The role of faith-based NGOs in social development: Invisible empowerment

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Abstract
This article makes an attempt to assess the process and outcomes of faith-based non-governmental organizations' (FBNGOs) interventions toward community empowerment in social development. Data are derived from contemporary literature using a Qualitative Interpretative Meta-Synthesis (QIMS). Results show that there are very few publications that directly examine the contributions of FBNGOs toward community empowerment. There are some publications which indirectly examine the role of the components of community empowerment, such as community participation, community capacity building, local leadership development, or community resource mobilization, though these are mostly concentrated in Western and African countries. After 9/11, much literature has shown that the role of Islamic NGOs has emerged as a significant aspect in social development discourse. The findings will be of interest to policymakers, donors, and development practitioners.

Keywords
Community capacity building, community leadership, community participation, community service, community welfare, faith-based non-governmental organizations, resource mobilization, social development and community empowerment

Introduction
Society without any problems exists only in a utopia. The reality is that a significant number of people have been suffering from natural and man-made disasters since time immemorial and trying their level best to overcome crises to achieve the target of social welfare through managing social