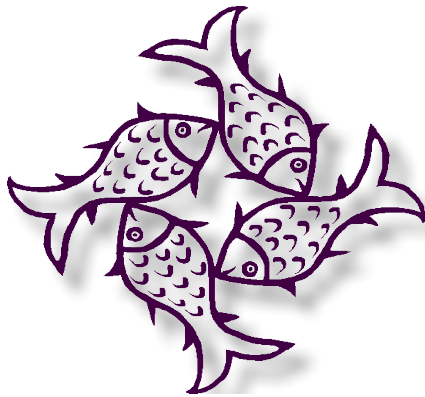


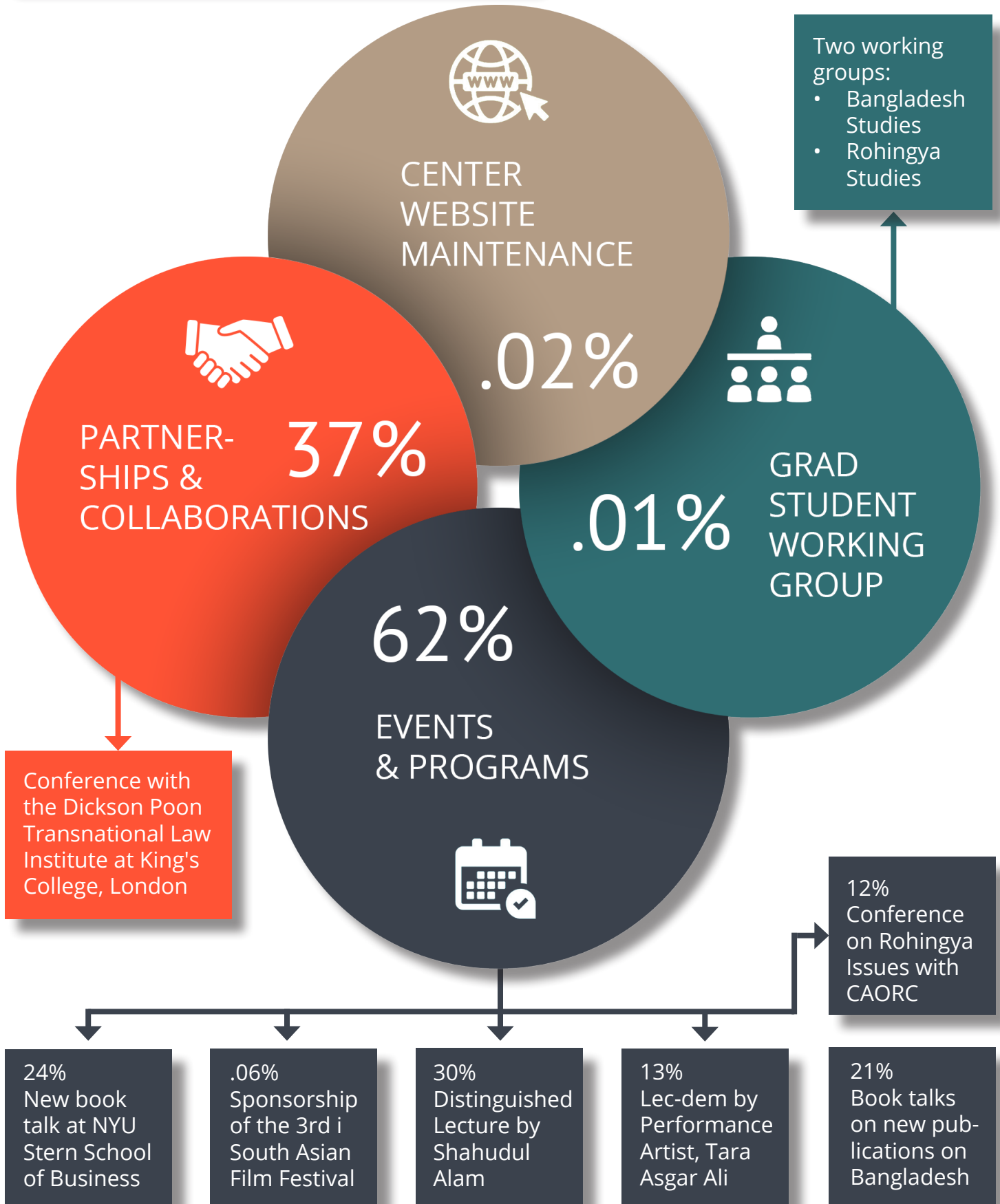
THE SUBIR & MALINI CHOWDHURY CENTER FOR BANGLADESH STUDIES

ANNUAL SPENDING REPORT 2019-20



UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, BERKELEY

HOW WE SPEND



EVENTS

October 21, 2019 | NYU Stern School of Business
Labor, Global Supply Chains, & the Garment Industry in South Asia: Bangladesh after Rana Plaza

A book launch of *Labor, Global Supply Chains, and the Garment Industry in South Asia*. Panelists included the editor of the book, Dr. Sanchita Saxena (UC Berkeley), Prof. Dina M. Siddiqi (NYU), Prof. Chaumtoli Huq (CUNY) and Shikha S. Bhattacharjee (Berkeley Law).



November 9, 2019 | UC Berkeley
**The Chowdhury Center Distinguished Lecture for 2019
Shahidul Alam | The Challenge of being a Journalist in Bangladesh Today**

The Chowdhury Center Distinguished Lecture for 2019 by Time magazine's 2018 Person of the Year, photographer, writer, and human rights activist Shahidul Alam.

October 15, 2019 | UC Berkeley
Ali Asgar (Tara) | In Between Lands and Territories: Love, Loss and Survival

A talk by Ali Asgar (Tara), a transdisciplinary artist and cultural producer whose work focuses primarily on the body and the relationship between body and space.



November 5, 2019 | UC Berkeley
New Directions in Bangladesh Studies: Recent Scholarship and New Publications

A panel discussion on new Bangladesh-related publications with authors Nusrat S. Chowdhury, Tariq Omar Ali, and Poulomi Saha.

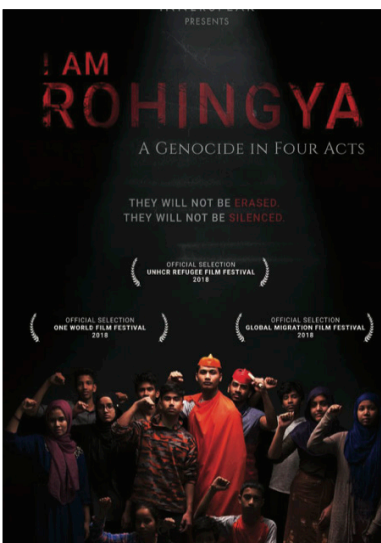


Nusrat S. Chowdhury
Associate Professor of
Anthropology
Amherst College

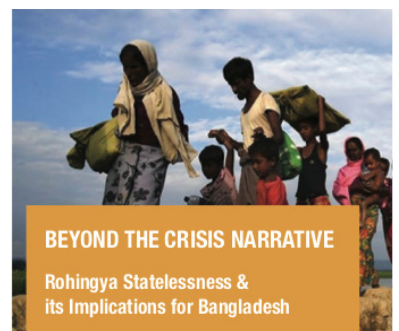
Tariq Omar Ali
Associate Professor in
the School of Foreign
Service, Georgetown
University

Poulomi Saha
Assistant Professor of
English, University of
California at Berkeley

Three Rohingya-related Events



- February 6, 2020 | UC Berkeley
I Am Rohingya: A Genocide in Four Acts
A screening of an award-winning documentary
- February 7, 2020 | UC Berkeley
Rohingya: Beyond the Crisis Narrative
A day-long conference
- February 10, 2020 | Washington DC
Rohingya: Statelessness and its implications for Myanmar and Bangladesh
A panel presentation on Capitol Hill, Washington DC



COLLABORATIONS

The Dickson Poon Transnational Law Institute (TLI), King's College London

The Chowdhury Center collaborated with the TLI on a series of conferences titled *Critical Perspectives on Power, Accountability and Agency in Global Supply Chains* on the global supply chain. The inaugural conference was held on Nov 22, 2019 in London and included a launch of "Labor, Global Supply Chains and the Garment Industry in South Asia: Bangladesh after Rana Plaza," a new book edited by Chowdhury Center Director, Dr Sanchita Banerjee Saxena.



Council of American Overseas Research Center (CAORC)

The Chowdhury Center collaborated with CAORC on three events dealing with the Rohingya issue in the Spring semester of 2020.

- Thursday, February 6, 2020
A screening of Yusuf Zine's *I Am Rohingya: A Genocide in Four Acts*, a powerful documentary that chronicles the journey of fourteen Rohingya youth who take to the stage in order to depict their families' harrowing escape from Burma.
- Friday, February 7, 2020
A one day conference titled, *Beyond the Crisis Narrative: Rohingya Statelessness and its implications for Bangladesh* that brought together scholars, activists, and members of the community to discuss the Rohingya crisis from the perspective of Bangladesh.
- Monday, February 10, 2020:
A team of scholars and specialists including Dr. Sanchita Banerjee Saxena (Chowdhury Center Director), Samira Siddique (UC Berkeley PhD student), Shireen Huq (Founder of Naripokkho), Yasmin Ullah (Rohingya Human Rights Network), Prof. Ali Riaz (Illinois State University), Mabur Ahmed & Rahima Begum (Directors, Restless Beings), Rick Spees (Exec. Director, CAORC), Golam M. Mathbor (President, American Institute of Bangladesh Studies), addressed Congress in Washington DC offering policy recommendations and ground updates on Rohingya and human rights situation in Bangladesh.



NEW PUBLICATION

The Chowdhury Center published a new South Asia Research Note (SARN) on "Labor, Global Supply Chains, and the Garment Industry in South Asia: Bangladesh after Rana Plaza."

Edited by Chowdhury Center Director, Dr. Sanchita B. Saxena, this book argues that larger flaws in the global supply chain must first be addressed to change the way business is conducted to prevent factory owners from taking deadly risks to meet clients' demands in the garment industry in Bangladesh.

WORKING GROUPS

The Chowdhury Center runs two working groups:

- **THE CHOWDHURY CENTER WORKING GROUP ON BANGLADESH STUDIES**

An interdisciplinary working group for graduate students whose research focuses on any aspect of Bangladesh or Bangladesh studies continues to remain active. The goal of this group is to connect students from across campus who are focused on Bangladesh as a part of their research program, as well as to serve as a forum to exchange ideas about fieldwork, conference opportunities, publishing, jobs, etc.



- **THE ROHINGYA WORKING GROUP**

Since August 2017, Burmese security forces have been carrying out a campaign of ethnic cleansing against Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine State forcing over half a million of them to flee to neighboring Bangladesh to escape killings, arson, and other atrocities. This mass migration has resulted in one of the worst humanitarian crises of our time. The Rohingya Working Group meets regularly to develop ideas and collaborations to further our collective work related to the Rohingya crisis.




The Subir & Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies
at the Institute for South Asia Studies
University of California at Berkeley

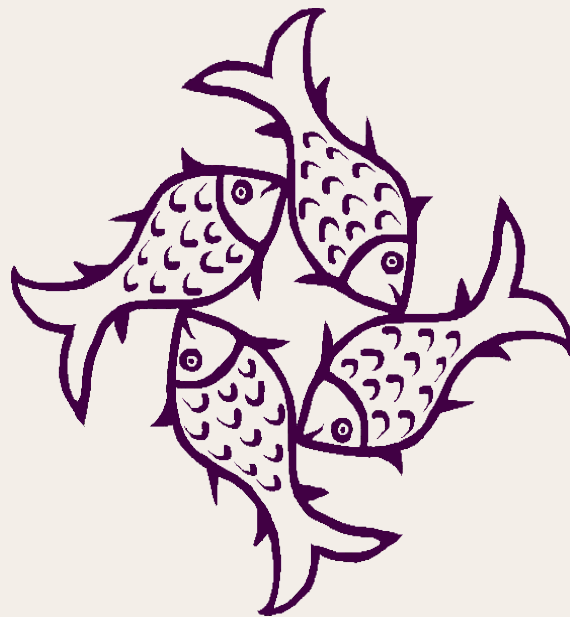
South Asia Research Notes
Fall 2019

LABOR, GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS, AND THE GARMENT INDUSTRY IN SOUTH ASIA: BANGLADESH AFTER RANA PLAZA
Edited by
Sanchita B. Saxena, Ph.D.
Executive Director, Institute for South Asia Studies
Director, Subir and Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies
University of California at Berkeley

SUMMARY
AN INTERDISCIPLINARY ANALYSIS TO ADDRESS THE RANA PLAZA DISASTER WHICH RESULTED IN A RADICAL CHANGE IN THE FUNCTIONING OF THE GARMENT INDUSTRY
LARGER FLAWS IN THE GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAIN MUST FIRST BE ADDRESSED TO CHANGE THE WAY BUSINESS IS CONDUCTED TO PREVENT FACTORY OWNERS FROM TAKING DEADLY RISKS TO MEET CLIENTS' DEMANDS IN THE GARMENT INDUSTRY IN BANGLADESH

This book argues that larger flaws in the global supply chain must first be addressed to change the way business is conducted to prevent factory owners from taking deadly risks to meet clients' demands in the garment industry in Bangladesh. Using the 2013 Rana Plaza disaster as a departure point, and to prevent such tragedies from occurring in the future, this book presents an interdisciplinary analysis to address the disaster which resulted in a radical change in the functioning of the garment industry. The chapters present innovative ways of thinking about solutions that go beyond third-party monitoring. They open up possibilities for a renewed engagement of international brands and buyers within the garment sector, a focus on direct worker empowerment using technology, the role of community-based movements, developing a model of change through enforceable contracts combined with workers movements, and a more productive and influential role for both factory owners and the government. This book makes key interventions and rethinks the approaches that have been taken until now and proposes suggestions for the way forward. It engages with international brands, the private sector, and civil society to strategize about the future of the industry and for those who depend on it for their livelihood.

A much-needed review and evaluation of the many initiatives that have been set up in Bangladesh in the wake of Rana Plaza, this book is a valuable addition to academics in the fields of development studies, gender and women's studies, human rights, poverty and practice, political science, economics, sociology, anthropology, and South Asian studies.



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