

Afrina Asad

Uttara, Dhaka-1230 • afrinaasad73@gmail.com • [LinkedIn](#)

EDUCATION

Master of Social Sciences (MSS) in Economics

University of Dhaka
2025 – 2026

CGPA: Pending

Relevant Courses: Microeconomic Theory I & II, Macroeconomic Theory I, International Trade Theory & Policy, Development Economics.

Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSS) in Economics

University of Dhaka
2022 – 2025

CGPA: 3.71

Relevant Courses: Advanced Econometrics I & II, Advanced Microeconomics, Advanced Macroeconomics, Research Methodology, Real Analysis, Dynamic Optimization.

RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

Research Mentee, *International Growth Center*

March 2026 – August 2026

- *Natural Disasters and Agricultural Productivity Loss* — This paper examines the impact of natural disasters on agricultural productivity in Bangladesh using satellite-derived data merged with the Bangladesh Integrated Household Survey (BIHS) panel data, employing a household fixed-effects model.

Master's Thesis, *University of Dhaka*

January 2026 – August 2026

- *Does Watching More Television Shape Adolescents' Gender Norms? An Instrumental Variable Approach* — This paper investigates the potential causal effect of frequent use of television on gender norm formation among Bangladeshi adolescents, using an instrumental variable approach to address endogeneity in media consumption.

Undergraduate Monograph, *University of Dhaka*

March 2025 – July 2025

- *Exploring Links between Adolescent-Targeted Content and Gender Norms in Bangladesh* — This paper examines how adolescent-focused content exposure shapes gender attitudes using nationally representative survey data and Ordinary Least Squares methods. The analysis finds that higher exposure is associated with more egalitarian gender norms, with effects varying by gender and marital status.

Conference Paper, *South Asian Economics Students' Meet*

November 2025

- *Climate Shock and Agricultural Productivity Loss: Evidence from a Longitudinal Study in Bangladesh* — This paper examines how climate disasters negatively impact agricultural productivity and financial welfare in rural households using nationally representative longitudinal survey data and high dimensional fixed effects. The analysis finds that disasters negatively impact productivity and further affect households' assets and savings in the long run.

Group Projects

2023–2024

- *Disaggregated Gender Bias in Educational Expenditure in Bangladesh using HIES 2022* — As

part of an academic course, this paper examines gender disparity in educational expenses across the country. Using a nationally representative dataset and Ordinary Least Squares methods, it finds a significant gap in educational expenses between an urban male from a rich household and a rural female from a poor household.

- *Impact of Inflation and Post-VAT Policy on Ramadan Market* — As part of the department's student club, a small-scale mixed-methods survey was conducted with low-income individuals around Dhaka to assess their opinions on the impact of recent VAT policies and inflation on the goods market, gathering both quantitative and qualitative insights. Key findings were shared visually on the Economics Study Center's social media.

WORK EXPERIENCE

Contributing Writer, *Bangladesh Brand Forum*

November 2022 – March 2024

- Analyzed economic and political issues to write on [trade](#), [government debt](#), [climate change](#), [gender equality](#), and more. Also conducted in-depth interviews with mental health experts.

Contributing Writer, *The Financial Express*

September 2023 – September 2024

- Conducted interviews and contributed multiple articles in print and online on [thrift shopping](#), [ambience](#), [academic planning](#), [time management](#), and [budgeting](#).

Co-Lead, Poverty & Social Protection Policy
Youth Policy Forum

June 2021 – September 2023

- Co-authored a strategy paper identifying gaps in existing policies by analyzing literature and offering policy recommendations, under the guidance of experts and academics in the field of social protection and climate-induced poverty.
- Co-authored an OpEd on [Poverty-Stricken Urban Female Labor Force](#) in *The Business Standard* with Nusrat Abedin Jimi, a visiting faculty member at Vassar College.
- Organized and launched a webinar on Safety, Security, & Accountability in Migration Policy.

For a comprehensive list of published articles, please visit [AfrinaAsadPortfolio](#).

VOLUNTEERING EXPERIENCE

Joint Secretary, *Economics Study Center*

July 2024 – July 2025

- Provided logistical and planning support to organize the 5th and 6th Bangladesh Economics Summit, bringing together experts to foster policy discussion, competition, and debate.
- Wrote and published articles on [tackling food insecurity in Bangladesh](#) and a creative piece reflecting on the founding history of the club, published in the annual magazine.

REFERENCE

Dr. Rubaiya Murshed

Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka
PhD and MPhil, Faculty of Education, University of Cambridge, UK
rubaiya@du.ac.bd