



# Monthly Report on Human Rights Situation in Bangladesh

May 2020

**Global  
Human  
Rights  
Defence  
(GHRD)**  
The Hague  
[www.ghrd.org](http://www.ghrd.org)

---

## May 2020: Monthly Report on Human Rights Situation in Bangladesh

---

Bangladesh is a country with a lot of hurdles when it comes to the protection of Human Rights. The arrival of the COVID- 19 Virus is only worsening the situation more and more. Due to the undeclared lockdown, public life has landed in stagnancy and the economic life and livelihood are passing a reality of hardship. Even though the country is in a lockdown one thing that does not seem to stop are the various attacks against the local community, by powerful terrorist groups.

These groups are set up by mainly Muslim people and are targeting Non- Muslim communities. Common situations are abduction, bribery, assault, torture, rape and even murder.

Even though there are multiple security forces such as the Detective Branch of the police, the Bangladesh Border Guards (BGB), the Directorate General Forces Inspectorate (DGFI), and the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB). The police are biased especially dealing with minority religious groups.

In the report of May a few cases are mentioned where the police fail to act, because of their biased standpoint. The police need to be there for the people irrespective of religion. It is the police who can stop this amount of excessive violence and they should not contribute to it.

However, this report is not to name shame the police of Bangladesh, but to show that their violence rate in Bangladesh is getting higher and more extreme. Therefore, it is important to think about a different approach to address the current situation in Bangladesh.

### **Two abductions that took place in Bangladesh involving a minor girl and a married female:**

1. On 28 May, Mohammed Alauddin abducted a thirteen-year old eighth-grader named Rupali Bala from Jaganathpur Sunamgonj. The victim's father, Naran Bala, informed us that Alauddin, who is a local of the area, had been harassing his daughter for a long time. At that point, he had even expressed his concern to the guardian of Alauddin. However, the guardian did not take any action against Alauddin.
2. On 28 May in the daylight, two individuals in the uniform of police officers from the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) asked Antara Kumar and her husband Lakshan Kumar to come with them to the police station. When the couple followed them towards the police station, two individuals (name unknown) abducted Antara

---

## May 2020: Monthly Report on Human Rights Situation in Bangladesh

---

Kumar in a car. Lakshan Kumar tried to file an FIR and explained the case to the police, but the police did not trust him and instead charge him of being involved in the abduction of his wife.

### **Few land grabbing incidents which were followed with attacks:**

1. On 16 May in the village of Pakhimara, a group of Muslim men: Mohammed Sujan Mia, Mohammed Nizam, Mohammed Alauddin Mia, Mohammed Jasim Mia, Mohammed Kabir Gazi, Mohammed Razzak Sardar and Mohammed Amirul Islam, among others, grabbed the land of Shova Rani, Tapashi Rani and Maloti Ran, who were attacked and injured while they tried to protest. The victims have been admitted to the Kolapani Hospital. Only two individuals have been arrested by the police of Kolapara Thana so far. The remaining people involved in this event are missing.
2. On 22 May in the village of Bathuyapara, a group of local Muslim men Mohammed Yeasin, Mohammed Abdul Malek, Mohammed Abdus Gafur, Mohammed Masim, Mohammed Zia and Mohammed Saiful, among others tried to capture the land of Sujit Kumar Sas, a general manager of the daily newspaper- Somokal. The group also destroyed the victims' trees and other properties of approximately 500,000 BDT. These group wanted to use the victims' land to establish a mosque. Although a police investigation is in process to provide justice to Sujit Kumar Sas, he said that police is in favour of building the mosque. The police in BD do not protest against the people or group who try to grab lands in the name of building a mosque.
3. On 23 May in Khojapur, the Mohammed Arim and his associates forcefully cut the paddy of Sustanta Ray. The crops were sowed on Rays' own land. Prior to this incident, he was attacked and threaten by the same group and were asked to leave the land. They even tried to seize his land. While protesting against these group, Ray and his family were badly injured. The police have been reluctant to file any case in this regard.
4. On 24 May in the village of Chandipur around 11:30 am, Mr. Poritosh and his mother Lalita Mondal, Hema Mondal and his daughter Krishna Modal were attacked and injured by Mohammed Fazlul Haque, Mohammed Monirul Islam and Mohammed Abass, among others. They attacked the family with the intention to steal their land. Although the victims informed the police, no action has been taken against these terrorists.

---

## May 2020: Monthly Report on Human Rights Situation in Bangladesh

---

5. On 28 May in the village of Golokdham, Suma Rani Bisnu was attacked by Mohammed Abdus Salam and his two sons. Their motive was to seize her land. Prior to this incident, she was previously she was also threatened by Mohammed and his sons several times. She had been asked to leave her and shop because the attacker said that they would not like to live in their community. Suma Rani Bisnu was badly beaten by Mohammed and his sons, she has been admitted to the hospital. Mohammed and his sons have fled and nowhere to find at the same time police has shown reluctance to file an FIR.
6. On 28 May in the village of Boga, Upazila Chairman Mohammed Abdul Motalab, his son and Boga Union Chairman Mohammed Mahmud Hasan seized the land of Mr. Ananta Halder. The victim family had a jewelry shop in the main bazaar and his land was in a commercial area. They closed his shop and threatened him, telling him to leave their country and go to India.

### **Three bribery cases, which included false accusations, torture, and death:**

1. On 10 May in Nasinagar, a false case was lodged at the police station against Mr. Mihir Deb stating that the victim has been involved in bribery. The victim is a journalist and a few days prior the incident he had published a report that had some content about Mohammed Mizarul Islam, a respected writer in the Muslim community. The report stated that Mr. Islam was involved in illegal activities and has conducted unlawful acts in exchange for money. When this information was out in the public, Mr. Islam and his associated tried to bribe Mr. Deb, which he refused. In order to defame Mr. Deb, this conversation was recorded with a hidden camera and the conversations between Mr. Deb and Mr. Islam and his associates were manipulated to mislead the information. The video was made viral to show that Mr. Deb was taking bribery from Mr. Islam.
2. On 30 May in Fatullah, three brothers Kajal Kumar Roy, Bidbhan Kumar Roy and Biplop Kumar Roy, who are also business partners of Paragon Multipurpose company. The three brothers are well known in their community for being helpful. Few goons asked these brothers to pay Jizya tax – which is also known as bribe, when they refused to pay any bribes or Jizya tax the brothers were attacked and injured by the goons who are allegedly led by Gazi Mohammed Shan and Alom Tani. These brothers received several threatening messages that they would not be allowed to run any kind of business unless they pay these goons the Jizya tax that they have been demanding.

---

## May 2020: Monthly Report on Human Rights Situation in Bangladesh

---

3. On 2 June 32-year-old Nikil Talukdar was beaten by the police without any reason. Due to severe beating Nikil's spinal cord is broken. Nikil was just playing cards with his friends on the roadside of his village and all of a sudden few policemen came and started beating him only. After that Nikil was brought to a local hospital, but because it was a police case the hospital refused to treat him. When the police came to realize the incident has blown up in the media more than they expected, they tried to bribe the victims' family with 5000 BD taka to stop the protest, but the family refused to take it. Unfortunately, due to the pressure from police, doctors in the hospital did not attend Nikil properly and he lost his life the next of the incident.

### **Eight cases of violence and torture against the Hindus, approximate twenty injured people:**

1. On 5 May in Gondamara, around 6 PM Mr. Kalipoda Jaladas was attacked by few local goons Mohammed Aju Mia, Mohammed Hossain Ahmed, Mohammed Beal, Mohammed Helal and Mohammed Ansar. These goons demanded money from Mr. Jaladas. Mr. Jaladas went to a the local clergy in the mosque to seek justice for the unnecessary torture and threatening that he was receiving. The same night around 11 PM these goons attacked Mr. Jaladas and his entire family members, including his pregnant wife Anjali Jaladas. The entire family were beaten to death.
2. On 9 May in the village Purpa Nathpara, Nasimagar, and Brammonbaria Hindu families were attacked by an organized local groups. The victims were Mr. Ranjit Debnath, Mrs. Arti Debnath, Mrs. Pronoti Debnath, Mr. Gopal Debnath, Mr. Dipok Debnath and their children's. Few people from the organized group were identified and they were Mohammed Rubel Mia, Mohammed Junaid Mia, Mohammed Jasim Mia, Mohammed Tanvir Mia, Mohammed Sadek Mia, Mohammed Razzak Mia, Mossamat Julena Begum and Mossamat Shahera Begum.
3. On 10 May, several attacks took place in Tatikona, Chaatak, Sunamgonj and Shylet. Mohammed Ariful Islam, Mohammed Sablu Ahmed, Mohammed Abidul Islam, Mohammed Emran Ahmed and more than 20 people (name unknown) attacked the Hindus living in these areas and injured 12 Hindus including woman and children. These attacks followed after few comments against the killing of cows were posted on Facebook.

---

## May 2020: Monthly Report on Human Rights Situation in Bangladesh

---

4. On 19 May in Amrala a protest took place against the Hindus. The local chairman “Shahjan Mia” and his associates frequently harass the Hindu community. The Hindu community is not allowed to perform a puja or any kind of non – Islamic rituals in the community. Often the Hindus in the community are physically and mentally tortured by the local goons and Hindu haters. These people wanted the Hindus in the community to go back to India.
5. On 22 May in Lakhandia, Mr. Mohammed Rakib and his friends were found consuming illegal drugs in front of the temple Sri Sri Durga. The local Hindu community people headed by Mr Sumon requested Mr. Rakib and his friends to not consume these drugs in front of the temple. Instead of respecting the Hindu sentiments they destroyed the temple and threatened the person to leave the country otherwise they will kill him. Locals informed the police about the incident and the threat to kill the person, the police did not arrest anyone.
6. On 23 May in Purbapara, Mr. Dinesh Mahanta (age 63), who belongs to the Hindu minority group, was beaten to death by the local union member Mr. Mohammed Nur Islam. Mr. Mohammed Nur Islam slaughtered a cow and distributed the meat among the community people, including to Mr. Dinesh Mahanta who was just passing the area where this event took place. Mr. Mahanta refused the offer saying ‘I am not going to eat a cow meat, I would rather eat a pork’. Mr. Mohammed Nur Islam took this as an insult and beat Mr. Mahanta.
7. On 23 May in Dhiljhuri, Ms. Dipali Rani was attacked by her neighbour Mr. Mohammed Fordous. Ms. Rani went to the home of Mr. Fordous to ask for the money that she had lent Mr. Fordous few months back. Mr. Fordous refused to give her the money and beat Ms. Rani and tried to force himself on her. Ms. Dipali Rani is admitted to the Hossianpur health complex for treatments.
8. On 28 May in Jagannathpur, local Muslims attacked Mr. Bipul Debnath and his uncle Mr. Parimal Debnath. The injured were admitted at the Jagannathpur health complex. Mr Bipul Debnath is a journalist in a local newspaper. He is vocal in his writing and he expresses his concerns about the discrimination and violence against the religious minorities in Bangladesh. This was not appreciated by the local Muslims and Mr. Debnath was attacked for being vocal about the issues in his community and country against the minority populations.



---

# Global Human Rights Defence (GHRD) The Hague

---



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