1.111	0.67
25-29				1.480	0.837	0.606
30-34				1.499	1.041	0.648
35-39				1.457	0.977	0.626
40-44				1.321	0.833	0.621
45-49				.824	0.621	0.711
Education						
No education				1	1	1
Primary				1.86**	1.394	1.23
Secondary				2.181***	2.877***	2.336***
Higher				2.278***	10.16***	4.206***
Place of residence						
Urban				1	1	1
Rural				1.256***	0.540***	0.386***
Sex of Household head						
Male				1	1	1
Female				0.799*	0.927	1.009
Wealth Index						
Poorest				1	1	1
Poor				1.021	1.678***	1.996***
Middle				1.254*	3.189***	3.693***
Richer				1.435***	3.62***	4.748***
Richest				1.015	9.095***	9.221***
Occupation						
Unemployed				NA	NA	NA
Professional				1	1	1
Sale & service and domestic				0.88	0.511***	1.261*
Agriculture				0.733**	0.409***	0.749
Skilled & Unskilled manual				0.821	0.686***	1.888***
Business				NA	NA	NA
Constant				0.594***	5.37	0.844

References:

Acharya, M. and L. Bennett (1982) "Women and the Subsistence Sector: *Economic Participation and Household Decision Making in Nepal*", *World Bank Working Paper no. 526*.

Agarwal, B. (1994) *A Field of One's Own: Gender and Land Rights in South Asia*, Cambridge University Press, Cambridge.

Amin, S. (1997) "The Poverty-Purdah trap in Rural Bangladesh: Implications for Women's Roles in the Family", *Development and Change*, 28, 213-233

Beneria, L, and G. Sen (1986) "Accumulation, Reproduction, and Women's Role in Economic Development: Boserup Revisited" in *Women's Work*, Chapter 9, E. Leacock and H. Safa (eds.), Bergin and Garvey, South Hadley, MA.

Bergstrom, T. (1996), "A Survey of Theories of the Family", in *Handbook of Population and Family Economics*, eds. M.R. Rosenzweig and O. Stark, North Holland, Amsterdam.

Caldwell, J. and P. Caldwell (1987) "The Cultural Context of High Fertility in Sub-Saharan Africa", *Population and Development Review*, 13(3), 409-437.

Ecevit, Y. (1991) "Shop Floor Control: the Ideological Construction of Turkish Women Factory Workers" in *Working Women: International Perspectives on Labour and Gender Ideology*, N. Redclift and M. Sinclair (eds.) Routledge, New York, 56-78.

Engels, F. (1884), *The Origin of the Family, Private Property, and the State*, Pathfinder Press New York, 1972.

Eswaran, M. (2002) "The Empowerment of Women, Fertility, and Child Mortality: Towards a Theoretical Analysis", *Journal of Population Economics*, 15, pp. 433-454.

Eswaran, M. and A. Kotwal (1986), "Access to Capital and Agrarian Production Organization", *Economic Journal*, June 1986, pp. 482-498.

Finaly, B. (1989) *the Women of Azua: Work and Family in Rural Dominican Republic*, Praeger, London.

Folbre, N. (1984) "Household Production in the Philippines: a Non-Neoclassical Approach", *Economic Development and Cultural Change* 32(2), 303-330.

Folbre, N. (1986) "Cleaning House: New Perspectives on Household and economic development" *journal of development economics*, 22, 5-40.

Geisler, G. (1993) "Silences Speak Louder Than Claims: Gender, Household, and Agricultural Development in Southern Africa", *World Development*, 21(12), 1965-1980.

Gray, J (1998) "Divorce-Law Changes, Household Bargaining, and Married Women's Labor Supply", *American Economic Review*, 88(3), 628-642.

Hashemi, S., S. Schuler, and A. Riley (1996) "Rural Credit Programs and women empowerment in Bangladesh" *World development*, 24(4), 635-353

Lundberg, S. and R. Pollack (1993) "Separate Spheres Bargaining and the Marriage Market", *Journal of Political Economy*, 101 (6), 988-1010.

Lundberg, S. R. Pollak, and T. Wales (1997) "Do Husbands and Wives Pool Their Resources? Evidence from the UK Child Benefit System", *Journal of Human Resources*, 32(3), 463-480.

Manser, M. and M. Brown (1980) "Marriage and Household Decision-Making: A Bargaining Analysis", *International Economic Review*, 21(1), 31-44.

Mason, K. O. (1984), *The Status of Women: A Review of its Relationships to Fertility and Mortality*, Rockefeller Foundation, New York.

Nizamuddin Khan and Usha Ram, "Can women's perceptions of their own autonomy enable them to generate changes in their reproductive behaviour? Evidences from gender perspectives" (2008) *Journal of Demography*, 16, pp. 462-486

SHARON j. GHUMAN (2003) 'Women's Autonomy and Child Survival: A Comparison of Muslims and Non-Muslims in Four Asian Countries, *Demography*, Volume 40-Number 3, August 2003: 419-436

Shelah S. Bloom and David Wypij (2001) "Dimensions of Women's Autonomy and the Influence on Maternal Health Care Utilization in a North Indian City" *Demography*, Vol. 38, No. 1. (Feb., 2001),