

Annual
Human Rights
Situation
in Bangladesh
2021



HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT SOCIETY (HRSS)

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Annual Human Rights Situation in Bangladesh 2021

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In Bangladesh, the act of human rights violation has become a culture of oppressing dissidents and creating an awful state for the protracting authoritarian regime. Although 20 years after independence a democratic government came into power and continues to present with some questions, Human Rights remain a dream for mass people because of the unwillingness of the government. However, the current scenario of Human Rights has deteriorated, as the government restricted on freedom of expression, limited political and civil society space and a culture of impunity for Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) and ruling party leaders. Therefore, the overall human rights situation of the country has reached a critical juncture through severe political violence, attacks and arrests of journalists indiscriminately, the killing and torture of innocent Bangladeshis by the BSF at the border, and widespread electoral violence. The human rights violations such as attack on minority, attack on journalist, arrest in DSA, attacked & injured people by LEAs, killed in public lynching and rape especially child & gang rape are increased in the year of 2021. This frightful condition of human rights in Bangladesh inspires HRSS to work hard to raise consciousness both at home and abroad. We believe that the contents of this report will help mass people, civil society organizations and international communities understand the overall human rights situation in the country. We further expect that both state and non-state actors working for human rights would take necessary steps to stop repeated offenses from being acquainted with the updated human rights conditions of Bangladesh.

In the end, I would like to thank all of my associates for their remarkable contribution to publishing this annual report 2021. I specifically express my gratitude to the members of the executive committee who, for this publication, undertook all pains. I hope that your cordial consultation and support will help us to improve the quality of this report and encourage us to keep a vibrant role in the human rights sector.

Editor



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In spite of having national and international legal obligation, human rights are violated in Bangladesh continuously. The state fails to protect its citizen's right with the help of law enforcement agencies (LEAs). Sometimes we see LEAs to some extent were involved in human rights violation rather than protection of citizen's rights. In a democratic society, it is the responsibility of the state to protect and promote human rights. The State and its all the law enforcer including administrative bodies whether they are the police, RAB, etc. have a duty to respect human rights, prevent human rights violations, and take active steps for the promotion of human rights. Unfortunately, many a time, while discharging this duty, LEAs conflict with human rights. They are pressured to get quick results, often with mis-using the power that they may use any means possible to accomplish the task at hand. However, sometimes they abuse their power by the name of "Gunfight/ Crossfire/ Encounter" which is the violation of Human Rights frequently occurred in Bangladesh. Consequently, the state could not properly ensure justice, peace and security to its citizens. At the same time, the human rights situation has become frightful because of the government limited political and civil society space, restriction on freedom of expression, culture of impunity for LEAs and ruling party, intimidation and extortion by the LEAs along with the ruling party leaders. As a result, all sorts of unlawful activities including extra-judicial killing (EJKs), enforced disappearance, custodial torture and death, border killings, child killings, arbitrary arrest under digital

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security act'18, attack on journalists, attack on minorities, election violence & vote rigging and violence against women especially incident of rape were massively spread out in the society. As a human rights organization, HRSS is dedicated to ensure all sorts of human rights for people through building awareness as well as monitoring and publishing human rights situation, helping destitute people and conducting advocacy with the government and other concerned authorities from home and abroad. As part of this initiative, HRSS is going to publish the Annual Human Rights Report of 2021. The report shows that in comparison of the 2020 annual report, the overall human rights situation has deteriorated to some extent in 2021.

According to collected data from prominent national dailies and HRSS investigation reports, a total of 96 people were reportedly extra-judicially killed in 2021. Of them, 50 were killed in the name of 'crossfire/ so called gunfights/in fights', 05 tortured to death, 36 shot to death and 05 were died in the custody in a total of 68 incidents. At the same time, about 48 persons were reportedly died in prison. Moreover, a total of 08 persons have been 'disappeared' by the LEAs (i.e., remained missing for at least 72 hours) in 06 incidents. Out of them, one was returned home, 05 were shown arrested and the remaining two still unknown.

On the other hand, a total of 1833 females were raped in 2021. Among them, 786 victims were adults whereas alarmingly 1047 were children under the age of 18. It's a grave concern that 296 have been victim of gang-raped, 48 were brutally killed after being raped and 14 were committed suicide for rape. Approximately, 159 incidents of dowry-related violence were reported, where 42 were killed, 04 committed suicide and 113 women physically abused over dowry demand. A total of 237 girls and women were reportedly victims of sexual harassment and another 280 girls and women were victim of attempt to rape. In the meantime, 04 girls and women were killed and 24 injured in 21 incidents of acid violence. It is also alarming that in a total of 1725 violent incidents against children were reported in 2021, where 251 lost their lives and 1752 were



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physically & mentally tortured and critically injured.

Moreover, it has been reported by HRSS that, a journalist was killed, 127 journalists were injured, 52 threatened, 20 arrested and 34 were assaulted in nearly 173 incidents in 2021. Meanwhile, 178 people were arrested, 510 accused and 217 cases filed in a total of 199 incidents of Digital Security Act 2018. HRSS has also observed the incidents of attacks on minorities in 2021, where at least 189 temples and 161 houses were partially or fully destroyed. Meanwhile, 03 minority members were killed, 101 were injured and 05 incidents of land grabbing occurred in a total of 78 incidents.

The HRSS report has also found, roughly 17 Bangladeshi citizens have been killed, 10 injured, 04 shot and 30 persons arrested by BSF (Indian Border Security Force) in a total of 38 incidents. Similarly, 22 Bangladeshi people were arrested by Myanmar Border Guard Police (BGP).

On the otherhand, at least 154 people were died; approximately 5423 people injured and about 166 persons were sustained bullet hit in a total of 647 incidents of election-related violence. Moreover, at least 67 people were killed and 4522 people injured in political violence. Whereas, around 4195 persons were victim of political arrested; most of them are opposition political leaders and activists in a total of 666 incidents of political arrest by LEAs.

It has also been reported that in 2021, in a total of 174 incidents of inhuman torture and shooting by LEAs, 2488 people were injured, 325 hit by bullet and 89 people tortured in 2021. Meanwhile, 17 labour were killed, 201 injured and another 84 were shot in a total of 47 incidents. At the same time, around 48 people were killed and 85 were injured in public lynching.

HRSS is deeply concerned about the degradation of human rights conditions in the country. It urges all human rights organizations as well as common citizens to raise their voice to protect and promote human rights in Bangladesh.



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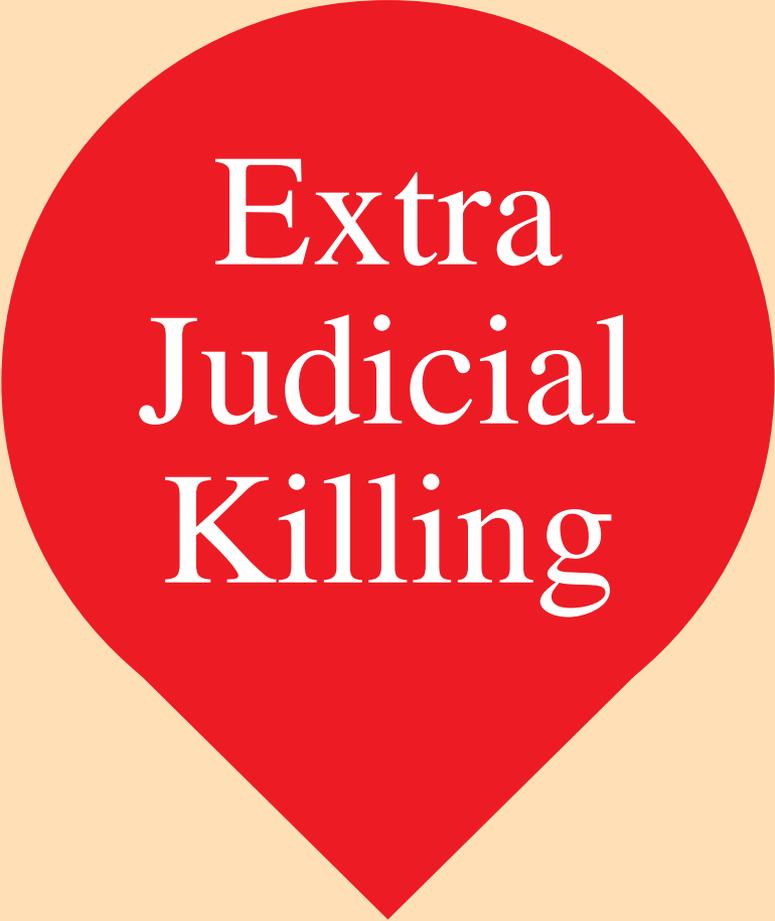


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Acronyms



AL	: Awami League
BCL	: Bangladesh Chhatra League
BFUJ	: Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalist
BGB	: Border Guard Bangladesh
BGP	: Myanmar Border Guard Police
BJC	: Bangladesh Jatiyotabadi Chhatra Dal
BNP	: Bangladesh Nationalist Party
BSF	: Indian Border Security Force
BNHRC	: National Human Rights Commission of Bangladesh
CAT	: Committee against Torture
CSW	: Committee on the Status of Women
CHR	: Committee on Human Rights
CERD	: Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination
CRC	: Committee on the Rights of the Child
CEDAW	: Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
CRC	: Convention on the Rights of the Child
CTTC	: Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime
DACSU	: Dhaka University Central Student's Union
DB	: Detective Branch
DMCH	: Dhaka Medical College Hospital
DSA	: Digital Security Act
DU	: Dhaka University
DUJ	: Dhaka Unit of Journalist
GA	: General Assembly
GD	: General Diary
HRSS	: Human Rights Support Society
HRC	: Human Rights Council
ICCPR	: International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICESCR	: International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
ICJ	: International Court Of Justice
LEAs	: Law Enforcement Agencies
JSD	: Jatiyatabadi Swechchhasebak Dal
JCD	: Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal
NGO	: Non-Governmental Organization
OC	: Officer-In-Charge
PTI	: Primary Teachers Training Institution
SR	: Special Rapporteur
RAB	: Rapid Action Battalion
RU	: Rajshahi University
SI	: Sub- Inspector
UN	: United Nations
UDHR	: Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UNHCHR	: United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
UP	: Union Parishad
UPDF	: United People's Democratic Front
VAW	: Violence against Women



Extra
Judicial
Killing

Article 32 of Bangladesh constitution says: “No person shall be deprived of life or personal liberty”. Similarly, article 30 of UDHR states, everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person. Despite having such constitutional safeguarding, Extra Judicial Killings by law enforcement agencies are now a very common phenomenon in Bangladesh. Basically, Extra Judicial Killing means execution without justice and it’s an arbitrary or unlawful deprivation of life and simply a murder. An extrajudicial killing is the killing of a person by governmental authorities without the sanction of any judicial proceeding or legal process.¹ So any deaths that are not executed by the order of judiciary in accordance with the laws are considered as Extra-Judicial killings.

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But the government of Bangladesh has been violating the constitution and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights almost every day especially during the operation clean heart. Moreover, it continues in Bangladesh due to the absence of rule of law and culture of impunity for law enforcement agencies in the country. On the other hand, different terminologies have been used by the law enforcement agencies to avoid the liabilities of extra-judicial killing; such as deaths during ‘cross-fire’, ‘encounter’, ‘gunfight’ and in-fight etc. In the cases of “crossfire or encounters,” however, we find that legal provisions are being totally ignored. Relevant cases of extra judicial killing have been discussed and analyzed below:



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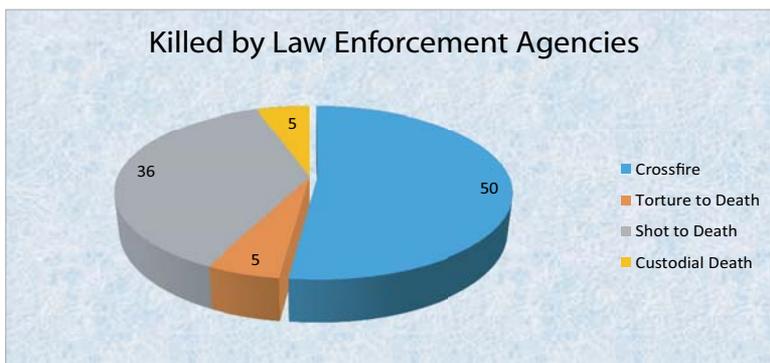


Figure 1: Statistics of Extra-Judicial Killing

The pie chart demonstrates the awful scenario of human rights in Bangladesh in 2021. According to the Human Rights Support Society (HRSS) investigation report and collected data from prominent national dailies, a total of 96 persons (including 12 rohingya people) were reportedly killed extra-judicially. Among them, 50 were killed in the name of 'crossfire/ gunfights', 05 tortured to death, 36 shot to death, and 05 were died in the custody.

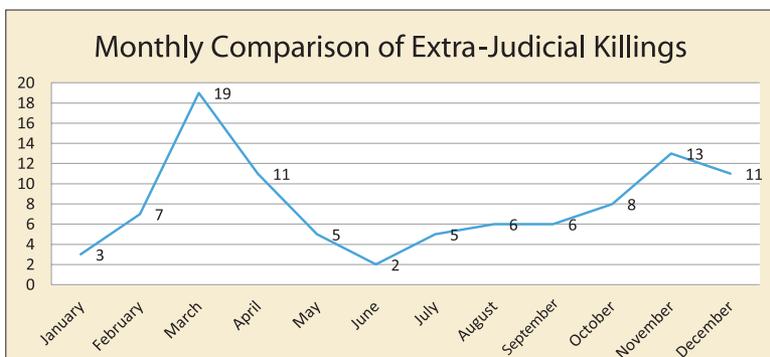


Figure 2: Monthly Comparison of Extra-Judicial Killings



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According to the HRSS report, 08 people were allegedly killed by law enforcement agencies each month in 2021. The number of people killed extra-judicially in January was 03 and the number sharply soaring to the peak of 19 in March. After that, the number of encounters moderately fell in April to 11, then it plummeted in the following months and declined to the lowest number of 02 in June. From the beginning of the second half of 2021, the number of extra judicial killings was gradually augmented to 13 in November and declined slightly in the final month.

Kinds	Police	RAB	Police And RAB	DB Police	Join Force	Coast Guard	BGB	Army	Total
Crossfire	5	29		3	0	0	13	0	50
Shot To Death	33	0		0			3	0	36
Torture To Death	4	0		1	0		0		5
Custodial Death	3			2					5
Total	45	29	0	6	0	0	16	0	96

Figure 3: Actors of Extra-Judicial Killing

The graph provides updated information about the incidences of extra-judicial killings in the year of 2021 by the members of the LEAs. Statistics shows that most of the citizens were almost 45 extra judicially killed by the Police and 29 people were killed by RAB although they are supposed to protect the safety and security of the people. The number of people killed by the Border Guard Bangladesh BGB is alarmingly high. Legally the members of BGB are duty bound to protect the safety and security of people in the border area.



Some of the cases of extra-judicial killings are detailed

On January 03, 2021 a student of law was died after four days of his arrest, by the torture of police at police custody in Barisal. The deceased Rejaul Karim Reza (30), is son of Yunus Munshi and resident of Hamid Khan Road of ward No. 24 of Barisal city was practicing law at Barishal Court. Family members said that Reza was arrested from a roadside tea stall near his home on Hamid Khan Road in the city at around 8:00 pm on December 29, 2020. Sub-inspector Mohiuddin Mahi of Detective Branch (DB) in Barishal beat up Reja, leading to his death. Reza's family members also said that they tried to file a case against the cop but they refused to take the case.²



Rejaul Karim Reza, 30-year-old student of law died in police custody in Barisal. Photo: Daily Star

On February 08, 2021, two Rohingya "drug dealers" were killed in a "gunfight" with members of BGB in Bandarban's Ghumdhum border area. The dead were identified as Mohammad Zobair (28) and Dil Mohammad (25) from the Kutupalong Rohingya camp.³



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On February 19, 2021 a man was killed in “so called” gunfight with RAB-10 at Swapnadhara area of Keraniganj in Dhaka. The deceased Shafiq Sheikh (35) was the son of Abed Sheikh of Jamalpur village Mymensingh and was a technician at Tongi Truck Stand. Shafiq Sheikh was the driver of a truck that ran over and killed a RAB member in Mymensingh’s Bhaluka on February 14. RAB claim that he was a drug dealer. Family members claim that he was not a drug dealer and was traceless since the incident and killed on 19th February.⁴

On March 26, 2021, four people were killed in Chattogram and one in Brahmanbaria in clashes between supporters of Hefajat-e-Islam and policemen after Juma prayers. The deceased in Chattogram were identified as Kazi Mirazul Islam, 40, Robiul Islam, 27, Wahidul Islam, 15, and Jamil. At the same time, Ashik, 20, was killed in a clash in Brahmanbaria. Local Hefajat leaders said, police opened fire on their activists without any provocation, leaving four dead and dozens of others injured.⁵



Four Hefajat-E-Islam member died in several clashes with police during protest against Indian PM Modi’s Bangladesh visit



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On April 05, 2021 one protester was killed and at least 20 others were critically injured as the police opened fire on mobs agitating against anti-COVID-19 restrictions in Saltha upazila of Faridpur. Zubayer Hossain (20), who was hit by a bullet died on the spot shortly, said Saltha police station inspector (investigation) Subrta Goldar.⁶

On May 01, 2021, a man died in police custody in Chapainawabganj after he was arrested in a narcotics case from in front of Sadar hospital. The victim was identified as Sanaul Haque Biswas, 44, of Chanshikari village of Bholahat upazila of the district. The victim younger brother Masud Rana Biswas, alleged that his brother was tortured by police and died because of the torture.⁷

On August 03, 2021 a man was died in custody during remand at Uttara East police station in Dhaka. The victim Md Liton (45) was a truck driver living in Narayanganj and resident of Bogura. He was arrested in a drug case. After his remand for the first day, he was returned to custody at around 12 am and then within 2 hours he was died. Police claim that he committed suicide but his family members refused this claim.⁸

On September 21, 2021, a fisherman was allegedly killed in police torture in Kalapara, Patuakhali. The deceased fisherman is Sujan Hawaladar, 35, who lived in Char Baliatli village of Balliatli Union in Kalapara upazila and son of Abdus Chhatar Hawaladar. Local and eyewitness sources said four policemen chased Sujan Howladar's trawler. Catching Sujan the policemen kicked him indiscriminately and thrashed him. Three fell unconscious and Sujan died on the trawler.⁹

On October 14, 2021, there was a clash between police and angry people at Hajiganj Market in Chandpur over the incident of so called receiving the Qur'an at Pujamandpe in Comilla. At least three people died in it. The deceased were identified as



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Bablu (28), Al Amin (18), and Hriday (14), a teenager. Deputy commissioner Anjana Khan Majlis said two platoons of BGB have been deployed to keep the law and order situation normal.¹⁰

On November 02, 2021, a man was tortured to death by the law enforcers at Haragach Police Station in Kaunia Upazila of Rangpur district. The deceased was identified as Tajul Islam, 55, a resident of Dalalhaat village in Kaunia Upazila.¹¹

On November 22, 2021, a man was killed in an alleged "gunfight" with RAB in Ukhia, Cox's Bazar. The deceased Jahangir is the son of the deceased Syed Alam, of Balukhali Zamindarpara of Palankhali Union of Ukhia Upazila. RAB claimed that the deceased was a drug dealer.¹²

On December 1 and 2, 2021, three accused in Cumilla ward Councilor Syed Mohammad Sohel's murder case were killed in a reported gunfight in Comilla Sadar Upazila near Comilla's Gomti river. The deceased was identified as Shah Alam, 28, son of Rafiq Miah of Sujanagar area in Comilla and Md Sabbir Hossain and Sajon. According to police, there are at least six cases in Shah Alam's name on various charges including murder, arms and drug trade and terrorist activities.¹³

On December 12, 2021, a man died in the custody of the Detective Branch (DB) of police in Satkhira, hours after he was arrested from his house in the district's Debhata Upazila. The deceased was identified as Babul Sardar (56), son of the late Jurun Sardar of Basantapur village in the Upazila. Police said he died by suicide but the relatives and the victim's daughter Sultana Munni alleged that her father was tortured to death in custody.¹⁴

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

2 <https://www.kalerkantho.com/online/country-news/2021/01/03/991664>



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Attack on
Journalists

Many journalists including editors have been charged with various offenses under the Digital Security Act 2018. Unfortunately, individuals are not always able to disparage the government publicly without the fear of reprisal.

Freedom of expression is a precondition for a functional democracy, nurturing peace and fostering public participation in decision-making. Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted in 1948 states that: Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes the freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek to receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.¹⁵ Regarding this fact, threats, physical attacks, and other forms of harassment are very common for journalists in Bangladesh. Many journalists including editors have been charged with various offenses under the Digital Security Act 2018. Unfortunately, individuals are not always able to disparage the government publicly without the fear of reprisal. Moreover, the government often attempted to impede criticism by prohibiting or dispersing as well as shutting down much electronic and print media due to negligible reports against the government. The number of attacks on journalists, according to Human Rights Support Society report is increasing day by day. The chart below provides information about the total number of attacks on a journalist.



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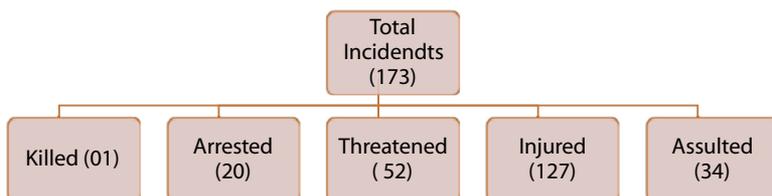


Figure 4 : Attack on Journalists

The graph illustrates frightful situation of journalists in Bangladesh. According to HRSS's documented statistics, a journalist was killed, around 127 Journalists were injured, nearly 52 threatened, whereas 20 arrested and 34 assaulted in nearly 173 incidents in 2021.

Selected cases are as described below:

On January 23, 2021 a journalist was assaulted over a land dispute in Kurigram's Fulbari upazila. The victim Aminul Islam is the Fulbari correspondent of Bangladesh Pratidin and also a senior teacher at Fulbari JM Model Govt High School. When he lodged a complaint with police station regarding a long-running land dispute, the accused neighbor became furious and attacked him.¹⁶

On January 29, two journalists were injured and their cameras had been broken during collecting news of election in Gouripur, Mymensingh. The injured are NTV cameraman Masud Rana and Ekattor TV Cameraman Md. Nurujjaman. The incident occurred when they were collecting news at Sheikh Lebu Govt. Primary School poll center of the municipality.¹⁷

On February 01, 2021 a journalist was beaten up by sand and stone lifters in Sunamganj. The victim Kamal Hossain is the upazila correspondent of Bangla Daily Sangbad and organising



secretary of the upazila press club. According to locals and the victim, when he went to collect information on a story of sand and stone lifting by destroying the banks of the Jadukata river in Sunamganj's Tahirpur upazila, sand lifters beat him up and tied him to a tree.¹⁸



**The deceased Journalist
Burhan Uddin Mojakkir.**
Photo: Prothom Alo

On February 20, 2021 journalist had been died a day after he was shot while covering a clash at Noakhali's Companiganj. The deceased Borhan Uddin Mojakkir (25), of Char Fakira at Companiganj, was the Companiganj correspondent of daily Bangladesh Samachar. He was shot while covering a clash between two factions of the ruling Awami League, the supporters

of Quader Mirza and Mizanur Rahman, at Chaprashirhat of Companiganj in Noakhali.¹⁹

On March 25, 2021 Leaders and activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League attacked an on-duty campus journalist. The victim was attacked at in front of TSC of DU campus while covering the event of 'Jeyafat' programme under the banner 'People of Bangladesh'. The victim is Abid Hasan Rasel, Dhaka University reporter of Bangla Tribune. According to eyewitnesses, he was severely beaten by BCL leaders and activists with bamboo stick. They also snatched away his mobile phone and press card.²⁰



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021



Injured Abid Hasan Rasel, DU correspondent of Bangla Tribune, tries to escape from the attackers, reportedly Chhatra League activists, inside the TSC of Dhaka University (DU) campus on Thursday, March 25, 2021

On March 26, 2021 at least 13 journalists were injured by the attack of the activists of ruling party Awami League and policemen at Baitul Mukarram area only. According to the victims, the attackers attacked the journalists saying “don’t take picture”. Some journalists’ mobile phones, cameras and helmets were also taken away. The injured are Hasan Reza and Ashraf Alam of Prothom Alo, Emran Hossen and Prabir Das of Daily Star, Harunur Rashid of Desh Rupantor, Joyita Roy of Bangladesh Protidin, Abdullah Apu of New Age, Mahmuduzzaman Ovi of Bdnews24, Riaz Ahmed of Daily Sun, and Habibur Rahman of Sarabangla.net. Witnesses said, a photojournalist was hit with the butt of a pistol and others were hit with baton and throwing stones of both sides of the protest.²¹

On April 20, 2021 a journalist was arrested and sent to jail on digital security act in Khulna city. The victim is Abu Tayeb, working as Khulna Beauru Chief of NTV and residing at Noornagar area in Khulna city.²²



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021



Journalist Rozina Islam sued under official secrets Act. Photo: Daily Star

On May 17, 2021, Prothom Alo Senior Correspondent Rozina Islam was kept confined at the health ministry for more than five hours while going there to discharge her professional duties before being handed to police at Shahbagh Police Station. Police later sued the journalist under sections 379 and 411 of the Penal Code and sections 3 and 5 of the Official Secrets Act. While being confined to a ministry room at the Secretariat, Rozina fell sick and collapsed on the floor. She was not taken to any hospital. Shibir Ahmed Osmani, deputy secretary of health services division under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, filed the case with Shahbagh Police Station. Different local and international organizations, including Committee to Protest Journalists (CPJ) and Amnesty International, also issued statements protesting the incident.²³

On July 21, 2021, a case was filed against three journalists under the Digital Security Act (DSA) for publishing reports on alleged irregularities and corruption related to food for Covid-19 patients at the Sadar Hospital in the Thakurgaon district. The accused journalists were Tanvir Hasan Tanu, district correspondent of private channel Independent Television, Daily Ittefaq, and online portal Jago News, Rahim Shuvo, district correspondent of online portal NewsBangla24.com, and Abdul Latif Litu, district correspondent of Bangladesh Pratidin and private TV channel News24.²⁴



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021



Journalist Suvash stabbed by follower of Awamigue leader Quader Mirja in Noakhali. 24 June 2021

On August 16, 2021, a journalist was attacked with a sharp weapon in Chuadanga. The victim Sohel Rana Dalim is the son of Abdul Karim of C and B para of Chuadanga municipality and Chuadanga district correspondent of “Daily Amader Notun Somoy”. He was attacked first at the emergency road and again in the emergency ward of Sadar Hospital. More than 200 stitches were needed on his body. A case was filed with Chuadanga police station and ex-BSL leader Raju Ahmed was arrested in this connection.²⁵



In Tangail, a journalist tied to a tree and beaten mercilessly by rulling part leader.



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On 12 September 2021, a news reporter was attacked while collecting news on illegally occupying the highway and setting up shops on footpaths in front of a new market under Savar Upazila of Dhaka district. According to victim Motiur Rahman Bhandari, staff reporter of Jugantar, and eyewitnesses, hundreds of temporary shops have been set up and large sums of donations have been collected in front of Newmarket Shopping Mall in Savar Bazar bus stand area of Dhaka-Aricha highway. While collecting footage, miscreants attacked the reporter.²⁶

On October 11, 2021, a journalist was beaten up at Companyganj Upazila in the Noakhali district. The injured journalist was identified as Md. Nasir Uddin (43) works as a representative in Companyganj in Dhaka Protidin and Noakhali Protidin. The injured Nasir Uddin said he was fatally beaten up by 10 to 12 associates of Hamid Ullah (General Secretary of Jubo League) over a post on Facebook.²⁷

On November 07, 2021, two journalists were physically assaulted while collecting news about Occupying the Rajatrekha River in Munshiganj Sadar Upazila. The incident took place in the Purbarakhi area of the Shilai union in the Upazila. The humiliated two journalists were Faisal Hossain, Munshiganj representative of Pratham Alo, and Minhajul Islam, Munshiganj representative of the Doinik Desher Kantha. The accused Ismail Bepari, younger brother of local Union Parishad (UP) chairman Abul Hashem, and his son Ishaq Bepari allegedly assaulted the journalists.²⁸

On December 11, 2021, two freedom fighters and a local journalist were assaulted by some district administration staff at a program in front of district administration officials at the district's Shilpakala Academy in Narail. The assailants were Freedom fighter Saifur Rahman, District Awami League Liberation War Secretary and District Council member, Freedom fighter SA Matin, former Deputy Commander of District Muktiyoddha Sangsad lawyer, and



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

SA TV's Narail District Representative Abdus Sattar. Freedom fighter Saifur Rahman said five or seven employees led by Babar Ali, an office assistant of the district administration, assaulted the two of them while distributing breakfast packets on the occasion of Narail Liberation Day. Journalist Abdus Sattar was assaulted while filming the scene.²⁹

- 15 <http://www.un.org/en/universal-declaration-human-rights/>
- 16 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2021/01/24/journalist-assaulted-over-land-dispute-in-kurigram>
- 17 <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/210151195/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%9F>
- 18 <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/210151195/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%9F>
- 19 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/130783/noakhali-journalist-dies>
- 20 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/130783/noakhali-journalist-dies>
- 21 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%87-%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE>
- 22 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BC%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87>
- 23 <https://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/news/journalist-harassed-secretariat-5-hours-2094261>
- 24 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2-https://samakal.com/wholecountry/article/210768964/%E0%A6%A0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%81>
- 25 <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/454836/%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE>
- 26 <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/464377/%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE>
- 27 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%93%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%85%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE>
- 28 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%9E%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9E%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%B9%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BF>
- 29 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2021/12/11/freedom-fighters-journalist-assaulted-by-narail-dc-office-staff>



A large red teardrop-shaped graphic is centered on a light orange background. Inside the red shape, the words "Digital Security Act" are written in white, serif font, stacked vertically. Below the red shape is a soft, grey shadow.

Digital Security Act

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Freedom of expression is essential for institutionalizing a culture of democracy and it is also fundamental human right which should not be compromised by security legislation, as article 39 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh recognizes freedom of expression as a fundamental right. However, DSA 2018 expands not only existing restrictive provisions but also includes several provisions that are an obvious breach of international human rights laws. This new law was supposed to address abusive provisions in the Information and Communication Technology Act. Moreover, Digital Security Act gives arbitrary powers to law enforcement agencies to conduct searches, seize devices and their contents, and arrest individuals without a warrant simply for a comment they may have shared online, in violation of the right to freedom of expression enshrined under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to which Bangladesh is a party.³⁰ Furthermore, hundreds continued to face charges for their social media commentary by members of the law enforcement agencies. Human rights groups remained under pressure, due to restrictions on accessing foreign funding. Journalists reported threats and intimidation to prevent any criticism of the government. The ordinary people have lost all hope and are reluctant to speak their minds due to the culture of impunity, lack of accountability and an ineffective justice delivery mechanism. These issues are the major concerns for freedom of opinion and expression in Bangladesh.

According to collected information about DSA from national daily newspapers, a total of 217 cases were filed in 2021. Alarmingly, 510 persons were accused and 178 persons arrested under “Digital Security Act 2018” from different areas of the country in a total of 199 incidents.





Figure 5: Incidents of Cases in Digital Security Act

Some important cases are stated below:

On December 31, 2021 a journalist was detained in Dinajpur's Ghoraghat on Digital Security Act-2018. The arrestee is Iftekhar Ahmed Babu, working for the newspaper Delta Times. He told that police arrested him for writing about the wrongdoings of Ghoraghat Police Station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Md Azim Uddin.³¹



Deceased writer Mushtaq Ahmed, who was arrested under DSA.
Photo: Daily Star

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On February 25, 2021 writer Mushtaq Ahmed (53) was died in the Kashimpur High Security Jail-3 in Gazipur who had been locked up under the controversial Digital Security Act for over nine months. He was critical on social media about the government's handling of the pandemic. On May 6, 2020, Rapid Action Battalion arrested him at his Dhaka home for "spreading rumors and carrying out anti-government activities". He was denied bail six times and finally passed away on February 25 at night before he could ever walk free.³²

On March 12, 2021 a shopkeeper of rickshaw parts was arrested in a digital security act for criticizing Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and army chief General Aziz Ahmed in Facebook posts. The arrestee is Babul Hossain Khan (40) and a resident of Joydebpur. A case was filed with Joydebpur police station in this connection.³³

On March 20, 2021 a 2nd year college student named Humayun Kabir was arrested under Digital Security Act 2018 in Thakurgaon. He was arrested for uploading a four-minute video



on Facebook explaining why he did not welcome Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bangladesh scheduled for March 26-27. The arrestee, Humayun Kabir, was arrested from a hostel at Mandirpara area of Thakurgaon.³⁴

On April 20, 2021 Journalist Abu Tayeb was arrested on DSA.
Photo: prothom alo.³⁵

On April 17, 2021 police arrested a Juba Dal activist on charges of 'propaganda' on social



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media Facebook against a lockdown to prevent corona infection in Bandarban. The arrestee Omar Faruq alias Jihad (30) is resident of stadium area of Bandarban sadar. He was sent to jail on a case under DSA-2018.³⁶

On May 01, 2021, Police arrested a man in Sylhet allegedly for putting up a Facebook post "defaming" Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and Indian PM Narendra Modi. The arrestee is Anhar Ali (30) of Bishwanath upazila. Monohor Hossain, a Jubo League activist of Bishwanath Sadar union, filed a case accusing Anhar under Digital Security Act with Bishwanath Police Station, said OC Shamim Musa. As per case statement, Anhar made a video and shared it in Facebook on April 27, defaming the PM.³⁷

On May 11, 2021, a Jhalakathi court sent a journalist to jail in a case filed under Digital security Act (DSA). Accused Khalilur Rahman is the Nolcity upazila correspondent of Dainik Janata and he also works for local newspaper Dainik Somoyer Barta. Khalilur, president of civil society platform Shushashoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) Nolcity unit, had run for councillor in the recent upazila municipality polls. After his defeat, he had been making derogatory Facebook comments against incumbent councillor Shahidul Islam. Shahidul filed a case against Khalilur under DSA, said Ali Ahmmad, officer-in-charge (OC) of Nolcity Police Station.³⁸



Publisher and Editor of an online news portal has been arrested in a case of Digital Security Act filed by Juboligie leader in Kustia



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On August 10, 2021, a university student was arrested under the digital security act in Khulna. The arrestee SM Tanjir Hossain (25) is a student in the Computer Science and Engineering department of the Northern University of Business and Technology in Khulna. He was arrested for sharing a video through TikTok, distorting a photo of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman printed on a Tk 200 note.³⁹

On September 10, 2021, a man was sent to jail for commenting "offensive remarks" on the verified Facebook page of Bangladesh Police. The accused Mizanur Rahman, 26, who recently returned from abroad and was jobless, was arrested from his home in Sreenagar Upazila.⁴⁰



Youth arrested for posting PM's distorted picture in social media in Dinajpur.

On November 29, 2021, a lawyer filed a case under the Digital Security Act (DSA) against the suspended mayor of Gazipur City Corporation (GCC) Jahangir Alam for his derogatory remarks about Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the Awami League. Dhaka Bar Council member Omar Faruk Asif filed the case with Dhaka Cyber Tribunal Judge Ash-Shams Jaglul Hossain under sections 25 and 29 of the Act.⁴¹



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On December 05, 2021, a case was filed under the Digital Security Act against the female doctor who filed a rape case against Shakil Ahmed, Head of News of Ekattar Television. The victim was identified as Trina Islam (doctor). Nijhum Majumder, a lawyer and blogger, filed the case against Trina for making obscene and dirty comments on Facebook.⁴²



**Arrested former UP Chairman
Kafil Uddin**

On December 26, 2021, a case was filed against the former chairman of the Upazila Parishad under the ICT Act for insulting the Prime Minister at an election rally over the UP elections in Savar. Accused Kafil Uddin is a former chairman of Savar Upazila Parishad and vice-president of Dhaka District BNP. It was alleged in the case that Kafil Uddin made offensive remarks against the present government and the Prime Minister in a BNP-backed meeting ahead of the Amin Bazar Union Parishad UP

election. Rakib Ahmed, the nominee of the Boat, filed the case with Savar Model Police Station.⁴³

30 <https://scroll.in/article/1001178/how-bangladesh-uses-its-digital-security-act-to-limit-the-right-to-free-speech-online>

31 <https://www.thedailystar.net/city/news/journo-detained-sued-under-dsa-writing-against-cop-2020549>

32 <https://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/news/death-sets-mushtaq-free-dsa-jail-2051465>

33 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/132610/man-arrested-under-dsa-for-criticising-pm-army-chief-on-facebook>

34 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/133318/student-held-for-posting-anti-modi-video-on-facebook>

35 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9F%E0>

36 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%89%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B0>



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

- E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A7%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AB%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0
- 37 <https://www.thedailystar.net/city/news/man-arrested-under-dsa-2086573>
- 38 <https://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/news/journo-sent-jail-dsa-case-2092157>
- 39 <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/crime-justice/news/university-student-arrested-under-digital-security-act-khulna-2149076>
- 40 <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/crime-justice/news/man-arrested-comments-made-police-fb-page-2172626>
- 41 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2021/11/29/dsa-case-filed-against-suspended-mayor-jahangir>
- 42 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/capital/%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%87-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%80-%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%8E%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A7%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE-%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE>
- 43 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=308385&cat=9/%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A7%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8>





Violence
against
Women

Violence against women is one of the paramount and widespread social problems in almost every country in South Asia especially in Bangladesh. It because, most of the cases of gender-based violence remained unreported due to impunity, social stigma, shame and political shelter surrounding it. In general, violence against women refers to “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”.⁴⁴ The nature of violence commonly committed, are physical and psychological torture, sexual harassment, assault, rape, dowry-related violence, trafficking, coerced suicide and murder, acid throwing and family feud related violence. The main reasons for gender based violence in Bangladesh are questioning of the husband, failure to perform household work and care of children, economic problems & refusal to manage dowry. The HRSS data show the intimidating scenario of violence against women in our country and the situation becoming worst day by day. Rape, sexual harassment, dowry-related violence, family feud violence and acid violence are increasing to a greater extent because mainly of political shelter and the delaying judicial system. The rate of reported violent acts against women especially the incident of rape has augmented steadily in an alarming rate in 2021.

Rape, sexual harassment, dowry-related violence, family feud violence and acid violence are increasing to a greater extent because mainly of political shelter and the delaying judicial system.



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Figure 6: Violence against Women

The major atrocities against women are torture for dowry, killings, rape, sexual harassment and stalking, acid throwing and physical and mental abuse. The most common manifestations of violence against women in Bangladesh in 2021 are detailed below:

Rape

Rape is one of the brutal form of violence against women in Bangladesh and it is also considered a heinous offense. Section 376 of the Penal Code, 1860 states: “whoever commits rape shall be punished with imprisonment for life”. However, it’s a matter of grave concern that the rapid growth of rape is an alarming phenomenon in Bangladesh and it also depicts the vulnerable condition of women in the society as a whole. It may be mentioned that sometimes rape is followed by murder, particularly when gang rape takes place.



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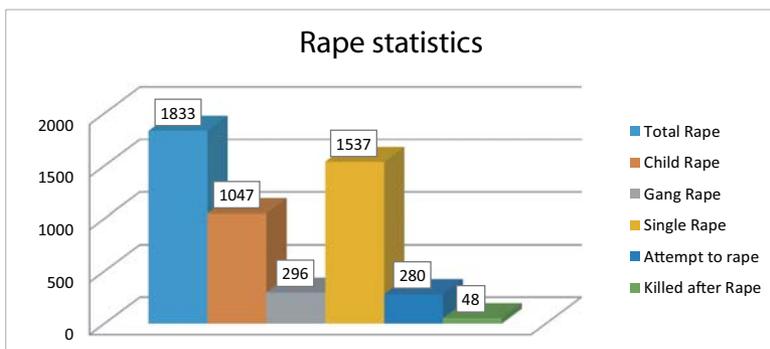


Figure 7: Statistics of Female Victims of Rape

The graph depicts the frightful scenario of rape in 2021; a total number of 1833 females were allegedly raped. Out of them, about 1537 were victims of single rape and nearly 296 subjected to gang rape, whereas alarmingly 1047 were children below the age of 18 (including single and gang rape). It also matters of grave concern that about 48 were brutally killed after being raped and around 14 victims committed suicide after rape.

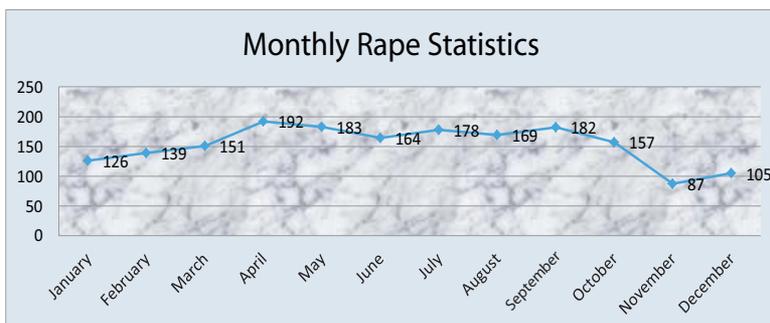


Figure 8 : Monthly Comparison of Rape cases from January to December'21



The above line graph shows data of rape incidents in 2021. During this period a total of 1833 women and girls have been raped and about 153 female were victim of rape each month. The number of rapes 126 in January than the number slightly increased in the following two months and the rape incidents markedly soared to the peak of 192 in April. Then the number of rapes reduced moderately in the next two months to 183 and 164 respectively. After that, the numbers of rape incidents vacillated in the following four months and plummeted to 87 in November, then it rise moderately in the last month of the year.

Reported Rape Cases are stated below:

On January 22, 2021 a school girl was raped and killed in Doulatpur of Khulna. The victim is Ankita dey is the daughter of Shushanto Dey and resident of Pabla Banikpara area of Doulatpur in Khulna city.⁴⁵

On January 31, 2021 a minor girl was gang-raped at Ghoraghat upazilla of Dinajpur. The victim girl (17) is a 10th grade student and resident of Ghoraghat upazilla of Dinajpur. They somehow managed the girl's phone number, pretending to be someone she knew, lured her to a nearby litchi orchard and raped her.⁴⁶

On March 19, 2021 a student (16) was raped and killed at sadar upazila of Noakhali. The victim's family alleged that Rakib (20) and Raihan (21) of Ward 4 of Charmatua Union picked up the madrasa student from Uday Sadhurhat Bazar in a CNG autorickshaw. They later raped her in a rented house next to the railway line in Maijdi Bazar and then beat her to death.⁴⁷

On March 31, 2021 a woman was gang raped while visiting Sonakata Tengragiri Eco-park in Barguna's Taltoli upazila. The victim, along with her brother-in-law, went to visit the eco-park. When her brother-in-law went to buy some water, the miscreants tied the driver with a tree, and they forcefully took



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her into forest near the park and raped her. The victim filed a case against four people - Shohag (25), Hasan (28), Mizanur (24), and Zahidul (27) with Taltoli Police Station in this connection.⁴⁸

On April 04, 2021 a second-grader child was raped in Rangamati. The incident took place at Takukder para (Dolonyarmukh) of Wagga union under Kaptai upazilla of Rangamati district. On that day, when she was playing with her friends, Amal Talukder lured her of biscuits and took her to his house and raped her.⁴⁹

On May 14, 2021, a woman, 22, was raped by an assistant sub-inspector of police, while she was under institutional quarantine on her return from India, at Primary Training Institute in Khulna. The accused was identified as Mokhlesur Rahman, assistant sub-inspector of police.⁵⁰

On July 2, 2021, it has been alleged that a widow committed suicide after being raped in the Rouhatek area of Dhamrai Upazila in Dhaka district. Widow Shamela Begum is the wife of the late Kalachan Miah of Rouhartek village in the Suapur union. The rapist Ashraful Islam (38) is a resident of the Sirajganj district.⁵¹

On December 21, 2021, police arrested three people, including the driver-helper, on charges of gang-raping a young lady on a running bus in the Madanpur area of the Dhaka-Chittagong highway. The arrestees were identified as the bus driver Nurul Haque (21), son of Hosen Ali of Mashira village under Mithamin police station of Kishoreganj district, and Helper Bullet (14), the son of Abul Hossain, a tenant of Rupganj Chhanpara area and Shanto (18), the son of Al Amin of Charkhala village under Amtali police station of Barguna district. According to a case file, the victim got on a Muktijoddha Paribahan bus from Jatrabari in the capital to



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

Gauchia in Rugganj around 10:30 pm. The bus dropped all the passengers on the slope of Kanchpur Bridge. Later, the girl was taken in front of Madanpur Jahin Garment on the Dhaka-Chittagong highway and raped in turn.⁵²

- 44 General Assembly Resolution 48/104 Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, 1993
- 45 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=260857&cat=9>
- 46 <https://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/news/teen-gang-raped-3-accused-arrested-2037633>
- 47 <https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/more-news/570404/%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8B>
- 48 <https://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/news/woman-gang-raped-eco-park-barguna-2070585>
- 49 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=269205&cat=9/--%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE>
- 50 Daily Star ePaper, English News Paper, Today Newspaper, Online News Epaper (thedailystar.net)
- 51 <https://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/256486/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF>
- 52 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=307583&cat=9/%E0%A6%AC>



Sexual Harassment

Sexual harassment includes unwelcome sexually determined behavior, attempts to establish physical relation, demand or request for sexual favors, sexually colored verbal representation, sexually colored remarks or gesture, teasing through abusive language, stalking, joking having sexual implication, insult through letters, telephone calls, cell phone calls, SMS, e-mails and social media. It can occur in many different social settings such as the workplace, the home, schools, colleges, churches and streets etc.

Gender discrimination leading to gender violence is deeply embedded in our social structure. Although sexual harassment is illegal most Bangladeshi social institutions permit, even encourage, the demonstration of unequal power relations between the sexes. In other words, harassment of women in Bangladesh is culturally accepted, tolerated and in certain prescribed forms and given contexts, legitimized. According to the Human Rights Support Society report, a total of 237 females were reportedly victims of sexual harassment in 2021.

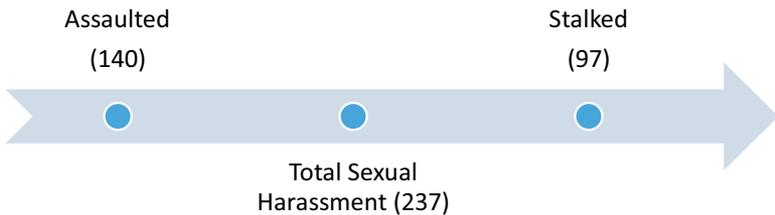


Figure 9 : Statistics of Sexual Harassment



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

According to information gathered by HRSS, a total of 237 girls and women were reportedly victims of sexual harassment in 2021. Of them, 140 were assaulted and 97 stalked.

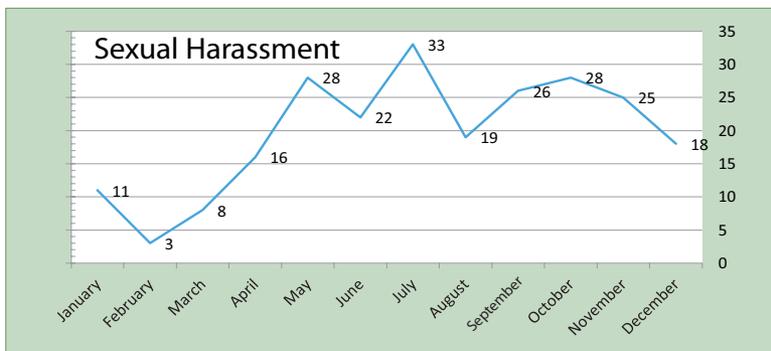


Figure 10 : Monthly Comparison of Sexual Harassment

Some important incidents are described below:

On January 09, 2021 a woman (25) was harassed verbally at ward No. 1 North Maijdi village of Noakhali municipality in Noakhali district. When she was going to market with her mother, Abdul Kaium verbally harassed her, at a stage he harassed her physically too. When her mother protested, he and his associates beat her mother. A case was filed with Sudharam model police station in this connection.⁵³

On February 08, 2021 three children were sexually harassed by a shopkeeper in Lalpur of Natore district. When the children went to buy cake, the shopkeeper, Jomat Ali, took them to a nearby room and harassed them. Hearing their screaming, other people rescued them and lynched the shopkeeper. Lalpur thana police arrested the shopkeeper.⁵⁴

On March 01, 2021 a college-student was harassed by bus driver and staffs Nabigonj sadar upazilla of Habigonj district. The victim



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is the resident of Nabigonj municipality area of Hobigonj and an honors-1st-year student of Hobigonj Brindabon College. When she got into the bus, after going to some distance the driver and staffs tried to harass her and she jumped from the bus to escape herself.⁵⁵

On May 30, 2021, a headmaster of a high school was accused of sexually harassing a ten-grade student in Moulvibazar's sadar upazila. The accused was identified as Himangsu Sekhor Baccu, headmaster of Amtol high school. It is known that the headmaster has been proposing indecent work to the girl for 2 years.⁵⁶

On July 04, 2021, a murder case accused has brought allegations of sexual harassment and physical torture against some policemen in Barishal. The victim female said, during her remand, the investigation officer of the case sexually harassed her and some other policemen tortured her physically.⁵⁷

On August 21, 2021, a housewife accused of being sexually harassed by police at the Bospara police outpost in Rajshahi city. The accused police member was identified as assistant sub-inspector (ASI) Samim. The victim's (18) father said his daughter called government emergency service number 999 in order to escape from her husband's torture. ASI Samim told his daughter to go police outpost and harassed her there.⁵⁸

On October 08, 2021, Police detained a bus conductor for assaulting a female student of Dhaka University on her way home in the capital's Rampura area. The victim was identified as Rafia Tamanna, a final-year student of the Department of Mass Communication at Dhaka University. Rafia said she was being continuously harassed by the bus conductor since she boarded the bus with the number plate "Dhaka Metro Ka 15-7778".⁵⁹

On December 08, 2021, a Union Parishad (UP) secretary was jailed for a one-year term for attempting to rape a female village



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police member in Sakhipur Upazila of Tangail. The accused was identified as Mosharof Hossain, 42, Kalia UP Secretary. Local Said that Mosharof tried to force himself on the village female police member after finding her alone in the UP building. Hearing her screams, Local caught the UP secretary and produced him before a mobile court.⁶⁰

- 53 <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/210149161/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%87>
- 54 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=262127&cat=9>
- 55 <https://epaper.prothomalo.com/?mod=1&pgnum=3&edcode=71&pagedate=2021-03-01>
- 56 <https://www.jugantor.com/todays-paper/bangla-face/425850/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%8C>
- 57 <https://epaper.thedailystar.net/Home/ArticleView?eid=1&edate=04/07/2021&pgid=31134>
- 58 <https://samakal.com/wholecountry/article/210872702/%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%80>
- 59 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2021/10/08/conductor-physically-assaults-du-female-student-on-moving-bus>
- 60 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2021/12/08/up-secretary-jailed-for-attempted-rape-of-female-village-police>



Dowry-Related Violence

Dowry is hideous type of violence against women particularly in rural areas of Bangladesh. In traditional social practice, dowry is the ritual of a bride’s family giving cash and/or goods to the family of the groom, as an accompaniment to their giving away the bride. Sections 11(a), (b) and (c) of the Prevention of Repression against Women and Children Act 2000 (Amended in 2003) provides various punishments against perpetrators for committing dowry-related crimes. Although, taking or giving dowry is illegal, punishable with imprisonment and /or fine according to the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1980. It is noticed that dowry-related violence against women is increasing at an alarming rate both in rural and urban areas of Bangladesh. In Bangladeshi law, dowry has been given an extended meaning, whatever is presented whether before or after marriage under demand, compulsion or pressure as consideration for the marriage can be said to be dowry.⁶¹ In spite of the existing laws, dowry-related violence has increased remarkably in 2021.

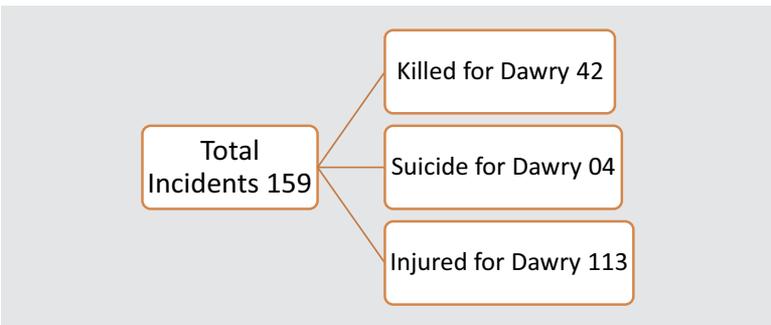


Figure 11: Statistics of Dowry Related Violence

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

The graph shows that a total of 159 incidents of dowry-related violence were reported in 2021. Out of them, about 42 were killed, 04 committed suicide and 113 women physically abused over dowry demands as victims of dowry-related violence.

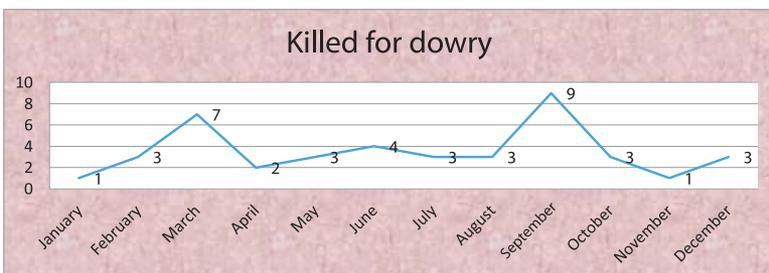


Figure 12: Monthly Comparison of killed for dowry

The above line graph illustrates information about dowry related killing in 2021. From the beginning of 2021, the number of killings increased gradually and reached to 07 in March then it dropped sharply to 02 in April. After that, the number moderately fluctuated in the following four months then sharply rose to the peak of 09 in September.

Some important incidents are given below:

On January 01, 2021 a housewife was tortured inhumanely by her husband, brother-in-law and mother-in-law at Kajipara of ward No. 01 in Patiya municipality of Chattogram. The victim is Jesmin Akter (27). The accused are her husband Sayed Nur (40), her brother in law Enamul Hoque (35), and mother in law Nur Banu. They tied her with a mango tree and tortured inhumanely.⁶²



**Injured housewife
Jesmin Akter**



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On February 01, 2021 a woman was killed for dowry by her husband in Amtoli upazilla of Borguna. The deceased Rabeya (24) was the daughter of Abdul Aziz of Chandra village of Chura union and spouse of Md. Oli Ullah of Dalachara village of Gulishakhali union of the upazilla.⁶³

On February 26, 2021 a woman was killed for dowry in Begumganj of Noakhali. The victim Abida Sultana Priyanka was tortured by her husband Yasin Arafat Rubel, mother-in-law and brother-in-law and beaten to death. Rubel is the resident of Eklaspur area of Begumganj upazilla of Noakhali. Victim's mother told that, she gave 1 lakh to Rubel after 3 months of marriage. Victim's mother in law demanded 3 lakh Taka again, then she gave another 80 thousand Taka. They then demanded another 3 lakh again. As she was unable to give this, they tortured Priyanka and beaten to death.⁶⁴

On March 28, 2021, a woman was tortured and her Artery of leg was cut by her husband and other family members for dowry in Hatibandha upazila of Lalmonirhat. The pagan husband (Osiur Rahman, 27,) and his relatives cut off her leg with a sharp weapon as she refused to bring dowry from her father's house. The victim Dilruba Akter (25) is the resident of Paschim Bejgram village of Tongvanga union under Hatibandha upazilla of Lalmonirhat district.⁶⁵

On April 05, 2021 a woman was killed by her husband and other family members for dowry in Narshingdi. The incident was occurred at Jinardi village of Jinardi union under Polash upazilla of Narshingdi. The victim, Shilpi Rani Das (19), is daughter of Pradip Chandra Das of Nabinagar upazilla of Brahmanbaria. A case was filed with Polash police station in this connection and husband Shyamol Das (25) and father-in-law Bimal Das (45) were arrested.⁶⁶





Sumaiya Begum was severely injured with sharp weapon by her husband for dowry.⁶⁷

On May 30, 2021, a house wife was brutally tortured by her dowry-greedy husband with Iron machine and heated iron pipe at south Khulshi's road 1of Chattogram city. The victim was identified as Ayesha Akter, 21, a garments worker of the area. On the other hand, the perpetrator husband was Mujibur Rahman,

51, son of late Ajar Ali, a resident of Khamar Bari area under Muktagacha thana of Mymensingh district.⁶⁸



Ayesha Akter, 21, was brutally torture by her dowry- greedy husband. Photo: Mzamin

On June 08, 2021 a woman was tortured for dowry by her husband in Palash upazilla of Narrshingdi. The victim Sabrina Shahjahan (32), wife of Nazrul Islam (35)

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of Borokandi village of Bancharampur upazilla of Brahmanbaria district. Before this time, she was tortured several times for dowry by her husband. This time, when he was torturing, Sabrina called on 999 and then police rescued her.⁶⁹

On August 01, 2021, a woman was killed by her husband for dowry at the Lohanipara union of Badargonj Upazila of Rangpur district. The deceased Ratna Begum (23), the wife of Suruj Mia and daughter of Wares Mia, was the resident of Khamarpara village of Lohanipara union of Badargonj Upazila in Rangpur. Suruj Mia was torturing Ratna Begum for dowry for a long time. On that day, Suruj Mia tortured her brutally and poured pesticide on her mouth, and on the way to the hospital, she died.⁷⁰

On October 31, 2021, the court ordered the jailing of an SI over a dowry and torture case filed by his wife. The accused SI Shafiqul Islam Sarkar (44) is working at Moulvibazar for PBI. He is the son of Sirajul Islam Sarkar of Manohardi Lebutala Char Haji Khan area of Narsingdi. The victim Noorun Nahar Sultana (39) is the daughter of the late Abdur Rashid of Pachua village in Kapasia, Ghazipur. Shafiqul was given furniture worth TK. 3 lakh and TK. 2 lakh in cash as dowry during the wedding. He had been demanding another TK 20 lakh from his wife for three years for constructing the house. Dowry greedy Shafiqul allegedly bit up his wife for money and seriously injured her.⁷¹

On November 30, 2021, a housewife committed suicide after six months of marriage in Manoharganj, Comilla, after being unable to bear the torture of her husband and in-laws for dowry. The deceased housewife was identified as Tamanna Akhtar Kana (21), daughter of Anwar Hossain



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

of the Fatehpur area in Laksam municipality. The parents and relatives of the deceased housewife claimed that her husband and in-laws had tortured and forced Tamanna to commit suicide after being unable to pay Taka 1 lakh as dowry.⁷²

- 61 The Women and Children Repression Prevention Act, 2000
- 62 <https://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/546772/%E0%A6%AA>
- 63 <https://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/218864/%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8C>
- 64 <https://www.jugantor.com/todays-paper/news/401693%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7>
- 65 <https://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/565479/%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE>
- 66 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8C%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%83%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%82%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%85%E0%A6%AD%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87>
- 67 <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/412309/>
- 68 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=276078&cat=9/%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8C>
- 69 <https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/dhaka/587161/%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8C%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%81>
- 70 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=286116&cat=9/>
- 71 <https://www.kalerkantho.com/online/country-news/2021/10/31/1088063>
- 72 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=304400&cat=9>



Acid Violence

Acid violence is a severe crime which has been happening throughout Bangladesh, committed mostly against women and girls. It is also called acid throwing or vitriolization. Acid violence is defined as the act of throwing strong corrosives on face and body of a person with the intention of causing permanent disfiguration, intense pain, scarring and sometimes blindness.⁷³ Section 4 of the Acid Crime Prevention Act, 2002 prescribes death penalty or rigorous imprisonment for life including a fine of taka, not more than one lakh if anybody causes death or makes an attempt to cause death to any child or woman by using any burning substance. Despite having stringent legal provisions, women are repeatedly facing acid violence. The perpetrators are mostly men and adolescent boys and the majority of the victims are women and many of them are girls and young females. The law made it a punishable offence to use, buy, produce, sell, import or transport acid without a license. However, a majority of the acid attacks on women occur due to the refusal of the proposal of love, marriage or sex scandals or land disputes.



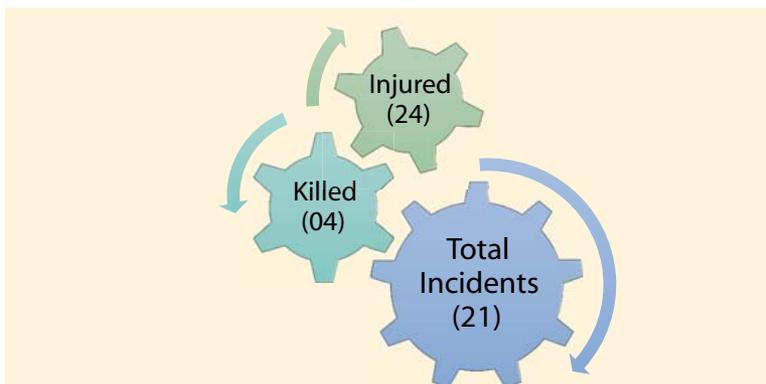


Figure 13: Attacks Using Acid on Women and Girls

The chart shows the scenario of using acid on women and girls. About 21 incidents of acid violence were reported in 2021. In these incidents 04 women were allegedly killed and almost 24 women/girls were injured after throwing acid.

Some important cases are cited below:

On January 25, 2021 the husband cut the hair and eyebrows and rubbed the bride's face with acid in Ishwardi of Pabna. The victim Mitu Khatun (20) is daughter of Mojibur Rahman of Ambaria village of Sara union under Ishwardi upazilla of Pabna. The accused husband Arif Hossen (22) is of Abdul Latif's house of Babupara area of Ishwardi municipality. She was tortured inhumanely, burnt the face with acid for dowry.⁷⁴

On February 04, 2021 a school-girl was burnt with acid by unknown miscreants in Charfasion of Bhola district. The victim, Salma Akter, a honors-2nd-year student, is resident of Dokkhin Shiba village of Abdullahpur union of Charfasion upazilla in Bhola district. when she was studying, miscreants sprayed acid with an injection syringe.⁷⁵

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On June 03, 2021 a woman was burnt with acid thrown by a neighbor in Gurudaspur upazilla of Natore. The victim Panna (32) is the wife of Shafiqul Islam and resident of Gurudaspur Bazar area. The accused Milon is powerful in the area and demanded the signature of Panna in a non-judicial stamp. When she refused to sign, Milon and his associates beat her, vandalized her house, looted her gold and assets and burnt her with acid.⁷⁶

On August 03, 2021, a girl and her younger brother were burnt with acid thrown by some miscreants in the Patuakhali district. The victims Sumaiya (16), a student of Auliapur Girls Madrasa, and Mohammad Ali (12) are the daughter and son of Raja mia and the residents of Garakhali village of Madarbuniya union of Patuakhali Sadar Upazila. Miscreants entered the house cutting the fence and thrown acids.⁷⁷

73 <https://www.banglajol.info/index.php/IMCJ/article/view/17744>

74 <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/388891/%E0%A6%9A%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B2>

75 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF>

76 <https://www.banglanews24.com/national/news/bd/861168.details>

77 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%83%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%9B%E0%A7%8B%E0%A7%9C%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%85%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A1%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9D%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%AD%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B6%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%85%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0-%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF>





Enforced
Disappea-
rance

Enforced disappearance is a hideous practice and an awful violation of fundamental human rights such as the right of life and liberty of a person and recognition as a person before the law court including the right to life, the right not to subject to inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment or torture (*UDHR-article 3, 5, 6*). Enforced disappearance is the acts of making someone disappear against his or her will, often suddenly. It refers to the arrest, detention or abduction of a person, followed by a refusal to acknowledge the fate of that person.⁷⁸ Therefore, it's considered a crime against humanity and a violation of international law that is systematically perpetrated against civilians. *According to International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance Article 1: "No one shall be subjected to enforced disappearance".*

In Bangladesh, "Enforced Disappearance" is frequently used as a strategy to spread the feeling of insecurity and fear not only to the close relatives of the disappeared person but also to the communities and society as a whole.⁷⁹ The victims are mostly members of political groups, human rights defenders, Journalists and what so one those oppose the government. The widespread impunity of State agents has not only permitted this rise in enforced disappearances and associated crimes, but it has also greatly eroded the rule of law in Bangladesh.⁸⁰ The absence of both political will and a credible criminal justice system to hold personnel of law enforcement agencies to account for enforced disappearances has allowed this State policy to continue. So, the events of "Enforce Disappearance" have already triggered a gravest hurdle in our national life by polluting the political and administrative culture of Bangladesh.



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

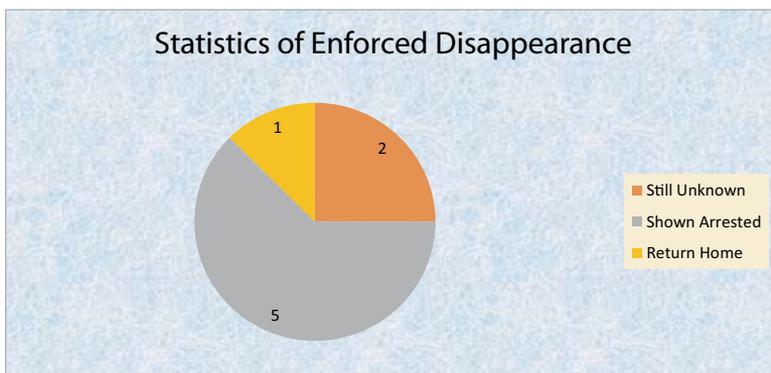


Figure 14: Statistics of Enforced Disappearance

According to the Human Rights Support Society's (HRSS) collected information from daily newspapers and victim families' statement, a total of 08 people have been disappeared by the law enforcement agency (LEA) (i.e., remained missing for at least 72 hours) in 2021; out of them 05 were shown arrested, 01 was returned to home and the remaining two are still unknown.

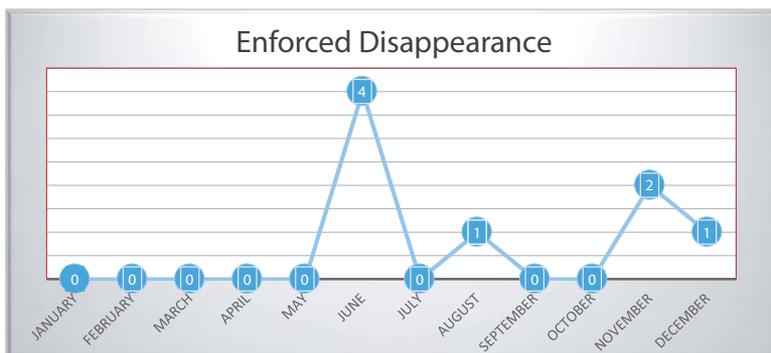


Figure 15 : Monthly Comparison of Enforced Disappearance.



Selected cases are stated below:

On June 26, 2021, family members of victims of enforced disappearance accused that three people were picked up in the name of law enforcement agencies on June 2 from Arai hazar area of Narayanganj district. The victims were identified as Noman, a businessman, Md Nasim, a madrasah student, both are residents of Arai hazar Panchrukhi village in Narayanganj and Shahidul Islam, an Imam of Arai hazar area. At the press conference, Noman's father Sarwar Hossain claimed that when his son reached the market at 10:53 am, seven to eight unidentified persons identified themselves as Detective Police (DB) stopped the motorcycle. At the same time, they forcibly picked up Nasim and Shahidul in a microbus and left for an unknown place. Later, he along with other missing family members went to Arai hazar Police Station and Narayanganj Superintendent of Police office. However, no agencies have claimed responsibility for the incident.⁸¹ Later they shown arrest by police.⁸²



Picture of Noman, Nasim and Shahidul were disappeared from Narayanganj.

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On June 24, 2021, a postgraduate student in the Chemistry Department of Jahangirnagar University went missing for 11 days. Missing Zahid Hasan Raju is the son of Humayun Kabir of Golbunia in Raipur union of Patharghata upazila of Barguna. His classmate Mizanur Rahman said that at around 9.00 pm, two strangers came and unlocked his room, entered, and left again. Raju has been missing since then. His family told a news conference that Raju went missing from a mess in Dhaka's Mirpur area on the night of June 24.⁸³ On August 11, 2021, Raju shown arrest by Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC).⁸⁴



Zahid Hasan Raju was arrested by CTTC.

On August 4, 2021, a former student of Notre Dame College went missing after landing at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport. Missing student Rizwan Hassan Rakin is a student at Al Azhar University in Egypt. Rizwan's father Abu Zafar said that Rizwan and his wife's elder brother Mahfuzur Rahman landed at Hazrat Shahjalal International Airport that morning on an Emirates flight. The victim's grandfather Selim Sarwar went to fetch him. Mahfuz got off the plane and informed him on the phone. Then Selim Sarwar could not find him. Mahfuz was



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blindfolded by the unidentified abductors at their residence around 11:30 pm. Firstly the police did not take the diary. The police took the GD on September 3. But so far nothing has been reported.⁸⁵



Rezwan Hasan Rakin

On November 6, 2021, a businessman was picked up by men in plainclothes while walking back to the bike from his fishery in “Bottola-Chhankanda” area of Mymensingh district. Locals witnessed described four to five plain clothes men hauling Dollar into a microbus and left around 5:10: pm. There were also two motorbikes. The victim's wife Mumta Hena Pinky said, "two days after the incident, we filed a general diary over the matter with Fulbaria Police Station". She added that she had also gone to the Mymensingh Detective Branch (DB) office, looking for her husband, a week after his disappearance. Pinky also said, "I asked an officer to register a complaint and investigate. He said it was not possible." The family of a pisciculturist, who allegedly became a victim of enforced disappearance, has claimed that the last known location of his iPhone, found using an application, was adjacent to the Rab-1 office in the capital's Uttara.⁸⁶

78 <https://trialinternational.org/topics-post/enforced-disappearance>.

79 <https://www.amnesty.org/en/what-we-do/disappearances/>

80 <https://www.fidh.org/en/region/asia/bangladesh>.

81 ২৫ দিন ধরে নিখোঁজ তিন তরুণ, স্বজনদের কান্না (prothomalo.com)

82 HRSS Research and Investigation Desk

83 <http://ekalerkantho.com/home/page/2021-07-05/15>

84 বোমা তৈরির প্রশিক্ষক সেই জঙ্গি জাহিদ গ্রেপ্তার (newsguardian24.net)

85 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/crime>

86 Last known location of 'disappearance' victim's phone near Rab-1 office: Family | The Daily Star





Attack on
Minorities

According to Francesco Capotorti, Special Rapporteur of the United Nations Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, a minority is: A group numerically inferior to the rest of the population of a State, in a non-dominant position, whose members - being nationals of the State - possess ethnic, religious or linguistic characteristics differing from those of the rest of the population and show, if only implicitly, a sense of solidarity, directed towards preserving their culture, traditions, religion or language.⁸⁷

All ethnic and religious minority groups all over the world have been facing severe discrimination, injustice, persecution and often violent attack over the past decades. Thus, minority groups have become one of the most persecuted and suppressed group not only in Bangladesh but also throughout the world. Actually, the seeds of violence against the minority communities are inherent within the structures of the modern system which has turned human beings into vote banks and vote constituencies. Lack of accountability and transparency of the state machinery only makes the situation worse. 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”.



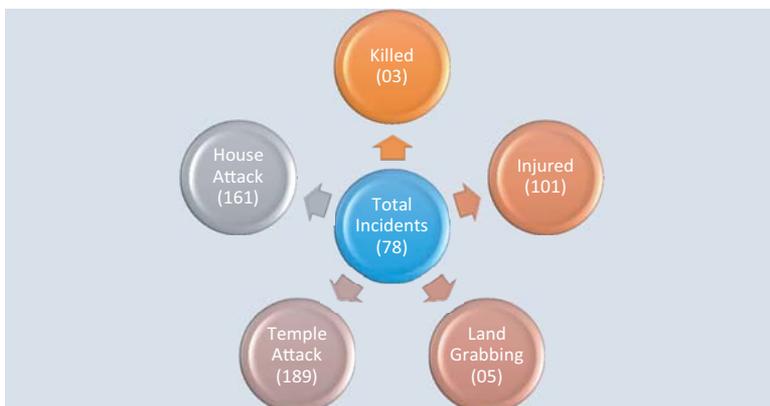


Figure 16: Statistics of Attacks on Minority

The above graph provides information about the incidences of attack on minorities. It shows that a 03 minority persons were killed and another 101 were injured in a communal violence in 2021. Likewise, at least 05 incidents of land grabbing as well as 189 temples and 161 houses were partially or fully destroyed in a total of 78 incidents.

Important cases are stated below:

On January 5, 2021, the idol of Hindu goddess Kali was vandalised by unidentified miscreants at night in Thakurgaon. The incident occurred at Ilua Pukur Shamshan Ghat Kali Mandir in Syedpur Union of Pirgonj upazila, Thakurgaon. President of the Kali Mandir management committee Jitendra alleged that dispute over the cremation ground's land led to the vandalism. Upazila Nirbahi Officer Rejaul Karim said the local administration has held meetings with both sides to prevent any untoward incident.⁸⁸

On February 05, 2021 a group of unidentified miscreants vandalised idols at five temples in Dinajpur's Chirirbandar

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upazila. Locals found idols of the five temples damaged on the day morning. Ratan Singh, general secretary of Dinajpur Hindu Buddhist Christian Oikya Parishad, confirmed it. A case was filed with Nawaganj Police Station in this connection and police have arrested five suspicious people in connection with the incident.⁸⁹

On February 17, 2021 some local Awami League supporters attacked on Saraswati Puja during worshipping at puja mandapa in Jamalpur. At least 20 minorities including the president of the puja mandapa committee Sukumar Ghosh were injured. At around 10.00 pm, while worshipping in the puja mandapa, a group of 10-15 people led by Farooq driver and Nantu driver came from the bus stand area and attacked the mandapa with sticks. They were addicted too.⁹⁰

On March 14, 2021 a Juba League leader created a fence blocking the road to the temple. The incident occurred at Khanerpara of Rupasadi of Bancharampur upazila of Brahmanbaria as the group of minors didn't go to party rally under his leadership. The accused Juba League leader is Jakir Hossen is Rupasadi union Juba League president. Jakir Hossen claimed that the route was on his own land, that's why he blocked that for his security issues.⁹¹

On March 27, 2021 houses of six hindu families were burnt in flame by the miscreants at Mirsarai of Chattogram. The incident happened at Purba Mayani Monubhuyanpara village of Mayani union under Mirsorai upazilla of Chattogram. Houses of late Arjun Shil, Sohodev Shil, Joydev Shil, Basudev Shil, Shefali Shil and Neelima Shil were burnt away. According to the victims, On March 27 night, some people started throwing brickbats on their house. After a while, all the houses in the house caught fire.⁹²

On April 14, 2021 night, assailants attacked multiple homes and one temple belonging to a Hindu community in Satkhira. At that time, several Hindu homes were looted and three idols were



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desecrated at the local temple in Fultala village of Munshiganj union in Shyamnagar Upazila. Pintu Baulia, one of the victims, said “They vandalized idols at the local temple, looted our homes, and injured at least 10 members of my community”. Shyamnagar police station Officer-in-Charge (OC) Nazmul Huda said: “The situation is under control and ASP (Kaliganj circle) has visited the spot.⁹³



Several Hindu homes were looted and three idols were desecrated at the local temple in Fultala village of Munshiganj union in Shyamnagar upazila of Satkhira. Photo: Dhaka Tribune

On May 24, 2021, it was accused that former parliament member (PM) forcibly occupied 17 percent minority land in his own area, in Sonapur of Ramganj Municipality of Lakshmipur district. The accused was identified as Lion MA Awal, former PM of Lakshmipur 1 constituency and general secretary of Torikat Federation as well as prime accused of Shahinuddin murder case in Pallobi. Sudhanshu Master of Harisava Bari, Keshab Bonik and Madham Banik of Banik Bari, filed a case in court and claimed that the land is the property of the Hindu Welfare Trust. Haradhan Chandro shil, the main owner of the land, registered 17 percent land in Sonapur 45 mouza with the Hindu Welfare Trust before pass away as he was no heir.⁹⁴



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On July 1, 2021, the Sylhet Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) filed a case against four persons for embezzling cemetery and church land in the Lama Bazar area of Sylhet Municipality. The accused were identified as advocate Sirajul Islam, son of late Hamid Ali and senior member of Sylhet District Bar Association, Mojibur Rahman Patwari, son of late Najib Uddin Patwari of Dhap Katki Para, Rangpur District, Asbah Uddin, a resident of Comilla district, former Kanungo Malay Kar of Sylhet District Land Office. The case alleged that the above accused made fake records through fraud and forgery.⁹⁵

On August 07, 2021, four temples, six shops, and a house of Hindus were vandalized by some miscreants at Shiali village of Rupsha Upazila in Khulna district. On 6th August some Hindu women were going to sing their religious chorus. During crossing a Mosque, the Imam of the Mosque prohibited them to sing the chorus but they didn't pay attention. From this incident, some unknown miscreants vandalized the temples. A case was filed with the Rupsha police station and 10 people were arrested in this regard.⁹⁶



Vandalized idols in Khulna



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On September 22, 2021, miscreants vandalized idols of Hindu gods and goddesses constructed for the upcoming Durga Puja in Kushtia town. The idols were found broken, said Advocate Anup Kumar Nandi, president of the district puja celebration committee. The responsible people will be identified and brought under the law soon, said Sabbirul Islam, officer-in-charge of Kushtia Model Police Station.⁹⁷



Law Enforcement agencied observing vandalised idols prepared for Durga Puja Kustia.

On September 25, 2021, two temples were vandalized in Suktahahar village under Sadar Upazila of Jaipurhat district. The accused Shamsul Alam Mondal alias Lal Babu (35) who lives in the nearby village of Dhulatar was arrested for his alleged involvement in the incident. According to the temple committee, the miscreants ransacked the idols late at night and left.⁹⁸

On October 18, 2021, a mob set fire to a number of houses and shops of the Hindus at a remote village of Pirganj Upazila in Rangpur following a Facebook post allegedly by a Hindu youth defaming Kaaba. At least 42 people were detained in connection



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with an arson attack on the Hindu community. According to a government organization's information, 66 families were victims of arson attacks. Miscreants reportedly set fire to 25 houses and shops, including seven tin-shed houses, nine buildings, four mud houses, and two shops, the organization said.⁹⁹



Temple has been vadalised by miscreants in Hajiganj after recovering Quran on the feet of Idol.

On October 25, 2021, houses of the Hindu community were destroyed in a fire set by miscreants in Barkarimpur village under Pirganj Upazila of Rangpur district. Abdullah Al Mamun (29) and Omar Farooq (22) were detained in connection with the incident they are residents of Alinagar village in Sadulapur Upazila of Gaibandha. On October 17, they attacked and set fire to Hindu para in Boro Karimpur in Majhipara village of Ramnathpur Union in Pirganj for blasphemy on Facebook.¹⁰⁰

On November 8, 2021, The Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) arrested four people for their alleged involvement in the attacks on Hindu temples during the Durga Puja celebrations at Choumuhani in Begumganj Upazila of Noakhali district. The arrestees are Md



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Monir Hossain alias Rubel, 28, Zaker Hossain alias Rabbi, 20, Md Ripon, 21, and Md Nazrul Islam alias Sohag, 36, of Noakhali's Begumganj Upazila. Miscreants vandalized and carried out arson attacks on Durga puja venues, temples, and businesses owned by Hindus in the Chowmuhani Bazar area.¹⁰¹

On December 19, 2021, the locals detained a young man and handed him over to the police during the vandalism of the idols of 'Sesh Thikana Public Maha Shvashan Mandir' in Chandani village of Rajbari Sadar Upazila. The detainee was identified as Mohammad Hridoy Sheikh, 26, son of Mohammad Siddique Sheikh of Dhubaria village in Kalukhali Upazila in the district. Jiban Kumar Das, president of the temple committee, said that during the renovation work of the temple, Hridoy Sheikh entered the temple and the locals came forward and detained him during the vandalism of the idol.¹⁰²

- 87 <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Minorities/Pages/internationalaw.aspx>
- 88 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2021/01/05/hindu-idol-desecrated-in-thakurgaon-temple>
- 89 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2021/01/05/hindu-idol-desecrated-in-thakurgaon-temple>
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- 93 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2021/01/05/hindu-idol-desecrated-in-thakurgaon-temple>
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- 96 <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/210872459/%E0%A6%96%E0%A7%81>



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

- 97 <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/crime-justice/news/idols-constructed-durga-puja-vandalised-kushtia-2181536>
- 98 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9F%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AD%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%99%E0%A6%9A%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%95>
- 99 HRSS research desk & <https://www.newagebd.net/article/152086/hindu-houses-set-on-fire-in-rangpur-following-facebook-post>
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- 101 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/2021/11/08/four-arrested-over-violence-against-hindus-in-noakhali>
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Violence
against
Children

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

In Bangladesh, most children are facing acute problems in terms of getting their fundamental rights due to lack of effective implementation of legal standards and provisions. The children have basic rights to education, balanced diet, health and nutrition, protection, participation, recreation, safe water, sanitation, and hygiene. Unfortunately, violation of these child rights is a common phenomenon in Bangladesh, due to poverty, ignorance, lack of social consciousness, and discrimination.

Article 2(1) of The Convention on the Rights of the Child states that: “States 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 or his or her parent's or legal guardian's race, color, sex, language, religion, political or other opinions, national, ethnic or social origin, property, disability, birth or other status.”

Bangladesh has ratified many international conventions in order to protect children from all kinds of violence and torture and to ensure their rights. But, the laws and policies regarding child rights such as child labor, physical punishment, violence against girls, sexual exploitation, imprisonment of children with adults, trafficking, child marriage, and other aspects of child protection are routinely violated in Bangladesh. In most cases, people are not aware of the laws and take this violence as a common matter.



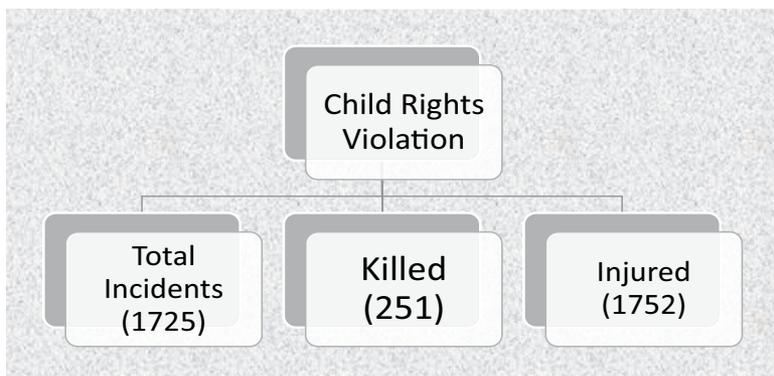


Figure 17: Statistics of Violence against Children

According to human rights support society's report, the graph presented above regarding violence against children in 2021 shows that 251 children were killed and 1752 children critically injured in a total of 1725 incidents.

Some important cases are stated below:

On January 01, 2021 a class nine student was tortured inhumanely by her neighbor in Bauphal of Patuakhali. The victim Farzana Akter (14) is daughter of Billal Hossain and Farida Begum of Mohashraddi village of Adabaria union under Bauphal upazilla of Patuakhali. Her neighbor invaded her house, tortured brutally, even when she lost her sense she was beaten.¹⁰³

On January 10, 2021, a nine-year-old child was tortured by a college teacher in Sirajgonj. The victim Minoti Khatun (9) is daughter of late Mokka Miya of Lahiri Mohonpur village of Ullapara of Sirajganj. On January 07, the accused Sheuli Mollika tortured the child heavily and tried to kill her by strangling. Then uncle of the child filed a case against Sheuli Mollika (30), a teacher of Philosophy of Sirajganj Govt. College, with Ullapara police station and police arrested her.¹⁰⁴

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On January 13, 2021 an eight-year-old child was tortured inhumanely by his neighbor on accusation of stealing money in Kishorgonj upazilla of Nilfamari. The victim Alif (8) is the son of Mamunur and resident of Borodumuria Kacharipara village of Borovita union of Kishorgonj upazilla of Nilfamari district. His neighbor Jaminur's relatives- Alamin, Razzakul and Nuruzzaman tortured him, scorched him with cigarettes and hurt him with pilers.



Signs of torture on the back of child Nishi Akter. Photo: Dhaka Tribune

On February 08, 2021, a 12-year-old girl Nishi Akter was brutally tortured for around four years while working as a domestic help at the house of an Agrani bank officer at Dhanmondi in Dhaka. The victim Nishi Akter is the daughter of Mujibur Rahman of Rajbaria village of Nandail Upazila of Mymensingh district. The accused are Agrani bank officer Mizanur Rahman and his wife Sharmin Rahman Munni. The victim's father, who suffers from a disability, said his daughter was employed at the Mizanur's house in Dhaka for Tk 3,000 a month. However, the employers have only paid two months' salary in four years. She had not been allowed to meet her family for this long time. The



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employers eventually allowed the child to travel to her family in Mymensingh after her mother told them that she was ill. When the child reunited with her family, they took her to the police station. Upon seeing the injury marks on her body, police arrested the bank official and his wife. Police said no part of the child's body was unscarred, and she had been burned with boiling water as well as hot metal rods.¹⁰⁵

On March 06, 2021 a madrasah student was brutally tortured by teacher for not being able to submit class work properly. The incident was happened at Kutirhat Jameya Islamia Darul Ulum Madrasa of Sonagaji upazila of Feni. The victim Asad Ullah (9) is a 4th grader student. The child's mother Fatema Akhter alleged that teacher Ismail Hossain had beaten and injured her son's left leg and wrist. Besides, his son was injured in different parts of his body. A case was filed with Sonagaji police station in this connection.¹⁰⁶

On March 10, 2021 a minor domestic help has been hospitalized in Kushtia after being tortured by her employers in Dhaka. The teenager girl is the resident of Khoksha upazila's Bangram Paschimpara area under Kushtia district. She is currently undergoing treatment at Khoksha Upazila Health Complex and claimed that she was beaten and starved for days by her employer's wife. The girl told police that the torture began the day she started working for the family. Her employer's wife used to torture her with hot iron sticks. Accused often tied her up with rope after torturing.¹⁰⁷

On April 07, 2021 a 6-year-old child was tortured inhumanely by a on-duty medical officer at Dharmapasha upazila health complex in Sunamganj. The victim Kulsum (6) is daughter of Jalil Mia and resident of Atkapara village, Sadar union of Dharmapasha upazilla in Sunamganj. The accused medical officer, R K Chaklader, tortured Kulsum and she lost her sense as



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he was given less money than he demanded for her treatment. Ratan Mia, paternal uncle of Kulsum, submitted a written complaint to UNO of the upazila.¹⁰⁸

On April 09, 2021 a child was tortured brutally by some miscreants on accusation of stealing mobile phone in Golachipa of Patuakhali. The victim Rakib Gazi (14), son of Mokbul Gazi, is of Fulkhali village of Dakua union in Golachipa upazilla of Patuakhali. The accused, Reazul Mridha and others, called upon Rakib Gazi from his house and tied with rope with a mango tree. they tortured him for 3 hours, beat up with bamboo stick and cut his hair with a sickle. When his father Mokbul Gazi came to rescue him, his father was also beaten up and lost sense. His mother and maternal uncle were also tortured by the gang. The accused also uploaded the video of torturing on social media. A case is filed with Golachipa police station by his mother Morsheda Begum.¹⁰⁹



Rakib (14) was tortured on accusation of stealing mobile phone.

On May 17, 2021, a group people allegedly tortured a boy by tying his hands and legs with tree pole on accused of stealing mobile in south Noyagaw village of Kamallah union under Comilla's Muradnagar Upazila. The victim was identified as Sohag, 17, son of physically challenged Al Amin a resident of the Upazila. On the other hand, the accused are Ashik, son of Mokbal Hossain, Rubel,

son of Matin Mollah and Kamal, son of Achmat Ali of the same village.¹¹⁰



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The victim Sohag, 17 was allegedly tortured on fales charge of mobile thieving. Photo: Diganto

On May 23, 2021, a boy was severely tortured being tied his hands and legs on charge of stealing Auto- rickshaw battery by a Chhatra league leader in Akhalia area of Sylhet City. The victim was identified as Al Amin, 16, son of Abdus Shahid, a resident of Akhalia's Nowapara colony and the perpetrator was Abdul Kuddus, former general secretary of Zalalabad thana Chhatra league unit.¹¹¹



Al Amin 16, was tortured allegedly by a former Chhatra league man. Photo: Samakal



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

On July 14, 2021, police arrested a man in a case filed for inhumanely torturing a school-going child for stealing fish at Pirganj Upazila in Thakurgaon district. Tortured child Jewel Rana (9) was the son of Moniruddin of Mallikpur Sarkar Para village in Daulatpur union. Accused Ramzan Ali Basu, a resident of the same village, tied the child to a tree and tortured.¹¹²

On August 18, 2021, a child was allegedly tortured tied with a sickle on the accusation of stealing mobile phone in Chatmohor Upazila of Pabna district. The victim Sumon Hossen (12), son of Hashem Ali, is the resident of karigorpara village of Chaikola union of Chatmohor upazilla in Pabna.¹¹³

On November 10, 2021, a teenager was chained and tortured for an accusation of theft in Kalapara, Patuakhali. The abused teenager Naeem (13) is the son of Nasir Uddin of Alempur village



Tied with chain and tortured 13 year old Naeem in accusation of stealing in Patuakhali.

of Nilganj Union. The teenager's relatives said Naeem's mother was a mentally unstable woman, and the father was sick. On the occasion of this weakness, some of them, including Uncle Abul Bashar, chained teenager Naeem to hour-long brutal torture for stealing 5,000 taka due to the previous enmity.¹¹⁴

On December 16, 2021, police recovered the decapitated body of a child from Singra Upazila of Natore district. The



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deceased was identified as Asif Hossain, 10, son of Bhulu Miah of Pangasia village in the Upazila and a class three student of Pangasia Government Primary School. Singra Circle Assistant Superintendent of Police Jamil Akhtar said he was thought to have been killed by suffocation.¹¹⁵

- 103 <https://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/546569/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE>
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- 107 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/132413/teenage-domestic-worker-hospitalised-being-brutally-tortured>
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Border Killing

We have repeatedly noticed that India has been violating treaties, and killing, torturing, abducting, beating, stoning etc. to the people for trivial matters near the border area, which is a clear violation of international law and human rights.

Bangladesh has a 4156-kilometer common border with India and a 271 kilometer border with Myanmar. Bangladesh always tries to maintain a good relationship with them. Nevertheless, human rights violations are regularly taking place in the border area of Bangladesh at the instance of the Indian Border Security Force (BSF). Therefore, the border dispute is considered one of the main issues of conflict among Bangladesh, India and Myanmar. We have repeatedly noticed that India has been violating treaties, and killing, torturing, abducting, beating, stoning etc. to the people for trivial matters near the border area, which is a clear violation of international law and human rights.

According to the Memorandum of Understanding and related treaties signed between India and Bangladesh, if citizens of the two countries illegally cross the border, it would be considered trespass and as per law, those persons should be handed over to the civilian authority.¹¹⁶ Human rights defenders blamed impunity, lack of accountability, and soft approach from the Bangladesh side are the main reasons for the continuation of those killings.



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Figure 18: Violence in Border by BSF in 2021

The given chart provides data on the border killings and injuries. According to HRSS in 2021, 17 Bangladeshis citizen were killed, 10 injured, 04 shot and 30 persons were arrested by BSF (Indian Border Security Force) in a total of 38 incidents.



Figure 19 : Monthly comparison of killing in border area in 2021

Some important cases are mentioned below:

On January 15, 2021 a Bangladeshi man was shot dead by the Indian Border Security Force in Sreerampur area of Patgram, Lalmonirhat. The incident occurred near sub pillar 6-7 of main pillar 848 at Jhalangi border around 4:30 am on that day. The



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deceased is Abul Kalam Azad (29) and resident of Jhalangi in Srirampur union under Patgram upazilla of Lamonirhat district. BGB official told that when he went to smuggle cow from India, BSF shot him.¹¹⁷

On January 12, 2021 two Bangladeshi men were injured when BSF fired at them near Pillar 1040 and sub-pillar 16 of Narayanpur border of Kurigram. The injured are Hasanur (18) son of Abdul Monnaf and Shahadat Pramanik (25), son of Mojahar Pramanik and resident of Dakdohor village of Narayanpur union under Kochakata thana, Nageshwari upazilla of Kurigram. According to locals, they crossed into the border to bring cattle from Indian cow traders at morning that day.¹¹⁸

On February 14, 2021, a Bangladeshi man was shot dead by BSF at the Bakshiganj border in Jamalpur. The deceased Shikku Mia alias Shahijal was the son of Farazuddin from Lauchapra village under the Kamalpur union of Bakshiganj Upazila. According to locals and police officials, Shikku Mia went missing on 14th February. Later, his body was recovered from the Furangpara area of India on 15th February morning.¹¹⁹

On February 23, 2021, while planting Boro paddy saplings in the land, BSF picked up a teenager and beat him up critically. The incident occurred near 367 No. pillar of Betna border of Haripur upazilla of Thaurgaon. The victim Shah Alam (18) is the son of Nazrul Islam and resident of Manikkhari village of Haripur upazilla. When Shah Alam lost consciousness due to torture, the BSF members left thinking he was dead.¹²⁰

On March 20, 2021, a Bangladeshi man has been shot dead by the Indian Border Security Force (BSF). The incident occurred along the Bangladesh-India border at Juri in Moulvibazar. The deceased was identified as local cattle trader Bappa Miya, son of Abdur Rouf, of the district's Fultala union, member of the same union Md Moinuddin confirmed this.¹²¹



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On April 10, 2021 Indian BSF shot and injured an Indian citizen when he was entering Bangladesh through Kurigram's Fulbari border. The victim, Milon Miah (18) of Shahidaler Kuthi village in India's Cooch Behar, was illegally crossing the border to visit his maternal grandfather's house in Nageshwari upazila. Lt Col Touhidul Alam said, "We are looking into it. We will convey our decision through a press release later".¹²²

On May 04, 2021, a Bangladeshi was shot dead allegedly by a group of Khasi people inside Indian Territory near Kendribil in Sylhet's Jaintapur upazila. The victim, Makbul Hossain, 25, was the son of Jamshed Ali of Kendri village in the upazila. Quoting locals, Golam Dastagir, officer-in-charge of Jaintapur Police Station, said that Khasi people opened fire on four Bangladeshis as they had an altercation with them after they entered India.¹²³

On July 12, 2021, a young Bangladeshi man was shot dead in India by its Border Security Force (BSF) near the Kaliganj border in Satkhira. The deceased, Abdur Razzak, 19, son of Ramzan Gazi of Bharashimla union, was said to have been involved in cattle smuggling for a long time. Razzak's uncle Habibur Rahman said that Razzak was shot dead by the BSF in India's Hingalganj, on the other side of the Ichhamati River.¹²⁴

On August 29, 2021, two Bangladeshi men were shot dead on Indian land near the Patgram border of Lalmonirhat. The deceased are Yunus Ali (26) of Dangapara village of Burimari union of Patgram Upazila and Sagor Chandra (40) of Dimla Upazila of Nilfamari. They were shot when they were bringing cows from India to Bangladesh.¹²⁵

On September 04, 2021, a Bangladeshi youth was killed by BSF gun-firing on the Dantbhanga border of Roumari Upazila of Kurigram. The deceased Sahibur Rahman (40) is the son of Iraj Uddin of Ambari village of Dantbhanga Union. Sahibur's mother, Chakiron Bewa, said her son was an agricultural laborer. Some of



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them went fishing in the Jinjiram river near the border. The BSF shot him inside Bangladesh and killed him.¹²⁶



Family member mourning around Sahiburs deadbody, who was shot to death by BSF in Roumary

On November 03, 2021, BSF killed two Bangladeshis in firing near border pillar 31 of Donna border in Kanaighat Upazila of Sylhet. The two deceased were Askar Ali (25) and Arif Mia (22) residents of Laxmiprasad village of Kanaighat. Police and local residents said they were staying in the vicinity of Main Pillar 31 in the Donna border area. At that time, BSF fired and the two were shot dead on the spot.¹²⁷

On December 13, 2021, a youth was shot dead by the Border Security Forces (BSF) on the Indian side of Maheshpur Upazila in Jhenaidah district. The deceased is Mikail Hossain, 30, hailing from Jinjira Para of Baghdadanga in Maheshpur. The victim's cousin Nur Mallick said, "Mikail and some people went to India several days ago but he was shot while returning with cows from India."¹²⁸



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- 117 <https://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/news/lalmonirhat-border-bangladeshi-man-shot-dead-bsf-2028505>
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- 127 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%98%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%AB%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0>
- 128 <https://www.jugantor.com/countrynews/497779/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%B8>



A large red teardrop-shaped graphic is centered on a light orange background. Inside the red shape, the text "Election Violence and Vote Rigging" is written in a white, serif font, arranged in four lines. Below the red shape is a soft, grey shadow.

Election
Violence
and Vote
Rigging

Bangladesh's present decade has been marked by election violence, successive political crises, and turbulent situations. Especially, election violence has been escalated by several controversial decisions of the ruling Awami League since its win in the 2008 national election. In Bangladesh, significant contextual vulnerabilities like power centralization and social division contribute to the risk of election-related violence. But 2021 Union Parishad (UP), Municipalities and City Corporation election was unique due to widespread violent attacks, vote-rigging, intimidation and misconduct by ruling party.

Election is the most common and acceptable way of transformation of power from one person to another and one party to another party in a democratic process.

However, election is the most common and acceptable way of transformation of power from one person to another and one party to another party in a democratic process. The first four phases (out of six) of Union Parishad (UP) election was held in different areas of the country between September and December 2021. Regretfully, the members of the civil society of Bangladesh, as well as, the non-state actors, termed these elections as 'incredible' with the interference of the government. It has well been reported that this election was greatly influenced by the activists, leaders, and workers as well as the representatives of the ruling party. The civil society predicts that this type of election would destroy the democratic atmosphere of the country.



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Figure 20: Statistics of Election Violence in 2021

The above chart demonstrates the volatile condition of election system resulted in unnatural deaths and injuries of so many people in Bangladesh. HRSS found that at least 154 people were died, approximately 5423 people injured and about 166 persons were sustained bullet hit.

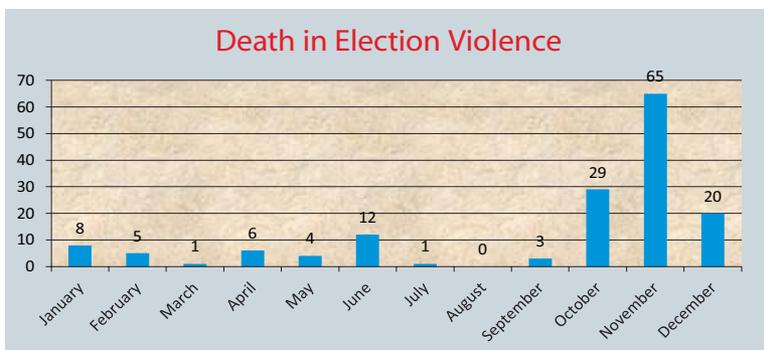


Figure 21: Monthly Comparison of Death in 2021 due to election violence

The column graph presents information about election violence-related death in 2021 in Bangladesh. In the first six months of 2021, the number of deaths was fluctuated and went up to 12 in



June. The month August was reported no death and the number of deaths were sharply soared in the following months reaching at the peak of 65 in November. Finally, it was observed rapid decline to 20 in the last month of the year.

Some significant cases are stated below:

On January 12, 2021, an old man was killed in a fire between supporters of the ruling Awami League-backed councilor candidate and its rebel candidate at Mogpukurpara under Ward No: 28 in Chattogram City. The deceased is Md Asgar Ali Babul (55). Doublemooring police station officer-in-charge Sudip Kumar Das told that the clash occurred between AL-backed 28 No ward councilor candidate Nazrul Islam Bahadur and AL's rebel candidate Abdul Quader who is a former councilor of the ward. Another two were injured in that clash.¹²⁹

On January 13, 2021, two were killed in an election clash in the Shailkupa Upazila of Jhenidah. The deceased are Liakot Islam Boltu (47) who is the brother of councilor candidate Showkat Ali, and another councilor candidate Alamgir Khan Babu. According to their family members' claims, first Liakot was killed by Babu's supporters and then Babu was killed by Baltu's supporters.¹³⁰

On February 14, 2021, a man was killed and eight others were injured in a clash between the supporters of two councilor candidates of Patiya municipality polls in Chattogram. The deceased Md Abdul Mabud is the brother of councilor candidate Md Abdul Mannan of Ward No. 8. Confirming the matter, additional SP (Patiya circle) of Chattogram district Tarique Rahman said that the incident happened in the South Gobindorkhil area of Patiya. Both groups fired bullets at each other.¹³¹

On March 19, 2021, an independent chairman candidate Habibur Rahman has alleged that a supporter of his nomination



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paper was picked up by Awami League chairman candidate Kabir Hossain Bayati from the front of the Upazila Parishad in Pirojpur. The victim was identified as Enayet Sikder, 50. Habibur Rahman said that in the presence of Awami League candidate Kabir Hossain Bayati, his men dragged Enayet Shikder away. Then, while entering the Upazila Parishad, Habibur Rahman's proposer Mohiuddin was beaten and his shirt was torn by Awami League supporters. On that day, the Candidateship of Habibur Rahman was canceled in an allegation that the signature of supporter Enayet Shikder was not matching. In the evening, Enayet Shikder was rescued by police from the Potherhat area.¹³²

On April 01, 2021, an elderly man was killed and 15 others were injured in clashes between the supporters of two union Parishad (UP) member candidates of Chunkhola union in Mollahat Upazila of Bagerhat district. The deceased Asad Sheikh (65) is a resident of Shashon village under Ward No: 2 and uncle of a candidate Mamun Sheikh.¹³³

On April 11, 2021, two people were killed and at least 10 others were injured in clashes between the supporters of two union Parishad (UP) member candidates in Barishal. The deceased, Saiful Sardar (30), son of Abdul Jabbar Sardar, and Saeed Chowdhury (22), cousin of Awami League-backed candidate Milon Chowdhury. At least 10 others were injured in this clash. The clash occurred between the groups of Awami League-backed chairman candidate Milon Chowdhury and rebel chairman candidate Ruma Begum at Asha village of Ulania union of Mehendigonj Upazila in Barishal.¹³⁴

On 11 July 2021, fifteen people, including five shot dead, were injured in clashes between the uncle and nephew of UP member candidate over the UP election at Ward No: 8 of Mollakandi Union in the char area of Munshiganj Sadar Upazila. According to eyewitnesses, there was a conflict between Uncle Nurul Amin



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Dewan and nephew Swapan Deyan, a member of Mollakandi Union Parishad. Jahangir (45), Babu (32), Robin (18), Kalam Sheikh (35), Tuhin (16), Rakib (18), Shishu Zahid (7), Roxana Begum (45), Putul (22), Shahparan (30), Asik (30), and Imran (20) from both sides were injured.¹³⁵



In Madaripur, Election violence left 7 injured including councilor.

On September 20, 2021, clashes and exchange of fire took place between supporters of the two chairman candidates in the Barrackpore Union Parishad (UP) elections in Dighalia Upazila of Khulna. Five people were shot dead. The bullet-ridden persons are Imran Sheikh (25), Ahad Sheikh (25), Kamal Mallick (30), Md. Alamgir (38) and Sagar (15). All of them are supporters of independent candidate and expelled Awami League leader Sheikh Anchar Uddin. Relatives of the injured said supporters of Ghazi Zakir Hossain of the rival boat symbol had been occupying the center since morning and preventing ordinary voters from voting.¹³⁶



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On 15 October 2021, in the second phase of Union Parishad elections, four people were killed in clashes between the two sides over their candidature for the post of member in Jagdal Union in Magura Sadar Upazila. The deceased were identified as Rahman Mollah (55), Sabur Mollah (52), Kabir Mollah (50), Imran Hossain (25). There was a long-held clash between the supporters of Nazrul Islam, the current member of the ward, and the local Sabur Mollah.¹³⁷



Photos of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina are shattered in clashes between the supporters of rival candidates ahead of the union parishad polls in Netrokona in October.

On November 16, 2021, a municipal Zuba League leader was shot dead in election violence in Shankarpasha Union of Pirojpur Sadar Upazila. The deceased general secretary of Municipal Zuba League Faisal Mahabub (35) is the son of Mahabub-A- Khoda of Vakilpara mohalla in Pirojpur city. According to police and family sources, the Awami League candidate clashed with supporters of Nasir Uddin matubar who was an independent chairman candidate. Faisal was then shot in the left shoulder and died nine days later the incident.¹³⁸

On December 26, 2021, three people were killed in Thakurgaon, Patuakhali, and Sylhet by police firing during the fourth phase of



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the Union Parishad election. The deceased was identified as Hamidur Rahman, 65, a resident of Rajagaon UP in Thakurgaon Sadar Upazila, Abdul Khaleq, 40, of Patuakhali's Rangabali Upazila and Abdus Salam (45) was shot dead in the violence surrounding the Fulbari UP election in Sylhet's Golapganj Upazila. Occupancy of the center, fraudulent ballots, snatching of ballot papers, clashes, shootings, and cocktail explosions took place at various places during the polls.¹³⁹

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- 133 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/election/2021/04/02/one-killed-in-pre-up-poll-clashes-in-bagerhat>
- 134 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B9%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%9E%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%88%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%93%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%B8%E0%A80%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A5%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A5%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%98%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B7%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A7%81>
- 135 <https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/last-page/594123/-/E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%81>
- 136 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%96%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A5%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A5%E0%A6%95%E0%A6>
- 137 <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/211081033/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE>
- 138 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A7%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%83%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%81>
- 139 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=308582&cat=1/%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BF>





Political
Violence

The main causes of political violence are underlying differences and rifts along the lines of ideological, political, religious and institutional dimensions.

Bangladesh is a democratic country with the prevalence of numerous political parties. Sadly, political violence is a common phenomenon in the Bangladeshi political landscape. Since the revival of the parliamentary system in 1991, tensions between the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and the Awami League (AL) have often led to political violence. The present government assumed power through a controversial election in December 2018 and has been playing oppressive role against opposition. Opposition political parties face considerable difficulties in attempting to exercise their constitutionally guaranteed right to hold assemblies and meetings and to carry out regular political activities. This is a sign of immature political culture.¹⁴⁰ Since there is a little political space for the opposition, most of the recently reported incidents of political violence include intra-party clashes over political dominance, collecting subscription, land grabbing etc.

The main causes of political violence are underlying differences and rifts along the lines of ideological, political, religious and institutional dimensions. Political violence results in distrust, the institutionalization of violence as a legitimate means of political expression and socialization of violence-politics for the new generation of party loyalists.



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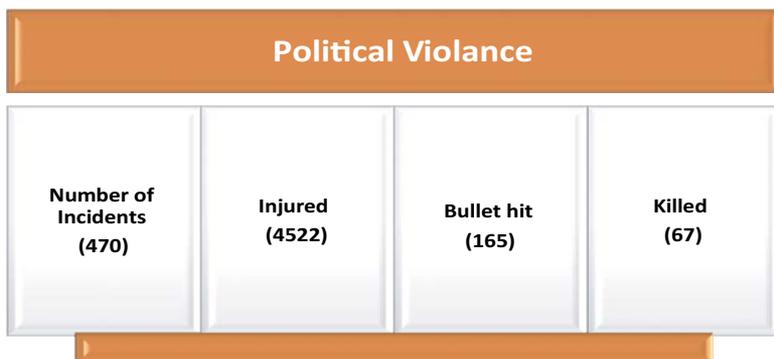


Figure 22: Statistics of Political Violence

Figure presented above illustrates the situation of political violence in Bangladesh in 2021. According to HRSS, a total of 67 people were killed, 165 bullet hit, and almost 4522 people were injured due to clash over political interests in a total of 470 incidents. Most of the political violence occurred among the groups of the ruling party over political dominance or tender.



Figure 23: Monthly Comparison of Killing in Political Violence



Selected cases are as follows:

On January 04, 2021 at night, the limbs of legs were cut by the opposite group in Sarail upazilla of Brahmanbaria. The victim Shamim (30) is the secretary of 01 no ward Juba league of Sarail upazilla and resident of Shahbajpur village of Sarail upazilla of Brahmanbaria. On that day, when Shamim was returning home from his work, Shohag with the help of other 10-12, abducted Shamim and took to Shohag's home and cut the limbs of his legs.¹⁴¹

On February 21, 2021 a BNP leader and his supporters have been attacked by BCL at the Shaheed Minar area in Bogra. The incident took place at in front of Shaheed Khokon Park in Satmatha of the city around 9.00 am. Witnesses and police sources said, BCL leaders and activists were waiting at the Shaheed Khokon Park premises after laying flowers at the Shaheed Minar. Then when BNP MP Golam Mohammad Siraj and his supporters were leaving Shaheed Minar giving flower, BCL leaders attacked them.¹⁴²



On March 01, 2021, a candidate (Mijanur Rahman Belal) was attacked by the winner of the election at Rangunia Municipality election¹⁴³

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On March 23, 2021 at least 25 protesters and two photojournalists were injured as Chhatra League men attacked on a protest at Dhaka University campus. The demonstration was shown protesting Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi's upcoming visit to Bangladesh. Among the injured are leaders and activists of different left-leaning student organisations. Chhatra Front DU unit President Salman Siddique said, "Chhatra League attacked our peaceful procession. At least 20-25 of our brothers have been injured and 15 of them are admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital."¹⁴⁴



Protesters against the upcoming visit of Indian prime minister Narendra Modi came under an attack from Bangladesh Chhatra League on the Dhaka University campus. Photo: New Age.



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On April 01, 2021 a man died and at least 10 men were injured in Awami League factional clash in Pabna. The clash occurred between the supporters of Shorbesh Sheikh and Moslem Master at Ghughudoho Purbopara village under Gourigram union of Sathiya upazilla of the district. The deceased, Alhaj Sheikh (24), son of Manik Sheikh and grandson of Shorbesh Sheikh, is the resident of Ghughudoho village.¹⁴⁵

On 22 April 2021 house of a central leader of Jubo Odhikar Parishad was attacked and vandalised by BCL activists in Brahmanbaria. The incident occurred at Koblachora village of Singerbill union under Bijoy Nagar upazilla of Brahmanbaria district. The house of Md. Ataulah, central convenor of Jubo Odhikar Parishad, was vandalised, asset was burnt, and injured 2 of his brother by upazilla BCL president S M Mahbub Hossen along with 25-30 supporters. The injured two are the brothers of Ataulah, Masud Hossain (31) and Mohsin Hossain (28).¹⁴⁶

On August 29, 2021, Chhatradal was attacked by Chhatra League at the Dhaka University campus. 19 of its leaders and activists



Rival party members smashed BCL members hand and feet in Patuakhali. The incident took place in August 5th.



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were injured in this attack. The incident took place around 10 am in front of the BNCC building (Rumi Bhaban), from where they brought out a procession demanding the immediate release of its two central leaders.¹⁴⁷

On August 13, 2021, a BNP leader was mangled and shot to death in the Taltola area of Aandar Char union in Sadar Upazila of Noakhali. The deceased Harunur Rashid Molla (55), son of late Nasibul Hoque, was the resident of West Maijchora village Aandar Char union of the same Upazila and general secretary of Aandar Char union BNP. There was a contention between the son of Harun (Sajib) and other BSL activists. So, the BSL activist was waiting with guns and sharp weapons to kill Sajib. Hearing this, Harun went there to meet with the BSL activists to solve the dispute.¹⁴⁸

On 30 September 2021, BCL leaders and activists clashed at Chattogram University due to internal clashes. The injured students in the clashes were Md. Mujahid, Sabbir Ahmed of the Department of Political Science, Sahil Kabir of the Arabic department, and Zahid Chowdhury Department of Accounting. Eyewitnesses and hospital sources said they were injured with sharp weapons.¹⁴⁹



Deceased BNP leader
Harunur Rashid Molla

On November 10, 2021, the co-sports secretary of the Gol-e-Afroz Government College Students' Union was hacked to death in Singra, Natore. The two injured student league leaders were Shafiqul Islam and Naem Hossain who were the second-year-honors students of the



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college. According to sources, 7-8 people led by Mehdi Hasan Rafsan attacked Naeem Hossain and Shafiqul Islam with sharp weapons.¹⁵⁰

On 16 December 2021, an Awami League leader was killed in a clash between affiliated two groups in Rampal Upazila of Bagerhat district. The incident took place in front of Kastbaria Baitus-Sharaf Jame Mosque in the Upazila. The deceased was identified as Mohammad Firoz Dhali, 48, joint general secretary of Ward No: 1 of Sadar union, and a resident of Kastbaria village. Rampal police officer in charge (OC) said Feroz Dhali was killed in a clash between the two groups.¹⁵¹



In Nandigram, Bogura, Awamiligues and BNP member get involved in clash, left 13 injured.

140 Islam and Suykens, Distribution of Political Violence in Bangladesh 2015,

141 <https://www.thedailystar.net/editorial/news/attack-barishal-university-students-2047485>

142 <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/210253462/%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%BE>

143 <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/210354360/%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF>

144 <https://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/news/27-injured-bcl-attacks-anti-modi-protesters-2065617>

145 <https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/rajshahi/572976/%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%81>



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- 146 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B9%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%A3%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%85%E0%A6%A7%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B7%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AB%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A3>
- 147 <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/politics/2021/08/29/chhatra-dal-claims-its-march-came-under-attack-by-chhatra-league-on-dhaka-university>
- 148 <https://samakal.com/whole-country/article/210873255/%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8B>
- 149 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%96%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%97>
- 150 <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/485866/%E0%A6%95>
- 151 <https://www.ittefaq.com.bd/306362/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%87>



A large red teardrop-shaped graphic is centered on a light beige background. Inside the red shape, the words "Public" and "Lynching" are written in a white, serif font, stacked vertically. Below the red shape, there is a soft, grey shadow on the light beige background.

Public Lynching

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

Public lynching has become a national epidemic in Bangladesh due to the habitually impatient and overenthusiastic character of its citizens. The term is most often used to characterize informal public executions by a mob in order to punish an alleged transgressor or to intimidate a group. Lynching and mob violence have continued in different parts of the country causing serious concerns over the violation of rights and posing a threat to the overall law and order situation.¹⁵² In Bangladesh, a lot of people are being killed in different places in public lynching due to lack of respect for law, mistrust on the security forces, people are taking law into their own hands, fearing that they will not get justice any other way. Consequently, the incidents of public lynching have increased at an alarming rate in Bangladesh. However, HRSS believes that everyone has the right to be considered innocent until proven guilty by the court.

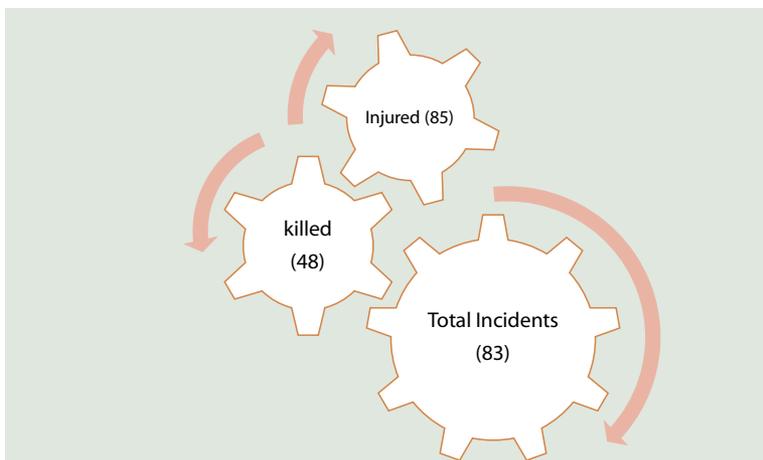


Figure 24: Statistics of Public Lynching in 2021



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

The supplied chart describes information about the public lynching cases in 2021. According to the Human Rights Support Society (HRSS) data, about 85 people were injured and nearly 48 people reportedly killed due to public lynching in a total of 83 incidents.

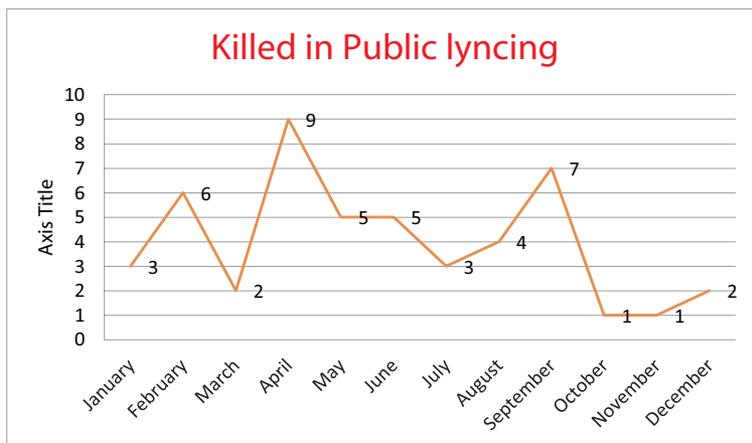


Figure 25: Monthly Comparison of Killing in Public Lynching

Some important cases are given below:

On January 18, 2021 an alleged robber was beaten to death by a mob in Chattogram's Sitakunda upazila. The identity couldn't be identified. The incident occurred when a group of 10-15 people robbed the houses of Prof. Abul Kalam and another one at Muradpur union of Sitakunda upazilla of Chattogram.¹⁵³

On January 22, 2021 a man was died while undergoing treatment in Dhaka after a week he was beaten up at Chandina of Cumilla. On January 15, there was a mahfeel and Mahmuda invited her brother Rabiullah. When Rabiullah (28) was returning home at the end of the mahfil, a group of villagers led by Harun Member beat Rabiullah.¹⁵⁴





The deceased Burhanul Kabir.

Photo: Samakal

On February 06, 2021 a college student was beaten to death at Manirampur upazila in Jashore. The deceased Burhanul Kabir was the son of truck driver Ahsanul Kabir of Mohonpur area of Manirampur municipality and a student of Manirampur Govt. College. A case was filed with Manirampur police station on this murder and accused Nayeem Hossen was arrested in this connection.¹⁵⁵

On February 16, 2021 a madrassah student was beaten to death over theft of a mobile phone set at Manirampur upazila in Jashore. The deceased Mamun Hasan (21) was the son of Mashier Gazi of Khojalipur village of the upazilla and a student of Manirampur Alia Madrasah. Locals said, some local people beat up Mamun mercilessly after tying up his hands and legs at the house of one, Aynal, early on that day and tortured more than four hours and later lost his last breath at hospital. A case was filed with Manirampur police station in this connection.¹⁵⁶

On March 13, 2021 two passengers of a private car were beaten up brutally as they got into the ferry that was fixed for Dhaka South City Corporation (DSCC) Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Tapas and his associates. The incident took place at Banglabazar Ferry Ghat in Madaripur around 7:00 pm on that day. The victims are chairman of Super Expert Company Nuh Alam Rajib (38) and his employee Rashed Bhuiyan (35).¹⁵⁷



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021



Nuh Alam Rajib and his employee Rashed Bhuiyan were brutally beaten up by (DSCC) Mayor Sheikh Fazle Noor Tapas's men. Photo: Prothom alo

On April 04, 2021 a young was killed by a mob lynching in Kapasia upazila of Gazipur. The victim Nazrul Islam (28), son of Abdul Baten, is of Bhuluber Kandapara village under Sonargaon upazila of Narayanganj. Locals said, Nazrul and his associates was taking away cows from Bacchu Mia's house. Being informed, locals came forwad and beaten Nazrul to death.¹⁵⁸

On April 04, 2021, a young was killed by a mob lynching in Kapasia Upazila of Gazipur. The victim Nazrul Islam (28), son of Abdul Baten, is of Bhuluber Kandapara village under Sonargaon upazila of Narayanganj. Locals said Nazrul and his associates were taking away cows from Bacchu Mia's house. Being informed, locals came forward and beaten Nazrul to death.¹⁵⁹

On May 11, 2021, a suspected cow thief was killed in a mob beating at Owabda area, adjacent to the Gasfield Bazar in Golachipa Upazila's Charkajol Union of Patuakhali district. The deceased was identified as Al Amin 26, son of Olil Sharder, a resident of the Charkajol village of the Upazila.¹⁶⁰



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On July 3, 2021, an extortionist was killed in a mass beating of workers on the Meghna River near Gazaria in Munshiganj. The deceased was identified as Mamun Bepari, 38, son of Mohammad Ali of Jamalpur village under Guagachhia union of Gazaria Upazila. According to the naval police, he is an identified extortionist in Meghna River. However, Shahadat Bepari, brother of the deceased, said that Mamun had gone to Balu's ship for the money owed, not extortion.¹⁶¹

On August 12, 2021, a man died in a public lynching on suspicion of thief at Beribaid village of Modhupur Upazila in Tangail district. The victim Shahjahan was the son of Jahed Kamal and a resident of Sagma village of Islampur Upazila in Jamalpur district. When some people were trying to steal cows, the public rushed after them and caught one of them, and lynched. On the way to the hospital, he died.¹⁶²

On September 26, 2021, a young woman was killed and another young woman seriously injured in a mob beating on suspicion of being a gold chain thief in Nawabganj, Dhaka. The deceased girl Runa Akhtar (25) was a resident of Dahar Mondal village of Nasirnagar Upazila of Brahminbaria district and the injured girl Poppy Akhtar (20) is the daughter of Muharram Ali of the same Upazila. According to police and local sources, Hazrat Ali's wife Zahura Begum who could not see her gold chain detained two young girls standing next to her as suspects.¹⁶³

On November 28, 2021, a man died who was injured in a mob attack in Badarganj, Rangpur for stealing electric transformers. The deceased Babul Miya (55) was a resident of Tajnagar Balarampur village in Parvatipur Upazila of Dinajpur. According to police and local sources, Babul Mia was detained on the spot for stealing electric transformers. Babul was injured in the mob beating and died while undergoing treatment.¹⁶⁴



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

On December 08, 2021, two people were detained for raping a mentally sick woman and handed over to the police after a public lynching in Sherpur district. The arrested are Fakir Mia, son of Dulal Miah of Majhpara of Charmucharia Union, and Hamed, son of Feka Miah of Baratia of Pakuria Union. According to the complaint, an unidentified mentally challenged woman was forcibly taken to a roadside field in the Muksedpur area. When the woman screamed during the rape, the locals came forward and detained the rapists and handed them over to the police.¹⁶⁵

- 152 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/121110/lynching-mob-violence-continues-in-bangladesh>
- 153 <https://www.thedailystar.net/backpage/news/mob-beats-robber-death-sitakunda-2030077>
- 154 <https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/chattagram/557645/%E0%A6%9A%E0%A7%8B>
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- 156 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/130527/youth-beaten-to-death-in-jashore>
- 157 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%87%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%B9%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%93%E0%A6%A0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%9C%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A6%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9F%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF>
- 158 <https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/dhaka/573633/%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE>
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- 160 <https://www.kalerkantho.com/online/country-news/2021/05/12/1032970>
- 161 <https://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/256863/%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%81>
- 162 <https://www.dailynayadiganta.com/dhaka/601161/%E0%A6%AE>
- 163 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%9A%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B9%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A7%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BF%E0%A7%9F%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%A3%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9F%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A3%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4>
- 164 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%9F%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AB%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%9A%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%85%E0%A6%AD%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%A3%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9F%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%83%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%81>
- 165 <https://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/618058/%E0%A6%A7%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B7>



A large red teardrop-shaped graphic is centered on a light yellow background. Inside the red shape, the words "Labour Rights" are written in a white, serif font, stacked on two lines. Below the red shape, there is a soft, grey shadow on the yellow background.

Labour Rights

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

Labour Rights are protected and guaranteed by many national and international laws and treaties. The Universal Declaration on Human Rights (UDHR) of 1948 guarantees some labour rights for instance right to reasonable limitation of working hours (article 24), right to equal pay for equal work, just and favorable remuneration (article 23, 2 &3). In addition to Labour Act 2006, labour rights have also been protected by articles 14, 15, 20 (1), 34 and 38 of our constitution. But, the human rights of workers have been violated in Bangladesh in many ways during the year of 2021. Incidents of shutting down of factories without informing the workers, layoffs and non-payment of wages on time made the situation worst during COVID-19 pandemic and have resulted in workers unrest. As a result, workers from many sectors staged a demonstration in various parts of the country demanding their arrears of wages and extension of Eid holiday. In Bangladesh, the laws are quite fit to protect labor rights but mechanisms are very poor to protect labor rights. To protect labor rights the government should interpret the laws for the general workers, monitor the activities of labor unions, and monitor the private industries' policies and so on.

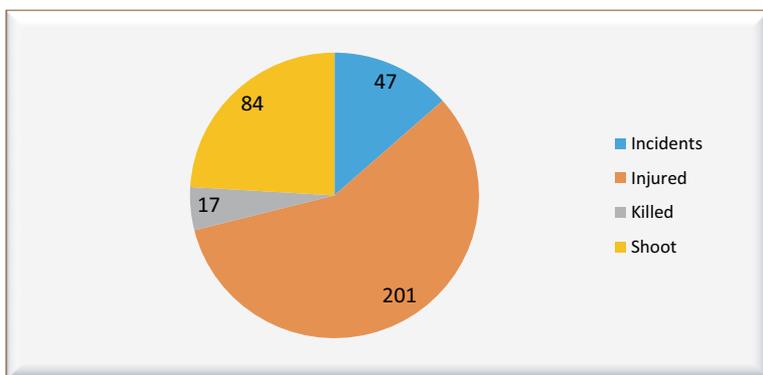


Figure 26: Statistics of Labour Rights Violation



The given pie chart provided information according to Human Rights Support Society (HRSS), in 2021, 17 labors were killed, 201 labors injured and the other 84 shot in a total of 47 incidents mostly in the industrial areas of the country.

Selected cases are as follows:

On January 09, 2021 a clash occurred between police and Labors of Akij Biri industry. In this incident at least five workers were injured, including one who was shot by police. The name of gunshot injured is Shipul Islam. According to witnesses, some workers were trying to enter into after the fixed time for entering and then clash started.¹⁶⁶

On February 03, 2021 a worker was died in an accident at the Ruppur nuclear power plant in Ishwardi, Pabna. The deceased Selim Molla (45) was the son of Nur Ali and of Notun Ruppur Dokkhipara village of of Paksey in Ishwardi of Pabna. He was working for a Russian contractor Nikimath Company for the Ruppur project. At the time of working, suddenly the regal (iron ladder) used in the construction work came and fell on his head. He was died on the spot.¹⁶⁷

On March 16, 2021 at least 9 RMG workers sustained gunshot wounds as police opened fire at a gathering of ready-made garment workers in Tejgaon Industrial Area in Dhaka. On that day morning, they went to their workplace to talk to the authorities concerned about their demand and while they were talking to the company authorities, police opened fire on them without any provocation.¹⁶⁸

On April 17, 2021 at least 7 people died and dozen others sustained critical injuries during a clash between the police and workers of an under-construction coal-power plant of S Alam Group at Banskhali upazila of Chittagong. The protest of workers began on demanding their due wages and demanding



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Some injured workers on a clash between police and workers in Banshkali of Chittagong. Photo: Collected

time for prayers and iftar on the month of Ramadan. The workers' union sat on a meeting with the authority demanding these but the authority didn't pay attention to their demands. As a result, workers' protest started and police fired inhumanely on them. The deceased Ahmad Reza (18), Rony Hossain (22), Shuvo (24), Md Rahat (24), and Rayhan (25) died on 17th April, and Rajeul Islam (25) and Shimul Ahmed (22) died on 20th April and 21st April respectively. Rajeul Islam is of Nothon Jamdani village of Betdighi union under Fulbari upazilla of Dinajpur district and Shimul Ahmed is of Sreemangal upazilla of Moulavibazar.¹⁶⁹

On May 10, 2021, at least 20 readymade garment workers were seriously injured as Police opened fire and charged batons on the workers during demonstrations demanding an extension of the Eid-ul-Fitr holidays at Tongi in Gazipur. Among the injured, at least 15 readymade garment workers of Ha-Meem Group sustained bullet injuries and eight of them undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The injured are Mijanur Rahman, 24, Hasan, 26, Rubel, 22, Zahid Hasan, 25,



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Injured workers who were hit by shotgun pellets fired by the law enforcers. Photo: Daily Star and NewAge.

Roni, 24, Mamun, 26, Sohel, 22, and Rubel Hossain, 24. Bangladesh Garment Workers Solidarity demanded punishment of the police members who opened fire on unarmed workers and urged the factory owners to allow the leave for which the workers are legally entitled.¹⁷⁰

On July 08, 2021, a fire broke out at Hashem Foods and Beverage Factory known as Sejan Juice Factory in the Karnagop area of Rugganj, Narayanganj near the Dhaka-Sylhet highway. Fifty-two workers and staffers died in N'ganj food factory incident. According to eyewitnesses, the fire started on the third floor of the six-story building of the factory due to gas line leakage or a short circuit of electricity.¹⁷¹

On August 05, 2021, at least 50 workers were injured in a clash between police and garment workers in the Tongi area of Gazipur district. Workers were protesting at the Vadam area of Tongi Upazila against the employee layoffs in Crossline Limited garment. Police fired rubber bullets and tear shells on workers and injured them.¹⁷²





Workers Protest turned into clash with police in Tongi.

Photo: Manabzamin

On October 26, 2021, five workers were burnt in a steel mill blast at Fatullah in Narayanganj. The victims were identified as Sohail Rana (36), Liton (35), Arif (27), Bilal Hossain (35), and Mohammad Ali (26). Md. Ashiq said they were burnt in a water pipeline explosion and factory authorities tried to cover up the matter secretly. Factory security guard Shah Alam said, he could not provide information as he had no any directions from the owners.¹⁷³

On November 08, 2021, workers blocked the Dhaka-Mymensingh highway and protested demanding arrears of salaries. The protest and blockade were staged by workers of Chowdhury Garments Limited factory in the area. Workers and police said the salaries were due for the months of September and October. The factory authorities are not paying the salaries of the workers despite repeated assurances of payment. For this reason, the workers started protesting in front of the factory demanding arrears of salaries.¹⁷⁴

166 <https://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/548241/%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8C>

167 <https://www.dailyjanakantha.com/details/article/548241/%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8C>

168 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/132884/nine-rmg-workers-injured-in-police-firing>



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

- 169 HRSS Research desk & <https://www.dhakatribune.com/bangladesh/nation/2021/04/17/several-dead-in-police-worker-clash-in-chittagong-banshkhali-power-plan>
- 170 <http://www.newagebd.net/article/137644/police-open-fire-on-rmg-workers>
- 171 <https://www.ittefaq.com.bd/capital/258376/%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%81>
- 172 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=286888&cat=1/%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BF>
- 173 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=299010&cat=9/%E0%A6%AB>
- 174 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%A1%E0%A6%BC%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%AB%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%93%E0%A6%85%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%97-%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B6%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%85%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%A7>





Indigenous
people's
Rights

With more than 54 indigenous groups along with the majority Bengali population, Bangladesh is a country of ethnic and cultural diversity. According to the 2011 Census, there were 1,587,141, indigenous people in Bangladesh, which represents 1.8% of the total population of the country.¹⁷⁵ However, indigenous peoples claim that their population is over three million. Indigenous peoples, with their distinct languages, traditions, cultures, values, and customs, contribute significantly to the rich cultural heritage, ecology, and sustainable development of the country. But, it's obvious that in Bangladesh indigenous people experience violence and discrimination in many aspects of their lives, including physical attacks, disregard for their ownership and cultural connection to land and resources, and barriers to equal access to healthcare, fair and safe employment, political participation, and education. Although, the Constitution of Bangladesh ensures positive action for indigenous peoples and prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, religion, or place of birth. Article 23A of the Bangladesh Constitution states, "The State shall take steps to protect and develop the unique local culture and tradition of the tribes, minor races, ethnic sects, and communities". Likewise, the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (2007) addresses the basic rights of world indigenous people. Also, the ILO has developed two global instruments regarding indigenous people: the Indigenous and Tribal Populations Convention, 1957 (No. 107) to which Bangladesh is a Party from 1972, and the Indigenous and Tribal Peoples Convention, 1989 (No. 169). It's a matter of fact that, despite Bangladesh having acceded to a number of global human rights treaties, effective implementation of those treaties through taking effective legislative, administrative and judicial measures is far from good.



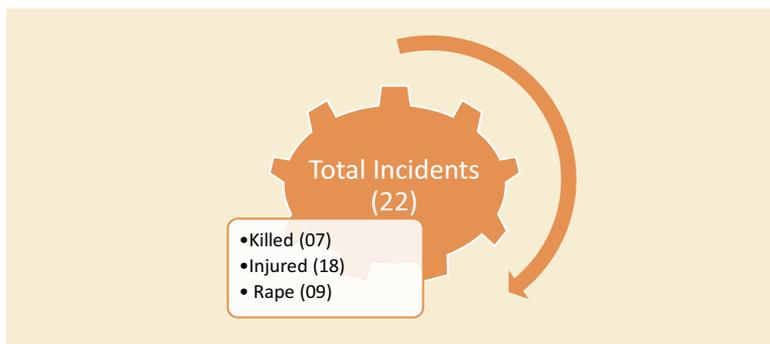


Figure 27: Statistics of Indigenous People's Rights

The above chart shows information about the condition of indigenous people in Bangladesh. Statistics shows 07 indigenous people were killed, 18 injured and 09 indigenous women were raped in a total of 22 incidents.

Some of the incidences have been stated below:

On January 09, 2021 a minority woman was tortured in front of her children by her neighboring family in accusation of theft in Ghatail upazila of Tangail. The victim Sandhya Rani Barmon (35) is a resident of Malirchala village in the upazila. She filed a case with Ghatail police station against her neighbor Monirul in this regard.

On July 24, 2021, an indigenous girl was abducted from a small ethnic village in Shankarbhad, Natore. It is alleged that Dalim, son of late Mohsin Ali of nearby Paikardol village and his accomplices picked her up. Police and locals said Dalim had been harassing the girl for a long time. The girl's father lodged a complaint at Natore Sadar Police Station.¹⁷⁶

On September 17, 2021, a member of the Parbatya Chattogram Jana Sanghati Samity was shot dead by assailants in Rangamati. The deceased was Suresh Kanti Chakma alias Dinesh, a resident

HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

of Jarulchari village in Baghaichari. According to locals, a group of armed men went to Dinesh's house and pumped bullets into his body, and killed him on the spot. Tridip Chakma, JSS Santu Larma group blamed rival JSS MN Larma group but they dismissed the allegation saying that was fallout of internal rivalry.¹⁷⁷

On October 26, 2021, five Rakhine youths were injured in an attack by stalkers for protesting against the harassment of a Rakhine girl. The injured youths were identified as Thoi Thoi Long, Asan Mong, Mankya wan, and Kahin Mong. They were volunteering at the "Kothin chibar dan" ceremony. On the other hand, the accused were identified as Mohammad Ilyas, Zakir Alam, and Mohammad Shakib.¹⁷⁸

On November 30, 2021, a Jan Sansthan Samiti (JSS) worker was killed in a Bandukvanga union in Rangamati's Sadar Upazila. The deceased was identified as Abiskat Chakma (40) a resident of the Medinipur area of Sarowati Union in Baghaichhari Upazila. According to police and local sources, armed groups of 10 to 12 people entered the house and killed him brutally in a brushfire.¹⁷⁹



Police recovered PCJSS leaders deadbody in Bandarban



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On December 14, 2021, a leader of Parbatya Chattogram Jana Samhati Samiti (PCJSS) was killed after being abducted allegedly by members of the "Mogh Party" in Bandarban. The deceased Pushoi Thoai Marma (42) was the secretary of the PCJSS Bandarban thana unit. Locals said that the terrorists of the "Mogh Party" may have caused the incident.¹⁸⁰

175 Dhamai, Binota Moy. "An Overview of Indigenous Peoples in Bangladesh."

176 <https://www.kalerkantho.com/online/country-news/2021/07/24/1056199>

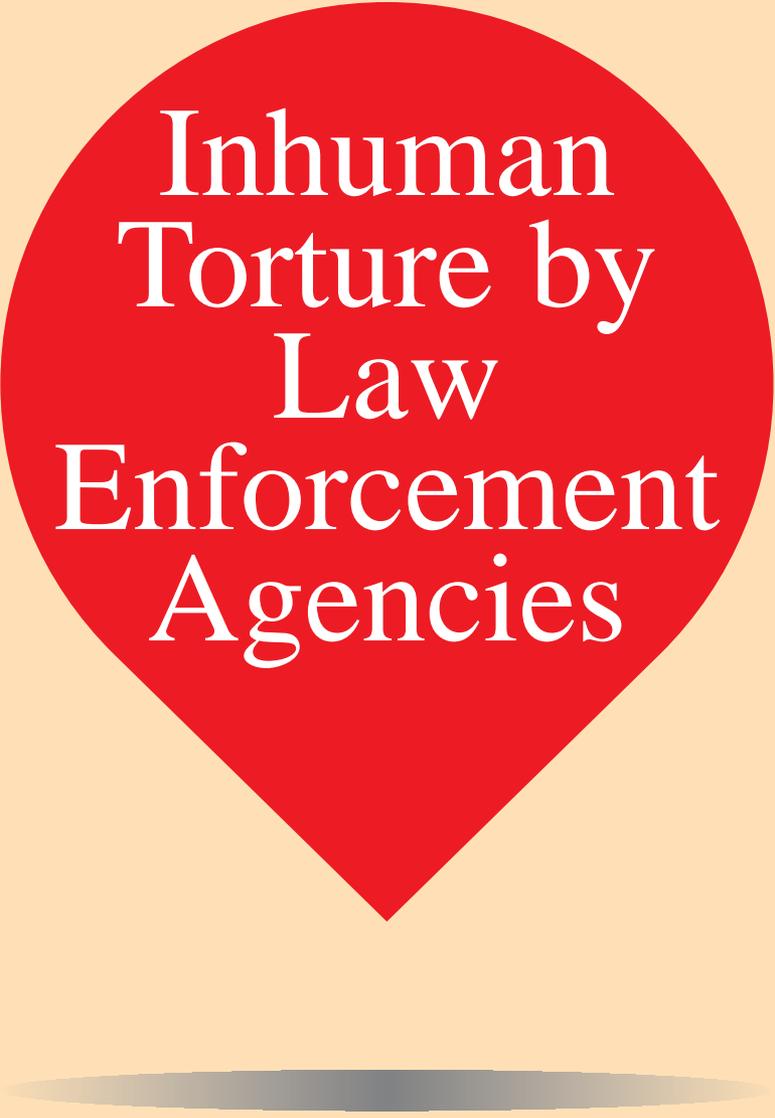
177 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/149343/jss-member-shot-dead-in-baghaichari>

178 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=299052&cat=9/--%E0%A6%95>

179 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%99%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%83%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A4%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9C%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%8F%E0%A6%B8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4>

180 <https://www.kalerkantho.com/online/country-news/2021/12/13/1101025>





Inhuman
Torture by
Law
Enforcement
Agencies

The law enforcement agencies are mainly responsible for maintaining the law and order, protecting of life and property of the citizens and preventing and detecting of crime to establish a rule of law in a state. However, the HRSS report shows inhuman torture by the law enforcement agency in Bangladesh has been increasing severely over the last few years. Additionally, torture and criminal misconduct of members of the law enforcement agencies have taken an endemic turn and it has become institutionalized in Bangladesh.¹⁸¹ Despite it having ratified the United Nations Convention against Torture in 1998, Bangladesh has a dismal record, with torture a common practice that disproportionately affects the most vulnerable members of society.¹⁸² Violating all rules and regulations, security forces used torture to spard fear and silence dissent, to coerce confessions to extract bribes, while not sparing ordinary citizens. Indiscriminate beatings, pouring boil water, removing the nail and electric shock and cripple forever through shooting from the blank point are used as a cruel tool of torture by law enforcement agencies.

However, to restore the faith of the public in the law enforcement agencies, the incumbent must take a strict step and make it evident in practice that the moral failure of the members of the law enforcement agencies will not go unpunished and the inherent nature of torture in the law enforcement system must be contained. The scenario of inhuman torture in Bangladesh, documented by HRSS, in 2021 is detailed below:

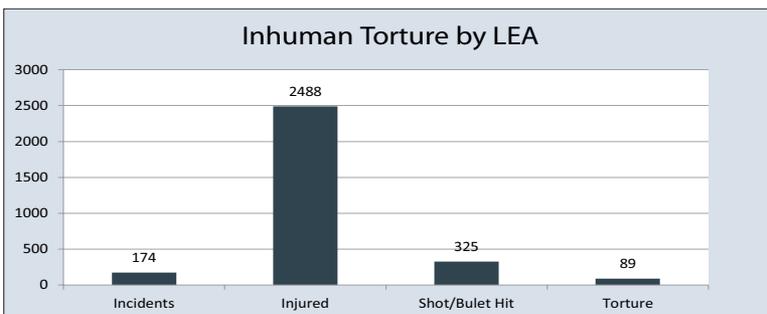


Figure 28: Statistic of Inhuman Torture by Law enforcement Agencies



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

The above column graph shows the frightful scenario of people facing due to impunity of Law Enforcement Agencies. According to HRSS in 2021, 2488 were injured, 325 bullet hit and 89 tortured in a total of 174 incidents.

Selected cases are stated below:

On February 25, 2021 at least seven students including journalists were injured as police charged batons to disperse a procession of students of the National University in Netrokona. The injured are Fahim Khan Pathan, Imran Hossen, Shahnur Alam, Atikur Rahman, Jihad Mia and Khairul Islam. Two policemen were suspended in this connection.¹⁸³



Police baton charged on Students protesters in Netrokona

On March 01, 2021, Police swoop on activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal, a pro-BNP student body, in front of the Jatiya Press Club in the capital. At least 40 people, including some policemen, were injured in the clash.¹⁸⁴

On March 10, 2021 a young was brutally tortured by Narcotics Control officer on suspicion of being a drug dealer at the Barisal



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Narcotics Control Department office. The victim was identified as Maruf Sikder and resident of Kaunia Beg Bari area of the city. A video has been leaked of this torturing. In the video, an inspector of the Barisal Narcotics Control Department Abdul Malek was seen handcuffing and beating a young man in his room brutally. At one stage of the beating, Maruf was hit several times by pressing his head and feet. At this time Maruf was handcuffed and confessed with yaba in his hand.¹⁸⁵



On March 26, 2021, police firing tear gas and rubber bullets into an anti-Modi protest, hitting and injuring both protesters and journalists covering the demonstrations.

Photo: Dhaka Tribune & Prothom alo.



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

On March 26, 2021, at least 80 people were injured as activists of different Islamist parties who were protesting after Jumma prayer at Indian prime minister Narendra Modi's visit to Bangladesh arisen a clash with police and ruling Awami League activists in Baitul Mukarrom National Mosque area in Dhaka. The injured people included journalists were Eshtiaq Emon of Ekattor TV, Amran Hossain and Probir Das of The Daily Star, M Jahangir Alam of UNB and Dipon Dewan of BanglaVision.¹⁸⁶

On March 29, 2021 three people sustained gunshot wounds and 7 other were injured by the attack of police in Gazipur. Metro thana BNP president Abdus Salam told that as part of the central program, a protest procession was taken out by the BNP in the Kazi Azimuddin College area of Joydevpur at afternoon. Within a short time after the procession started, the police fired openly from a distance. The gunshot wounded are Sadar thana Chhatra Dal joint convener Raju Ahmed Joy, Tongi thana east joint convener Rifat and Juba Dal leader Saidur.¹⁸⁷



A man with gunshot on head attacked by police in Gazipur.

On May 10, 2021, at least 20 readymade garment workers were seriously injured as Police opened fire and charged batons on the workers during demonstrations demanding an extension of the Eid-ul-Fitr holidays at Tongi in Gazipur. Among the injured, at least 15 readymade garment workers of Ha-Meem Group sustained bullet injuries and eight of them undergoing treatment at Dhaka Medical College Hospital. The injured are Mijanur Rahman, 24, Hasan, 26, Rubel, 22, Zahid



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

Hasan, 25, Roni, 24, Mamun, 26, Sohel, 22, and Rubel Hossain, 24. Bangladesh Garment Workers Solidarity demanded punishment of the police members who opened fire on unarmed workers and urged the factory owners to allow the leave for which the workers are legally entitled.¹⁸⁸

On 03 July 2021, the incident of torture of a prisoner in Comilla Central Jail went viral on social media. Tortured Shahjahan Bilas (60) was son of Abdu Miah of Durgapur village in Tripura, India. He was sentenced to 54 years in prison in 1986 for murder and robbery. According to jail sources, he was recently caught with 12 pieces of yaba by the jail guards. He was then called to the case table and beaten at one stage of the interrogation. Prison authorities formed a three-member investigation committee to investigate the incident. Two prison guards have been fired for the incident.¹⁸⁹



Leaked video footage of torturing prisoner in Cumilla



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

On August 17, 2021, more than 50 BNP leaders and activists were injured in a clash between police and BNP activists at Chandrima Udyan in the capital. When the BNP leaders went to pay respect to the grave of Ziaur Rahman, the clash started. BNP leader Aman Ullah told that permission was taken earlier for the program, but when BNP leaders entered the Mazar, police started firing tear shells.¹⁹⁰



Police charged baton on BNP mens gathering in Dhaka

On November 22, 2021, at least 20 people, including law enforcers and journalists, were injured as police and BNP activists clashed in Natore district. BNP leaders and activists staged a protest in front of the party's district office in Alaipur demanding the release of party chairperson Khaleda Zia and permission for her to go abroad for treatment. "Police dispersed them by charging batons to remove the road blockade. Ruhul Kuddus Talukdar, district BNP chairman said, "Police attacked our peaceful program without any provocation."¹⁹¹



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On 29 December 2021, workers clashed with RAB during an operation to arrest a drug dealer in a tea garden in Bhujpu, Fatikchhari of Chittagong. The incident took place at Suabil Barmasia Tea Garden in the Upazila. Two RAB members and three workers were injured in the clash. Joynal Abedin, chairman of Swabil UP, said that there was a clash between RAB and tea workers when they went on a RAB operation in Burmasia tea garden.¹⁹²

- 181 <http://www.newagebd.net/article/18627/torture-by-law-enforcement-agencies-must-be-incriminated>
- 182 <https://www.omct.org/press-releases/urgent-interventions/bangladesh/2019/07/d25476/>
- 183 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%B6%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B7%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A5%E0%A7%80%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%9B%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B2%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A0%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BE-%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A7%AD>
- 184 <https://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/news/police-foil-jcd-protests-2052609>
- 185 <https://www.jugantor.com/todays-paper/last-page/400359/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BF>
- 186 <https://www.newagebd.net/article/133742/80-injured-in-clash-during-anti-mondhi-protests-in-dhaka>
- 187 <https://www.jugantor.com/todays-paper/last-page/400359/%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%BF>
- 188 <http://www.newagebd.net/article/137644/police-open-fire-on-rmg-workers>
- 189 <https://www.jugantor.com/country-news/438719/%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%81>
- 190 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=288675&cat=1/%E0%A6%9A>
- 191 <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/politics/news/20-injured-bnp-police-clash-natore-289966>
- 192 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%AB%E0%A6%9F%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%9B%E0%A7%9C%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%A4%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%99%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%98%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B7%E0%A6%86%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A7%A9>



A large red teardrop-shaped graphic is centered on a light yellow background. Inside the red shape, the text "Rohingya Crisis in Bangladesh" is written in white, serif font. Below the red shape, there is a soft, grey shadow on the yellow background.

Rohingya Crisis in Bangladesh

Armed attacks, massive scale violence, and serious human rights violations forced thousands of Rohingya to flee their homes in Myanmar's Rakhine State in August 2017. Many walked for days through jungles and undertook dangerous sea journeys across the Bay of Bengal to reach safety in Bangladesh. Nearly 890,000 have found safety in the Cox Bazar's region of Bangladesh which is now home to the world's largest refugee camp. The United Nations has described the Rohingya as "the most persecuted minority in the world".¹⁹³ The root causes of this crisis are long standing discrimination, persecution and lack of citizenship. They also faced lack of freedom of expression, education rights, religious rights and property rights. Myanmar govt. is trying to cleansing this ethnic group. Myanmar govt. should take proper steps for sustainable solution including recognition of Rohingya citizenship and ethnical group in Myanmar and of the basic rights of the Rohingya people. They should take return their citizens from Bangladesh with cordially and provide them security, property rights, freedom of expression, education rights and religious rights. These are steps that must be taken by the authorities in Myanmar. The UN agencies and international donors should improve coordination of their response and provide sufficient support for humanitarian efforts.

On the other hand, climate-related disasters and the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have exacerbated vulnerabilities and have worsened the food security situation of Rohingya refugees and host communities in Cox's Bazar of Bangladesh. Overcrowded camps and strained host families, especially in Teknaf and Ukhiya sub-districts, have led the Government of Bangladesh to relocate some 17000 Rohingya refugees, of whom 56 percent children, to Bhasan Char. An additional 83 000 refugees from the camps in Cox's Bazar are planned to be relocated to a remote silt island in the Bay of Bengal. Despite the challenging conditions in Bhasan Char as well as in Cox's Bazar,



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supporting the livelihoods and resilience of affected people is crucial to the humanitarian response. Rehabilitating land and providing both refugee and host communities with agricultural, fisheries and livestock production assistance can equip them with the necessary means to feed themselves thereby increasing their self-reliance.¹⁹⁴



This aerial view of Bhasan Char shows a portion of the housing facilities that has been built on the island to relocate the Rohingyas from Cox's Bazar. Photo: Star

Some important cases are stated below:

On March 22, 2021, the plight of Rohingya intensified after a massive fire swept through Cox's Bazar, destroying more than 10,000 shelters, food distribution sites, and clean water and sanitation facilities. The deadly blaze ripped through four of the 34 camps, displacing about 45,000 people. The death toll has risen to at least 15, with another 560 injured and over 400 missing, according to preliminary estimates by the Inter-Sector Coordination Group, a central coordinating team for humanitarian agencies serving Rohingya refugees in Cox's Bazar. The exact cause of the fire is unknown as the blaze spread rapidly due to high winds and burned for many hours.¹⁹⁵



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Eleven-year-old Baitullah stands on a hillside overlooking the charred remains of his camp in Cox's Bazar after a fire destroyed shelters, food distribution sites, and clean water and sanitation facilities on March 23, 2021. (©2021 World Vision/photo by Sathi Islam)

In late July 2021 deadly monsoon rains devastated the Cox's Bazar region of Bangladesh, killing six Rohingya refugees and affecting more than 21,000 more. An estimated 3,800 shelters have been damaged or destroyed and 13,000 refugees have been forced to temporarily relocate.¹⁹⁶



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On August 02, 2021, a Rohingya youth was abducted and another was fired at the D-9 block of Kutupalong Rohingya camp No. 07 in Rajapalong union of Ukhiya. The abducted Abu Sayed alias Abdullah (38) was the son of Ali Ahmad and the injured Anamul (37) was the son of Tofayel Ahmed, both are the resident of Camp No. 07. There are two groups in the camp and the abduction was the result of regular clash and power practicing in the camp.¹⁹⁷

On 08 September 2021, Police detained 19 Rohingyas fleeing from Bhasan Char of Noakhali and from Sitakunda Upazila of Chattogram. They were detained from Uttar Salimpur under the Upazila, said Abul Kalam Azad, officer-in-charge (OC) of Sitakunda Police Station. The detainees include eight males, four females, and seven children. OC Azad said the Rohingyas fled Bhasan Char on a boat and reached Sitakunda Upazila. Later, police sent the Rohingyas back to Bhasan Char after the legal procedure.¹⁹⁸

On September 29, 2021, unidentified criminals shot Rohingya rights activist and leader dead at his office in Kutupalong camp under Cox's Bazar's Ukhiya Upazila. The deceased Mohammed Mohib Ullah, 46, was chairman of the Arakan Rohingya Society for Peace and Human Rights (ARSPH). A police source said Mohibullah came to his Forcibly Displaced Myanmar Nationals (FDMN) camp-1 east office after offering Esha prayers around 8:30 pm. Three armed men then entered and fired five bullets. The criminals fled the scene immediately afterward. "He was taken to Kutupalong MSF Hospital where doctors declared him dead," said the DIG. Meanwhile, Rohingya sources said Mohibullah was a very popular leader in the community and had a great role in uniting Rohingyas who fled Myanmar fearing persecution by the security forces of that country. The sources said Rohingyas had staged a mass rally led by Mohibullah voicing their demands, which made headlines. He also visited the White



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House in July 2019 and talked to former President Donald Trump about the Rohingya crisis in Myanmar.

On the other hand, Human rights activist Noor Khan Liton, who worked with Mohibullah, said the Rohingya leader was one of the progressive forces and mobilized people of the community in demanding repatriation and justice for the genocide against them. "There is no doubt that extremist forces are behind his killing," Liton told HRSS. Likewise, Human Rights Watch's South Asia director Meenakshi Ganguly said Mohibullah was someone who "always defended the rights of the Rohingya to safe and dignified returns and to have a say in the decisions concerning their lives and future". "His killing is a stark demonstration of the risks faced by those in the camps who speak up for freedom and against violence," she said, adding that his death undermines Rohingyas' struggle for greater rights and their efforts to safely return to Myanmar.¹⁹⁹



Rohingya leader Mohibullah



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On October 22, 2021, seven people were killed and 10 injured in clashes and gunfire between two terrorist groups at the Thankhali Rohingya camp in Ukhia, Cox's Bazar. The Rohingyas killed were Mohammad Idris (32) and others. Armed police and Rohingya camp sources said police could not confirm what led to the clashes between them. However, Rohingyas said the clashes between the terrorist groups had taken place over the sharing of drug sales money and the dominance of camps.²⁰⁰

On November 25, 2021, two Rohingyas were killed in a gunbattle against RAB at Teknaf Upazila in Cox's Bazar. The deceased were identified as Kefayet Ullah and Korban Ali alias Angul Kata Shafiq. The incident took place during the gunfight in the area adjacent to bridge number 14 of the Cox's Bazar-Teknaf regional road in the Upazila's Hnila Union at around four in the morning. RAB claimed that the two deceased were robbers and drug dealers listed by law enforcement. RAB said a RAB team was patrolling at Cox's Bazar-Teknaf regional road. At that time, a group of 8-10 robbers and drug dealers came there and opened fire on them. At that time, there was an exchange of fire between the two sides when RAB also retaliated.²⁰¹

On December 8, 2021, a class three student of a madrasa was raped allegedly by two youths in Cox's Bazar town. The accused youths are Rohingyas. The victim's mother filed a case against the alleged rapists Kefayet Ullah (20) and his friend Imran (19) with Cox's Bazar Sadar Police Station. According to the case statement, the two youths forcibly picked up the 10-year-old girl when she went to a shop for buying food in the Mohuripara area near Cox's Bazar Government Polytechnical Institute on December 1 and took her to an isolated place.²⁰²

193 <https://www.unrefugees.org/news/rohingya-refugee-crisis-explained/>

194 <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/bangladesh-rohingya-refugee-crisis-joint-response-plan2022#:~:text=Nearly%201%20million%20Rohingya%20refugees,risk%20of%20extreme%20weather%20events.>



HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION 2021

- 195 <https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/bangladesh-rohingya-refugee-crisis-joint-response-plan-2022#:~:text=Nearly%20%20million%20Rohingya%20refugees,risk%20of%20extreme%20weather%20events.>
- 196 <https://www.unrefugees.org/news/rohingya-refugee-crisis-explained/>
- 197 <https://mzamin.com/article.php?mzamin=286391&cat=9/>
- 198 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%AD%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%9A%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%A5%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AA%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%B2%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%AE%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BC%E0%A6%B6%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6>
- 199 HRSS Research desk & <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/crime-justice/news/rohingya-leader-mohibullah-shot-dead-2187421>
- 200 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%89%E0%A6%96%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BC%E0%A6%BE%E0%A7%9F%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%99%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%95%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AE%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%AA%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%82%E0%A6%98%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%B7%E0%A7%87-%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4-%E0%A7%AD>
- 201 <https://www.prothomalo.com/bangladesh/district/%E0%A6%9F%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AB%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%AF%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%AC%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A6%B8%E0%A6%99%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%97%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%AC%E0%A6%A8%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%95%E0%A6%AF%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%A7%E0%A7%87%E0%A6%A6%E0%A7%81%E0%A6%87%E0%A6%B0%E0%A7%8B%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%99%E0%A7%8D%E0%A6%97%E0%A6%BE%E0%A6%A8%E0%A6%BF%E0%A6%B9%E0%A6%A4>
- 202 <https://www.thedailystar.net/news/bangladesh/crime-justice/news/case-filed-against-2-rohingya-youths-raping-class-3-student-coxs-bazar-2912711>



Annual Human Rights Report 2021

At a Glance

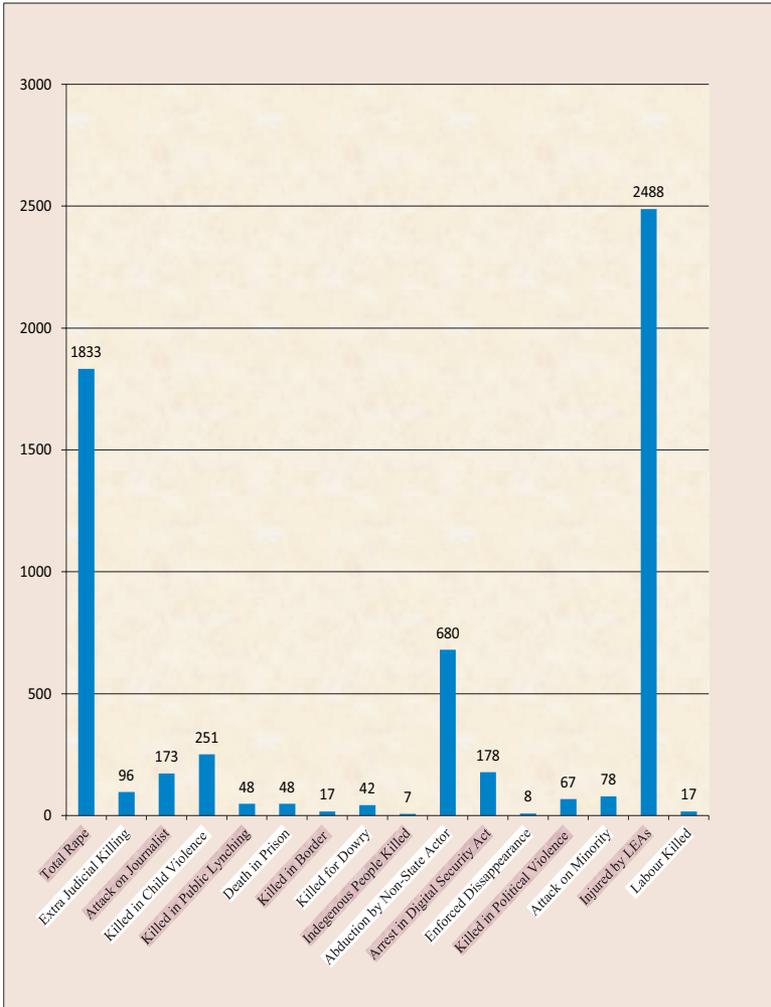


Figure 29: Human Rights Situation of Bangladesh in 2021



Human Rights Report Yearly Comparison

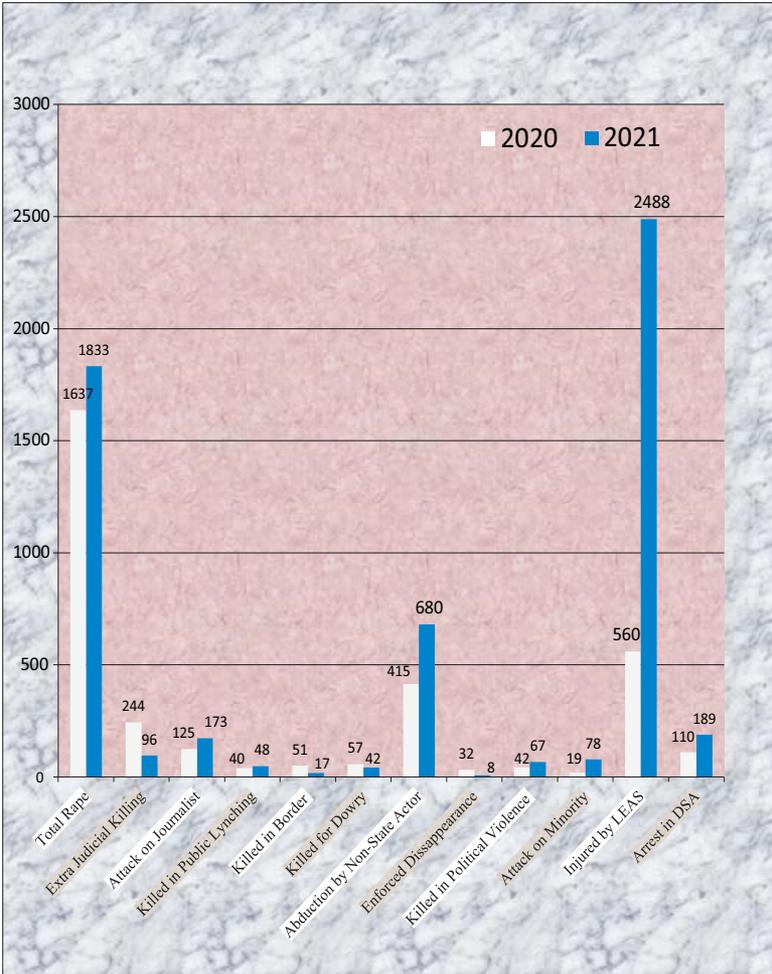


Figure 30: Human Rights Report Yearly Comparison between 2020 and 2021



CONCLUSION

Voting is the right on which all other rights depend. As, the people of Bangladesh have already lost their voting rights, all other constitutionally guaranteed fundamental and human rights have been violated routinely and alarmingly. Thus, infringement of human rights is a major concern in Bangladesh. Moreover, human rights violation has become endemic throughout the country and remedies for breaches are almost invisible. This is because of the failure of the government authorities to show respect for the life and property of the citizens. As a result, all kinds of human rights violations and unlawful activities such as: extrajudicial killings, enforced disappearances, restrictions on freedom of expression, attacks on journalists, political violence, domestic violence, rape and child abuse, border killing, torture by law enforcement agencies, and arbitrary arrests are regularly taking places in Bangladesh. Although UDHR obliges all signatory states and the Constitution of Bangladesh specifically guaranteed the fundamental rights of the citizens, it's



a matter of deep concern that they have been denied by the incumbent governments.

On the other hand, the existing government assumed power through uncontested and controversial general elections in 2018 which led to serious political violence. The government, in order to continue its regime, undertook repressive measures against the opposition. The rule of law has been compromised.

Meanwhile, the government has initiated drastic and draconian measures against the leaders and activists of the opposition political parties. Consequently, a political vacuum has developed.

This mission is challenging but achievable. We believe the relentless effort would ensure the improvement of overall human rights conditions in Bangladesh.

In these circumstances Human Rights Support Society (HRSS) urges the incumbent government to take the necessary measures to improve the situation and ensure the fundamental rights and basic human rights of all citizens. At the same

time, we appeal to every conscious citizen, journalist, civil society, political leader, national and international organizations and UN agency to keep an effective role to protect human rights violation and improve the prevailing appalling situation in Bangladesh. Certainly, this mission is challenging but achievable. We believe the relentless effort would ensure the improvement of overall human rights conditions in Bangladesh.





Recommendations

Human rights are commonly understood as universal and inalienable fundamental rights to which a person is inherently entitled simply because he or she is a human being, and which are inherent in all human beings irrespective of their nation, location, language, race, sex, religion, ethnic origin or any other status. But, Human Rights Support Society (HRSS) data demonstrates that the human rights situation in Bangladesh is hardly a satisfactory level in 2021. Therefore, the government along with the respective authority should receive this situation into consideration by taking appropriate steps to establish an equitable and just society. To improve the situation HRSS recommend the following highly effective procedures.

- All types of oppressive and abusive laws, including the Digital Security Act, 2018 must be repealed. Cases filed under these oppressive laws against everyone must be withdrawn; and all wrongfully arrested persons under these Acts must be released. The government should be respectful to the freedom of expression of all citizens. Print, Electronic and online media should be allowed to work freely even though it goes against the government.
- With a view to ensuring accountability and transparency of the members of law enforcement agencies, a national committee with representations from civil society, rights



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groups, professionals and journalists need to be included to monitor the activities of LEAs.

- Actions should be taken to end structural and cultural violence against women from all spheres of life. Moreover, in order to ensure the safety and security of women, children and members of minority communities, immediate appropriate measures should be taken by the concerned authorities. A proper environment should be ensured so that the victims can come up with appropriate complaints against the perpetrators.
- The Government must stop enforced disappearances perpetrated by law enforcement agencies and bring the law enforcement agencies who are involved in this heinous crime, before the law. HRSS urges the government to comply with the provisions of the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance adopted by the United Nations.
- The Judiciary and the Administrative Authorities must ensure justice for all minorities' communities. Restructure all damaged temples and places for worship that were subjected to attack and end all potential attacks on places of worship irrespective of race, sex, color, religion and any other social standings.
- The Bangladesh government should establish a judicial inquiry commission to look into all violations of international human rights law by the Border Security Force. The government should invite both Indian and Bangladeshi nationals to come up with complaints and credible evidence to the lawfully constituted inquiry commission. The inquiry should be transparent and time-bound. Specifically, the committee should have statutory power to ensure the privacy and protection of the witnesses.



Annexure: 01

Annual Human Rights Statistics, 2021

Type of Human Rights Violation		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Total
Violence Against Women	Sexual Harassment	11	3	8	16	28	22	33	19	26	28	25	18	237
	Rape	126	139	151	192	183	164	178	169	182	157	87	105	1833
	Killed for Dowry	1	3	7	2	3	4	3	3	9	3	1	3	42
	Acid Violence	1	2	4	3	0	2	1	2	8	3	1	1	28
Attack on Minority		4	2	4	3	2	2	2	5	5	42	5	2	78
Extra-judicial Killing	Crossfire	2	7	4	1	4	2	5	5	4	2	8	6	50
	Shot to death	0	0	15	8	0	0	0	0	0	6	3	4	36
	Torture to death	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	2	0	5
	Custodial death	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	5
	Total	3	7	19	11	5	2	5	6	6	8	13	11	96
Death in Prison		4	7	2	2	7	4	2		6	5	5	4	48
Enforces Disappearance		0	0	0	0	0	4	0	1	0	0	2	1	8
Human Rights violations by BSF	Killed	1	0	1	0	1	1	3	2	1	1	4	2	17
	Injured	2	1	0	0	0	0	1	3	0	1	2	0	10
	Arrested	1	6	2	14	1	0	0	5	0	0	23	0	52
Attack on Journalists	Injured	10	11	27	20	5	6	3	7	10	7	8	13	127
	Threatened	1	4	11	9	1	3	5	3	4	6	3	2	52
	Assaulted	3	0	3	4	2	0	1	1	2	2	12	4	34
	Arrested	1	0	1	2	2	1	4	1	0	2	5	1	20
Political Violence	Killed	0	6	10	6	7	2	8	5	3	8	9	3	67
	Injured	145	382	1631	255	309	283	176	266	205	269	208	393	4522
Election Violence	Killed	8	5	1	6	4	12	1	0	3	29	65	20	154
	Injured	617	320	289	156	104	387	22	0	142	522	1419	1445	5423
Abuse of DSA	Arrested	4	9	9	44	16	8	18	6	9	35	16	4	178
	Case Filed	5	6	13	55	19	10	14	10	23	32	17	13	217
Situation of Labor	Killed	1	3	0	0	4	1	0	0	1	1	3	3	17
	Injured	15	11	31	0	6	61	0	0	35	3	20	19	201
Killed in Public Lynching		3	6	2	9	5	5	3	4	7	1	1	2	48
Abduction by Non-State Actor		85	90	55	39	24	35	34	55	77	41	58	87	680



Annexure: 2 Photo Gallery

Day Celebration 2021



International Human Rights Day Celebration 2021



International Human Rights Day Celebration 2021



International Human Rights Day Celebration 2021



Discussion on International day of the victims of Enforce Disappearances 2021



HUMAN RIGHTS SUPPORT SOCIETY (HRSS)

7th Human Rights Conference 2021



Group Photo of the participants of 7th Human Rights Conference 2021



Badiul Alam Majumder, Secretary of SHUJAN on 7th Human Rights Conference 2021



Syeda Rizwana Hasan, the chief executive of BELA deliberating her speech on 7th Human Right's Conference 2021



Barrister Sahjada Al Amin Kabir, chairman of HRSS deliberating his speech on 7th Human Right's Conference 2021



Barrister Sara Hossain deliberating her speech on 7th Human Right's Conference 2021



Two days Training Program 2021



Two days Training on Covid-19 and Certificate Program 2021



Asif Munir, Human Rights Activist at Training on Management of Public Health During Covid-19 Pandemic Situation 2021



Participant's session during Training program.



Dr. Saber Ahmed Chowdhury, Associate Professor of Dhaka University at Training on Management of Public Health During Covid-19 Pandemic Situation.



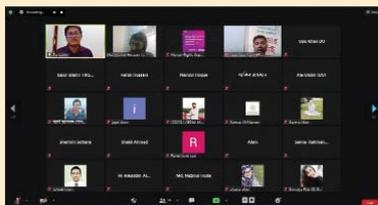
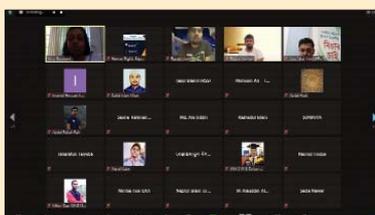
Dina Nargis, Human Rights Activist at the Training Session



Online Training Programs 2021



Workshop on 'Fundamental Human Rights' 2021



Inaugural program of 'Enhancing Covid-19 resilience through capacity and social awareness building of Youth Leaders'



A discussion program on 'Variants of Covid-19 and vaccination'



Nina Goswami, Director of ASK, gave a speech in Training on Abuse of DSA and Gender Based Violence 2021



Md Nur Khan, Human Rights Activist, gave a speech in Training on Extrajudicial Killings and Enforced Disappearance 2021

Others activities of HRSS in 2021



Study Circle program in 2021



Mask Distribution program by HRSS 2021





HRSS attended at 'International Day of Victims of Enforced Disappearances' organized by Mother's Call



HRSS attended at Final Ceremony of AHA in the Westin Dhaka



Photo of the guests of 7th Human Rights Conference 2021



Prize giving session at two days Training Program on Covid-19 in



Volunteers at the Training session



Discussion on Enforce Disappearance and Extrajudicial Killings

