



EAST-WEST CENTER

EDUCATION PROGRAM

**East-West Center Wednesday Evening Seminar
Fall 2009**

Keoni Auditorium
Imin Conference Center; Jefferson Hall
Wednesday, **October 7, 2009**
6:30pm-8:30pm

"Tracing the History of (Muslim) Women's
Emancipation in Bengal Through the 19th and 20th
Centuries: The Discourse on Education"

Dr. Sonia Amin

Education occupies a central position in the agenda for societal development, particularly regarding positive changes in women's status. This is especially relevant for transitional societies in Asia, Africa, and South America. However, the rich, checkered, and contentious histories of female education in these regions often fail to attract sufficient attention. This presentation focuses on the historical background of the rise of female education in Bengal (colonial period), now divided between India and Bangladesh. It traces this history through the various debates in the late 19th and early 20th centuries regarding the education of women

Dr. Sonia Amin is an Associate Professor in the Department of History at the University of Dhaka in Bangladesh. A former EWC scholar, Dr. Amin, a historian of gender and society in Bengal, studied at Northeastern and Cambridge University. She has published extensively on women's history in Bengal and contributed to various anthologies on women, including *From the Seams of History* (1995) and *Mind, Body and Society in Colonial Bengal* (1996). Through the Arthur Lynn Andrews Chair, she is currently a visiting professor in the Department of History at the University of Hawai'i at Mānoa.

(You can help reduce climate change by bringing your own cup. Mahalo!)

The community is welcome to attend this lecture!