

PHOTO: PALASH KHAN

REVISITING THE SURVIVORS

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The Daily Star staff members decided to donate one day's salary for the victims of the Rana Plaza disaster. The total sum of money was not large, so we were looking for assisting some specific people who survived and were struggling. After a long search we found 12 women who were working in Rana Plaza at the time of the building collapse, were trapped in the rubble, saved miraculously by the rescuers and now were expectant mothers.

On August 7, 2013, two of us went to Savar, at a location near Rana Plaza, where the selected 12 women came to meet us. We reached a little before schedule and had some time to discuss with these women about their experiences during the accident and how they were presently leading their lives. Two of the women had already delivered their babies in the last couple of weeks and they came with babies in their arms. The experiences they narrated, what they went through and how they survived, were heartbreaking.

On that day in Rana Plaza, they had suddenly felt the building shaking, as if there was an earthquake. There were deafening sounds, the building started collapsing - the brick walls, concrete floors, beams falling on them. They were on 3rd, 4th and

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