

Md Johirul Islam

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Educations

M.S., Mathematics, Ahsanullah University of Science and Technology
Relevant Courses: Ordinary Differential Equations, Advanced Topics in Optimization, Graph Theory, Advanced Calculus, Numerical Analysis, Probability, Stochastic Processes and Applications I
CGPA: 3.92/4.00 (Till second semester)

March 2024–Current

B.S.S., Economics, University of Chittagong
Relevant Courses: Microeconomic Theory I, Microeconomic Theory II, Macroeconomic Theory I, Macroeconomic Theory II, Mathematics for Economists, Mathematics for Economists II, Mathematical Economics, Statistics for Economists I, Statistics for Economists II, and Econometrics.
CGPA: 3.46/4.00 (Last year GPA: 3.68)

January 2017–August 2022

Experiences

Research Experiences

Senior Research Associate (SRA)

(July 2025-current)

BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), Brac University

Responsible for study design, survey development, enumerator training, survey management, data analysis, and report writing. Leading an RCT on child marriage and education in crisis contexts.

Research Associate (RA)

(December 2022-June 2025)

BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), Brac University

Responsibilities include designing research studies, developing questionnaires and survey form, training enumerators, managing survey operations, coordinating with stakeholders, cleaning and validating data, analyzing datasets, creating tables and graphs, and writing reports, blogs, research papers, and proposals.

Research Assistant (RA) (part-time remote)

(November 2023-November 2024)

Department of International Development, London School of Economics (LSE)

Assisted Dr. Naila Kabeer, Professor of Gender and Development, by cleaning and analyzing data, and creating tables and graphs for various projects in Bangladesh and India

Trainee Research Associate (TRA)

(June 2022- December 2022)

BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), Brac University

Responsibilities include designing questionnaire, managing survey, cleaning and validating data, analyzing data, creating tables and graphs.

*Research Assistant (RA) (part-time)**(May-June 2022)**Department of Economics, University of Chittagong*

Assistant to Ms. Tonmoyee Hasan Ayon, assisting in survey analysis and writing graphical illustration on the project named "Demography of Housemaids and Rickshaw pullers during Covid-19".

Teaching Experiences*Teaching Assistant (TA) (part-time) at BIGD, Brac University, Bangladesh**(June 2023- current)*

Assist Dr. Munshi Sulaiman in distributing lecture notes, grading exam papers, preparing lectures, etc., for DEV 502 *Poverty: Concept, Measurement and Policy* course offered in Master of Development Studies

Researchs*Publications*

1. **Islam, M. J.**, Hossain, M., & Haque, S. T. (2025). The cost of discipline? Exploring the impact of corporal punishment on childrens foundational learning skills in Bangladesh. *International Journal of Educational Development*, 117, 103360. [\[Link\]](#)

Working Papers

1. Behind Closed Doors: Corporal Punishment at Home and Its Consequences for Emotional Regulation in Children-An Instrumental Variable Approach with Arishfa Nawar Iqra and Md. Robiul Hossain, *Under review at Child Abuse & Neglect*
2. Perception vs. Reality: Daughter's Social Media Use and Elopement Concerns Among Parents in Rural Bangladesh with Munshi Sulaiman and Shaila Ahmed
3. Belief Measurement: The Role of Survey Incentives with Atiya Rahman
4. Womens Property Rights and Fertility: Cross-Country Evidence with Shaila Ahmed, Akmam Binte Arif, and Sheikh Touhidul Haque
5. Does Hunger Affect Violent Crime? A Cross-Country Study of Developing Nations with Naim Hasan Chy. Available at SSRN: [\[Link\]](#)

Selected Works-In-Progress

1. Optimizing Cash Transfers with Social Empowerment Interventions to Reduce Child Marriage in Bangladesh with Munshi Sulaiman, Shaila Ahmed, Khandker Wahedur Rahman, and Sakib Mahmud. [AEA RCT Registry](#)
2. Play-Based Learning in Crisis Contexts: A Randomized Controlled Trial on Educational and Psychosocial Outcomes in Host Community Children with Shaila Ahmed, Justine Howard, Sakila Yesmin, Muhammad Towkir Hossain. [AEA RCT Registry](#)

Policy Writings/Reports

1. Partnership for Research on Progress and Resilience in Education (PREPARE): Round 1 Policy Brief with Marjan Hossain, Khandker Wahedur Rahman, and Shaila Ahmed. 2023. BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD) Report. Dhaka, Bangladesh. [\[PDF\]](#)

Blog Posts

1. ["Unravelling the Association between Shocks and Education in Bangladesh"](#), with Marjan Hossain, Radhika Nagesh, Shaila Ahmed, and Khandker Wahedur Rahman. Center for Global Development, July 11, 2023.
2. [The Learning Crisis Persists in Bangladesh: Findings from a Two-stage Study"](#), with Marjan Hossain, Radhika Nagesh, Shaila Ahmed, and Khandker Wahedur Rahman. Center for Global Development, Nov 29, 2023.

Skills

Programming: STATA (advance), R (Intermediate), Python (Intermediate), \LaTeX (advance), Matlab (basic)

Professional: Google Workspace, Microsoft Office Suite, Adobe Photoshop (Basic), Adobe Premiere Pro (Intermediate), Adobe Illustrator (Basic)

Developer Tools: VS Code, GitHub

Others: HTML, CSS, Markdown, Canva, ArcGIS (basic), SurveyCTO (intermediate)

Languages: Bangla (native), English (fluent), Hindi (Basic)

Research Interests

Primary Interests

Development Economics

Behavioral Economics

Secondary Interests

Experimental Economics

Economics of Education

Leaderships and Co-curricular Activities

Policy Enovy at Youth Policy Forum, Bangladesh (2021-2022)

Member at Youth Ending Hunger Bangladesh (2017-18).

Youth Leader at Active Citizens-British Council (2017-2018).

Volunteer at The Hunger Project (2017-18).

Executive Member at Young Economists Society, CU. (2019)

Conferences and Presentations

Islam, Md Johirul, Iqra, Arishfa Nawar, Hossain, Md. Robiul. Behind Closed Doors: Corporal Punishment at Home and Its Consequences for Emotional Regulation in Children An Instrumental Variable Approach. Presented at the Fifth Annual International Conference: **A New Global Order, Yet Again**; IBA Center for Business & Economic Research (CBER); November 14, 2025; Karachi, Pakistan (Online).

Islam, Md Johirul, Chy, Naim Hasan. Does hunger affect violent crime? A cross-country study of developing nationas. Poster is presented at the 1st research symposium organised by the Institutional Quality Assurance Cell (IQAC) of the University of Chittagong; March 24, 2022; Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Islam, Md Johirul, Chy, Naim Hasan. Does hunger affect violent crime? A cross-country study of developing nationas. Poster is presented at 1st national Jamal Nazrul Islam national conference organized by CUHRS and Jamal Nazrul Islam Mathematical and Physical Sciences Institute, University of Chittagong ; May 21, 2022; Chittagong, Bangladesh.

Workshops & Certifications

August 25-30, 2024, **Research Staff Training 2024**, hosted by J-PAL South Asia in Goa, India

December 15, 2022: **"Hands-on training on applied quantitative research methods in development economics"** under the Young Researchers' Fellowship program, BIGD, Brac University, the six-month long training covered contents such as Basic Econometrics, Applied Econometrics, Advanced Training in Stata, Basic Sampling, Survey Instrument Development, Survey CTO Training, Research Communications, Research Ethics and Academic Writing.

September 2021: **"Causal Inference"**, Baylor University and Remote Student Exchange Program, instructed by Dr. Scott Cunningham, taught topics on Hidden Curriculum, Potential Outcome Model, Regression Discontinuity, IVs, DAG, DiD, and Synthetic Control etc.

March 2021: **"ECON 2338 - Behavioral Development Economics"**, Harvard University and Remote Student Exchange Program, instructed by Dr. Gautam Rao, the class provided training in empirical methods and introduces new topics on the behavioral science of poverty and covered innovative applications of behavioral economics to development research, and highlights ideas which could be particularly ripe for application to development questions. (participated as a silent auditor)

Awards and Honors

Young Researchers' Fellowship (YRF) 2022, BIGD, Brac University

(June, 2022)

The Champion as a team in the category of *Best Social Action Project* in Active Citizens Regional Achievers Summit 2018 organized by Active Citizens-British Council.

References

Dr. Munshi Sulaiman
Research Director and Professor
BIGD, Brac University
Dhaka, Bangladesh
Email: munshi.sulaiman@bracu.ac.bd

Dr. Khandker Wahedur Rahman
Senior Postdoctoral Researcher,
University of Oxford,
34 Broad Street, OX1 3BD, United Kingdom
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Dr. Md. Alauddin Majumder
Professor of Economics
University of Chittagong
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