

Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC)

Monthly Human Rights Observation Report

May-2015

According to Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. Human Rights Support Centre (HRSC) believes that human rights are rights inherent to all human beings, whatever their political and religious identity, place of residence, sex, national or ethnic origin, color, language, or any other status. All people are equally entitled to human rights without any kinds of discrimination. These rights are applicable everywhere and at every time in the sense of being universal, and inalienable. Human rights entail both rights and obligations. States assume obligations and duties under national and international law to respect, to protect and to fulfill human rights.

From the perspective of Bangladesh, HRSC is working for improving democratic values, culture of peace, security, good governance and justice. We support to ensure the rights of citizens and peoples of Bangladesh beyond its social, political, cultural, economic and religious positions. HRSC is one of the prominent human rights organizations which believe in equality and impartiality in all sphere of the human impediment in Bangladesh.

In May 2015, Human rights have been infringed and human rights activists as well as journalist have also been harassed to an unprecedented extent in Bangladesh. 16 people have been killed extra judicially, 8 journalists have been assaulted and 6 journalists are seriously injured. On the other hand 68 women became the victim of rape and 10 women are sexually harassed. This report has been prepared on the basis of 12 daily newspaper of Bangladesh.

Extra Judicial Killing:

Extrajudicial killing is an arbitrary or unlawful deprivation of life and simply a murder. Bangladesh has earned notoriety in carrying out extrajudicial killings. 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. Article 32 says: “no person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty, save in accordance with law”. Different terminologies have been used by the law enforcement agencies to distract right groups and mass people’s attention from extrajudicial killings; such as, deaths during ‘cross-fire’, ‘encounter’, ‘gunfight’ etc. 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.

According to the source of HRSC, in May 2015, a total of 16 persons were allegedly killed extra-judicially. Of them 13 people were killed in alleged ‘crossfire/encounters/gunfights’ etc. 2 people were killed by the police. One person was reportedly beaten to death by police. Furthermore, two persons were tortured to death by police.

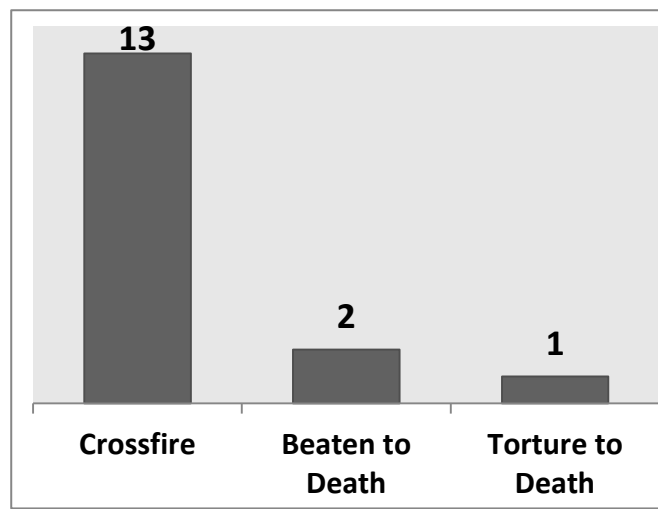


Figure 1: Extra Judicial Killing

On 05th May, 2015 two alleged robbers were killed and another was injured in a “gunfight” with police in Joypurhat's Panchbibi upazila early. The dead are Abdus Salam, 50, of Jagannathpur village in Dinajpur's Phulbari upazila, and Babu Mia, 40, of Puranapail village under Joypurhat Sadar upazila. Another “robber”, Delwar Hossain, 40, was arrested while he was fleeing after the “gunfight”, said police. Police claimed that a pistol, a rifle and three bullets were recovered from the scene.¹

¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/2-robbers-killed-gunfight-80700>

On 10th May, 2015 two alleged robbers were killed in a “gunfight” with Rapid Action Battalion in the Sundarbans early. The dead are Alamgir, 35, second-in-command of robber gang Mayjjha Bahini, and another gang member, Ripon, 30. The gang also kidnaps fishermen, woodcutters and honey collectors from some parts of the forest, said Rab. At one stage, the robbers retreated into the deep forest. Later, the two “robbers” were found dead on the spot, the Rab official said.²

On May 8, 2015 at around 3:00 am, Dholu Hossain (55), Mohammad Jahangir Alam (30) and Mohammad Jafar Alam (25) were killed in ‘gunfight’ in Jhauban area of Moheshkhalipara beach under Teknaf Upazila of Cox’s Bazaar. Aaur Rahman, the Officer-in-Charge of Teknaf Police Station claimed that the deceased persons were human traffickers listed by police. The incident of a ‘shootout’ took place when police conducted operations after learning that human trafficking was going on at Jhaubon.¹⁶ On May 10, 2015 Zafor Majhi (45) from Ukhiya of Cox’s Bazaar¹⁷ and on May 12, 2015 Belal (38) from Bhumirghona village of Cox’s Bazaar were also killed in the name of ‘shootout’.³

Custodial death:

On May 3, 2015 a convicted prisoner of the BDR Mutiny³⁰ and former MP of BNP, Nasir Uddin Pintu died in Rajshahi Medical College Hospital. His family alleged that Pintu was killed intentionally by depriving him of proper treatment.³¹ 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. ³² 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 BSMMU³³ 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.⁴

² <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/2-robbers-killed-81621>

³ <http://www.dhakatribune.com/crime/2015/may/09/3-human-traffickers-killed-gunfight-teknaf-police>

⁴ <http://en.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/news/65381/Detained-BNP-leader-Pintu-dies>

Border Dispute:

Human rights are also utterly violated in border area of Bangladesh by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF). Over the years, India has been repeatedly violating the treaties, shooting at or physically harming anyone seen near the border or anyone trying to cross the border; and illegally entering Bangladesh which is tremendously happened in this month. Such acts are clear violations of international law and human rights; and threats to the sovereignty of Bangladesh.

According to information collected by HRSC, in May 2015, 3 Bangladeshis citizen were killed by the BSF. Three Bangladeshis were injured by them. Of the three, two were shot and one was tortured. Two Bangladeshi was abducted, allegedly by the BSF, during this period.

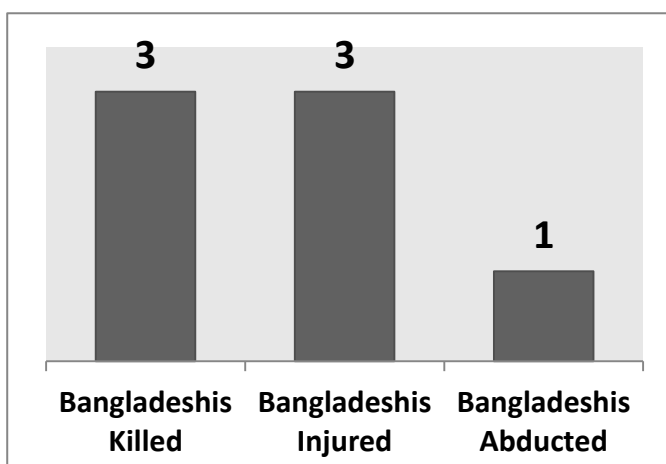


Figure 2 : Border Dispute

On May 06, 2015, Indian Border Security Force (BSF) shot dead a Bangladeshi cattle trader on Dharmajain border in Biral upazila of Dinajpur district. The dead, Abdur Razzak, 44, was the son of late Habibor Rahman of Bonbari village in Thakurgaon's Haripur upazila. Locals said Razzak along with other cattle traders entered India through Dharmajain border early Friday. The BSF men of Gangarampur in Dakshin Dinajpur district opened fire on Razzak when he was returning home along with cattle around 4:30am. Razzak died on the spot. The BSF took the body inside Indian territory and handed it over to Gangarampur police later.⁵

On May 18, 2015 , Indian Border Security Force (BSF) shot dead a Bangladeshi cattle trader and injured another on Burimari border in Patgram upazila of Lalmonirhat district. The dead is Antor Islam, 27, son of Aminur Islam of Railway Colony Para in Patgram upazila headquarters. The injured, Raju Islam, 28, son of Mahidul Islam in the same area. Some six

⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/cattle-trader-shot-dead-bsf-80221>

to seven Bangladeshi cattle traders, including Antor and Raju, along with some cattle were returning home from India through the border around 4:30am, according to Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB). A patrol team of Changrabandha BSF camp in Cooch Behar district opened fire on the cattle traders. Antor died on the spot and Raju suffered bullet injuries. The others managed to escape.⁶

On May 13, 2015, A Bangladeshi cattle trader named Antor Mia (22) was shot to death by BSF member on the broder of Burimani in the Phatgram Upazila of Lalmonirhat districts. Antor Mia, son of Aminur Rahman hailed from Masterpara village in Srirampur union of same Upazila. Local people has informed that A patrol team of BSF of Kusbihar-61 shot him when he went to bring cattle on the border of Burimari near the main piller of 843. BSF take tear his dead body from near 843 No piller. Phatgram upazila Commander of BGB camp, subeder shiraj has confirmed the news.⁷

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 director Lieutenant Colonel Maniruzzaman confirmed the matter.⁸

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.⁹

⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/bsf-again-kills-bangladeshi-82378>

⁷ <http://www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/22653#sthash.BExyQa9Q.dpuf>

⁸ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzY4Mjk=&s=OQ>

⁹ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzY2NjI=&s=OQ>

Attack on Journalist:

Right to freedom of opinion and expression is an important pillar of democracy. Yet in Bangladesh, attacks on journalist are very frequent incidents. Moreover assaulting, threatening and killing has been general matter. Even Journalists are often pressured and mugged by government and law enforcement agency.

According to the HRSC report, in May 2015, nine journalists were assaulted by ruling party and law enforcing agencies. 6 Journalists were injured, 8 journalists were threatened and 2 journalists were arrested to perform their professional duty.

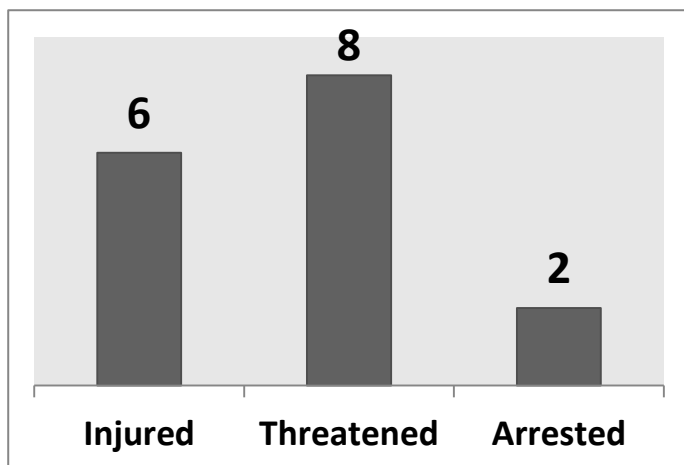


Figure 3: Attack on Journalist

On May 8, 2015 Miscreant has tried to kill Aminul Islam, a Jhinaidaho representative of daily Manabzamin. On Tuesday Journalist Aminul Islam Liton was returning home after completing his professional work with a Motorcycle. On the way, in front of police lines a green color private car attacked his motorcycle in order to kill him. He was fallen down and injure seriously.¹⁰

On May 16, 2015 at around 8:00 pm, local Jubo League activists beat Mofizul Islam, a local correspondent of the daily Naya Diganta and Loksamaj of Soulakupa in Jhenaidah. Mofizul informed HRSC that on May 16, 2015 in the evening, he went to Langalbandh Bazaar where Awami League activist Mannan snatched away his motorbike key. Later five or six criminals, led by Lavlu, the President of Bondekhali Ward unit Jubo League under Dholhara Chandra Union, attacked him and took his camera and money. Mofizul Islam informed that his reporting on drug peddling and loan-giving businesses were the cause of this attack.

¹⁰ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzQzNTY=&s=OQ>

On May 10, 2015, Two Journalist was misbehaved at Satkania upazila of Chittagong district to perform professional duty. The incident happened at Sonakania Union Parishad Auditorium of the Upazila. A workshop on safe migration was arranged by non-government organization BRAC. Witness said that, by the invitation of BRAC local representative of the daily Suprovat newspaper Md. Zahed Hossain and Sumon Mohammed, local correspondent of the daily Prothom Alo went to collect news of Safe Migration Workshop at Sonakania Union Parishad Auditorium. At that time, UP Chairman, Nur Ahmed assaulted them.¹¹

Political Violence:

According to information gathered by Human Rights Support Centre in the month of April 2015, 4 people killed and 186 people injured in political violence.

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 while receiving treatment. Ten people sustained bullet injuries with a total of 20 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 on Wednesday. Following the incident, the two groups were intimidating each other with weapons. On Thursday, Sohel Sikdar's people attacked the former general secretary of district north Chhatra League Sarowar Hossain Babu when he was returning home at night. Babu's followers started demonstrating on the road after hearing the news and a clash broke out between the two groups. Upazila Jubo League Convener Munshi Mojibur Rahman said: "Sohel Sikdar's people shot Masum and then ran over him with a truck. He was taken to a hospital where he died."¹²

On May 08, 2015, At least 10 people were injured in a clash between two factions of local Awami League over its council in Delduar upazila of the district. Ruling party lawmaker from Tangail-6 constituency Khandakar Abdul Baten, and president of the district unit of AL Alamgir Khan Menu also faced an odd situation during the incident. Police fired rubber bullets and tear gas shells to bring the situation under control, said Chand Miah, officer-in-

¹¹ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/524656>

¹² <http://www.dhakatribune.com/politics/2015/may/16/comilla-bcl-man-killed-factional-clash>

charge of Delduar Police Station, adding that additional police personnel have been deployed in the area to avert any further trouble. The injured include Rafiqul Islam, office secretary of the district unit of AL, and Nazmul Huda Nabin, president of district unit of Bangladesh Chhatra League. The three-yearly council of Delduar upazila AL was scheduled to be held on the upazila parishad premises yesterday after 12 years but it was later suspended following the clash, said party sources.¹³

Campus Violence

Violence free environment of campus is an important factor for ensuring right to education. Campus violence has been a regular incident in public universities. Ruling parties students wing always attack, bite or torture the general student or opposite mentality students for silly matter.

According to information gathered by Human Rights Support Centre in the month of May 2015, total one student killed and 65 students seriously injured.

On May 22, 2015, A clash happened between Bangladesh Chhatra League and Bangladesh Islami Chhatra Shibir of Chittagong University unit. The clash reportedly originated on the issue of football match. Chattraleague activist vandalized about 50 rooms and take away many valausble assets along with 5 laptops of Islami Chhatra Shibir activists.¹⁴

On May 19, 2015, About 10 students have been seriously injured on the issue of capturing hostel seat of Government Brazmohan (BM) College. Masters 1st Year student. Sumon Halder and Honours last year student Moni Sankar were admitted to Shebachim Hospital as they were seriously injured. Both are activists of BCL.¹⁵

On May 1, 2015, Two activist of Bangladesh Chhatra League of Rajshahi University of Engineering and Technology (RUET) unit were injured in a factional clash over a trifling matter on the campus. ,The injured were identified as Abdul Aziz and Rony Islam, both final semester students of the civil engineering department. They were admitted to the Rajshahi

¹³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/rival-al-men-clash-over-upazila-council-10-hurt-80482>

¹⁴ <http://www.mzamin.com/details.php?mzamin=NzY0NjE=&s=MTA>

¹⁵ www.dailynayadiganta.com/detail/news/23998#sthash.p2TffhHw.dpuf

Medical College Hospital (RMCH) in critical condition. Clash ensued when Selim Hall unit BCL president Munna, joint secretary Rajib and Joy along with other 8/10 activists started arguing with BCL activists Chowdhury Rony and Abdul Aziz over their previous dispute when the latter were taking breakfast at the university central cafeteria at around 11:30am. At one stage, of the two factions one led by Munna and another led by Rony attacked each other with iron rod, sticks and other weapons.¹⁶

On May 05, 2015, Two students have been seriously beaten up by Bangladesh Chattra League Activist (BCL) at Jagnath Hall Cantin of Dhaka University. Injured are Masud Al Mahdi, a 3rd year student of Mass Communication and Journalism department. Another is Ali Ahsan Bhuiyan, second year student of same department.¹⁷

On May 3, 2015, eight students and a policeman were injured while a journalist and a train operator assaulted during intermittent clashes between two factions of the now dissolved Bangladesh Chhatra League unit at Chittagong University (CU). Mohsin, Mir and Tajul were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital; Jahid, Sajid, Sumon, Masud and Rifat to CU Medical Centre while Inspector Abul Khayer, in-charge of CU Police Outpost, to the police lines hospital. Witnesses said an altercation ensued between activists of shuttle train based group 69 and campus based Banglar Mukh in Zero Point area around 3:00pm, leading to the clashes for around 20 minutes where sticks and sharp weapons were used. Around 4:00pm, Banglar Mukh activists assaulted the train operator, delaying the departure by around 10 minutes, they said. They assaulted Shakawat Hossain, CU correspondent of the daily Kaler Kantha, and smashed his cellphone when he tried taking pictures, added the witnesses. Later, the 69 group's activists beat up Masud and Rifat at the station.¹⁸

On May 13, 2015, Maulana Bhashani Science and Technology University in Tangail was closed for an indefinite period after a Bangladesh Chhatra League leader was killed in a BCL infighting clash on the campus. Sources said Mosharaf, a Masters student of Criminology and Police Science Department and the self-declared BCL president of the university, was killed and two others--Faisal and Badhan--hurt when two rival groups locked into a clash over establishing supremacy on the campus in the afternoon.

¹⁶ http://www.thefinancialexpress-bd.com/old/more.php?date=2012-03-13&news_id=123307

¹⁷ <http://www.prothom-alo.com/bangladesh/article/521443>

¹⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/9-hurt-cus-dissolved-bcls-factions-clash-80047>

Public Lynching:

HRSC believes that everyone has right to be considered as innocent until proven guilty by the court. 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 result public lynching continues.

According to HRSC report, In May 2015, 16 people were reportedly killed in 10 incidents of public lynching.

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 on Monday night 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.¹⁹

On May 3, 2015, A mob has beaten a young man to death, accusing him of being a cow thief in Gazipur. The deceased is Hashmat Ali, 25, son of Md Ohidul Islam, of Noapara Thatanga village under Boali Union of Kaliakair upazila in the district. Sub-Inspector (SI) Saiful Alam of Mouchak police said, quoting the locals that a group of thieves were taking away a cow from Omar's cowhouse in the early hours of Sunday. Locals then chased the group and caught Hashmat Ali. The other men in the group managed to escape at the time. The villagers beat up Hasmat severely. On hearing the news, Kaliakair police recovered the injured Hashmat Ali and took him to Kaliakair Upazila Health Complex in critical condition. He died at the hospital.²⁰

Two men were beaten to death on suspicion of theft in Jhenaidah and Gazipur. In Jhenaidah, locals in Kushna village tied Amirul Islam, 32, son of Nabij Uddin, to a tree and beat him up after he was suspected of stealing cattle around 4am. Noab Ali, in-charge of Talshar police camp, said Amirul succumbed to injuries around 10am. He said the 32-year-old had been

¹⁹ <http://newagebd.net/121195/3-robbers-killed-in-keraniganj-mob-beating>

²⁰ www.dhakatribune.com/crime/2015/may/03/man-killed-mob-beating

accused of theft and mugging. The body was sent to Jhenaidah Sadar Hospital morgue for autopsy. Meanwhile, in Gazipur, a mob beat up 35-year-old Abdul Motaleb in Kapasia's Barun village around 3:30am, killing him on the scene. He was the son of late Hafiz Uddin of Paplachamurchi village. Ahsan Ullah, officer-in-charge of Kapasia police station, said some local men confronted Motaleb after he was moving around suspiciously in front of a tea stall. "The mob beat Motaleb to death but it could not be known if he went there with an accomplice," he said. The OC said Motaleb had been accused in three theft cases filed with Kapasia police station.²¹

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.²²

Criminal Attack:

According to Human Rights Support Centre report in the month of May 2015, Total 89 incidents of criminal attack happened and total 65 were killed in these attacks and were 80 seriously injured.

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. He was rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital and then shifted to National Institute of Traumatology and Orthopaedic Rehabilitation (Nitor) in the capital as his condition deteriorated. 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.²³

²¹ www.dhakatribune.com/crime/2015/may/16/2-suspected-thieves-beaten

²² <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/mob-kills-2-muggers-jessore-87448>

²³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/bcl-leader-hacked-manikganj-80858>

On May 08, 2015, A college boy was hacked to death by criminals at Bherakhali village in Harinakundo upazila early yesterday. The deceased was identified as Kamruzzaman, 22, son of Selim Miah of the area. He was a second year student of Alamdanga Agriculture Diploma College. Ershadul Kabir, officer-in-charge of Harinakundo Police Station, said a gang attacked Kamruzzaman with sharp weapons while he was asleep. He died on the spot.²⁴

On May 9, 2015, Muggers beat up and hacked two paddy traders on Shariakandi-Bogra road in Sharakandi upazila yesterday and took away Tk 3 lakh from them. The victims are Asalotuzzaman, 28, and Foyjul Haque, 27, of Phulbari Dhakkhinpara village under the upazila. They were going to Nazipur market under Noagaon district to buy paddy. When the traders reached near Hat Phulbari area of the road at around 4:00pm, a gang of 7 to 8 muggers waylaid them. The gang beat up the traders, hacked them with sharp weapons and left the scene with a bag containing the money.²⁵

On May 10, 2015, The body of an autorickshaw driver was found in a canal of Ishwardi Regional Agriculture Research Centre (IRARC) on Friday, two days after he went missing. The deceased is Shariful Islam, 38, son of Nazrul Islam, also an autorickshaw driver and resident of Durgapur-Maria village in Rajshahi.²⁶

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.²⁷

On May 12, 2015, A trader was hacked to death by unidentified criminals at Sadhu-Lichubagan village under Kaunia upazila of the district. The deceased was identified as Nazrul Islam, 26, son of Abul Hossain of the village and owner of a grocery shop at Mirbag

²⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/student-hacked-death-81052>

²⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/two-traders-hacked-robbed-tk-3-lakh-81410>

²⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/criminals-kill-auto-rickshaw-driver-take-away-vehicle-81412>

²⁷ <http://www.bdchronicle.com/detail/news/32/18099#sthash.NGT93NJm.dpuf>

Bazar in the same upazila. Villagers said masked criminals, numbering 10 to 12, attacked Nazrul near his house at Sadhu village while he was returning home at around 1:30pm. They hacked him with sharp weapons and left the scene. Villagers took the critically injured Nazrul to Rangpur Medical College Hospital (RMCH), where he died soon after admission.²⁸

Dead Body Found After Abduction:

On May 02, 2015, Police recovered the body of an abducted man from the River Dhaleswari in Sadar upazila of the Tangail district. The deceased was Idris Ali, 45, son of Inam Ali of Khordo Jugni village in the upazila. Police and family sources said criminals abducted Idris from his house on Saturday night. Locals found his body floating on the river in the morning and informed the police who sent it to a hospital morgue for autopsy.²⁹

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 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. Tracking the number, police first arrested Sakib, 28, from Chawkbazar in the capital and then, as per his information, Osman Gani, believed to be aged around 30 years, he said. Osman admitted killing and burying the class V student.³⁰

On May 20, 2015, The body of a youth was found in a ditch in Bhandaria upazila of the Pirojpur district, three days after abduction. The deceased is Sumon Das, 25, son of Manoranjan Das of Gouripur village. He was a battery-run auto-rickshaw driver in the upazila. Family and Bhandaria Police Station (PS) sources said Sumon went missing with his auto- rickshaw on Thursday night. Since he was not found after a search, family members filed a general diary (GD) with the PS on Saturday.³¹

²⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/trader-hacked-death-rangpur-81722>

²⁹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/abducted-man-found-murdered-80327>

³⁰ <http://www.thedailystar.net/city/kidnapped-boy-found-dead-82518>

³¹ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/body-missing-auto-rickshaw-driver-found-84244>

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 practise 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, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.”

According to information gathered by HRSC in the month of May 2015, there have been 3 attacks on minority community, their home and temple. Nobody was injured

Violence Against Women:

Though government is supposed to take protective measures to stop violence against women it has been continued and increasing day by day. Rape, sexual harassment, acid violence are increasing on a greater extent because of corrupted judiciary and administrative system. Most of perpetrators of violence are out of punishment with taking ruling parties shelter.

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

Sexual Harassment: a total of 10 girls and women were victims of sexual harassment. Of them 4 were assaulted and 6 were stalked.

Dowry Related Violence: 16 women were subjected to dowry violence. 12 were killed because of dowry and 4 women were physically abused over dowry demands.

Rape: total number of 68 females who were raped. Among them, 25 were women, 43 were children below the age of 16 and the age of one person could not be determined. Of the women, 6 were killed after being raped; 10 were victims of gang rape.

Acid Violence: 5 women became victims of acid violence.

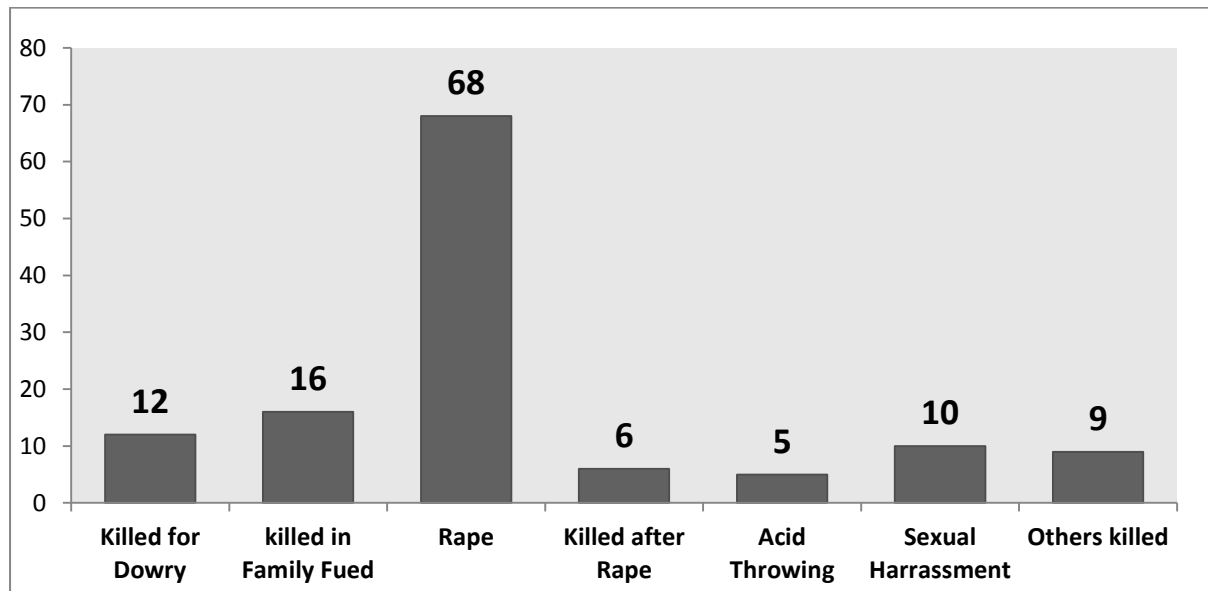


Figure 4: Violence against Women

On May 06, 2015, A housewife was murdered by her husband allegedly for dowry in Sadar upazila of Laxmipur district on Friday. The victim was Bilkis Akhter, 18, wife of Abu Taher of Shamsarabad village in the upazila. Jahangir Alam, father of Bilkis, said Taher married his daughter in December last year. After their marriage, Taher often tortured Bilkis for Tk 50,000 as dowry, he alleged. They locked in an altercation over the issue on Friday night. At one stage, Taher strangled Bilkis and later dumped the body in the Rahamatkhali Canal in the area. Locals said they found the body floating on the canal the following morning and informed the police.³²

On May 06, 2015, housewife was killed allegedly by her husband over family feud at Dhapkathali village in Kalai upazila early yesterday. The deceased is Rowshan Ara, 20, wife of Abdul Karim. Police said Karim married Rowshan, daughter of late Abdur Rahman of Khetlal upazila of the district, a year ago. After having dinner on Tuesday night, they engaged in an altercation over a trivial matter at around 2:00am. At one stage, Karim

³² <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/housewife-murdered-dowry-80189>

strangled his wife to death. On the Same day, In Manikganj, a housewife was killed allegedly by her husband in Sadar upazila. The deceased is Makhon Begum, 50, wife of Mofiz Uddin of Paschim Dashora village in the upazila.³³

On May 07, 2015, A schoolgirl was raped allegedly by her house tutor at Jhukuria village in Sadar upazila. The accused is Shipon Hossain, 24, son of Kazimuddin of the village. The victim's mother said Shipon came to teach her daughter, a student of Class IV of a local school, at their house around 8:00am. At one stage, he violated her in absence of the family members, she alleged.³⁴

On May 08, 2015 An alleged stalker hacked a girl to death in Narsingdi's Belabo upazila after he saw the girl talking to another boy. The dead, Dipa Akter, was the daughter of Syed Shamsuddin Tarun in Baznabo Syed Para village. Dipa was a university admission seeker. Alamin, 28, the alleged stalker, stabbed Dipa in her head with a sharp weapon at Baznabo Syed Para around 4:45pm when she was walking with her female friend. She died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. "Dipa was staying with one of our relatives in Tangail and taking preparation for this year's admission test in Dhaka University."³⁵

On May 08, 2015, A woman and her nine-year-old daughter were found murdered at their rented house in Sadarghat of Chittagong city. The deceased were Nasima Akther, 40, a housewife, and Ria Akther, a class-four student at East Madarbari Girls School. Nasima's husband Shah Alam, a butcher, claimed that robbers slit the victims' throats as they had recognised the criminals.³⁶

May 11, 2015 , A woman was killed after rape over land dispute at Telkupi village in Sadar upazila. The deceased is Fahima Begum, 34, daughter of Rahim Mollah of the village. She was a divorcee. Police and locals said there was a longstanding feud between Rahim Mollah and one Sharif Uddin over a piece of land in the area. On Sunday afternoon, Sharif locked in an altercation with Rahim over the land. Rahim Mollah said "Sharif and his men picked up

³³ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/2-housewives-murdered-80859>

³⁴ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/schoolgirl-raped-manikganj-81047>

³⁵ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/stalker-stabs-girl-death-81142>

³⁶ <http://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/mother-daughter-brutally-killed-81087>

my daughter at night and killed her.” Mizanur Rahman, officer-in-charge of Sadar Police Station, said Fahima was strangled after rape.³⁷

May 20, 2015, In a horrific incident, a father allegedly killed his three minor daughters at Chowdhurypara village of Badarkhali in Cox's Bazar. Abdul Gani slit the throats of Ayesha Siddiqua Champa, 11; Shiru Jannat Sheuli, 9; and one-a-half-year-old Sharaban Tahura Baily while they were sleeping around 2:30am, according to police and relatives. Gani, a rickshaw puller by profession, fled home after committing the heinous homicides, said the victims' mother Fatema Begum, who suspects that her husband's "extramarital affair" might have led to the murder.³⁸

On May 9, 2015 In the early morning, a local criminal named Rothin and his associates threw acid on Ankhi Bagchi, a second year student of HSC as she refused a love proposal, in Tudamandra Village under Gopalganj District. The criminals entered her home by cutting the bamboo wall and threw acid on her, which burnt her face and hands. Ankhi was admitted to Gopalganj Sadar Hospital.

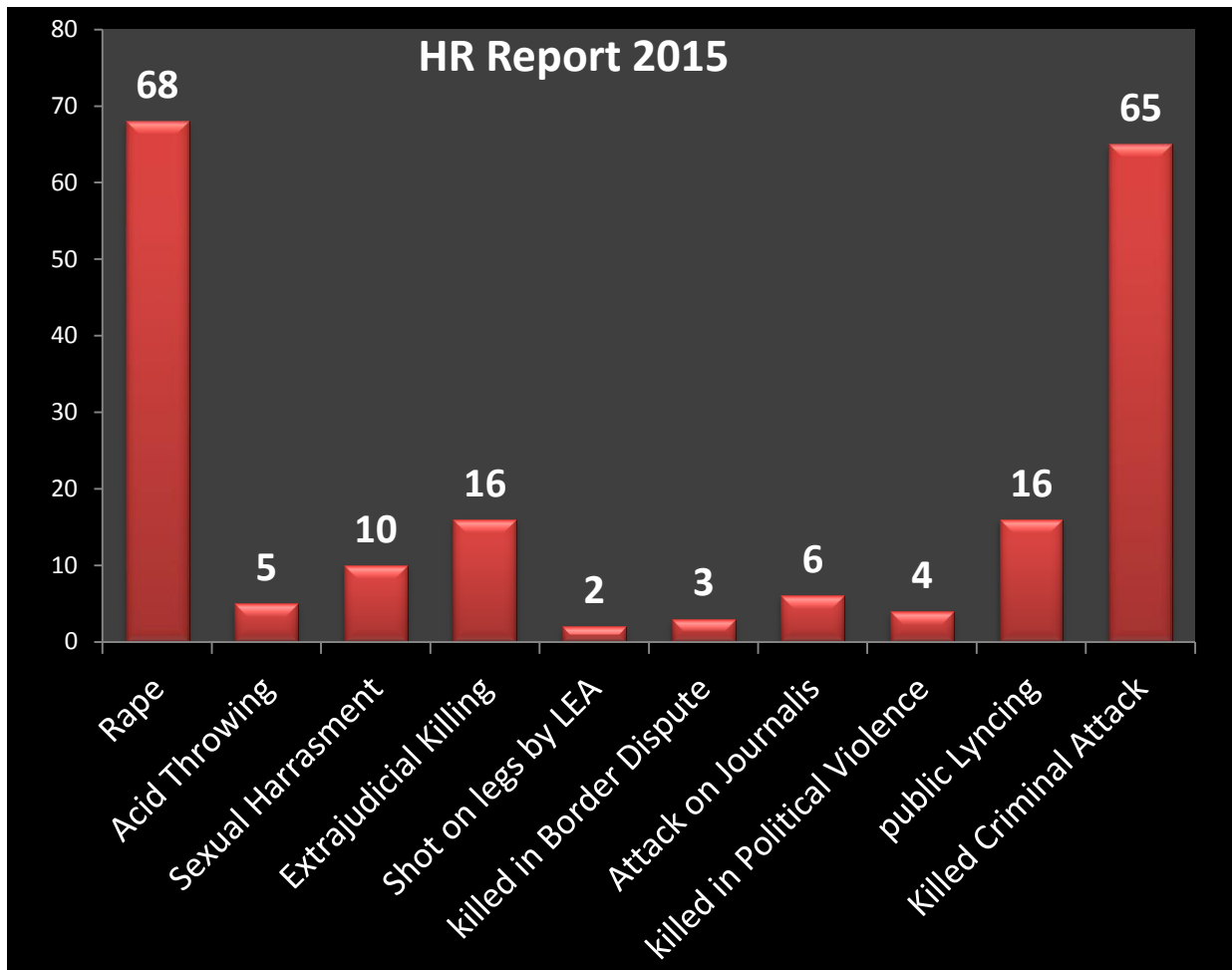
On May 21, 2015 at around 9:00 pm, two youths picked up a 22-year old woman belonging to the ethnic minority Garo community from in front of Sinha CNG Motors at Kuril Biswa Road, Dhaka and raped her on a running microbus. The woman was waiting there for a bus to go home from work. At that time a microbus stopped and two youth got out and forcibly picked her up. They blindfolded her and raped her while giving her death threats. Later she was left in Uttara. She filed a case with Bhatara Police Station on the same night. On May 26 at night, RAB arrested Ashraf Khan alias Tushar (32) from Kolapara, Patuakhali; and Zahidul Islam alias Lavlu (26) from Gulshan, Dhaka for their involvement in this incident. At the same time, RAB also seized the microbus which was used.

On May 11, 2015 at night, a female garment worker was gang raped on a moving bus in Charkamaldi area under Sonargaon Upazila in Narayanganj District. Sub-Inspector of Sonargaon Police Station, Aminul Islam said that at around 10:30 pm, workers of Fakir Garment Factory located at Araihasar area in Narayanganj, were returning home by a bus

³⁷ <http://www.thedailystar.net/country/woman-killed-after-rape-81729>

³⁸ <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/man-kills-3-daughters-82495>

hired by the garment factory authority. All passengers, except a woman, got off the bus. Taking this advantage, three or four men including the bus driver Chandu Mia and helper Rubel raped her and left her in a sand lot unconscious. The next day local people beat helper Rubel and handed him over to police. Rubel acknowledged his involvement in the rape before the Court under section



Recommendation:

Incidents of extrajudicial killings and torture by law enforcement agencies must be investigated and the perpetrators be brought to effective justice

Political violence must be stopped with discussion of all political parties. The Government should take unbiased and effective legal action against criminal acts.

Arbitrary arrests of persons who have alternative beliefs must be stopped. The Government should immediately repeal the repressive Special Powers Act of 1974 and the Information and Communication Technology Act 2006 (Amended 2013).

The Government should explain all incidents of enforced disappearance, killings, torture, abduction which are allegedly perpetrated by law enforcement agencies. We believe that victims of disappearance should be handed back to their families. HRSC urges the government to accede to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance, adopted by the UN on December 20, 2006.

The Government should take all measures to protect the rights of the citizens belonging to their political and religious rights to ensure their security.

Meetings and assemblies should not be obstructed. The government should refrain from attacking peaceful programmes and carrying out repressive unconstitutional activities.

Government must ensure the accountability of all members of law enforcement agencies and should take effective measures to end impunity.

State should respect all national and international human rights rules, regulations and treaties to protect human rights.