



Monthly Human Rights Observation Report on Bangladesh

January, 2017

**HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT SOCIETY
(HRSS)**

www.hrscbd.org

Executive Summary

Human Right Support Society is working to ensure all sorts of human rights for people through building awareness as well as monitoring and publishing human rights situation in Bangladesh. It is also providing legal aid to the poor and victims, helping deprived people and conducting advocacy with the government and other concerned authorities from home and abroad. HRSS encourages the inclusion of common people in various human rights activities. That's why; HRSS regularly publishes monthly, quarterly, half-yearly and yearly human rights observation report.

As part of these activities, Human Right Support Society has published monthly human rights observation report in January 2017 based on data collected from the dailies and fact-finding reports from its regional representatives throughout the country and twelve prominent national newspapers of Bangladesh. It is highly observed that the violation of human rights continues almost with the same flow as last month. From this report, it is evident that extra-judicial killing, domestic violence, abduction, arbitrary arrest, election violence and vote rigging have increased tremendously. Moreover, the number of rape, gang-rape, and child-rape has also increased surprisingly.

According to the sources of HRSS, at least 18 persons were killed extra-judicially in January 2017. Out of them, 14 people were killed in the name of 'crossfire/gunfights', 02 were shot to death and 02 torture to death. The deaths occurred during raids, arrests as well as during the operations conducted by the law-enforcement agencies (LEAs). As usual, the government regretfully describes these deaths as "crossfire/gunfights/encounter killings" and so on.

Moreover, the HRSS report finds that in January 2017, a total of 51 females were raped. Among of them, 43 were an adult, whereas alarmingly 18 were children under 16. It's a rising concern in the incidence of raping crime that among victims at least 08 of them have been gang-raped. Among of the victims, almost 02 were brutally killed after being raped. About 31 women were killed in the family feud and 04 females were injured. Approximately, 22 incidents of dowry-related violence were reported, about 13 were killed and 09 women were physically abused over dowry demands. A total of 22 girls and women were reportedly victims of sexual harassment. Among of them, 16 were assaulted and 05 were stalked. Around 02 females became victims of acid violence in January 2017.

It has also been reported that a total of 10 people were abducted in different areas of the country, among of them approximately 04 were male, 04 female, 02 children, and 03 were killed after the abduction. Moreover, at least 05 people were killed in political violence whereas around 04 people were killed through lynching. HRSS also tracked the "attacks on minority", as documented by HRSS in January 2017, at least 03 temples were attacked, and 01 minority members were killed in a total of 02 incidents.

It is alarming that a total of 17 violent incidents were against children, 09 victims lost their life and 09 were critically injured. On the violent attacks on unarmed civilians, a total of 68 incidents have been happened, where 51 were killed and 71 seriously were injured, and roughly 09 persons were hit a bullet.

On the other hand, due to the silence of the Government combined with its loose foreign policy with India and Myanmar, unexpected occurrences increased in the border area of the country. Bangladeshi citizens became the victims of suspected killings, torture, and other forms of inhumane treatments. It has been reported that roughly 02 injured and almost 08 arrested and almost 08 killed by BSF, Such human rights violation has not even been reported to the respective high commission in some cases. As a result, such events have been increasing day by day.

Human Rights Support Society, do think that state authority should be more responsive in protecting the life and property of the general people and thereby fulfill their constitutional commitment. It also requests to every conscious citizen to be more vocal against these sorts of dreadful human rights situations in the country. To fight against all kinds of repressive situation, HRSS is publishing their reports online or offline and trying to generate people's power for the restoration of democracy, bringing back voting rights of the people, establishing rule of law and human rights.

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Extra Judicial Killing

Extrajudicial killing is an arbitrary or unlawful deprivation of life and simply murder. This is the killing of a person by governmental authorities without the sanction of any judicial proceeding or legal process.¹Bangladesh has earned notoriety in carrying out extrajudicial killings. ‘Crossfire’ or ‘encounter’ and gunfight are very common terms used by the LEA to hide their crime and avoid the liabilities of extra-judicial killing. After killing in a pre-planned and cool head, the police and RAB² authorities have informed the media that the victim’s 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.³The government of Bangladesh has been violating the constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights day after day since 2002 especially when the operation clean heart started. Now the situation is becoming more complex day by day. 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, 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. The existing legal framework does not allow encounter killing.

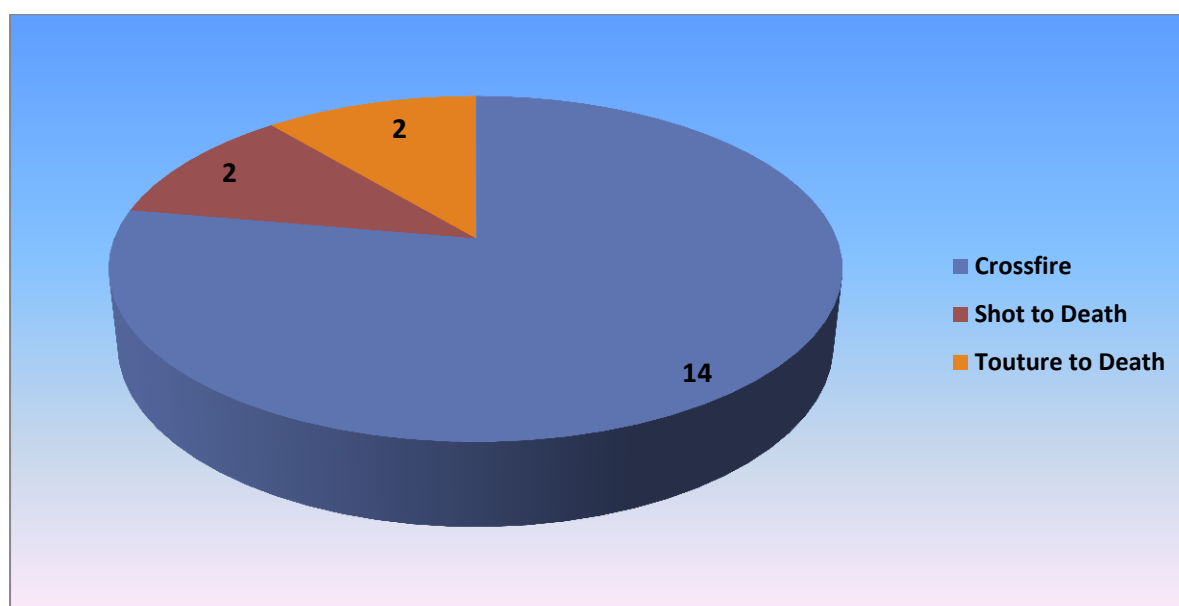


Figure 01: Scenario of Encounter killing in January 2017

The given pie chart provides information about the extra-judicial killing scenario in January 2017: According to human rights support Society (HRSS) report, a total of 18 persons were alleged kill extra-judicially. Out of them, 14 people were killed in the name of ‘crossfire/gunfights’, 02 were shot to death and almost two torture to death. Some important cases are mentioned below:

¹ <http://www.lawteacher.net/free-law-essays/constitutional-law>.

² <http://www.lawteacher.net>

³ <http://www.lawteacher.net/free-law-essays/constitutional-law>.

On 04, 2017 two alleged robbers were killed in a "gunfight" with police in the Chandpur districts Matlab Uttar upazila. They are Habu Sardar, 30, of Laxmipur, and Mujibur Rahman, 48, of Dubgi village in Matlab Uttar upazila, said Alamgir Hossain Mazumdar, officer-in-charge of Matlab Uttar Police Station.⁴

On January 09, 2017 a criminal was killed in a “gunfight” with the Detective Branch (DB) of police at Noljani in Gazipur. Badu Monir, 30, a resident of Tin-Shed colony area in BARC and an accused in 17 cases, was declared dead at Shahid Tajuddin Ahmed Medical College Hospital, said, detectives.⁵

On January 11, 2017, an alleged criminal was killed in a gunfight between two rival groups at Jagahati village in Jessore Sadar upazila. The deceased was Rasel alias Rony, 27, son of Kamor Ali of Mathpara village in Chowgachha upazila. OC Mashiur Rahman of Chowgachha Police Station said Rasel was wanted in eight cases, including for robbery.⁶

On January 10, 2017, a suspected criminal was killed in a reported gunfight with rivals at Jagahati in Jessore. The deceased was identified as Rasel alias Rony, 25, son of Kumar Ali, a resident of Mathpara village in Chowgachha upazila. Officer-in-charge of Kotwali police station Sheikh Elias Hossain said tipped off that a gunfight ensued between two criminal groups, a team of police conducted a drive in the area around 1:20 am.⁷

On January 17, 2017, a “top outlaw” was killed in an alleged shootout with RAB in Santhia upazila of Pabna. Abdur Razzak, 42, of Bilshalangi village in the upazila, was a regional leader of a faction of outlawed Purba Bangla Communist Party, according to Bina Rani Das, commander of Rab-12 (Pabna camp).⁸

On January 19, 2017 An alleged cadre of outlawed Gono Bahini (GB) was killed in a 'gunfight' with police (DB) in Alampur under Sadar upazila of the Kushtia district. The victim was Amirul Islam, 45, of Ambaria village in Mirpur upazila.⁹

On Jan 20, 2017, a suspected ringleader of a pirate gang was killed in a reported gunfight with Rapid Action Battalion at Sonagazi in Feni. The deceased was identified as Abul Kalam, 45, the ringleader of ‘Kalam Bahini’, said Squadron Leader Shafayet Jamil Fahim, Feni camp commander, RAB-7.¹⁰

On Jan 28, 2017, a suspected robber was killed in a ‘gunfight’ with police at Sutabil of Atgharia upazila in Pabna. The victim was identified as Sharif, 35, son of Motaleb Hossain, a resident of Gachhpara area in sadar upazila.¹¹

⁴ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1053157>

⁵ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1056445/>

⁶ <http://www.bd-pratidin.com/country/2017/01/11/199208>

⁷ <http://www.newagebd.net/article/6744/suspected-criminal-killed-in-gunfight-in-jessore>

⁸ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=49390&cat=9/>

⁹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1063311/ঋ>

¹⁰ <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2017/01/20/100497.html>

¹¹ <http://www.bd-pratidin.com/country/2017/01/29/203748>

Violence against Women

Violence against women and girls is one of the most systematic and widespread human rights violations. It is rooted in gendered social structures rather than individual and random acts; it cuts across age, socio-economic, educational and geographic boundaries; affects all societies; which are the major obstacle to ending gender inequality and discrimination globally.¹²In 1993, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, The United Nations defines violence against women as “any act of gender-based violence that results in, or is likely to result in, physical, sexual or psychological harm or suffering to women, including threats of such acts, coercion or arbitrary deprivation of liberty, whether occurring in public or in private life”.¹³Violence against women is a main social problem in contemporary Bangladesh. Inhuman attacks on women have become commonplace and widespread across the country. Daily news reports are filled with atrocities including physical and psychological torture, sexual harassment, sexual assault, rape, dowry-related violence, trafficking, coerced suicide, and murder. The rate of reported violent acts against women has risen steadily and at an alarming rate, especially in January 2017. HRSS provides the following data has been taken from 12 prominent daily newspapers in Bangladesh.

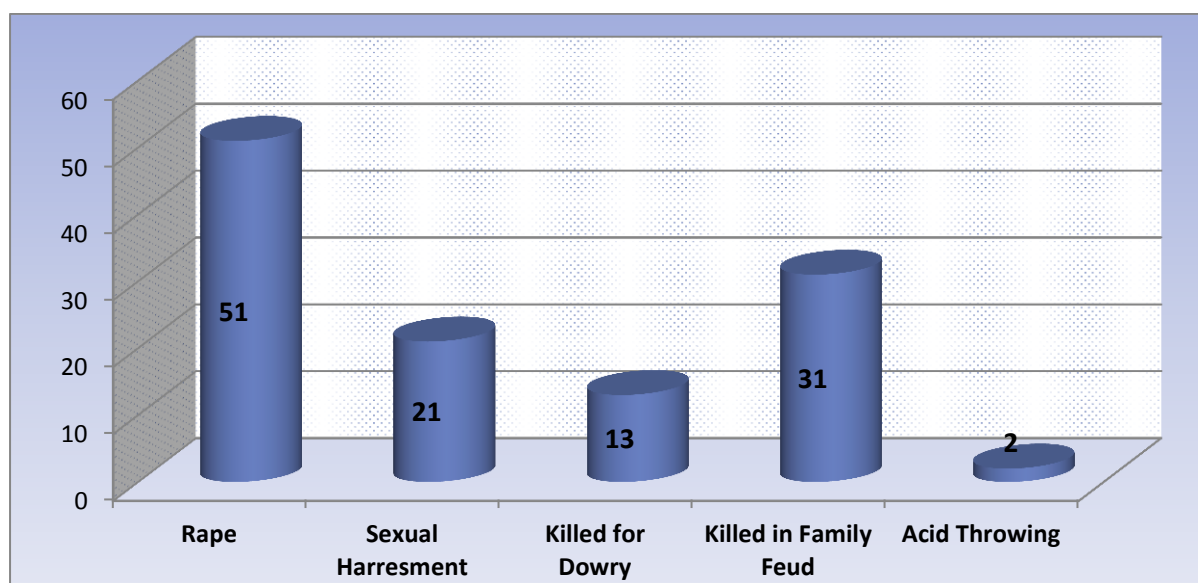


Figure 02: Violence against Women in January’16

HRSS identifies the whole situation of a female in Bangladesh and documented the issues relating to the violation of women rights. The major subjects of violation against women were dowry killings, rape, sexual harassment and stalking, physical and mental abuse. According to the HRSS, the supplied graph illustrates about information of violence against women in January 2017 are detailed:

¹² (UN General Assembly, 2006)

¹³ (General Assembly Resolution 48/104 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 1993)

Rape

- A total number of 51 females were raped. Among of them 43 were victims of single rape and 08 were subjected to gang rape and 18 were children below the age of 16 (including single and gang rape). Approximately 02 were killed after being raped. On the other hand; around 11 incidents have been attempted to rape.

Killed in Family Feud

- In January 2017 About 31 women were killed in the family feud and 04 females have been injured. Out of them, 35 were an incidents of Family Feud.

Dowry Related Violence

- Approximately 22 incidents of dowry-related violence were reported in January 2017. About 13 were killed and 09 women were physically abused over dowry demands.

Sexual Haressment

- According to information collected by HRSS, a total of 21 girls and women were reportedly victims of sexual harassment in January 2017. Among them, 16 were assaulted and 05 were stalked.

Acide Violence

- Almost 02 female became victims of acid violence and critically injured in January 2017. 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.

Some rape-related cases are cited: On January 04, 2017 a teenage schoolgirl was gang-raped by her friend and his two other acquaintances in Kalabagan area of the town. The victim, a tenth-grade student at a school in a village nearby, came to visit her friend in Pabna town to celebrate the New Year's Day, said Abdur Razzak, officer-in-charge of Pabna Sadar Police Station, quoting family members of the victim. Her 16-year-old friend took her to his friend's house in Kalabagan area where the three teenage boys committed the crime, he added.¹⁴

¹⁴ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1051687/>

On January 03, 2017 Police recovered the body of a housewife hanging from the ceiling of her house in Mahiganj Kasaituli area of Rangpur city. The deceased is Roksana Akter Ayrin, 21, wife of Sharif Mia. ABM Zahidul Islam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Rangpur Sadar Police Station, said Ayrin's body bore some injury marks, indicating that her husband might have beaten her to death before hanging her from the ceiling.¹⁵

On January 08, 2017 a woman, abandoned by her husband, was raped allegedly by a former union parishad (UP) chairman at Sonakandi village in Gouripur upazila. Quoting victim's family members, police said Dulal Ahmed, former chairman of Sohanati UP, along with six to seven associates allegedly picked up the victim, also the mother of one child, from her house on January 7. They later took the woman to Dulal's house and forcibly violated her overnight, Officer-in-Charge Delwar Ahmed of Gouripur Police Station said.¹⁶

On January 09, 2017 A six-year-old girl was raped allegedly by one of her neighboring youth at Dalia village in Dimla upazila. The victim, a Class I student at Godownhat Government Primary School, is undergoing treatment at Rangpur Medical College Hospital. Victim's father said his daughter went to watch television at neighboring Abdul Jabbar's house. At one stage, when none of the family members were present at home, Jabbar's son Sobuj Rahman, an honor's student at Domar Government College, raped the girl, he alleged.¹⁷

On January 10, 2017 A man allegedly tried to kill himself after cutting his wife's throat over family feud in Jafarabad Boiltoli area at Chandanaish upazila of Chittagong. Abu Tayeb also tired of cutting his throat with the same knife that he used to kill Shahina Akter, 35, said police. Being informed, police broke into the house and took them to a local hospital where Shahina was declared dead. Tayeb was referred to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.¹⁸

On Jan 13, 2017, a female factory worker was gang-raped by miscreants at Madhyakanchanpur in Raipur upazila in Laxmipur. Raipur police officer-in-charge Mohammad Solaiman said that a group of miscreants, numbering four, picked up the female worker from the area at about 8:00 pm while she was returning home from her workplace. The hoodlums took her to a betel-nut grove in the area and violated her in turns.¹⁹

On January 19, 2017, a 55-year-old rickshaw-puller was allegedly killed by his wife over a family dispute in the capital's Badda area. Fazlu Mia, 55, a resident of Adarsha Nagar, was brought dead to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital around 9:40 am, police said.²⁰

On January 25, 2017, a girl who sustained acid burns was admitted to Mymensingh Medical College Hospital (MMCH). The victim is Rina Akhter, 18, daughter of Arab Ali of Mondolergati village in Kalmakanda upazila of Netrakona district. Sohagh Mia, 25, son of Kala Chand of adjacent Baniapara village, used to tease the girl for long. He gave marriage

¹⁵ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=47497&cat=9/>

¹⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/woman-raped-former-chairman-1342276>

¹⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/six-year-old-girl-raped-1342837>

¹⁸ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1056935>

¹⁹ <http://www.newagebd.net/article/6933/female-factory-worker-raped>

²⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/wife-kills-man-over-dispute-1347913>

proposal to the girl several times but the girl and her family refused, which made him angry, said Officer-in-Charge of Kalmakanda Police Station Abu Bakkar Siddique, quoting the girl's family members. Sohagh, a rickshaw puller, threw acid on Rina's face when she was in her house.²¹

On January 29, 2017, a three-year-old child was raped allegedly by a young man at Gurupara village in Patgram upazila of the Lalmonirhat district. The alleged rapist is Harun Islam, 21, son of Habibur Rahman, of the same village. Locals rushed the victim to the Patgram Upazila Health Complex while the rapist managed to flee.²²

On January 29, 2017, a 14-year-old schoolgirl was allegedly raped by a youth in the capital's Mirpur. The victim, a 10th grader and a resident of Mohammadpur, alleged that one Prince, 25, whom she met through Facebook, raped her at a residence after she went to meet him in Mirpur 1. She is now being treated at Dhaka Medical College Hospital, said Sub-inspector Bachchu Mia, in-charge of DMCH police outpost. "Her situation is critical," he added.²³

On January 29, 2017, a woman was allegedly killed by her husband in Munshipara area of Khulna Sadar. The deceased Sultana khatun Dulali, 24, had been living with her mother in e area as her second husband Nurul Haq, 48, is a drug addict, said Shafiqul Islam, officer-in-charge of Khulna Sadar Police Station.²⁴

On January 30, 2017, a housewife had been tortured and kept unfed for days by her husband who wanted money from her family to buy drugs. The victim, Kolpona Begum, 19, was lying unconscious in the yard of her in-laws' house when the Jaldhaka municipality mayor and some councilors went there and took her to Jaldhaka Upazila Health Complex. Jahangir Alam, a doctor of the hospital, said Kolpona had blacked out in mental shock and for physical weakness, as she was unfed and tortured for days, and there were marks of injuries on different parts of her body.²⁵

²¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/acid-thrown-girl-1350862>

²² <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/three-year-old-raped-1352905>

²³ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1070315/>

²⁴ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=51309&cat=9/>

²⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/tortured-housewife-rescued-1353610>

Violent Attack

The attack against civilians is considered a serious violation of international humanitarian law,” the human rights. 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. During the January 2017, Bangladesh has experienced a series of violent attacks by extremists. The victims have included besides atheists, secular bloggers, liberals and foreigners many Buddhists, Christians, and Hindus. HRSS try to detect and divulged all kinds of violent attack in January 2017.

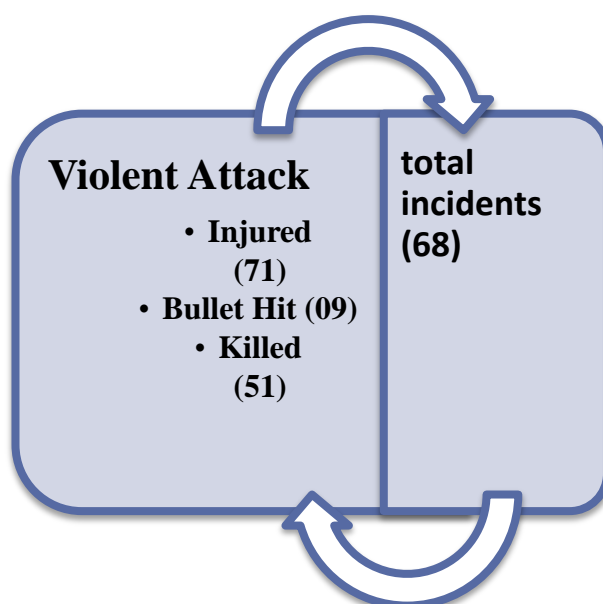


Figure 03: statistics of Violent Attacks in January '16

The chart provides information regarding the violent attack on armless civilian. According to the data in Human Rights Support Centre (HRSS) in January 2017, a total 68 incidents of violent attack have happened and 51 were killed in these attacks, 71 were seriously injured and around 09 persons have been bullet hit. Selected cases are as analyzed:

On January 11, 2017, a 60-year-old woman was shot after three to four unidentified people stormed a sixth-floor Chamelibagh flat on 10 January'17. Around 6:00 pm looking for her son, said Paltan police. Sharmin Sultana is undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. Ali Reza Khan was not at home during the incident. Officer-in-charge Rafiqul Islam suspects it to be business rivals of Ali, who provides satellite television channel connections.²⁶

²⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/miscreants-seek-man-shoot-mother-1344199>

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On January 12, 2017, unidentified criminals shot dead a college teacher in Badlibari area under Labour upazila of the Natore district. The deceased was Mosharraf Hossain, 50, a lecturer of Maharkaya Degree Collage in the upazila, and son of Mohammad Ali of Peergachha under Bagha upazila in Rajshahi.²⁷

On January 14, 2017, Police recovered the body of a fish trader at Ghatail upazila. The deceased was Abdus Samad, 50, son of late Foroz Ali of Tolajan village under Deolabari union. Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Ghatail Police Station Mohammad Kamal Hossain said Samad went missing on 10 January '17. Locals later found his body in a cane field in adjacent Kutubpur village.²⁸

On January 14, 2017, Police recovered the decomposed body of a private university student with stab marks from his own room in the capital's Adabor area. Shihabul Islam Shihab, 25, a student of BBA department at Independent University Bangladesh (IUB), lived with his family at Prominent Housing Apartment in Adabor. After getting a call from his family, police recovered Shihab's body at 2:00 pm that bore some stab marks, Biplab Kumar Sarkar, deputy commissioner (DC) of Tejgaon Division, told.²⁹

On Jan 15, 2017, the police recovered the body of a college teacher from his apartment at Hazibaria of Nirala under Khulna sadar police station in Khulna city. The victim was Chittaranjan Bain, 45, of 59 Sher-e-Bangla Road in Khulna city. He was an English department teacher at Shaheed Abul Kashem College at Dumuria upazila in Khulna.³⁰

On January 17, 2017, a union parishad (UP) member has hacked mercilessly in Mathbaria upazila of the Pirojpur district. The victim is Kaiyum, a member of ward No-4 of Baro Machua union. Police said Kaiyum was going to his village home from Mathbaria upazila headquarters on Monday night when some men hacked him with sharp weapons in Dakkhin Bandar area in the upazila and fled the scene.³¹

On January 18, 2017, a teenage boy was beaten and stabbed to death by some youths in Tejgaon. Deceased Abdul Aziz, 16, son of Basir Miah, a worker at a motor shop in East Tejkunipara area, was severely beaten around 3:00 pm near Tejgaon Model High School, said Tejgaon police.³²

On Jan 30, 2017, three local leaders and activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League, ruling party backed student organization, were injured in a knife attack at Tilagar in Sylhet. The injured were identified as Rajon Chowdhury, a former BCL leader and president of 'Shapla Sangha', a local social organization, and two BCL activists Mabrur and Tanim.³³

²⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/college-teacher-shot-dead-1344613>

²⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/fish-trader-murdered-1345438>

²⁹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/iub-student-found-killed-1345411>

³⁰ <http://www.jugantor.com/online/country-news/2017/01/15/36783/>

³¹ <http://www.bd-pratidin.com/country/2017/01/17/200702>

³² <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/teenage-boy-stabbed-dead-1347556>

³³ <http://www.bd-pratidin.com/city-news/2017/01/31/204322>

Abduction

Abduction is a brutal violation of human rights. Abduction, Kidnapping, killing after the abduction, etc. are the common phenomena in Bangladesh. Nobody could confidently predict his safe return after going outside of his resident. The numbers of victims, according to HRSS report is increasing day by day. In January 2017, the occurrences of abduction increased all over the 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 offense of abduction when 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 graph provides information about the total abduction in January 2017.

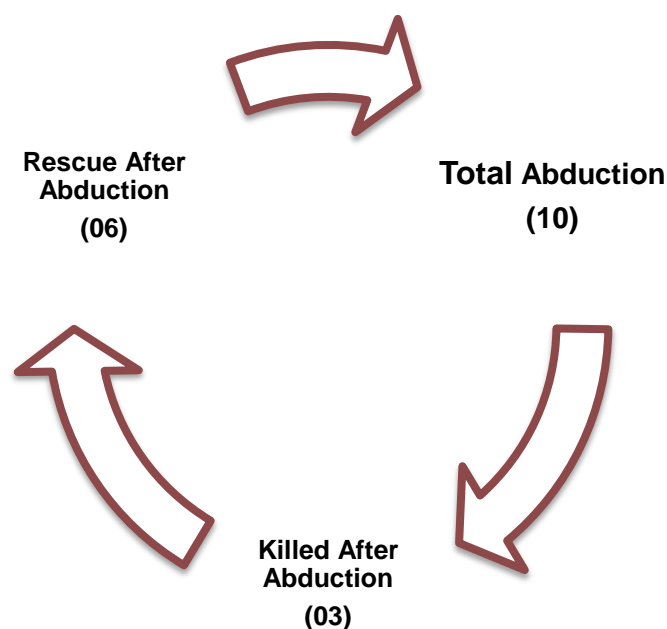


Figure 04: Statistics of Abduction in January’16

The supplied chart describes information about the abduction cases in January 2017 in Bangladesh, According to the human rights support Society (HRSS) information, a total of 10 people were abducted, among of them, 03 were killed after the abduction. On the other hand, nearly 06 people were rescued by law enforcement agencies after the abduction.

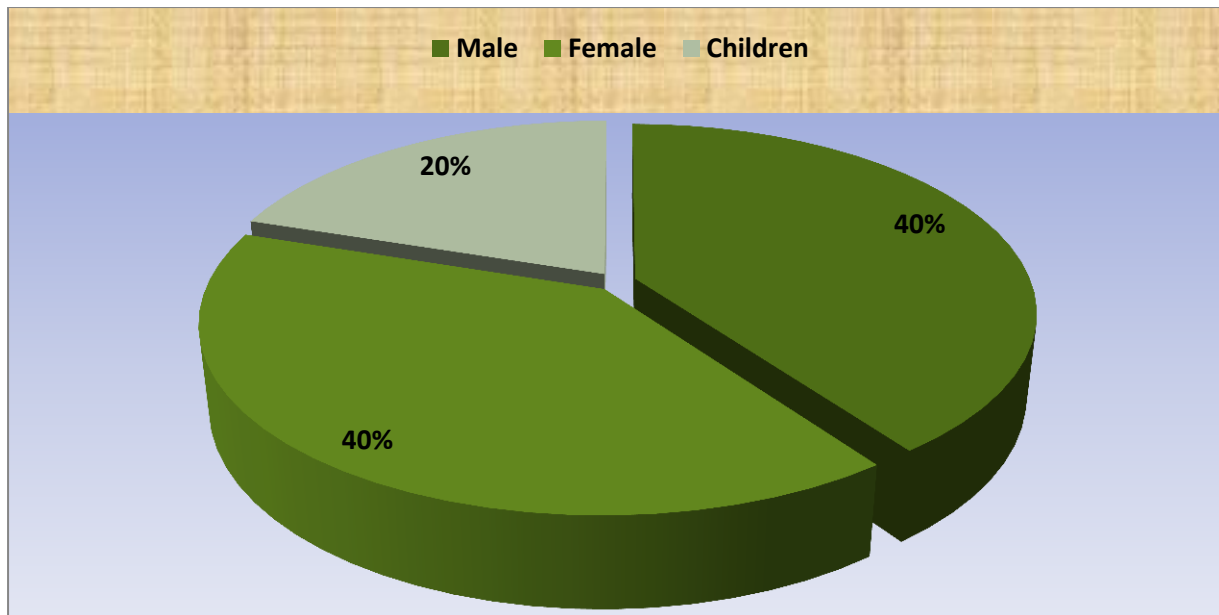


Figure 05: Categorization of Abduction in January’16

The given pie chart describes information about the abduction cases in January 2017 in Bangladesh, According to the human rights support Society (HRSS) information, a total of 10 people were abducted, among of them, 04 were male, and around 04 were female and nearly 02 were children. Selected cases are as follows:

On January 09, 2017 a college girl, who has abducted from her father's home in Tongi's Sharankhola upazila three days ago, was rescued by police from Tongi upazila in Gazipur. Victim's estranged husband and his men abducted her after stabbing her parents and looted Tk 1 lakh and gold ornaments. Sensing presence of police, the abductors fled away leaving the victim on a road, said Sharankhola police, quoting her.³⁴

On January 30, 2017A teenage girl who has abducted from Ghatail upazila in the district in 2015 was rescued from the Benapole border in Jessore 17 months after her disappearance. Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) rescued her with the help of Indian Border Security Force (BSF), Border Guard of Bangladesh (BGB), local police and immigration police. Rab Commander Muhammad Mohiuddin Faruki produced the girl before the journalists, saying that she was traffic to India after abduction by a gang of human traffickers on August 17 in 2015. Later, she was sold to a brothel in Delhi, Faruki said.³⁵

On January 01, a 2017An elderly Hindu man was found dead at Mongolgram village in Faridpur upazila of Pabna, three days after he went missing on January 28. The deceased, Anil Kumar, 60, a money lender and son of late Mrinmoy Kumar of the village, was also the owner of vast inherited cultivable land.³⁶

³⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/abducted-college-girl-rescued-tongi-1342954>

³⁵ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1070965/>

³⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/missing-elderly-man-found-dead-1338904>

Violence against Children

The Convention on the Rights of the Child (hereinafter “Convention”) establishes standards for the protection of girls from physical and psychological violence at home, in the community and at the hands of State officials. The Convention uses both feminine and masculine pronouns in its provisions and it stresses in Article 2(1) that: “State parties shall respect and ensure the rights set forth in the present Convention to each child within their jurisdiction without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child’s sex.”³⁷

Among the rights that States Parties must protect regardless of sex, are: the right to life; the right to be free from violence, mistreatment and exploitation while under the care of a parent or other guardian; the right to be free from harmful traditional practices; the right against sexual exploitation and abuse; and the right against torture. Bangladesh has ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child (September 2, 1990). In spite of this existing legal framework, the violation of child rights is a common problem in Bangladesh. It occurs within the family, At home, and at schools, children may face sexual abuse or harassment. Girls in particular face the threat of child or early marriage. In schools, children may get beaten if they fail to perform or face humiliating and degrading punishments for minor errors or infractions. The incidents of violence against children, including killing, trafficking, abduction, and rape, have increased across the country in recent times amid slack. The rights of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child’s physical, mental, spiritual, moral, and social development”.³⁸

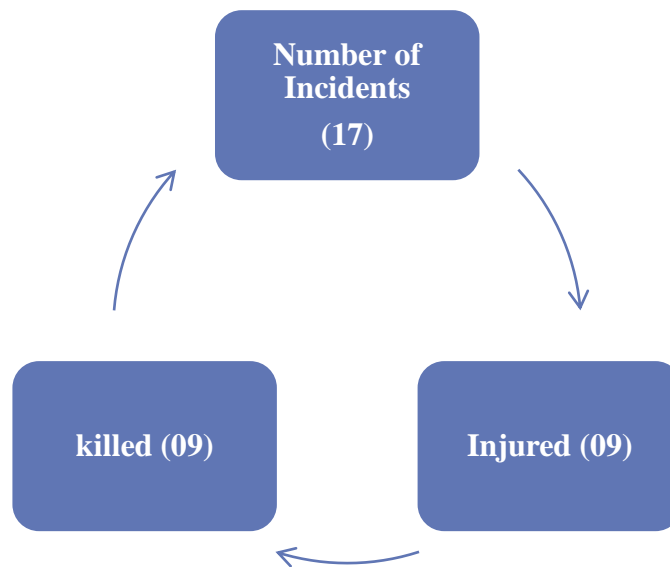


Figure 06: Violence against children in January ’16

According to HRSS report, the graph presented below regarding the violence against children in January 2017, around 09 children’s were killed and almost 09 children’s have been critically injured in a total of nearly 17 incidents of Violence against Children.

³⁷ <http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/CRC.aspx>

³⁸ Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989, Art., 27.

Some important cases are mentioned below; On January 19, 2017A woman was arrested for allegedly killing her five-day-old daughter in Bank Colony area of Savar. Quoting family member's police said Anjona Das, 23, wife of Gourongo Sharker strangled her daughter when other family members were outside home. Police sent the body for autopsy, said police. Anjona, the mother of four daughters, was suffering from mental illness as she had no son, said her husband.³⁹

On January 30, 2017, a schoolboy was stabbed to death in the capital's Jatrabari. The victim, Ridwan, 11, was a seventh-grader of Narinda High School. The incident happened around 3:30 pm when Al Amin, a local youth, stabbed Ridwan outside his house in Golapbagh area, Anisur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Jatrabari Police Station, told. The victim was rushed to a local hospital and then shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where doctors declared him dead, the OC said.⁴⁰

On January 06, 2017 a ninth grader was beaten to death allegedly by some local boys in the city's Uttara. The dead, Adnan Kabir, was aged 15. He was a member of a local teenage boys' group Nine Star, which was engaged in a rivalry with another local group Disco Boys. Ali Hossain Khan, officer-in-charge of Uttara West Police Station, said Adnan of sector-12 went to sector-13 in Uttara in the afternoon to play badminton. At one stage, members of his rival group attacked him with hockey sticks. Badly injured Adnan was rushed to a local hospital where doctors pronounced him dead.⁴¹

³⁹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/mother-kills-daughter-savar-1347850>

⁴⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/schoolboy-killed-city-1353730>

⁴¹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1054399>

Political Violence

Political violence in Bangladesh is a banal phenomenon. The role and way of democratic politics have 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.⁴²After assuming state power by Awami League Government through 5th March 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.

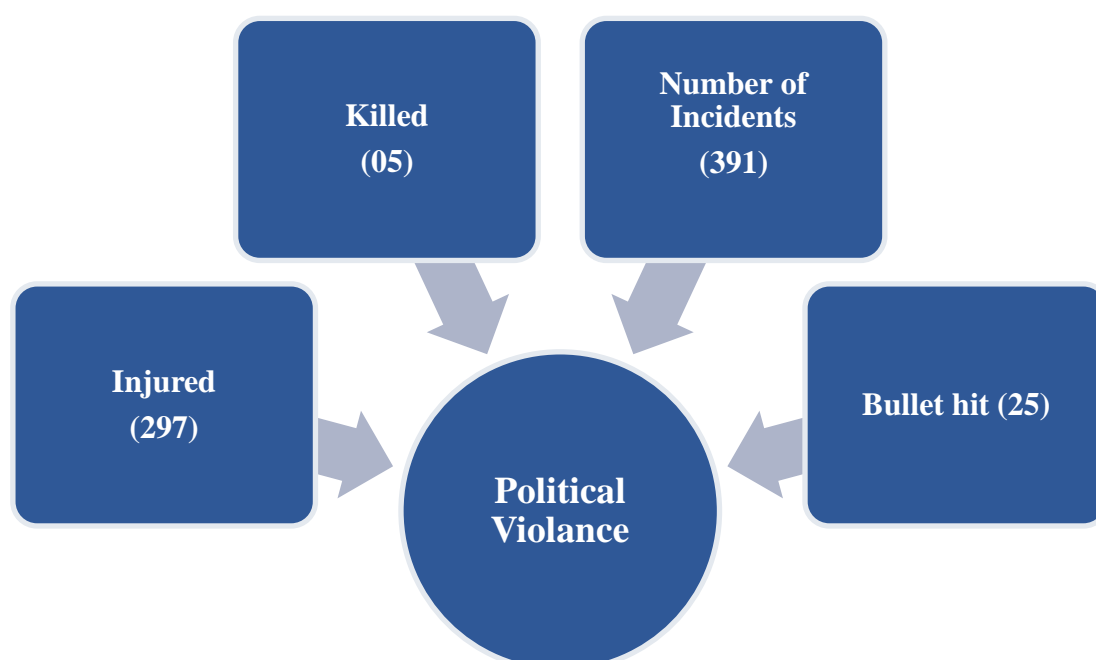


Figure 07: statistics of Political Violence in January’16

The figure presents information about the political violence in January 2017. According to Human Rights Support Centre (HRSS) information, a total of 05 people were killed, almost 297 injured, around 25 people bullet hit 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.

Selected cases are as follows: On January 09, 2017 A BCL activist was stabbed by activists of a rival faction in front of Jalalabad College gate in Sylhet over the parking of a motorbike. The injured -- Sayeed Ahmed, 21, of South Surma upazila in the Sylhet district was undergoing treatment at Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College Hospital.⁴³

⁴² Islam and Suykens, Distribution of Political Violence in Bangladesh 2017,

⁴³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/bcl-man-stabbed-rival-faction-sylhet-1342936>

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On January 05, 2017 Leaders and activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of Jahangirnagar University unit beat up a Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leader on the campus. Nabinul Islam Nabin, vice-president of JU JCD unit and resident student of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman hall, took treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital.⁴⁴

On January 21, 2017, At least 20 shots were fired when two factions of Bangladesh Chhatra League's Dhaka College unit locked in a clash over establishing supremacy on campus. Three students were injured and there were chases and counter-chases between the feuding groups, witnesses said, adding that seven motorbikes were torched. Unit joint convener Sheikh Rasel, 28, activists Sujon, 24, and Kajal, 22, were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.⁴⁵

On January 24, 2017, a leader of the Nizampur College unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) was allegedly beaten to death by rivals on a college campus at Mirsarai upazila of Chittagong. The deceased was identified as Nurul Amin, an HSC student of the college, from Janu Muhurir Bari of Hadi Fakir Hat in Gachhbaria of the upazila. Amin was the information technology secretary of the BCL unit.⁴⁶

On January 01, 2017 At least 10 activists of Mohila Awami League, the women's front of the ruling Awami League (AL), were injured in an attack by AL men over the previous rivalry at Rupganj upazila in Narayanganj. The female activists, who are followers of Ferdousi Alam Nila, women affairs secretary of Rupaganj upazila unit AL, locked in an altercation with supporters of two local AL leaders at the book distribution ceremony at Yusufganj School and College in the area around 10:00 am.⁴⁷

On January 05, 2017 At least 20 people including journalists were injured when the activists of Awami League and its front organizations reportedly attacked the BNP men in the Barisal city. The BNP men “came under attack” when they were holding a meeting at its office marking the third anniversary of January 5 national elections, that the party has dubbed “democracy killing day”. “A group of Awami League and Chhatra League activists attacked us when we were holding the meeting,” said Mojibor Rahaman Sarwar, secretary of the Barisal city unit of BNP.⁴⁸

On January 08, 2017 At least 12 people, including two policemen, were injured in a clash between two factions of Awami League in Santhia bazar area of the Pabna district. The clash took place between the men of Santhia upazila unit AL Secretary Tapan Hayder Sun and Santhia municipality Mayor Miraz Uddin, former executive member of the unit, over bringing out processions around 12:30 pm.⁴⁹

⁴⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/ju-bcl-men-beat-jcd-leader-unconscious-1341160>

⁴⁵ <http://www.newagebd.net/article/7480/bcl-factions-clash-at-dhaka-college>

⁴⁶ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2017/01/23/265036>

⁴⁷ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1051033>

⁴⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/20-hurt-al-men-attack-barisal-bnp-office-1340842>

⁴⁹ <https://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/241486>

Recovery of Dead Body

Security of life is the foremost right of all others human rights. In Bangladesh, due to worsening law and order situation recovery of the dead body from different places 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. However, According to the information of human rights support Society (HRSS) during the January 2017, a total of 62 dead bodies were found in different areas of the country, among them 28bodies were male and 08 bodies were female and 26 bodies were unidentified. The presented the pie chart illustrates information about the recovery dead body.

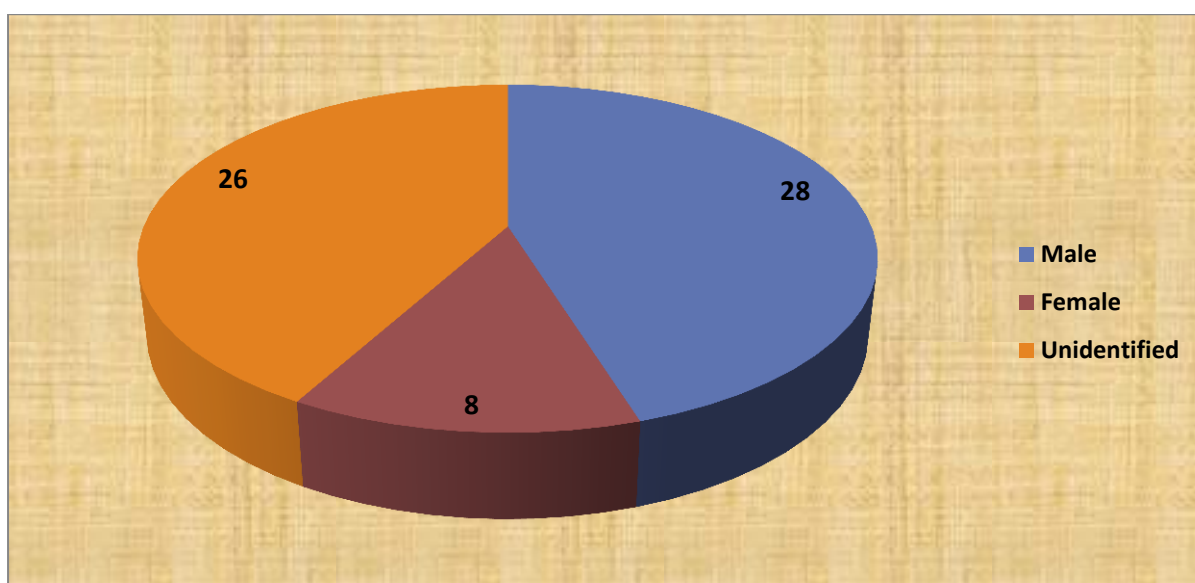


Figure 08: Recovery of Dead Body in January'17

The presented chart illustrates information about the recovery dead body. According to information collected by HRSS in January 2017, a total of 62 dead bodies were found in the different area of the country, among of them 28 bodies were male and 08 bodies were female and 26 bodies were unidentified. Selected cases are as follows:

On Jan 06, 2017 A local Juba Dal leader was found dead in an under- construction building at Lohagara municipal area in Narail. The deceased was identified as Ashraf Mallik, joint general secretary of Lohagara upazila unit Juba Dal. Police said locals spotted the body in a room of the under-construction building and informed the police.⁵⁰

On Jan 13, 2017, Police recovered the body of a 'contractor' from inside a hotel room at Farmgate vicinity in the capital. The man was identified as Shafiq Ahmed Chowdhury, 55, hailing from Lalkhan Bazaar of the port city of Chittagong. Assistant sub-inspector Mustafizur Rahman of Tejgaon police station said they were told by the staff of Farmgate

⁵⁰ <http://www.newagebd.net/article/6402/juba-dal-leader-found-dead-in-narail>

Hotel that they broke open room 710 and found Shafiq in an unconscious state, around 11:15 am.⁵¹

On January 20, 2017, Police recovered the body of a man, aged around 30, from the gallery of Rangamati Stadium. The identity of the man wearing a red jacket and long trousers, the name of the victim is Zakir Hossain from Narayangong, said Dulal Sub-inspector of Kotwali Police Station.⁵²

Jan 23, 2017, a young man was found dead at Mollateghoria in Kushtia. The dead is identified as Jashim, 30, assistant of a local truck driver and son of Azim Mollah in Mollateghoria area. Officer-in-charge of Kushtia model police station Obaidur Rahman said being informed by local people the police went to the spot and recovered the body of Jashim from his room around 11:00 am.⁵³

Police recovered the throat-slit body of a quack from his house at Baniacho Bazar in Shahrasti upazila of Chandpur. Locals found Anowarul Miazi, 60, son of Abdul Majid of Baniacho village, dead in the morning as the door was open, said Member of Baniacho Union Parishad Delowar Hossain, adding that he used to live alone in the house.⁵⁴

On January 28, 2017 The body of a youth has been recovered from Fatullah in Narayanganj Sadar upazila, two days after he went missing. The dead was identified as Manik Miah, 35, son of late Sona Miah of Fazilpur area. Manik was a laborer at a brick kiln owned by one Babul Miah at Boktaboli. Manik's sister alleged drug peddlers have killed her brother. Police said they were looking into the allegation.⁵⁵

On January 01, 2017 Police recovered the decomposed body of a youth in a sack from a canal at Kalamia Bazar in Chittagong city, four days after he went missing. The deceased was Md Sohel, 27, son of Mobarak Hossain of Kalmia Bazar in the city, went missing on 31 Dec'17.⁵⁶

On January 04, 2017 A 15-year-old boy was found dead in a ditch in the capital's Uttarkhan over a month after he had gone missing from the area. The decomposed body of the ninth-grader, Mannan, son of Tofazzal Hossain, was stuffed in a sack, said Uttarkhan Police Station Officer-in-Charge Sheikh Sirajul Haque. Locals first noticed the body and later informed police of it.⁵⁷

⁵¹ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=48904&cat=1>

⁵² <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1063841>

⁵³ <http://www.newagebd.net/article/7702/youth-found-dead-in-kushtia>

⁵⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/quack-doctor-found-dead-1352065>

⁵⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/youths-body-found-1352521>

⁵⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/missing-youths-body-found-sack-1353538>

⁵⁷ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1053261/>

Attack on Minorities

Article 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 another opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or another status.”

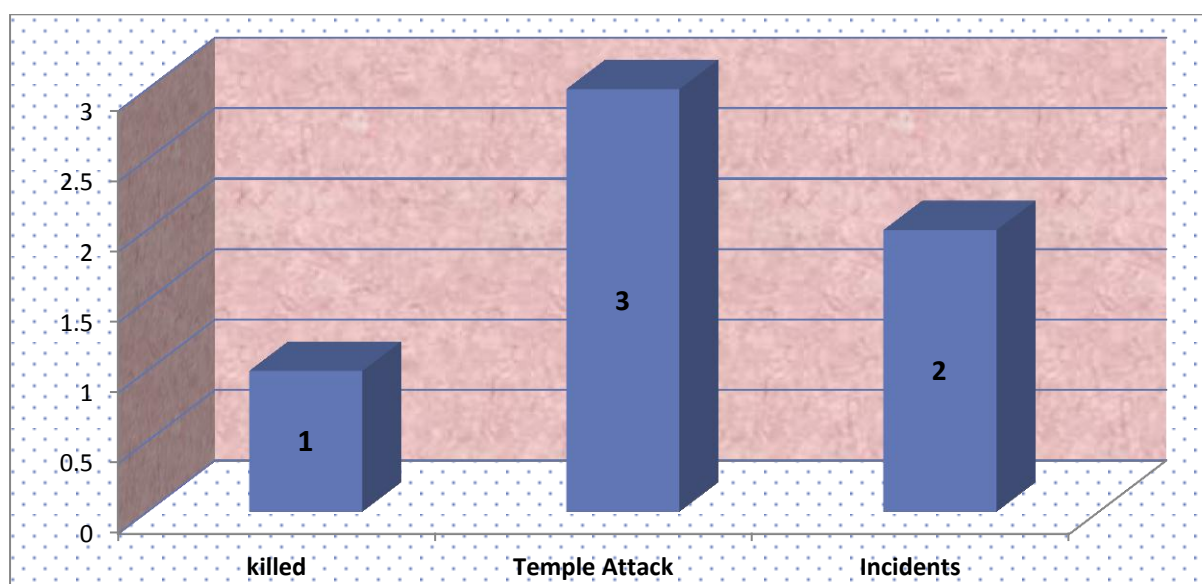


Figure 09: Statistics of attack on minority

The given chart provides information according to HRSS in the month January 2017, almost 03 temples were attacked, and about 03 temple attack and 01 minority member have been killed in a total almost 02 incidents. Selected cases are as described here:

On Jan 04, 2017 Miscreants vandalized 20 idols in three temples in Jamai Bazar Dhumuria area of Tungipara in Gopalganj. Locals said the miscreants swooped on ‘Durga Temple’, ‘Hari temple’ and ‘Radhagobindha temple’ and damaged 20 idols. Mahamudul Haque, officer-in-charge of Tungipara police station, said the incident might have been taken place following enmity over setting up a shop in the area.⁵⁸

On Jan 26, 2017, a woman of Santal community was found murdered in Ghoraghat upazila of the Dinajpur district. The deceased was Shefali Hembram, 34, daughter of late Tukra Hembram of Raghunathpur village. Police recovered the body and sent it to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital for an autopsy. Police said criminals strangled her to death.⁵⁹

⁵⁸ <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2017/01/06/98571.html>

⁵⁹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1067205/>

Border Killing

In January 2017, According to human rights support Society report state that the border line between Bangladesh and India is the worst borderline. Indiscriminate activities of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) have turned Indo-Bangla borderline as one of the dangerous and bloodiest border lines. Every state of the civilized world is very serious about maintaining the standard of human rights. But BSF has been violating human rights with freedom in the border area by killing, torturing, abducting, beating, stoning etc.; by doing so they gradually are degrading the friendly relation between Bangladesh and India. BSF disregards human rights in the border area and they have shown utmost cruelty in this regard. Members of the BSF also illegally enter Bangladesh territory and attack people residing along the border, shoot and kidnap Bangladeshis. However, we have frequently observed that India has been violating treaties, shooting at anyone seen near the border, which is a pure violation of the international law and human rights.

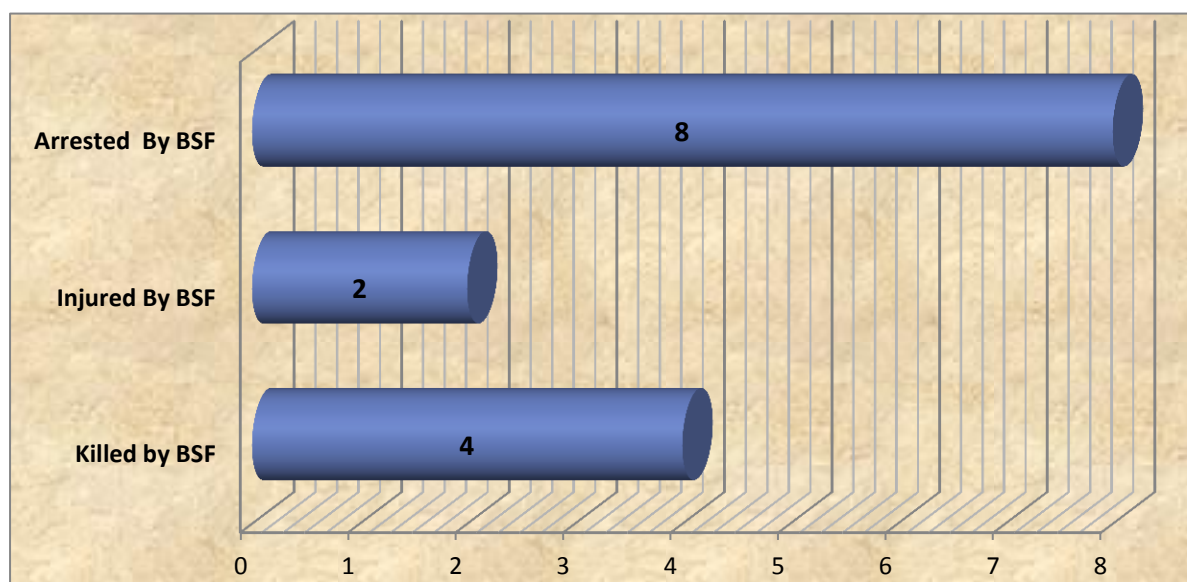


Figure 10: Statistics of Border violence

The given chart gives data on the border dispute. According to HRSS in January 2017, almost one Bangladeshi citizen was killed, roughly 02 injured and almost 03 arrested by BSF, on the other hand, 07 injured Bangladeshi citizen were injured, and roughly 09 arrested by BGB. Some important cases are mentioned below;

On January 02, 2017 Indian Border Security Force (BSF) picked up a teenage boy from Azmatpur frontier in Shibganj upazila of the Chapainawabganj. The detainee is Mohammad Tutul, 15, son of Sadekul Islam of Bagichapara village in the upazila, said sources at Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). BSF men detained Tutul around 12:30 am when he was entering the border area illegally, it said.⁶⁰

⁶⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/bsf-picks-boy-cnawabganj-border-1339900>

On January 07, 2017 A Bangladeshi national was tortured to death by members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) along Chakulia border in Damurhuda upazila in Chuadanga. The deceased was identified as Bakul Mandal, 38, son of late Soda Ali Mandal of Phulbari village of the upazila. Afsar Ali, an associate of Bakul, said the BSF members beat him mercilessly and left him along the border with critical injuries. He died on the way to Chuadanga Sadar Hospital.⁶¹

On January 07, 2017 Indian Border Security Force (BSF) picked up two Bangladeshi citizens from the border of Porsha upazila in Naogaon. Naimul Haque, 40, of Bishnupur village, and Ziaur Rahman, 25, of Islampur village, came out for grazing their cattle, but the BSF caught them on the pretext of crossing the border, said Major Ashrafuzzaman, CO of BGB 14 Battalion. Despite the request, BSF did not return them as of afternoon, he said.⁶²

On Jan 20, 2017, Members of Indian Border Security Force allegedly picked up a Bangladeshi farmer from village Sonapur Majhpara at Mujibnagar of Meherpur. The person was identified as Rupchand Sheikh, 30, son of Fakir Sheikh, a resident of the village. Lieutenant Colonel Amir Majid, the commanding officer of Chuadanga Border Guard Bangladesh, said BSF personnel of Jinda camp in Chanpra of Nadia district, India, caught Rupchand as he went to work in a field near demarcation pillar number 106/4 along the border around 4:00 am.⁶³

On 22 Jan 2017 Members of Indian Border Security Force (BSF) detained two Bangladeshi cattle traders at Shetpur in India while they were returning to Bangladesh with cattle. The detainees were identified as Hasan Gazi, son of Majed Gazi of Gholgholia village, and Azizul Islam, son of Jan Mohammad of Char Shripur village in Debhata upazila of the Satkhira.⁶⁴

⁶¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/bangladeshi-killed-bsf-chuadanga-1342018>

⁶² <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/bsf-detains-2-naogaon-border-1341829>

⁶³ <http://bangla.samakal.net/2017/01/21/264506>

⁶⁴ <https://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/244440/৭>

Attack on Journalist

The 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.”⁶⁵

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. Moreover, in Bangladesh, attacks on journalists are very frequent incidents; assaulting, threatening and disrupting in their professional duties have become very mundane matter. Freedom of expression was seen to limited in every aspect in Bangladesh September 2017. The government applied indirect pressure to coerce to different news agencies constantly.

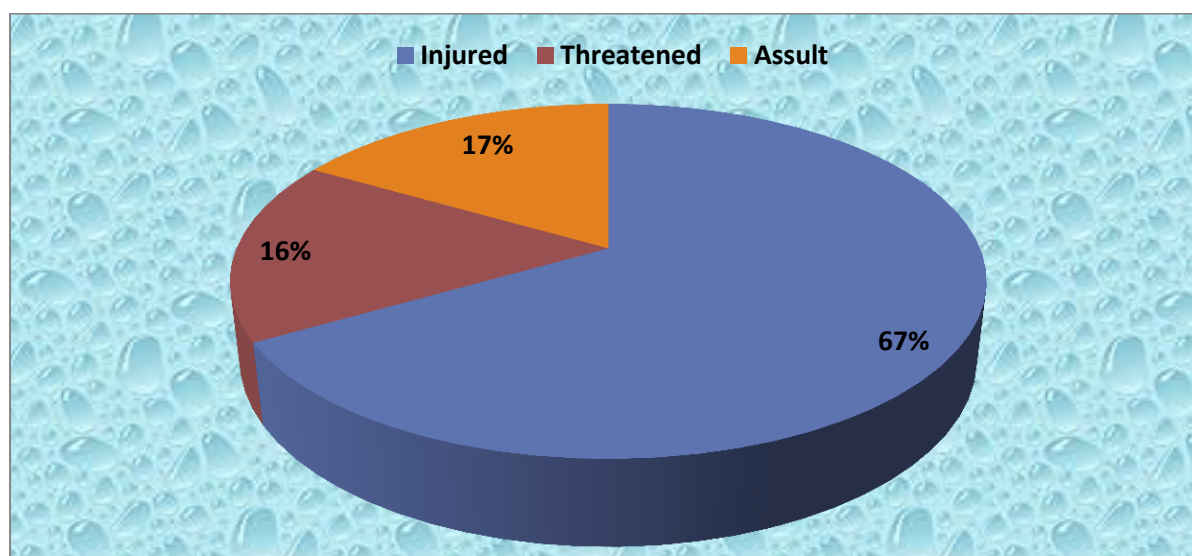


Figure 11: Attack on Journalist

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. The flow chart illustrates information about the attack on journalism in January. According to HRSS’s documented statistics, around 04 were injured; one assaulted and 01 threatened a total of 05 incidents.

⁶⁵ UDHR-1948, article 19

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Selected cases are as described here: On January 06, 2017 Bangladesh Chhatra League men allegedly beat up a journalist at Begum Rokeya University, Rangpur. Sajib Hossain, 22, a BRUR correspondent of jagobdnews.org and a public administration student of the university, took treatment at a local hospital after he was hit with tree branches, he said. The BCL activists also threatened him with dire consequences if the incident is published, he added. Witnesses said the attack was carried out after Sajib reached the campus when the BCL men of the university unit were with admission seekers. Police detained Maruf Bhuiyan, assistant general secretary of the unit; Al-Amin, organizing secretary; and Partha Pramanik, an activist, on the spot, said Ershad Ali, in-charge of BRUR police outpost.⁶⁶



Police manhandle an activist of National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas and Mineral Resources, Power and Ports; left, and assault ATN News video journalist Abdul Alim; right, at Shahbagh in Dhaka during hartal on January 28, 2017.⁶⁷

on January 28, 2017 More than 50 people, including two journalists, were injured as police attacked pickets, fired teargas shells and rubber bullets, sprayed hot water using water cannon and charged baton during the half-day general strike sponsored by the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Ports for 7-point demands, including, the cancellation of coal-based Rampal power plant near the Sunderbans in the capital. Two journalists of private television channel ATN News cameraperson Abdul Alim and reporter kazi ahsan bin dider were injured as police tortured them while they were performing their professional duty. They were later rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital.⁶⁸

⁶⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/bcl-men-beat-journo-rokeya-university-1341628>

⁶⁷ Photo Source- the daily New Age

⁶⁸ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1068215/>

Public Lynching

Lynching is the practice of murder by extrajudicial action. It is an unlawful 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 group. 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 a result, the incident of public lynching became a banal matter. HRSS believes that everyone has right to be considered as innocent until proven guilty by the court.

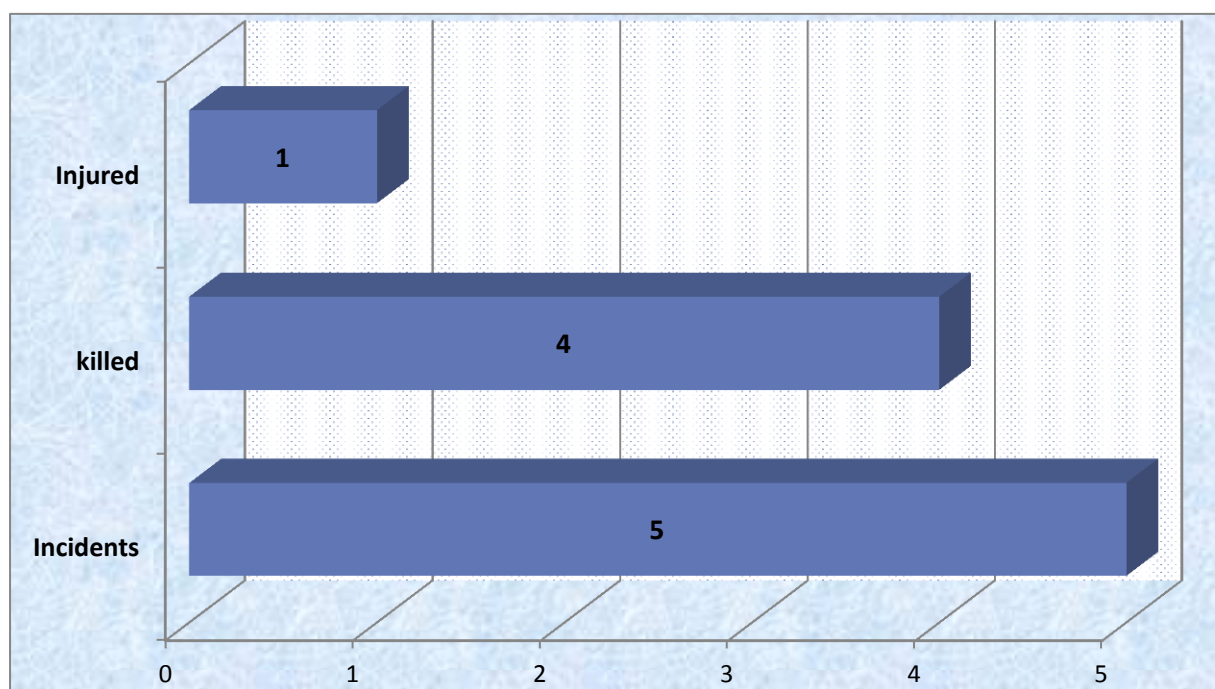


Figure 12: Statistics of Public Lynching in January '17

The supplied chart describes information about the public lynching cases in January '2017. According to the human rights support Society (HRSS) information, one people have been injured; nearly 04 people were killed in a total of 05 incidents of the public lynching. Some important cases are given below:

On January 07, 2017 a man was beaten to death by a mob after he was caught while allegedly stealing a farmer's cow in Char Naobhanga village under Jamalpur municipality. The victim was Nabin, 32, son of Hatem Khan of Dikpara village of Sherpur. Police and locals said Nabin was caught red-handed by owner Aynal Haque while he was trying to steal a cow around 2:00 am.⁶⁹

⁶⁹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/1055061/>

On January 17, the 2017An elderly man was killed by nephews at Newgirtengur village under Kamrabad union in Sarishabari upazila of the Jamalpur while a housewife in the same upazila, injured by sister-in-law three days ago, died at the hospital. The victim at Newgirtengur village Javed Ali Mandol, 60, had a land dispute with his Brother Dastogir Mandol's sons Bholu Miah, 35, and Kalam, 40, police quoted the victim's family members as saying.⁷⁰

On Jan 24, 2017, a college student died on the way to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital hours after he was beaten severely by some locals at village Khansonatola in Sirajganj. The dead is identified as Asadul Haque Akash, 18, son of Menhaj Uddin of Khansonatola village and student of RS College of Ullapara in the Sirajganj.⁷¹

⁷⁰ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=49532&cat=9>

⁷¹ <http://www.mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=50710&cat=9>

At a glance Human Right Situation of Bangladesh (January '17)

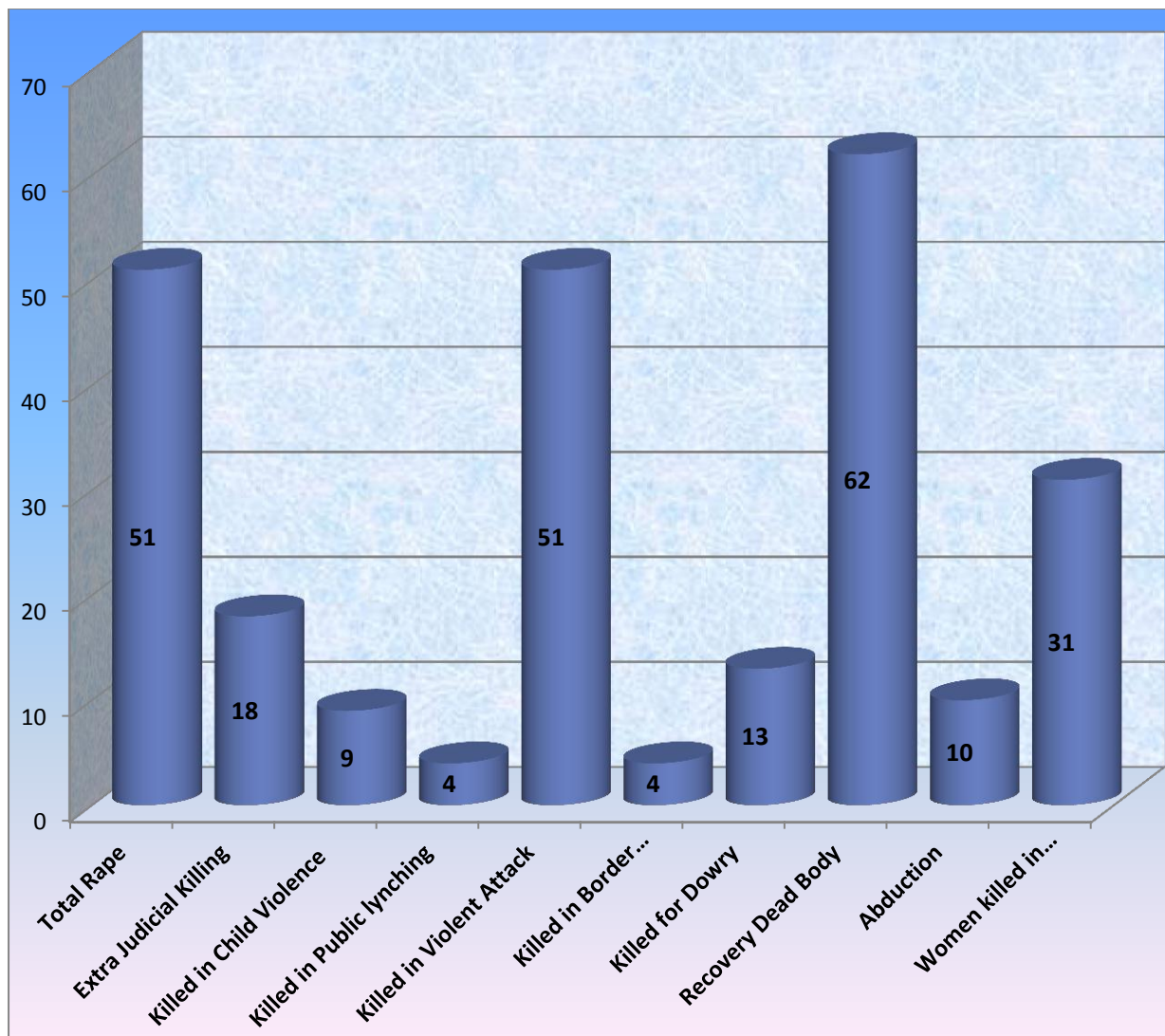


Figure 13: Human Right Situation of Bangladesh at a Glance in January 2017

Conclusion

In summary, it is observed that the human rights situation in Bangladesh was shocking during the January 2017. This is because of the failure of the public administration to protect the life and property of the common people. The political turmoil in Bangladesh threatens the freedom of expression, assembly and of association and a huge number of human rights violations are taking places, such as enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings, torture, targeted killings, and arbitrary arrests among others. Domestic violence and rape have become significant features of the deterioration of human rights conditions in January 2017. Although UDHR and Constitution of Bangladesh (Article no. 27-44) strictly defend all forms of human rights, it's a matter of deep sorrow that they have been denied by most incumbents of the Government.

The members of the opposition political parties mainly Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and Jamaat-e-Islami, dissenting voices, and the young people make up the majority of victims of human rights violations. The existing government came to the power through controversial elections in January 2014 which were boycotted by all major political parties, and as a result, political confrontations have increased. The government has become more repressive in order to keep power at any cost. The rule of law is non-existent. Therefore there is a huge political vacuum which allows for political extremism to grow. At the same time, the government wants to project itself as the only custodian of “secularism” and therefore seeks to project the mainstream political opponents and the anti-government youth as “extremist” so that it can use deadly actions to silence them.

It might be estimated that if human rights situation gradually deteriorates as it happens during the January 2017 then the whole country would be undisciplined, anarchic, unstable as well as disordered. Upon such alarming circumstances, HRSS calls to every conscious citizen and non-state actors to be more vocal against these sorts of deplorable human rights situations in the country. HRSS also urges the Government to be more responsive in protecting the life and property of the general people and thereby fulfill their constitutional commitment.

Recommendation

- ✚ The government must ensure the accountability and transparency of the members of law enforcement agencies and needs to form a special independent agency or judiciary investigation team to inquiry every incident of extrajudicial killing, enforced disappearance and abduction.
- ✚ Ensure fair and neutral justice to the Minorities from the Judiciary and Administrative Authority. Reconstruct all damaged temples and places of worship that were the subject matter of violence and loathing, and bring to an end any prospect attacks on places of worships irrespective of trust and religion.
- ✚ Violence against women is both structural and cultural. So, actions should be taken to create a culture of violence at all spheres, and appropriate measures need to be taken to ensure the security of women, children, and minority group members. Equity must be ensured in every sphere of social, economic and political life.
- ✚ The government should take necessary steps to find out the victims of disappearance and hand them back to their families. HRSS urges the government to abide by the agreements of the international convention for the protection of all persons from enforced disappearance, adopted by the UN on January 20, 2006, in a proper manner.
- ✚ The government should be flexible in the matter of freedom of expression. All types of print and electronic media should enjoy fearless opportunity to broadcast their news even though it goes against the government. The government has to be more tolerant of the opposition and their ideas.
- ✚ Arbitrary arrests of persons with different political ideologies 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 Bangladesh government should establish an independent and impartial commission of inquiry into serious violations of international human rights law by the BSF. The government should invite both Indian and Bangladeshi nationals to submit evidence and bring complaints to such a commission. The inquiry should be time bound and transparent and should have the ability to provide protection to witnesses.
- ✚ Meetings and assemblies should not be obstructed. The government should allow oppositions, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders to observe their processions, seminars and public meetings.