

BDI International Conference

“Bangladesh Reimagined: The Next Half-Century”

November 8–10, 2024

University of California, Berkeley

Friday and Sunday – Wheeler Hall, Room Maude Fife

Saturday – Clark Kerr Conference Center

[Wi-Fi will be available to all conference participants via the Berkeley Visitor network, which simply requires accepting terms and conditions.]



Overview of Bangladesh Development Initiative



BDI is a USA-based non-partisan, non-profit research organization comprised of independent scholars and experts associated with institutions of higher education in the United States. BDI engages in scholarly exchanges between the United States and Bangladesh through establishing educational programs, publishing an academic journal, sustaining a book publication program to archive indigenous knowledge, and organizing conferences that debate policy prerogatives for Bangladesh and its various sectors. BDI takes a broad view of development and includes professionals from various disciplines who are also involved in supporting social development initiatives in Bangladesh.

BDI was founded in 1988 in Pennsylvania, USA. The vision of the organization is to be the premier research and policy advocacy group in North America with interdisciplinary skills dedicated to inform and influence the development of Bangladesh through intellectual engagement and policy advocacy. As a non-partisan professional organization made of members of the Bangladeshi diaspora, BDI is interested in becoming a conscious and deliberative voice for sustained and comprehensive development in Bangladesh. The mission includes energizing and motivating the intellectual community to generate ideas through research to help shape policy and specific action. We are interested in the production and dissemination of policy-relevant ideas through the Journal of Bangladesh Studies (JBS), books, conferences and other publications incorporating expert opinion and relevant research. We seek to work with others in the civil society towards a democratic and prosperous Bangladesh. More can be learned about BDI on its web site: www.bdiusa.org.

President: Munir Quddus, Ph.D.

Vice President: Rahim Quazi, Ph.D.

Secretary: Akhlaque Haque, Ph.D.

Treasurer: Muhammad Faizul Islam, Ph.D.

Executive Members:

Farida Khan, Ph.D.

Sukomal Modak, Ph.D.

Elora Shehabuddin, Ph.D.

Farzana Noor Bindu

Waziuddin Saud Chowdhury

Members:

Adnan Morshed, Ph.D.

Atiar Rahman (Bonny), MD, PhD, FACP, FACC

Badruzzaman Ahmed, Ph.D.

Bakhtear Talukdar, MBA, Ph.D.

Shiba (Shibu) Kar, Ph.D.

Elora Chowdhury, Ph.D.

Nadine Shaanta Murshid, Ph.D.

Ariful Islam Bhuiyan, Ph.D.

Halimur Khan, Ph.D.

Syed Saad Andaleeb, Ph.D.

Navine Murshid, Ph.D.

Bernhard Gunter, Ph.D.

Honorary Members:

Dr. Ahrar Ahmad

Professor Rehman Sobhan

Professor Nurul Islam (Deceased)

Natl. Professor Jamilur Reza Choudhury (Deceased)

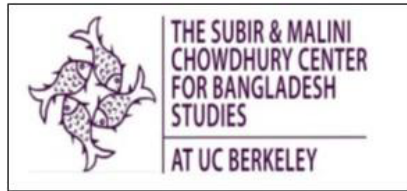
Dr. Atiur Rahman

Dr. Birupaksha Paul

Dr. Hameeda Hossain

Prof. Samir K. Saha, Ph.D., FAAM, FRCP

Overview of the Subir & Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies



The Subir & Malini Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies was established in December 2013. It was officially inaugurated on March 30, 2015, with a generous gift from the Subir and Malini Chowdhury Foundation, by UC Berkeley Chancellor Nicholas Dirks, Founder & Chairman of BRAC Sir Fazle Hasan Abed, and Mr. Subir Chowdhury.

The Center is housed under the Institute for South Asia Studies at the University of California, Berkeley, and it champions the study of Bangladesh's cultures, peoples and history. The first of its kind in the US, the Center's mission is to create an innovative model combining research, scholarships, the promotion of art and culture, and the building of ties between institutions in Bangladesh and the University.

The pioneering force behind the Center is Subir Chowdhury. Mr. Chowdhury, originally from Chittagong and trained as an engineer, is a renowned business consultant, author of many books, and is one of the world's leading management gurus particularly known for his emphasis on quality.

In addition to promoting and integrating interdisciplinary scholarship, the Subir and Malini Chowdhury Center will sponsor lectures and conferences and provide the following three scholarships:

- The Subir Chowdhury Fellowship on Quality of Life in Bangladesh is for graduate students and will be matched by the University's Graduate Fellowship Matching Program.
- The Malini Chowdhury Fellowship on Bangladesh Studies is for graduate students in any field concentrating on Bangladesh studies and will also be matched by the University's Graduate Fellowship Matching Program.
- The Subir Chowdhury Undergraduate Scholarship will be awarded to students concentrating in South and Southeast Asian Studies at Berkeley and will be matched by the Ford Challenge, a fund provided by a Berkeley donor to match undergraduate scholarship gifts.

Recent BDI Lifetime Achievement Awardees

Dr. Hameeda Hossain – 2021

Dr. Hameeda Hossain has dedicated her life to advocating for the poor and marginalized in Bangladesh. Born in Hyderabad, Sindh, in 1936, she attended missionary schools in Karachi and Hyderabad. Her early activism began when, at the age of 15, she won an essay competition sponsored by the *New York Herald Tribune* on “The World We Want,” which took her on a three-month tour of the U.S. She studied literature and history at Wellesley College, USA, and earned her doctorate in history from Oxford University, UK. Her thesis, later published as *Company Weavers of Bengal*, examines textile production for the East India Company.

Throughout her career, Dr. Hossain has made significant contributions to publishing, women’s rights, and human rights. She co-founded the *Forum* magazine in East Pakistan in 1967, serving as its editor and highlighting political and social inequities. After Bangladesh’s independence, she joined University Press Limited and became involved in rehabilitating women survivors of wartime sexual violence, establishing KARIKA, a cooperative for artisans. Her advocacy work also influenced her doctoral research on weavers in colonial Bengal.

Dr. Hossain has published extensively on women’s experiences during Bangladesh’s Liberation War, artisanal crafts, and labor rights. Notable works include *No Better Option? Industrial Women Workers in Bangladesh* and *Of the Nation Born: The Bangladesh Papers*. A staunch advocate for workers’ rights, she founded *Ain o Salish Kendra* and currently leads the *Sramik Nirapotta Forum*.

An international women’s rights activist, she has participated in numerous global events and contributed to Bangladesh’s reports for CEDAW. Her unwavering commitment to civil liberties, economic justice, and secularism has left an indelible mark on Bangladesh’s feminist movement, and she continues to work toward a more just and equitable society. For her work and dedication to uplifting the status of women in Bangladesh, Dr. Hossain was honored with the *2021 BDI Lifetime Achievement Award*.

Dr. Samir Saha (PhD, FAAM, FRCPath) – 2023

Professor Samir K. Saha is the Founder and Executive Director of the Child Health Research Foundation (CHRF) and serves as the Head of Microbiology at the *Bangladesh Shishu Hospital and Institute* in Dhaka. A globally recognized expert in pediatric infectious diseases, his research focuses on pneumonia, meningitis, and enteric fever in Bangladesh. His work has been instrumental in understanding the burden of these diseases, their causative agents, drug resistance patterns, and serotype distribution, leading to the introduction of Hib and pneumococcal vaccines in the country.

In 2017, Prof. Saha became the first scientist from a developing country to receive the American Society for Microbiology (ASM) award for his outstanding research in clinical microbiology. That same year, he was inducted as a fellow into the *American Academy of Microbiology* and awarded the *UNESCO Carlos J. Finlay Prize for Microbiology*. In 2019, his publication in *The Lancet* earned the *Charles C. Shepard Science Award* for public health contributions. Prof. Saha also received the FRCPath distinction from the Royal College of Pathologists, UK, later that year.

In 2020, Prof. Saha and his daughter, Dr. Senjuti Saha, were recognized by Bill Gates as “Heroes in the Field” for their work on reducing child mortality and advancing global health equity. Under his leadership, Bangladesh’s first SARS-CoV-2 genome was sequenced. In 2021, Prof. Saha received the prestigious *Ekushey Padak*, Bangladesh’s second-highest civilian award, for his lifelong contributions to science and public health.

Prof. Saha is a member of the *National Immunization Technical Advisory Group* (NiTAG) in Bangladesh and a board member of the *International Society of Pneumonia and Pneumococcal Diseases* (ISPPD). He has authored over 200 peer-reviewed papers and leads several multi-country research initiatives. For his lifelong work in the scientific arena and his leadership in improving the health of ordinary people, especially children, Dr. Saha was honored with the *2023 BDI Lifetime Achievement Award*.

Keynote Speakers

Dr. Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury is the former Vice Chair of BRAC, one of the world's largest NGOs. He has the unique distinction of serving on the leadership team of BRAC as a close associate of Sir Fazle Abed for nearly 30 years. He has served BRAC as its Executive Director, founding Director of the Research and Evaluation Division, and founding Dean of the James P. Grant School of Public Health at BRAC University. Presently, he is a professor at Columbia University's Mailman School of Public Health. From 2009 to 2012, he was a senior adviser to the Rockefeller Foundation in Thailand. Dr. Chowdhury is involved with several organizations, including the South Asia Centre at the London School of Economics and the Asia-Pacific Action Alliance on Human Resources for Health. He coordinated the UN Millennium Task Force on Child Health and Maternal Health. His accolades include the Innovator of the Year 2006 award from Brigham Young University, the PESON oration medal from the Perinatal Society of Nepal, and the Outstanding Leadership Award from Dhaka University. Dr. Chowdhury holds a PhD from the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, an MSc from the London School of Economics, and a BA (Statistics) from the University of Dhaka. His interests span education, public health, and poverty eradication. He has authored a number of books, and recently served as a Visiting Scholar at the University of Notre Dame's Pulte Institute and Eck Institute for Global Health in 2023-24.

Tarfia Faizullah is the acclaimed author of two poetry collections, "*Registers of Illuminated Villages*" (2018) and "*Seam*" (2014). Her work is widely published in notable outlets such as Poetry Magazine, the Huffington Post, and the New Republic, and has been featured in exhibitions at the Smithsonian and the Rubin Museum of Art. Tarfia has received numerous accolades, including a Fulbright fellowship and three Pushcart prizes. She has presented her work globally at prestigious venues like the Library of Congress, the Fulbright Conference, and the Poetry Foundation. Her poetry has been translated into multiple languages, including Bengali and Persian, and is part of the theater production "*Birangona: Women of War*." Tarfia's interdisciplinary collaborations span various art forms, resulting in projects like the EP "*Eat More Mango*." Recognized by Harvard Law School as one of 50 Women Inspiring Change in 2016, she is also a 2019 USA Artists Fellow. Born in Brooklyn to Bangladeshi immigrants and raised in Texas, Tarfia currently resides in Dallas.

Dr. Nazrul Islam served as the Chief of Development Research at the United Nations. He has led the preparation of key UN reports on global development and provides policy advice to senior management. Dr. Islam holds a PhD in economics from Harvard University and an MSc from Moscow State University. He has taught at several prestigious institutions, including Dhaka University, Harvard, Emory, Kyushu, and St. John's University, and joined the UN in 2006. He is widely known for his contributions to growth, transition, sustainable development, and political economy relating to Bangladesh. He has published twenty books and numerous articles in international journals. He founded the Bangladesh Environment Network (BEN) in 1998 and initiated the formation of Bangladesh Poribesh Andolon (BAPA) in 2000.

Dr. Fahmida Khatun serves as the Executive Director of the Centre for Policy Dialogue (CPD), a prominent think tank in Bangladesh and South Asia, established by Professor Rehman Sobhan. She is also a Non-resident Senior Fellow at the Atlantic Council, USA, and a member of the High-level Advisory Board on the Productive Capacities Index (PCI) of UNCTAD. Dr. Khatun serves on the Task Force on Climate, Development, and the IMF, and is a member of the Governing Body of BRAC, the world's largest NGO. She co-chaired the T20 India Task Force on "*Accelerating SDGs*" for the G20 in 2023 and is currently part of the Interim Government of Bangladesh's Task Force on

economic strategy. She has been recently appointed as a Director on the Board of Bangladesh Bank. Dr. Khatun holds a Masters and PhD in Economics from University College London (UCL), and completed post-doctoral research at Columbia University as a Fulbright Scholar, collaborating with Professor Jeffrey Sachs.

Dr. Birupaksha Paul has been teaching economics and conducting research at the State University of New York (SUNY) at Cortland since 2007. He served as the chief economist of Bangladesh Bank in 2015–2016, and has been a guest speaker at Dhaka University and various forums in Bangladesh. Dr. Paul holds a BSS (Honors) and MSS in economics from Dhaka University, an MBA in finance from the University of Technology-Sydney, and a PhD in economics from Binghamton University. His research has been widely published in international journals. He received the Outstanding Achievement in Research Award from SUNY Cortland in 2015. Dr. Paul has authored several books in Bengali on topics such as the banking, free market economics, and South Asian economies. His notable works include, *Essays on Indian Business Cycles and Inflation* (2007), and *Empowering Economic Growth for Bangladesh: Investment Strategies, Macro Policies, and Institutions* (2019). He regularly writes columns for the leading newspapers in Bangladesh on banking reform and macroeconomic policies.

Dr. Selim Raihan is a Professor of Economics at the University of Dhaka and the Executive Director of the South Asian Network on Economic Modeling (SANEM). He holds a PhD from the University of Manchester, UK, where he is also an Honorary Senior Research Fellow. He serves on the Board of Directors of the Global Development Network (GDN). Professor Raihan is an expert in international trade, economic growth, poverty, labor markets, macroeconomic policies, political economy, and climate change. He has published extensively in journals, books, and working papers. He edits “*Thinking Aloud*,” a monthly digest from SANEM, and writes columns for leading newspapers in Bangladesh. He has collaborated with organizations like the Asian Development Bank, World Bank, UNDP, and the Commonwealth Secretariat. His most recent contribution is the book, “*Is the Bangladesh Paradox Sustainable? The Institutional Diagnostic Project*,” co-edited with François Bourguignon, and Umar Salam, published by The Cambridge University Press.

Dr. Farhana Sultana is a Professor in the Department of Geography and the Environment at Syracuse University’s Maxwell School of Citizenship and Public Affairs, where she also serves as the Research Director for Environmental Collaboration and Conflicts at PARCC. An internationally acclaimed scholar, Dr. Sultana’s interdisciplinary work encompasses political ecology, water governance, climate change, post-colonial development, social and environmental justice, decolonizing knowledge, and transnational feminisms. Her extensive research and activism are informed by her diverse experiences across three continents and her robust academic background in natural and social sciences, as well as policy. Before Syracuse, she taught at King’s College London and worked with the UNDP. Dr. Sultana has authored numerous publications, including notable books like “*The Right to Water*” (2012) and “*Water Politics*” (2020) and “*Confronting Climate Coloniality: Decolonizing Pathways for Climate Justice*” (2024). She holds an A.B. (Cum Laude) from Princeton University and a PhD from the University of Minnesota, where she was a MacArthur Fellow. In 2019, she received the Glenda Laws Award from the American Association of Geographers for her outstanding contributions to geographic research on social issues.

Summary Overview of Program

Day 1: Friday, November 8, 2024

(Location: Wheeler Hall, Room: Maude Fife (315), 3rd floor; please see map on last page)

- 1:00 pm–6:00 pm Registration
- 1:00 pm–2:00 pm Networking
- 2:00 pm–2:30 pm Welcome and Introductions
- 2:35 pm–3:30 pm Keynote #1: *The Liberation and Development of Bangladesh: The Giants We Have Lost*
- 3:35 pm–4:35 pm Keynote #2: *Ten Tasks for Future Bangladesh*
- 4:40 pm–6:00 pm Keynote #3: *Rebuilding Bangladesh: Economy, Governance and Politics*

Day 2: Saturday, November 9, 2024

(Location: Clark Kerr Conference Center, 2601 Warring St, Berkeley, CA 94720; please see map on last page)

- 8:00 am–12:00 pm Registration
- 8:00 am–8:30 am Breakfast and Networking
- 8:30 am–9:00 am Conference Opening Session
- 9:00 am–9:50 am Plenary: *The July–August Pro-Democracy Movement in Bangladesh – Success, Challenges and Opportunities*
- 10:00 am–11:25 am Concurrent Sessions #1
- 11:35 am–1:00 pm Concurrent Sessions #2
- 1:05 pm–1:55 pm Lunch
- 2:00 pm–2:55 pm Keynote #4: *The Seashore of Endless Worlds*
- 3:00 pm–4:25 pm Concurrent Sessions #3
- 4:30 pm–5:55 pm Concurrent Sessions #4
- 6:00 pm–6:15 pm Recognition & Award Ceremony
- 6:15 pm–6:40 pm A Capella Group Dil Se
- 6:40 pm–7:40 pm Dinner
- 7:30 pm–8:30 pm Keynote #5: *Confronting Climate Coloniality: Decolonizing Pathways for Climate Justice*
- 8:30 pm–9:30 pm Film: “No Ark”

Day 3: Sunday, November 10, 2024

(Location: Wheeler Hall, Room: Maude Fife (315), 3rd floor, and breakout classrooms in adjacent Dwinelle Hall, Rooms 88, 182, and 219; please see map on last page)

- 8:00 am–8:25 am Breakfast and Networking
- 8:30 am–9:50 am Plenary: *Environment in New Bangladesh?*
- 10:00 am–11:20 am Concurrent Sessions #5
- 11:30 am–12:30 pm BDI Panel: *The Biplob of Summer 2024: Hopes, Expectations, Challenges*
- 12:30 pm–1:00 pm Conclusion
- 1:00 pm Lunch

Detailed Program

Day 1: Friday, November 8, 2024

(Location: Wheeler Hall, Room: Maude Fife (315), 3rd floor; please see map on last page)

1:00 pm–6:00 pm Registration

1:00 pm–2:00 pm Networking

2:00 pm–2:30 pm Welcome and Introductions

- Dr. Munir Quddus (President, BDI; Professor and Dean, Prairie View A&M University)
- Dr. Elora Shehabuddin (Director, Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies; Professor of Gender & Women's Studies, University of California, Berkeley)
- Dr. Rahim Quazi (Vice President, BDI; Professor and Assistant Vice Provost, Prairie View A&M University)

2:35 pm–3:30 pm Keynote #1: The Liberation and Development of Bangladesh: The Giants We Have Lost (Moderator: Dr. Munir Quddus, Prairie View A&M University)

- *The Life and Work of Prof. Nurul Islam*
 - Dr. Nazrul Islam (Professor, Asian Growth Research Institute (AGI) and former Chief of Development Research, United Nations) [20 minutes]
- *The Life and Work of Sir Fazle Abed*
 - Dr. Ahmed Mushtaque Raza Chowdhury (Trustee, BRAC University; Professor, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health; formerly Vice Chair, BRAC) [20 minutes]
- Session Q&A [15 minutes]

3:35 pm–4:35 pm Keynote #2: Ten Tasks for Future Bangladesh (Moderator: Dr. Farida Khan, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs)

- *Ten Tasks for Future Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Nazrul Islam (Professor, Asian Growth Research Institute (AGI) and former Chief of Development Research, United Nations) [45 minutes]
- Session Q&A [15 minutes]

4:40 pm–6:00 pm Keynote #3: Rebuilding Bangladesh: Economy, Governance and Politics (Moderator: Dr. Bernhard Gunter, American University)

- *The Economy of Bangladesh: Crisis and Urgent Reforms*
 - Dr. Fahmida Khatun (Executive Director, CPD) [20 minutes]
- *The Crisis in the Banking Sector: An Agenda for Urgent Reforms*
 - Dr. Birupaksha Paul (Professor of Economics, SUNY at Cortland; former Chief Economist, Bangladesh Bank) [20 minutes]
- *Is the Bangladesh Paradox Sustainable?*
 - Dr. Selim Raihan (Professor of Economics, Dhaka University; Executive Director, SANEM) [20 minutes]
- Session Q&A [20 minutes]

Dinner (on your own)

Day 2: Saturday, November 9, 2024

(Location: Clark Kerr Conference Center, 2601 Warring St, Berkeley, CA 94720;
please see map on last page)

8:00 am–12:00 pm Registration

8:00 am–8:30 am Breakfast and Networking

8:30 am–9:00 am Conference Opening Session

[Room: Krutch Theater]

- Dr. Munir Quddus (BDI President; Professor and Dean, Prairie View A&M University)
- Dr. Elora Shehabuddin (Director, Chowdhury Center for Bangladesh Studies; Professor of Gender & Women's Studies, University of California, Berkeley)
- Dr. Raka Ray (Dean, Division of Social Sciences, University of California, Berkeley)
- Nicole Chulick (Deputy Assistant Secretary, U.S. State Department) [recording]

9:00 am–9:50 am Plenary: *The July–August Pro-Democracy Movement in Bangladesh – Success, Challenges and Opportunities* (Virtual student panel moderated by Dr. Farhana Sultana, Syracuse University)

[Room: Krutch Theater]

- Sayeeda Meher Afrog
- Auroi Semonti Khan
- Taposhi Dey Prapti
- Meghmallar Bosu

10:00 am–11:25 am Concurrent Sessions #1

Session 1.1: Film and Dance in Bangladesh

(Chair: Dr. Elora Shehabuddin, University of California, Berkeley)

[Room: Newel Perry]

- “Shompri” and “Oshommoti” in Bangladeshi Dance
 - Dr. Munjulika R. Tarah (Williams College)
- *Cinemas of Bangladesh: Challenges and Prospects in a Transnational Landscape*
 - Md. Hasan Ashik Rahman (State University of New York at Binghamton)
- *Racial or Post-racial Imagination? The Limit of Transcultural Adaptation in Bangladeshi Martial Arts Film Bojromusthi (1989)*
 - Mohammad Zaki Rezwani (BRAC University)

Session 1.2: Politics and Legislation

(Chair: Dr. Mahmood Hussain, San Francisco State University)

[Room: Warring Wilkinson]

- *Institutional Variation, Legislative Questions and Representation: Evidence from Bangladesh*
 - Dipak Kumar Biswas (West Virginia University)
- *Access to Justice through Village Courts in Rural Bangladesh: A Study on its Problems and Prospects*
 - Dr. Amir Mohammad Nasrullah (University of Chittagong)
- *The rationality of walkouts and boycotts of opposition parties in Bangladesh: Exploring the governance of Parliament*
 - Dr. Md. Sultan Mahmud (University of Rajshahi)

**Session 1.3: Reimagining the Role of Private Universities in Bangladesh over the Next Few Decades: Panel of University Vice Chancellors
(Chair: Dr. Munir Quddus, Prairie View A&M University)**

[Room: Krutch Theater]

- Professor Imran Rahman, Vice Chancellor, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh
- Professor Yousuf M. Islam, Vice Chancellor, Southeast University
- Professor Shams Rahman, Vice Chancellor, East West University

**Session 1.4: Bangladesh Environment Network (BEN) Roundtable with Invited Guests
(Moderator: Dr. Ahmed Badruzzaman, UC Berkeley)**

[Room: Sargent Johnson]

11:35 am–1:00 pm Concurrent Sessions #2

**Session 2.1: Demographics and Migration
(Chair: Dr. Fahmida Khatun, Centre for Policy Dialogue)**

[Room: Sargent Johnson]

- *Migration Dynamics: Exploring the Dual Impact of Remittances and Socio–Cultural Changes Among Bangladeshi Migrants in Malaysia*
 - Dr. A. S. A. Ferdous Alam (Universiti Utara Malaysia) and Halima Begum
- *53 Years of Bangladesh and 30 Years of ICPD: A Journey towards Population and Development*
 - Dr. Mohammad Mainul Islam (University of Dhaka)
- *Prevalence and determinants associated with unmet need for family planning in Bangladesh: An analysis of Bangladesh Demographic Health Survey*
 - Dr. Mohammad Mainul Islam (University of Dhaka), Md. Shahadat and Amimul Ehsan

**Session 2.2: Environment and Climate Change I
(Chair: Dr. Farida Khan, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs)**

[Room: Newel Perry]

- *Bengal Delta Formation and Riparian Hazards: Why an Interdisciplinary Planning Approach is Needed for Bangladesh's Future Planning?*
 - Dr. C. Emdad Haque (University of Manitoba, Winnipeg, Canada)
- *Landscape Analysis of Community Resilience to Disasters by Addressing Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights in Gaibandha and Satkhira Districts*
 - Dr. Md. Aminul Haque (University of Dhaka), Md. Rabiul Haque and Mohammad Mainul Islam
- *Prospects and Challenges of Adopting Zero Liquid Discharge (ZLD) Technology for Textile Dyeing Process Industry in Bangladesh and Policymaking Based on Financial Analysis*
 - Dr. Sukomal Modak (Computers and Structures, Inc., USA) and Partha Modak

**Session 2.3: Panel on Rebuilding Bangladesh: Governance, Development, Migration
(Chair: Dr. Ahmed Shafiqul Huque, McMaster University)**

[Room: Krutch Theater]

- *Reinventing Economic Institutions and Policies for a New Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Sadequl Islam (Laurentian University, Canada)
- *The Interplay of shrinking democratic space and migration dynamics: A Bangladesh perspective*
 - Dr. Ahsan Ullah (Universiti Brunei Darussalam)
- *The Canadian Bangladeshi Diaspora: Acculturation Strategies in Toronto and Hamilton*
 - Dr. Mehnaaz Momen (Texas A&M International University)
- *Electoral irregularities, democratic decline and regime change in Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Ahmed Shafiqul Huque (McMaster University, Canada)

12:30 pm–2:00 pm Vice Chancellors’ Corner and Authors’ Corner

(near the Conference Registration Desk, Clark Kerr Conference Center)

Vice Chancellors’ Corner

If you are interested in meeting one or more of the visiting Vice-Chancellors from private universities in Bangladesh, please take advantage of this opportunity. Prof. Imran Rahman (ULAB), Dr. Shams Rahman (East West University) and Prof. Yusuf Islam (Southeast University) plan to be available. They look forward to meeting you to discuss opportunities for visiting faculty positions (or permanent appointments) in their universities.

Book Authors’ Corner

If you have recently (co)authored or (co)edited a book related to Bangladesh, please feel free to bring a few copies of your book (or flyers about your books) and be present at the authors' corner during this time slot so that conference participants can stop by to chat and/or purchase an “autographed” copy of the book directly from you.

1:05 pm–1:55 pm Lunch

2:00 pm–2:55 pm Keynote #4: The Seashore of Endless Worlds

Tarfia Faizullah (MFA; poet; University of North Texas)

This hybrid talk/poetry recitation considers Bangladesh’s recent past, its tumultuous beginnings in 1971, the Bangladeshi presence in the broader global diaspora, as well as its potential future.

[Note: This keynote is free to attend without conference registration for anybody with a Cal ID.]

Moderator: Dr. Nadine Shaanta Murshid (University at Buffalo)

[Room: Krutch Theater]

3:00 pm–4:25 pm Concurrent Sessions #3

Session 3.1: Business and Economy

(Chair: Dr. Mustafizur Rahman, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka)

[Room: Sargent Johnson]

- *Towards a High-income Country Status: Venture Capital as a Catalyst for Fueling Innovation for Bangladesh's Economic Growth*
 - Dr. Maria Hossain Sochi (University of Alabama) and Md. Saimum Hossain
- *Bangladesh at a Critical Juncture: Alternative Pathways to Address the Triple Challenges*
 - Dr. Mohammad Irfan (University of Denver)
- *Harnessing the Potentials of Big Data to Assess Poverty Transformation in Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Rezaul Roni (Jahangirnagar University), Mohammad Nayeem Aziz Ansari and Md. Shahedur Rashid

Session 3.2: Health Concerns and Policy

(Chair: Dr. Akhlaque Haque, University of Alabama at Birmingham)

[Room: Newel Perry]

- *Socio-demographic factors and reproductive health outcomes of child marriage in Bangladesh: a cross-sectional analysis*
 - Dr. Mohammad Mainul Islam (University of Dhaka), Md. Shahadat and Mst. Jannatun Nur Toli
- *Salinity Intrusion and Menstrual Hygiene: The Unseen Struggles of Coastal Women in Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman (Jahangirnagar University) and Sumaiya Rokoni
- *Increasing Challenges of Aging in Bangladesh: Challenges for measurement and management*
 - Dr. Md. Aminul Haque (University of Dhaka) and Sadiya Afrin

Session 3.3: Communities in the Reimagined Bangladesh

(Chair: Dr. Farida Khan, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs)

[Room: Krutch Theater]

- *Retrotopian imaginaries and future-oriented practices of indigenous people in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Eva Gerharz (Fulda University of Applied Sciences) and Dr. Bablu Chakma (Fulda University of Applied Sciences) [co-presenting]
- *Who is Left Behind in Bangladesh? Gender, Caste, and Class in the Dalit Community*
 - Dr. Fauzia Ahmed (Miami University)
- *Cartographies of Destruction: Demolition of Religioscape in Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Aanmona Priyadarshini (Southern Methodist University)
- *A microhistory of the anti-shrimp movement of Polder 22, Khulna: Karunamoyee Sarder, peasant politics and future imaginaries*
 - Moyukh Mahtab (University of Texas at Austin)

Session 3.4: Politics and Representation

(Chair: Dr. Mahbubur Rahman, North South University)

[Room: Warring Wilkinson]

- *Maulana Akram Khan and the Idea of a Political Community*
 - Dr. Md. Mizanur Rahman (University of California, Santa Cruz)
- *Bangladesh as a Prison State: A Chronopolitics of Fascist Desire for Time*
 - Maidul Islam (University of Pittsburgh)
- *An Exploratory Investigation of Mediatization through Globalization of Political Discourse in Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Afsan Chowdhury (San Francisco State University)
- *Ethical Practices in Bangladesh Journalism: Traditions and Transitions*
 - Dr. Md. Abu Naser (California State University, Bakersfield)

4:30 pm – 5:55 pm Concurrent Sessions #4

Session 4.1: Technology, Media, and Communication

(Chair: Dr. Akhlaque Haque, University of Alabama at Birmingham)

[Room: Sargent Johnson]

- *Digital Transformation of Bangladesh through Digital Empowerment – Challenges to Overcome in the Next Half-Century*
 - Dr. Abureza M. Muzareba (University of Dhaka)
- *Building a Bangla Internet: A Technological History told through a Single Letter*
 - Dr. Anushah Hossain (University of California, Berkeley)
- *Digital platform usage intention of the young female urban netizens in Bangladesh for sustainable management of surplus household food*
 - Shamima Raihan Manzoor (York University, Canada)
- *Digital Usage Guidelines for Children from the Societal Well-being Perspectives for a Digital Bangladesh: Testing a User-Segmentation Model*
 - Shahida Raihan Manzoor (Multimedia University Malaysia, Malaysia) and Shamima Manzoor

Session 4.2: Rohingyas in Bangladesh

(Chair: Dr. Amm Quamruzzaman, University of California, Berkeley)

[Room: Newel Perry]

- *Preventing radicalization in the Rohingya refugee camps of Cox's Bazar, Bangladesh: An investigation into the current situation and policy prescriptions for the future*
 - Dr. Mahbubur Rahman (North South University, Bangladesh)
- *Depictions of the Rohingya crisis in Bangladeshi print and social media since 2012*
 - Md. Firoz Hasnat (Northern Illinois University)
- *Gender and Crypto Surveillance Capitalism: Disrupting the Blockchained Humanitarian Aid Governance in Refugee Camps*
 - Rawshan E. Fatima (Rutgers University)

Session 4.3: Gender and Rurality in Bangladesh

(Chair: Dr. Fauzia Ahmed, Miami University)

[Room: Warring Wilkinson]

- *Contesting Rurality? Geographies of Transforming Rural Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Mohammad Nayeem Aziz Ansari (Jahangirnagar University) and Md. Mizanur Rahman
- *Changing Lives of Women in Rural Bangladesh: A Feminist Perspective*
 - Dr. Fouzia Mannan (East West University, Bangladesh)
- *The Dowry Dilemma in Bangladesh: Legal Inefficacy and Socio-cultural Impediments*
 - Sharif Abdul Based (Marmara University, Turkey)

Session 4.4: Panel of Think Tanks from Bangladesh

(Chair: Dr. Fahmida Khatun, Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka)

[Room: Krutch Theater]

- Dr. Mustafizur Rahman (Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka)
- Dr. Ahmad Ahsan (Policy Research Institute, Dhaka)
- Dr. Selim Raihan (Dhaka University and SANEM)

6:00 pm–6:15 pm Recognition & Award Ceremony

[Room: Krutch Theater]

6:15 pm–6:40 pm A Capella Group Dil Se

[Room: Krutch Theater]

6:40 pm–7:40 pm Dinner

**7:30 pm–8:30 pm Keynote #5: Dr. Farhana Sultana (Syracuse University):
Confronting Climate Coloniality: Decolonizing Pathways for
Climate Justice**

(Moderator: Dr. Farida Khan, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs)

[Room: Krutch Theater]

**8:30 pm–9:30 pm Film: “No Ark” (A Documentary from Bangladesh on Faith and
Environment; 43 minutes) and Discussion with Q and A (17
minutes) led by Dr. Sudipta Roy (Georgetown University)**

(Moderator: Dr. Farida Khan, University of Colorado at Colorado Springs)

[Room: Krutch Theater]

Day 3: Sunday, November 10, 2024

(Location: Wheeler Hall, Room: Maude Fife (315), 3rd floor, and breakout classrooms in adjacent Dwinelle Hall, Rooms 88, 182, and 219; please see map on last page)

8:00 am–8:25 am Breakfast and Networking

8:30 am–9:50 am Plenary: Environment in New Bangladesh? [organized by Bangladesh Environment Network (BEN)] (Moderator: Dr. Ahmed Badruzzaman, UC Berkeley) [Room: Maude Fife (315) in Wheeler Hall]

- *History of BD Environment Movement, Challenges and Opportunities - A Brief Recap*
 - Dr. Nazrul Islam (Asian Growth Research Institute (AGI))
- *Air Pollution in Bangladesh-Its Unique Challenges and Likely Solutions*
 - Mahbulul Islam (U.S. Environmental Protection Agency)
- *Industrial Pollution and Potential Homegrown Solutions?*
 - Dr. Sukomal Modak (Computers and Structures, Inc., USA)
- *Energy-Climate Conundrum: World vs. Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Ahmed Badruzzaman (University of California, Berkeley)

10:00 am–11:20 am Concurrent Sessions #5

Session 5.1: Economic Development in Bangladesh: Prospects and Challenges (Chair: Dr. Shams Rahman, East West University) [Room: Maude Fife (315) in Wheeler Hall]

- *Bangladesh's Emergent External Borrowing Scenario Reasons for Concern and Mitigating Actions*
 - Dr. Mustafizur Rahman (Centre for Policy Dialogue, Dhaka)
- *Is development performance a democracy premium or a miracle?*
 - Dr. A. B. M. Nasir (North Carolina Central University)
- *Urbanization Patterns and Economic Development - An Overview*
 - Dr. Ahmad Ahsan (Policy Research Institute, Bangladesh)
- *A Micro Look at the Next 50 Years in Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Michael Bowler (Winona State University)

Session 5.2: Environment and Climate Change II (Chair: Dr. Laura Kwong, University of California, Berkeley) [Room: Dwinelle Hall #88]

- *Merging political ecology into a socio-ecological systems approach: What this reveals about water governance in Bangladesh's coastal regions*
 - Dr. Deepa Joshi (International Water Management Institute), James Garrett, Bryce Gallant, Md. Nurul Amin, Mohamed Aheeyar, Mokhlesur Rahman and Mou Rani Sarker
- *Linkage of Urban Area Climate Fund Projects with National Plans and Policies of Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Nawshin Tabassum (Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology) and Ishrat Islam

Session 5.3: Bangladeshis in the City and Abroad
(Chair: Dr. Nadine Shaanta Murshid, University at Buffalo)
[Room: Dwinelle Hall #219]

- *Bangladeshis as Sporting Diaspora in Canada: Playing Cricket for Identity Construction through Acceptance, Negotiation and Resistance*
 - Saidur Rahman (University of Toronto, Canada)
- *Folk with Coke: Serving a Neoliberal Agenda with a Decolonial Flavor in Bangladesh*
 - Dr. Nafisa Nipun Tanjeem (Worcester State University)
- *Spaces, Identities, and Activities: World-making of Aging Bangladeshi Immigrant Women in New York*
 - Mania Taher (University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign)
- *IVF Tourism in Bangladesh Perspective*
 - Tanjeem Afreen (University of Chittagong)

Session 5.4: Panel of Silicon Valley Entrepreneurs (with on the ground experience and/or entities in Bangladesh)
(Moderator: Dr. Ahmed Badruzzaman, UC Berkeley)
[Room: Dwinelle Hall #182]

- Luna Afroz (Founder of Luna Bags)
- Dr. S. Khalid Azim (Co-Founder and Executive Vice President of Engineering, echosonic)
- Dr. Yusuf Haque (Co-Founder of Exo, Chief Technology Officer and Executive Vice President of Engineering at Exo)
- Dr. Syed Faiyaz Hossiany (Senior Volwiler Research Fellow; Abbott Vascular; and Adjunct Professor, Bioengineering, University of California, Berkeley)
- Dr. Saif Islam (Director, Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS) and the Banatao Institute; Professor, Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering, University of California, Davis)
- Mohammed Enayetur Rahman (Founder, CEO & President of ULKASEMI)
- Dr. Fuad Rahman (CEO of Apurba Technologies Inc.)

11:30 am–12:30 pm BDI Panel: The *Biplob* of Summer 2024: Hopes, Expectations, Challenges (Moderator: Dr. Elora Shehabuddin, University of California, Berkeley)

[Room: Maude Fife (315) in Wheeler Hall]

- Dr. Munir Quddus (Prairie View A&M University): corruption
- Dr. Nadine Shaanta Murshid (University at Buffalo): violence
- Dr. Nafisa Nipun Tanjeem (Worcester State University): gender
- Dr. Akhlaque Haque (University of Alabama at Birmingham): administrative reform
- Dr. Farida Khan (University of Colorado at Colorado Springs): economy

12:30 pm–1:00 pm Conclusion

[Room: Maude Fife (315) in Wheeler Hall]

1:00 pm Lunch (boxed; common area, not in any classroom or Maude Fife as no food is allowed in any classroom, please follow the rule).

Note:

We apologize that we have not included the title and affiliation of co-authors of the paper presenters. This information was unavailable to us.

Acknowledgements:

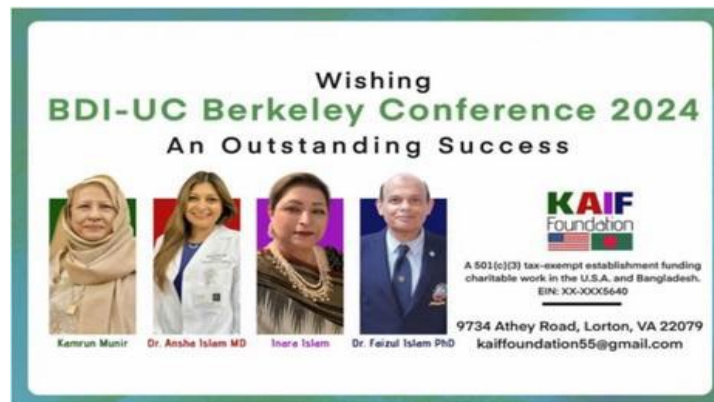
BDI and the Chowdhury Center would like to thank the many staff at the University of California, Berkeley, who have assisted us with their services, including among others:

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a.) Individuals:

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c.) Departments/Centers/Programs at the University of California, Berkeley (UCB):

- Asian American and Asian Diaspora Studies, Department of Ethnic Studies
- Asian American Research Center
- The Program in Critical Theory

Index and List of EM Addresses of all Keynote Speakers, Panelists, Paper Presenters and Session Chairs (as of November 1, 2024 – will be updated on BDI website)

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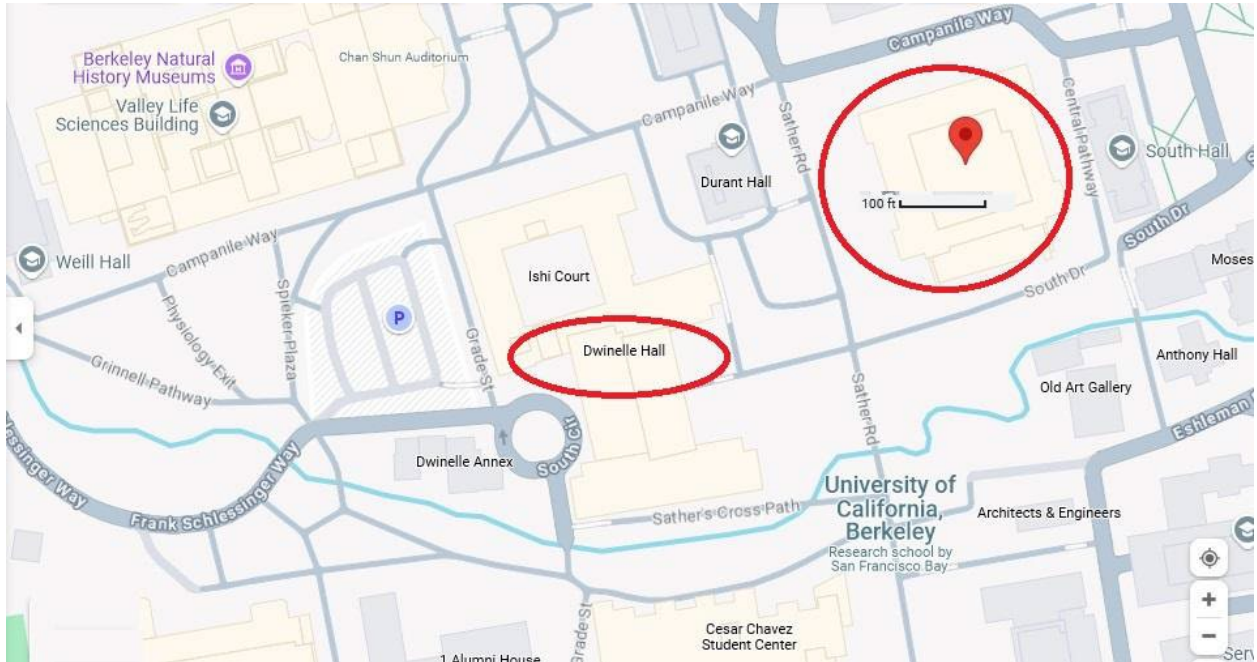
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Maps with Conference Venues

a.) Friday and Sunday (UCB main campus):

- i.) Friday: Maude Fife in Wheeler Hall [which is surrounded by Campanile Way (in the North), Central Pathway (in the West), South Dr (in the South) and Sather Road (in the East)].
- ii.) Sunday: Maude Fife in Wheeler Hall, and Breakout Classrooms in Dwinelle Hall, which is about 300 feet to the South-East of Wheeler Hall (just walk eastwards on South Drive).



b.) Saturday: Clark Kerr Campus Conference Center

The Clark Kerr Campus is to the South-West of UCB Main Campus (basically adjacent to Main Campus); Address: 2601 Warring St, Berkeley, CA 94720

