



#### Asha Khatun -

Asha started working at Rana Plaza six months before the collapse. She worked everyday from 8am until 5pm, and most days would work overtime until 9 or 10 pm. She earned around 3000 taka (around 40 USD) a month, but with overtime she could double her earnings to around 6500 taka (around 83 USD).

The morning of the Rana Plaza collapse, Asha, like many other workers, was too scared to go inside the factory. The workers knew there were cracks in the foundation, but the manager said that if they didn't go inside they wouldn't get paid. Asha was forced to start working, but soon the building started to shake. As the building crumbled, Asha remembers the bodies of women falling around her and seeing the body of her dead auntie. Then a stone fell on Asha and everything went black.

Asha was the main earner for her mother, father, and younger sister, and now the family is desperately struggling to get by. Asha has received compensation for her injuries, but says it's only been enough to cover her medical costs. Two years after the collapse, Asha says she still can't eat properly, and she feels pain in her head and chest. She is too weak to stand for long periods, so she no longer leaves the house. Asha says she has no hope for getting her life back.

"I feel like I'm living like a dead person. It would've been better if I died, because now I'm a burden to my family."



#### Mossamat Jomela and Mossamat Surjo -

Surjo (right) joins her mother Jomela (left) in the rubble of Rana Plaza, two years after the factory collapse killed Jomela's youngest daughter Parvina.

18 year old Parvina was working on the fourth floor of the building the day Rana Plaza collapsed, but her body has never been found. Jomela says she tried everything to find her daughter, and long after the factory collapsed she would still bring Parvina's clothes to the site to try to match them to clothes buried in the rubble. All Jomela found was her daughter's cell phone.

Jomela says she received 45,000 taka (around 575 USD) compensation, but was forced to move away from her home because she could no longer afford to live there. She says she feels hopeless, but travelled the eight hours from her new home to be at the Rana Plaza site for the two year anniversary and to continue the search for her daughter.





#### Mossamat Sharbanu -

Mossamat Sharbanu (right) worked on the 6th floor of Rana Plaza. The morning of the collapse, Sharbanu was scared to go inside the factory, but the manager told the workers they must go to work if they wanted to get paid. Sharbanu was desperate for payment, so she reluctantly went inside.

After the building collapsed, Sharbanu was trapped under the rubble for two days. She said it was so dark that she thought she had gone blind. She sustained a head injury, lost much of the skin on her back, and still feels pain in her stomach and legs.

Sharbanu says she was given 45,000 taka compensation (around 575 USD), but that all of the money has gone to treat her injuries. Sharbanu and her 2-year-old daughter Mohmmad Shaon (bottom right) now live off of the earnings of Sharbanu's husband Mohammad Mominul Islam (left), a rickshaw driver. The family says that they are in desperate need of the further compensation that has been promised them.

#### Anowara (middle) -

Anowara found the body of her 26 year old daughter-in-law, Sewli, nine days after Rana Plaza collapsed. Two years later, Anowara sits outside the Rana Plaza site with her granddaughter Shimu (9), and grandson Shimul (7) at her side.



Shahana Akter -

22-year-old Polly Akter (pictured right) started working at Rana Plaza when she was 18 years old because her family was struggling with debt. After the factory collapsed, Polly's mother Shahana waited seven days before rescuers found her daughter's body beneath the rubble.

Shahana was given a compensation payment for her daughter's death, but is still struggling to support herself and her four other daughters, one of whom was also injured in the collapse. The two daughters' factory work was the main source of income for the family, but Shanana says she won't let any of her daughters work in the factories again. Shahana now struggles to support her family with income from a small vegetable shop.





“Polly was so good at her job. She was beautiful and was just about to get married. I just want her alive and back with me.”

Rashida Begum -

Rashida Begum (right) had been working at Rana Plaza for five years before the factory collapsed. As the building started to fall, Rashida ran to the stairs, but couldn't get out. She ran to the window, but was too scared to jump because it looked like the others were falling to their death. Rashida thinks she eventually fell out of the window, but doesn't remember anything until she woke up in the hospital where she stayed for 15 days.

Rashida is still haunted by what happened to her. She says she is too scared to be alone, and when she sleeps she has nightmares that everything is caving in on her and she is drowning. She tried to work at another factory, but her injuries have made it so she can't work properly, and so Rashida was let go. Rashida says she was given 95,000 taka (around 1200 USD) compensation for what happened to her, but says her life is no longer worth living.