



HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST RELIGIOUS MINORITY COMMUNITIES IN BANGLADESH



MONTHLY REPORT AUGUST 2020

Research and Empowerment
Organization - REO

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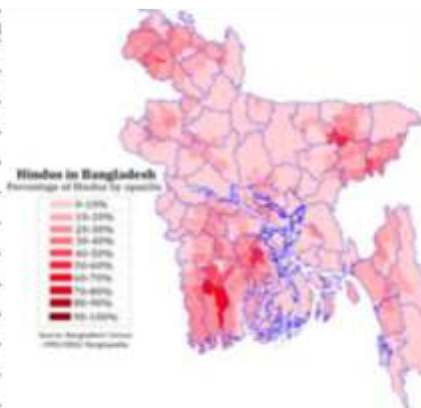
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Introduction:

Census Year	Muslim	Hindu
1901	66.1	33.0
1911	67.2	31.5
1921	68.1	30.6
1931	69.5	29.4
1941	70.3	28.0
1951	76.9	22.0
1961	80.4	18.5
1974	85.4	13.5
1981	86.7	12.1
1991	88.3	10.5
2001	89.6	09.3
2011	90.0	08.5



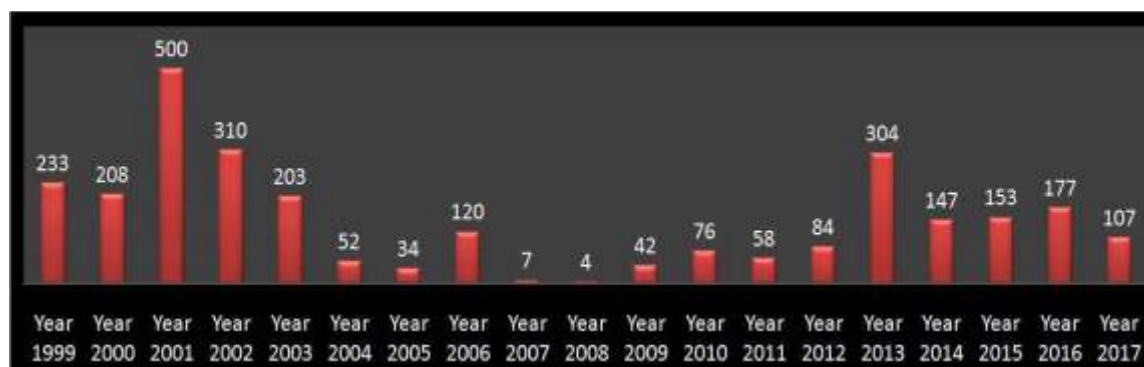
Country
The People's Republic in Bangladesh
Capital : Dhaka
Population: 166,368,149
Muslim: 90%
Hindu: 8.5%
Christianity: 37
Buddisim: 60

Global Human Rights Defence (GHRD) and Research and Empowerment Organization-REO have been organizing a worldwide campaign dedicated to protecting the human rights of people in Bangladesh, minority population in particular.

We stand for victims and human rights activists to prevent discrimination, to uphold political freedom, to protect people from inhumane conduct, and to bring offenders to justice. REO initiates investigations upon receiving information or requests from the victims or victims' family. It also follows-up and investigate the news that are on the daily newspapers which focuses on minority populations.

REO coordinates with the victim and victims' family for fact-finding; collects evidences at the incident spots, investigates with the witnesses (if there are any) and local authorities.

It investigates and exposes the human rights violators and hold them accountable. It demands government and concerned authorities of power to end abusive practices and respect international human rights laws. REO follows the guideline from UNCHR, International Human Rights Organizations. In general, REO is working to end xenophobia human rights abuse, racial discrimination, civil resentment, brutality, black laws and oppression against minorities in Bangladesh.





After Bangladesh got its Independence from Pakistan, the Minorities in the country have been suffering at the hands of religious extremists. The Pakistani Army have tortured, killed and raped many Hindu minorities because they believed that the Hindus are always against Pakistan.

The Hindus in Bangladesh always hoped that the religious harmony will be restored between Hindus and Muslims. BNP allowed the Jamayet Islami in Bangladesh and President Mohammed Ershad declared Bangladesh an Islamic state. Hindu were among the minority population and this resulted them making a 2nd class citizens in Bangladesh. Minority Hindus are always an easy target during elections. The religious fanatic groups take advantages of such situations to attack the Hindu minorities.

The major tortured and killing in minorities are the highest in the statics that period of time. It means during the Ershad Period of time. (I really do not understand what are you trying to say here with this line?)

In Bangladesh minority groups such as Hindu populations are often found to be discriminated. Bangladesh is a secular country, all its citizens fought equally for the its Independence. But secular status has been replaced by establishing Bangladesh as an Islamic state. It is unfortunate for the minority population such as Hindu and Christians in Bangladesh. The religious fanatics are increasing and torturing minority groups because the establishment of Bangladesh as an Islamic state has created hatred against the Hindu and Christians among the Muslims. The minorities are the vote bank for Bangladesh Ruling Parity Awami League, (so please write here what is the role of Awami League to help minorities? Have they done anything yet?)

On average 4 females from the minority population are raped every day. Hindu temples have been demolished, people are threaten on everyday basis. The religious fanatics attack the Hindu minorities with false allegations. The Law and order are very reluctant to help and support the Hindu minorities in Bangladesh. Papri Biswas, Pinaki, Bithi, Bristi Rani Das and many such Hindu girls have been raped and justice to them were denied. With the help of REO, Papri Biwas finally got the justice.

REO is also working for the empowerment of the minority women in Bangladesh. To empower them REO has started the Single Teacher School Program in Pabna. Papri Biswas is the member of the project and has been taking care of running the school program in Pabna. REO has started a Sewing Machine Project in Manikgonj which has 12 Machines that will provide skills and income to the minority girls in Manikgonj. The Sewing Machine Project aims to empower 200 families.

August – 2020

Case: 01

Case : Land Grabbing and attempt to Murder
Date : 02.08.2020 at around 8 Pm
 Chapainawabgonjsadar , Chapainawabgonj.
Address : Rasulpur, Word No -05, PS-Gaffargaon,
 Mymonshingh, Bangladesh.

The victim belongs to a Hindu family, their family has been living in their ancestor properties in gaffargaon, Mymonshingh, Bangladesh. Gaffargaon is a mixed community with both Muslims and Hindus residing together. In 2019, neighbour Mohammed Abdul Hai offered the victim family to sell their properties to him but the family denied. Since then, Abdul Hai, has been harassing the victim family so that they change their mind. They have also tried to harass females in the family. On 2 August 2020, Mohammed Hafijul Islam-26 and Mohammed Sirajul-25 Islam son's of Mohammed Abdul Hai, came to the victim familys' house and tried to embarrass the females in the house. The victim family protested their entry in the house and warned to file a complaint at the local police station. The same day in the evening, the victim family went to the local chairman, Mr. Saiful Islam, and inform him about the ongoing torture and harassment from Mohammed Abdul Hai and his son's. Mr Saiful Islam is a chairman of Local Union Parishad in Gaffargaon. Mr. Saiful assured the victim family that he will seriously look into the issues and take serious actions against the people.

While the victim family were coming back to their home from meeting Mr. Saiful Islam, Mohammed Sirajul Islam and Mohammed Hafizul Islam along with them their associates Mohammed Qadir – 41, Mohammed Royad -16, Masamat Sumaiya – 20, and Taslima Begum -36, attacked the victim family for taking the complaint to Mr.



Saiful Islam. Following the incident, the perpetrators barged into the house of the victim family around 8:30 pm. The perpetrators attacked and brutally injured Mr Amol Krishna Shil -60, Anjali Rani Shil – 52, Parthana Shil -35, Subol Shil – 34, Moumi Rani Shil – 14. Sharp weapons were used to injured the females and children. The victim Anjali and Amal are admitted at the Mymonshingh medical college hospital and according to the hospital source they are in a critical condition.

Legal status:

On 3 August 2020, the victim family went to the Goffargaon Police Station and filed a case against the perpetrators under attempt to murder case no- 01 under the section-B with the panel code 145/323.

Action:

GHRD/REO's local representative Rajesh and his team are following up on the progress in the case. They meet with the police officer in charge and the local authorities. The police informed the team they have arrested one perpetrator involved in the case and soon they will also arrest the others.

Case: 02

Case : Kidnapped and Forceful Conversion
Date : 10.08.2020
Address : Kotowali Thana, Chittagong



Case Summary:

Seventh grader Ms. Priti Das, 14 years old, was kidnapped on 28.07.2020 from her home. Priti Das is the daughter of Mr. Dolon Das and Mrs. Parul Das. Pritis' father, Mr. Dolon is a rickshaw puller and her mother is a garment factory worker. The family lives in a small house in brick filed road, Kotowali Thana, Chittagong. Mohammed Shakib Miah, the alleged perpetrator, who is also the family's neighbour, knew that Priti is often alone at her home.

Mohammed Shakib Miah had been following and teasing Priti from past few months. Priti and her family have even complaint about his behaviour to his parents. His parents, however, did not pay much attention to it, instead they threaten the family to file a complaint against their daughter. Pritis' father filed a complaint on 07.08.2020 of kidnapping against Mohammed Shakib Miah at the Kotowali police station.

Legal status:

The victims' father Mr. Dolon Das has filed a complaint in the Kotowali Thana under the section 7/30 of Nari O shihu adhikar Ain 2003 act on 7 August 2020.

While the victim family were coming back to their home from meeting Mr. Saiful Islam, Mohammed Sirajul Islam and Mohammed Hafizul Islam along with them their associates Mohammed Qadir – 41, Mohammed Royad -16, Masamat Sumaiya – 20, and Taslima Begum -36, attacked the victim family for taking the complaint to Mr.

Case: 03

Case : Attempt to Murder
Address : Maidan Dighi, Upazila: Bodha, District; Panchagon



Case Summary:

On 5 August 2020, Akhil Chandra Ray, a local contractor and Union Parishad (local authority) member and his family were brutally attacked at Maidan Dighi, Upazila Bodha, Panchagoan. The attacked has been allegedly made by Mohammed Unus and his associates. The victim, Akhil Chandra Ray works as a supply contractor in the Jemjute limited company. He has been working in the company from past 10 years. On the day of the incident, Akhil was supposed to submit a tender to supply of raw materials for the company. When Akhil went to submit this tender, Mohhamed Unus (Akhils' alleged rival contractor) along with 30 people

blocked his entry to the company. Akhil tried to enter into the company, Mohammed Unus, his brother Rezaul Haque (who serves in the Bangladeshi Army) and his associates attacked him with sticks. The family members of Akhil came to save him they were also attacked by Mohammed Unus and his people. All the family members were injured and were given death warning.





Akhil, his sister and his mother have been admitted to the Bodha Upazila health complex hospital and are in a critical condition. Akhil Chandra Ray filed a case against the alleged perpetrators Mohammed Unus Ali, his brother Mohammed Rezaul Haque and others on 10t August, Case no- 4/124. The local police officer, Abu Mahhed Ashraful Zaman, in charge for the case has assured the family that they will arrest the culprit as soon as possible. Akhils' company manager, Mohammed Abdul Bashar condemns the attack on him and has asked for Justice for Akhil.

Case: 04

Case : Burn the houses
Address : Kasimpur, Union- Narayanpur, Upazila- Matlob, District: Chandpur.
Date : 15 August 2020



Case Summary:

On 10 August 2020, Mohammed Delower Hossain of (Kasimpur, Union- Narayanpur, Upazila- Matlob, District: Chandpur) allegedly claimed that a cow of Narayan Chandra Deys has eaten the grasses from his agriculture land. This became the reason for a lpong quarrel which turned into a serious issue. Due to this reason Mohammed Delower Hossain along with his associates, Nephew Mohammad Syed Juhur Ali, S/O- Syed Ali, Mohammed Faruk, Mohammed Shahadat, Mohammed Sufiyan, and Mohammed Monir Hossain attack and injured Narayan and his family members. They have also threatened to Narayan and his family member to leave the area within a month or else the consequences would not be good.

On 15 August 2020, at around mid-night at 2:00 am, few unidentified people came and set fire to the house of Narayan. The family could not do anything but watch their house turn into ashes. Mr Ranjit Kumar Dey, elder brother of the victim, is the eyewitness of this incident. When he saw his brothers', house was set on fire and immediately he shouted for help to the neighbours. The victim family went to the local police station the next day and file a complaint against Mohammed and his associates. The officer in charge Sawpan Aich, Motlab Police Station is incharge of this case and he assured REO team that they will arrest the culprits soon.

Case: 05

Case : Attempt to Murder
Date : 18.08.2020
Address : Switch gate Area, word no-03, Pouroarea, Amragachiya, Pirozpur.



Shuvo Shil -20, S/O Mr Shaymol Chandra Shil, Amragachiya, Pirozpur is a first-year Hon's student at the Mothbaria government college. Few days earlier to the incident, Shuvi Shil got involved in a verbal fight with a boy in his college about a mobile. The verbal fight turned into phsycial fight and in that rage, the boy gave (name unidentified) threat to Shuvi.

On 18.08.2020, Shuvo Shil feels fear and went to meet with a complain to Upazila Chairman of Pirozpur Poursava Mohammed Riyaz Uddin. However, while he was returning home alone from chairman house at around 9pm. On the way of his house the culprits are waiting for him over a bridge, while the victim reach at the bridge, the culprits attacked with sharp weapon and chop his right hand arm, leave him and they run away from the spot. Now, the victim Mr Shuvo Shil is admitted at the Mathbaria Upazila Health Complex with critical condition. The Victim family will go to the police station soon.

Case: 06

Case : Murder
Address : Bhangripara, Union-Nepaltali
 Upazila-Gaptoli, District- Bogra, Bangladesh



The Victim Mr. Ujjal Roy, the eldest son of Shri Anil Chandra Roy has murdered by Mohammed Rifat Ali, Mohammed Tranamul haque, Mohammed ferdous Alam, S/O ohammed Tranamul haqueatf Bhangri Para village in Gabtali Upazila. Early in the morning the victim wife's Mrs Shuli Rani Roy is washing floor at their yard. At this time neighbor Mohammed Rifat captured her to rape, while the wife Smt. Shuli rani Roy in a hurry for a help to rescue her from Mohammed Rifat Ali . At this time, at the shout of Shiuli Rani, her husband Ujjal, brother-in-law Amrit and father-in-law rushed to the spot and grabbed Mohammed Rifat Ali by the hand, but some members of the Muslim community came and took Mohammed Rifat away. To took him away the

perpetrators attacked and hit to dead to Mr Ujjal Roy on spot.

Shri Anil Chandra Roy, father of late Amrit Roy, filed a case with Gabtali Model Police Station on the issue of the murder and molestation of a Hindu woman.

Mr Dhanyagopal, a Hindu leader "We are shocked by this incident and we want justice for Ujjal Roy. Mohammed Rifat Ali, is a terrorist and has a bad nature."

The local people demanded justice and all the accused should be tried as per law. They also demanded the safety of the family of the deceased Amrita and the prevention of violence against minorities. This is a crime against humanity and deterrent punished should be provided.



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