



Md Tahmid Hasan
Master's Programme in Contemporary Societies
Social and Cultural Anthropology track

Reach out to me:
mdtahmidhasan256@gmail.com



Integration or Coexistence?

An Ethnographic Study Among Bangladeshi Students in Finland

WHAT?

Migration and integration have become two of the most discussed issues in recent years in academia, health, and politics. As Finland is witnessing a surge in incoming students from South Asia, especially from Bangladesh, I am conducting an ethnography among Bangladeshi students in Finland. My aim is to explore and understand their integration and well-being in Finland which has tremendous academic and policy implications.

WHY?

- Finland faces **demographic challenges** and a need for **skilled labour**; insights from this research can aid in improving integration strategies.
- Bangladesh has become one of the **top origin countries** for international students in Finland, creating a need for understanding their experiences here.
- Concepts and theories of migration and integration are still **dominated by western narratives**, hence, a gap for **decolonial perspectives** on these issues.

WHAT FINLAND'S FLAG STANDS FOR



-  **SNOW**
-  **LAKES**
-  **SOCIAL INTERACTION**



HOW?

This ethnography adopts a **participatory approach** to understand the experience of Bangladeshi students currently enrolled in and recently graduated from Finnish Universities by analysing qualitative data collected through:

Brainstorming cafés	In-depth Interviews	Journaling by the students	Participant Observation
------------------------	------------------------	-------------------------------	----------------------------

TO WHOM?

- Policymakers and government organizations in Finland, such as **Migri** and **THL**
- Finnish Universities, Businesses, and NGOs like **Moniheli**
- Bangladeshi Diaspora in Finland
- Non-native English speakers in Finland and Nordic Areas
- Researchers and Academicians interested in Integration, Coexistence, and Wellbeing

KEY OUTCOMES

1. **Identifying key factors** contributing to and hampering the integration of Bangladeshi students
2. **An in-depth understanding** of how Bangladeshi students navigate through the nuances of the Finnish integration processes
3. **Recommendations** for improving the integration experiences for non-native English speakers in Finland



VALUE AND IMPACT

- ✓ **Inform** universities to initiate **programs and policy changes** that facilitate the integration process for non-native English speakers in Finland
- ✓ Provide a **decolonial perspective** on integration and migration relevant to social sciences to address the gaps in epistemology
- ✓ Inform Policymakers, Government Organizations, NGOs, and Businesses to develop **culturally nuanced integration programs** for non-Native English speakers in Finland and the Nordics