

# Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat

Room No - 5166

Bahen Centre for Information Technology  
Department Computer Science  
University of Toronto  
40 St George St, Toronto, ON M5S 2E4, Canada

Phone +1 (437) 774-2599  
Email rifat@cs.toronto.edu  
Homepage <http://www.rashidujjaman.com>

## Education

- **University of Toronto**

Ph.D. in Computer Science, September 2017 - .

- Committee: Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed (chair), Robert Soden, Steve Easterbrook, Sarah Wilkins-Laflamme, and Kentaro Toyama
- Collaborative Doctoral Specialization: Asian Studies (From the Munk School of Global Affairs and Public Policy at The University of Toronto)

- **Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET)**

Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Engineering, 2014.

- Thesis : *k-Dense POI Search in Road Networks*.

## Awards & Honors

- Doctoral Completion Award, University of Toronto. (Winter 2023) (\$4405)
- Data Science Institute Catalyst Grant, University of Toronto. [Collaborator] (Winter 2023) (\$100000)
- Schwartz Reisman Institute Graduate Fellowship, 2022 - 2023. (\$8000)
- Department of Computer Science Graduate Student Fellowship, University of Toronto, 2017 - 2023. (\$138432)
- COVID-19 Student Engagement Award at the University of Toronto, 2020. (\$3000)
- Best Paper Honorable Mention at CHI 2019.
- PhD Conference Travel Grant Award, Department of CS, University of Toronto, 2019. (\$1500)
- Outstanding reviewer awards (CHI 2019-2022, CSCW 2019-2023).
- Campus Entrepreneurship Seed Grant Award - CU Boulder, 2016. [Co-I] (\$10000)
- Development Consortium: HCI Across Borders - Travel Grant Award, 2016. [Could not pursue] (\$2800)
- ICTD Travel Grant Award, 2015. (\$1500)
- TIB-Prothom Alo Youth Festival-Inter University Project Show. *Champion in Software Category*. (2011)
- Competitive Countrywide Government Scholarships: H.S.C. (General, 2008), Junior (Talentspurs, 2003), and Primary (General, 2000)

## Employment

### University of Toronto

- Research Assistant, Dynamic Graphics Project Lab (DGP), Department of CS. (Fall 2017 - Present)
- Course Instructor, INF1339 ((Introduction to Computational Thinking), Graduate Course, Faculty of Information. (Fall 2022, 180 students)
- Course Instructor, CSC300 (Computer and Society), Undergraduate Course, Department of CS. (Winter 2022, 125 students)

### University of Colorado Boulder

- Research Assistant, Philanthropic Informatics, Department of Information Science. (Summer 2017)
- Teaching Assistant, Department of Information Science. (Fall 2016, Spring 2017)

### New York University Abu Dhabi

- Visiting Researcher, Design Technology Lab (DTL), Department of CS. (January 2015 - August 2016) (June 2019 - August 2019)

### University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)

- Junior Lecturer, Department of Computer Science and Engineering. (Fall 2015)

## Publications

### *Peer-reviewed Conference and Journal Papers*

- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Hasan Mahmud Prottoy, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Putting The Waz on the Social Media: Infrastructuring Online Islamic Counterpublic through Digital Sermons in Bangladesh." In *Proceedings of the 37th annual ACM conference on Human factors in computing systems (CHI 2022)*, New Orleans, USA. [\\*Travel Grant Awards\\*](#)
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Mohammad Ruhul Amin, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "The Politics and Poetics of the Digital Islamic Sermons in Bangladesh." In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction*. CSCW (2022), Virtual.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Mahiratul Jannat, Mahdi Nasrullah Al-Ameen, S M Taiabul Haque, Muhammad Ashad Kabir, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Purdah, Amanah, and Gheebat: Understanding Privacy in Bangladeshi "pious" Muslim Communities." In *ACM SIGCAS Conference on Computing and Sustainable Societies (COMPASS 2021)*, Virtual.
- Rayhan Rashed, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Pandemic, Repair, and Resilience: Coping with Technology Breakdown during COVID-19." In *ACM SIGCAS Conference on Computing and Sustainable Societies (COMPASS 2021)*, Virtual.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Toha Toriq, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Religion and Sustainability: Lessons of Sustainable Computing from Islamic Religious Communities." In *Proceedings of the ACM on Human-Computer Interaction 4*. CSCW2 (2020), Virtual.

- Yan Wang, Andrea Peris, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Nirupam Aich, Linh V. Nguyen, Jakub Urik, Ethel Eljarrat, Branislav Vrana, Liisa M. Jantunen, and Miriam L. Diamond. "Measuring exposure of e-waste dismantlers in Dhaka Bangladesh to organophosphate esters and halogenated flame retardants using silicone wristbands and T-shirts." In *Science of the Total Environment (STOTEN)*.
- Yasaman Rohanifar, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Nusrat Jahan Mim, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Ambivalence: Simultaneous Tactile Experiences of Using and Recycling Smartphones." In *Companion Publication of the 2019 on Designing Interactive Systems Conference 2019 Companion (DIS 2019)*, San Diego, California, USA.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Hasan Mahmud Prottoy, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "The Breaking Hand: Knowledge, Care, and Sufferings of the Hand of an Electronic Waste Worker in Bangladesh." In *Proceedings of the 37th annual ACM conference on Human factors in computing systems (CHI 2019)*, Glasgow, UK. \*Best Paper Honorable Mention Award\* \*Travel Grant Awards\*
- Fayika Farhat Nova, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Pratyasha Saha, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, and Shion Guha. "Online Sexual Harassment over Anonymous Social Media in Bangladesh." In *Proceedings of the Tenth International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD 2019)*, Ahmedabad, India.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Jay Chen, and Kentaro Toyama. "Money, God, and SMS: Explorations in Supporting Social Action Through a Bangladeshi Mosque." In *Proceedings of the 35th annual ACM conference on Human factors in computing systems (CHI 2017)*, Denver, CO, USA.
- Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Md. Romael Haque, Shion Guha, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, and Nicola Dell. "Privacy and Surveillance in the Global South: A Study of Biometric Mobile Registration in Bangladesh." In *Proceedings of the 35th annual ACM conference on Human factors in computing systems (CHI 2017)*, Denver, CO, USA.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Aysha Siddique, Azza Abouzied, and Jay Chen. "From Alley to Landfill: Challenges of and Design Opportunities for Cleaning Dhaka's Communal Trash." In *Proceedings of the Eighth International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD 2016)*, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.
- Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Shion Guha, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Faysal Ahmed, and Nicola Dell. "Privacy Vulnerabilities in the Practices of Repairing Broken Digital Artifacts in Bangladesh." *Journal on Information Technologies & International Development (ITID)*. \*"Best of ICTD'2016"–Invited article for an ITID special issue\*
- Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Shion Guha, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Faysal Ahmed, and Nicola Dell. "Privacy in Repair: Challenges around the Broken Digital Objects in Bangladesh". In *Proceedings of the Eighth International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD 2016)*, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.
- Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Steven J. Jackson, and **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**. "Learning to fix: knowledge, collaboration and mobile phone repair in Dhaka, Bangladesh." In *Proceedings of the Seventh International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD 2015)*, Singapore, p. 4. ACM, 2015. \*ICTD Travel Grant Award\*
- Steven J. Jackson, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, and **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**. "Learning, innovation, and sustainability among mobile phone repairers in Dhaka, Bangladesh." In *Proceedings of the 2014 conference on Designing interactive systems (DIS 2014)*, Vancouver, Canada, pp. 905-914. ACM, 2014.

- Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Steven J. Jackson, Nova Ahmed, Hasan Shahid Ferdous, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, A. S. M. Rizvi, Shamir Ahmed, and Rifat Sabbir Mansur. "Protibadi: a platform for fighting sexual harassment in urban Bangladesh." In *Proceedings of the 32nd annual ACM conference on Human factors in computing systems (CHI 2014)*, Toronto, Canada, pp. 2695-2704. ACM, 2014.

### *Ready-to-Submit Papers*

- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Dipto Das, Sharifa Sultana, Dylan Thomas Doyle, Nusrat Jahan Mim, C. Estelle Smith, Zaidat Ibrahim, Jed R. Brubaker, Kentaro Toyama, Robert Soden, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Postsecular Computing: Religious and Spiritual Ethics, Politics, and Pluralism in HCI."

### *Workshop Organizer*

- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Ayesha Bhimdiwala, Ananya Bhattacharjee, Amna Batool, Dipto Das, Nusrat Jahan Mim, Abdullah Hasan Safir, Sharifa Sultana, Taslima Akter, Estelle Smith, Bryan Semaan, Shaimaa Lazem, Robert Soden, Michael Muller, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Many Worlds of Ethics: Ethical Pluralism in CSCW." In **CSCW 2023**.
- Ananya Bhattacharjee, Dana Kulzhabayeva, Mohi Reza, Harsh Kumar, Eunhae Seong, Xuening Wu, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Robert Bowman, Rachel Kornfield, Alex Mariakakis, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Munmun De Choudhury, Gavin Doherty, Mary Czerwinski, and Joseph Jay Williams. "Integrating Individual and Social Contexts into Self-Reflection Technologies." In **CHI 2023**.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Firaz Ahmed Peer, Hawra Rabaan, Nusrat Jahan Mim, Maryam Mustafa, Kentaro Toyama, Robert B. Markum, Elizabeth Buie, Jessica Hammer, Sharifa Sultana, Samar Sabie, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Integrating Religion, Faith, and Spirituality in HCI." In **CHI 2022**.
- Sharifa Sultana, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Ranjit Singh, Julian Posada, Azra Ismail, Yousif Hassan, Seyram Avle, Nithya Sambasivan, Rajesh Veeraraghavan, Priyank Chandra, and Rafael Grohmann. "Big Data and AI in the Global South." In **FAccT 2022**.

### *Selected Lightly-reviewed Papers, Workshop Papers, Posters, Demos, and Newsletters*

- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat** and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Uncertainty in AI Technologies Trust, Fairness, and Justice of AI Technology Platforms in the Global South." In the **Big Data and AI workshop** at **FAccT 2022**.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Mahiratul Jannat Nabia, Ashad Kabir, S M Taiabul Haque, Mahdi Nasrullah Al-Ameen, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Purdah as Privacy: Understanding Privacy in Bangladeshi Islamic Communities". In **Islamic HCI Workshop** at **CHI 2020**, Hawaii, USA.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Dipto Das, Najmul Islam, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Social Media Celebrities in Bangladesh". In the Development Consortium: **HCI4D Across Borders; A workshop** in the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (**CHI 2019**), Glasgow, UK.
- Fayika Farhat Nova, **Md. Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Pratyasha Saha, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, and Shion Guha. "Silenced Voices: Understanding Sexual Harassment on Anonymous Social Media Among

Bangladeshi People". In the Companion Publication of Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing (CSCW 2018), Jersey City, NY, USA.

- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Hasan Mahmud Prottoy, Nirupma Aich, and Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed. "Understanding the Opportunities and Challenges in E-waste Management Practices in Dhaka, Bangladesh". In the Development Consortium: **HCI4D Across Borders**; A workshop in the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2018), Montreal, QC, Canada.
- Shion Guha and **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**. "Privacy and Security Issues in ICTD: Research and Practice". In the Development Consortium: **HCI4D Across Borders**; A workshop in the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2016), San Jose, CA, USA. [\\*Travel Grant Award\\*](#)
- Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Shion Guha, and **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**. "Privacy Concerns in Re-pairing." In Symposium On Usable Privacy and Security (SOUPS 2014), CA, USA. 2014.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Shubrami Moutushy, and Hasan Shahid Ferdous. "A Location Based Advertisement Scheme using OpenStreetMap." In *15th International Conference on Computer and Information Technology (ICCIT 2012)*, Chittagong, Bangladesh, pp. 423-428. IEEE, 2012.
- **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Shubrami Moutushy, Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, and Hasan Shahid Ferdous. "Location based information system using OpenStreetMap." In *IEEE Student Conference on Research and Development (SCORED 2011)*, Malaysia, pp. 397-402. IEEE, 2011.
- Ridwanur Rahman, **Mohammad Rashidujjaman Rifat**, Shubrami Moutushy, and Hasan Shahid Ferdous. "Toward a customizable effective patient management system for ensuring quality medical service." In *IEEE Student Conference on Research and Development (SCORED 2011)*, Malaysia, pp. 415-419. IEEE, 2011.

## Academic Services

### Guest Editor

- ACM Interactions, Special Issue on Spirituality in Design. (July 2022)

### Program Committee

- Associate Chair, CHI 2024 (Subcommittee: Understanding People - Qualitative Studies).
- Associate Chair, CHI 2023 (Subcommittee: Understanding People - Qualitative Studies).
- COMPASS Academy, COMPASS 2023.
- Associate Chair, IndiaHCI 2022.
- Associate Chair, ICTD 2022.
- Associate Chair, CHI late breaking works 2020, 2021, 2022.
- Associate Chair, WANDER 2022.

### Invited Reviews

*\* indicates special recognition for outstanding reviews*

- CHI 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020\*, 2021\*, 2022\*
- CSCW 2018, 2020\*, 2021\*, 2022\*, 2023\*

- JBHI 2023
- ToCHI 2023
- MobileHCI 2023
- DIS 2020

#### **Student Volunteer**

- CHI 2018, 2019, 2022
- CSCW 2022
- ICTD 2022 (assistant to the program committee chairs)
- IEEE Workshop on Human and Technology, Khulna, Bangladesh. (2013) *\*\*First ever HCI workshop in Bangladesh*

#### **Miscellaneous**

- **Organizer**, HCI4D Conference at Third Space, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto. (July, 2020)

#### **Founding Member**

- Third Space Research Group, Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto.
- OpenStreetMap Community, Bangladesh.
- Human Technology Interaction Research Group, BUET.

## School & Lab Services

- **HCI Qualitative Methods Data Analysis Workshop**, Volunteer, Critical Computing, University of Toronto. (Winter 2022)
- **Ethics and AI Reading Group**, Organizing Member, Third Space Research Group, University of Toronto. (Fall 2020)
- **Critical Computing Seminar**, Organizing Member, University of Toronto. (2020 - present)
- **Graduate Visit Day**, Student Volunteer Chair (recruited and coordinated with 30 volunteers), Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto. (March 2019)
- **Dynamic Graphics Project (DGP) Lab Bi-weekly Lab Meeting**, Coordinator, University of Toronto. (September 2018 - February 2019)

## Other Voluntary Services

- **Sanitation Hackathon**, Mentor, Dhaka, Bangladesh. (Organized By World Bank). (2012)
- **Water and Sanitation Program in Bangladesh**, Technical Advisor, World Bank. (2011)
- **Dhaka GTUG 1st Workshop on Android and Its Application**, Instructor, United International University, Dhaka, Bangladesh. (2011)

- **OpenStreetMap Updating and Android App Development Training Program, Instructor, CUET.** (2010)

## Student Mentoring

- Emily Traynor, University of Toronto. (Co-Supervisor, Engineering Science BS thesis, 2022)
- Esmat Sahak, University of Toronto. (Co-Supervisor, Engineering Science BS thesis, 2022)
- Eva Šmuc, University of Toronto. (Co-Supervisor, Summer exchange research program, 2022)
- Diana Storchak, University of Toronto. (Co-Supervisor, Summer exchange research program, 2022)
- Olivia Wu, University of Toronto. (Mentor, Toronto Human-AI Interaction Summer School 2022)
- Flavia López-Czischke, University of Toronto. (Research mentor, 2022)
- Natalie Ashgriz, University of Toronto. (Research mentor, 2022)
- Akiki Liang, University of Toronto. (Research mentor, 2022)
- Ashratuz Zavin Asha, University of Calgary. (Research mentor and collaborator, 2022 - present)
- Xinyi Yan, University of Waterloo. (Research mentor, 2021 - 2022)
- Shivesh Jadon, University of Calgary. (Research mentor, 2021 - 2022)
- Rayhan Rashed, BUET. (Research mentor, 2020 - 2021)
- Hasan Mahmud Prottoy, BUET. (Research mentor, 2018 - 2021)
- Mahiratul Zannat, University of Dhaka. (Research mentor, 2020 - 2022)
- Toha Toriq, Kushtia Islamic University. (Research mentor, 2010 - 2020)

## Teaching Experience

### **Course Instructor, Faculty of Information, University of Toronto**

- INF 1339 (Introduction to Computational Thinking). Graduate course, 180 students, Fall 2022.

### **Course Instructor, Computer Science, University of Toronto (Co-Instructed with Prof. Khai Truong)**

- CSC 300 (Computer and Society). Undergraduate course, 125 students, Winter 2022.

### **Teaching Assistant, Computer Science, University of Toronto**

- CSC2615 (Ethical Aspects of Artificial Intelligence)

Instructor: Dr. Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed

- CSC 2558 (Designing Intelligent Self-Improving Systems Through Human Computation, Randomized A/B Experiments and Statistical Machine Learning) (Fall 2019)

Instructor: Dr. Joseph Jay Williams

- CSC 148 (Introduction to Computer Science) (Fall 2018, Winter 2018)

Instructors: Danny Heap, David Liu

- CSC 300 (Computer and Society). (Winter 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021, 2023; Fall 2019, 2020, 2021, 2022; Summer 2022, 2023)

Instructors: Dr. Mathew Zaleski, Dr. Syed Ishtiaque Ahmed, Dr. Robert Soden, and Dr. Sadia Sharmin

#### **Teaching Assistant, Environmental Science, University of Toronto**

- ENV 261 (Is Internet Green?) (Fall 2018)

Instructor: Dr. Miriam Diamond

#### **Teaching Assistant, Information Science, University of Colorado Boulder**

- INFO 1201 (Computational Reasoning 1). (Spring 2017)

Instructor: Dr. Ricarose Roque

- INFO 1201 (Computational Reasoning 1). (Fall 2016)

Instructors:- Dr. Stephen Volda and Dr. Danielle Szafir

#### **Junior Lecturer, Department of CSE, University of Liberal Arts Bangladesh (ULAB)**

- CSE 103 (Structured Programming). (Fall 2014)
- CSE 201 (Object Oriented Programming). (Fall 2014)

## Selected Talks

### *Invited Talks and Guest Lecturing*

#### **Postsecular HCI**

- Paul G. Allen School of Computer Science and Engineering, University of Washington. (May 2023)
- School of Information Studies, Syracuse University. (August 2022)
- Information Science Graduate Seminar Series, Cornell University. (March 2022)
- Crisis Informatics Research Group, University of Toronto. (February 2022)

#### **Designing Technologies for Sustainable Development.**

- Human-Computer Interaction, University of Waterloo. (November 27, 2018)

#### **Is the Internet Green?**

- ENV261H1, Department of Environmental Engineering, University of Toronto. (Winter 2018, 2019, 2020, 2021)

#### **Technology and Environmental Sustainability**

- CSC300 (Computer and Society), Department of Computer Science, University of Toronto. (November 13, 2018)



## *Conference and Workshop Talks*

### **Religion and Sustainability: Lessons of Sustainable Computing from Islamic Religious Communities.**

- ACM Conference on Computer-Supported Cooperative Work and Social Computing, Virtual Event. (October 20, 2020)

### **The Breaking Hand: Knowledge, Care, and Sufferings of the Hand of an Electronic Waste Worker in Bangladesh.**

- The ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2017), Glasgow, UK. (May 9, 2019)
- Toronto HCI. (April 25, 2019)

### **Money, God, and SMS: Explorations in Supporting Social Action Through a Bangladeshi Mosque.**

- Dynamic Graphics Project Lab (DGP), University of Toronto, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. (October, 2017)
- The ACM CHI Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI 2017), Denver, Colorado, USA. (May, 2017)
- ATLAS Institute, University of Colorado at Boulder, Colorado, USA. (May, 2017)

### **Learning to fix: Knowledge, Collaboration and Mobile Phone Repair in Dhaka, Bangladesh.**

- International Conference on Information and Communication Technologies and Development (ICTD 2015), Singapore. (2015)

### **Toward a Customizable Effective Patient Management System for Ensuring Quality Medical Service.**

- The IEEE Student Conference for Research and Development (SCOREd), Malaysia. (2011)

### **Location Based Information System Using OpenStreetMap.**

- HCI, Bangladesh University of Information and Technology. (2011)
- Dhaka GTUG 1st workshop on Android and It's Application, UIU. (2011)

## Selected Media Coverage

### **Protibadi: a platform for fighting sexual harassment in urban Bangladesh.**

- NewScientist. May 2014.
- SA TV. Jan 2014
- Independent TV. Nov 2014.

### **Measuring exposure of e-waste dismantlers in Dhaka Bangladesh to organophosphate esters and halogenated flame retardants using silicone wristbands and T-shirts.**

- Phys.org. Sept 2022.
- News Wise. Sept 2022.

## Languages

Bengali (Mother tongue)

English (Intermediate, Fluent)

## References

Available upon request.

Last updated: July 27, 2023