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**HUMAN RIGHTS  
BULLETIN**  
Bangladesh Scenario  
2015



**Human Rights Support Center (HRSC)**



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# Editorial

**T**he People Republic of Bangladesh is a densely populated developing country of southeast Asia. Bangladesh obtained independence in the long run of nine month blood shedding war. The aims of liberation war were to ensure the guarantee of life and liberty, freedom of expression and association, protection and promotion of human rights, the rule of law and democratic government. Unfortunately, after 44 years of independence, most of the aspirations of the people are not yet fulfilled. According to our 2015 annual human rights observation bulletin, violation of women rights, extrajudicial killing, enforced disappearance, attack on minorities, indiscriminate arrest and torture by law enforcement agencies; political violence, border killing, and violence and manipulation of local election revealed a very glooming scenario of the overall human rights situation in Bangladesh. Further human rights problems encompassed exploitations by security forces; they were alleged to be responsible for enforced disappearances, custodial deaths, and arbitrary arrest and detention. The Government also interferes with citizens' privacy rights. There were cases in which the government limited freedom of speech and expression through direct and indirect control of media, harassing journalists, misusing the ICT act and self-censorship sustained.

The government limited freedom of assembly and encourage politically motivated violence in a mundane way. Extensive corruption remained in almost every corner of the government. Violence against women and children reached worse position. Societal violence against religious and ethnic minorities was carried on in the same way. Discrimination against persons based on their political views and locality endured a disruptive scale. Inadequate worker rights, child labor, and unsafe working conditions persisted serious problems in every sector.

Human right support center (HRSC) is working in Bangladesh to protect all sorts of human rights for all people by building awareness, monitoring and publishing the human rights situation, providing legal aid, helping destitute people as well as conducting advocacy with the government along with others concerned authority. We work to raise awareness among the youths as well as general people about the violations of human rights issues along with guiding the people how to develop the sense regarding their rights as a human being. We also encourage their immersion in various human rights related activities. As part of our mission, we are regularly publishing the annual Bulletin on the basis of our respective monthly reports which in turn prepared by monitoring twelve prominent daily newspapers of Bangladesh and fact finding reports from our regional representatives.

We glad to publish this annual Bulletin in an approach to bring in light the human rights condition of last year to the general people, civil society as well as global communities to comprehend the current terrible human rights condition of Bangladesh. This Bulletin would reassure general people and concerned authority to nurture their opinion to shield and ensure human rights in our country.

Lastly, we thankfully acknowledge those people who have assisted and encouraged us in diverse ways to publish this annual Bulletin and to reach in reputed position. We hope that your cordial consultation and support will help us to make this Bulletin more qualitative and encourage us to keep a vibrant role in human rights sector. ■

# Executive Summary



**T**he overall human rights condition in Bangladesh was deteriorated in 2015 severally as the government limited political and civil society space, continued to keep abusive security forces from liability, especially ongoing extrajudicial killing, enforced disappearance, abduction, violence against women e.g. rape, gang rape, indiscriminate arrest and assault of opponent political leaders, intimidation and extortion by the law enforcing agencies along with the ruling party leaders were provoking situation very frightful.

Sometimes we see law enforcement agencies and administration to some extent were involved with a violation of human right rather than protection of citizen's rights. Consequently, the state could not properly ensure justice, peace and security to its citizens. As a result, all sorts of monstrous activities including human trafficking, killing, abduction, disappearance, murder and torture were massively spread out in the society. Human rights violation related incidents sometimes come to the spotlight, sometimes remain behind the screen and sometimes published in media as scattered news which in turn may not reach to the general people. Human rights support center is working to collect and accumulate the human rights violation related news through newspaper and local representatives and then publish reports and bulletin in monthly, quarterly and yearly basis to make the general people and concerned authority about the human rights condition. Our constitution provides the right to life and personal liberty but in practice, there is no guarantee of human life.

*According to the source of human rights support center (HRSC), almost 193 persons were killed extra judicially in 2015. The deaths were occurred during raids, arrests as well as during the law-enforcement agency's*

*operations. The government often regretfully described these deaths as "crossfire killings, "gunfights," or "encounter killings." Secondly, Enforced disappearances were continued during the last whole year,unfortunately, most of the cases allegation was against the security forces such as RAB, CID, DB and Police. According to HRSC monitoring,a total 50 people have been disappeared by LEA. 39 incidents of disappearances with alleged ties to security personnel were held in the year 2015.*

*Moreover, HRSC report found that in 2015, around 574 women were raped and among them 53 were killed after rape. A total of 139 women were killed for dowry, 189 females were sexually harassed and 42 have become victims of Acid violence.*

*On the other hand, 42 Bangladeshi citizens were killed by BSF and 57 were injured, at the same time,670 were killed in the violent attack. A total of 340 people have been abducted, among them 116 were rescued and 68 were killed after the abduction. In addition, 02 journalists were killed and 74 were seriously injured. Furthermore, 172 people in total were killed in political violence. At least 127 people were killed by public lynching. Notably, there were 265 incidents of criminal attack on minority, of them 02 men were killed and 70 were injured.*

Finally from the above-mentioned data, it can be said that the human rights situation in Bangladesh is degrading day by day. However, we hope that this annual Bulletin will assist the mass people, civil society as well as international communities to comprehend the current awful and shameful human rights situation of Bangladesh.

We are deeply concerned about debasing human rights situation in our beloved country. We also urge national and international human rights organizations as well as every citizen to raise their voice to protect and promote human rights in Bangladesh. ■



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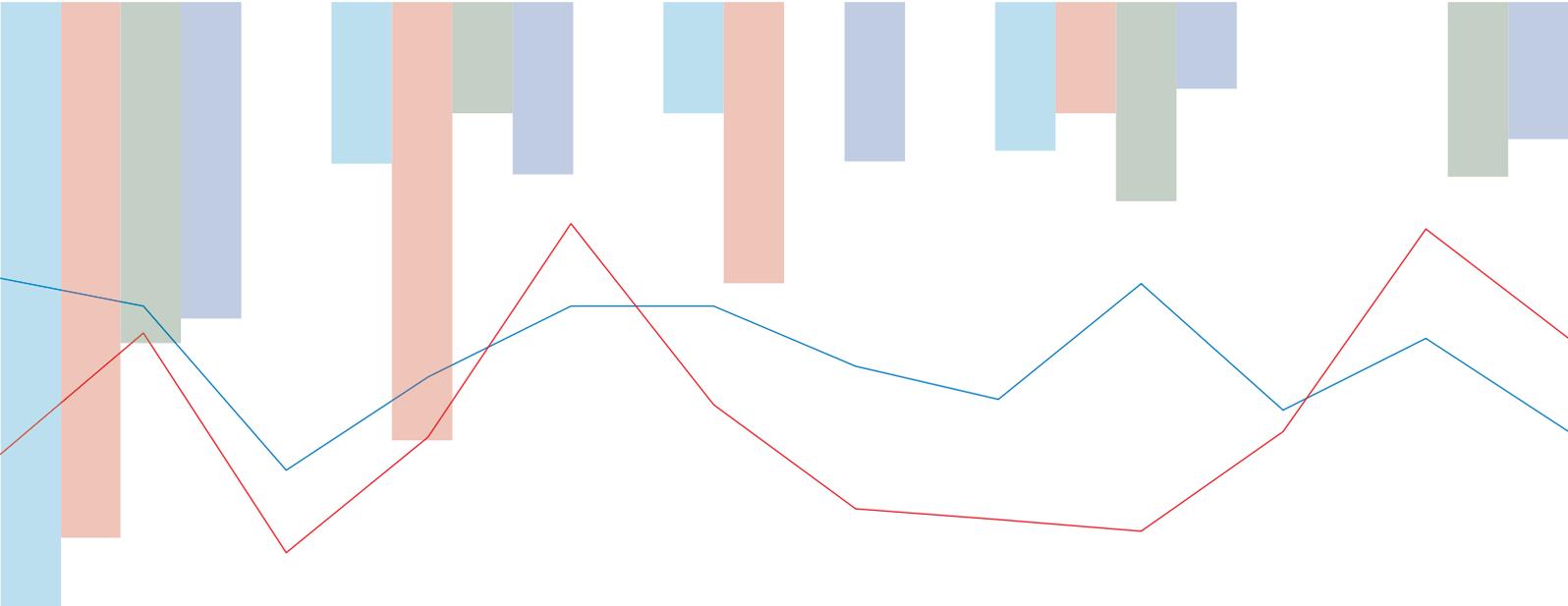


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# List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

APF	: Asia Pacific Forum of National Human Rights Institutions
BNHRC	: National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh
CAT	: Convention against Torture
CEDAW	: Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CFNHRI	: Commonwealth Forum of National Human Rights Institutions
CRC	: Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSOs	: Civil Society Organizations
DC	: Deputy Commissioner
DMC	: Dhaka Medical College
DUET	: Dhaka University of Engineering and Technology
DU	: Dhaka University
GOB	: Government of Bangladesh
HRSC	: Human Rights Support Center
HR	: Human Rights
HRC	: Human Rights Commission
LEA	: Law Enforcement Agency
ICC	: International Coordinating Committee of National Human Rights Institutions
ICCPR	: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
NGOs	: Non-Governmental Organizations
NHRC	: National Human Rights Commission
NHRI	: National Human Rights Institutions
NITOR	: National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation
RMG	: Ready Made Garments
TOTs	: Training of Trainers
TSC	: Teacher-Student Centre
UN	: United Nations
UNDP	: United Nations Development Programme
UNO	: Upazilla Nirbahi Officer
UP	: Union Parishad
VAW	: Violence against Women
VAW	: Violence against Women





# VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN

**V**iolence against women is a common phenomenon in Bangladesh. The Human Rights Support Center (HRSC) data indicated frightful incidences of violence against women in our country. Violence against women does not only include assault but also torture against their heart, physical or mental integrity, or freedom of movement. Violence against women is also as a powerful indicator of unequal power relations between men and women. Violence against women conflicts with the basic Human Rights, established in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) in 1948. Such as violence denies women the right to life (ICCPR Article 6); right to be free from discrimination; right to health; right to bodily integrity; right to privacy; the right not to be subjected to torture or cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment (ICCPR article 7); the right to liberty and security of person (ICCPR article 9); and the right to be free from all kinds of violence's including sexual violence. Early marriage and pregnancy are also violations of the rights of the girl child to equal opportunities in education and training.

HRSC closely screens the whole condition of women and girls in Bangladesh and documented the issues relating to the violation of women rights. The major subjects of violation against women are dowry killings, rape, sexual harassment and stalking, acid attacks, physical and mental abuse. It is increasing day by day. Rape, sexual harassment, acid violence are increasing to a greater extent because mainly of political shelter and delaying judicial system.

According to source of HRSC in 2015, incident of violence against women are-

**Rape:** A total numbers of 574 females were alleged to rape in 2015. Among them, 53 females were killed after rape. Out of the 574, about 224 were below the age of 16. Almost 118 women subjected to gang rape.

**Sexual Harassment:** a total of 189 girls and women were sexually harassed.

**Dowry Related Violence:** Approximately 223 incident of dowry-related violence were reported in 2015. About 139 were killed and 84 women were physically abused over dowry demands.

**Acid Violence:** Around 42 female became victims of acid violence among them, 39 were injured another 3 died.

**Killed in Family Feud:** About 169 women were killed in the family feud. Of them, 142 were an incident of Family Feud.

**Suicide:** Minimum 133 women committed suicide.

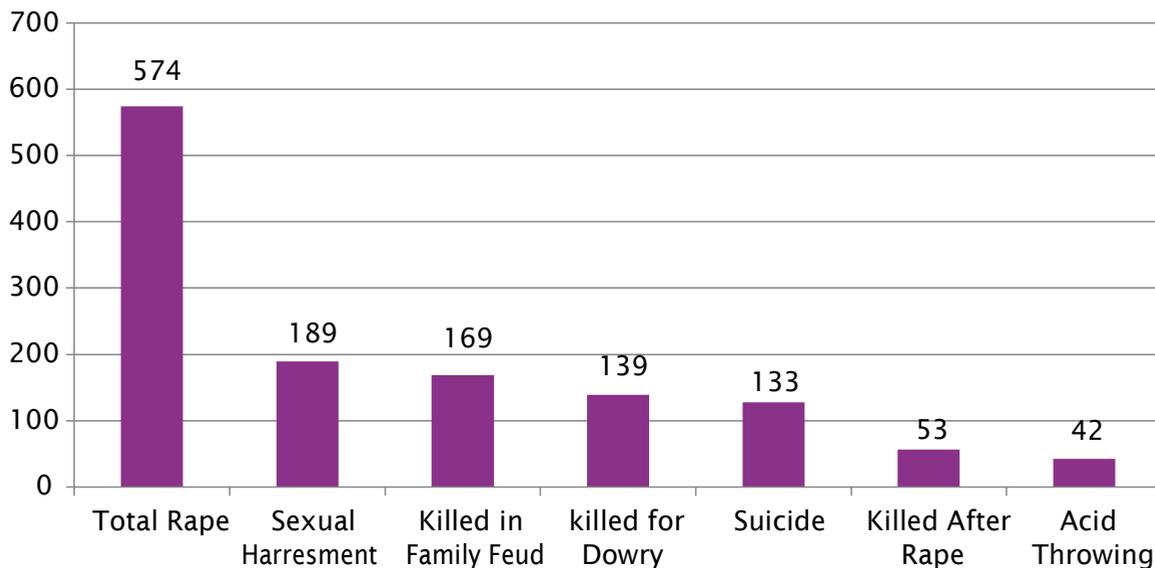


Figure 1: Statistics of Violence against Women

*A number of vital cases are mentioned below:* A housewife was beaten to death allegedly by her husband following a family feud at Chingra village in Keshabpur Upazila on January 01, 2015. The deceased was identified as Zebeka Begum, 19, wife of Harun Morol of the village. Family sources said Harun often tortured Zebeka over trivial matters. Harun had beaten up Zebeka mercilessly, leaving her dead on the spot following an altercation over the issue.<sup>1</sup>

On August 15, 2015, A woman along with neighbors cut off her husband's colleague's hair smeared ink on her face and left her on the road with a girl and of shoes around her neck in Savar, outside the capital, suspecting that the two had an extramarital affair.<sup>2</sup>

On August 07, 2015, a young woman was strangled to death allegedly by her lover at Pagar in Tongi area of Gazipur city. The deceased was identified as Shanta Akter, 19, daughter of Islam Uddin, a resident of Nagra village of Netrakona district.<sup>3</sup>

On December 06, 2015 a woman suffered burn injuries allegedly after her husband poured boiling water on her following an altercation in the capital's Hazaribagh. Sara Akter, 25, with burn injuries in her chest, abdomen, hands, and legs is undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.<sup>4</sup>

## Rape

Rape is one of the most brutal forms of violence against women in Bangladesh. In a culture that holds a woman's chastity sacred, rape is particularly injurious to a woman's self-identity and social future as well as her physical and psychological wellbeing. The increasing rate of rape is an alarming phenomenon and it depicts the diminishing value of women in society. In Bangladesh rape is also an offense. As section 376 of the penal code states: "whoever commits rape shall be punished with imprisonment for life". It may be mentioned that sometimes rape is followed by murder, particularly when gang rape takes place.

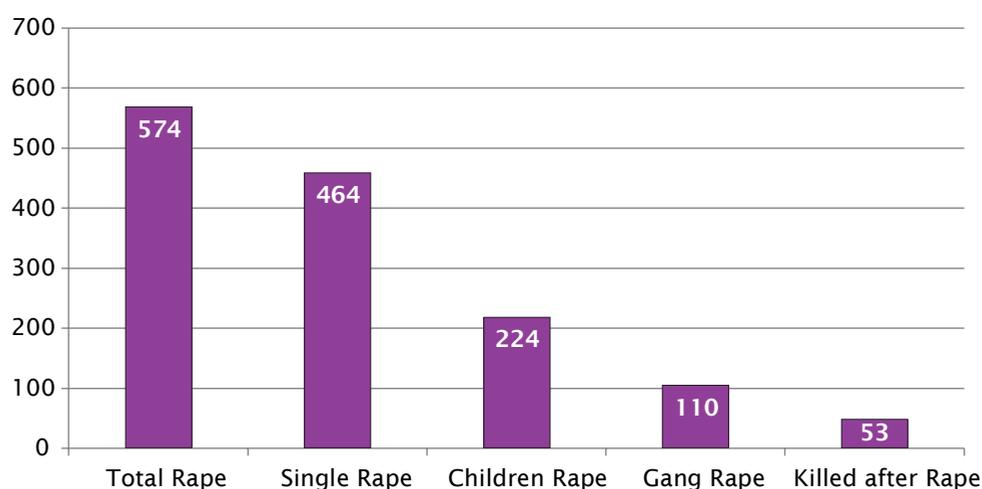


Figure 02: Incidents of Rape 2015

*According to the source of human rights support center (HRSC), the supplied graph provides information about 'Rape' during the period of January to December 2015; a total number of 574 females were raped. Among them, 464 were victims of single rape and 110 were subjected to gang rape and 224 were children below the age of 16 (including single and gang rape). Approximately 53 were killed after being raped.*

*Some important cases are given below:* In Laxmipur, Miscreants allegedly killed a housewife after rape at Gandharbyapur Village under Mandari Union in Sadar Upazila of the district on July 09, 2015. The victim was identified as Runu Begum, 35, wife of Abdul Mannan of the village and mother of five children.<sup>5</sup>

On September 08, 2015, a minor girl was abused by a youth at Baisha village in Keshabpur Upazila of Jessore district. Officer-in-charge of Keshabpur Police Station Mahatab Uddin said the young man named Raju Ahmed, 20, son of Nasir Morol, a resident of the same village, took the five-year-old girl to a garden in the afternoon and violated her.<sup>6</sup>

A schoolgirl was raped allegedly by her house tutor at Jhukuria village in SadrUpazila on May 07, 2015. The accused is Shipon Hossain, 24, son of Kazimuddin of the village.<sup>7</sup>

On September 10, 2015, a 19-year-old woman was allegedly gang-raped by three men in a slum room in the capital's Rampura. The victim, who lives at her paternal aunt's house in the area, was waiting for her husband at Rampura Bus Stand around 8:00am when Imran and his two allies forced her into a room at their Jamtala slum and allegedly raped her, said Rampura police.<sup>8</sup>

On 03 June 2015, an unknown woman was killed by the miscreants by cutting his throat after mass raped at the open field of Kajir hat in Lalmonirhat. The local informed police after founding unknown dead body at 8.0 am in the open field. The law enforcing agency found the sign of rape from the dead body and suspected that she was married.<sup>9</sup>

On August 04, 2015 In Sirajganj, a physically handicapped young girl was gang-raped by some unidentified miscreants in the BSCIC area of Shajadpur Upazila, Officer-in-charge of Shajadpur Police Station Rezaul Haque said the victim while returning home by a CNG-run auto-rickshaw from Talgachi Bazar, the driver and a passenger of the vehicle tied her hand and mouth with her scarf. Later, the duo took the girl to an abandoned house near BSCIC bus stand in Shajadpur municipality area and raped her by turns.<sup>10</sup>

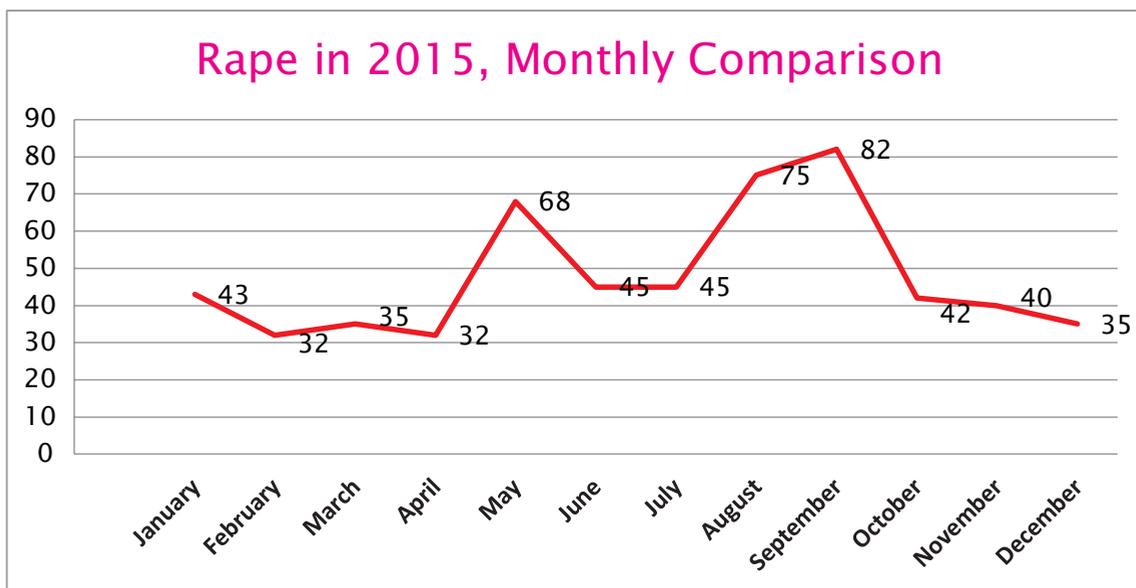


Figure 03: Rape in 2015, Monthly Comparison

*According to the source of human rights support center (HRSC), the graph shows information about 'Rape' during the period of January to December 2015; a total number of 574 females were raped. Though the rape was lower in the first quarter of the year but increased with time and reached in the peak (about 82) in September and followed by slow down to the following months. The average number of rape in respect to every month was 48.*

Some cases are described below: On September 12, 2015, an eleven-year-old girl was raped allegedly by a union-level Jubo League leader in Habiganj's BaniarchangUpazila. The

girl, a student of class-V, was undergoing treatment at Habiganj Sadar Hospital, said police.

A five-year-old girl was raped allegedly by a youth in Baisha village in Keshabpur Upazila of Jessore district on September 09, 2015. Mahatab Uddin, officer-in-charge of Keshabpur Police Station, said Raju Ahmed, 20, son of Nasir Marol of the village, forcibly took the girl to a nearby garden and raped her.<sup>11</sup>

A 12-year-old domestic help was allegedly raped in the capital's Pallabi. The girl, who was bleeding lying on a road, was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for test on August 06, 2015. A driver in the neighborhood took the girl to a nearby building offering snacks and raped her in cooperation with another person.<sup>12</sup>

A 17-year-old autistic girl was raped allegedly by her neighbor in Mirsarai Upazila of Chittagong on 20 July 2015. The girl was alone at home when Md Rasel, 18, of East Baroarkhali village, entered the house and raped her but her mother caught Rasel as she returned home to fetch something. Hearing their scream, locals handed Rasel over to police.

A minor girl was killed after rape at Jodubaira village in Kumarkhali Upazila of the district on December 06, 2015. She was identified as Ishita Khatun, 7, daughter of Isharat Ali of the village. Family members of the victim said Ishita went to nearby Jodubaira field to collect grass for cattle on Saturday afternoon. As she did not return home until 6:00pm, family members and neighbors went to the field and found her body there.<sup>13</sup>

On October 07, 2015 A schoolgirl was raped allegedly by a college student at Garadoba village in Gangni Upazila of Meherpur district. The accomplices of the rapist also took video of the rape scene, said police.<sup>14</sup>

On November 01, 2015 a 13-year-old schoolgirl has been allegedly gang-raped in Sreepur Upazila of the district. The victim hails from Pagla Upazila of Mymensingh district. Her brother filed a case, accusing one Samsuddin Mia, 25, of Faridpur village in Sreepur Upazila, his brother-in-law Rahmat Ali, 45, of the area, said Hafizur Rahman, sub-inspector of Sreepur Police Station.<sup>15</sup>

On November 13, 2015, an eight-year-old girl was murdered after being raped in Chittagong city. Police found the body of Tania Akter, a class I student of Mohammadia Primary School, floating in a pond in EPZ area. Tania's uncle Md Billal said Tania went to a shop to buy betel leaf. She had been missing since then. Sub-Inspector Shafikul Islam of EPZ Police Station said the body was stuffed in a plastic bag and had injury marks on the private parts. Police and morgue sources said primary observation points out that the girl was brutally raped.<sup>16</sup>

A university admission seeker was allegedly raped by two youths in a hotel room in the capital's Moghbazar area on August 14, 2015. The victim, aged 18, was admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).<sup>17</sup>

On March 07, 15 Bogadana Union unit Jubo League, Joint Convener JasimUddin physically assaulted a woman named BibiHazera after picking her up at gunpoint as a threat to withdraw his name from a case filed against him. Jasimuddin and his associates were threatening Bibi Hazera not to be witnessed in the case. Jasimuddin then shot Hazera to death.<sup>18</sup>

On September 05, 2015, a group of youths allegedly punched and kicked a college girl and hit her in the head with a brick chunk in the city's Demra area Demra Police Station Officer-in-Charge Sirajul Islam said. The girl, 22, a BA second-year student, was attacked as she had refused one Max Babu's "proposal for love", the OC said. She has lodged a case against the four youths.<sup>19</sup>

*Some suicides related cases are given:*

On December 13, 2015, a man committed suicide after stabbing his wife to death over family feud in Shafipur area in Kaliakoir Upazila of the district. The deceased are Raihan Ali, 38, a rickshaw puller, and his wife Halima Begum, 30, a worker at a local RMG factory. Quoting locals, police said the couple, who lived in a rented house in the area, often quarreled over family matters. Raihan stabbed Halima indiscriminately with a kitchen knife while she was returning from her workplace.<sup>20</sup>

November 11, 2015, a pregnant woman allegedly committed suicide with her two-year-old son by jumping under a running train in Gazipur, outside the capital, following a family feud. The deceased were Fatema, 37, wife of Helal Uddin of Bormi village in Gazipur and their son Fahad. Fatema was eight month's pregnant.<sup>21</sup>

On September 11, 2015, a woman allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling of her house following a family feud at North Kuaish in Hathazari Upazila of Chittagong. The deceased was Jahanara Begum, 22, wife of Shamsuddin, 28, an auto-rickshaw driver hailing from Noakhali. Police recovered the body and sent it to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for an autopsy.<sup>22</sup>

On December 11, 2015, a woman allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling at her home in Piarabagan area of Chapainawabganj Sadar. The deceased was Tona Begum, 20, wife of Minar Ali of the area.<sup>23</sup>

On December 10, 2015, a housewife committed suicide by jumping in front of a running train on the Benapole-Jessore route in Navar on the area of Jessore district. The deceased was identified as Rashida Khatun, 29, wife of Nur Hossain of Bede Navar on a village in the Upazila.<sup>24</sup>



On October 02, 2015 a housewife allegedly committed suicide following a family feud at Daulatdihi village in Sadar Upazila of Jessore district. The deceased was identified as Monwara Khatun, 25, wife of Moslem Biswas of the village. Police said she took poison following a family feud. Monwara was rushed to Jessore Medical College Hospital where she died later.<sup>25</sup>

On October 02, 2015 a housewife allegedly committed suicide following a family feud at Daulatdihi village in Sadar Upazila of Jessore district. The deceased was identified as Monwara Khatun, 25, wife of Moslem Biswas of the village. Police said she took poison following a family feud. Monwara was rushed to Jessore Medical College Hospital where she died later.<sup>26</sup>

## Dowry-related Violence

Domestic violence by men against women is a common phenomenon in Bangladesh both in rural and urban areas. Here Dowry related violence is being practiced unchanged, particularly in rural areas of Bangladesh. It is observed that dowry-related domestic violence (often death) against women is increasing at an alarming rate. In spite, taking or giving dowry is illegal, punishable with imprisonment and /or fine according to the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1980. Sections 11(a), (b) and (c) of the Prevention of Repression against Women and Children Act 2000 (Amended in 2003) provides various punishments against perpetrators for committing dowry-related crimes. In spite of the existing laws, dowry-related violence has increased steeply in 2015.

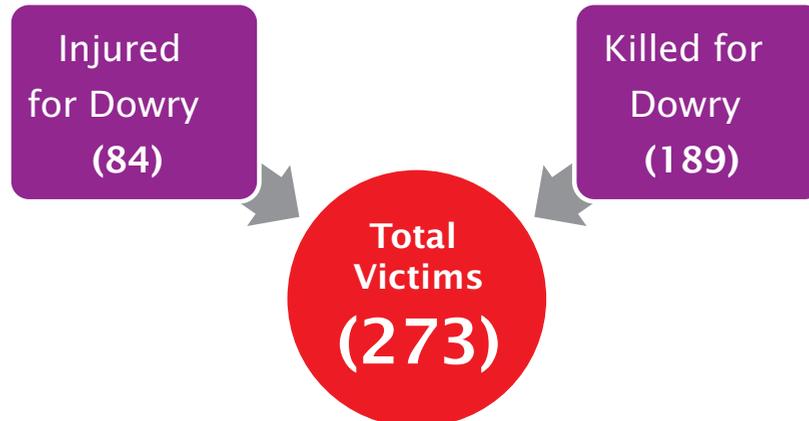


Figure 04: Statistics of dowry related violence

*The given line graph shows information about the Dowry Related Violence according to the source of human rights support center (HRSC) from January to December 2015: The graph shows that in total 223 incidents of dowry-related violence. 139 were killed and 84 women were physically abused regarding dowry demands.*

*Some important incidents are given below; On 06 June 2015, a housewife named Nurunnaher (20) was dead in Borishal Sheri Bangla medical college after severely beat by her husband due to dowry. Victim's mother registered a case against her husband Alomgir merdha (27) in local Thana.<sup>27</sup>*

On September 04, 2015, the woman was allegedly killed by her husband for dowry in Charkewar of Munshiganj Sadar. The deceased, Akter of Hatlakhmiganj had been frequently tortured by her husband and in-laws for dowry said her brother. The husband Farid Sarker is 38, an auto-rickshaw driver.<sup>28</sup>

On May 06, 2015, a housewife was murdered by her husband allegedly for dowry in Sadar Upazila of Laxmipur district. The victim was Bilkis Akhter, 18, wife of Abu Taher of Shamserebad village in the Upazila.<sup>29</sup>

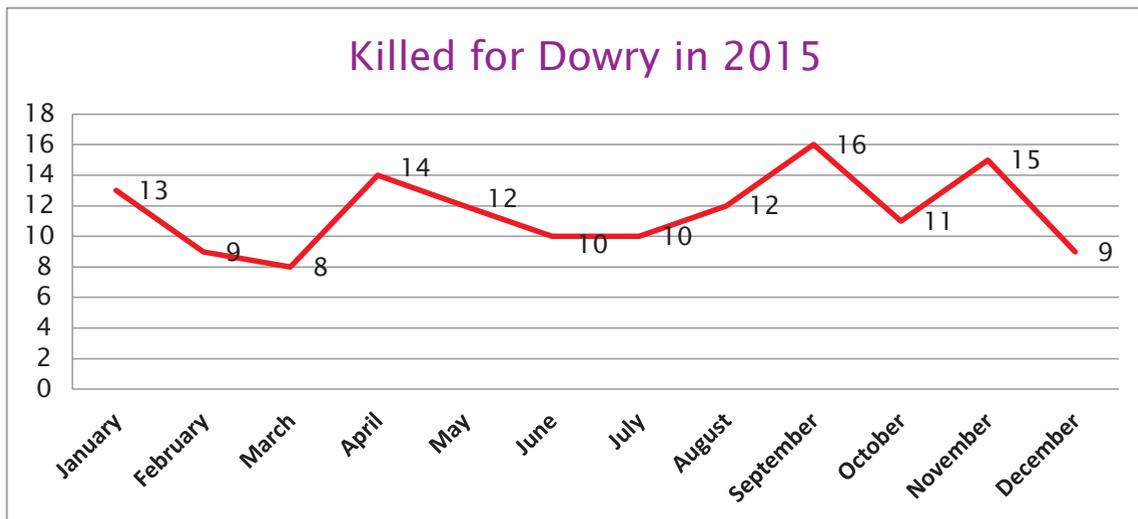


Figure 05: Monthly comparison of killing for dowry in 2015

*Some important incidents are given below:*

A housewife was killed by her husband allegedly for dowry at Halimpur village in Baniarchang Upazila of Habiganj district on April 2, 2015. The victim is Jamila Khatun, 22, wife of Sadi Mia, 26, of the village. Sadi married Jamila, daughter of Abdul Alim of the village, a year ago. Alim said Sadi had been putting pressure on his daughter for dowry since their marriage.<sup>30</sup>

On 17, July 2015 a housewife was killed allegedly by her husband for dowry at Chakadin village in Raninagar Upazila of Naogaon district. The deceased was identified as Jannatun Nayem, 22, wife of Alamgir Hossain of the village. Three years ago. Alamgir and his family members beat Jannatul mercilessly, leaving her dead on the spot following an altercation over the issue. They later hung the body from the ceiling of her room showing it as a case of suicide and escaped from the house.<sup>31</sup>

October 09, 2015, a woman was killed allegedly by her husband and brother-in-law following a family feud in Purbo Arichpur of Tongi, outside the capital. Police said Shorna Akter, 43, and her husband Habibur Rahman, 30, of Brahmanbaria, used to quarrel over Tk 9 lakh that Shorna took earlier from her brother-in-law Abdul, 28, promising to send him to Spain. Following an altercation over the matter, Habibur and Abdul strangled Shorna.<sup>32</sup>

## Acid Violence

In Bangladesh acid, violence is a dreadful and hurtful crime, committed mostly against women and girls. Section 4 of the Acid crime prevention act, 2002 prescribes death penalty or rigorous imprisonment for life including a fine of taka, not more than one lakh if anybody causes death or makes an attempt to cause death to any child or women by using any burning substance. In spite of the Acid Control Act 2002 and Acid Crime Control Act 2002, women are facing acid violence. It is a punishable offense to use, buy, produce, sell, import or transport acid without a license; however due to a loose monitoring system, acid can be made readily available and such violence can be perpetrated upon the girl. A majority of the acid attacks on women occurs due to the refusal of the proposal of love, marriage or sex advances or over land disputes or failure of affairs or not withdrawal case.

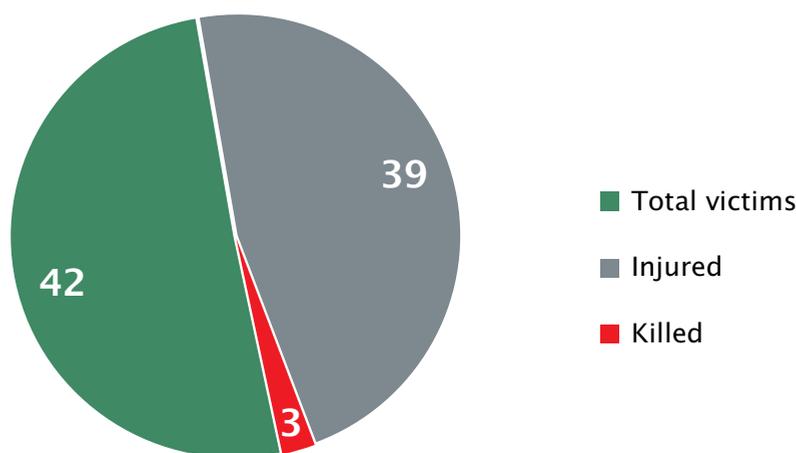


Figure 06: Attacks using acid on women and girls

*According to information gathered by HRSC, from January to December 2015, the pie chart shows the scenario about the acid violence. A total 42 female were became victims of acid violence. Out of them, 39 were injured; another 3 have died from 52 incidents.*

*Some important cases are cited below:* A woman sustained burn injuries in an acid attack in Boktarpur area under Kaliganj Upazila of the district on 6 July 2015. The victim is Sumoti Rani Das, 35, wife of Kamol Chandro Das. Family members was said that unidentified criminals threw acid on Sumoti through the window while she was asleep in her room.<sup>33</sup>

On September 01, 2015, a woman received severe burn injuries as criminals threw acid on her on the District and Sessions Judge's Court compound in the district town. The victim identified as Selina Khatun, 35, a resident of Nijnanduali Madhyapara of the town, is a peon of District and Sessions Judge Mahfuza Begum. Superintendent of police AKM Ahsan Ullah said some criminals threw acid on Selina while she was returning home from the judge's house on the court compound.<sup>34</sup>



On November 14, 2015, a housewife came under acid attack in Kaharol Upazila of the district. The victim is Nargis Akhter, 34, wife of Md Ibrahim Ali Babul of Joynandhat village in the Upazila. Family members said a gang of criminals hurled acid at Nargis through the window and fled the scene.<sup>35</sup>

On November 15, 2015, After 23 days of her fight for life, Ashulia RMG worker died in Dhaka Medical College and Hospital (DMCH), said Dipok Chandra Shaha, officer-in-charge (investigation) of Ashulia police station. Mazeda Khatun, 23, a worker of Birds Group Garment Factory in Ashulia, was undergoing treatment at DMCH after her husband Sohag Miah allegedly threw acid on her following a family feud.<sup>36</sup>

On October 5, 2015, two activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League, the ruling Awami League-backed student organization, allegedly sexually harassed two female students at Rajshahi University campus. The victims, students of philosophy and physics department, lodged a written complaint about the matter to the proctor. Accusing BCL activists are Sujon Pramanik and Liton Hossain, a student of Islamic history and culture and political science department respectively.<sup>37</sup>

On October 11, 2015, Police recovered the body of a teenage girl at Airmari village in Islampur Upazila of the district. The deceased was identified as Amena, 15, daughter of Azizul Hauque of the village. Locals said the girl fell in love with a youth of the village. Her parents decided to marry off her with another man a few days ago. Being upset by the situation, Amena took her life by hanging herself from a tree near their house in the morning.<sup>38</sup>

On October 02, 2015, a teenage girl allegedly suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling fan of her house following a family feud at committed Mohara in Chittagong city. The deceased was Mukta Deb, 18, daughter of Late Ajit Deb, hailing from Raozan Upazila of

the district, said police. Family members rushed her to Chittagong Medical College Hospital where doctors declared her dead.<sup>39</sup>

On December 19, 2015, a woman allegedly committed suicide by hanging herself from the ceiling of their house following a family feud at Mehedibagh in Chittagong city. The deceased was identified as Monwara Khatun Liza, 26, wife of Nazir Ahmed, a resident of the area. Quoting family members of the victim, police said Liza, mother of a two-year-old child, had an altercation with her husband over family feud, Later, Liza killed herself over the issue in the dead of night.<sup>40</sup>

In short, violence against women remains a pervasive, yet under-acknowledged Human Rights violation in all countries of the world, being especially prevalent in Bangladesh (UNFRA 2000). The Bangladeshi government committed itself to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of women and to work towards the elimination of violence against women through international conventions, covenants, and treaties. Withdrawing its reservations to article 2 and article 16 of CEDAW will allow the full implementation of the convention and for the promotion of women's full enjoyment of their rights including those related to family life.<sup>41</sup>

1 <http://unb.com.bd/murder-61>

2 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/604024>

3 <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2015/08/09/31211.html>

4 <http://bangla.samakal.net/2015/12/06/178182>

5 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=ODMzMTc=&s=MQ==>

6 <http://www.daily-sun.com/post/74303/Minor-girl-raped-in-Jessore>

7 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/schoolgirl-raped-manikganj-81047>

8 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/627667>

9 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzgwMDU=&s=OQ==>

10 <http://www.daily-sun.com/post/64510/3-women-raped-in-3-dists>

11 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/girl-raped-140500>

12 <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/44182#sthash.LZnMloJl.dpuf>

13 <http://bangla.samakal.net/2015/12/05/177851#sthash.57R1C0Z3.dpuf>

14 <http://www.observerbd.com/2015/10/08/114303.php>

15 <http://www.dhakatribune.com/crime/2015/nov/01/schoolgirl-gang-raped-gazipur>

16 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTAxMjI0&s=MQ>

17 <http://newagebd.net/147711/teenage-girl-gang-raped-in-moghazar/#sthash.o6xp5OA5.opklrOSm.dpuf>

18 The Daily Ittefaq, 08/03/2015

19 <http://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/2015/09/06/two-arrested-in-dhaka-for-assa>

20 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/711136>

21 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/pregnant-woman-kills-herself-2-yr-old-son-171094>

22 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/woman-commits-suicide-ctg-141787>

23 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/woman-commits-suicide-186055>

24 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/housewife-commits-suicide-185470>

25 <http://www.observerbd.com/2015/10/04/113497.php>

26 <http://www.observerbd.com/2015/10/04/113497.php>

27 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/547456>

28 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/man-kills-wife-dowry-138091>

29 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/housewife-murdered-dowry-80189>

30 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/housewife-murdered-dowry-habiganj-75319>

31 <http://www.prothom.alo.com/bangladesh/article/579916/%E0%A6%>

32 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/man-kills-wife-gazipur-154165>

33 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/571732>

34 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/619732>

35 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/acid-attack-housewife-172657>

36 <http://www.en.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/news/85963/RMG-worker-gang-raped-in-Savar>

37 <http://www.daily-sun.com/post/81443/BCL-leader-held-while-mugging-in-Rajshahi>

38 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/651484>

39 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/teenage-girl-commits-suicide-150631>

40 <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2015/12/19/47729.html>

41 WHO recommendations: focus on strengthening commitment and action against violence at the national level; k





# EXTRA JUDICIAL KILLING

**T**he term “extrajudicial killing” means execution without justice. This is an arbitrary or unlawful deprivation of life and simply a murder. An extrajudicial killing is the killing of a person by governmental authorities without the sanction of any judicial proceeding or legal process. Bangladesh has earned notoriety in carrying out extrajudicial killings. ‘Crossfire’ or ‘encounter’ and gunfight are very common terms used by the law enforcing agencies to hide their crime and avoid the liabilities of extra-judicial killing. After killing in a pre-planned and cool head, the police and RAB authorities have informed the media that the victims died to engage in the crossfire. These extra-judicial killings are depriving the people of their rights to lives and right to get justice in neutral open court. Extra-judicial killing totally diminishes public faith on the judicial system.

The government of Bangladesh has been violating the constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights day after day since 2002 especially when did the operation clean heart starts. Now the situation is becoming more complex day by day. According to UN General Comment No.35; “States parties have the duty to take the appropriate measures to protect the rights to liberty of persons against deprivations by third parties”. States parties must protect individuals against abduction or detention by individual criminals or irregular groups, including armed or terrorist groups, operating within their territory. They must also protect individuals against wrongful deprivation of liberty by lawful organizations, such as employers, schools, and hospitals.

In Bangladesh, the law says minimum force should be applied to arrests and every person has the right to seek a trial. In the cases of “crossfire or encounters,” however, we find that these legal provisions are being totally ignored:

*Article 31 of the constitution of Bangladesh states: “To enjoy the protection of law, and to be treated in accordance with law, is the inalienable right of every citizen, wherever he may be, and of every other person for the time being within Bangladesh, and in*

particular, no action detrimental to the life, liberty, body, reputation or property of any person shall be taken except in accordance with law." The rights to life and personal liberty are under threat in Bangladesh, despite the fact that they are guaranteed by the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh the constitutions:

Article 32 says: "No person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty". This article ensures the protection of the right to life and personal liberty in accordance with the law. Because of the consequences of such deprivation, the drafters of the constitution made this specific provision of protection even though these rights were already covered by Article 31. Each case of encounter killing causes hamper to democracy and the rule of law.

The existing legal framework does not allow encounter killing. Such a concept cannot co-exist with constitutionalism, the rule of law and the principles of democracy. But the Different terminologies have been used by the law enforcement agencies to distract from extrajudicial killings; such as deaths during cross-fire/encounter/gunfight etc.

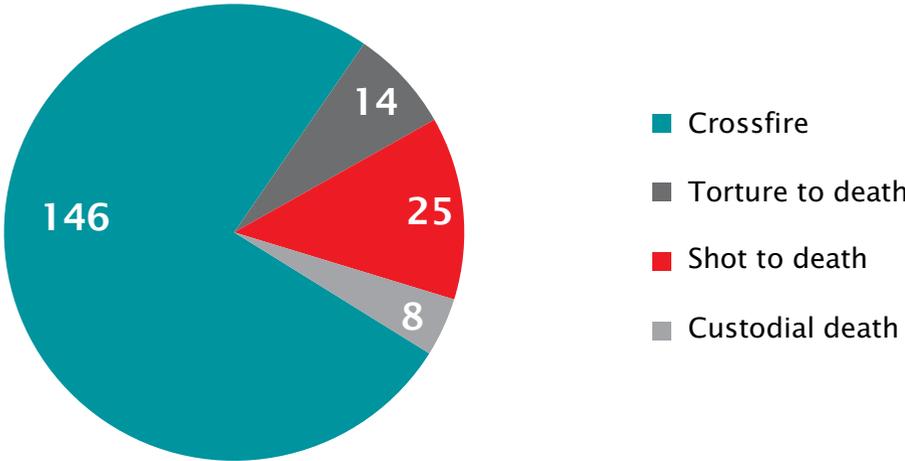


Figure 07: Statistics of Extra-Judicial Killing

According to HRSC report, the given pie chart shows information about the extra-judicial killing in the year 2015, a total of 193 persons alleged to kill extra-judicially. Out of them, 146 people were killed in the name of 'crossfire/encounters/gunfights', 14 were torture to Death, 25 were shot to death and 08 have died in the custody.

Extra Judicial Killings by law enforcement agencies are now very common matter in Bangladesh. Though there is no legal definition of an extrajudicial killing. Since the formation of the RAB, there has been a rising trend of "deaths in the crossfire." The number of deaths in RAB custody is also alarming. The police were alleged to involve rigorously encounters. The government tries to justify the killings by using the term "crossfire," which it refers to as gunfights between any alleged criminal group and the RAB or police.

***Some important cases are mentioned below:***

On 5 January 2015, Mojiruddin, 45, A BNP leader was shot dead and some 25 people were injured when BNP activists clashed with law enforcers at Baneshwar Bazar of Puthia Upazila of Rajshahi district was the BNP ward unit vice-president of Maria union in Chorghat Upazila. He died on the spot around 4:30pm after being shot in the head..

On 22 January 2015, Jisan Ahmed, 26, son of late Abu Bakar from Laxmipur Sadar Upazila was killed in the name of agunfight with members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) in Daudkandi Upazila of Comilla. He was ex Jatiyatabadi Chattra Dal President. RAB claimed that he is an alleged criminal.

On January 19, 2015, Imrul Qayes (35) a local leader Jamaat-e-Islami, Norail district was killed in the name of agunfight with Detective Branch (DB) of police at Motijheel in the capital. The dead, was the ward-1 councilor of Narail municipality and also the president of the Jamaat-e-Islami of that ward unit. He was shot nine times and each bullet pierced through the body, said Dhaka Medical College morgue sources after the autopsy..

On January 27, 2015, Nurul Islam Shahin (45) was a Professor of Islamic Studies at Islamia College and owner of Padma off-sheet printing press has been killed in Rajshahi. He was an activist of the Jamaat e Islami and president of party's ward no 30. Detective Branch of police picked up him from his press around 9pm.

On 31 January 2015, a team of police with leadership OC Salah Uddin of Mirpur Model Thana arrested Emdad Ullah from in front of his resident area at 7.00pm. In the late night, he was shot dead by police at Mirpurberibad area in the city early. He was the first-year student of Statistics in Dhaka College. He was president of ward-93 of Islami Chattra Shibir in Dhaka City.

On 13 February 2015, a ringleader of a dacoit gang was killed and three policemen were injured in a 'gunfight' under Amtali Upazila in Barguna. The deceased was identified as Mozammel Hossain. Police also arrested six others dacoits from the spot. Acting on a tip-off, a law enforcer's team raided a house at village Gulishakhali at midnight. As the team reached the spot, the dacoit gang opened fire, forcing the police to fire back which triggered a gunfight.

On March 21, 2015, Jahangir Hossain, An accused criminal who was placed on a two-day remand by a Dhaka court in a robbery case, was found dead in Police custody at Chawk Bazar Police Station. Jahangir Hossain, 24, hanged himself with a blanket from the doorframe of a toilet in the police custody, claimed MofizUddin Ahmed, deputy commissioner (Lalbagh division) of Dhaka Metropolitan Police. Family members of the youth who died in Chawkbazar police's custody alleged he was beaten to death by police..

On June 22, 2015, an alleged robber was killed during a gunfight with police in Magura Sadar Upazila. The deceased was identified as Alfu Biswas, 37, son of Lokman Biswas of Paka village under Sadar Upazila in Magura district. He was a top leader of Purbo Banglar Communist Party (PBCP) and head of a robbery gang, police said. The victim's family, however, said that though once a PBCP activist, Alfu had been leading a normal life for some time now and was picked up from his house on Sunday afternoon by some men in plainclothes.

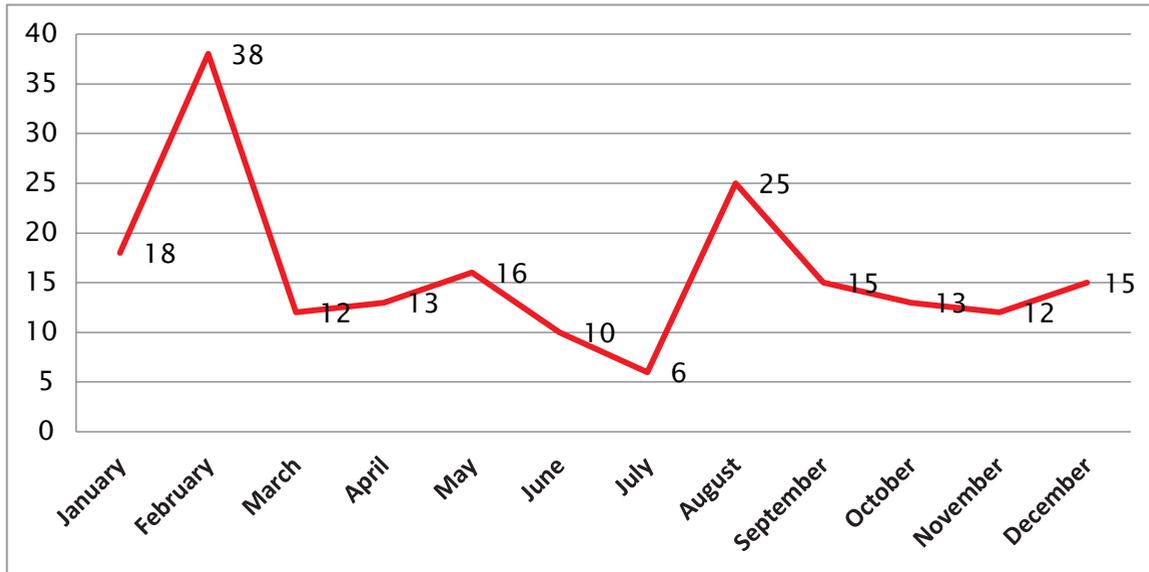


Figure 08: Monthly comparison of extra-judicial killing in 2015

*The line graph provides information about the extra-judicial killing in 2015. According to human rights support center (HRSC) report, a total of 193 persons were allegedly killed extra-judicially. On an average, around 17 people were killed in every month in the year 2015.*

*The data reveal that a significant number of people were died in the name of crossfire in the first quarter of the last year 2015, probably due to anti-government movement by opposition alliances. Highest number people (38) were killed extra-judicially in February while this rate was gradually decreased until July. In August the number of the encounter was surprisingly higher “25”, this was the second position in the graph.*

*Some important incidents are given below;*

A convicted prisoner of the BDR Mutiny 30 and former MP of BNP, Nasir Uddin Pintu died in Rajshahi Medical College Hospital on May 3, 2015. His family alleged that Pintu was killed intentionally by depriving him of proper treatment. The Head of the Cardiology Department of Rajshahi Medical College Hospital, Dr. Rais Uddin informed that on May 2, 2015, he went to see Pintu at Rajshahi Central Jail as the prison authority issued a letter that due to the ‘security reason’ Pintu should be treated in jail.

However, when the doctor went to prison, the Superintendent of Prison Shafiqul Islam did not give him permission to treat Pintu. Advocate Aminul Islam, the defense lawyer for Pintu said that Pintu had been severely ill for quite a long time. A Bench of the High Court Division of the Supreme Court ordered that he be provided with better treatment at the BSMMU at Dhaka. However, due to unknown reasons, on April 20, 2015, Pintu was sent to Rajshahi Central Jail from Narayanganj District Jail, though April 25, 2015, was fixed for his treatment at the BSMMU.

On March 21, 2015, a suspected robber was killed in a 'gunfight' between his cohorts and police in Kanchatala Bazar area under Kaliganj Upazila of the district. The dead is Iqbal Hossain, 28, son of Abul Kashem of Arpara village.

On June 09, 2015, an alleged leader of a criminal gang was killed and two of his aides were critically injured in a "gunfight" with police in Laxmipur Sadar Upazila. The dead, Jasim Uddin, 29, was the son of Shahidullah of Dakkhin Maguri village under the same Upazila. According to police, Jasim was stood accused in at least 30 criminal cases for crimes including murder, abduction, and extortion.

On June 2, 2015, Jamaate Islami alleged that an activist of Islami Chattra Shibir was tortured to death in the Gaibandha jail by law enforcement agencies. Shaharul Islam, an HSC examinee hailed from Gobindogonj Upazila of Gaibandha district. On the 9<sup>th</sup> May 2015 police detained him on the suspicion of sabotage. He was seriously tortured by law enforcement agencies in the name of interrogation. As a result, he was seriously injured but he has not given any treatment.

Finally, Shaharul died due to beating in the remand. Mosleh Uddin, a BNP leader of Dhaka city, died in Dhaka Central Jail custody on 06 July 2015. He was arrested at the capital's Kamalapur on June 1<sup>st</sup> and remanded in an arson case filed during the anti-government movement this year. Jail sources said he fell sick in the jail and he was declared dead at Dhaka Medical College. His nephew Sharif Uddin Bappi said that Mosleh had been suffering from high blood pressure and chest pain and he became sick during the remand.

On August 06, 2015, an alleged forest robber was killed in a 'gunfight' with members of Rapid Action Battalion in Alki of the Sunderbans in Koyra of Khulna. The deceased was identified as Farhad, 33, second-in-command of 'Elias Bahini'. Khulna RAB-6 commanding officer Khalikuzzaman said on a tip-off that the forest robber gang was preparing to commit robbery in the area, a team of the elite force launched a drive there at about 7:30pm. Sensing the presence of RAB members, the robbers opened fire on them, forcing them to fire back that triggered a gunfight. Farhad was caught in the line of fire and seriously injured while other members of the gang managed to flee the spot. Farhad was rushed to Koyra Upazila Health Complex where doctors declared him dead at about 9:30pm.



On April 20, 2015, a robber gang was killed in a “gunfight” with police in Mirpur Upazila. The deceased was, Milon Ali alias “Data” Milon, 42, was the son of Abdus Sattar of Laxmidhardia village in the Upazila. Milon's family alleged that two officials of the police station Sub-Inspector Abdul Halim and Assistant Sub-Inspector Atiqur Rahman -- picked up Milon on Saturday night and cooked up the “gunfight” story.

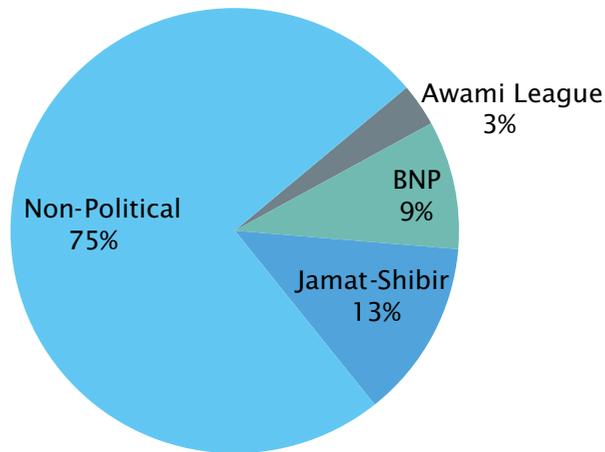


Figure 09: Categorized Representation of Encountered People in 2015

*The given pie chart shows information about the Categorized Representation of Encountered People in Bangladesh 2015. According to human rights support center (HRSC) report, in the case of ‘non-political’, 75% people were extra-judicially killed. In 2015 and it was the highest percentage of encountered people in the year 2015. By contrast, 13% people of jamat- shibir have been killed in extra judicially. On the other hand, there were 9% people of BNP have been killed in extra judicially. Then, 3% people of awami league were killed in extra-judicially and it was the lowest percentage of encountered people in the year 2015.*

*Some important incidents are given below;*

On 06 April 2015 an activist of Islami ChhatraShibir, the student wing of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami, was killed and another one injured with abullet in a clash with police at Cinema Hall Road in Maijdee area of Noakhali. The deceased was identified as Omar Faruq. A group of Jamaat-Shibir men brought out a procession in the area around 11:00am protesting the Supreme Court’s dismissal of death-row war crimes convicts Kamaruzzaman’s review petition.

Mosleh Uddin, a BNP leader of Dhaka city, died in Dhaka Central Jail custody on 06 July 2015. He was arrested at the capital's Kamalapur on June 1<sup>st</sup> and remanded in an arson case filed during the anti-government movement this year. Jail sources said he fell sick in the jail and he was declared dead at Dhaka Medical College. His nephew Sharif Uddin Bappi said that Mosleh had been suffering from high blood pressure and chest pain and he became sick during the remand.



On 05<sup>th</sup> May 2015 two alleged robbers were killed and another was injured in a “gunfight” with police in Joypurhat's Panchbibi Upazila. The dead are Abdus Salam, 50, of Jagannathpur village in Dinajpur's Phulbari Upazila, and Babu Mia, 40, of Puranapoil village under Joypurhat Sadar Upazila. Another “robber”, Delwar Hossain, 40, was arrested while he was fleeing after the “gunfight”, said police.

On August 16, 2015, five indigenous youths were killed in a gunfight with the army at Baghaichhari of Rangamati. The dead are Tatumoni Tripura, 28, Jackson Chakma, 25, Rupayan Chakma, 24, Kanti Marma, 28, and Babul Chakma, 20. The bodies were taken to Khagrachhari Sadar Hospital for autopsies. A group of the army led by Major Ashik bin Jalil cordoned off Barada village on information that an armed gang took a position there, Siddiqui said. “Around 5:00am, the criminals started shooting at the troops. In response, the army fired shots. He said. The army claimed the victims were armed members of two regional political groups -- UPDF and JSS-MN Larma. The UPDF and the JSS, however, denied any link with those killed in the fighting. ■





# ATTACK ON JOURNALIST

**T**he Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) contains, in Article 19, the first and most widely recognized statement of the right to freedom of expression: “Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.”<sup>72</sup>

The UDHR is not a binding treaty but a recommendatory resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly. Through time and universal acceptance, however, much of the UDHR has risen to the level of customary international law, including Article 19, and is, therefore, binding on all states.

The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) was meant to elaborate the UDHR and contains a more detailed but very similar statement about freedom of expression (again in Article 19):<sup>73</sup>

1. *Everyone shall have the right to hold opinions without interference.*
2. *Everyone shall have the right to freedom of expression; this right shall include freedom to seek, receive and impart information and ideas of all kinds, regardless of frontiers, either orally, in writing or in print, in the form of art, or through any other media of his choice.*
3. *The exercise of the rights provided for in paragraph 2 of this article carries with it special duties and responsibilities. It may, therefore, be subject to certain restrictions, but these shall only be such as are provided by law and are necessary: (a) For respect of the rights or reputations of others; (b) For the protection of national security or of public order (order public), or of public health or morals.*

The UN's Human Rights Committee, the body that is mandated to monitor states' implementation of the ICCPR, has clarified that law which criminalizes the expression of opinions about historical facts are incompatible with the obligations on states to respect freedom of expression and opinion. As a state party to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), all of Bangladesh's branches of governmental authority, including the judiciary, must respect and protect freedom of expression.

Freedom of expression is a precondition for working democracy, creating peace and public participation in decision-making. Regrettably Freedom of expression was seen to be limited in every aspect in Bangladesh in 2015. Individuals are not always able to disparage the government publicly without the fear of reprisal and the government often attempted to impede criticism by prohibiting or dispersing as well as shutting out many electronic and print media due to the silly matter of publishing real but against government reports. Even the social media was banned for two times. The government applied indirect pressure to coerce to different news agencies constantly. Moreover in Bangladesh, attacks on journalists are very frequent incidents; assaulting, threatening and disrupting in their professional duties have become very mundane matter.

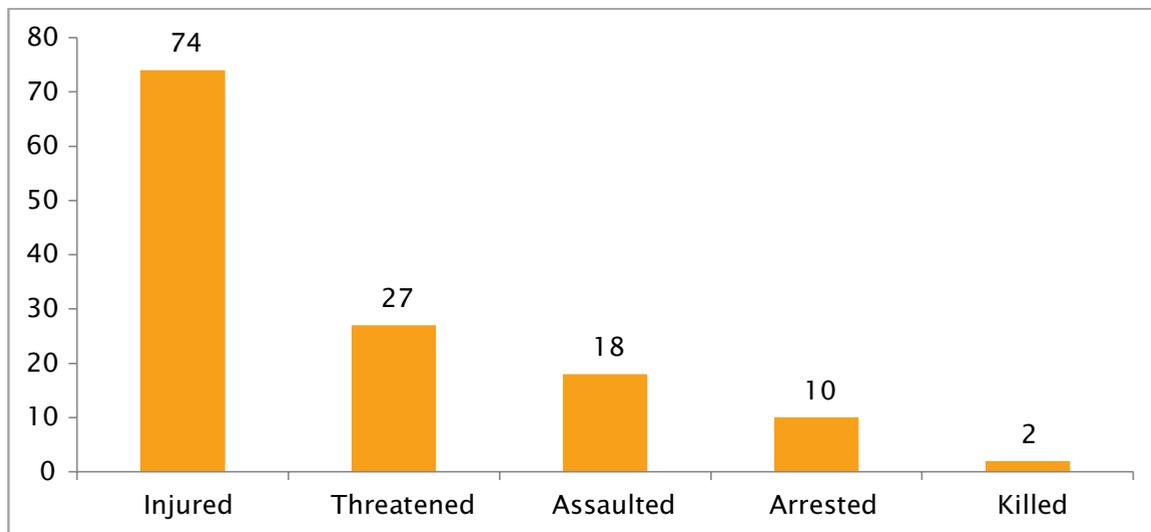


Figure 10: Attack on Journalist

*The journalists and the media constant were to be victims of attacks, physically assaulted, threaten and intimidated from different powerful quarters, especially from the government and the ruling party leaders and activists. According to HRSC's documented statistics, 2 journalists were killed, 74 were injured, 27 were threatened, 10 were arrested and 18 were assaulted in the year 2015.*

*Selected cases are as described here:*

on February 02, 2015 A up New Age's Dhaka University (DU) correspondent along with his friend was seriously assaulted by a sub-inspector (SI) when he was about to be photographed violating a recent ban by riding pillion on another policeman's motorcycle in the capital's Bijoyagar. Nazmul Huda, who needed stitches in a head wound while being treated at Dhaka Medical College Hospital with third-year DU student

Aktaruzzaman Shuvo, said his motorcycle was still being held at Ramna Police Station.<sup>74</sup>

On March 20, 2015, Miscreant has threatened to kill Shafiul Hoque who is the president of Pirujpur Press club and district correspondent of Daily Jonokontho. He was returning home from Sonali Bank of Pirujpur town with a rickshaw. On the way in front of Zila Parishad, his rickshaw was stopped by 3 people with amotorcycle. He is threatened to be killed if he move the town here and there and send any news to the newspaper.<sup>75</sup>

On March 23, a photo Journalist of a private TV channel ATN Bangla has been assaulted and beaten up by Chattra League, Student wing of Bangladesh Awami league during taking a photo of the cocktail blast at TSC area of Dhaka University.<sup>76</sup>

On March 9, 2015, Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) activists, belonging to the Mohsin Hall unit of Dhaka University (DU) reportedly assaulted and beaten up DU Journalists' Association president and two DU students as they protested the assaulting of a female student at the university. They were DU Correspondent of the Daily Samakal and also DUJA president Masum Billah, a first-year student Mehedi Hasan and 4th-year student Masudur Rahman. All of them are Mass Communications and Journalism department students.<sup>77</sup>

On March 10, 2015, Photo Journalist has been seriously injured during taking a photo of protesting lawyer at Adalatpara of Sylhet. The victim was Nurul Islam a photojournalist of local daily Ottorpurbo newspaper. The incident happened in front of Sylhet District Judge Court. Nurul Islam was beaten by some lawyers when he was taking photo protesting lawyer.<sup>78</sup>

On April 28, 2015, Supporters of mayor candidate Nasir Uddin assaulted a photo journalist and broken his camera at Agrabad Talebia Govt. Primary School during polling in Chittagong City Corporation elections. At least 10 journalists were assaulted by ruling party men during the city corporation elections on the day. Some reporters were robbed of their mobile phones, handbags, and cash. Polling officers, law enforcers, and ruling party men allegedly prevented reporters, photographers and cameramen from entering polling centers, journalists and eyewitnesses said.<sup>79</sup>

On May 8, 2015, Miscreant has tried to kill Aminul Islam, a Jhinaidoh representative of daily Manab Zamin. On Tuesday Journalist, Aminul Islam Liton was returning home after completing his professional work by a Motorcycle. On the way, infront of police lines, a green color private car attacked his motorcycle in order to kill him. He was fallen down and injure seriously.<sup>80</sup>

The injured journalist Abu sayem (35) died at Bokhobadhi hospital in mohakhali on 09 July 2015. He was the reporter of Dynik Shomokal of Jibonnager in Jossier. The witness said that Abu sayem was taking rest with his wife and children. His wife was crying by seeing a stranger. When Abu sayem came forward, the miscreant stabbed on this chest.<sup>81</sup>

On 29 July 2015, four journalists were injured by the attacked of Chattroleag at shenbug in Noakhaly. The witness said, there was a clash between local MP Morshed Alam group and August Abu jofore group during the council of Upazila Chattroleag. After clash they seized the highway. The local representative of 71 Mizanur Rahman and camera man Joy and Asia TV representative Tazul Islam went to collect news. The Awami activist raid on the journalist and vandalized their autorickshaw.<sup>82</sup>

On the 05<sup>th</sup> November 2015, Shohrab Hassan, journalist of Jomuna TV and his cameraman Tarek Mahmud in Rajshahi were attacked during collecting news at Rajshahi-Naoga highway. The victim said that some miscreants extorted money from vehicle owners enforcedly at Mowgachi Bager in Mohonpur Upozilla. When tried to snap this incident the miscreant hurled bricks and stone on them and their vehicle even the mob vandalized their camera. Both of them were beaten severely. Shibly Noman, chief of Rajshahi buro of Jomuna TV said that were preparing to register a case in local Thana.<sup>83</sup>

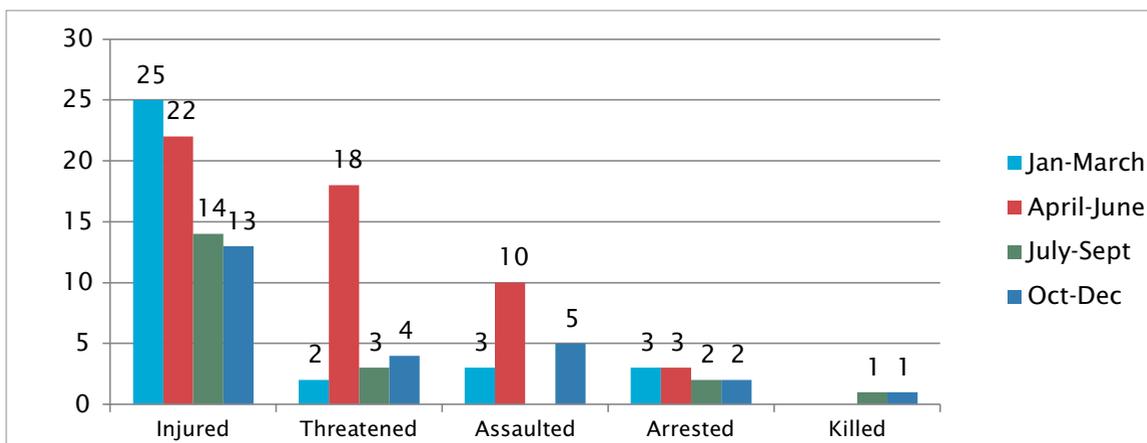


Figure 11: Attack on Journalist Quarterly

*Attacks on journalists continued to be a problem in Bangladesh. There was an increase in the number of journalists who were harassed, arrested, and assaulted by security workforces. The bar chart provides information about statistics of attack on journalist in 2015.*

Some cases are provided below:

The Jagannath University correspondent of vernacular daily Manabkantha, Sohayer Mia, came under attack of an activist of Bangladesh Chhatra League on the university campus over personal enmity On August 05, 2015. Witnesses said Chhatra League activist Ataur Rahman David, also president of Patuakhali Chhatra Kalyan Parishad, along with Abu Zafar of history department beat up Sohayer around 1:15pm at the university's main entrance.<sup>84</sup>

On August 05, 2015, Jugantor Rowmari Upazila correspondent S M Sadik Hossain Bhola was seriously injured as he was attacked by a group of miscreants on his work assignment of collecting news at South Tapurchar area of the Upazila.<sup>85</sup>

On August 20, 2015, Jahidul Kabir Milton, 43, joint secretary, Jessore Press Club was wounded seriously in an attack carried out by the cadres of the ruling Awami League. Milton alleged that some ruling Awami League men led by one Raj, son of late Khora Jahangir of Puratan Kashba in the town beat him with iron rods after the abduction. The incident of abduction took place near Jessore head post office area around 12:30pm.<sup>86</sup>

A Mohammad Masud, journalist of non-government of TV channel Bijoy and a local newspaper, Dyncic Khobor was alleged to harass during collecting news at Shoryl Upazila in Brammonbaria on 16<sup>th</sup> November. Victim and witness said that a Juboleag worker

Shuvo bargained with him a few days ago. Shuvo along with his gang blocked the way of Mr. Masud at Thana gate when came back from Thana to collect news of detained Jamat-BPN man. At first, they harass physically and mentally that threatened him death. A general diary has been registered against them in local Thana.<sup>87</sup>

A private television channel reporter, Rajib Sen Prince was shot and injured at Raozan while he was returning to Chittagong city with his fellow journalists after covering the burial of war criminal Salauddin Quader Chowdhury on November 22, 2015. A microbus carrying Prince, Mohona TV's camera persons Asaduzzaman Limon and Zahangir Alam and another private TV channel Etv's reporter Nayan Barua were attacked by four to five miscreants near Gahira Bazar while the vehicle was heading to Chittagong from Raozan, said Ayan Sharma, bureau chief of Mohona TV.<sup>88</sup>

On December 15, 2015, The Chittagong University Journalists Association (Cuja) complained that the followers of a Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader attacked a journalist "out of vengeance". In a letter to the proctor, Cuja accused CU BCL General Secretary Fazle Rabby Sujan of giving directives to attack Abu Sufian, a fourth-year student of communication and journalism and the university correspondent of ATN news. Sujan is an accused in an arms and explosives case, it said.<sup>89</sup>

On December 23, 2015, Police recovered the body of a local journalist in Rangpur at Dharmadas-Thampat; the fresh victim was identified as Utsa Rahman, 35, a staff reporter in a local daily Juger Alo. Kotwali police officer-in-charge Abdul Kader Zilani said they recovered the body of Utsa this morning from a field near Bangladesh Rice Research Institute beside Rangpur-Dhaka highway.<sup>90</sup>

To sum up, it is clearly seen that Journalists are an essential part of a vibrant democracy. The way they are attacked and harassed in Bangladesh, even by members and activists of the ruling party and other non-state actors, is particularly worrying as it is an illustration of the atmosphere of fear and repression which has taken place throughout the year 2015. HRSC strongly condemns violence against freedom of speech and expression; the shutting down of television channels; and the attacks on journalists. Unfortunately, in Bangladesh, journalists face the repression of the State with the support of pro-government political activists. This calls into question the founding principles of Bangladesh that the government claims to defend.

72 <http://www.thedailystar.net/cops-brutalise-new-age-journo-62837>

73 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/482476>

74 <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/capital/2015/03/24/17237.html>

75 <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2015/03/10/274443#.VQ-3zo5wZOk>

76 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/473674/%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%>

77 <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/journalists-come-under-attack-79659>

78 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzQzNTY=&s=OQ>

79 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/573403/>

80 [http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2015/07/29/294503#.Vbs94\\_mqqko](http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2015/07/29/294503#.Vbs94_mqqko)

81 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/678439>

82 <http://newagebd.net/144319/bcl-activist-beat-up-newsman-at-jnu/#sthash.3FIEAMRq.dpuf>

83 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/602824>

84 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=ODg2MzU=&s=MTA=>

85 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/685504>

86 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/tv-reporter-bullet-hit-176611>

87 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/cu-journalist-beaten-bcl-187747>

88 <http://newagebd.net/187134/journalist-murdered-in-rangpur/#sthash.30QtFTXx.dpuf>

89 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?Mzamin=nza4mdu=&s=OQ>

90 The daily NayaDiganta, 21/02/2015





# ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE

**T**he crime regarding enforced disappearance can be considered a way to create terror in society when victims are picked up and never be seen again; and where victim families are left in a turmoil and fear, uncertainty and in many cases economic crises. The international community has condemned this form of human rights violation through resolution 65/209; where the UN General Assembly expressed its deep concern regarding the increase in enforced disappearances in various regions of the world, including arrest, detention and abduction, when these are part of or amount to enforced disappearances. Through this resolution, the Assembly also adopted the International convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance.

The government of Bangladesh has ratified the Convention against Torture but has yet to accede to the International convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance. In Bangladesh today, the human rights violation of enforced disappearances is on an alarming rise. In fact, when a person is arrested or picked up by people claiming to be from a law enforcement agency, the common fear is that he would be subjected to tortured or disappear.

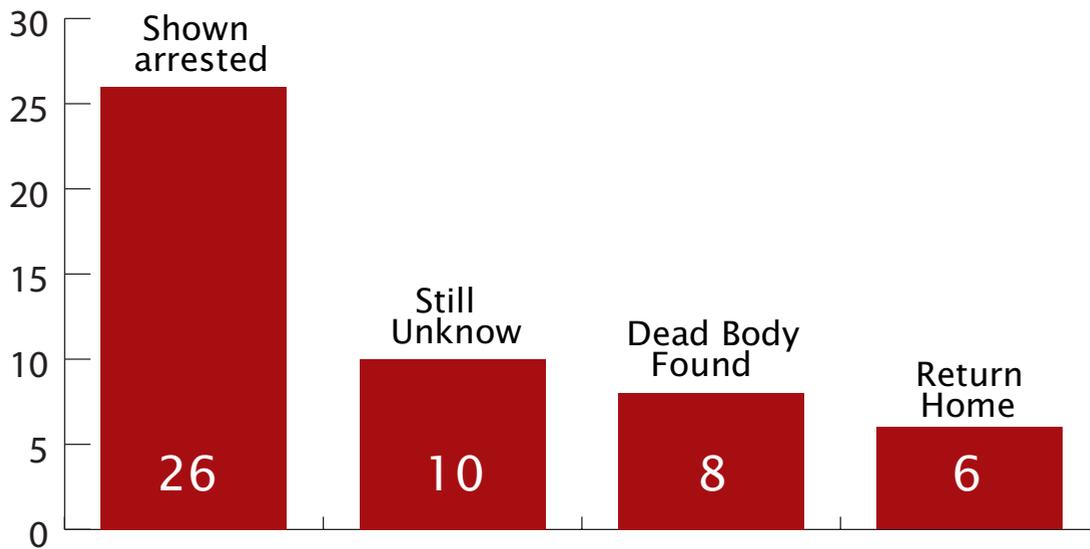


Figure 12: Enforced Disappearance In 2015

**According to the information gathered by 'Human Rights Support Center' (HRSC), from January to December, 2015, a total 50 people have disappeared by LEA; out of them 08 were found as dead bodies, 06 were return home and nearly 26 were later produced before the court but nobody knows what happened to destiny of rest 10 persons.**

Several incidents of enforced disappearance have been reported during the violent political situation from January to December 2015. Some case studies are given to below:

On April 8, 2015, a student of scholars', Jahirul slam, has been disappeared when he was going to his private tuition. He goes out from the flat in 27-B Kazi Tula in the city for going to his tuition. His family member and friends searched him in every possible place but not getting him until night. After then, his brother in law sued a general diary at Kotawali thana.<sup>91</sup>

On February 20 some unidentified men picked up SSC Examinee Rifat Abdullah Khan (17), son of Jamaat-e-Islami Dhaka Metropolitan unit president Moulana Rafiqul Islam Khan, soon after he came out from Uttara High School, after appearing for an SSC examination. The family members contacted RAB, Detective Branch (DB) police and concerned police stations in this regard. All denied the arrest of Rifat Abdullah Khan. According to information from Rifat's family, they are quite sure that Rifat was picked up by the members of law enforcement agencies. It was later learnt that police conducted some operations with Rifat to some of his relatives' homes. In the night of February 21, 2015, a senior officer of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police, acknowledging the arrest of Rifat, said that Rifat was in the DB police custody at Minto Road. In the meanwhile, on February 20, DB police Sub Inspector Tofazzal Hossain filed a case at Pallabi Police Station against Rifat under Section 57 (1) and (2) of the Information and Communication Technology Act, 2006 (amended in 2009 and 2013). On February 22 Rifat was taken on 3-day police remand after being produced before the Court. Later the Court extended his remand for four more times consecutively period for almost 16 more days. On March 28, 2015 Rifat was produced in Court again and the Court sent him to jail custody.<sup>92</sup>

On February 12, 2015, at around 1:00 am, Nur Alam (34) General Secretary of Pallabi Thana unit Jubo Dal was taken away from his elder brother's house in Gazipur by approximately 10 plain clothed armed men claiming to be members of a law enforcement agency. Since then, his position remains unknown.

On February 26, Nur Alam's wife, Rina Alam, alleged in a press conference at the Dhaka Reporters Unity, that while taking her husband away from the house, the armed men told her to contact Joydevpur Police Station in the morning. She contacted the police station, hospital, and DB police office but could not find Nur Alam.<sup>93</sup>

April 22, 2015, A BNP leader of Nykhangchori along with three other people have been kidnapped by miscreants from Ramu at Coxbazar. They have been kidnapped when they were going to Banderban from Baisari by motorcycle. The kidnapped persons were Faridul Alam (28) the organizing secretary of Baishari Union BNP, motorcycle driver and the resident of Ramu Saiful Islam (28) and Nurul Islam, the resident of Eidgarh Union of Ramu. Anisur Rahman, the investigation in charge of Bairashi of Nykhangchori, has ensured this matter that they have been kidnapped from Ramu of Coxbazar and investigation is going on.<sup>94</sup>

Article 3 & 9 of Universal declaration of human Rights declared that "Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security of person". "No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest, detention or exile" According to Article 6 (1) of International convention on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), every human being has the inherent right to life. This right shall be protected by law. No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his life. Article 9(1) "Everyone has the right to liberty and security of person. No one shall be subjected to arbitrary arrest or detention. No one shall be deprived of his liberty except on such grounds and in accordance with such procedure as are established by law".



*Selected cases are as follows:*

On January 14, 2015, at around 3:00 pm, men claiming to be members of the Joint Forces conducted an operation in Mithapukur in Rangpur District and picked up Al-Amin Kabir (35), his wife Beauty Begum (30) and housemaid Moushumi (30) from their house. The victims' family made this allegation On January 13, 2015. Due to this incident, on January 14, 2015, at around 2:30 pm, men from the Joint Forces wearing RAB, BGB and police uniforms conducted an operation in their area. They attacked Al-Amin's house at around 3:00 pm; vandalized the house; dragged Al-Amin to the courtyard, tied his hands and legs and beat him severely.

On April 6, 2015, Jamat-e-Islami claimed that four activists of Islami ChattraShibbir have been disappeared in Narayangonj after their arrest. Acting secretary of Jamat-e-Islami claimed in a statement that they didn't find the arrested Shibir activist anywhere in Narayangonj. Law enforcing agencies refused to arrest them. Dr. Shafikur Rahman said that the governments used the policy to kill opposition party without facing political problem politically which consequence would not be good.<sup>95</sup>

Abu Jar Gifari and Omar Faruk, current students of joypurhat Law College and joypurhat Govt. College respectively was abducted at Gabtoli bus stand in the capital on 9th December 2015. On 8th December, 2015 they were coming to Dhaka from jopurhat for treatment purpose by 'Hanif Transports'. The witness said that both of the victims were abducted at gabtoli bus stand when they got down from the bus. The victim's families are alleged to law enforcing agency regarding this abduction. The victim family expressed their deep concern about their son's life at the current perspective of the country. They expressed their demands at a press conference on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2015 to law enforcing agency that their sons to get back their son safely.<sup>96</sup>

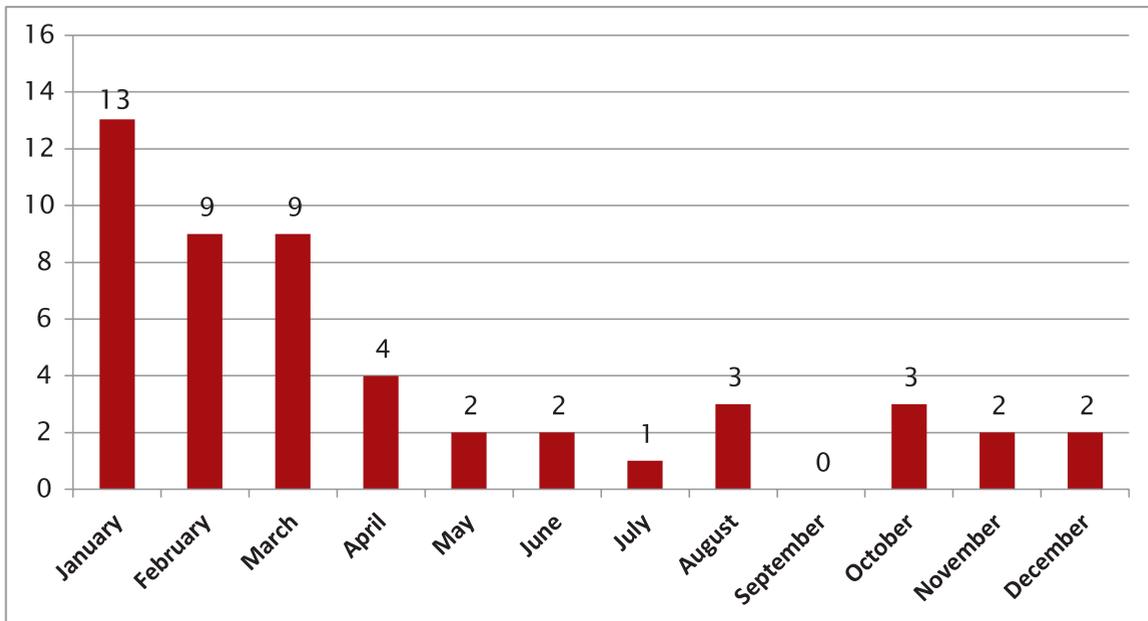


Figure 13: Monthly Comparison, Enforced Disappearance in 2015



On 13<sup>th</sup> December 2015, a case was filed against unidentified personnel of RAB and DB of police with Rajpara police station in Rajshahi city after the disappearance of Saifuzzaman Sohag. The victim father said that RAB with the help of two DB men picked up RUET unit Chhatra League information and research affairs secretary Saifuzzaman Sohag, a mechanical engineering final year student of the university, at his house at Terokhadia Paschimparha in the city's Rajpara. The family of the missing BCL leader claimed that they received a phone call demanding Tk 100,000 as ransom.<sup>97</sup>

91 35 The daily Manabzamin, 26/02/2015

92 <http://www.banglanews24.com/fullnews/bn/387385.html>

93 [http://www.rtnn.net/bangla/newsdetail/detail/1/1/105983#.vsnkn\\_bwzok](http://www.rtnn.net/bangla/newsdetail/detail/1/1/105983#.vsnkn_bwzok)

94 <http://www.campuslive24.com/campus.149856.live24/#sthash.ZMCym5yl.dpuf>

95 <http://newagebd.net/184438/rab-and-db-sued-over-disappearance-of-bcl-leader/#sthash.fQA1lxdv.dpuf>

96 <http://www.bdchronicle.com/detail/news/32/18099#sthash.NGT93NJm.dpuf>

97 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/al-activist-hacked-death-94249>



# VIOLENT ATTACK

Everyone has the right to life, liberty, and security. So the state is obliged to protect the citizens from all kinds of criminal attack to them. 'The obligation of protection' requires the state to prevent violations of rights of citizens by third parties. This obligation also implies that State has to exercise due diligence to prevent, punish, investigate or redress the harm caused by acts of private persons or entities. In spite of growing concern of criminal attack, the number of incidences is gradually increasing day by day. HRSC try to detect and divulged all kinds of violent attack in 2015.

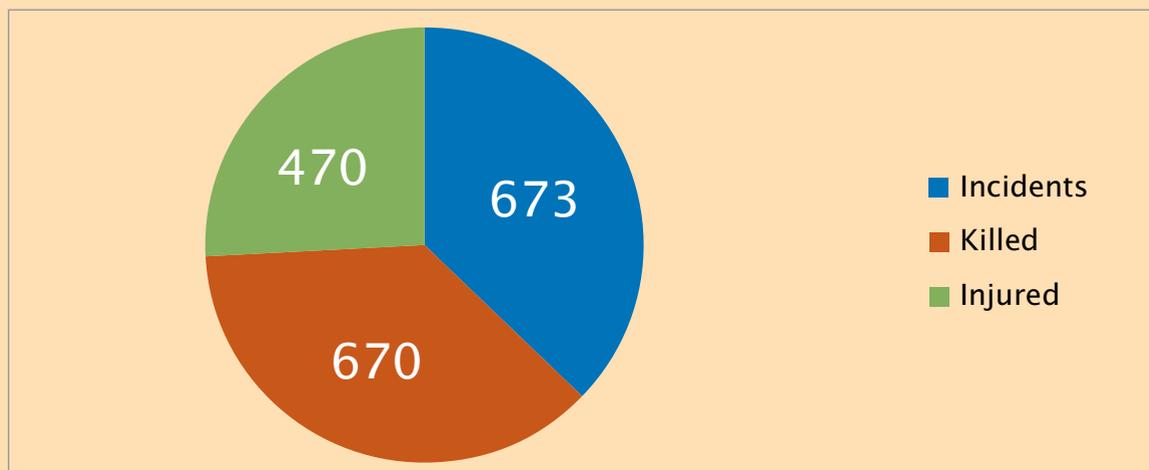


Figure 14: The Number of Violent Attack with Subsequent Consequences

*The pie chart provides information regarding the violent attack on armless civilian. According to the data in Human Rights Support Centre in the year 2015, a total 673 incidents of violent attack have happened and 670 were killed in these attacks, 470 were seriously injured.*

*Selected cases are as analysed:*

On May 12, 2015, a union-level leader of Awami League was hacked to death by unidentified miscreants at Ichhapur More in Patnitala Upazila. The deceased was identified as Shafiqul Islam, joint secretary of Patnitala union unit of the ruling Awami League and son of Sebat Uddin, a resident of Katabari village of the same Upazila. They chopped Shafiqul indiscriminately with sharp weapons, leaving him dead on the spot.<sup>98</sup>

On June 08, 2015, An Awami League activist was hacked to death by unidentified criminals at Sonahata Bazar area under Nimgachhi union of Dhunat Upazila at around 2:00pm. The deceased was identified as Md Dablu, 35, son of Delwar Hossain of Majhbari village in the Upazila.<sup>99</sup>

On May 06, 2015, a local leader of Bangladesh Chhatra League was hacked allegedly by his party men at Pukhuria bus stand in Ghior Upazila. The injured is Russel Ovi, former vice president of Manikganj district unit of BCL. Habibur Rahman, president of the Upazila unit of Awami League, said a gang of 8/10 allegedly led by Ifti Arif, former vice president of Government Debendra College unit of BCL, hacked Russel while he was sitting at a salon in the area around 9:00pm.<sup>100</sup>

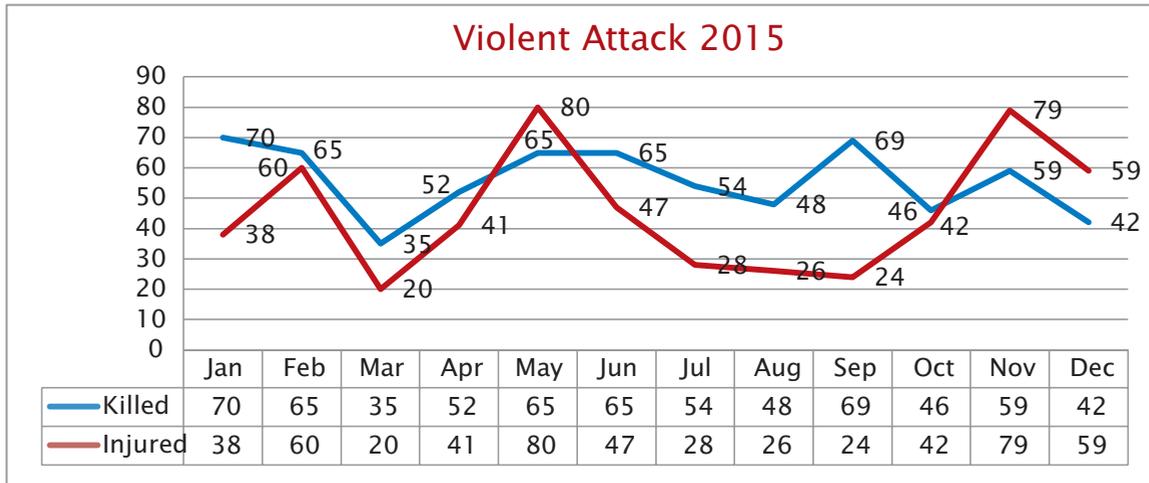
On June 17, 2015, An Awami League (AL) leader was killed by unidentified miscreants at Balaishpur village under Laxmipur Sadar Upazila. The deceased was identified as Mafij Ullah, 57, joint general secretary of Bashikpur union unit of the ruling party. Locals said an unknown gang waylaid Mafij while he was returning home to the village from a local market at around 9:30pm. The gang hacked him with sharp weapons and slit the throat. He died instantly.<sup>101</sup>

July 13, 2015, a freedom fighter and his wife were murdered in Singra Upazila of Natore district. The deceased are FF Nani Gopal Kundu, 75, and his wife Chitta Rani Kundu, 65, of Parsaoil village. They have two sons--Pulak Kundu and Pinak Kundu--living in India. Criminals have strangled the couple over their previous enmity at around 3:00am, said Nasir Uddin Mandal, officer-in-charge of Singra Police Station, adding that Nani Gopal's hands and legs were tied with rope.<sup>102</sup>

24 July 2015, a Jubo League activist was stabbed to death by miscreants at Aminpur village under Bera Upazila in Pabna district. The deceased was identified as Danez Sheikh, 28, son of Kiamuddin Sheikh in the area. Our sources said, following an altercation with Gafur, a residence in the area, a group of armed miscreants numbering 10-15 attacked Danez and stabbed him indiscriminately, leaving him critically injured.<sup>103</sup>

On August 6, 2015, a blogger named Nelay was killed by a miscreant at Khilgaw in Capital. Nelay writes his Facebook and personal page. Mostafijur Rahman, the in charge of Khilgaw Thana said that Nelay resident in a multistory building with his family. Some unknown person came at noon for search house to rent and flee away after killing.<sup>104</sup>

On August 7, 2015, A Jubo-league leader named Milon Sarker (36) was hacked to death at Sonaimuri Upazila in Nakhali. He was the son of Md Naderuzzaman of Deuti village and office secretary of Deuti union unit of Jubo league. An unidentified gang swooped on Milon when he came out of his house at around 1:00am for fishing at a nearby water body. The gang hit Milon with sharp weapons and left the scene. He died on the spot.<sup>105</sup>



**Figure 15: Monthly Comparison between Killed and Injured People**

*The line graph shows information regarding month wise violent attack in the year of 2015, According to Human Rights Support Centre's information, the violent attack related killing was at the peak in January, about 70, showing an average of about 55. On the other hand, the number of injured people resulted from the violent attack was a peak in both May and November at about 80 and 79 respectively, whereas lowest number was recorded in March at about 20.*

*Selected cases are as follows:* On October 02, 2015 A Japanese national was shot to death by unidentified assailants in Rangpur. Hoshi Kunio, 66, was gunned down around 10:00am when he was going by a rickshaw to his grass farm at Alutari in the district's Kaunia Upazila, police said. Two men got down on a motorbike and shot him three times some 100 yards from the farm, said Abdur Razzaque, superintendent of Rangpur police.<sup>106</sup>

On September 14, 2015, unidentified people hacked a ward-level Awami League leader to death in Pagla of Mymensingh's Gafargaon Upazila. Mohor Uddin Mondal, 55, was the vice president of ward-1 of Niguwari Union AL and resident of Makhalkaldair village in Pagla. The motive for the killing is unclear but relatives said it might have ensued from his family's feud with another family over establishing supremacy in the village.<sup>107</sup>

On October 2, 2015, a local activist of ruling Awami League was chopped dead by the party men at Olama Bazar in Sonagazi Upazila of Feni. The victim was Giasuddin, 30, son of Abul Hashem. Sonagazi police officer-in-charge Harun-or-Rashid said Giasuddin had an altercation midnight past Thursday with another Awami League activist Shafiullah over amoney matter.<sup>108</sup>

On October 17, 2015 A Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) leader was stabbed by miscreants following a feud with a member of Poura Sramik League over establishing supremacy in Nandail municipal area .police said. Parvez Azad Sohagh, 22, senior vice-president of Nandail Poura BCL unit is undergoing treatment Mymensingh Medical College Hospital.<sup>109</sup>



On November 5, 2015, unidentified miscreants hacked two citizens of Taiwan at Uttara in the city, said the deputy commissioner of Dhaka metropolitan police (Media) Mumtasirul Islam. The identities of the victims were not available immediately. Mumtasirul said that they have already identified the perpetrators, adding that conflict over business could be behind the attack. The foreign citizens were hacked at their house at sector-4 and are now under treatment at Apollo Hospital in the city.<sup>110</sup>

On November 09, 2015 a schoolgirl was hacked to death by unidentified criminals at Baluata village under Adra union in Melandah Upazila of the district. The deceased, Surja Khatun, daughter of farm labourer Abdul Kuddus of the village, was a Class IV student of Baluata Government Primary School. Being informed, police rushed to the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Jamalpur General Hospital morgue for autopsy.<sup>111</sup>

On November 11, 2015, unidentified criminals hacked a khadem of a mazar to death in Choita intersection area under Kaunia Upazila in Rangpur district. The deceased was Rahamat Ali, 55, of Bade Moskur village of the same Upazila. According to police, a group of miscreants attacked Rahmat with sharp weapons while he was returning home from his medicine shop in Choita intersection area around 11:30pm, leaving him dead on the spot.<sup>112</sup>

On November 17, 2015, An Italian citizen sustained bullet injuries in an attack by unknown miscreants at BRTC bus stand in Dinajpur town. The injured, Piro, is a physician of the local missionary. Sub-inspector of Kotwali police station Biplab Kumar Sarker said a group of miscreants riding a motorcycle opened fire on Piru in the area while he was going to his workplace by bicycle around 8:30am, leaving him injured. He was admitted to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital.<sup>113</sup>

On December 2, 2015, a primary school headmaster was stabbed to death by some miscreants following the previous enmity at Manash village in Barhatta Upazila. The deceased was identified as Arjun Chandra Sinha, 42, headmaster of Manash Government Primary School. Salemuzzaman, officer-in-charge of Barhatta Police Station, said Some miscreants swooped on Arjun and stabbed him indiscriminately while he was going to school, leaving him dead on the spot, he said quoting witnesses.<sup>114</sup>

On December 04, 2015 a man was stabbed to death by unidentified assailants in Sitakunda Upazila of Chittagong. The dead, Nurul Amin, 45, was the son of Nurul Islam in Chittagong city's North Pahartali Noapara. He was a driver of Confidence Cement factory in Sitakunda's Madambibir Hat area. Victim's younger brother Tajul Islam said Amin went to his workplace from their house. After his duty, Amin left for home, said Tajul, quoting one of his brother's colleagues.<sup>115</sup>

On December 21, 2015, a local leader of ruling Awami League was shot dead by miscreants at Khoroskhool of Cox's Bazar Sadar Upazila early. The victim Nurul Absar, 25, son of late Nurul Amin of Kawarpara village of Khoroskhool union was the president of Bangladesh Awami Sramik League unit. The officer-in-charge of Cox's Bazar Sadar model police, Aslam Hossain, told that the man was sleeping in his shop when a group of armed miscreants numbering about 8 to 10 broke his shop apart and shot him from a close range. Local people rushed him to Cox's Bazar Sadar hospital where duty physicians declared him dead.<sup>116</sup>

On September 01, 2015, a local leader of Awami League was shot dead by unidentified assailants at Chandraganj area under Sadar Upazila of the district. The deceased was Md Omar Faruque, 45, vice-president of Chandraganj union unit of AL and convener of Chandraganj Thana Santrash Nirmul Committee. He was the son of Abdul Mannan. Quoting witnesses, police said Faruque was gossiping with locals at a tea stall beside his house at Latifpur village when masked assailants riding on a CNG-run autorickshaw swooped on him at around 9:00am. At one stage, they dragged him out of the tea stall and fired several shots at his chest before fleeing the spot on the autorickshaw.<sup>117</sup>

98 [http://www.thedailystar.net/country/bcl-leader-hacked-manikganj-80858\](http://www.thedailystar.net/country/bcl-leader-hacked-manikganj-80858)

99 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/al-leader-hacked-death-98731>

100 <http://www.samakal.net/2015/08/07/153915>

101 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/jubo-league-man-murdered-123838>

102 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=OTUxMDU=&s=Mg==>

103 <http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2015/sep/15/awami-league-leader-murdered-mymensingh>

104 <http://newagebd.net/162404/al-man-hacked-to-death-in-feni/#sthash.39FISl8l.dpuf>

105 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/657235>

106 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/676678/>

107 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTAwNDk5&s=OQ==>

108 <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/khadem-killed-rangpur-171202>

109 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTAyMTly&s=Mg>

110 <http://newagebd.net/180950/primary-headmaster-stabbed-dead/#sthash.g9T0x94Y.dpuf>

111 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/702940>

112 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/719248>

113 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/al-leader-shot-dead-laxmipur-136261>

114 <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2015/04/07/18783.html>

115 <http://www.bdchronicle.com/detail/news/32/18095#sthash.gA1WJpys.dpuf>

116 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/546517>

117 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/youths-body-found-barisal-hotel-82383>



# RECOVERY OF DEAD BODY

Security of life is the foremost right for enjoyments of all others human rights. In Bangladesh, due to worsening law and order situation recovery of the dead body from the different place of the country has been regular incidents. Most of the killers of these incidents are not identified on the other hand sometimes dead bodies' identities are not found.

*The presented pie chart illustrates information about the recovery dead body. According to information gathered by HRSC in the year 2015, a total of 621 dead bodies were found in the different area of the country, among them 307 bodies were male and 148 bodies were female and 166 bodies were unidentified.*

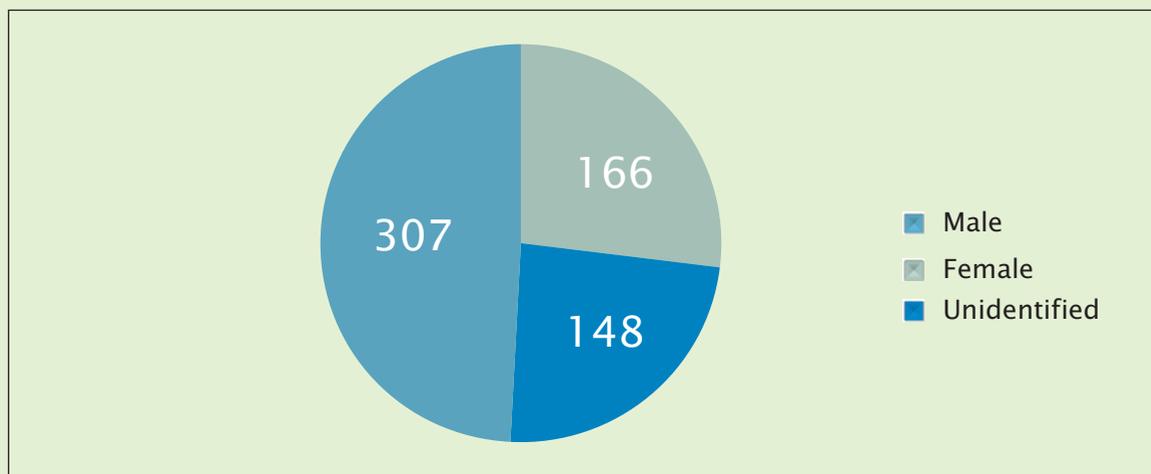


Figure 16: Categorization of Recovery of Dead Body

*Selected cases are as follows:*

On 06 April 2015, Police rescued two unidentified dead bodies from Bramnbaria and Nobinager Khal. The local from Noagaw union called police after finding a dead body. Police rushed to the place and rescued the dead body to send hospital for autopsy. Police said that they were not able to identify the dead body till now. Another dead body was from Shuohaterkhal in Nobinager. Police identified the sign of injuries from a dead body.<sup>118</sup>

On 11 May 2015, police recovered the body of a young girl from an abandoned trunk beside the Nabinagar-Kaliakoir highway of Baroipara at Ashulia in Shaver. Till now police could not know the identity of the deceased. Mostafa Kamal, officer-in-charge of Ashulia police station, said locals spotted a trunk beside Jumma Mosque in Baroipara bus stand area and informed police. On information, police recovered the body from the trunk.<sup>119</sup>

On 5<sup>th</sup> June 2015, an unidentified dead body of a young man was rescued in chorbawshia region of Gojaria upazilla under Munshiganj district. The victim was killed by the throttle. The witness said that local people found a dead body and call the police. Police rescued the dead body and sent to the hospital for autopsy.<sup>120</sup>

On 14 May 2015, a dead body of an unidentified youth (16) was recovered by police from a hotel in Chwakhbazaar Road area of Barisal city. Manager of Hotel Barisal said the youth came to visit a man who rented a room identifying himself as Bashir Haoladar (35). At afternoon, a hotel boy saw the youth's body through a window of the room locked from outside.<sup>121</sup>

On 7<sup>th</sup> June 2015, a semi-melted unidentified dead body of a woman (22) was rescued by Dosar Thana police in the jute land near the Dhaka- Borishal road at Kalkini Upazila in Madaripur. Locals said that they found a dead body by the odor of dead body and called the police. Police rushed to that place and sent the dead body to hospital for autopsy. Police primarily suspect that the lady was killed by strangulated by his scarf.<sup>122</sup>

On 8<sup>th</sup> June 2015, an unidentified dead body of an old man (70) was rescued by Shodor Thana police from a banana grave of Shirkhara village of Madaripur district. Locals said that they found a dead body by the odor of dead body and called the police. Police rushed to that place and sent the dead body to Madaripur morgue for autopsy. There were signs of stabs in the dead body.<sup>123</sup>

On 02 July 2015 two bodies were found in Saver, on the outskirts of the capital. In Aminbazar, the slit-throat body of Sanu Hawlader, 35, was recovered from a water body in Hizla village. He was a sand businessman in Mohammadpur area.<sup>124</sup>

Meanwhile, the body of an unidentified woman, aged around 40, was found in Namabazar area. She might have been strangled as a suffocation mark was found on her throat, said police.<sup>125</sup>

On 03 July 2015, Police recovered bodies of two youths named Nasirul Islam, 19, and Sohag Uddin 17, on the sixth floor of Mouchak Tower from in Dhaka's Malibagh area. According to the police official, primary suspicions were that both youths were electrocuted. They were engaged in working with an IPS at that floor last night. We believe they might have met the tragic end of their lives due to electric shocks from the machine, Mohammad Shamsuddin, sub-inspector of Ramna Police Station said.<sup>126</sup>

On 03 July 2015, a decomposed body of a child has been recovered from the bank of a pond in Singroil village under Nachole Upazila in Chapainawabganj district. The deceased was identified as Mobarak Hossain, 11, son of Muktar Hossain of the village. He was a student of class five of a local Government Primary School. Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Nachole Police Station Tariqul Islam said Mobarak went out of the home in the evening of September 29 to go to his uncle's house in the same village but did not return home. A team of Nachole police station recovered the body.<sup>127</sup>

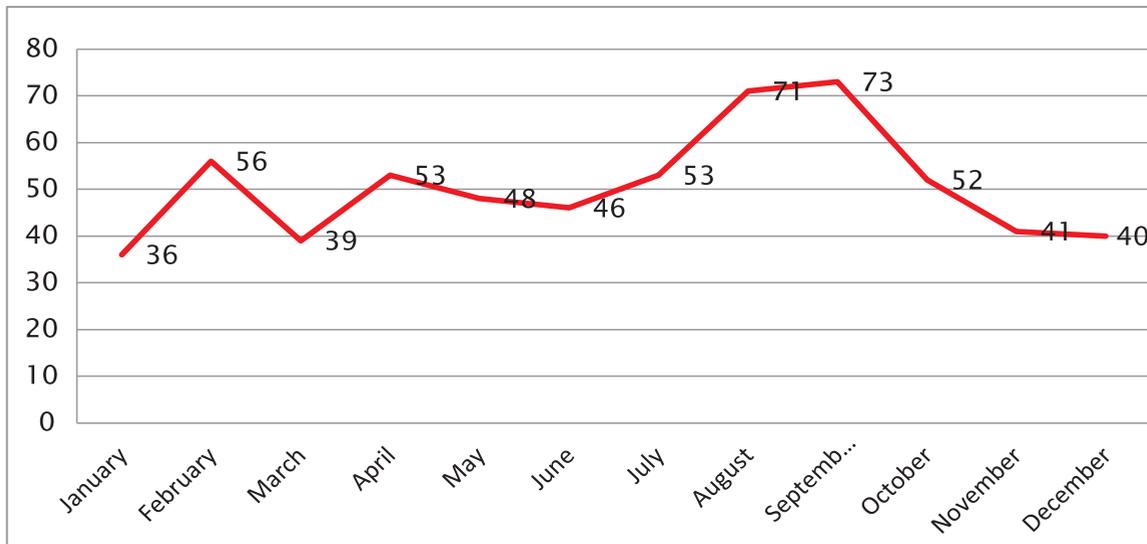


Figure 17: Month Wise Number of Dead Body Found In 2015

The showed figure compares the number of 'dead body found' in 2015. A total of 621 dead bodies has been discovered in the different portion of Bangladesh in 2015. Among the months, August and September were funded to represent the highest number about 71 and 73, respectively. An average 51 dead bodies were identified in every month of 2015.

*Selected cases are as follows:* On 12 July 2015 a former soldier and his wife have been found dead in their house in Shaol village of Singra Upazila in Natore, the bodies of a former soldier and his wife have been recovered from their house in Natore. The victims have been identified as Nani Gopal Kundu, 70 and Chitra Kundu. Police suspect that the couple has been strangled to death.<sup>128</sup>

On 07 July 2015 the police recovered the body of a woman from her residence in Nagopara area of Gazipur city. The deceased was identified as Rozina, 22, wife of Ruhul Amin; she was a garment worker. Joydebpur police subinspector Faizur Rahman said they recovered the body from the house at about 12:30pm being informed by local people. Rozina might have been strangled to death by her husband over a family feud, the SI said.<sup>129</sup>

On 14 July 2015 Police recovered decomposed body of a young man in Nurundi area of the Upazila. The deceased was identified as Raju, 25, son of Anwar Hossain. Locals spotted the body near a road in the area at noon and informed the police. On information, police recovered the decomposed body in the afternoon and sent it to Sir Salimullah Medical College Hospital for autopsy.<sup>130</sup>



On August 05, 2015, the body of a minor boy was found in an abandoned travel bag in front of Dhaka Medical College in the early hours. The boy, aged around eight to nine years, was beaten to death, said sources at the DMC morgue after an autopsy there. There were numerous injury marks on the body. Locals found the abandoned black suitcase and reported it to police.<sup>131</sup>

On September 03, 2015, Police recovered the body of a student of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology from his mess at Surma residential area in Sylhet. He was also an activist of Sylhet Gono Jagoran Mancha. The victim, Mohammad Shahriar Majumder, who hailed from Chittagong, is a fifth-year student in the department of architecture. Acting on a tip-off, police broke open the door of Shahriar's mess and found the body hanging from the grill of the window of the room.<sup>132</sup>

On November 03, 2015 the police recovered the body of a female readymade garment worker from a crop field beside her house at Banesshor village in Dhamrai, on the outskirts of Dhaka. The victim, Shila Akhter, 26, was a worker of Tarashima Garment Ltd. Her husband, Rafiqul Islam, is absconding following the incident. A case was filed.<sup>133</sup>

On November 14, 2015, Chittagong Metropolitan Police recovered the body of a worker at Patharghata in Chittagong city. The victim was identified as Rubel Das, 32, son of Ramkrishna Das, of Ilsha under Banshkhali of the district. Kotwali police recovered the body of ice factory worker Rubel from near the road at Eyakubnagar area of Patharghata under city's Kotwali Thana, said Sub-Inspector (SI) Bikash Chandra Shil of Kotwali police station.<sup>134</sup>

On November 22, 2015, Police recovered the bodies of a married couple from Borotol village under Nabiganj Upazila of Habiganj district. The deceased are Jubair Rahman, 25, and his wife Lima Akhter, 20, of the village. Dulu Miah, the father of Jubair, said he did not get any response when he knocked on the door of his son's room. Later, family

members and neighbours broke open the door and found the bodies of Jubair and Lima hanging from the ceiling. Abdur Rahman, sub-inspector of Nabiganj Police Station, said: "We found them hanging from the ceiling of their bedroom."<sup>135</sup>

On December 4, 2015, Police recovered the body of an Awami League leader with the throat slit at Tantir Pukur in the city's West Sanarpar area. The deceased was identified as Enamul Haque Gias, 50, general secretary of ward No-8 of Sarulia union unit of the ruling party. Gias went missing after he had gone out of his house around 11 pm; sub-inspector of Demra Police Station Abdul Kuddus quoted his family members as saying. Locals spotted Gias' body in the morning and informed the police, who recovered the body around 11 am.<sup>136</sup>

On December 17, 2015, the chairman of Kazihal Union Parishad was found dead in Phulbari Upazila of the district. The dead is chairman Nureba Begum, 42, wife of Md Manik of Rambhadrapur village, and an assistant teacher of Rambhadrapur Government Primary School in the Upazila. Locals found the body hanging from a tree in a litchi orchard near the victim's house in the morning and informed the police.<sup>137</sup>

On December 18, 2015, a female garment worker was found dead at her house at Bagpara in the municipality area of Savar. The deceased was identified as Shefali Begum, 23, a resident of the area. Neighbours peeped into her room through its window only to see her body lying on the bed and her minor daughter crying. On information, police rushed in and recovered the body of Shefali.<sup>138</sup>

- 118 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=Nzg1Nzl=&s=OQ>
- 119 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=Nzg3MDE=&s=OQ>
- 120 <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/35481#sthash.8avqwgVx.dpuf>
- 121 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/568603>
- 122 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=ODIOMTc=&s=MTA=>
- 123 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/569191>
- 124 <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/boys-body-found-travel-bag-121939>
- 125 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=OTA4ODE=&s=MQ>
- 126 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/rmg-worker-found-dead-166993>
- 127 <http://newagebd.net/175532/workers-body-recovered-in-ctg/>
- 128 [www.thedailystar.net/country/couples-bodies-found-hanging-ceiling-176407](http://www.thedailystar.net/country/couples-bodies-found-hanging-ceiling-176407)
- 129 <http://www.theindependentbd.com/post/25579>
- 130 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/chairman-found-dead-188830>
- 131 <http://www.daily-sun.com/post/100374/RMG-worker-found-dead-in-Savar>
- 132 Islam and Suykens, Distribution of Political Violence in Bangladesh 2015,
- 133 The daily Jugantor, 06/01/2015
- 134 <http://www.daily-sun.com/online/crime/2015/02/07/5419#sthash.3cMCFThI.dpuf>
- 135 <http://thedailynewnation.com/news/42322/4-killed-in-gaibandha-petrol-bomb-attack.html>
- 136 <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/2-bus-staff-suffer-burns-72225>
- 137 <http://www.amardeshonline.com/pages/details/2015/03/04/273457#.VQ0Zeo5wZOk>
- 138 <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/khaledas-motorcade-comes-under-attack-78383>





# POLITICAL VIOLENCE

**P**olitical violence in Bangladesh is a banal phenomenon. The role and way of democratic politics has been subjected to a great question due to the considerable number of political classes among the parties as well as intra parties. At present, it has been considered a sign of an immature or even immoral political class.<sup>139</sup> After assuming state power by Awami League Government through 5<sup>th</sup> January 2014 by controversial election, political violence is still continued. But due to limited space for opposition parties, now political violence are mostly intra-factional clashes of ruling party over the issues of supremacy, tender and possession of power, collecting subscription, grabbing land etc. The activist of opposite political parties is being tortured, killed by the activist of ruling parties in every corner of the country.

*The figure presents information about the political violence during the year of 2015. According to Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC) information, a total of 172 people were killed and 6516 people were injured due to political related issues. Most of the political violence occurred among the sub-organization of ruling party on the supremacy of power or tender.*

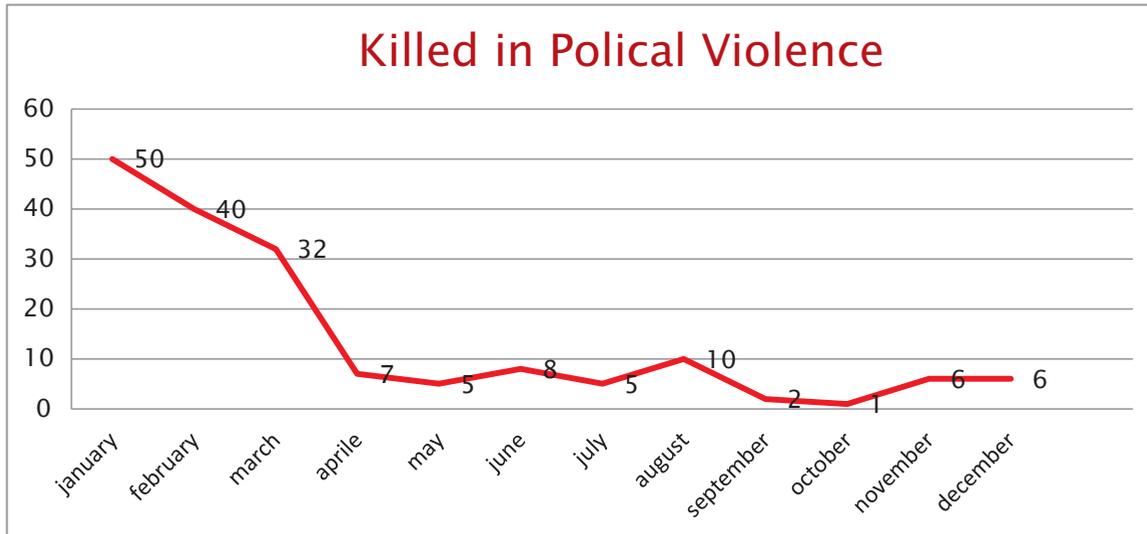


Figure 18: Monthly Comparison, Killed In Political Violence

**Monthly comparison figure showed that the number of political violence was the peak at the first quarter of the year at about 50, 40 and 32 in January, February and March, respectively due mainly to the antigovernment movement and attack on the opposite activist by ruling part at first of the year. This rate was gradually decreased in the following year and lowest was recorded in October.**

Selected cases are as follows:

Selected cases are as follows: On January 5, 2015, in the presence of police, Awami League activists opened fire at a 20-Party Alliance rally which was preparing to bring out a procession with black flags after a public meeting at Tebaria Hat in Natore district. Chhatra Dal leaders Rakib Hossain and Raihan Ali were seriously wounded and 15-20 more activists were injured. The injured were taken to Natore Hospital for medical treatment, where Rakib Hossain and Raihan Ali were declared dead by the duty doctor.<sup>140</sup>

On February 06, 2015 At least four people were burnt to death and 32 others injured in arson attack as miscreants hurled petrol bomb on passenger bus in Tulshighat area of Gaibandha district. Deadly arson attack took place at around 11:00pm. There were over 40 passengers in the bus; Most of the passengers of the bus were burnt, said Sub Inspector (SI) Hassan of Gaibandha Sadar police station.<sup>141</sup>

On February 07, 2015 a woman and her son who suffered burn injuries in the petrol bomb attack on a bus on Gaibandha-Palashbari road in Sadarupazila and died at Rangpur Medical College Hospital, raising the death toll from the incident to six. The deceased were identified as Sonaban, 38, of Chandipur village in Sadar upazila, and her son Suján Miah, 10. The tragedy struck the victims while they were going to Dhaka in search of job, said police.<sup>142</sup>

On March 17, 2015 a conductor and a helper suffered burns while asleep in their bus as criminals set it alight in Barlekha upazila of Moulvibazar. Conductor AbulHossain, 32,

and helper Masum Ahmed, 28, were undergoing treatment at BarlekhaUpazila Health Complex yesterday. Md Moniruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Barlekha Police Station, said the bus was parked near Falguni restaurant in Dakkhin Bazar around 11:30pm when the arson attack took place.<sup>143</sup>

On March 3, 2015, A Student of Dhaka University has been tortured and beaten up by chattra league all over the night suspected as shibir activist at Salimullah Muslim Hall. The victim was Alamgir Hossain, first year student of Political science department. He was called by Chattra league activist from his room 152 and then tortured him severely. After three hour merciless tortured he was handed over to police of Shahabagthana.<sup>144</sup>

On April 21, 2015 BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia's motorcade came under attack by ruling Awami League activists during her election campaign at the capital's Karwan Bazar. Around 150 activists of Jubo League, Swechchhasebak League, Shramik League and Chhatra League showered the vehicles with brick chips and hit those with wooden sticks for around 15 minutes from 5:45pm. Khaleda's bullet-proof car was damaged but she was unhurt. Some 15 people, including her personal secretary got injured. Four of them were admitted to United Hospital. Six vehicles, including four from the motorcade, were damaged.<sup>145</sup>

On April 17, 2015 Two Chhatra League men were killed and over 30 other people injured in a factional clash on Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University campus in Dinajpur. The victims were Mahmudul Hasan Milton, 26, a master's final-year student, and Md Zakaria, 22, a BBA second-year student of the university. The two were activists of the university BCL unit, said Asaduzzaman Jeni, assistant secretary of the unit. Proctor ATM Shafiqul Islam blamed Arun and his group for the attack. Arun's phone was found switched off.<sup>146</sup>

On May 15, 2015, A Chhatra League leader was killed in a gunfight between two factions of the Awami League in Titas upazila of Comilla. Comilla north Chhatra League unit's former vice-president Md Masum Mia, 26, injured in the clash, was taken to Dhaka where he died at 4am during treatment. Among 20 injured, ten were bullet injured in the clash that took place from 11pm to 2am in Karikandi of the upazila. Police sources said followers of Sohel Sikdar, upazila AL organising secretary and upazila vice-chairman ransacked the office of upazila Chhatra League.<sup>147</sup>

Two students of Uttara College at Mandha upazila, Naogaon was severely beaten up by some activists of Chattra league for not giving the illegal charge that happened at college campus On 26 July, 2015. The injured were Gulam Kudrot Ontu (20) and Rasel Ahmed is student of 2<sup>nd</sup> year at department of sociology. And they have been admitted into Rajshahi medical college.<sup>148</sup>

On August 15, 2015, at least 40 students of Bhuiara High School at Kachua upazila in Chandpur were injured in an attack of local Juba League activists for protesting at extortion and beating up a teacher by Juba League men. Of the injured, 21 were undergoing treatment at different local hospitals and clinics and the rests received primary treatments. Witnesses, teacher and the police said that local leaders and activists of the ruling Awami League-backed youth organisation demanded extortion from the school headmaster, Dulal Chandra Sarkar, on Saturday morning in the name of observing Mourning Day. The Juba League men tried to assault the headmaster as he refused the demand but assistant teacher Fazlur Rahman restrained them.<sup>149</sup>

On October 01, 2015 Activists of Awami Juba League and Bangladesh Chhatra League allegedly attacked the house of Kamolnagar upazila BNP president Ashraf Uddin Mizan, also a former MP, in Lakshmipur. Five BNP activists, namely Abu Taher Dolon, Karim and Manik were injured in the attack. Microbus of upazila BNP organising secretary Hasibur Rahman was also ransacked during the attack. Hasibur Rahman alleged Kamolnagar upazila Juba League joint convenor Mezbah Uddin and upazila BCL president Jahangir Alam led the attack during the council of Char Falkan union BNP unit at the house.<sup>150</sup>

On October 22, 2015 A local activist of the ruling Awami League was killed and five others were injured during a factional fight in Natore's Singra upazila. The deceased was identified as Abdul Hannan, 40, son of Abdul Karim from the upazila's Trirail village. The incident was occurred at Trirail Bazar around 8:30am, Munshi Shahabuddin, additional police superintendent of the district said. The clash was took place between supporters of local AL leaders Zinnah and Ariful Islam over putting up posters ahead of the Singra upazila by-polls.<sup>151</sup>

On November 16, 2015 A Juba League activist was killed in a clash between two factions of the ruling party's youth wing at Dingedah area in Chuadanga Sadar upazila. The dead was Azizul Islam, 35. Chuadanga Sadar Police Station's Officer-in-Charge Saiful Islam told that two factions - one led by district unit Juba League convenor Obaidur Rahman and another by Naim Joarder -- locked in an altercation over establishing supremacy in the locality.<sup>152</sup>

On November 25, 2015 two students of Jessore Government MM College were killed after being tortured allegedly by the cadres of Bangladesh Chhatra League. The dead were identified as Habibullah, 22, third year honours student of Economics of Jessore



Government MM College and son of Dr. Niamat Ali of Naihati village under Sharsha upazila and Kamrul Hasan, 21, also third years honours student of the same college and son of Mohammadullah of Chhoto Khudra village under Bagharpara upazila. Al-Mamun, 22, son of Atiar Rahman of Shalikhha in Magura district was injured in the incident. out f the two, Habibullah died in the evening while Kamrul died on way to Dhaka at around 12:30am on Tuesday, said Shikder Akkas Ali, officer in-charge, and Kotwali police station. The OC claimed that the dead and the wounded are activists of Islami Chhatra Shibir and beaten up by a mob.<sup>153</sup>

On December 10, 2015 A BNP man was killed and three others injured in a clash with his neighbours at Dhanikhola Bhatipara village in Trishal upazila of the district. The victim, Enamul Haque alias Chand Mia, 45, was general secretary of BNP Dhanikhola union unit, and son of late Altab Ali Mondol of the village, police said. Chand, who sustained severe head injuries, was rushed to Community Based Medical College, Bangladesh (CBMCB) where he succumbed to his injuries, the OC said. The three injured Chand's elder brother Azizul Islam, 65, and nephews Motiur Rahman Parvez, 30 and Ariful Islam, 25 were treated at local clinics, police said.<sup>154</sup>

On December 14, 2015 a police official was beaten up allegedly by some Awami League (AL) activists at Kabilpur Bazar in Chaugachha upazila under Jessore district. Sub-inspector Jasimuddin was beaten up after he arrested AL activist M Mohsin and recovered some Yaba pills from his possession at Kabilpur Bazar. The AL men also poured kerosene on his body. Some policemen rushed to the spot and rescued him, said locals. SI Jasimuddin told that he was humiliated by Mohsin and his men after recovering some Yaba pills from Mohsin's possession. Mohsin is a drug dealer, he added.<sup>155</sup>

On December 21, 2015 a man was killed and 10 others were injured as activists of Awami League and Jubo League clashed over taking control of balu mahal (a place from where sand can be extracted) in Charkishoreganj-Charhogla village in Sonargaon upazila. The dead was Jamal Hossain, 32, of Charhogla village. The injured were admitted to different hospitals and clinics. According to locals and police, there had been a conflict between Nasiruddin, president of ward-9 unit AL of Shumbhupura union, and Harun-or-Rashid, president of the AL's youth body Jubo League, of the same ward over sand extraction and establishing supremacy in the area.<sup>156</sup>

139 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/two-killed-hajee-danesh-campus-77765>

140 <http://www.dhakatribune.com/politics/2015/may/16/comilla-bcl-man-killed-factional-clash>

141 <http://newagebd.net/148258/40-students-injured-in-ji-attack/#sthash.ZQT0PRxn.dpuf>

142 <http://www.en.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/news/81309/Lakshmipur-Juba-League-BCL>

143 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/al-man-killed-5-injured-factional-clash-161335>

144 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/jubo-league-activist-killed-chuadanga-173749>

145 <http://thedailynewnation.com/news/74830/two-students-killed-in-bcl-torture-in-jessore.html>

146 <http://www.dailyayadiganta.com/detail/news/76333#sthash.oNoXbNoK.dpuf>

147 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/al-men-beat-cop-187351>

148 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/1-killed-al-men-clash-over-sandpit-190807>

149 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/al-leader-abducted-102400>

150 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/minor-girl-abducted-ransom-109570>

151 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/madrassa-teacher-among-3-abducted-bandarban-105055>

152 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/kidnapped-boy-found-dead-82518>

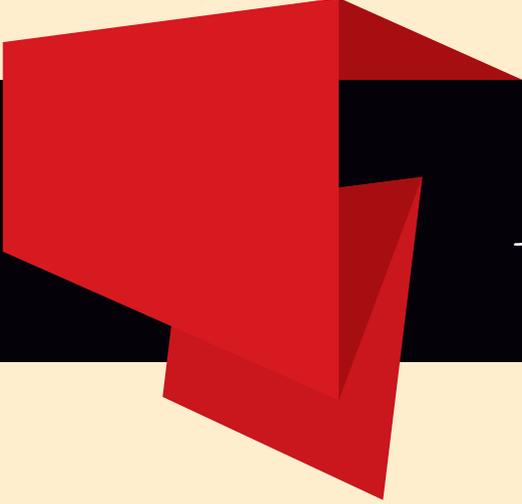
153 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/570175/>

154 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/2-farmers-abducted-bandarban-113656>

155 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/26-fishermen-abducted-the-bay-131455>

156 <http://www.daily-sun.com/post/74304/SUST-female-student-rescued-after-abduction>



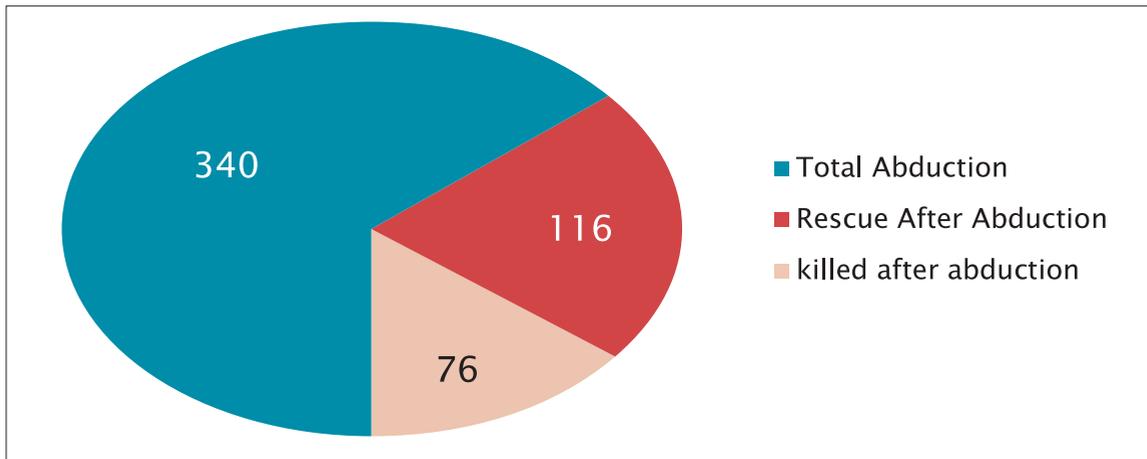


# ABDUCTION



**A**bduction is an atrocious violation of human rights. The numbers of victims, according to HRSC report is increasing day by day. In 2015, the occurrences of abduction increased all over the country. Most of the incidents are still unsolved and a very few people are rescued successfully by the law enforcing forces.

However, in most of the abduction cases family members, relatives and friends of the victim triggered their assertion towards law enforcement agencies and specifically, they suspect and alleged that people wearing civil dress introduce them as member of Rapid Action Battalion (RAB), Police, or Detective Branch (DB) are arresting and forcefully bringing the victim with them. It is a new form of crime in this country. But there are provisions regarding kidnap & abduction in our Penal Code. According to section 362 of the Penal Code, 1860 a person is said to commit the offence of abduction when he by force compels or by any deceitful means induces any other person to go from one place to another. Article 3 & 9 Of Universal declaration of human Rights declared that “Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person”. The line graph provides information about the total deduction in the year of 2015.



**Figure 19: Statistics of Abduction**

*The supplied pie chart describes information about the abduction cases in 2015 in Bangladesh, According to the human rights support center (HRSC) information, a total of 340 people were abducted, among them, 76 were killed after the abduction. On the other hand, 116 people were rescued by law enforcement agencies after the abduction.*

*Selected cases are as follows:* On 24 June 2015, Mahtab Uddin an Awami League leader of Benapole municipality unit was abducted from Aricha Ferry terminal in Manikganj district. Victim's son Shahjalal Sohel said that a gang of miscreant abducted his father from the terminal around 2:00 am while he was returning to Benapole from Dhaka by a bus.<sup>157</sup>

On July 09, 2015 a minor girl was abducted from a mosque at Achintapur village under Sadar Upazila. Ramjan Ali said he fell asleep in the mosque close to his house after Asr prayers. At the time, his daughter Monira was by his side. At around 10:00pm, an abductor phoned Ramjan and demanded Tk 3 lakh as ransom for the release of his daughter.<sup>158</sup>

On 29 June 2015, three men including a madrasa teacher were abducted by an armed gang from Lama Upazila of the district of Bandarban. The victims are Nezam Uddin (35), a teacher of Al Barakul Momin Madrasa in Chokaria Upazila of Cox's Bazar, Kamal Hossain (32), an easy bike driver, and Ali Ahmed (28), a fish trader. Solaiman member, brother of Kamal, said the abductors phoned him, demanding Tk 6 lakh as ransom for the release of his brother.<sup>159</sup>

On May 15, 2015, Police dug up the body of a 12-year-old boy, 19 days after he was kidnapped on his way back home from school, from mud near a poultry farm in his Jogjibanpur village in Noakhali the following information gleaned from two arrested villagers. Ibrahim Khalil Masum was kidnapped on April 26 and his father Md Abdul Kader received a phone call 10 days later demanding Tk 5 lakh as ransom, Sonaimuri Police Station Officer-in-Charge Haniful Islam told.<sup>160</sup>

Two fishermen were abducted along with their boat by a group of buccaneer at Katka area in Shundorbone on 05 July 2015. During this time three were injured. The witness said that a fishing troller owed by Abdul Halim was catching fish Katka area of Shundorbone. During this time, a group of apirate of about 15-16 members attacked them. During this time Rubel, Hither and Belal were injured and Kholilmlla and Rasel were abducted by this group.<sup>161</sup>

On 17 July 2015, Criminals kidnapped two farmers for ransom from Fashiakhali village under Lama Upazila in Banderban. The victims are Ziaul Haque (25) and Mohammad Jahangir (35) of the village. The witness said a gang of 14/15 criminals picked up the duo at gunpoint from their house at the village. The gang later phoned the victims' family members and demanded Tk one lakh as ransom from each family, said Jakir Hossain, chairman of the local union Parishad.<sup>162</sup>

On August 24, 2015, armed robbers abducted about 26 fishermen from separate spots in the Bay of Bengal under Patharghata Upazila of Barguna district. The gang, locally known as 'Bhai Bhai Bahini', attacked several trawlers at Pokkhidia point in the Bay between 1:30am to 9:30am, and abducted the fishermen, said Golam Mustafa, president of Patharghata Trawler Owners' Association. They hail from different villages in the Upazila. Identity of the remaining fishermen could not be known as of 5:00pm. The gang provided a mobile phone number to the trawler drivers to communicate with the ringleader of the gang and took the fishermen to somewhere in the Sundarbans, Mustafa further said.<sup>163</sup>

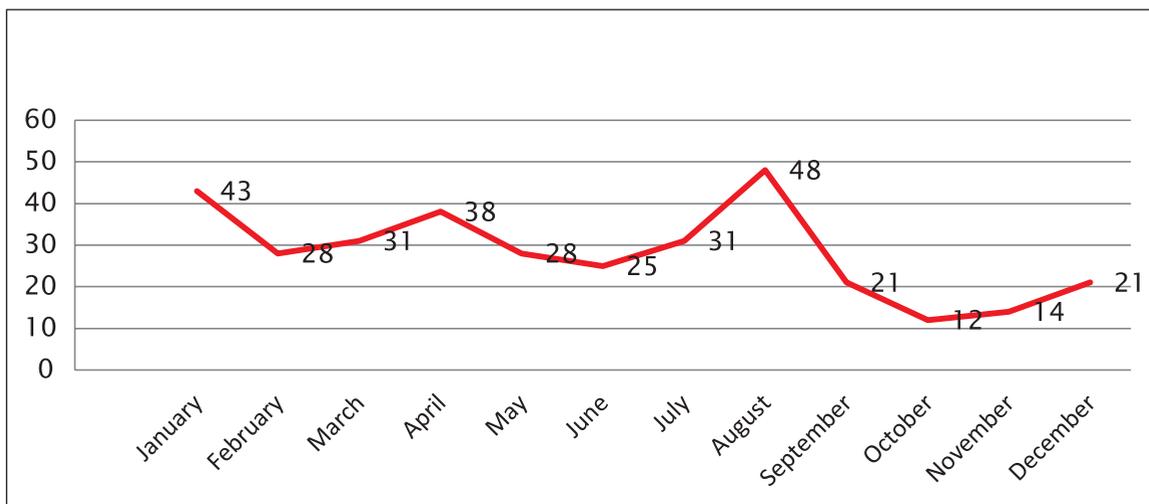


Figure 20: Monthly Comparison of Abduction In 2015

*The line graph presents information regarding months abduction cases, According to the human rights support center (HRSC) information, the highest scenario of abduction gas been seen to observed in August about 48 people, interestingly this types of incidences was observed to reduce by the last quarter of the last year.*

On September 08, 2015, a female student of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (SUST), who had been abducted, was rescued by police. Police also arrested five alleged abductors in this connection. The rescued was a 2nd-year honors student of

SUST, hailing from Kulaura Upazila. The arrested kidnappers were Rokon Jamman Khan, 28, Jewel Ahmmed, 26, Shahidul Islam, 27, Nur Ali, 22, Shahan Miah, 25. Rafiqul Islam, sub-inspector of Rajanagar Police Station, said the abductors abducted the student from Moholal Bazar area of Rajanagar Upazila when she was returning home.<sup>164</sup>

On the 4<sup>th</sup> October 2015, two traders were abducted by armed criminals for ransom in Alikadam Upazila of the district of Bandorban. The victims are Md Ali (40) and Saiful Islam (30). The witness said a gang of 10 to 12 abducted at gunpoint from Kochhopjiri area, 14-km from Alikadam Upazila headquarters. The kidnappers later phoned the family members and demanded Tk 3 lakh as ransom for the release of each of the traders, said Upazila chairman Abul Kalam. Lieutenant Colonel Mizanur Rahman, Alikadam Zone Commander, said army personnel are trying to rescue the abducted traders and arrest the criminals.<sup>165</sup>

On 23<sup>th</sup> October 2015, three people, including one former union council member, were allegedly abducted by miscreants at Ramu Upazila on Cox's Bazar-Bandarban hilly road. The victim was Abu Tayab, the former union council member of Bishari union of Nikkongchari hilly Upazila of Bandarban, Abu Bakkar and Shah Alam. The witness said that armed miscreants had stopped ambulance at Panerchara point on the road and abducted the three at gunpoint. Later, the miscreants demanded Tk eight lakh in ransom from their relatives.<sup>166</sup>

On November 27, 2015, Police recovered the body of a minor girl, who had been allegedly abducted by miscreants, from near her house at Girda Chowdhurypara village in Arahazar of Narayanganj. The deceased was identified as Rupa, 5, daughter of Hazrat Ali, hailing from the village. The abductors demanded Tk3.6 lakh from the victim's father as ransom over the phone. Hazrat Ali refused to give them the ransom money and informed police of the matter. Locals informed police after noticing Rupa's body near her house.<sup>167</sup>



On November 09, 2015 Police rescued a 7-year-old boy, Md Showrov Miah, who was abducted from Ashulia three days ago, from Hemayetpur in Savar, on the outskirts of the capital. The police also arrested two abductors--Md Pakullah Miah, 20 and Md Jewel Miah, 18-- who demanded Tk 5 lakh as ransom from victim's family.<sup>168</sup>

On December 8, 2015, Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) personnel in a drive rescued a boy, who was abducted from Narayanganj 18 days ago, from Sukrobari Bazar area of Jaintapur Upazila of Sylhet district. The rescued was identified Mohammad Sohel Khan, 14, son of Alhed Ali Chowdhury, hailing from Fatullah Upazila in Narayanganj. RAB also arrested an alleged abductor Mohammad Faruk Miah, son of Ahmed Ali Chowdhury, a resident of No 6 Chiknaguler Thaker Math village of Jaintapur Upazila. Faruk abducted Sohel from Chittagong Road area in Fatullah. Later he demanded ransom from Sohel's family members.<sup>169</sup>

On December 19, 2015, a schoolgirl, who had been abducted by some miscreants, was rescued from Delhi intersection in Keshabpur Upazila of Jessore district, 17 days into the incident. Refatul Islam, second officer of Keshabpur Police Station, said five young men, including one Sabuj, picked up the class VII schoolgirl on a motorbike forcibly on her way to school at Burihati Karikorpara. The victims' father alleged that Sabuj used to tease her daughter on the way to school and he might have abducted her.<sup>170</sup>

On September 16, 2015, Police recovered the decomposed body of a seven-year-old boy hours after detaining two abductors in the capital's Kadamtoli. The deceased was Arif. The arrestees, Shamrat, 19, and Yasin, 13, who worked with Arif's father Liton at a workshop at Kadamtali, during primary interrogation admitted that they kidnapped Arif from the front of his house in Jurain area and killed him in an under-developed housing project area at Hasnabad. The duo a plan to demand a ransom of Tk 60,000 from Liton, police said.<sup>171</sup>

157 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/2-traders-abducted-bandarban-151840>

158 <http://newagebd.net/169395/3-abducted-in-coxs-bazar-2/#sthash.UDmxz20y.dpuf>

159 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/696838>

160 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/abducted-child-rescued-170068>

161 <http://thedailynewnation.com/news/76263/abducted-boy-rescued-in-sylhet.html>

162 <http://thedailynewnation.com/news/77371/abducted-schoolgirl-rescued-in-jessore.html>

163 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/abducted-boy-killed-2-kidnappers-held-144514>

164 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTAwMjE1&s=MTA=>

165 <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2015/11/29/44973.html>

166 <http://mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTA0NzM3&s=Mg==>

167 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTA1NTk0&s=MQ==>

168 <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2015/12/16/47411.html>

169 "India/Bangladesh: Indiscriminate Killings, Abuse by Border Officers". Human Rights Watch. Archived from the original on 21 January 2011.

170 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/bsf-kills-bangladeshi-cattle-trader-79317>

171 <http://www.thedailystar.net/bsf-kills-two-bangladeshis-64426>





# ATTACK ON MINORITIES

**A**rticle 27 of The International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights states that “In those States in which ethnic, religious or linguistic minorities exist, persons belonging to such minorities shall not be denied the right, in community with the other members of their group, to enjoy their own culture, to profess and practice their own religion, or to use their own language”. The International Covenant on Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights mentions explicitly in article 2 (2) that “the States Parties to the present Covenant undertake to guarantee that the rights enunciated in the present Covenant will be exercised without discrimination of any kind as to race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”

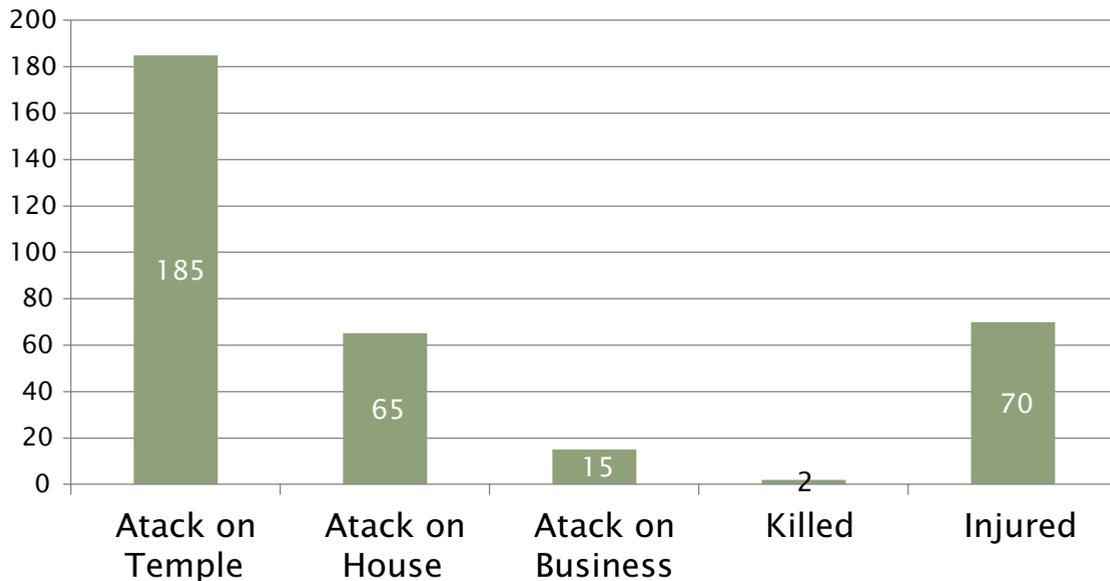


Figure 21 : Attack on Minority

*The showed bar graph provides information about the incidences regarding attacks on minority, According to information gathered by HRSC in the year 2015, an account at least 02 men were killed and 70 people have been injured in a total of 265 incidences regarding temple, business and family attack on the minority.*

Some significant cases are given below: Lakshmi idol was vandalized by miscreants at Maliipara Durgamandire in Gabtoli in Bogure on 6<sup>th</sup> November 2015. Miscreants left the damaged idol at the bank of a pond. Lili rani, a local housewife said that they found their idol was missing in Durgamandire and called other people. Then the law enforces agency at Gabtoli Thana inspected Durgamandire. No case was registered regarding this incidence.<sup>172</sup>

On 28<sup>th</sup> November 2015, a minority family was subjected to attack at Joldhaka upozilla in Nilfhamari. Pregnant women along with other family members were injured as well as their several houses were vandalized. The injured person was Golap Rani (35), Shanto Ri (30) and Kanduri bowsi (23). The witness said that there was abargain between Ano Bala wife of Shukumer and Sherina begum wife of Sidur due to the matter of cow caranoke. At one stage the rival vandalized the houses of shkumer. Officer-e- in charge of Joldhaka Thana said that they were taking preparation to register a case.<sup>173</sup>

On the 5<sup>th</sup> December 2015, at least, ten people were injured in an explosion at Kantaji Mandir of Dinajpur when spectators were watching jatra (folk theatre). The witness said that a bomb was thrown when artists were performing on stage at Volanath Opera Pandal set up as part of a month-long Hindu festival known as raaspurnimamela organised by the temple. Out of the ten injured, six were got admitted to the hospital in critical condition. Police detained seven people for interrogation and termed it a “planned attack” but could not tell what the motive was behind the blast.<sup>174</sup>



At least two people were hurt as unidentified miscreants opened fire and charged bombs in a religious gathering of Hindu devotees at a temple of the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (ISKCON) in the Dinajpur on 10<sup>th</sup> December 2015. The witness said that three unknown youths appeared suddenly at the temple during the religious meeting and fired two gunshots at first and afterwards two crude bombs were exploded. The injured--Ranjit Chandra Roy (45) and Mithun Chandra Roy (25) were rushed to the Dinajpur Medical College Hospital. Dinajpur police superintendent M Ruhul Amin told that he came to know that locals have detained one of the attackers. "And, he was kept in a club of Dhakaipara Adarsha village of Dabore union."<sup>175</sup>

The dolls were alleged to broken at the two separate temples namely Monsamondir Johorerkandi village and Radhagobindomondir at Ramkrishno mission in Gopalgonj on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2015. The witness said that the dolls were supposed to broke at midnight and they found it at thebroken condition at morning. The police at local Thana also confirmed about the incidence.<sup>176</sup>

<sup>172</sup><http://www.unb.com.bd/bsf-torture-death#sthash.GIR5HXXK.dpuf>

<sup>173</sup><http://www.thedailystar.net/city/4-bangladeshi-cops-beaten-handed-over-bsf-73882>

<sup>174</sup> [http://www.theindependentbd.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id](http://www.theindependentbd.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id)

<sup>175</sup>[http://www.daily-sun.com/online/foreign\\_affairs/2015/04/11/9778#sthash.S1blcAYi.dpuf](http://www.daily-sun.com/online/foreign_affairs/2015/04/11/9778#sthash.S1blcAYi.dpuf)

<sup>176</sup><http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzY4Mjk=&s=OQ>



# BORDER DISPUTE

**H**uman rights are also extremely violated in the border area of Bangladesh by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF). Human rights violations by BSF have been going on for a long time along these borders between Bangladesh and India. Examples of BSF shooting, murder, tormenting and abducting unarmed Bangladeshi civilians in the border areas violate international norms and treaties. Members of the BSF also illegally enter Bangladesh territory and attack people residing along the border, shoot and kidnap Bangladeshis. The india-bangladesh border is probably the most helpless and goriest border in the world. In 2010, Human Rights Watch (HRW) issued an 81-page report which brought up uncountable abuses of the BSF. The report stated that over 1000 Bangladeshi citizens were killed during the first decade of the 21st century.<sup>177</sup>

However, we have frequently observed that India has been violating treaties, shooting at anyone seen near the border or anyone trying to cross the border, which is a pure violation of the international act and human rights.

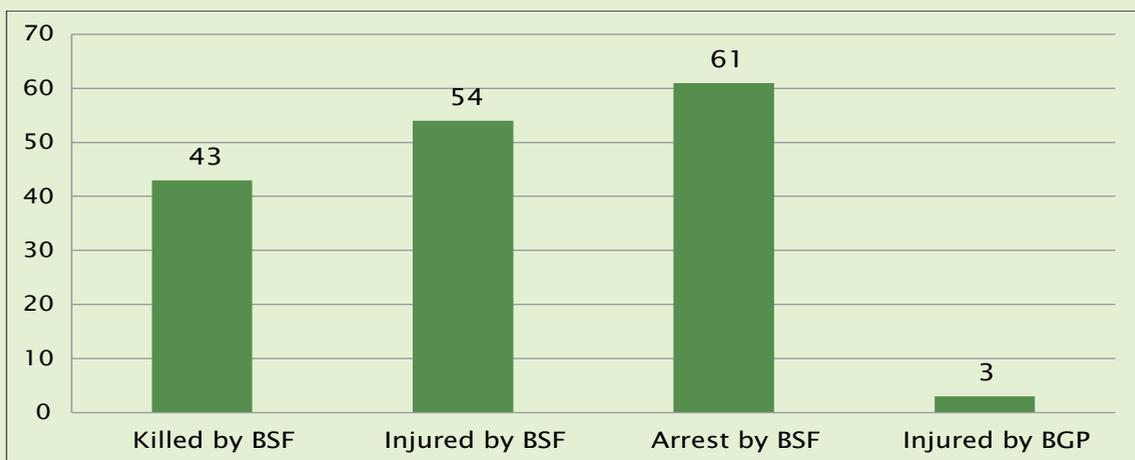


Figure 22: Border Dispute

*The given bar chart gives data on the border dispute. According to the source of Human Rights Support Center (HRSC) in 2015, an estimated 43 Bangladeshis citizens were killed by the BSF and 54 were injured by BSF as well as 59 were arrested by BSF. A total of 03 Bangladeshis were injured by BGP and one was arrested by BGP.*

*Some important cases are mentioned below;* On April 25, 2015, Indian Border Security Force (BSF) shot to death a Bangladeshi cattle trader on Ghagra border of Panchagarh Sadar Upazila early. The dead, Samiul Haque, 35, was the son of Somiz Uddin of Shyampara village of Panchagarh Sadar Upazila. BSF troops of Singimari camp opened fire on some four to five Bangladeshi cattle traders. They were returning home to the border along with the cattle around 4:00am, said Lt Col Ariful Haque, commanding officer of 18 Battalion of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB).<sup>178</sup>

On 12 February 2015 Indian Border Security Force shot dead two Bangladeshi cattle traders and injured another one on Jadobpur border in Moheshpur Upazila. They are Aminur Rahman, 35, son of Miaraj Ali of Labutala village and Khoyjul Hossain, 40, son of Shahdat Mondol of Jaluli village in the Upazila. Injured Abul Kashem, 32, is being treated at Jessore Medical College Hospital. Moheshpur police said 10-12 Bangladeshi nationals went to India for bringing cattle.<sup>179</sup>

On 24 February 2015, Bangladeshi cattle trader who was tortured by members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) here on February 13 died at a Khulna hospital. Sheikh Jakir Hossain, 30, son of Sheikh Nasir Hossain of Labsa village in Sadar Upazila of Satkhira, succumbed to his injuries at Khulna Medical College Hospital (KMCH) around 10am. Kazi Monirul Islam, the member of Labsa union Parishad, confirmed the death of Jakir.<sup>180</sup>

On March 25, 2015, Four Detective Branch (DB) of police members were beaten up by locals and handed over to Indian Border Security Force after they entered bordering Tripura's Rahimpur village while raiding Asabari Border area in Comilla around 4:00pm in search of a listed criminal. Assistant sub-inspectors Alamgir Hossain and Sabuj Mia and constables Selim Miah and Jafar Ullaha were part of a seven-member team looking for Suman Mia. The remaining three managed to return.<sup>181</sup>

On April 11, 2015, Two Bangladeshi nationals were shot to death and three others were injured by members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Daulatpur border. The deceased were identified as--Shanto, 25, son of Abdus Sattar, and Aku, 35, son of Azizul Haque. Daulatpur BGB camp in-charge Amzad Hossain said, BSF members of Ghonarmath camp opened fire on a group of Bangladeshi cattle traders while they were returning home with cattle around 4:30 am, leaving five people injured.<sup>182</sup>

Two Bangladeshi cattle traders were shot dead and three others injured by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Daulatpur border in Jessore. The deceased were identified as Shanto, 25, and Aku, 35. Amzad Hossain, in-charge of Daulatpur Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) camp, said the BSF members opened fire around 4:30 am as the victims were coming back home with cattle.<sup>183</sup>

On 25 May 2015, Members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) kidnapped a Bangladesh national from Sonarpur frontier under Mujibnagar Upazila of Meherpur district on Monday morning. The victim was Shariful Islam, 40, son of Habibur Rahman of Majhpara area nearest the frontier. Locals said the members of BSF Hridaypur camp kidnapped Shariful while he was collecting mangoes in the area this morning. Border Guard

Bangladesh (BGB)-6 directors Lieutenant Colonel Maniruzzaman confirmed the matter.<sup>184</sup>

On May 23, 2015, Border Security Force (BSF) of India shot a Bangladeshi national to death along Agrabhulot frontier at Sharsha Upazila of the district. The deceased was Abu Sayeed, 18, son of Jamaat Ali of Rampura village under the Upazila.<sup>185</sup>

On 17 June 2015, A Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) member Abdur Razzak has been abducted and another Biplob Kumar was shot by Myanmar's Border Guard Police (BGP) in the Naf River near Damdamia of Teknaf border in Cox's Bazar. The injured BGB man was got admitted to Cox's Bazar Sadar Hospital. Later, he was shifted to Combined Military Hospital in Chittagong.<sup>186</sup>

On 17 June 2015, a Bangladeshi child named Imran Hossain was lost one of his eyes by the shoot of BSF in Shatkhira district. Another injured Salma begum said that they were shooting by BSF during took bath in Shoni river. Severed injured was got admitted in a clinic in Shatkhira shador to surgery. The oculist Dr. Aminur Rahman said that the right eyeball of Imran Hossain was totally lost.<sup>187</sup>

On 22 June 2015, A Bangladeshi cattle trader on Masudpur border in Shibganj Upazila was shot by Indian Border Security Force (BSF). The injured is Mohammad Minhaz, (22) son of Mohammad Nuru of Thotapara village in the Upazila. The BSF troops of Shuvopur camp under BSF 20 Battalion of Paschimbanga opened fire on Minhaz while he was returning home to the border along with three cattle around 10:00 pm, said Major Nazmul Alam, deputy commanding officer of BGB 9 Battalion.<sup>188</sup>

On July 6, 2015, a cattle trader was found dead near the border in DebahataUpazila of the district. The deceased was identified as Rubel Hossain, 22, son of Moslem Sardar of Harotha village in the Upazila. Locals of Komorpur area found the body floating on the Ichhamoti River at around 6:30pm and informed the BGB men of a local camp. Being informed by BGB, police recovered the body and sent it to Satkhira Sadar Hospital for anautopsy. Azizur Haque, officer-in-charge of Debahata Police Station, said the body bore injury marks. Moslem Sardar, thefather of the deceased, said Rubel went to India on Friday to bring cattle and did not return home since then.<sup>189</sup>

On July 09, 2015, A Bangladeshi cattle trader was shot dead by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) along Lohakuchi border in Aditmari Upazila. The dead, Jambu Miah, 35, was the son of Sohrab Hossain in Dulali village of the Upazila. Jambu and his four fellows were returning home along with cattle from India through the border around 4:30am. A patrol team of Chamta Baburhat BSF camp in Cooch Behar district of West Bengal opened fire on the cattle traders. Jambu was critically injured in the firing, according to Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). Jambu then died in noman's land. A flag meeting between the BGB and the BSF was held near the border where The BGB strongly protested the killing of the Bangladeshi.<sup>190</sup>

On July 12, 2015, Police recovered the body of a Bangladeshi cattle trader from Kushkhali border in Satkhira, 19 hours after he had been gunned down allegedly by BSF. The deceased was identified as Mukul Sarder, 35, of Hawalkhali village in the district. Preferring anonymity, two villagers said Mukul and other traders crossed the border to fetch some cattle from India on Friday afternoon. They were returning to Bangladesh along with the cattle. When they reached near Dubli field area around 4:00am, BSF members of Khalsa camp opened fire on them, they said. Mukul died of bullet wounds on the spot.<sup>191</sup>



On August 06, 2015, a Bangladeshi national was beaten to death allegedly by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Nitpur border in Porsha Upazila of Naogaon. The deceased was identified as Jaria Murmu, 40, a resident of Nitpur village of the Upazila. Lt Col Rafiqul Hasan, commanding officer of BGB battalion-14, said the BSF troops of Jagjitpur camp attacked a group of Bangladeshi men, including Jaria, while they were returning from India with cattle around 5:00am. At one stage, BSF members beat Jaria mercilessly, leaving him dead on the spot. Later, Jaria's associates took his body to his house.<sup>192</sup>

On August 19, 2015, a Bangladeshi young man was beaten to death allegedly by Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Kalmudanga border in Sapahar Upazila. The deceased was identified as Shafiqul Islam, 38, son of Islam Ali, a resident of Kalmudanga village of the Upazila. Locals and family members said BSF troops from Adadanga camp attacked a group of Bangladeshi cattle traders, including Shafiqul while they were returning from India with cattle at about 6:00 am, at one stage, BSF members caught Shafiqul while his other associates managed to flee the scene. Later they beat Shafiqul mercilessly and left the body in the border area. Local people found him and took him to Sapahar Upazila Health Complex where on-duty doctors declared him dead.<sup>193</sup>

On August 26, 2015, a Bangladeshi boy was brutally tortured allegedly by the members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) near the Benapole border. Victim Akash Mia, 14, a village in Monirampur Upazila of Jessore, look treatment at Rajani Clinic in Benapole in a critical condition. BSF troops entered the Bangladeshi territory and picked up Akash while he was working in a field near the border around 4:30pm, said Abdur Rahim, camp in-charge of BGB 23 Battalion. They beat up Akash mercilessly and left the scene. Later, locals rescued Akash from the area and admitted him to the clinic, Rahim added.<sup>194</sup>

On September 09, 2015, Two Bangladeshi cattle traders were shot by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) on Chapsar border in the district's Haripur Upazila. They are Mobarak Hossain, 32, son of Mohammad Belal of Magura village, and Moinul Haque, 30, son of Abdur Rafiq of BhaturiaMulkan village, of the same Upazila. Moinul's family said the BSF members of Moheshgaon camp opened fire on Mobarak and Moinul when they were entering India through the border to bring cattle.<sup>195</sup>

On September 18, 2015, a man was killed and four others were injured as the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) opened fire on some inhabitants of a Bangladeshi village along a border in Joypurhat Sadar Upazila. The dead is Mohammad Sayem, 35, son of Abdul Barik of Dugor village. The wounded are Porimal Mardi, 30, Faruk Hossain, 28, Abu Zafar Bidyut, 20, and Nirmal Chandra, 35, of the same village. The injured were taken to Joypurhat Modern Hospital.<sup>196</sup>

On October 08, 2015 The Indian Border Security Force (BSF) shot to dead a Bangladeshi

on Fatehpur border in the district's Shibganj Upazila. The dead, Anwar Hossain, 25, is the son of Sentu Mia of the Upazila's Gaipara village. The BSF members of Thakurbari camp of Malda in West Bengal opened fire on Anwar around 10:00pm, killing him on the spot, said Maj Nazmul Alam, acting commanding officer of 9 BGB Battalion in Chapainawabganj.<sup>197</sup>

On October 27, 2015, Indian Border Security Force (BSF) beat a Bangladeshi cattle trader to death on Putkhali border in Jessore's Benapole. The dead, Monirul Islam, 32, was of Balunda village in Benapole. Around 5:00am, the BSF men of Angrail camp picked up Monirul when some Bangladeshi cattle traders along with cattle were returning home from the border. The BSF members then tortured Monirul to death and left the body on the Isamoti river bank, said the BGB official.<sup>198</sup>

A Bangladeshi national was shot to death by members of Indian Border Security Force at Gotamari border point of Hatibandha in Lalmonirhat on November 26, 2015. The deceased was identified as Amulla Chandra Barman (38), son of Mohesh Chandra Roy. The victim was a cattle trader by profession. Border Guard Bangladesh sources said a group of Bangladeshi cattle traders were trying to intrude into the Indian territory through the border point in order to bring cattle. Sensing their attempt, a patrol team of BSF from 21 Bara Maricha camp fired gunshots at the Bangladeshi cattle traders, leaving Amulla dead on the spot.<sup>199</sup>

On December 02, 2015 the bullet-hit body of a youth was found at zero line near Lalakhal in Jaintapur Upazila of Sylhet district. The deceased is Jamir Miah, 22, son of Farid Miah of Horni village in the Upazila. Locals said Jamir went to the border area for grazing his cattle. When he entered the Indian Territory, people of Indian Khasi community fired gunshots at Jamir, leaving him dead on the spot, they said. Contacted, BGB-41 Battalion Commander Lt Col Shah Alam Chowdhury said he heard about the death.<sup>200</sup>

On December 10, 2015, A Bangladeshi national was tortured to death by members of Indian Border Security Force in Jahurpur border area in Chapainawabganj. The deceased was identified as Abdur Rahman Sentu, 33, son of Shish Mohammad, a resident of Binpara village in Narayanpur union Parishad of the Upazila.<sup>201</sup>

177 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzY2NjI=&s=OQ>

178 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=ODAwNzE=&s=Mw>

179 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/556162>

180 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/cattle-trader-shot-bsf-100918>

181 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/cattle-trader-found-dead-near-satkhira-border-108493>

182 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/bangladeshi-killed-bsf-shooting-110275>

183 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=ODM1MTY=&s=OQ>

184 <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/44210#sthash.gfR5K5mg.dpuf>

185 <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/47426#sthash.BUwHM0L1.dpuf>

186 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/bsf-tortures-bangladeshi-132595>

187 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/627172>

188 <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/bsf-kills-one-injures-four-145495>

189 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/bangladeshi-shot-dead-bsf-154219>

190 <http://newagebd.net/170319/bsf-men-torture-bangladeshi-youth-to-death/#sthash.71e4NDOf.dpuf>

191 <http://newagebd.net/179299/bsf-shot-dead-bangladeshi-in-lalmonirhat/#sthash.djByoNgP.dpuf>

192 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=MTA0MjI5&s=MTA>

193 <http://newagebd.net/183544/bd-national-tortured-to-death-by-bsf-at-jahurpur-border/#sthash.6QSV2sXa.dpuf>

194 <http://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2015/jan/26/7>

195 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/robber-killed-mob-beating-72460>

196 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/mob-beats-man-death-after-he-kills-two-78414>

197 <http://newagebd.net/121195/3-robbers-killed-in-keraniganj-mob-beating>

198 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/mob-kills-2-muggers-jessore-87448>

199 <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzkyNTc=&s=OQ>

200 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/three-suspected-robbers-killed-mob-beating-103186>

201 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/mob-beats-3-robbers-death-112273>



# PUBLIC LYNCHING

Lynching is an extrajudicial punishment by an informal group. It is most often used to characterize informal public executions by a mob, often by hanging, in order to punish an alleged transgressor, or to intimidate a minority group. It is an extreme form of informal group social control. In Bangladesh due to lack of respect for law, distrust of the police and instability in the country people are taking the law into their own hands, fearing that they will not get justice any other way. As the result, the incidence of public lynching became a banal matter. HRSC believes that everyone has right to be considered as innocent until proven guilty by the court.

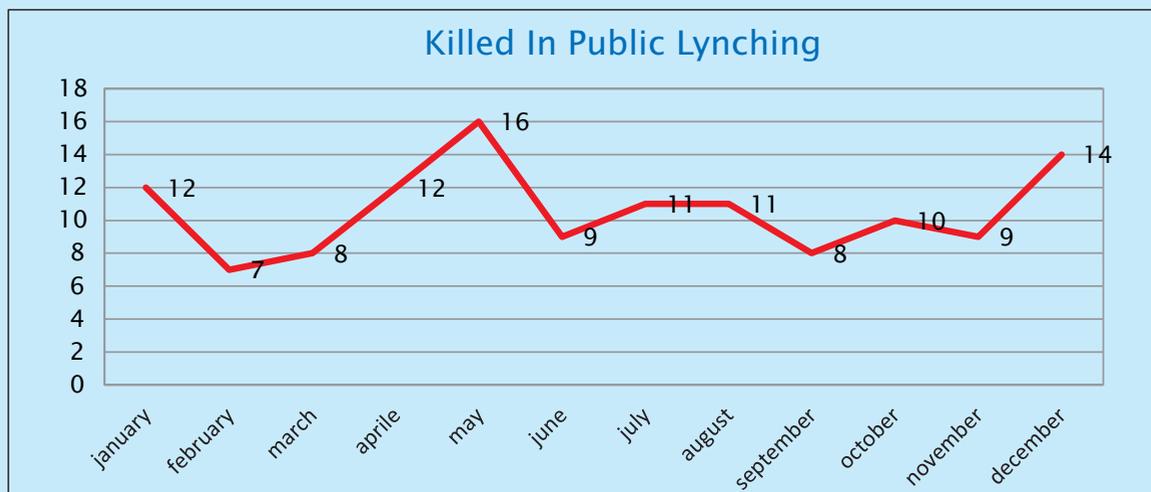


Figure 23: Killed in Public Lynching 2015

The given line graph figures out the month wise incidence of public lynching in the year 2015. According to human rights support center (HRSC) information, an estimated 127 people were shown to kill and in a total of 89 incidents of the public lynching. Among the months, the numbers of killed people by public lynching was recorded in April and an average 11 people were alleged to kill in every month in 2015.

*Some important cases are given below:*

On January 26, 2015, seven suspected robbers have been beaten to death by a mob during the act at Bhatapara village under the SadarUpazila. Identities of the deceased could not be ascertained. Panchdona union Parishad Chairman Mizanur Rahman confirmed the Dhaka Tribune about the death. He said: "A gang of 24 robbers swooped into the house of one Ali Akbar, a local transport businessman, in Takshal area around 1:30am. Hearing Akbar's scream locals went to the spot and started chasing the robbers".<sup>202</sup>

On March 18, 2015, an alleged robber was killed in a mob beating in Kashimpur area of Gazipur city. Police said when a gang of 10 to 15 robbers went to rob a house, the residents started screaming. Following their cry for help locals caught Ashraf Ali, 35, of Patuakhali following a chase and beat him up. Police rushed him to Gazipur Shahid Taz Uddin Ahmed Medical College Hospital where he died.<sup>203</sup>

On April 24, a youth was beaten to death after he hacked his parents-in-law to death following an altercation over divorce in Rampur union of Chandpur Sadar Upazila. Police and locals said Sumon Sheikh, 30, killed his father-in-law Iqbal Hossain, 48, a farmer, and mother-in-law Mamtaj Begum, 43 in the early hours. He also attacked his wife Sharmin Akter, leaving her critically injured. Locals caught Sumon from a paddy field in the afternoon and beat him to death on the spot.<sup>204</sup>

On May 19, 2015, suspected robbers were killed by lynched at Hazratpur area and Kalatia-Hemayetpur regional highway in Keraniganj. In Hazratpur area at Keraniganj-Hemayetpur road in Keraniganj two suspected robbers were killed and two others injured in a mob beating. Witnesses said a group of 5/6 armed robbers halted a truck on Keraniganj-Hemayetpur road around 10:30pm in a bid to loot cash and valuables from its driver and helper. Hearing the screams of the victims, locals rushed to the spot and caught four of the robbers red-handed and gave them a severe thrashing that killed two robbers on the spot and injured two others.<sup>205</sup>

On May 25, 2015, two alleged muggers were beaten to death by a mob at Hudarajapur on the Jessore-Magura road in Sadar Upazila of Jessore. The deceased were Ismail Hossain, 22, son of Billal Uddin, a resident of Taraf Nawapara, and Al Amin, 23, son of Abdul Aziz, a resident of Arpara of the Upazila. Ismail was a student at Jessore Polytechnic Institute.<sup>206</sup>

On June 12, 2015, two alleged robbers were beaten to death by a mob during a robbery in Singra of Natore. Deceased are Momin Hossain, 21, and Shihab Uddin, 20. Around nine robbers, including the two, riding motorbikes halted paddy trader Enamul who was returning home by his motorcycle after withdrawing Tk 10 lakh from a bank in Teghoir. After looting the money, the gang tried to flee but the mob caught them red-handed in Bingham and beat them up.<sup>207</sup>

On June 25, 2015, three alleged robbers were beaten dead by a mob at Koijuri in Faridpur Sadar Upazila. The identities of the dead could not be known. The alleged robbers were caught by locals during an "attempted heist" in Badarpur village around 11:45 pm. Three were beaten dead on the spot. Others fled. Later, police recovered the bodies and sent Faridpur Medical College Hospital for post-mortem, said Masud-al-Rana, a sub-inspector of Kotwali Police Station.<sup>208</sup>

On 14 July 2015, three alleged robbers were beaten to death by a mob at Hizla Upazila in Barisal. The dead were Miraz Molla and Harun Bepari of Khunna-Govindapur village and Hanif Sardar of Bausia village in the same Upazila. The witness said locals caught the three robbers while 10 to 12 robbers were preparing to commit a robbery at Baherchar village in the Upazila. The villagers then gave them a thrashing, leaving the three dead on the spot. Police recovered the bodies and five sharp weapons from near a betel leaf garden in the morning.<sup>209</sup>

On 22 July 2015, a youth named Shamsuddoha (16) was beaten to death at Rupsa Strand Road in Khulna. Khulna Metropolitan Police (KMP) spokesperson Moniruzzaman said a gang might have entered the house of one Ibrahim at dead of night for stealing. A mob hit Shamsuddoha with hammer suspecting him as a thief. Seriously injured boy was taken to Khulna Medical College Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.<sup>210</sup>

On August 05, 2015, Safiz Uddin was killed in mob beating on suspecting as the robber in the Kapasia area of Gazipur district. Police recovered his dead body after getting news. Safiz Uddin was hailed from Pagla Thana of Mymensingh district. Ahsan Ullah, Officer in Charge of Kapasia Thana said: "A group of robbers were planning for the robbery of the house of Makbul Ahmed at Namila area of Singhasri Union". After hearing the sound of people they tried to flee but caught by mob and Safiz was beaten to death.<sup>211</sup>





On August 26, 2015, Sakil was beaten to death in a public lynching on suspecting as a thief at Badolgachi area of Nagaon district. Sakil is the son of Mozahar Ali from Mitapukut Union of Khatail village. Rafiqul Islam, an officer in Charge of Badolgachi Thana said, Sakil get into the house of Khusab of kesail area in order to steal. While a family member of the house scream then mass people caught him and Sakil was beaten to death.<sup>212</sup>

On September 10, 2015, a mob beat a man to death suspecting him to be a cattle-lifter in Baniarchala village of Gazipur Sadar. The deceased Eusuf, 45, died on the spot, said police. Locals caught him after chasing a gang of cattle-lifters who had tried to break into a villager's cow shed. Police recovered the body and sent it to Gazipur Shaheed Tajuddin Ahmed Medical College Hospital.<sup>213</sup>

On September 14, 2015, two suspected forest robbers were killed in a lynch-mob attack following an internal feud at Sora village in Shyamnagar Upazila. The deceased were identified as M Obaidullah, 27, son of M Yeakub Ali, and M Hazrat Ali, 28, son of Yunus Ali of Parshemari village in the Upazila.<sup>214</sup>

A suspected robber died in mob beating during taking preparation to commit robbery at Gobindapur village under Sadar Upazila of Noakhali on 02<sup>th</sup> October. The deceased was identified as Nuruddin, alias Nura Chora (25), son of Seraj Mian of Madanpur village under Charshahi union of the Upazila. The witness said that locals chased a gang of robbers when they were preparing to commit robbery in the area at dead of night.<sup>215</sup>

An alleged robber was killed in a mob beating at Bankuri village of Singra Upazila in Nator on 14<sup>th</sup> October. The deceased was identified as Razzak. The witness said that a gang stormed the house of Saheb Ali at the village at around 1:00am and looted valuables belongings on the face of arms.<sup>216</sup>

On November 13, 2015, four alleged robbers were killed in a mob beating in Faridpur Sadar Upazila. The incident happened around 4:30am after a gang looted five houses at Char Madhabdia union in the Upazila. Tuhin Mandal, chairman of Madhabdia union, said a gang of robbers looted five houses at Chowdhuryganga village under the union during. Hearing screams of the family members, villagers rushed to the spot and chased the bandits.<sup>217</sup>

On November 23, 2015, A robber was beaten to death by locals at Monniarchar Adarsha Gram under Belgachha union in Islampur Upazila of the district. The deceased, identified as Khoka Miah, 35, son of late Monahar Ali of Madhya Barul village under the union, is an accused in 10 cases, including six for robbery, filed with Islampur Police Station and with two other police stations in Gaibandha district. Deen-e-Alam, officer-in-charge of Islampur Police Station, said.<sup>218</sup>

On November 21, 2015 a suspected thief was beaten to death at north Ramjanpur village of Kalkini Upazila in the district. The deceased was identified as Bachchu Bepari, 45, son of Moslem Bepari of the village. Villagers and police sources said, while Bachchu was trying to steal a locally made vehicle of one Paritosh, his family members started screaming sensing his presence. Villagers rushed to the spot and beaten Bachchu to death.<sup>219</sup>

On December 11, 2015, seven suspected robbers were beaten to death by a mob in the Araihasar area of Narayanganj. Five other people were critically injured by the mob and have been admitted to hospital. Assistant Superintendent of Narayanganj Police, Zahirul Islam, has confirmed the mob killing. Local people say that they found a gang of 25 robbers trying to break into a rice warehouse in the area. Local people surrounded the suspected robbers and beat them up. Seven of the suspected robbers died on the spot.<sup>220</sup>

On December 21, 2015, an alleged robber was killed in a mob beating at Ashrafpur village in Sadar Upazila of Meherpur district. The deceased was identified as Ezarul Islam, 41, of Bhabanandapur in the Upazila. Ahsan Habib, officer-in-charge of Meherpur Sadar Police Station, said a gang of 14/15 stormed into the house of one Mintu Sheikh, a KSA expatriate and held the family members hostage at gunpoint. Hearing screams, the villagers rushed to the spot and caught Ezarul after a chase. However, the angry mob then gave Ezarul a good beating, leaving him dead on the spot.<sup>221</sup>

202 <http://www.daily-sun.com/post/60402/Youth-beaten-dead-in-Khulna>

203 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/595624/>

204 <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2015/08/27/33496.html>

205 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/cattle-thief-killed-mob-beating-141286>

206 <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/54550#sthash.MP1gydoq.dpuf>

207 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/robber-killed-mob-beating-151534>

208 <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/robber-beaten-death-157090>

209 <http://www.samakal.net/2015/11/14/173435>

210 <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/691492>

211 <http://www.dhakatimes24.com/2015/11/22/91813>

212 <http://www.theindependentbd.com/post/26208>

213 <http://newagebd.net/186522/robber-beaten-to-death-in-meherpur/#sthash.Q3d8v13h.dpuf>

214 <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/bnp-leader-shot-during-campaign-79370>

215 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/al-men-threaten-voters-not-cast-votes-bus-symbol-video-79593>

216 <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/journalists-come-under-attack-79659>

217 <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/scenes-rigging-79664>

218 <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/26-outsiders-held-du-dorm-eve-polls-79657>



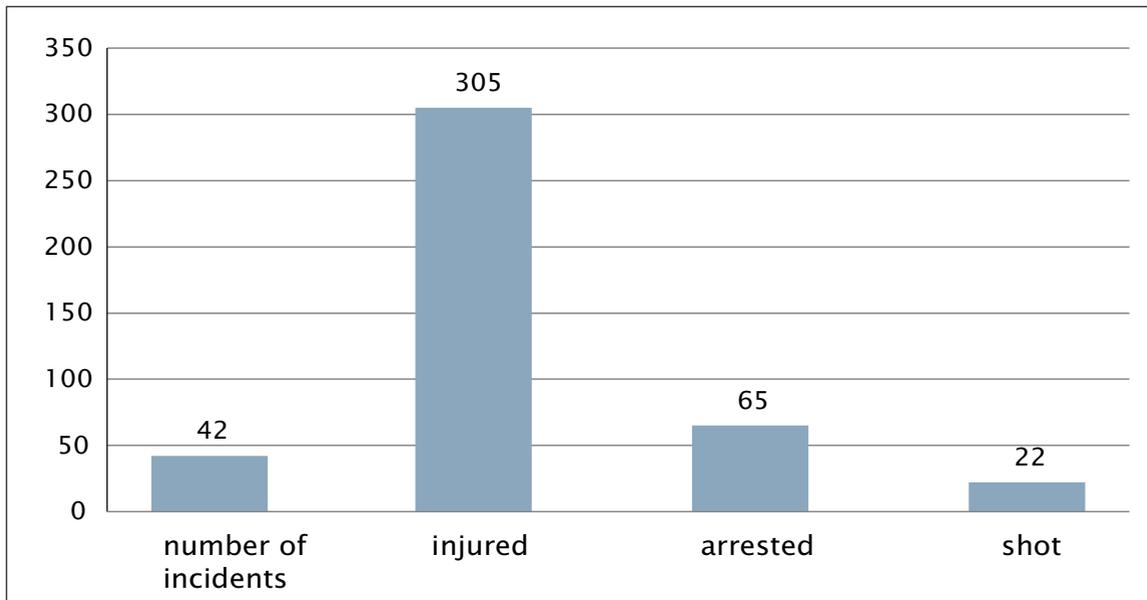


# ELECTION VIOLENCE AND VOTE RIGGING

**T**he election is the foundation of modern democracy. It is the most common and acceptable way of changing power from one person to another as well as one party to another party in the democratic country. In 5th January 2014, the contemporary government arranged an election which ultimately did not get acceptance both home and abroad.

Bangladesh is not different from the other country. Here the elections are arranged to elect the nominee to a role the country as people representative. As a part of it, the city corporation election was held in Dhaka and Chittagong City Corporation on 28th April 2015 and a municipal election was held in Bangladesh on 30th December 2015, both are important issues for the future of our democracy.

But regretfully, the civil society of Bangladesh, as well as the observers of foreign countries, identified these elections as a Partial election with intense interference from the government. It has well been reported that this election was greatly influenced by the activists, leaders, and workers as well as the representative of the ruling party. The civil society also predicted that this election loss the people's interest in the election in future which would also be the awful sign for democracy.



**Figure 24: Violence in city corporation election**

*The given bar diagram provides information about the turbulent figure of city corporation election in 2015. According to the source of Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC), a total of 305 people were seriously injured in city corporation election, 65 were arrested and 22 were shot to injure in this election.*

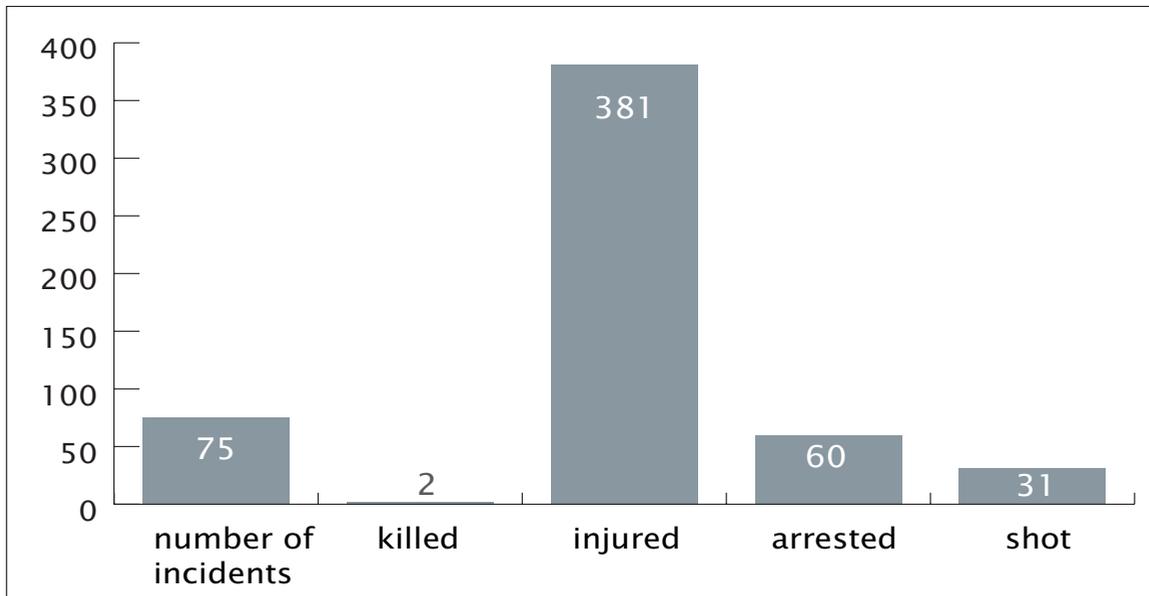
Some important cases are given below; On April 26, 2015, a ward-level BNP leader was shot in the leg while campaigning for his party-backed councillor candidate in the capital's Goran. Nazmul Huda Arzu, 40, vice-president of ward-2 BNP unit in Goran, along with 10 to 12 other party activists was campaigning in Goran Tempu Stand area around 5:00pm. Goran falls under Dhaka South City Corporation. All of a sudden, some five to six men came to the spot, shot him in the right leg and fled, he said while talking to journalists at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The BNP leader alleged that the attackers were local activists of the ruling party. He, however, did not name any of them. Sub-Inspector Iftekhar of Khilgaon Police Station confirmed the incident.<sup>222</sup>

On April 27, 2015, Ruling Party-Awami League supporters allegedly stormed into Uttar Kafrul Government Primary School and vandalised ballot boxes in Cantonment area under Dhaka North City Corporation. They also clashed with the law enforcers and threatened the voters not to vote for the bus symbol. Presiding officer Majhurul Islam was also beaten by the ruling party men. The voters and polling officers of the centre got panicked when they went into berserk in the centre.<sup>223</sup>

On April 28, 2015, Supporters of mayor candidate Nasir Uddin assaulted a photojournalist and broke his camera at Agrabad Talebia Govt Primary School during polling in Chittagong City Corporation elections. At least 10 journalists were assaulted by ruling party men during the city corporation elections. Some reporters were robbed of their mobile phones, handbags and cash. Polling officers, law enforcers and ruling party men allegedly prevented reporters, photographers and cameramen from entering polling centres, journalists and eyewitnesses said.<sup>224</sup>

On April 28, 2015, in protest against alleged ballot stuffing by supporters of a ruling party candidate, their rivals including BNP men vandalised this polling station at Kamalapur Sher-e-Bangla Railway School and College. The day started high on hopes for a fair election. But it was not long before the optimism was blatantly doused. Activists of the pro-ruling Chhatra league, by and large, occupied polling stations with police and other law enforcement agencies lending them a helping hand. To cover their tracks, they made sure the journalists' access to the scenes of wrongdoings is restricted. Take, for instance, the Dhaka College centre. At around 9:00am, about 100 activists of BCL stormed into the near-empty venue.<sup>225</sup>

On April 28, 2015, Law enforcers arrested 26 outsiders in Shaheed Sergeant Jahurul Haque Hall of Dhaka University. On information from DU Proctor AM Amzad, Shahbagh police and Rab personnel raided the dormitory around 12:30am and made the arrest. Many of them managed to flee. Amzad told The Daily Star that he heard that they all were activists of Moinuddin Babu, councillor candidate of ward no-21 of Dhaka South City Corporation. Moshir Rahman, officer-in-charge of Ramna Police Station, said the arrestees were in the custody.<sup>226</sup>



**Figure 25: Violence in Municipal Election**

*The given bar diagram provides information about the turbulent figure of the municipal election in 2015. According to data gathered by Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC), a total of 381 people were seriously injured in city corporation election, 60 were arrested and 31 were shot to injure in these election. It's a matter of regret that, 02 people were killed regarding the election-related issue.*

*The imperative cases are set to below: A BNP mayor candidate in Dinajpur's Birampur municipality was stabbed while he was returning home after campaigning on December 23, 2015. The victim, Azadul Islam Azad, suffered stab wounds to the head and the right hand and was rushed to Birampur Upazila Health Complex, said Amiruzzaman, officer-in-charge of Birampur Police Station. Locals said the incident took place in Islampur area*

around 11:30pm when Azad was on his way home on a rickshaw after the day's electioneering. Azad claimed that he had been receiving threats regularly from the ruling party men. The BNP blamed the ruling Awami League for the attack and demanded immediate arrest of the attackers. In a statement, BNP acting secretary general Mirza Fakhru Islam Alamgir said Azad was stabbed the same way as a Krishak Dal leader in Khagrachhari's Matiranga was chopped to death. However, Farukuzzaman Michael, organisational secretary of Dinajpur district AL, refuted the allegation.

On December 28, 2015, ten people, including Awami League mayoral candidate in Naohata municipality Abdul Bari Khan, were injured in a crude bomb attack on his campaign in Puthiapara area of Poba Upazila. Witnesses said miscreants threw two crude bombs while Bari along with his followers was conducting electioneering near Ansar camp in the area around 7:00pm. One of the bombs went off with a big bang, leaving 10 of the campaigners, including Bari, injured. The injured also include acting mayor of Naohata Shafiqul Islam, PobaUpazila Krishak League president Mansur Rahman, general secretary Wazed Ali and Upazila Jubo League president Emdadul Haque, said officer-in-charge of Poba Police Station Shariful Islam.

On December 30, 2015, From left, stamping ballots openly continues at a polling centre at Tarabo Ruposhi New Model School and College in Narayanganj; at a primary school in Manikganj; at Panthisila High School under Sitakundu in Chittagong; a man carries firearm at PTI centre in Munshiganj and a ballot box lies damaged after a clash at Pandura of Kuakata in Patuakhali during municipal polls.

The capturing of polling stations, widespread ballot stuffing, snatching of ballot papers and intimidation of rivals by ruling Awami League activists marked the first-ever partisan elections to 234 municipalities when a man was killed and 150 were wounded in the violence. Reports from different municipalities said that supporters of AL candidates and those of Bangladesh Nationalist Party or rebel AL candidates clashed throughout the day as local administrations in most cases reportedly showed indifference to violence and irregularities. Voting at 38 polling centres of 18 municipalities was postponed because of violence and fraudulence in casting votes, official's said. The Election Commission postponed entire elections to Madhabdi municipality in Narsingdi on an allegation of irregularities. Until evening, neither commission officials nor the local administrations could give any estimate of turnout of voters although the polling ended at 4:00pm.

At least 33 mayoral candidates including 18 of BNP boycotted the polls halfway through alleging widespread irregularities, including stuffing ballots and driving out their polling agents by AL activists. Law enforcers at places had to fire bullets to control the situation, but most of the places members of law enforcement agencies were found indifferent to the capturing of polling stations.

AL activists captured many polling stations at around 70 municipalities as the polling began at 8:00am without the presence of polling agents of the BNP candidates in many municipalities. Violence, ballot stuffing, intimidation and driving out of polling agents of opposition candidates were reported from many areas including Satkania, Mirsarai, Sitakunda, Rajan and Chandanaish in Chittagong, Barura in Comilla, Kalkini in Madaripur, Islampur, Jamalpur Sadar and Sarishabari in Jamalpur, Narsingdi Sadar and Madhabdi in Narsingdi, Gaibandha, Bhaluka and Gafargaon in Mymensingh, Haziganj and Faridganj in Chandpur, Syedpur in Nilphamari, Ulipur in Kurigram, Chaumuhani in Noakhali, Nagarkanda in Faridpur, Bajitpur in Kishoreganj, Sujanagar and Irshwardi in



Pabna, Akhaura in Brahmanbaria, Barguna, Kolkata in Patuakhali, Ramganj in Lakshmipur, Swarupkati in Pirojpur, Moulvibazar, Bhuapur, Gopalpur and Madhupur in Tangail, Sailakupa in Jhenaidah.

Terming the municipal polls farcical and staged-managed, BNP demanded re-polling at about 1,500 centres at 157 municipalities on allegations of the capturing of polling stations, ballot stuffing and other anomalies. At a post-polls press conference at BNP chairperson's Gulshan office, acting BNP secretary general Mirza Fakhru'l Islam Alamgir made the demand. AL joint general secretary Mahbubul Alam Hanif said that BNP's allegations of 'irregularities' were 'imaginary' and an effort to make the election 'questionable and controversial'. 'Foiling all conspiracies, people, voters and candidates jointly tried to make the polls peaceful and it was peaceful,' he said.

Jatiya Party senior joint secretary general Rezaul Islam Bhuiyan alleged that AL polling agents drove out Jatiya Party polling agents from 174 polling centres of 24 municipalities. Voting at 38 polling centres of 18 municipalities including Barura and Laksam in Comilla, Chandanaish in Chittagong, Kalkini in Madaripur, Jamalpur and Sarishabari in Jamalpur, Madhabdi in Narsingdi, Gaibandha, Bhaluka in Mymensingh and Hajiganj and Faridganj in Chandpur, Syedpur in Nilphamari, Ulipur in Kurigram, and Chaumahani in Noakhali were postponed on allegation of rigging, capturing of polling stations and ballot stuffing.

In Chittagong, Nurul Amin, 50, of Doajirpara of Satkania was shot dead in a clash between the supporters of two councillor candidates, both of whom belonged to AL, at a polling station at Satkania. Satkania police station officer-in-charge Mahmudul Hai said that the incident took place at Goyajar Para area near the Satkania Government College polling centre at about 11:00am. He said that the supporters of councillor candidates

Mojammel Haq Bhola and Monirul Islam Halim clashed and traded fire leaving Nurul Amin, a passer-by, critically injured. Nurul was rushed to a nearby clinic where physicians declared him dead. At one stage, the activists attacked the people present at the polling station, leaving 25, including polling officer and voters, injured, witnesses said. Later, members of joint force fired blank shots to resist the attackers. The incident prompted the authorities to suspend polling at the centre.

The commission suspended five policemen in-charge of separate polling centres at Chandnaish in Chittagong and Kalkini in Madaripur for the negligence of duty as their polling centres were captured in the morning. Many voters said that they experienced the repetition of capturing polling stations, stuffing ballot boxes and intimidating voters and polling staff through violence as Awami League did in the recent elections to three city corporations in Dhaka and Chittagong and in the general elections held on January 4, 2014. Some polling officers, mostly teachers, expressed helplessness as they were forced to assist in stuffing ballot boxes by the ruling party men at different polling stations.

In Bogra, AL activists beat Ideal Government Primary School centre assistant presiding officer SM Selim Mia for protesting at ballot stuffing. The AL men led by district Juba League general secretary Sagor Kumar Roy snatched ballot papers and stuffed ballot boxes, witnesses said. In Jessore, about 75 percent ballot papers at 19 polling stations under of Jessore municipality were stamped before the beginning of the polling. The commission seized the ballot boxes from Jessore Government MM College polling station as polling was completed there before 8:00am, said returning officer Sabina Yeasmin. At Matlab in Chadpur, AL activists took away five ballot boxes from Munshirhat High School centre at about 11:00am. They ransacked three of the ballot boxes on the school ground, witnesses said.

At Rangunia, a councillor candidate of Mazumderkhil area was jailed as he was caught red-handed while snatching ballot box from a polling centre at Mazumderkhil High School centre, said returning officer Mohammad Saiful Islam Mazumder. Crude bomb blasts and clashes between supporters of AL and rebel AL candidates injured four at Sonargaon in Narayanganj, 10 in Mankiganj municipality, 20 at Dewanganj in Jamalpur, five at Chaumuhani in Noakhali, and six in Munshiganj. In Tangail, four people were injured in AL intra-party clash at Bhuapur and seven were injured in clashes between AL and BNP at Ghatail.

In Jhenaidah, AL activists tried to occupy the voting booths at two polling centres and stamped 204 ballot papers forcibly. The ballot papers in three ballot books were cancelled by the executive magistrate at about 8.40am. Dudshara polling station presiding officer Sheikh Sazzad Hossain said that some outsiders entered the centre at 8:40am and forcibly stamped ballots for AL mayoral candidate.

In Narisingdi, AL activists blasted 10-12 crude bombs at three polling centres Algi Manoharpur Government Primary School, Wisdom Preparatory School and Bhuiya Kindergarten at Madhabdi municipality. Soon after the blasts, most of the voters in queue left the polling station without casting their vote. Several hundred ballot papers were found on the roads adjacent to the three polling stations, witness's said. Major clashes between supporters of AL candidates and their rebel candidates were reported from Barguna, Munshiganj, Jamalpur, and Sonargaon in Narayanganj, Narail, Manikganj, Noakhali and Comilla. ■

# At a glance Human Right Situation of Bangladesh 2015

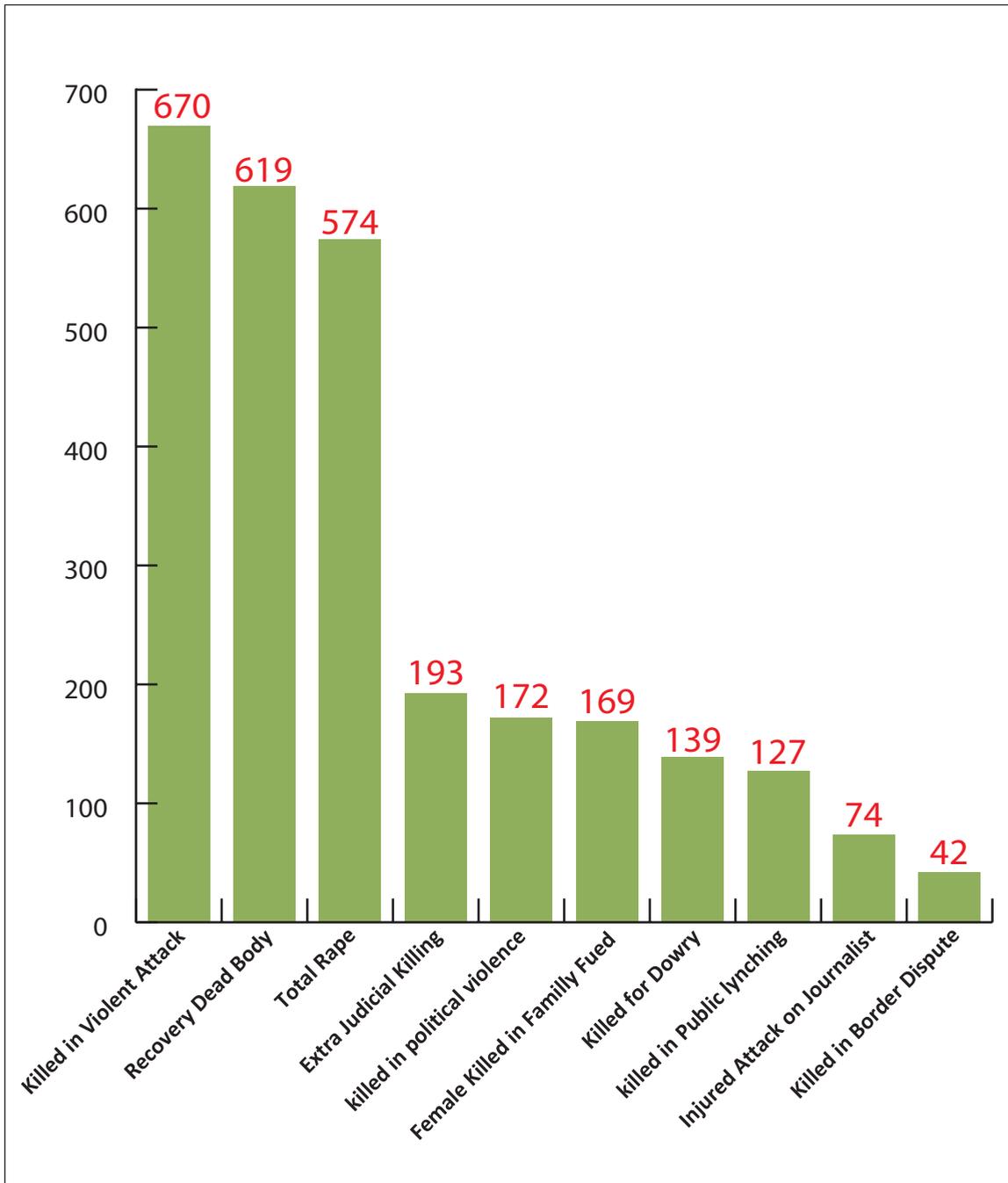


Figure 26 : At a glance Human Right Situation of Bangladesh 2015

# CONCLUSION

"To deny people their human rights is to challenge their very humanity" -Nelson Mandela

This statement is exactly fit for the present situation of Bangladesh. From the above-mentioned statistics and description, it can be said that mass people are being deprived of their universal human rights and constitutional rights especially the dissenter are now leading very inhuman lives. Moreover, police, RAB and other security forces have been proven to fail to perform their professional duties to secure the citizens lives and liberties due to using them self for the vested interest of ruling parties. Even in some cases, the member of law enforcing agency are proven to involve in extrajudicial killing, enforced is appearance, snatching, smuggling and bribery. On the other hand in the absence of vibrant opposition, functional parliament, stable political situation, an independent judiciary and participatory decision-making process, the overall situation is being deteriorated day by day. The rapid increment of rape and sexual harassment of women, extra-judicial killing, enforced disappearance, attack on minorities, border killing, political violence, massive corruption and discrimination making the situation more critical.

In these circumstances Human Rights Support Center (HRSC) urges to the incumbent government to take the necessary measures to improve the situation and ensure the fundamental rights and basic human rights of all citizens. At the same time, we appeal to every conscious citizen, journalist, civil society, political leaders, national and international organizations and UN agencies to keep effective role to protect human rights violation and improve the prevailing appalling situation of Bangladesh. ■

# RECOMMENDATION

**T**he current human rights situation in Bangladesh is highly alarming. Therefore, the government along with the respective authority should receive this situation into consideration by taking appropriate measure to improve the situation and to meet demands of human rights related treaties. To improve the situation HRSC recommend the following highly effective procedures

- The Government needs to form a special independent agency or judiciary investigation team to inquiry the every incident of extra-judicial killing, enforce disappearance and abduction. After an investigation, real culprits should be given the exemplary punishment.
- The government should take the necessary steps to find out the victims of disappearance and handed back them to their families. HRSC urges the government to abide by properly the agreements of international convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance, adopted by the UN on December 20, 2006.
- Proper initiative to protect the security of women, children and minority people should be ensured and equity must be ensured every sphere of social, economic and political life.
- Independence of judiciary and exhilaration of judicial process should be ensured immediately so that the perpetrator must be punished regardless the member of LEA, government party or even the person involve in judgment. Compensation should be provided for the victim's families and proper security of their normal lives should be ensured.
- The fair practice of democratic system is the prerequisite to ensure the human rights. Hence, the government should initiate the cordial dialogue with all major political parties to resolve the deadlock regarding the election procedure and find out the proper way ensure the stable political situation and democratic system.
- The government should be flexible in the matter of freedom of expression. All types of print and electronic media should be enjoyed fearless opportunity from the government to express their news even against government.
- The government should take immediately all necessary steps to stop violence against women especially in the case of rape, gang rape, and child rape issues. Criminal of such incidents must be fetched before the law.
- Arbitrary arrests of persons with opposite ideology must be stopped. The Government should immediately retract the repressive special powers act of 1974 and the Information and Communication Technology Act 2006 (Amended 2013).
- The Government must ensure the accountability and transparency among all the members of law enforcement agencies and should take effective measures to end impunity.
- Meetings and assemblies should not be obstructed. The government should abstain from attacking peaceful programs and carrying out repressive unconstitutional activities.
- The Government should respect all national and international human rights rules, regulations and treaties to protect human rights. They should follow the instruction of United Nation Human Rights Mechanism System which is working for human rights. ■

## ANNEXURE : 01 (ANNUAL STATISTICS)

Statistics January – December 2015														
Type of Human Rights Violation		January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November	December	Total
Extra-judicial Killing	Crossfire	12	30	9	10	13	7	6	19	8	9	9	14	146
	Shot to death	5	5	2	1		2		2	6	1		1	25
	Torture to death	1	3	1	2	3	1		1		2			14
	Custodial death								3	1	1	3		8
	Total	18	38	12	13	16	10	6	25	15	13	12	15	193
Abduction		43	28	31	38	28	25	31	48	21	12	14	21	340
Enforced Disappearance		13	9	9	4	2	2	1	3	0	3	2	2	50
Attack on Minority		27	22	19	10	17	6	12	14	9	13	8	15	172
Border Disputes	Killed	1	5	1	8	3	3	5	3	3	3	3	4	42
	Injured	11	7	5	3	3	3	4	1	6	8	5	1	57
	Arrested	5	6	4	1	1	6				31		8	62
Attack on Journalists	Killed							1					1	2
	Injured	6	3	16	13	6	3	5	7	2	1	7	5	74
	Threatened	1	1		3	8	7	1		2	2	2		27
	Arrested	2		1	1	2		1		1			2	10
Political Violence	Killed	50	40	32	7	5	8	5	10	2	1	6	6	172
	Injured	2158	742	585	273	254	373	286	230	277	260	520	558	6516
Election Violence	Killed					0							2	2
	Injured					305							381	686
Violence Against Women	Sexual Harassment	14	12	19	21	10	24	14	15	12	10	23	15	189
	Rape	43	32	35	32	68	45	45	75	82	42	40	35	574
	Killed for Dowry	13	9	8	14	12	10	10	12	16	11	15	9	139
	Killed for Family Feud	12	17	13	0	16	16	16	14	20	18	11	16	169
	Acid Violence	5	7	3	3	5	1	2	4	1	8	2	1	42
	Suicide	10	6	9		15	7	21	9	8	13	18	17	133
Violent Attack	Killed	70	65	35	52	65	65	54	48	69	46	59	42	670
	Injured	38	60	20	41	80	47	28	26	24	42	79	59	544
Public Lynching		12	7	8	12	16	9	11	11	8	10	9	14	127
Recovery Dead Body		56	39	53	48	46	53	71	73	52	41	40	47	619

[www.hrscbd.org](http://www.hrscbd.org)

# ANNEXURE : 02 PAPER CUTTING





Activists of the 20-party combine run for cover during a clash with police at the venue of a 'Democracy Killing Day' rally on Nur Ahmed Road in Chittagong.



General People Burnt in Petrol bomb attack in Gazipur



Chouddagram arson victims being treated at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital.



Pickets torch the motorbike of a journalist at Khandar intersection of Bogra on January 4, 2015.



Chouddagram arson victims being treated at Dhaka Medical College and Hospital.



An activist calls for regrouping BNP men dispersed during a clash with law enforcers on Nur Ahmed Road near BNP's Chittagong city office at Nasiman Bhaban.



The documents, books, and furniture lie charred in the office room of Dakkhin-Purbo Jolagati Government Primary School at Jolagati village in Kaukhali upazila under Pirojpur district as criminals torched the schoolhouse.



Smoke rises out of a truck laden with boxes of biscuit packets after it was petrol-bombed in Amtoli area on the Dhaka-Dinajpur highway .



A college teacher severely tortured by police in Sharankhola



Shohidul Islam, a shibir activist shot to death by police in Sirajganj on 13th April 2015.



Journalists were severely injured due to attack of ruling parties' activists for collecting news of city corporation election



Chattra League activist seriously injured due to hacked by Jubo League leader in Parshuram



Tendon of two legs of Abdur Razzak, an arrested businessman, has been cut by police custody of Dakope upazila in Khulna district.



Five injured in BCL brawl over Barisal PWD tender



Houses of three Hindu families at Nadpara village in Shailakupaupazila under Jhenidah district lie abandoned as they left the area following threat from extortionists



Women harassed in Boishakh celebration at TSC area of Dhaka University



Journalists come under attack while covering city polls in Bangladesh



Masud Rana, President of Bagra City Jubodal and Councilor of 15 No Ward was shot in legs after arresting by police.



Relatives mourn for Nasima Akther, 40, and her daughter Ria Akther, inset, who were found murdered at their rented house in Sadarghat of Chittagong city.



Journalists were attacked by Executive Engineer of Public Works Department to collect information in Norail.



Biplob Kumer was shot by Myanmar's Border Guard Police (BGP) due to open fired on the patrol party Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB)



Two groups of BCL clash stormily on the issue of tender in Barisal



Mafia Begum (55) was seriously injured due to firing by police in her house of Paracanga village of Mahicail Union.



Two groups of BCL clash over celebration of Bengali New Year in Sylhet MC College.