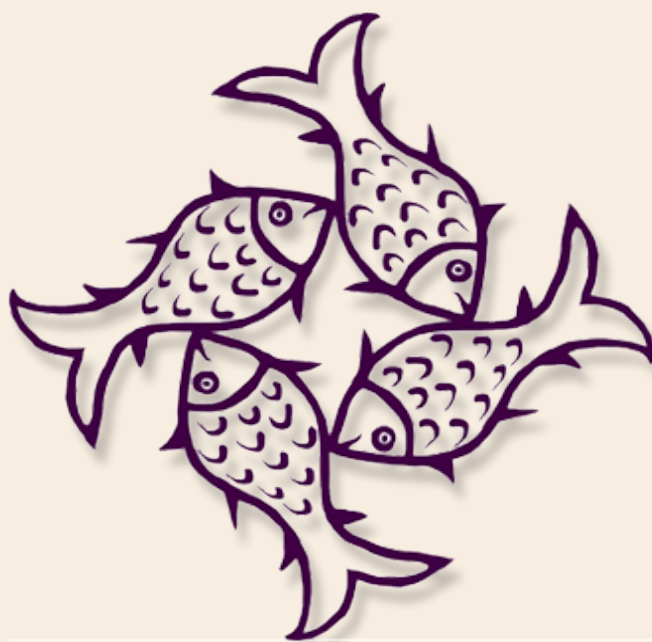
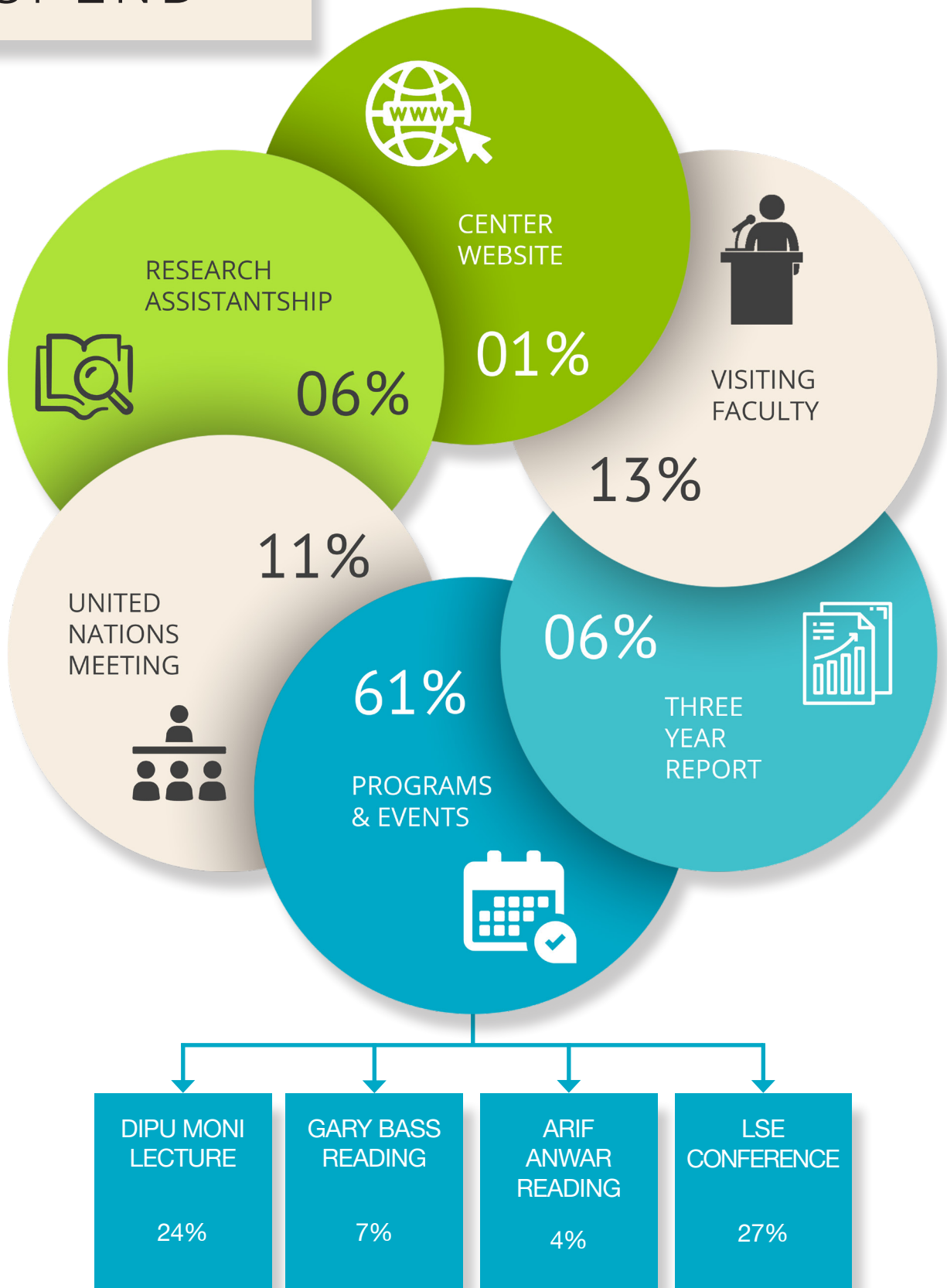


**THE SUBIR & MALINI CHOWDHURY
CENTER FOR BANGLADESH STUDIES
UC BERKELEY**

**ANNUAL SPENDING REPORT
AY 2018-19**



HOW WE SPEND



VISITING FACULTY

As part of the Center's focus on creating opportunities for collaborative research between UC Berkeley and universities in Bangladesh, we were delighted to welcome two distinguished faculty members from BRAC University, **Prof. Sabina Rashid** and **Prof. Samia Huq** in Spring 2018. Reflecting on their time at UC Berkeley, they said:

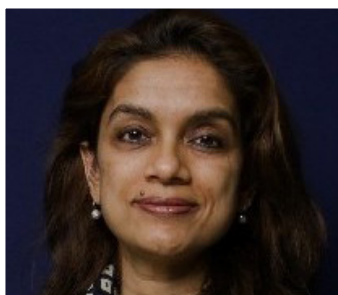
- **SABINA RASHID:** "... As an academic who lives and works in Bangladesh, the generous endowment by Subir Chowdhury provided a space and opportunity for me to access resources, think critically and write, and engage with eminent scholars at the global level. For academics coming from low income countries this is an opportunity of a lifetime, and will contribute to better academic outputs and research and ultimately improve the quality of our teaching in Bangladesh..."



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income countries this is an opportunity of a lifetime, and will contribute to better academic outputs and research and ultimately improve the quality of our teaching in Bangladesh..."

- **SAMIA HUQ:** "...I would like to thank Subir and Malini Chowdhury for setting up the Center, for providing opportunities of exchange between UC Berkeley and Bangladeshi institutions and scholars, and in general creating a space for critical thinking on Bangladesh to flourish."



I hope that the Center and BRAC University will find ways to continue such exchanges. I, for one, look forward to that and to be back in Berkeley."

Read their full thoughts at chowdhurycenter.berkeley.edu/rashid_reflection or [/huq_reflection](http://chowdhurycenter.berkeley.edu/huq_reflection)



A CHRONICLE OF THE FIRST THREE YEARS OF THE CHOWDHURY CENTER FOR BANGLADESH STUDIES AT UC BERKELEY

[Read the report here](#)

CHOWDHURY CENTER 3-YEAR REPORT

The Subir & Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies at the University of California, Berkeley completed its third anniversary in Spring 2017.

In our first three years, the Center spearheaded a series of initiatives aimed at the long-term expansion and sustainability of the program, both in Berkeley and in Bangladesh. We not only strengthened our programming by bringing top Bangladesh scholars and public intellectuals to Berkeley, but we also forged substantial links between top institutions in Bangladesh and UC Berkeley.

To mark this milestone, the Chowdhury Center published a report detailing the achievements of the Center over the past three years.

To read it online go to chowdhurycenter.berkeley.edu/annual-report

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

Former Chowdhury Center fellow, Kashfia Nehrin, provided research assistance for a book: *Labor, Global Supply Chains and the Garment Industry in South Asia: Bangladesh After Rana Plaza* to be published by Routledge in Fall 2019. She conducted research at the Center for Business and Human Rights at the NYU Stern School of Business on a project aimed at examining a new agency focused on garment factory inspection and remediation.



EVENT DESCRIPTIONS



DIPU MONI: Bangladeshi politician and former Foreign Minister of Bangladesh, Dr. Dipu Moni visited UC Berkeley in the summer of 2018 and gave a talk titled, *Rohingya Exodus: Beyond the Man-made Human Tragedy*. Video recording of lecture at chowdhurycenter.berkeley.edu/dipu-moni

GARY BASS: In October 2018, the Chowdhury Center hosted Dr. Gary Bass, Professor of Politics & International Affairs at Princeton University. Dr. Bass gave a talk on his award winning book, *The Blood Telegram: Nixon, Kissinger, and a Forgotten Genocide*, on the story of the birth of Bangladesh in 1971, and of the role that White House diplomacy that attended it.



ARIF ANWAR: Author of *The Storm*, Arif Anwar, did a book reading at the Center in February 2019. Inspired by the 1970 Bhola Cyclone, in which half a million people perished overnight, *The Storm* seamlessly interweaves five love stories that, together, chronicle fifty years of Bangladeshi history. Video recording of the reading at chowdhurycenter.berkeley.edu/arif-anwar

LSE CONFERENCE: The Chowdhury Center, in collaboration with the The South Asia Centre at the London School of Economics (LSE), launched *The Bangladesh Summit*, an international conference series with a core focus on Bangladesh. The first of its kind, the goal of this conference series is to understand the significant issues confronting the nation from multiple perspectives, and to identify ways forward to address them in contemporary times. The inaugural Summit was held at LSE in June 2018. The second took place in UC Berkeley on February 22, 2019 and the final one will be held in Bangladesh in 2021. Video-recordings of the presentations and Working Papers may be found at chowdhurycenter.berkeley.edu/bangladesh-summit

UNITED NATIONS MEETING



On November 27, 2018, Chowdhury Center Director **SANCHITA BANERJEE SAXENA** represented the Chowdhury Center at the UN where she gave a talk at the United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights on labor and global supply chains in Bangladesh. Her presentation critiqued the strategies employed over the last five years by Western retailers focused on monitoring and compliance, while neglecting issues around the entire global supply chain, as well as proposed solutions to further improve the sector and to prevent horrific tragedies like Rana Plaza from occurring in the future.

