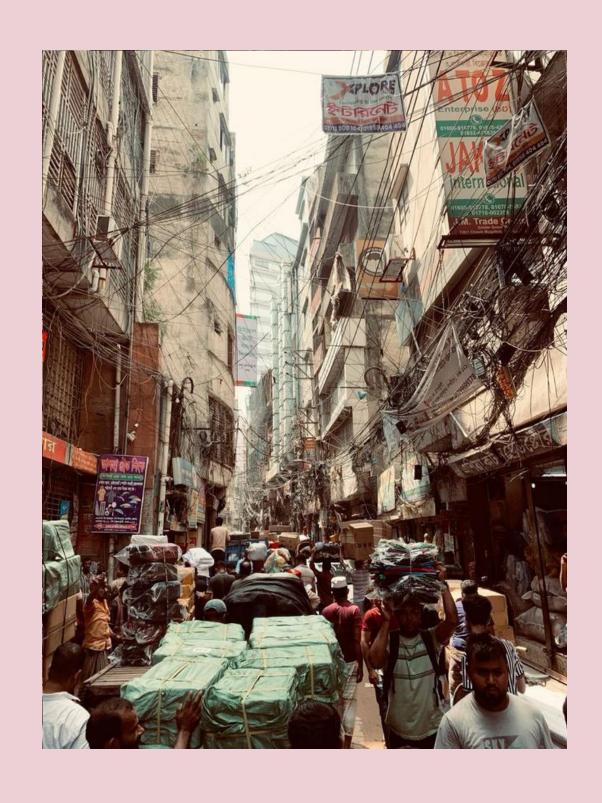PRESENTED BY RAMISA MALIHA

KNOW BEFORE YOU GO: MAPPING RISKY AREAS FOR SAFER JOURNEYS

DHAKA IS A CITY OF CONTRASTS—CROWDED, VIBRANT, AND ALIVE 24/7. BUT NOT ALL AREAS ARE EQUALLY SAFE, ESPECIALLY FOR WOMEN AND VULNERABLE GROUPS.

Dhaka's bustling streets

dark alley

I live in the 60 Feet area, a crowded part of Dhaka where people are present around the clock, making it feel relatively safe. One evening, around 7 p.m., I had to go to a new location for a tuition assignment, and since it was in 60 Feet, I assumed it would be safe. However, when I reached the alley leading to my destination, it was deserted except for a few men smoking in a corner. I immediately sensed it wasn't safe, but I had no choice but to continue. Soon, I felt someone following me. Panicking, I ran and luckily found an empty rickshaw to escape. Had I known the area was unsafe, I would have taken my mother or brother with me.

80%

A SURVEY CONDUCTED AMONG THE FEMALE STUDENTS OF THE GEOGRAPHY AND ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA REVEALED A STRIKING REALITY: 80% OF RESPONDENTS ADMITTED TO HAVING EXPERIENCED MOMENTS WHEN THEY FOUND THEMSELVES NAVIGATING DESERTED ALLEYS, FERVENTLY PRAYING TO REACH HOME SAFELY.

What if we could map unsafe areas in real-time?

- Blind Spot Layer on OpenStreetMap (OSM): Crowdsourced safety information about risky or unsafe locations.

- Focus on areas prone to harassment, isolation, or crime.

- Empower users with the knowledge to plan safer routes.

WHY OPENSTREETMAP (OSM)?

Open Source: Accessible and adaptable for everyone.

Community-Driven: Encourages local involvement and ownership.

Global Reach: Can be scaled to other cities facing similar safety challenges.

HOW IT WORKS

Locals mark unsafe areas on OSM.

Community verification ensures accuracy.

Layer integrated into OSM for easy access.

Safer route planning.

KEY BENEFITS OF BLIND SPOT MAPPING

Enhanced Awareness:
Alerts about risky locations based on real experiences

Informed Decisions:
Safer route planning before traveling to new places.

Community Safety:
Collective knowledge for a safer urban environment.