

**HRC/Forum on Minority Issues**

# **10th session: Minority Youth: towards inclusive and diverse societies**

*Wednesday, 29 November 2017 - Friday, 1 December 2017*

*Palais des Nations - Human Rights and Alliance of Civilizations Room*

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**Bangladesh minority council**

## **Silent Ethnic Cleansing in Bangladesh**

Over the past 45 years, facing numerous adversaries including human and religious rights violations, the Bangladeshi Hindus, together with other religious and ethnic minority communities, are undergoing rapid decline. Since 1947, after the partition of India, Bangladeshi minority communities have suffered a systematic ethnic cleansing cycle that has dropped their population from 23% (in 1951) to 9% (in 2017). The current Hindu population of about 13 million, is far short of the number one should expect based on population growth rates.

The rate of minority population decrease has accelerated in recent years, and several districts of Bangladesh are now witnessing the decrease of their Hindu population in absolute numbers. Looting and burning of households, destruction of temples and religious idols, murder, rape, forced religious conversion, illegal occupation of property, extortion, threats to family structures and other soft and hard intimidations are reducing well-to-do households to paupers and forcing this population across the border to India. With the recent rise of political and militant Islam and its appeasement by the government, the possibility of Bangladesh turning into a monolithic Islamic country looms on the horizon. After 1971, at no time has the existential threat to the Hindu community been as great as it is now.

## **Rape and forced conversion as a cleansing tool**

Rape is a heinous violent crime. It is used as a war tool through which the invaders subjugate and humiliate the conquered population. A judicial commission concluded that over 200 Hindu women were raped following the 2001 parliamentary election. Rape and other sexual violations of minor girls belonging to the Hindu community, mainly in rural areas, remain rampant. In the conservative society of rural Bangladesh, when a girl is violated in a village, the family is left with no choice but to migrate to India.

In addition, in rural areas, pressure to convert to Islam is increasing with every year. In many cases, local authorities ignore such activities because they themselves believe that if they can convert a non-Muslim to Islam, then they will be rewarded after death. This belief has caused an upsurge in the religious conversion of Hindu minors and sometimes even of entire families to Islam.

## **Religious Idol and Temple Destruction:**

In the last 46 years, thousands of religious idols sacred to Hindus, were decapitated and destroyed in every district of Bangladesh. Hundreds of temples were put to the torch. Most Muslims believed that idolatry is an offense to Islam, so some of them think it is their sacred duty to desecrate Hindu or Buddhist idols. Not a single person has been prosecuted or punished for these deeds even though the authority was vigilant in protecting even the minutest aspersion leveled on Islam.

## **Religious Radicalization of Bangladesh:**

Falsely accused of insulting Islam, Hindu households and temples are routinely looted, ransacked and set fire. The events of Nasirnagar in Brahmanbaria (2016) and Thakurpara in Rangpur (2017) are just two examples. The reluctance of the authorities to take stern action in these situations points to a creeping willingness of the government to stay in power by placating the rising Islamism in the country.

The rise of Islamist militancy in recent years, evidenced by the brutal killings of intellectuals, bloggers, foreigners and members of clergy belonging to minority religious and non-traditional Islamic communities by such terrorist organizations as Ansarullah Bangla and satellites of Al Qaeda and ISIS, is a harbinger of the theocratic state that Bangladesh may become. This rise of militant Islam was facilitated by money from Saudi Arabia and other Gulf States that was sent to support religious madrassas and extreme Islamic organizations. As a result of continual indoctrination, Bangladeshi terrorists were found fighting for ISIS in Syria and for the Taliban in Afghanistan.

In recent years, to appease the religious sentiment of the population, the government has made special budget allocations for building mosques and training Islamic clergy. Under pressure from Hefazat-i-Islam and Awami League's Islamic wing, the authority is systematically removing texts by renowned non-Muslim and Muslim authors from the school curriculum. These texts have been expunged because of the fear that they might promote multicultural perspectives, introspective philosophical ideas or simply because they refer to places in India. Under pressure from extremist Islamic organizations demanding the removal of a statue in front of the Supreme Court representing the Lady of Justice, the Government moved the statue to a place where it could not be seen publicly. The Government has already yielded to the demands of these organizations by reducing the minimum marriage age of girls to under 18 and has made several controversial changes with respect to rape victims. Deep Islamisation is gradually changing the underpinnings of the Bengali cultural identity—for example, the hijab (the veil covering the head of a woman) which was virtually unknown in Bangladesh 40 years ago, now has a ubiquitous presence.

The western world praises the Bangladesh Government for curbing terrorism. It might seem, in some cases, the Government is forceful in combating extremists, but we believe that through the continual abetment of Islamisation in the country the Government has failed in its ideological commitment to secularism and the protection of the minority component of the population. In the long run, simple law and order measures are not enough to combat theocracy. The government has either utterly failed in its responsibility to protect its citizens or is in complicit with the Islamists in this on-going minority cleansing campaign.

## **Chittagong Hill Tracts**

The Peace Accord of the Chittagong Hill Tracts that was signed by the Prime Minister of Bangladesh in 1997 has not been implemented according to its tenets. The indigenous people of the Hill Tracts who comprised almost 100% of the population before 1947 are now minority in their own lands. The Government, to assert the so-called rights of the new settlers and the military

over the ancestral lands of the Hill Tracts people has removed the term “indigenous” when referring to the ethnic minority communities. To date, in-migration by these newcomers and the forcible occupation of the lands of tribal people result in acts of violence. The recent mayhem against the indigenous people in Longdu, Rangamati (2017) is one example. The occupation and violence are non-secular and the Hill Tracts region is quickly becoming an Islamist training ground.

## **Recommendations**

(i) We urge the Bangladesh Government to create a Minority Ministry and/or a Commission for Minorities. These institutions would have the judicial power to investigate and try every incident involving minorities. We demand that the State take active steps to abolish the culture of impunity in terms of the attacks on the religious and ethnic minorities and enact a Minority Protection Act in order to ensure their security and safety. Furthermore, we recommend that the Government form an ‘Advisory Commission on Bangladesh’ with the overall objective to improve the lives of the religious and ethnic minority communities including Hindu, Buddhists, Christians, Tribal, and indigenous people all over the country. This commission can be structured following the ‘Advisory Commission on the Rakhine State,’ an international advisory commission headed by former United Nation Secretary-General Kofi Annan, which was constituted to ensure the social and economic wellbeing of both the Buddhist and the Rohingya communities of Myanmar’s Rakhine State.

(ii) We call upon the Bangladesh State to ensure the accountability of all the local representatives, administrative officers, and officers of law enforcement agencies in order to prevent communal violence and atrocities. We urge the Government to take action to prevent all forms of sectarianism, religious and ethnic terrorism, and to ensure the advancement of the country on the basis of the philosophy that led to the liberation of Bangladesh from Pakistan in 1971.

(iii) We recommend that the Bangladesh Government bring to justice all perpetrators who were involved in the persecution of minorities in the past, including those who participated in the after-Election persecution in 2001. The government should implement the recommendations of the Shahabuddin Commission, which was constituted to inquire about the violence against the Hindu community during the Election period of 2001. In the absence of these measures, the minority communities would not feel safe to participate in the next Election.

(iv) We recommend, in accordance with the spirit of secularism enshrined in the Constitution and in the spirit of the liberation struggle of 1971, that Bangladesh remove the clause in the Constitution, as introduced by the 8<sup>th</sup> Amendment stating that Islam is the State religion. Furthermore, we propose the repeal of the ‘Religious Quotations’ in the preamble of the Constitution introduced by the 5<sup>th</sup> Amendment. This will ensure the Election participation of the minority communities as ‘proper’ citizens of the State.

(v) We recommend that, to guarantee the safety of the minority communities from being targets of false news, Bangladesh abolish the discriminatory Internet and Computer Technology (ICT) Act 57 that almost exclusively results in the targeting of the Hindu population. Furthermore, we propose that the Government of Bangladesh provide adequate protection for progressive and secular voices against the onslaught of Islamist extremists in all media.

(vi) We recommend that the Bangladesh Government take steps to set up an education program to promote sensitivity among the larger population in relation to the cultural and religious values of the religious and ethnic minorities.

(vii) We urge civil societies all over the world to take note of the continued population cleansing of religious and ethnic minorities in Bangladesh and to let the Bangladesh Government know their disquiet.



## **RAPE, ABDUCTION & FORCEFUL CONVERSION USED AS TOOLS TO DRIVE OUT MINORITIES**

*Abduction of young girls from minority communities, indiscriminate rape, and conversion under threats are very rampant in Bangladesh and used as tools for persecution of minorities and drive them out of the country. Often times the Islamic fundamentalists rape minority women including underage girls in front of their families as a consequence of continuing to live in a Muslim country, as they claim it. Many of the kidnapped girls have never been returned or rescued Government has shown no inclination to take action against these heinous crimes either. Most of the kidnapped women have been forcibly converted. Muslim religious leaders gleefully perform the service of conversation with the tacit approval from the government. In spite of innumerable instances of kidnap and rape, the law enforcement has turned a blind eye on the issue and utterly fails to do anything to discourage the practice. The Islamists perpetrate these cruel and criminal acts on the minorities for three reasons.*

*One, they are driven by their twisted ideologies of attaining Behesta (Heaven) for themselves and their seven generations by converting non-Muslims.*

*Two, their greed for occupying minority owned properties through forced abandonment. The last, their dream to transform Bangladesh into a homogenous (pure) Islamic country as the minorities, unable to cope with unending violence, flee from the country. All these are made easy for the fact that rape carries severe social stigma in Bangladeshi society and culture, where half of the population is also illiterate, whose value system is shaped by the religious practices and popular beliefs and not by secular laws or international standards.*

*So when rapes occur the whole family fall victim to it as the rape victims themselves become social outcasts along with their families. In those instances the victims' families have no choice but to abandon their ancestral home in order to protect their honor and dignity or to escape the social wraths.*

*Many a times, the families even abandon their own children—the rape victims—because they do not want the pain and the stigma of rape lingering on their lives and they move away As such, the victims become completely helpless and are left to fend for themselves. These victims then are pushed to the brink of life. Some commit suicide, while others embrace their fates and turned to their transgressors by converting to Islam.*

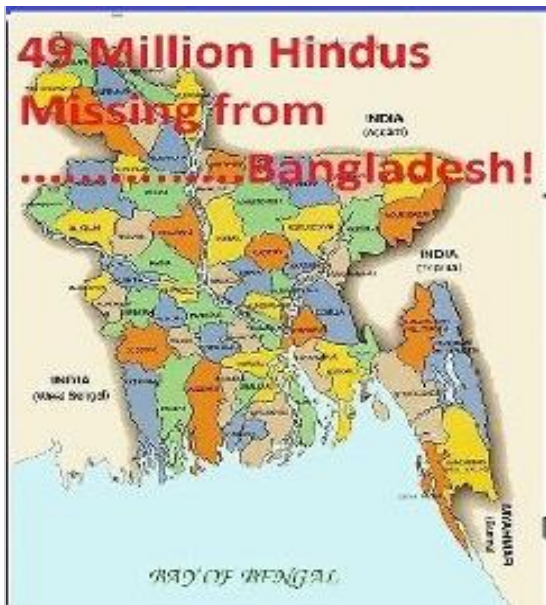
*Either way, the entire families get uprooted. And the Islamists have gleefully employed this proven and effective tactic to convert the minorities and conquered their properties. There is no end to this time tested tactic.*



### **Silent Ethnic Cleaning**

While Hindu population was 30 percent in 1947, they are only 9.5 percent now. An eminent economist and researcher in Bangladesh, Dr Abul Barkat, professor, Department of Economics, University of Dhaka, said ‘No Hindus will be left after 30 years’ in his book “Political economy of reforming agriculture-land-water bodies in Bangladesh” (published in “Dhaka Tribune” November 20, 2016). From 1964 to 2013, around 11.3 million Hindus left Bangladesh due to religious persecution and discrimination which means on an average 632 Hindus left the country each day and 230,612 annually, he said at the book launch ceremony at the Dhaka University (DU). Dr. Mizanur Rahman, Professor, Faculty of law, University of Dhaka, Former Chairman, Human Rights of Bangladesh said “No Hindus will be left after 25 years in Bangladesh:.

*Minority population is dwindling in Bangladesh. It was about 20% in 1972 and now it is about 10%. About 49 million Hindus are missing. Where are they?*



### **'Minorities at receiving end in Bangladesh violence'**

New Delhi, March 7 — Hundreds of Hindus have been attacked, their shops and businesses burnt and women threatened by the Jamaat-e-Islami in the current spate of violence unleashed by the Islamists in neighboring Bangladesh, said speakers at a talk here Thursday. "Hindus, who number more than one crore in Bangladesh, live in fear and agony... They don't have anyone to help them," said Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) Rajya Sabha MP Tarun Vijay at a discussion on 'Bangladesh: Shahbagh Rising, Jamaat-e-Islami's violence, and the Indian response'.

### **Dhaka rejects UN report on 3.2m Bangladeshis' migration to India, Govt to take 'appropriate step'**

Sunday, 15 September 2013

[http://www.24livenewspaper.com/site/index.php?url=feedproxy.google.com/~r/thefinancialexpress-bd/IouH/~3/C2\\_GVbzqn7I/index.php](http://www.24livenewspaper.com/site/index.php?url=feedproxy.google.com/~r/thefinancialexpress-bd/IouH/~3/C2_GVbzqn7I/index.php)

Nizam Ahmed: The government will never endorse the latest United Nations report on international migration, which said some 3.2 million Bangladeshis had migrated and settled in India over the past decades, a senior official of the ministry of foreign affairs (MoFA) said on Saturday. The report, prepared by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (DESA), and released on Wednesday termed the "migration from Bangladesh to India as the single largest bilateral stock of international migrants in the eastern hemisphere and also in the developing world." Rejecting the latest UN migration report, the MoFA official said the it was a carbon-copy of Indian media that had been claiming so over the past several years.

## **Alarming decrease in Hindu population in Bangladesh**

September 22, 2012/ *Prothom Alo* & weekly blitz: In past ten years, compared to the growth of the total population in Bangladesh, there is an alarming decrease of the Hindu population in the country. According to statistics available with the government sources, the proportionate decrease in Hindu population is around nine *million*. The statistics show a near elimination of the Hindu population in fifteen districts in the country. Most of the Hindu families in those districts were forced to leave the country. In 2001, the total population in Bangladesh was 116.83 million, while the population was expected to be 132 million in 2011. But the latest statistics available with the government shows the total population at 123 million, which is nine *million* less than the expected. Currently 8.5 percent of the total population of Bangladesh is Hindus, while in 2001, it was 9.2 percent. The proportion of Christian, Buddhist and other religious minority populations did not see any decline in the past. Currently, the total number of Muslim population in Bangladesh is 90.4 percent. The district-wise statistics of population sees "huge decline" or "the near elimination" of Hindu population in fifteen districts, though the statistics terms the decline of Hindu population as "missing population".



## **Rape is used as a tool:**

### **A quote extracts from the report “With intent to destroy?” Rape as Genocide under International Criminal Law - the Case of Bangladesh by Jenny Lundström.**

Jenny wrote: An estimated 500,000 persons belonging to the minorities have fled to India after the 2001 elections. In particular, Jamat e Islami has proclaimed that their objective is to set up a Sharia State. Militants aspire to converse the religious minorities to Islam, or otherwise force them to leave the country. In addition to the killings, looting, forced conversions, kidnappings and arson, hundreds of women irrespective of age were allegedly raped immediately after the elections. Gang rape is possibly one of the most cynical and heinous of crimes, but yet an efficient tool in the form of personal punishment, frightening and destroying entire communities.” Her concluding Remarks were: “[...] there are certainly clear indications that may lead to the conclusion that those rapes

could constitute genocide under the ICC statute, article 6 (b). It has been my ambition to illustrate that the rapes in Bangladesh are taking place in a context of general structural discrimination and that the state appears unwilling or unable to acknowledge and/or take action. [...] I can conclude that violence against women [rapes] in Bangladesh will not end until firstly, the general structure of discrimination against minorities and women is acknowledged and secondly, the notions and practices of male dominance are challenged, deconstructed and ultimately transformed. As a signatory to the CEDAW and to the ICC Statute, the ultimate responsibility for such endeavors as expected lies within the individual State. Unless the state of Bangladesh takes immediate action to acknowledge these atrocities and expresses its full commitment to bring them to an end, there might be indications that support the claim that the rapes in Bangladesh are committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part the Hindu group as such. ((<http://www.hrcbm.org>); ([www.ghrd.org](http://www.ghrd.org) )

### **Hindu School Teacher Gang Raped**

Hindu School Teacher (30) gang raped by several Muslim perpetrators on 17.08.2017 (স্বামীকে আটকে রেখে স্কুলে শিক্ষিকাকে ধর্ষণের অভিযোগ) Husband of the School Teacher beaten, kept confined in a room. This incident happened within the school premises at Uttar Karuna of Betagi Upazila of Barguna District 5-6 kilometres away from local Police Station. BDMW investigating. (Source: The Daily nTVBD dated 18.08.2017) The Daily Bangladesh Protidin dated 19.08.2017).

### **Hindu women violated**

Hindu women (30) sexually assaulted by Mohammad Abdul Khaleque at Ullahpara Upazila of Serajgonj District on 27 July 2017 at about 4 a.m. at her home. The home located at village is Boalia of Ullapara Sub District of Serajgonj District of Bangladesh. Police could not arrest rapist till writing of this report (Source: Eibela.com). Name of the Victim: Gita Rani Howlader (30). Name of the perpetrator: Md. Abdul Khaleque (40). Date of incident: 27th July, 2017 at about 4 a.m. Perpetrator Md. Abdul Khaleque at about 4 a.m. night time surreptitiously and unlawfully entered into the house of Ms. Gita Rani while her husband had gone to fish in the sea/river at Serajgonj the rapist raped her. Victim Gita Rani cried loudly and people came and tried to catch him but he fled away <BDMW>.

**CurrenTrigger** World July 9, 2017

### **Hindu college girl converted to Islam**



Hindu college girl Ritu Parna Mistry, aged 18, was kidnapped on 8th June 2017 at about 5.10 pm by perpetrators and she has been forcefully converted to Islam says minority watchdog Bangladesh Minority Watch (BDMW). Her conversion has been sealed after a swearing affidavit was submitted on 8th June at the Morrelganj Upazila of Bagerhat district, Bangladesh. The daily “Bangladesh Protidin” dated 9th July 2017 also published the news.

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### Crowd funder

## Seeking justice and support for Sukhiya's family

Seeking justice and support for Sukhiya's family -a cobbler who was raped, tortured and brutally killed in Bangladesh.



## A Story of Nupur Rani Shil-12, Maizchara, Noakhali Sadar, Bangladesh

Hindu Abhiyan: Posted: 11 Jun 2017

[http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/hinduabhiyan/UdJT/~3/XFzEhXIP\\_h0/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email](http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/hinduabhiyan/UdJT/~3/XFzEhXIP_h0/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email)



## Minu Rani and her daughter Bristy Story, Patuakhali, Bangladesh

Hindu Abhiyan: Posted: 11 Jun 2017

[http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/hinduabhiyan/UdJT/~3/2bft11nQMg/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email](http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/hinduabhiyan/UdJT/~3/2bft11nQMg/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email)



Police Said, Nure Alam along with five other youths forcibly made the victims board a trawler where they were gang raped later, said police and victims. Hearing a hue and cry, some fishermen near Char Esha of the Tetulia River approached the trawler around 12:30 am yesterday. Sensing their presence, all but Nur jumped into the river and fled. The fishermen caught the alleged rapist and rescued the victims. They were handed over to the police later. AZM Faruqee, officer-in-charge of Bauphal Police Station, claimed that Nure Alam confessed his involvement in the incident during his primary interrogation. He said the other “rapists” were also from Najirpur union and aged between 20 and 25, added the OC.



## A Story Of Ripa Rani Pramanik, Bangladesh

by Prof Chandan Sarkar, Hindu Abhiyan: Posted: 11 Jun 2017

[http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/hinduabhiyan/UdJT/~3/MKTtfSW\\_dmU/?utm\\_source=feedburner&utm\\_medium=email](http://feedproxy.google.com/~r/hinduabhiyan/UdJT/~3/MKTtfSW_dmU/?utm_source=feedburner&utm_medium=email)



Ripa Rani Pramanik -17, D/O Sukumar Pramanik- 45, M/O- Sheuli Pramanik-35, Talora, Dhupchachiya, Bogra, Bangladesh a college girl student forcefully kidnapped from Dhupchachiya Upazila while she was going to her college Tolara Government College on 12<sup>th</sup> November 2016.

### Indigenous Women Injured

On 1 April 2017 a house wife of Tripura indigenous community was attacked and injured by Bengali Settlers in Dalia khal area of Matiranga municipality in Khagrachari. The victim is the wife of Hemandra Tripura (30) and resident of Nabachandra Karbari para under no. 3 ward of Matiranga municipality in Khagrachari district. The victim had taken treatment at Matiranga sadar hospital.

### Attempted Rape of Indigenous Teen

On 21 April 2017 an indigenous teenage girl was attempted rape by the owner of a photo studio when she went to take a photo at Taonre upazila of Rajshahi district. The father of the victim filed a case with Tanore Police Station against the perpetrator Raihan Ali (28) of Chorkhor Hasnapara of the upazila who is also the owner of the studio. <Kapaeeng Watch>.

### Hindu Minor Girl Violated and converted

Hindu School Girl (15) kidnapped, forcefully converted to Islam from Bhaluka-Mymensingh and gang-raped on 03 May 2017 to 11 May 2017 at Boroitola-Kishoregonj under leadership of Jhehadi leader - Md.Ruhul Ameen (24) son of Mahatabuddin of Kotagar of Kishoregonj District. The victim girl was rescued by police on 11 May 2017 and a case has been filed on the same day (Case 18 of 11 May 2017). Police also arrested. Ruhul Ameen.



### Sima Abducted for conversion?

Ms Sima Majumder (21) Hindu School Teacher of Mandir Viddyalaya of Madhabpur Municipality within Hobigonj District was kidnapped by Musiim Perpetrators for conversion to Islam on 15 February 2017 at about 9 a.m. Police could not rescue the victim nor arrested perpetrator Mohammed Sheon Chowdhury (25) son of Alauddin Chowdhury. Bijoy Majumdar father of the victim girl lodged first information report (FIR) before O.C. Madhabpur police station on 16 Feb 2017. The news was published in local newspaper and BDMW investigated that.

## **5 indigenous minor girls were sexually harassed**

5 indigenous minor girls were sexually harassed by a school teacher in Barkal upazila under Rangamati district. It's been learned that the victim students of class 5 and 2 respectively were being harassed sexually from many days by the alleged perpetrator Rezaul Karim, assistant teacher of Barkal Aimachara Sakrachari Primary School.

## **Indigenous woman stabbed in Sirajganj over a land dispute**

On 13 January 2016, an indigenous woman was stabbed by land grabber over a land dispute at Sarappur village under Madhainagar union of Tarashupazila in Sirajgonj district. The victim is Shefali Rani Singh, wife of Golak Singh on the same village. Locals said that there was a dispute over a piece of land between Mohammad Hamza and Shefali Rani Singh. Recently Court gives judgment in favor of Shefali.



## **Rape: 55Days**

Daily Kaler Kantha, Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2013: Chokoria (Cox's Bazar): A Hindu meritorious school girl was abducted from Tongi on 6<sup>th</sup> April 2013. She was converted to Islam and forcefully married to the rapist. Police rescued her after 55 days (31<sup>st</sup> May) but could not arrest anybody. The victim described her brutal ordeal to press and told that she loves her Hindu religion.

## **Moni Mala Biswas abducted, converted, killed**

Moni Mala Biswas, 30, w/o Prakash Biswas, was kidnapped by Mohammad Zamal Gazi, 39, of Sonali, P.S. Tala, district Satkhira, with the help of others. A case was filed at Tala P.S. (case No.25 dated 21 April 2010 under section 7/30 of Women and Children Repression Act, 2003). The abductors forcefully converted Moni Mala to Islam on 9 June 2010 and renamed her Fatema Begum. She was forced to marry the perpetrator, even though he had another wife. Police neither recovered the women nor arrested the culprits till her murder. Mohammad Zamal Gazi put immense mental and physical pressure on Moni Mala Biswas to withdraw abduction case, and finally she was tortured to death. A case was filed under section 11(ka)/30 of Women and Children Repression Act, 2003 (Case No. 15 dated 28 Oct 2010), but no arrests were made. Moni Mala (Fatema Begum) were buried as per Muslim custom (dailies: "Taitha" 29 Oct 2010; "Spandan" 30 Oct 2010; "Purbanchal" 29 Oct 2010 & "Gramer Kagoj" 29 Oct 2010)

## **Indigenous Tripura college student sexually harassed**

On 2 February 2013 an indigenous student girl was sexually harassed by a Muslim youth Mohammed Salman s/o Mohammad Harun at Milanchari resort area of Bandarban Municipal area in Bandarban district. <Kapaeeng Foundation>.



## **Teacher Raped Minor**

Minority brilliant Hindu School Girl Ms. Sabitri Rani Sinha (15) raped by Muslim School Teacher(55) on several dates of August 2013 adjacent to Laheri Secondary School within

Baliadangi Upazila of Thakurgaon district. Perpetrator not yet arrested by police. Source ( The Daily Janakantha dated 8th September,13, The Daily Sangbad dated 6th Sept.13, The Daily Manabkantha dated 6<sup>th</sup> September,2013, The Daily Karatoa, dated 8th Sept,13, The daily Alor Kantho dated 8th Sept,13).



NAME: Rita Rani Das. AGE: 8. DATE: October 4, 2002. PLACE: Annada Prasad, Lalmohan, Bhola. PERSONAL: She is a primary school going student. DESCRIPTION: She fell under the wrath and lust of B.N.P-Jamaat and was gang raped by them repeatedly.



NAME: Purnima Shill. AGE: 16. DATE: October 8, 2001. PLACE: Ulla Para, Shirajganj. PERSONAL: A student of class ten. DESCRIPTION: The BNP terrorists snatched away Prunima from her mother's bosom but not before father and mother had been unconscious. They gang raped her after kidnapping her. She was courageous enough to speak of her terrible over in a press conference in Dhaka and expose just one of hundreds of similar instance of gang rape due to political reason.

### **Wife Gang Raped in Front of Husband**

Ms. X (Name withheld), 30-years-old: On 30<sup>th</sup> October 2005, at around 9pm the victim, accompanied by her husband went to the Rajapur Bazar commercial telephone booth to make a phone call to her son. When they were on their way home to Hogolpota village the alleged perpetrators, Kachi Munshi, Al Amin and four others stopped them nearby a sawmill at Shailabunia village. They tied the husband to a tree and beat him. They forced the victim to a roadside field where she was allegedly raped in front of her husband (<http://www.ahrchk.net/ua/mainfile.php/2006/1458/>).

**Rubi Rani Sarkar, 15**, a dumb Hindu girl of Netrokona Dariya Nayapara, was gang raped by Muslim perpetrators on 3 Dec 2010 while returning from a religious function. They abducted her for two days and raped repeatedly. A case has been registered, but police have not arrested anyone (*The Daily Amar Desh*, 7 Dec 2010)

**Soumita Sarkar, 13, a student** of grade VII, was regularly harassed by Zahangir, son of Sattar of village Kashimari, Shynagar Upazila, Satkhira district, on the way to school. As a result, she stopped going to school. On 27 Oct 2010, in the dead of night, Zahangir went to kidnap Soumita, but her mother Anima Rani woke up in time. Zahangir then physically assaulted Soumita

and Anima and fled. The mother and daughter were admitted to Shynagar Health Complex. Case number 02/2010 was registered against the perpetrator, but no arrests were made (*Daily Aparadhkantha*, 5 Nov 2010)



NAME: **Renuka Adhikari. AGE: 37.** DATE: October 16, 2001. PLACE: Ramshil, Gopalganj.

PERSONAL: Member of Agailjhara Union Parishad, local government. DESCRIPTION: She wails out her tale of rape, torture and loot.

*Shila Mullick* went to the office of Superintendent of Police, Madaripur, to seek justice in connection with a case she had filed against some criminals - Rajoir P.S. case No. 08 dated 20 Aug 2010 under section 148/323/379/307/326/386/114 of the Penal Code. She was allowed to enter the chamber of Mr. Sardar Tomizuddin Ahmed, S.P. after being made to wait an hour, and then taken to a solitary room for interrogation during which she was physically violated and pressured to withdraw her case from the court; Shila refused (dailies - *Jugantor* 18 Oct 2010, *Janakantha* 18 Oct 2010, *Janata* 20 Oct 2010)

**Shresta Dey, 16, a schoolgirl, was** kidnapped by Muslim perpetrators on 10 Oct 2010 in the morning at gunpoint while on her way to Bidyamoyee Girls School, Mymensingh district. The perpetrators intercepted by the private van in which she was travelling and took her to an unknown destination. Police rescued the victim on 13 Oct and arrested two suspects, Jewel and Rokon (*Daily Bangladesh Somoy*)



NAME: **Sujata. AGE: 31.** DATE: October, 2001. PLACE: Annada Prasad, Lord Hardinge Union, Lalmohon, Bhola. PERSONAL: A young housewife. DESCRIPTION: She was raped at her own home village.



NAME: **Shefali Sarkar. AGE: 40.** DATE: October, 2001. PLACE: Barisal. PERSONAL: Member of Union Parishad, local government. DESCRIPTION: Herself a victim, she broke down when telling of their torture, 'Please stop this indignity and animal torture', she told visitors.

**Pratima Rani, 34, an Adibashi (Adivasi, tribal) woman, was raped** at midnight of 13 July 2010 by Mohammad Zahurul Islam, 28, who unlawfully entered into her house in North Sadishpur village, Badalgachi Upazila, Nowgaon district. Her husband, Budhu, 40, was away at the time. The tried raised a hue and cry, and a neighbor came out and witnessed the assault. The victim felt so humiliated that she took poison; she was taken to the nearest hospital at Joypurhat but breathed her last on 14 July 2010. (*Janata* 19 July 2010)

**Purnima Samaddar, 14, schoolgirl of class VIII, was killed** after being gang-raped on 4 Aug 2010 at village Ghoshial, Sreepur Upazila, Magura district. Police said when Purnima was returning home from school, some 5-7 unruly miscreants kidnapped her and took her to a jute field, raped her, strangled her and abandoned her in the field. (*Bangladesh Somoy* 5 Aug 2010)

**Tithi Rani Sarkar, 19, was raped by her college** Vice Principal, Assistant Professor of Bengali department of Shahid Abul Kashem College at Lalmonirhat district. As the victim disclosed the name of the perpetrator, he along with 10 to 12 hoodlums attacked her house, dragged her out and abducted her on 24 June 2010 for forceful conversion. But she managed to escape with serious injuries. Two criminal cases have been filed (*Daily Star* 26 June 2010; *Sangbad* 26 June 2010; *Manab Jameen* 2 July 2010; weekly *Rangpur Chitra* 26 June 2010).



NAME: **Shefali Rani Das.** AGE: 35. DATE: October 2, 2001. PLACE: Annada Prasad, Lalmohon, Bhola. PERSONAL: A house wife. DESCRIPTION: The one-legged paraplegic was not spared. She could not flee her village and was gang raped.



NAME: **Shandya Rani Das.** AGE: 32. DATE: November, 2001. PLACE: Mirer Sharai, Chittagong. PERSONAL: A housewife. DESCRIPTION: This forlorn house wife was raped and her house looted

**Bito Rani Tripura On 18 May 2010**, criminals murdered an indigenous woman, Bito Rani Tripura 35, wife of Karka Ranjan Tripura, and her 3-year-old daughter Monjuri Tripura, at Rohindra Para village, Panchhari upazila, district Khagrachhari. Police said the criminals chopped the mother and child with sharp weapons on finding them alone at home <http://www.thedailystar.net/newdesign/news-details.php?Nid=139087>

**Arporna Rani, 16, a student of Birampur** Government Grils High School, was returning from school on 14 March 2010 at about 2 p.m. when, at village Chandipur Moupukur, she was kidnapped by four men, 1) Md. Sekandar Ali, 20, of Devipur, 2) Mohammad Selim Mondal, 24, of Devipur (Doulapara), 3) Sree Kartik Chandra Sarkar, 20, Moupukur, 4) Mohammad Ariful Islam, 19. (*Daily Janata*, 1 April 2010).

**Anju Rani Das, 16, a student of class IX, was kidnapped from** the custody of her elder brother on way to a relative's house at Boga Union of village West Kaina within Baufol police station, and gang-raped on 19 March 2010. The perpetrators were named as Hanif Howlader, 38; Bashir Mollah, 30; Forkan Howlader, 25; Mohammad Masum alias commander Masud, 28; Jamal Khan, 35; Mohammad Liton, 25; Abdul Mannan, 30, and Md. Abul Kalam, 32. (*Amader Shomoy*, 21 March 2010).



NAME: **Lipi. AGE: 13**, Rape Victim: PERSONAL: She is a school going student DATE: May, 2002 PLACE: Rupgonj, Narayangonj DESCRIPTION: Another rape victim.

**Shika Rani Das, 35**, wife of a dalit watchman on 16 Feb. 2010, was caught by locals and suspended from service. Shahabuddin entered the home when her husband was away and raped her. But police said no case was lodged as the victim was not interested to lodge a complaint (*Daily Manabjameen*, 18 Feb 2010)

## 2 indigenous girls sexually harassed in Bandarban

On 1 February 2013 an indigenous Marma girl was sexually harassed by three Muslim youths at Balaghata bazaar area of Bandarban municipal area under Bandarban district. It is reported that Md. Imran, his friend Hamid and another youth sexually harassed the eleventh grade female student. <Kapaeng Foundation>.

**An indigenous Chakma girl raped:** On 11<sup>th</sup> September 2013, an 11-year old indigenous Chakma girl was raped by Mohammed Jahir (45) of Bogachodor union under Longadu upazila in Rangamati district. On incident's day, Jahir took her away alone in nearby banana garden and raped the indigenous girl. < Kapaeng Foundation>.

**Chakma girl abducted:** On 10 August 2013, a 13-year old indigenous Chakma girl from Chadarachara village of Ward No. 5 under Atarokchara union of Longadu upazila in Rangamati district was abducted by Mohammed Kamal (30) of Ward No. 4 under the same union. The victim was a student of grade five of Bhangamura Model Government Primary School. . < Kapaeng Foundation>.



## Hindu Minor Violated

Hindu Minority School Girl (14) sexually assaulted on 1<sup>st</sup> Sept .2013 at Bharukati of Jalukati district of Bangladesh by Muslim perpetrator. Perpetrator not yet arrested by police (The Daily Jhalkati Barta dated, 4th September, 2013). Name of the victim is Nondita Howlader, 14. Name of the perpetrator: Mohammad Mizanur Rahman (34). Case Number and date: Jhalukati p.s. case # .01 dated 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. She was raped early in the morning while she was helping her mother at the betel-leaf garden.

## A Teenage indigenous girl raped

On 25 July 2013 around 12:00 pm-1:00 pm a 13 years old indigenous Chakma girl was raped by a Bengali settler namely Mohammed Malek (20), son of Md. Idris of Rupbanmukh area of Shuvolong union under Barkal upazila in Rangamati district. The victim is a student of grade five of Paityachara Primary School under Shuvolong union. <Kapaeng Foundation>.



## **Kakoli Pal lost forever!**

Ms. Kakoli Pal -24 a Minority Hindu Girl not yet traced by Police since after 9 months from the illegal possession of perpetrators at Golapgonj Upazila of Sylhet. A case was lodged. Press conference regarding this abduction was made and many national media published this news with the picture of the victim for her rescue. Source: The daily Jugantor dated 21<sup>st</sup> Oct 2012; the daily Maman Zamin 4<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012; Weekly Baichitramoy Sylhet, 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2012.



## **Lovely, a poor victim of rape & sodomy**

Lovely Rani Das (16) a girl had been a victim of sexual assault by intimidation and it was on-going from 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012 to 26<sup>th</sup> Oct 2012. When the victim became pregnant the family filed a case against the Muslim perpetrators. Farid Miah, son of Bichi Miah, is the main culprit and Rebeka Begum, wife of Mahamud Ali & Rina Begum, wife of Dilfar Ali of Tuk Dirai of Karimjpur Union of Sunamgonj District, Bangladesh, helped him and other perpetrators all possible ways so that she could be sold to brothel or convert to a Muslim. The news of the rape was published in daily Sylhet Surma, 8<sup>th</sup> November 2012; the daily Protom Alo, 8<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012 and the daily Uttar Purba, 9<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012.



## **China Mohaldar refused to marry a Muslim man!**

Minority Hindu girl (20) was stabbed and seriously injured for refusing marriage with Muslim man Sheikh Zahidur (40) on 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012 near Batiaghata Bridge within Khulna District. (Source: Bangla News [24.com](http://24.com). Batiaghata P.S. case No.10 dated 13<sup>th</sup> Nov 2012 under section 326/307 of Penal code and the matter is still under investigation.



## **Dipti was raped in August, no action?**

Minority School girl (11) raped at Baliadangi of Thakurgaon District of Bangladesh on 5<sup>th</sup> Aug 2012 (Daughter of Mahin Chandra Singh of village- Dhonotola (Boalimandal), Police Station- Baliadangi, District- Thakurgaon). Lodged First Information Report (FIR) at Baliadangi Police Station on 07.08.2011 being Case No. 06 dated 07.08.2011 corresponding to G.R. No. 120 of 2011 under Section 9(1) of the Nari-O-Shisu Nirzatan Daman Ain, 2000 (as amended 2003) against the perpetrator. As usual, police took no further action.



## **A minor indigenous Marma girl raped & killed**

An indigenous Marma girl, Thomaching Marma 14, a viii grader was brutally killed after rape. This happened on 21<sup>st</sup> Dec 2012 near Baradulu Para village of Kalamapati union under Kaokhali upazila (sub-district) of Rangamati hill district. On the day, around afternoon she went to graze cows to nearby bush. Later naked dead body was found in bush. A murder case (no. 03/2012 dated 22-12-2012) was filed. <Kapaeeng Foundation>.

## **Hindu College Girl, 18 violated and killed**

Ajkaler Khabar, 15<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012: From our Staff Correspondent from Serajgonj: Ms.Pallabi Biswas, 18 was abducted forcefully when she went out to bring water from nearby on 13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012. The victim tried to flee but failed; she was taken to unknown place. Next day her body was found at Mohanpur rail track with multiple injuries on her body.

## **Moina 14 a Hindu School girl abducted and rescued**

Daily Samakal, 9<sup>th</sup> Jan 2012: Ms.Moina Kumari (14) Minority Hindu school girl abducted and rescued after four months. Police only rescued her after pressure from HR groups.



## **Beauty, a Hindu College Girl kidnapped, Converted?**

Ms. Beauty Rani Sarkar (20) a Hindu Minority College Girl had been kidnapped on 31<sup>st</sup> Jan 2012. A case has been filed at Ashulia Police station (Case No. 08 dated 03.02.12 under section 7/30 of Nari-O-Shishu Nirjaton Ain,2003). Ms. Beauty was kidnapped by some Muslim perpetrators with a Micro Bus while she was waiting for bus at Nabigonj Bus stand. Parents of the victim feared that their daughter has been converted forcefully. <BDMW>.



## **Lucky, 13 a Hindu Girl Kidnapped & Converted**

Ms. Lucky Mohanta, 13 a Hindu girl was abducted by Muslim perpetrators on 20<sup>th</sup> Dec 2011 in the evening. Her parents went to local Police to file a FIR, but Police refused. Then the parents went to court and the court ordered the Police to accept the case. Gopalganj police rescued the girl on 19<sup>th</sup> Jan 2012 when pressurized. BDMW came to know that she has been converted to Islam by this time. Police did not arrest anybody. The incident happened at Bedgram, Gopalganj. <Source: BDMW>.

## **An indigenous Jumma girl gang raped**

On 1 February 2012 a 15-year old indigenous Jumma girl was allegedly gang raped by a group of Bengali settlers at Moghaichari area of Dulyatali under Laxmichari upazila in Khagrachari district. The victim was recovered from the spot in senseless condition and taken to Khagrachari district hospital. The victim is a daughter of Mr. Naramya Chakma and Mrs. Robi Bala Chakma of Thailya Karbari Para of Dulyatali union under Laxmichari upazila in Khagrachari district. A case has been file, none was arrested. <Kapaeeng Foundation>.

## **A minor indigenous Marma girl killed after rape**

On 21 December 2012 a 14 year indigenous Marma girl named Thomaching Marma daughter of late Suithui Prue Marma of village- Baradulu Para of Kalampati union under Kaokhali upazila (sub-district) of Rangamati hill district was brutally killed after rape by miscreants. The girl was a student of class eight of Kaukhali Girls High School. <Kapaeeng Foundation>.

## **Puja Das, 16 Kidnapped**

Daily Bhorer Kagoj; 23<sup>rd</sup> Jan 2013: Ms.Puja Das (16) a Minority Hindu School Girl kidnapped on 15th January2013 at about 10 a.m. by Muslim perpetrators 1) Azam Bepari (28), 2) Asmat Bepari (30) 3) Al-Ameen (18), 4) Miraj Bepari (23), 5) Arif (25) All of Satararashi of Sadarpur PS. 6) Alauddin Talukdar (25). Shushil Kumar Das - father of the victim girl lodged F.I.R. being Sadarpur P.S. case No.7 dated 21.1.2013 under section 7/30. She was not rescued yet.



**One may ask, are those cases not been prosecuted? Answer is a vehemently, 'NO' except Purnima Rani Shil case, who was gang raped by 11 Muslim men and her mother had to request the rapists to go one by one, so that she can bear the pain?**

[11 jailed for life for rape of Sirajganj schoolgirl | The Daily Star](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=7&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj8se-9yLnXAhWSxIMKHT4mCJOQFgg9MAY&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thedailystar.net%2Fnews-detail-184320&usg=AOvVaw0PY8qxUji9GivOpROxfFlh)

[https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=7&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj8se-9yLnXAhWSxIMKHT4mCJOQFgg9MAY&url=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.thedailystar.net%2Fnews-detail-184320&usg=AOvVaw0PY8qxUji9GivOpROxfFlh](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=8&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj8se-9yLnXAhWSxIMKHT4mCJOQFghEMAc&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Fuk%2F2003%2Fjul%2F21%2Fbangladesh&usg=AOvVaw3vCs9NVfebKHCTa44bJ46j)

[Rape and torture empties the villages - The Guardian](https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=8&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj8se-9yLnXAhWSxIMKHT4mCJOQFghEMAc&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Fuk%2F2003%2Fjul%2F21%2Fbangladesh&usg=AOvVaw3vCs9NVfebKHCTa44bJ46j)

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rct=j&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=8&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKEwj8se-9yLnXAhWSxIMKHT4mCJOQFghEMAc&url=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.theguardian.com%2Fuk%2F2003%2Fjul%2F21%2Fbangladesh&usg=AOvVaw3vCs9NVfebKHCTa44bJ46j>



**Deity and Temple Destruction:**

#### **A Few Quotes**

*\*"Rape and torture empties the villages" (The Guardian, July 21, 2003)*

*\*An overwhelming 98.68% of the rape victims are minority, and rapists happen to be the cadres of the ruling parties, particularly of BNP. (The Daily Jankantha, Dhaka, Feb. 17, 2002)*

*\*Nearly "200 Hindu women were gang raped by Muslim men" in Char Fashion, Bhola, in one night at a single spot. (The Daily Star, Dhaka, Nov. 16, 2001).*

### **Is destroying or desecrating temples/ churches or religious symbols (deities) possible without a religious vendetta?**

*In 45 years history of Bangladesh as a country, tens of thousands of temples and churches have been destroyed and innumerable deities or religious symbols have been either destroyed or desecrated. The rampant attacks on houses of worships belonging to religious minorities have been well documented throughout the years. In most cases the perpetrators are known to the public and media reports have clearly identified them. However, to this day not a single culprit has been apprehended or any case initiated against them for their heinous and hateful crimes. Attacking a bus, let alone destroying it, will land someone in jail. But a man can walk free in Bangladesh after attacking or destroying a church or a temple. These culprits are always sheltered and protected no matter which party is in power. There is an unwritten rule that basically declares it a fair game to attack the religious minorities and their interests. It shows a clear vendetta of the majority of Bangladesh against its minorities because attacking those symbols with impunity cannot be possible without a religious vendetta.*

## Two temples vandalized

Netrokona Correspondent, **bdnews24.com**, **Published:** 2013-09-08: Unidentified persons have vandalized idols at two temples of Hindu goddess Kali in Netrokona Sadar. The desecrations of 'Sharbojonin Kali Mondir' at village Betati and 'Sharbojonin Mondir' at Jongolboruari village are believed to have taken place sometime during Saturday night, said Netrokona Model Police Station OC SM Mofizul Islam. At Jongolboruari village the idols of goddess Kali and Mahadeb were found wrecked, said Nirmol Das and Pankaj Saha Roy, secretary of Upazila Pooja Celebration Committee. The vandal had broken into the temple and beheaded the idols and left the heads lying inside.



**bdnews24.com**

Deity destruction at Kishoreganj, published at Bangladesh's First Internet Newspaper on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2013

*The Daily Star* Thursday, May 30, 2013

## Hindu temple vandalized in Kishoreganj



Century old idols of a Krishna temple at Kuleshwari Bari in Hossainpur of Kishoreganj lay in ruins after criminals attacked the temple Tuesday night. Photo: Banglar Chokh

Our Correspondent, Kishoreganj: Fanatics vandalized nine idols at 150-year-old Kuleswari temple at Hossainpur upazila of Kishoreganj early yesterday. Locals said the Hindus have been offering prayers at the temple for around 150 years.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/beta2/news/hindu-temple-vandalised-in-kishoreganj/>

## 7 Deities destroyed at Jokigonj Kali Temple

[http://www.zakiganjbarta24.com/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=1254:2013-04-15-10-33-47&catid=34:2012-01-27-05-50-24&Itemid=53](http://www.zakiganjbarta24.com/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1254:2013-04-15-10-33-47&catid=34:2012-01-27-05-50-24&Itemid=53)>.

Jokigonj Barta 24.com: Jokigonj Correspondent: Monday, 15<sup>th</sup> April 2013: On Sunday night miscreants destroyed 7 deities at Jokiganj Kali temple.

## Hindu temple vandalized in Bhola Three arrested



The vandalized Krishna

Sarkar's Aangeena Temple in Annada Prasad village of Lalmohan in Bhola yesterday. Hard to believe the temple got vandalized over a trivial matter. Photo: Star.

*Our Correspondent, Bhola:* Criminals vandalized eight idols of Hindu gods and goddesses at a temple in Annada Prasad village at Lalmohan upazila of Bhola yesterday.

<http://www.thedailystar.net/beta2/news/hindu-temple-vandalised-in-bhola/>

## Bagerhat, Barisal Hindu temples set ablaze

2<sup>nd</sup> March 2013: Two Hindu temples in Bagerhat and Rajshahi were set on fire on Saturday as supporters of the Jamaat-e-Islami continued to target minorities following the death verdict on their leader Delwar Hossain Sayedee. The Dumuria Sharbajaneen temple in the Ramchandrapur Union and Hindu temple at Nalcira union at Gauranadi upazila of Barisal have been set on fire.

<http://bdnews24.com/bangladesh/2013/03/02/bagerhat-barisal-hindu-temples-set-ablaze>



কিনাইদহে ভাঙচুর করা প্রতিমা

Destruction of Hindu deities in Jenaidah, Jessore on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013:



সিংড়ায় ভেঙে ফেলা প্রতিমা

Destruction of Hindu deities in Shingra, Mymensingh on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> March 2013:



In Joydebpur P.S, perpetrators broken Hindu Saraswati Devi on 01-03-2013. BDMW investigated the matter on 22-03-2013. First photo was original but second photo destroyed by accused.

## **HINDU HUMAN RIGHTS** Bangladesh: Fresh attacks on Hindus across 4 districts



March 19, 2013: Yet again, religious fanatics have attacked temples, houses and shops of Hindus in four districts. In Khulna, over 150 people equipped with iron rods and other lethal weapons attacked Banikpara Pabla Sarbojonin Kalibari Mandir around 9:00 p.m. Monday. The rioters also attacked Gachtala temple. Over 50 Hindu homes and shops adjacent to the two temples were vandalized and torched. In Netrakona, rioters vandalized Hari Mandir in Bobahala village under sadar upazila, damaging seven idols. Also on Monday night, vandals damaged four idols of Hindu goddesses at Kripamoyee Kali Mandir under Sripur upazila in Gazipur. In Rangpur, the house of Nilkanta Roy in Itakumary union of Pirgachha upazila was torched around 2:00 a.m. yesterday.

## Hindus attacked in Khulna, Netrokona



**bdnews24.com** Bangladesh's First Internet Newspaper Khulna/Netrokona Correspondents, bdnews24.com: Published: 2013-03-19: Some miscreants have reportedly attacked the minority Hindu community, vandalized their houses, shops and temples, and detonated bombs in Khulna city and Netrokona Sadar during the strike ordered by the opposition alliance (BNP). Over 150 youths brandishing sticks and sharp weapons attempted to break open the door of Pabla Sarbajanin Kalibari Temple in Netrokona city's Banikpara around 9:30 p.m. on Monday night, witnesses reported to bdnews24.com. Unable to break the door, they climbed on the temple and vandalized its windows and floors, they said. "They also blasted two crude bombs." Then they vandalized the houses and shops of Hindus in the area.

## 47 temples, 700 Hindu houses torched across Bangladesh



<http://www.bangladeshchronicle.net/index.php/2013/03/47-temples-700-hindu-houses-torched-across-bangladesh/>

March 13, 2013 | Filed under: Latest, News | Posted by: chronicle: Islamic activists have attacked dozens of Hindu temples and hundreds of homes across Bangladesh since an Islamist leader was sentenced to death for war crimes last month, a Hindu group said on Wednesday. Bangladesh Puja Udjapon Parishad, a group which looks after Hindu temples, said 47 temples and at least 700 Hindu houses had either been torched or vandalized since the verdict against Delwar Hossain Sayedee. Sayedee, vice-president of the country's largest Islamic party Jamaat-e-Islami, was sentenced to hang on February 28 for crimes, including rape and murder, committed during the 1971 independence conflict.

## Temple, houses of Hindu men torched in Bagerhat, 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2013: Daily Bhorer Kagoj




### 35 Hindu Sarwasati Devi desecrated

35 Hindu deities at Agoiljhara upazila at Barisal district on February 10, 2013 were demolished by the perpetrators. A case has been filed and police arrested only one perpetrator. Mr. Joydeb Chandra filed a Case No- 2 (9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2013). “People of all interfaith maintaining communal attachment.” Local UP Chairman stated: “we hate those perpetrators who committed these types of incidents.” <[www.banglapost24.com](http://www.banglapost24.com)>; <[www.amaderbarisal.com/news/36806.aspx](http://www.amaderbarisal.com/news/36806.aspx)>

### Deity Destroyed

Hindu Deities destroyed and desecrated at village- Solai Bangla of Singair Upazila of Manikgonj District in Bangladesh on 04 September 2017 at night. Perpetrators broke open the lock of the Temple gate and destroyed 10 (ten) Images of Raksha Kali Mandir and Lokhnath Mandir. Shree Lal Chand Rajbongshi -Hindu devotee filed case No. 05 dated 05 September 2017 under section 143/147/295/427 of Penal code at Singair P.S. against five Muslim attackers. No perpetrators has yet been arrested (Source: [Eibela.com](http://Eibela.com) ).

### Deity Destroyed in November 2016

 **November-01:** A group of young people has vandalized a Hindu sanctuary and close-by houses in Gopalganj, police informed. It happened at Ragnathpur Kotabarhi Sharbajanin Durga Temple.



**On 2nd Nov at around 10 pm** at Jessore's Kali temple pandit Sadhan Kumar Pal was reading the sacred Bhagwaad Geeta, when the attack took place. A group of Islamic zealots led by two fanatics namely Shamim and Jasim attacked the temple and tried to snatch the Bhagwaad Geeta from the priest initially. When resisted by priest Pal, they start destroying abruptly the sacred idols of Radha Krishna, Lord Ganesha and Goddess Laxmi. Locals started assembling at the temple premises and caught hold of the 2 miscreants, Shamim and Jasim were handed over to Police.

**November-21:** Some miscreants attacked Goddess Kali temple and made collision at Baracalastha of Jhalokathi city at the time of worshipping over land dispute. On Wednesday at night 11pm at least 10 people were injured of both sides in the incident, with police and idols also have been vandalized.



Hindu community Protested and blocked Kalibari road of the city and demanded justice.

**November-23:** The incident of idols vandalizing of Radha-Gvinda temple has occurred by some miscreants. The incident took place at Madhupur Radha Govinda temple under Badarganj upazula of Rangpur district on Monday night.



**November-30:**



Unknown miscreants attacked and vandalized more than 5 Temples and idols in Rajbari district. These Temples are family owned. The incident of attacking Temples took place at Char Kachranda village, Chhotobhakla union under Goyalanda upazila of the same district.

## **Deity Destroyed**



Hindu Deities (Idols of Kali Mata) were broken and desecrated by Muslim perpetrators at Keyen East Kotgaon on last Friday at Serajdikhan within District of Munshigonj. Perpetrator set free Akram Sheikh and attackers got impunity by police (Source: The daily Ittefaq, 17th December, 2016) Police recorded the case after intervention by Bangladesh Minority Watch (BDMW) on 31<sup>st</sup> Dec 2016. <http://www.ittefaq.com.bd/wholecountry/2016/12/17/96036.htm>.



**MA KALI Temple with Hindu Deity set on fire by Perpetrators on 15th Jan, 13 at Sumamgonj District in Bangladesh (BDMW)**





DATE: October, 2001. PLACE: Gangni, Meherpur, Kushtia. DESCRIPTION: Due to their perceived support for secular ideas, religious minorities have seen subjected to "systematic and severe" Persecution (Amnesty International) since October 2001 Elections. Even a poster of Jesus Christ of this Christian family in Meherpur was not spared.



DATE: October 17, 2001. PLACE: Durgapur, Kahalu Upazila, Bogra. DESCRIPTION: It was a common spectacle around the country after the general election of 2001. Thousands of images worshiped all over Bangladesh were desecrated.



**Bangladesh is becoming more radical every day:**

**NOW IS THE TIME FOR ISRAEL TO HELP BANGLADESHI HINDUS**  
**THE JERUSALEM POST**

SEPTEMBER 01 2017,

BY RACHEL AVRAHAM, AUGUST 30, 2017

<http://www.jpost.com/Opinion/Now-is-the-time-for-Israel-to-help-Bangladeshi-Hindus-503818>

**Israel has nothing to lose and everything to gain by taking a stance in favor of the Bangladeshi Hindus.**

*A MAN sells photo frames with pictures of Hindu religious figures near a temple ahead of observance of Rakher Upabash in Dhaka, Bangladesh. (Photo credit: REUTERS/MOHAMMAD PONIR HOSSAIN).*

In the wake of the persecution experienced by Bangladesh's Chief Justice and the Hindu community more broadly within the country, Israelis should take actions to support the Bangladeshi Hindu community. It is an urgent imperative at this time. Recently, Bangladesh Chief Justice Surendra Kumar Sinha repealed the

16th Amendment, which the ruling party had passed in 2014 as a tool to remove opponents from the judiciary. Since then, leaders and activists of the Awami League, the country's current governing party, have been orchestrating a hateful campaign against the chief justice and the Hindu community more broadly.

## **22-Year-Old Queens Man Arrested on Terror Charge after Allegedly Trying to Join ISIS in Syria**

"He got religious in the last year. Not radical, just religious."

<https://www.nbcnewyork.com%2Fnews%2Flocal%2FTerror-Arrest-ISIS-Queens-New-York-City-Parveg-Ahmed->

By [Jonathan Dienst](#) and [Joe Valiquette](#)

The family of a young Queens's man arrested for allegedly trying to join with ISIS in Syria say they're in shock, and they never saw the arrest coming. Parveg Ahmed, 22, of Ozone Park, was arrested after flying from New York to Saudi Arabia and then attempting to cross into Syria, law enforcement officials tell NBC 4 New York. He was stopped before he could travel into Syria.

Published on Aug 29, 2017

## **Interpol identifies Bangladeshi-born Canadian as potential suicide bomber in Europe**

**Dhaka Tribune** [Tribune Desk](#), Published at August 20, 2017

Tabirul Hasib, 25, is among 173 Islamic State fighters Interpol has named as potential suicide bombers. Interpol is currently in pursuit of a Bangladeshi-born Canadian who is believed to have been trained by the Islamic State for suicide attacks in Europe, according to a Canadian media outlet Global News. Tabirul Hasib, 25, is among 173 Islamic State fighters Interpol has named as potential suicide bombers, based on data uncovered by US intelligence.

## **Maryland man accused of plotting attack on U.S. service member for ISIS (He is a Bangladeshi)**

A 24-year-old Maryland man has been charged in a plot to attack a member of the U.S. military on behalf of the self-proclaimed Islamic State, federal prosecutors said Monday.

[Kevin Rector](#), Contact Reporter, [the Baltimore Sun](#)

Maryland man accused of plotting attack on U.S. service member for ISIS

<https://www.google.com/url?sa=t&rc=1&q=&esrc=s&source=web&cd=1&cad=rja&uact=8&ved=0ahUKewjBt8Wa3YnWAhUF7oMKHcMwDpEQFggoMAA&url=http%3A%2Fwww.baltimoresun.com%2Fnews%2Fmaryland%2Fbs-md-nelash-mohamed-das-isis-20161003-story.html&usq=AFOjCNFP9kj18sat3zCP6Kcvl5kw2P5iHg>

The Baltimore Sun, Oct 03, 2016.

[Washington times, 05 July 2017](#)

## **Standing with Hindus in Bangladesh**

### **Americans have a duty to press for human rights reform**

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2017/jul/5/bangladesh-hindus-deserve-us-protection/>

By Rachel Avraham - - *Wednesday, July 5, 2017*

**ANALYSIS/OPINION:** Hindus in [Bangladesh](#) have been intensely persecuted in recent years. As Americans, we should stand in solidarity with them and to support them in obtaining minority rights within the land of their birth.

## **Bangladesh Hindus Live in Fear during Ramadan as 500 Year Old Hindu Temple Attacked in another Hate Crime**

<http://www.chakranews.com/?p=5858>

The Chakra: May 28, 2017 by Editor: On May 28th, 2017, during the holy Islamic month of Ramadan, a historic 500 year-old and very peaceful Hindu temple was attacked and vandalized repeatedly in another hate crime that has brought the total attacks on Hindu temples in the last 12 months to almost 200. Although Hindus make up approximately only 8% of the population in Muslim-majority Bangladesh, they face hate crimes almost daily by local Islamists and gangs of religious extremists.



THE BANGLADESH  
CHRONICLE Thursday, May 25, 2017

## Hindu School Teacher: Humiliated a year ago, now in jail



May 24, 2017 | Filed under: [News](#) | Posted by: [The Bangladesh Chronicle](#)

Shyamal Kanti Bhakta, a schoolteacher who was forced to do squats holding ears in presence of Jatiya Party lawmaker AKM Salim Osman last year, landed in jail yesterday after a Narayanganj court rejected his bail petition in a bribery case. The court order came a day after Salim Osman secured bail from a Dhaka court in another case filed over the public humiliation of Shyamal. Shyamal, headmaster of Piyar Sattar Latif High School in Narayanganj's Bandar area, surrendered before the court and sought bail in the case filed by Morsheda Begum, an English teacher at the same school, on July 14 last year. Additional Chief Judicial Magistrate Ashok Kumar Dutta, however, rejected the bail prayer and sent him to jail yesterday. Earlier in the day, the court issued an arrest warrant for Shyamal after taking cognisance of the bribery charge. Source: The Daily Star



THE BANGLADESH  
CHRONICLE May 17, 2017

## [Suicide vests, bombs found at Jhenaidah hideout](#)

Two suicide vests and five explosives were found during a raid on a suspected militant hideout in Jhenaidah's Sadar Upazila, according to RAB. The local administration has issued an order restricting the movement of people around two buildings, used as militant dens, in Chuadanga village for security reasons, said Sadar Upazila Executive Official Mostafizur Rahman.

**Dhaka Tribune**

beta Tribune Desk, Published March 25, 2017

## Suicide bomber targets crowd for the first time

Army personnel escort one of the rescued families from the Sylhet militant den, including a child **Dhaka Tribune**

A crowd of at least 500-600 people were standing about 250 metres from the militant den where the attack took place. The suicide bombing in the middle of a crowd in the town of Dakshin Surma, Sylhet right outside a militant den appears to be a compound attack. Two of the people injured in the blast have died. At least 40 others are injured, police say. Court Inspector Abu Kawser was killed by the bomb dropped by the suicide attacker. Inspector Monir of Sylhet police and Surma police station OC Shah Harun Ur Rashid were among those injured in the blast.

**CurrenTrigger**

## Remove Greek Goddess idol or we will throw Hindus out of Bangladesh

Blog April 20, 2017 April 20, 2017 [admin](#)

A warning has been issued by a popular radical Muslim organization Hefajat-e-Islam to the India-friendly government of Bangladesh.

In the warning, it has said that if the idol of Greek Goddess won't get removed as soon as possible then it will work to remove Hindus from Bangladesh. Bangladeshi Hefajati Islam, Brahmanbaria branch, made this outrageous statement today. This area is notorious for Hindu persecution and last year saw violent attacks on the Hindus that drew international condemnation. The group said that the Bangladesh government is acting like a province of India and that they are prepared to fight Indian Hindus for this.



Thousands of supporters of Hefajat-e-Islam want to do away with the statue of the Greek Goddess of justice which stands outside the Bangladesh Supreme Court. They believe that this statue is not Islamic. PM Sheikh Hasina has a soft corner on the issue and said that she too felt that the demand wasn't wrong. In fact, she said that she didn't like the statue herself.

The news dated April 20, 2017, has been carried in the Bangla daily Sangbadpratin and has been covered by another daily India.com which [www.currenttriggers.com](http://www.currenttriggers.com) translated for the benefit of the readers.

**Bangladesh Watchdog**, Saturday, 22 April 2017

## **Hasina, under political duress, looks to the right**

SUBIR BHAUMIK

Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina has turned to the right to placate hard-line Islamists after facing flak for her recent visit to neighboring India, a trip her opponents have claimed sold out national interests to its giant western neighbour. Hasina's concessions to hard-line Islamists have upset her own party supporters who value Bangladesh's secular heritage and could also rattle India, which sees rising radical Islamist activities in Bangladesh as a growing security threat.

Bangladesh Watchdog

**TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017**

## **Bangladesh hide and seek on presence of Islamic State militants**



**SALEEM SAMAD**

Bangladesh is embarrassed. So are the top officials of Interpol, security experts, academicians, police chiefs from the region attending the three-day long conference organized by Bangladesh Police and the Interpol in the capital? Bangladesh Police top brass AKM Shahidul Hoque has denied the presence of Jihadist of Islamic State (IS or ISIS) in the country. "There is no presence of the Islamist terrorist outfit here," the inspector general of police maintained at impromptu press briefing on Monday morning.

NYTimes, Asia Pacific

## To Secular Bangladeshis, Textbook Changes Are a Harbinger

A.M. AHAD / ASSOCIATED PRESS/ By ELLEN BARRY and JULFIKAR ALI MANIK

JANUARY 22, 2017



DHAKA, Bangladesh — Bangladesh's Education Ministry was preparing to print the 2017 editions of its standard Bengali textbooks when a group of conservative Islamic religious scholars demanded the removal of 17 poems and stories they deemed “atheistic.”

Students at a madrasa, or Islamic school, last year in Dhaka, Bangladesh. Changes were recently made to textbooks after requests from conservative Islamic religious scholars.

By the time the books were distributed to schools on Jan. 1, the 17 poems and stories were gone, with no explanation from the government. Other changes had crept in, too: First graders studying the alphabet were taught that “o” stands for “orna,” a scarf worn by devout Muslim girls starting at puberty, not for “ol,” a type of yam; and a sixth-grade travelogue describing a visit to the Hindu-dominated north of India was replaced by one about the Nile in Egypt.

**The Daily Star** Thursday, "February 2, 2017/ LAST MODIFIED: February 03, 2017

### Vendor held for 'insulting Islam'

A roadside vendor in Joypurhat was arrested on Wednesday night for allegedly posting a photo “insulting Islam” on Facebook. Sujan Mohanta, 37, of Panchbibi municipality was arrested around 11:30pm. Panchbibi Police Station's Sub-inspector Zafar filed a case against him under the ICT Act. Police produced him before a local court yesterday. The incident sparked tension in the area with some 50 people demonstrating in the municipality headquarters yesterday afternoon. Additional police were deployed at Sujan's home, Hindu temples and mosques in the area, police said. Sujan's family believed he is innocent. They also said they were living in fear of attacks. “Somebody took Sujan's phone and posted something on Facebook. My husband can't post such a thing on Facebook as he knows its consequences. Besides, he was too busy with celebrating Saraswati Puja,” said Sujan's wife Boby Mohanta. Rights organisation Ain o Salish Kendra in two letters urged the deputy commissioner and the superintendent of police in Joypurhat to take effective measures for the safety of Sujan's family.

### **DNA** 98 Hindus murdered, 357 injured in Bangladesh this year: Report

Fri, 30 Dec 2016-ANI: According to a report made by Bangladesh Jatiya Hindu Mohajote (BJHM), at least 98 people from the Hindu community have been murdered and 357 others injured across the country till December 29 this year. Revealing the report at a press conference held in Dhaka Reporters Unity today, BJHM executive president Sukrity Mandal said the report was prepared based on reports published in different newspapers and their community sources, reports the Dhaka Tribune. The BJHM president also said that around 711 people either left the country or were threatened to leave the country, while 209 idols were damaged and 22 others were stolen. He further said 22 people of their community have also been missing while 38 people were kidnapped and eight others are in jail. According to United News of Bangladesh (UNB), 1,109 Hindus received death threat and attempts were made to kill 18 others during the said period.

## **Attack on Hindus in Bangladesh rising; Bigger plot underway?**

Source: News Bharati English 11 Jan 2017 14:24:19

On 30 October 2016, some 3,000 Muslims attacked the Hindu areas of Nasirnagar following a rally over an allegedly defamatory post by an illiterate Hindu youth Rasraj Das who is an illiterate local Hindu fisherman, from Nasirnagar near Brahmanbaria. Das was arrested on 29 October 2016 for "hurting the religious sentiments of the Muslims" through a Facebook post. Soon later, investigators cleared Rasraj Das of the charge.

### **Hindu Village Attacked: Police Inactive!**

Tuesday, 31st July 2012: Bagerhat, July 31st (BDNews24.com): On last Saturday there were a soccer game between kids on Brommodanga field. During the game, a fight erupt between a Hindu & a Muslim boy. Right the way, there was a settlement too. But on Monday night, about 50 Muslims with heavy arms attacked the Hindu village under the leadership of Shahid matobbor and Chute Saoder of Noldha village. 6 people including a 13 year school girl were wounded; 2 were hospitalized. Local people said that the attacker had ill motive and they just use the soccer filed incident as a plea. Police was informed, but no case filed or no action was taken.

### **Hindu houses attacked, women violated, opposed to treat injured Hindus**

The dailyJanakantha, 1st Aug 2012: Tremendous attack on more than 50 houses of religious Minorities at Fakirhat Upazila of Bagerhat District took place on 30th July 2012. This attack erupted from a soccer game, where one Hindu and one Muslim player fight in the field. Later Muslims around 50-60 attacked five Hindu houses in Nalda Brahmadanga area at night, assaulting, looting, sexual assault on women and arson continued till midnight. Ms.Nomita Roy, Ms.Basanti Roy, Ms.Suparna Roy, Ms. Madhuri Rani Mondal, Ms. Shova Rani Roy, Ms.Suparna Roy, Ms. Shova Roy including more 20 children and old inhabitants wereseriously injured. While the injured were taken to hospital, the perpetrators raided there and opposed for their treatment.

### **Again fatwa: 101 lashes to young couples?**

Bangla News Update: Again Fatwa! Venue, Gobindopur village, gaibandha. Time frame, end of August 2012. What happened? Merajul Sheikh, 17 and Latifa akhter Lima, 14 fall in love. Their relationship goes deep and Latifa became pregnant. Respected families came to know the affair and arranged marriage between Meraj & Latifa. But village leaders opposed and they force to abort the pregnancy on 23rd Aug 2012. Then they lashed the love-pair (Meraj-latifa) with canes for 101 times in front of the imam (priest) of the local mosque. <http://www.banglanewsupdate.com/home/3805-2012-08-29-16-53-35.html>

### **Minority Eviction, Bangladesh Style?**

Janakantha, 2nd Sept 2012: Stauff reporter, Rajshahi: 11 indigineous families were driven out at Godabari, Rajshahi on last Saturday. At the time, the family members were in deep sleep, when the perpetrators attacked at night, destroyed their houses and drive them out of they area. Victim Konok Gomej told, some Nazrul Islam and his gangs attacked them, looted their tins on the top of the house and all belongings. She informed that, nobody dare to protest because they were heavily armed. Some of the local families were, Marius soren, Subash Soren, Gopal, Majid Mol, kabiraj and others. They were forced to get out of the area. Police knows nothing. Nazrul told, he is the owner of the land, so he drives them out.

All of them were burned alive including 4-years old child and a groom



জীবনযাপনের বিভিন্ন ভূমিকায় ছবির এই মানুষগুলো এখন কেবলই ছবি, স্মৃতির ছবি। মানুষরূপী হিংস দানবের আগুনে পুড়ে কাঠ-কয়লা হয়ে গেছে তাদের প্রত্যেকের দেহপ্রাণ। এই যে ছবিতে বিয়ের আসরে চিরায়ত বাঙালি বধুরূপে বাবুটি শীল (১), অনুষ্ঠানে আনন্দমগ্ন পরিবেশে অ্যানি শীল (২), গ্রামজীবনের সবুজভুবনে প্রসাদি শীল (৩), বিয়ের দিনে প্রলুব্ধক দৃষ্টি নিয়ে শিশু রুমি শীল (৪), বাঙালি নারীর প্রতিদিনের চিত্রে স্মৃতি রাণী শীল (৫), আসরে ভাতের থালায় হাত রেখে চমকে ওঠা বকুল শীল (৬), কিংবা বয়োজ্যেষ্ঠ জঙ্গিতে খাবারে মগ্ন তেজেন্দ্র লাল সূশীল (৭)। এরা কখনোই ভাবেনি এগুলো একসময় অন্যের জন্য শুধুমাত্র স্মৃতিময় ছবিই হয়ে থাকবে। ভাবেনি কখনো পাল্টে যাবে তাদের জীবনের গল্প। কিন্তু হল না। এই যে এখনো তারা জীবন্ত ছবিতে, তারা আদৌ জানবে না তাদের জীবনের কাহিনী লিখতে হচ্ছে আমাদের আগুনপোড়া কলমে।



DATE: November 18, 2003. PLACE: Banskhalhi coast, Chittagong. DESCRIPTION: Eleven members of a family, including a four-day-old baby, were burnt to death as robbers set fire to a two-story earthen house in a remote village at Banskhalhi coast, 30 miles off Chittagong city. The 11 charred bodies lay in rows on the floor of the burnt house as the only survivor of the arson, Bimalendra Shushil, narrated the horror. The incident occurred when about 20 robbers raided the house of Tajendra Lal Shushil at Shilpara of Banskhalhi upazila at around 12:30am. Police arrested march 9, 2004 the prime accused Mahbub Rashid, 30 of the sensational Banskhalhi carnage. Mahbub named Mokhtar as leader of the gang and again said Dola Meah led the attackers. Replying to a query, Mahbub quoted Mokhtar as saying a local BNP leader and union parishad chairman, who is nephew of a state minister Zafar Ahmed Chowdhury, hired them to do an important job but they did not know what the job was.



**Dr.S.K.Mukherjee (82) Killed** A gang of four Islamic extremists/nationalis killed Dr.SK.Mukherjee (82) who was the founding president of Khulna division's Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) and the president of the Jhenidah district Puja udjapan (observance) committee. He was chopped to death.

## **Hindu houses attacked, women violated, opposed to treat injured Hindus**

The dailyJanakantha, 1st Aug 2012: Vicious attack on more than 50 houses of religious Minorities at Fakirhat Upazila of Bagerhat District took place on 30th July 2012. This attack erupted from a soccer game, where one Hindu and one Muslim player got into a fight in the field. Later, around 50-60 Muslims attacked Hindu houses in Nalda Brahmadanga area at night. Assaulting, looting, arson, and sexual assaults on women continued until midnight. Police took no action.

## **Hindus pressurized to be converted to Islam?**

Amader Somoy, Saturday, January 14, 2012: Muslims are pressing Hindus to convert to Islam. This occurred in Comilla

## **Beef Served to Hindus: Protest**

Daily Ittefaq, 5th January, 2012: High Court (HC) ordered the local administration to take action against those responsible in serving 'Beef' in a ceremony to Hindus whose faith does not allow consumption of beef.

## **Minority Eviction, Bangladesh Style?**

Janakantha, 2nd Sept 2012: Staff reporter, Rajshahi: 11 indigenous families were driven out of Godabari, Rajshahi last Saturday. At the time, the family members were in deep sleep, when the perpetrators attacked at night, destroyed their houses and drove them out of the area.

## **Arson Attack on 14 Houses in Madaripur**

14 houses in 3 villages were set on fire in Madaripur sadar upazila on midnight, at the same time, in a coordinated night time attack last Tuesday. Kitchens and cowsheds were burnt in all the houses that were attacked. A calf had also been burnt to death. People of the locality are in panic at such destructive activities that happened simultaneously. According to police and local inhabitants, a group of miscreants torched 14 houses simultaneously from Hindu dominated villages of Jaiyar, Choto Badda, Boro Badda and Khalparr under Mostafapur union council in Sadar upazila of Madaripur. Local people brought fire under control. [Published in the Bangla Daily Ajkaler Khabor, dated 23 May 2013]



A famous picture of 1971, when the Hindus were targeted and killed by the Pakistani military in the then East Pakistan, which is now Bangladesh. Did that changed? No, Hindus are still targeted every on and off.





## Rangpur, November 2017



Harkoli, Thakurpara, Rangpur, Bangladesh: November 10, 2017: Islamists set fire on 30 Hindu houses. An old lady crying when her house burnt in front of her eyes.

**Dhaka Tribune**

## Mob sets upon Hindu village in Rangpur over rumoured Facebook post

*Liakat Ali Badal, Rangpur/* Published at 06:49 PM November 10, 2017/ Last updated at 12:01 AM, November 11, 2017

Agry mob set fire at some Hindu houses in Thakurpara village in Rangpur Sadar following rumours that a youth from that village published a Facebook status defaming IslamFocus Bangla

## Mayhem over Facebook post

*1 killed as police try to contain violence by zealots in Rangpur, 30 Hindu houses torched, 20 including 7 cops hurt*

The news link: <http://www.thedailystar.net/frontpage/mayhem-over-facebook-post-1489402>



An elderly woman wails after zealots burned down her house in Horkoli Thakurpara village of Rangpur yesterday in a targeted attack over an alleged Facebook post “hurting religious sentiments”. At least 30 Hindu houses were destroyed in the mayhem. Photo: Collected



A house burns after it was set on fire in a village of Rangpur as violence flared up over an alleged Facebook post “defaming religion”. Photo: Collected

## **Bangladeshi village burned down after 'Prophet Mohammed insulted' in resident's Facebook post, One person was killed and five injured as police retaliated**

Independent.CO.UK, 14 Nov 2017; [Rachael Revesz](#) [@RachaelRevesz](#)



Muslims gathering for religious event in Dhaka, 300km from Thakurpara, a Muslim-majority country *REUTERS*

A Hindu village in Bangladesh was burnt down after a rumour spread that a local youth had insulted the Prophet Mohammed in a Facebook post. More than 30 houses were set alight in the Rangpur Sadar upazila (district) following the man's alleged defamation of the religious figure on social media.

**Daily Mail**

.com Monday, Nov 20th 2017

### **One person is killed as mob of 20,000 Muslims burns down Hindu village in Bangladesh after rumour spread that a local had insulted Prophet Mohammed on Facebook**

Trouble flared in the village of Thakurbari, Bangladesh, over a Facebook post

It was reported a villager had insulted Prophet Mohammed on social media

A 20,000-strong mob marched on the village, burning and looting houses

Protesters clashed with police and one person was killed and five others injured

By [KEIRAN SOUTHERN FOR MAILONLINE](#)

PUBLISHED: 05:24 EST, 12 November 2017 | UPDATED: 08:18 EST, 12 November 2017



One person was killed and at least five more seriously injured after 20,000 Muslims attacked Hindu homes in the village of Thakurbari, in the Rangpur Sadar region of the country



Harkoli, Thakurpara, Rangpur, Bangladesh: November 10, 2017: Islamists set fire on 30 Hindu houses. An young lady crying when her house burnt in front of her eyes.

, Thakurpara, Rangpur, Bangladesh: November 10, 2017: Islamists set fire on 30 Hindu houses.

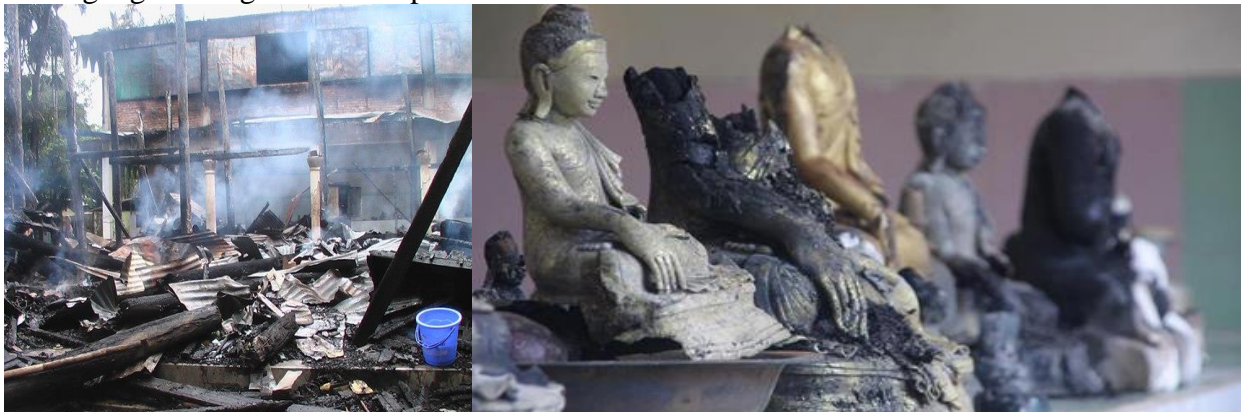
# Ramu, Nandirhat, Chirirbandar



Buddhist Temple & houses burning in Moderate Muslim Bangladesh!



Buddhist Monasteries were burned and destroyed by fundamentalists in Cox's Bazaar and Chittagong of Bangladesh in September 2012.



## **The Boston Globe Bangladesh Buddhist temples torched**

Thousands of Bangladeshi Muslims angry over an alleged derogatory photo of the Koran on Facebook set fires in at least 10 Buddhist temples and 40 homes near the southern border with Myanmar, authorities said Sunday. The violence began late Saturday and continued until early Sunday, said Nojibul Islam, a police chief in the coastal district of Cox's Bazar.



**'Please save my future generation'**



The Buddha statues made of gold are lost forever. The intrinsic designs of Khadi wood are lost in the inferno. The Tripitak is lost too. But for Shreemad Satyapriya Mohathero, who had just turned 83, the loss and pain are even greater. He has lost all faith in his knowledge and reading of humanity. “Even in 1971, I did not see this grotesque brutality on us,” Mohathero says. Mohathero is the second highest priest of the Buddhist community in Bangladesh. <http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=252147>

## **Buddhist temples, homes burned, looted in Ramu**

Sun, Sep 30th, 2012 4:26 a m BDST: Cox's Bazaar, Sept 30 (<[bdnews24.com](http://bdnews24.com)>)—A mob torched and vandalized a village of Buddhists in Cox's Bazaar's Ramu Upazila early on Sunday in one of the worst religious attacks in Bangladesh apparently triggered by a Facebook posting allegedly defaming the Quran.

## **Temple attacks premeditated, deliberate: MKA**

27 Buddhist Temples Torched, administration watched in silence!

The Daily Star, Sunday, September 30, 2012: From Our Diplomatic Correspondent in Dhaka: Dhaka, Oct 3 (<[asiantribune.com](http://asiantribune.com)>): Minority leaders on Tuesday alleged that the local administration and political parties stood by and watched as communal attacks were carried out on Buddhist temples and households in Cox's Bazar's Ramu, Ukhia and Teknaf, and Chittagong's Patia.

## **Rampage in Rangamati**

Rangamati tense: 60 injured as hill people, settlers clash, army called in, ban slapped on gatherings <*New Age, / The Daily Star, / The Independent/ Daily Sun, 23 September 2012*>: The administration in Rangamati town called in troops and imposed Section 144 of the Code of Criminal Procedure, banning any kind of gathering for an indefinite period after a violent clash

spread across the hill-town between hill people and Bengali settlers that left at least 60 persons injured, dozens of vehicles and households damaged and torched on Saturday.

## **Buddhist temple attacked**



On 28 January 2012 at about 8:00 a.m. a Buddhist meditation centre (Kilachari Bidarshan Bhabana Prosikkon Kendra) of Harinchara Bill area of Bilaichari upazila bordering Kaptai upazila of Rangamati Hill District was attacked by a group of Bengali settlers numbering 20-30 following a killing occurred in nearby that area. In the attack, different parts of the temple, images of Lord Buddha were broken down and valuables of temple were looted by the Bengali settlers. < Kapaeeng Foundation>.

## **After Ramu, temples attacked in Patia**

Chittagong, Sep 30 ([bdnews24.com/](http://bdnews24.com/)) —Hours after rampaging through a Buddhist village in Cox's Bazaar's Ramu Upazila in the early hours, religious fanatics on Sunday launched attacks on Hindu temples and Buddhist monasteries in Patia at noon.

*The Daily Star* <http://www.thedailystar.net/newDesign/news-details.php?nid=252209>

Wednesday, October 3, 2012 < Nip intolerance in the bud> *Political blame-game will only strengthen extremists*

THE BANGLADESH

CHRONICLE **Buddhist Temples Torched: Attackers still**

**‘unknown’** October 2, 2012

## **Satkhira after Nandirhat: Police sided with the Perpetrators**

What Happened at Satkhira? A local school staged a drama on 27<sup>th</sup> March 2012, named ‘Huzur Kebla’ written by a Muslim, Abul Mansur Ahmed on the occasion of Independence Day of Bangladesh. Some people said that, in the drama, Muhammed was insulted as a greedy man; which was in fact a false propaganda. Local Jamat-E-Islami took the lead and filed a case against school authority. Police arrested the principal (Head Master) and a female Hindu teacher who were in charge of the drama. A local daily ‘Dristipat’ of a Jamati leader published a huge story



### Satkhira Burning

(29<sup>th</sup> March 2012) saying that, Hindus insulted Muhammed. On 31<sup>st</sup> March & 1<sup>st</sup> April about 1000 Muslims attacked the Hindus, their houses, temples, businesses. Hindus fled the area to save their lives. About 100 police were there, but they did nothing. Even, when the hoses were set on fire, some people tried to stop the fire; fundamentalists obstructed them; police remained silent. The attackers and perpetrators were given absolute right to destroy the properties and wealth of Minorities in presence of police administration. After 24 hours police became active, after police super was removed, they arrested about 50 people. Mr. Mizanur Rahman, publisher and Adviser of the daily “ Dristipat” has been arrested. In total 4 cases has been lodged and 95 people were charged with different crimes (Different newspaper reports).



## Satkhira: High Court ordered to form Inquiry Committee

High Court Division of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh consisting Mr. Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury and Mr. Justice Zahangir Hossain Selim on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012 ordered Inquiry Committee headed by a Joint Secretary of Law and Justice Department of Bangladesh. The High Court also ordered submission of report before High Court Division on 17<sup>th</sup> May 2012 relating to incidents that took place on 31<sup>st</sup> March and 1<sup>st</sup> April 2012 at different places of Satkhira District of Bangladesh. The Superintendent of Police, Satkhira (Withdrawn) and Officer-in-Charge of Satkhira Police station (Withdrawn) were present in the dock of the court on 25<sup>th</sup> April 2012.

**"What happened in Satkhira is very shameful,"**

Dhaka, Apr 6 (bdnews24.com) – Railway minister Suranjit Sengupta has asked the home minister to visit Satkhira's Kaliganj to investigate the incident of attack on houses and torture on the Hindus there or send her deputy. "What happened in Satkhira is very shameful," senior Awami League leader Suranjit said on Friday at a programme of the Kendriya Puja Celebration Committee at the capital's Dhaka.



## **Nandirhat (Chittagong) Pogrom: Feb 2012**

What actually happened in Nandirhat? On Thursday, 9<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012 at around noon local Hindus brought out a religious rally, which they do every year at this time. When the rally reached near a 'Mosque'; the Mullahs asked the Hindus to stop bands and chanting 'Hare Krishna' while passing the mosque.



Some people listened; some did not. So a hot exchanged begun among two groups, which became a tussle. Sooner, both the group came to an amicable agreement to sit later and the problem was over. But in the evening, a large crowd of Muslims attacked the Hindu villages, destroying Temples; demolishing deities; houses, businesses; burnt everything and looting etc. It continues for long time. The next morning (Friday, 10<sup>th</sup> Feb 2012) the same fundamentalists Muslims barricade the main street and demanded punishment of Hindus. They had circulated that the Hindus destroyed a mosque (Which was a rumor) and must be punished! At noon after the 'Jumma Prayer' the Muslims again attacked the Hindus; their houses, temples, deities, businesses etc. The big question: why the administration did not act for 24 hours or long while Police knows everything and there was a police station nearby?

## **Nandirhat Pogrom: Feb 2012**

**1500-2000 people attacked Hindu villages: UNO instigated?**

*Daily Janakantha/ bdnews24/ Other Dailies: 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Aug 2012:* According to the reports published in different media, Islamic zealots set on fire at least 20 houses belonging to Hindus and looted their valuables following a dispute over building a mosque in the minority community-dominated area at Chirirbandar upazila in Dinajpur district on Saturday, 4<sup>th</sup> August 2012.



**NANDIRHAT REMINDS US OF 1971: WHERE IS RELIGIOUS FREEDOM FOR HINDUS?**



Chirir Bandar: Dinajpur (Aug 2012)



## Hathazari temples lie in ruins

Mon, Oct 29, 2012: Tabarul Huq, [bdnews24.com](http://bdnews24.com) correspondent, Chittagong, Oct 29 ([bdnews24.com](http://bdnews24.com))—Temples damaged in Hathazari Upazila in Chittagong during a hate attack in February have not been repaired even though seven months have passed since the attacks. Three temples, including Loknath Shebasram at Nandirhaat, and a number of other Hindu temples, houses and business establishments in Upazila Sadar were vandalized, looted and torched on February 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> this year. <[bdnews24.com/th/srs/eh/bd/2142h](http://bdnews24.com/th/srs/eh/bd/2142h)>

## 16 indigenous Tripura children rescued from Madrasa in Dhaka

On 2 January 2012 police rescued 16 indigenous Tripura children from a madrasa (Muslim education center) named Abuzor Giffari Mosque Complex under Sabujbagh police station in Dhaka. The police rescued them after receiving an allegation that the children were converted (to Islam) by force. The children are from Rangamati district of Chittagong Hill Tracts and belong to the indigenous Tripura community. Parents of eleven of these children took them back after signing a bond. Please visit following news of national Bangla dailies for details: < Kapaeng Foundation>

<[http://www.samakal.com.bd/details.php?news=17&action=main&menu\\_type=&option=single&news\\_id=318436&pub\\_no=1277&type=](http://www.samakal.com.bd/details.php?news=17&action=main&menu_type=&option=single&news_id=318436&pub_no=1277&type=)  
<http://www.prothom-alo.com/detail/date/2013-01-03/news/318350>>



## Bangladesh Goes Taliban

Charles Tannock; 2005-07-19

*Is Bangladesh headed into the black hole that consumed Afghanistan under the Taliban? Fears are mounting, as official and fundamentalist religious forces now seem to operate with impunity – and the apparent support of local police, the ruling Bangladeshi National Party, and local authorities.*

*For many years Bangladesh was an exception in the Islamic world, pursuing an independent course in a peaceful, secular, and democratic fashion. Traditionally, under Bengali Sufi mystical teachings, the majority Muslim population lived peacefully with other religions, and Bangladesh had a good record on education and civil rights for women. Until recently, Muslim fundamentalists were discredited, because militias such as “al-Badr” and “Razakar” had supported atrocities against civilians during the civil war of 1971. (For full story, please contact us).*

<http://www.project-syndicate.org/commentary/tannock3/English>

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## Bangladeshi Islamists are gaining ground

DW AKADEMIE 09.05.2013 <May 5, 2013>

Author Grahame Lucas/rom

<http://www.dw.de/bangladeshi-islamists-are-gaining-ground/a-16798966>



The Bangladeshi Islamist group Hefajat-e-Islam has demanded stricter blasphemy laws and the segregation of sexes in public. It is bringing followers onto the streets to push the agenda of a more Islamic Bangladesh.

## Another Afghanistan in making?

The Hefajat followers have 'fundamentalist demands' that seem to run contrary to the constitution. Such demands are, of course, not compatible with the liberal constitution of Bangladesh. The director of the Islam Foundation in Dhaka, Shamim Mohammed Afjal, rejects the demands of the

group. "Out of these 13 demands, some are Islamic, but their interpretation is flawed. Furthermore, Islam does not support violence."

Sufia Akhtar, a spokesperson for the women's organization Mahila Parishad and a women's rights activist, told the media that the Bangladeshi women would not permit the Islamists to "Talibanize" Bangladesh. "Why should we allow Bangladesh to become another Afghanistan?" said Akhtar.

### **The fear is understandable.**

Maulana Habibur Rahmen, one of the Hefajat leaders, runs a madrassa in Sylhet. He boasts of his role in the 1980s Afghan war and his support to the former al Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. His beliefs have earned him respect from the Hefajat followers, especially from students and teachers of the madrassas. Hefajat was first noticed in 2010 as one of the new Islamist organizations which opposed Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's secular policies. In 2011, Hefajat took to the streets to protest against the gender equality policies of the government.

### **'Supporting the opposition'**

Observers believe that the reason Hefajat has gained so much popularity is because another Islamist party, Jamaat-e-Islami, has been literally paralyzed by the verdicts of the war crimes tribunal, and is now putting its weight behind Hefajat. Some of the Jamaat leaders are either charged by the tribunal for their role during Bangladesh's war of independence from Pakistan in 1971. Others have disappeared. The Jamaat leaders are accused of genocide and rape during the war of independence. The Pakistan-backed militias are said to have raped more than 200,000 women during the war. In January, the tribunal ordered its first death sentences.



The Islamists have staged a number of rallies in Dhaka, as have their opponents Bangladesh's biggest opposition party, the Bangladesh National Party (BNP), is supporting protests against the government. The BNP, led by Former Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, views the war crimes trial as a process initiated by the government. It is apparently interested in using the Islamists' protests to gain political advantage because Prime Minister Hasina has refused to stop the war crimes trial before the scheduled parliamentary elections and is also not prepared to put in place an interim government similar to one set up in 2007. Last Sunday, the Islamists brought Dhaka to a standstill. It is estimated that up to 200,000 protesters blocked the main roads of the capital and shouted "death to all atheists." More than 150 people have officially died since protests began in January. (For full story please contact us).

# The other Bangladesh, Ziauddin Choudhury *The Daily Star*

Photo: AFP



SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2013 <http://www.thedailystar.net/beta2/news/the-other-bangladesh/>

SATURDAY, MAY 11, 2013: In a short span of four weeks Dhaka was besieged twice by a hitherto less known organisation of seminaries that provide religious education on a syllabus dating back over a hundred years. These religious institutions known as Qawmi madrassas that were inspired and modeled after the iconic Deobond Madrassa in UP, India, had traditionally catered to the spiritual needs of Muslims in Bangladesh. The graduates of these institutions ordinarily performed as imams in mosques, provided religious services to village and urban societies, and some rose to fame as religious scholars with their oratory and religious knowledge. Very few indulged in politics, at least not directly. Those who did usually joined one or the other existing political parties of the country.

For detail: <http://www.thedailystar.net/beta2/news/the-other-bangladesh/>.

## Govt must accept 13 points if wants to stay in office: Hefajat chief



THE BANGLADESH  
CHRONICLE

Sunday, April 07, 2013

### The 13 points of the Islamist group:

1. Restore the phrase 'Complete faith and trust in the Almighty Allah' in the constitution and repeal all the laws contrary to the holy Quran and Sunnah.
2. Pass a law in parliament keeping a provision of the maximum punishment of death sentence to prevent defaming Allah, Prophet Mohammad (pbuh) and Islam and smear campaigns against Muslims.
3. Take measures for stringent punishment against self-declared atheists and bloggers, led the so-called Shahbagh movement, and anti-Islamists who made derogatory remarks against the Prophet.
4. Stop infiltration of all alien-culture, including shamelessness in the name of individual's freedom of expression, ant-social activities, adultery, free mixing of male and female and candle lighting.

5. *Make Islamic education mandatory from primary to higher secondary levels canceling the anti-Islamic women policy and anti-religion education policy.*
6. Officially declare Qadianis (Ahmadiyyas) as non-Muslim and stop their propaganda and all conspiratorial ill-moves.
7. *Stop setting up sculptures at intersections, schools, colleges and universities across the country.*
8. Lift restriction on saying payers in all mosques across the country, including Baitul Mukarram National Mosque, without any hassle and remove obstacles to carrying out religious activities.
9. Stop evil efforts to spread hatred in the mind of young generation regarding Islam through the misrepresentation of religious dresses and cultures in the media.
10. *Stop anti-Islam activities by NGOs across the country, including in the Chittagong Hill Tracts, and evil attempts of Christian missionaries for conversion.*
11. Stop attacks, mass killing, oppression and indiscriminate shooting on Alem-Ulama, devout followers of the Prophet and towhidi janata (revolutionary people).
12. Stop threatening teachers and students of Qawmi madrasas, Islamic scholars, imams and khatibs and conspiracies against them.
13. Free immediately all the arrested Islamic scholars, madrasa students and towhidi janata and withdraw all false cases filed against them, compensate the victims and bring the assailants to justice. Source: UNBConnect

## Banglasthan!

*The Daily Star*

Thursday, March 07, 2013,

<http://www.thedailystar.net/beta2/news/banglasthan/>

Staff Correspondent: “In this subcontinent, if we [Bangladesh] and Pakistan unite, we won’t have to care about Malaun [Hindu], atheist and Nasara [Christian],” says a Facebook post of Basher Kella posted on Sunday. “We will name this Islamic country as Islamic Republic of Banglasthan or join with Pakistan where only Muslims will live,” it adds. The administration of Basher Kella, which is run by Jamaat-Shibir activists, also asks the followers of the page to hit the like button should they like the idea.

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**END**