

ASAD ISLAM

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Positions Held

- Associate Professor, Department of Economics, Monash University, 2015-
- Coordinator, South Asia research Network (SARN), Centre for Global Business, Monash University, 2015-
- Adjunct Fellow, BRAC Institute of Governance and Development (BIGD), 2016-
- Senior Lecturer, Department of Economics, Monash University, 2012-2014.
- Lecturer, Department of Economics, Monash University, 2009-2011.
- Research Associate (2001- 2005) and Research Fellow (2006-2009), Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS is the leading think tank in Bangladesh).

Education

- Ph.D. in Economics, Monash University, Australia, 2009.
- M.A in Economics, University of Saskatchewan, Canada, 2003.
- M.S.S [2000] and B.S.S. (Honors) [1998] in Economics, University of Dhaka.

Research Interests

- Development Economics, Demography, Education and Health

Awarded

- Dean's Commendation for Research Impact, 2016
- Monash Research Accelerator (MRA) Award for 2013-14 (to recognize, reward and accelerate the career development of Monash's highest performing early to mid-career researchers).
- Discovery early career research award (DECRA) fellow for Australian Research council (ARC), 2012-2015
- 2011 Dean's award for excellence in research by early career researcher, Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University.
- Mollie Holman Doctoral Medal 2009, Monash University (for the best thesis of the year in the Faculty of Business and Economics).

Academic Grants/ Awards

- GLM|LIC (DFID) : Training, financing, and matching between workers and firms: Evidence from Bangladesh: \$410k for 2018-21 [lead PI]
- ESRC (UK): The Early Childhood Intervention and Parental Involvement in Bangladesh (lead PI): \$1.1 million for 2016-20 [lead PI]
- DFAT: Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (Australia-India Research council): Discrimination and affirmative action in India (co-PI): \$30k for 2016; Dept. of Economics grant (\$20k)
- Non-price Energy Conservation and Household Energy Consumption in Bangladesh (IGC: \$33k; Monash Business School \$30k) [lead PI]
- Indian Council of Social Science Research: Skill Formation and Self-Employment Generation through Vocational Training (INR 850,000) Co-PI, with Deb Pakrashi, Deep Mukherjee and Arun K. Sharma (IIT Kanpur), Paul Frijters (LSE), 2016-2018

- IGC: Technology Adoption and Diffusion: The System of Rice Intensification and Food Security in Bangladesh (lead PI): total \$250k (\$140k for 2015-16 and \$110k for 2014-15)
- IGC India: Why is Assam Left Behind in India's Economic Boom? A Behavioral Perspective on the Effect of Conflict (Co-PI): (\$19k) for 2015-16
- IGC India: Can we select the right peers in Indian Education? Evidence from Kolkata (lead PI) (\$18k) for 2014-15
- ADRAS (AusAID/DFAT) Australian Development Research Award: Randomized experiments to evaluate efficacy of greater parental involvement and supplementary teaching in Bangladesh; \$770k (2013-16) [lead PI]
- ARC- DECRA Fellowship: Australian Research Council Discovery Early Career Research Award, \$375k (2012-15).
- Monash Research Accelerator (MRA) Award, \$95k (2013-14)
- DECRA support (Faculty of Business and Economics, Monash University), \$60k for 2012-14.
- IGC Bangladesh: parent-teacher meeting and students' outcome, \$18k (2012)
- Faculty of Business and Economics, Interdisciplinary research grant, \$30k
- Various competitive Faculty Research Grants, Monash university, \$126k (during 2009-15)
- Department of Economics, Competitive Internal Research Grants, \$145k (during 2010-2017)

Revise and Resubmit

1. Do Friendship Networks Improve Female Education?, with Youjin Hahn, Eleonora Patacchini, Yves Zenou, *Economic Journal*
2. Parent-Teacher Meetings and Student Outcomes: Evidence from a developing Country, *European Economic Review*
3. Heterogeneity in Peer Effects in Random Dormitory Assignment in a Developing country, with Debayan Pakrashi and Paul Frijters, *Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization*
4. Roommate effects in Health Outcomes, with Paul Frijters, Chitwan Lalji, and Debayan Pakrashi, *Health Economics*

Published/Forthcoming

2018/Forthcoming:

1. Do networks matter after a natural disaster? A study on resource sharing within informal network after cyclone AILA, with Chau Nguyen, *Journal of Environmental Economics and Management*, 90: 249-268, 2018
2. Gender Bias in Parental Attitude: An Experimental Approach, with Lutfunnahar Begum and Phil Grossman, *Demography*, forthcoming
3. Education, Marriage and Fertility: Long-Term Evidence from a Female Stipend Program in Bangladesh, with Youjin Hahn, Kanti Nuzhat, Hee-Seung Yang and Russell Smyth, *Economic Development and Cultural Change*, 66(2): 383-415, 2018
4. Can Immigrants Insure Against Shocks as well as the Native-born?, with Steve Stillman and Chris Worswick, *Applied Economics*, forthcoming

2017:

5. Immigration, Innovation and Wages of Native-born American, with Chau Nguyen and Farid Islam, *Industrial Relations: A Journal of Economy and Society*, 56(3):459–488, 2017 [top downloaded articles from Wiley in recent publication history by the end of 2017]
6. The Intergenerational Effect of Cambodia's Genocide on Children's Education and Health, with Chandrany Ouch, Russell Smyth and Choon Wang, *Population and Development Review*, 4 (2): 331-353, 2017.
7. Girl Power: Stipend Programs and their Effects on the Education of Younger Siblings, with Lutfunnahar Begum and Russell Smyth, *Journal of Development Studies*, 53(11): 1882-98, 2017
8. The Long-term Health Effects of Mass Political Violence: Evidence From China's Cultural Revolution, with Paul Raschky and Russell Smyth, *Social Indicator Research*, 132(1), 257-272, 2017

2016:

9. The long-term effects of civil conflicts on education, earnings, and fertility: Evidence from Cambodia, with Chandrany Ouch, Russell Smyth and Choon Wang, *Journal of Comparative Economics*, 44: 800-820, 2016
10. Bureaucratic Corruption and Income Inequality: Micro-Level Evidence from Bangladesh, with Wang-Sheng Lee, *Journal of Development Studies*, 52(10): 1499-1516, 2016
11. Microcredit Program Participation and Household Food Security in Rural Bangladesh, with Chandana Maitra, Debayan Pakrashi and Russell Smyth, *Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 67(2): 448–470, 2016
12. Native- Migrant Wage Differential across Occupations: Evidence from Australia, with Jaai Parasnis, *International Migration*, 54 (3): 89–109, 2016

2015:

13. Age at migration, English language skills and Adult Outcomes for Australian Immigrants, with Cahit Guven, *Demography*, 52:513–542, 2015
14. Does Microfinance change the informal lending in village economies, With Chau Nguyen and Russell Smyth, *Journal of Banking and Finance*, 50: 141-156, 2015
15. Do fertility control policies affect health in old age? Evidence from china's one child experiment, with Russel Smyth, *Health Economics*, 24: 601–616, 2015
16. Genetic distance, Immigrants' Identity and labour market outcome, with Paul Raschky, *Journal of Population Economics*, 28 (3): 845-868, 2015
17. Heterogeneous Effects of Microcredit: Evidence from Large Scale Programs in Bangladesh, *Journal of Asian Economics*, 37:48-58, 2015 (Invited Article)

2013:

18. Child Labour and Schooling Responses to Access to Microcredit in Rural Bangladesh, with Chongwoo Choe, *Economic Inquiry*, 51 (1): 46-61, 2013
19. The Effect of Informal Networks on Corruption in Education: Evidence from the Household Survey Data in Bangladesh, with Chongwoo Choe, Ratbek Dzhumashev, and Zakir Khan, *Journal of Development Studies*, 49(2): 238–250, 2013
20. Do Immigrants Save Less than Natives? Immigrant and Native Saving Behaviour in Australia, with Jaai Parasnis and Dietrich Fausten, *Economic Record*, 89(284): 52–71, 2013.

2012:

21. Health Shocks and Consumption Smoothing in Rural Households: Does Microcredit have a Role to Play?, with Pushkar Maitra, *Journal of Development Economics*, 97 (2): 232-243, 2012 (Group 1)
22. The Economic Returns to Good Looks and Risky Sex in the Bangladesh Commercial Sex Market, with Russel Smyth, *B.E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy* (Contributions), 12 (1): 1635-1682, 2012

2011:

23. Medium and Long-term Participation in Microfinance: Evaluation Using Large Panel Data Set from Bangladesh, *American Journal of Agricultural Economics*, 93(3): 843-862, 2011

2009 or Before:

24. The Substitutability of Labor between Immigrants and Natives in the Canadian Labor Market: circa 1995, *Journal of Population Economics*, 22(1): 199-217, 2009
25. Skilled Immigration and Wages in Australia, with Dietrich Fausten, *Economic Record*, 84(s1): S66-S82, 2008
26. Immigration and Unemployment Relationship: Evidence from Canada, *Australian Economic Papers*, 46(1): 52-66, 2007

Book Chapter

- Economics of Sex Work in Bangladesh, *The Oxford Handbook of the Economics of Prostitution* (New York and Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2016) chapter 10 pp. 210-228, with Russell Smyth.

Papers Under submission

1. Can Referral Improve Targeting? Evidence from a Training Experiment, with Marcel Fafchamps, M A Malek, Debayan Pakrashi, CEPR Discussion Paper No.12070
2. Determining the Extent of Statistical Discrimination: Evidence from a field experiment in India, with Choon Wang, Deb Pakrashi and Yves Zenou, CEPR Discussion Paper No. DP12955
3. Non-Financial Incentives, Selectivity and Performance of Volunteers: Evidence from a Large Scale Natural Field Experiment, with M A Malek, Sakiba Tasneem and Choon Wang
4. Impact of STI testing on STI prevalence and safe sex behaviour of brothel sex workers in Bangladesh: a randomised controlled trial, with Claire Bristow, Russell Smyth, Alexis Tan and Choon Wang
5. More Sense or Sensibility? Experimental Evidence from Teaching Children Chess in Bangladesh, with Wang-Sheng Lee and Aaron Nicholas
6. The Effects of Genocide on Social Preferences and Risk, with Chandarany Ouch, Lata Gangadharan and Choon Wang
7. Whose voice matters? An experimental examination of women empowerment in microfinance, with Klaus Abbink and Chau Nguyen
8. Natural Disaster and Risk-Sharing Behavior: Evidence from a field experiment, with Minhaj Mahmud and Paul Raschky
9. Survey Measures versus Incentivised Measures of Risk Preferences: Evidence from Sex Workers' Risky Sexual Transactions, with Alexis Tan, Choon Wang and Russell Smyth

10. Distributional Effects of Corruption When Enforcement is Biased: Theory and Evidence from Bribery in Schools in Bangladesh, with Shahe Emran and Forhad Shilpi
11. Parental Attitude and Investment in Children's Health and Education, with Lutfunnahar Begum and Phil Grossman
12. Do children of immigrants outperform those of natives? Evidence from Australian nationwide standardized tests, with Dipanwita Sarkar and Russell Smyth
13. Immigrant Married Women's Labour Supply and Human Capital Investment Behaviour, with Sarah-Jane Derby and Russell Smyth
14. Labour market participation of women in rural Bangladesh: the role of microfinance, with Debayan Pakrashi

Working Papers/ Getting Ready for Submission to Journal

1. Teams, Organization and Education Outcomes: Evidence from a field experiment in Bangladesh, with Youjin Hahn, Yves Zenou and Eleonora Patacchini, CEPR Discussion Paper No. 10631
2. Competitiveness, Performance and Wage Elasticity of Shrimpers, with Sakiba Tasneem
3. Does Violence Leave Long-term Scars? Evidence from Ethnic Riots in India, with Hiranya Nath, Chandarany Ouch and Dipanwita Sarkar
4. Cognitive skills, Personality traits and technology adoption among rice farmers, with Sakiba Tasneem
5. Heterogeneous Effects of Health Shocks in Developed Countries? Evidence from Australia, with Jaai Parasnis

Work-in-Progress

1. The Impact of System of Rice Intensification: Evidence from a large scale two-period randomized field experiments, with Chris Barrett, M A Malek, Debayan Pakrashi and Ummul Ruthbah
2. Network Formation with Unobserved Homophily: Identification and Evidence from Bangladesh, with Jun Sung Kim, Suyong Song and Yves Zenou
3. A Structural Model of Multigraph Formation: Social Networks in Villages, with Jun Sung Kim and Yves Zenou
4. After-school tutoring in developing countries: Evidence from a large Scale RCTs, with Ummul Ruthbah
5. Myopic loss aversion and trading behaviour of investors in stock market, with Kazi Iqbal and Vy Nguyen
6. Learning from Peers: Evidence from training on a new rice technology cultivation, with Marcel Fafchamps, M A Malek and Debayan Pakrashi
7. Negotiation Power, Safe sex intervention and Discrimination of sex workers, with Russell Smyth, Alexis Tan and Choon Wang
8. Microfinance participation and Fertility transition in Bangladesh, with Vy Nguyen and Russell Smyth
9. Non-price Energy Conservation and Household Energy Consumption in Bangladesh, with Ahsan Zaman and Choon Wang
10. Network Formation with Unobserved Homophily, Panel Data and Degree Heterogeneity, with Jun Sung Kim and Yves Zenou
11. Spillover effects in technology adoption, with Abby Zhang and Yves Zenou
12. Goal Setting and non-financial incentives among secondary school children in Zanzibar, with Nishith Prakash and Shwetlena Sabarwal

13. Corruption in cyclone relief and reconstruction, with Paul Raschky and Choon Wang

Current Projects in the Field

1. The Early Childhood Intervention and Parental Involvement in Bangladesh (RCTs), with John List
2. Playful Learning Program and its effects on cognitive and non-cognitive outcomes of pre-school children in Uganda and Tanzania (RCTs), with BRAC-Africa and funding from Lego Foundation, with Marilyn Flear and Margaret Triyana
3. Financial Diary, financial literacy and rural households' saving and investment behavior, with Vy Nguyen and Russell Smyth
4. Enterprise Development through skill development and financial access: A large scale field experiments with BRAC, funding supports from the European Union, with Margaret Triyana and Gary Fields.

Popular Press/Op-Ed Column

Based on Academic Research

- *Ideas for India*: Can microcredit improve food security among the rural poor?
- *Financial Express*: Primary and Secondary Education in Bangladesh: What is happening in the field?, anniversary issue, Nov 22 2016
- *Financial Express*: Food security: Trying new rice cultivation method, Nov 15 2017

Opinion pieces in newspaper on Bangladesh before PhD

- "Savings and Investment Missing Link", *The Daily Star*, anniversary issue, February 16 2006.
- "The WTO Hong Kong Ministerial in the context of Bangladesh", *Guardian*, a Monthly Journal, July 2005.
- "Prospects of Economic Gains from SAFTA" *The Financial Express*, February 23, 2005.
- "The Postponement of SAARC summit: Prospects for SAFTA", *E-mela* (www.e-mela.com) February 14 2005.
- "Trade deficit with India: Short and Long Term Measures" weekly *Business Bangladesh*, January 23, 2003
- "Bangladesh India Trade Imbalance: A perspective" *E-mela*, March 12 2003.
- "The Budget and the Next Agenda" *The Daily Star*, Vol. 3, No. 980, June 12, 2002.

Conference/seminar Presentation

- 2018: CDES-Monash, IGC, Dhaka [March], Sydney [Behavioural economics and finance, July], UQ [July], Deakin [August], Michigan [Sept]
- 2017: IGC Dhaka [January], IGC conference, Dhaka [March], NSU [April], ADEW [June], Cornell [Sept], Urbana-Champaign [Oct], UNSW, Macquarie [Nov], AASLE [ANU], ISI [Delhi].
- 2016: WEAI [Singapore], ANU(Arndt-Corden/Crawford)[Feb], BRAC [April], North South University, Dhaka [April], Sydney[May], ADEW[June], BRAC[June], UChicago [Sept], QUT[Nov]
- 2015: WEAI [Jan, Wellington], RMIT[April], ANU (RSE) May], BRAC, Dhaka [June], WEAI[June, Hawaii], ESA world congress [Sydney, July], EEA [August], ESA(UTS, Sydney)[July], EEA (Mannheim) [August]

- 2014: BRAC [Feb and Apr], Economic Research Group, Dhaka [Feb], Dhaka [April], LaTrobe [May], QUT[May], ASAE [Dhaka, Oct], NEUDC [Boston]
- 2013: ASSA Meeting [Jan]; Royal Economic Society meeting [April 2013], ADEW [June], Migration workshop at U of Melbourne [July], BRAC [July], LEW[August], Monash-Warwick workshop on development economics [August], EEA[August], Flinders [September], Otago [November]
- 2012: ANU [Oct], UWA [Aug], Curtin [Aug], Monash development workshop [July], CHE seminar [June], IZA/World Bank: Employment and Development, New Delhi [Nov 2012], Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society and ISI conference, New Delhi [Dec]
- 2011: DRU Workshop at Monash [April], Development Workshop at UWA [June], Monash workshop [Dec], IGC-Dhaka workshop [Dec]; Invited, UQ and QUT [Oct]
- 2010: New Zealand Association of Economist [Auckland], Econometric Society World Congress meeting 2010 [Shanghai]; Invited, University of Dhaka [February], Deakin [April].
- 2009: BIDS [February, Dhaka], WEAI [Vancouver], ESAM [July, ANU], Far East and South Asian Meeting of the Econometric Society [July, Tokyo], EEA-ESEM [Barcelona]; Invited, UTS [September].

Consulting Activities (details available upon request)

- Worked for Asian Development Bank as an independent econometric evaluation expert and advisor for the country research teams for China, Thailand, Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia on econometric issues related to evaluation of projects/programs, 2009-2010.
- Worked as a consultant in numerous research projects supported by World Bank, Asian Development Bank, European Union, UNDP and other multilateral donor agencies (during 2004-06). *Reports and topics are available upon request*

Teaching Experience

- Monash University, since 2009:
 - ECF5921: Introduction to International Economics, 2016-
 - ECF5010: Research issues paper (2009-15) : MA level course
 - ECF3900: Business Economics (2010)- an undergraduate level course
 - ECX5420: Applied Macroeconomics (2009); for Master of Business Economics Student, a graduate level advanced course
 - ECF9530: Economics (2009, 2011-): for Master of International Business, an undergraduate level course
 - ECX9050: Labour Economics (Treasury Teaching, Honours level course, 2010)
- Lecturer in Economics: University of Dhaka, January-August 2001

Supervision

- *PhD Students: Current:* Xin (Abby) Zhang (Main); Vy Nguyen (Joint);
- Hongqi Tan (Reserve bank of Australia); Sakiba Tasneem (Research Fellow at Monash);
- *Past:* Chau Nguyen (Australian Bureau of Statistics); Kanti Ananta Nuzhat (North South University); Ouch Chandarany (Cambodia Development Research Institute); Lutfunnahar Begum (National Board of Revenue, Bangladesh)

- *Masters/ Honors Students*: Hemawathy Balarama (2018); Gabriela D'Souza (2017); Xin (Abby) Zhang (2016); Anika Zaman (2015-16); Alyaa Binti Abdullah (MA 2014-15); Fern Yi Lam (2015); Laura Mulligan (2013); Frida Komesaroff (2013); Zelin Wang (2012); Hongqi Tan (2012).

External Examiner (MA/PhD Econ thesis)

- University of Waikato (2012); Deakin University (2013); U of Adelaide (MA 2014); UWA (2015); Victoria University, NZ (2015); University of Southern Queensland (2016); Deakin (2017); University of Melbourne (2018)

Refereeing (Partial list)

- *Agricultural Economics, American Journal of Agricultural Economics, Canadian Journal of Economics, Economic Development and Cultural Change, Economic Journal, European Economic Review, Experimental Economics, Health Economics, International Economic Review, Journal of Banking and Finance, Journal of Conflict Resolution, Journal of Development Economics, Journal of Development Studies, Journal of Economic Behaviour and Organization, Journal of the European Economic Association, Journal of Health Economics, Journal of Population Economics, Review of Economics and Statistics, Southern Economic Journal, World Development.*
- Assessor for Social Science and Humanities Research Council, Canada; Australian Research Council (Future Fellow, DP and DECRA), Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) Peer Reviewer (2012); Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) Research Institute; 3ie

Committee/ Organizational activity (at Monash)

- Chair, Communication Group/Department Newsletter, 2018-
- Member, Dept. Research Committee, 2018-
- Member, HDR review committee, 2017-
- Member, Steering/Advisory Committee, Monash Centre for Development Economics and Sustainability (CDES), 2012-
- Member, hiring panel of junior academic staff at the department of Economics, 2016
- Chair, Organizing and Program Committees, Australasian Development Economics Workshop (ADEW), 2015
- Organizer, SARN conference 2015
- Empirical Micro seminar organizer, 2010-2013
- Organizer (Monash-Warwick workshop on Development, 2013) (with Pushkar Maitra); Development Economics Workshop [December 2014] (with Susan Olivia); Member, Organizing committee ADEW, June 2012; Development workshop at Monash, December 2010, 2011 and 2012 (with Pushkar Maitra); Organizer for Workshop on Consumption and Savings, Monash University, 2008
- Member, Department Research Committee, 2010; Member, Assurance of Learning review team (2012-13); Member, AACSB panels for the Department of Economics, 2013; Member, Academic Progress Committee (2009-12)

Professional Association Membership

- American Economic Association, Canadian Economic Association Econometric Society, European Economic Association, Life Member of Association for Economic and Development Studies on Bangladesh (AEDSB)

Collaborating field work (Bangladesh): BRAC; Economic research group (ERG); PSTC, PIACT, BIDS, Jagorani Chakra Foundation, Human Safety foundation.

- Founder, Global Development Research Initiative (GDRI)