

# A Study on Human Rights Situation in Bangladesh

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## Abstract:

*Human rights in Bangladesh are enshrined as fundamental rights in Part III of the Constitution of Bangladesh. However, constitutional and legal experts believe many of the country's laws require rearrangement to enforce fundamental rights and reflect democratic values of the 21st century. Proposed reforms include strengthening parliamentary supremacy, judicial independence and the separation of powers, repealing laws which restrain freedom of press and disbanding security agencies which violate civil liberties. Even though Bangladesh has Islam as its state religion and has constitutional references to Hindus, Christians and Buddhists; the political system is modeled as a secular democracy. Governments have generally respected freedom of religion, a cornerstone of the Bangladeshi constitution. However, police are very slow in responding to and investigating attacks against minorities, opposition activists & Supporter in fact Police brutally suppress any rightful protest against the Government, According to Human Right watch around five hundred people have disappeared since the last ten years. In southeastern Bangladesh, the Chittagong Hill Tracts remains a militarized region due to a historical insurgency. Tribal people in Bangladesh have demanded constitutional recognition.*

**Keywords:** Human Rights, rule of law, access to justice, women and children's rights, bonded labour, violation of human rights.

## Definition of key terms:

According to Bangladesh National Human Rights Commission Act 2009 Article 2(f) Human Rights Means:-The right to life, right to liberty, right to equality, and right to dignity of a person guaranteed by the constitution of the People's Republic of Bangladesh and such other human rights that are declared in different international human rights instruments ratified by the People's Republic of Bangladesh and are enforceable by the existing courts of Bangladesh.

**Biological Theory:** The biological theory considers the comparative reproductive advantage of human social behavior based on empathy and altruism in the context of natural selection. Other theories hold that human rights codify moral behavior, which is a human, social product developed by a process of biological and social evolution or as a sociological pattern of rule setting. This approach includes the notion that individuals in a society accept rules from legitimate authority in exchange for security and economic advantage.

Simply, 'Human rights' are those rights which a human being acquired by birth. More specifically, human Rights are inalienable fundamental rights to which a person is inherently entitled simply because she or he is a human being. Human rights are thus characterized as universal (applicable everywhere) and egalitarian (the same for everyone). Human Rights represent minimal moral standards for human society as without these minimal standards, dignity of human beings cannot sustain.

## Rationale of the study:

Bangladesh's constitution provides for a parliamentary form of government, but in fact, most power resides in the Office of the Prime Minister. Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Awami League party won a third consecutive five-year term in an improbably lopsided December parliamentary election that was not considered free and fair, and was marred by reported irregularities, including ballot-box stuffing and intimidation of opposition polling agents and voters. During the campaign leading up to the election, there were credible reports of harassment, intimidation, arbitrary arrests, and violence that made it difficult for many opposition candidates and their supporters to meet, hold rallies, and campaign freely. International election monitors were not issued accreditation and visas within the timeframe necessary to conduct a credible international monitoring mission, and only seven of the 22 Election Working Group NGOs were approved to conduct domestic election observation. Civilian authorities maintained effective control over the security forces.

Human rights are rights for human being only ,No contrived person can claim this rights .Human being acquires these rights by birth Human rights issues included unlawful or arbitrary killings; forced disappearance; torture; arbitrary or unlawful detentions by the government or on its behalf; harsh and life-threatening prison conditions; political prisoners; arbitrary or unlawful interference with privacy; censorship, site blocking, and criminal libel; substantial interference with the rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of association, such as overly restrictive nongovernmental organizations (NGO) laws and restrictions on the activities of NGOs; significant restrictions on freedom of movement; restrictions on political participation, where elections have not been found to be genuine, free, or fair; corruption; trafficking in persons; violence against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI)

persons and criminalization of same-sex sexual activity; restrictions on independent trade unions, workers' rights, and use of the worst forms of child labor. There were reports of widespread impunity for security force abuses. The government took few measures to investigate and prosecute cases of abuse and killing by security forces.

### **Methodology of the study:**

#### **Objective of the study:**

1. To find out the present situation of human rights in Bangladesh .
2. To know the reason for violation of human rights day by day.
3. To provide suggestions to increase the situation of human rights in Bangladesh.

#### **Hypothesis of the study:**

1. Where there is violation of human rights there is violation of rule of law.

### **Methods and Materials:**

Primary data are collected from various organizations and persons who are related with crime and punishment. Secondary data are collected from notable authorities On law, different journals, daily newspapers, various books, internet etc.

**Sampling Method:** Purposive sampling method will be used for data collection.

**Sample Size:** Total 300 (Three hundred) respondents will be interviewed for data collection.

**Sources of data:** Data will be collected from primary and secondary sources.

**Sources of primary data:** Primary data will be collected from the respondents of the study area.

**Sources of secondary data:** Secondary data will be collected from books, journals, research, reports, newspapers, internet etc.  
etc.

**Tools of data collection:** Questionnaire will be used for data collection.

**Method of data collection:** Data will be collected through face to face interview with questionnaire and also Primary and secondary sources.

**Data analysis:** Data will be analyzed by using computer software, Microsoft excel & SPSS Standard Programming for statistical survey.

**Respondent and their details information:**

**Category Quantity Address Qualification Job title:**

Site: Dhaka , Barisal , Khulna , comilla Division

Category	Quantity	Site Address	Qualification	Job title
Civil Society	100	Dhaka,Barisal.Khulna,comilla	SSC and above	Civil Society
Advocate .Doctor, Eng.	100	Dhaka,Barisal.Khulna,comilla	SSC and above	Civil Society
Police Person ,and lawmaker	50	Dhaka,Barisal.Khulna,kumillaDha	SSC and above	Civil Society
Teacher ,and NGO worker	50	Dhaka,Barisal.Khulna,comilla	SSC and above	Civil Society
Total	300			

#### **Limitation of the Study:**

The researcher has identified the following major limitations of this study:

- i. The number of respondents is not so large.
- ii. Only from four divisions the sample has been taken in Bangladesh .
- iii. Some respondents have a natural fear of involving themselves with such study. So many real things may not come out.it can be more studied.

**Review of the Related Literature:**

In preparing my paper I have collected many articles and journals from different newspapers. From Daily Star, Bangladesh Observer, New Age and Financial Express, Daily Prothom Alo, I have collected so much valuable information. I have derived much important information from websites also. I have read the Penal Code and the code of criminal procedure of Bangladesh and I have also read the special Laws of our country but I have not found any important information there. That is why for preparing my paper, I have to depend on the internet. I have gone through so many websites and I also have collected much important information from these sites. Specially I want to mention the United Nations and European Union and Amnesty International ,Odhiker ,Human rights watch's reports .I also go through these organizations website and take many information. I also search the National Human Rights Commission's website and take many data .I also read Human Rights Law, International Humanitarian Law .Labour law of Bangladesh and also so many article .

**There will be 5 questionnaires by which the survey is completed****Sample questionnaire:**

1. How many people are knowledgeable about their rights in Bangladesh ?
2. What do you think about the present situation of human rights in Bangladesh ?
3. What is the reason for violation of human rights in Bangladesh
4. Do you agree where there is violation of human rights there is no Rule of Law?
5. Do you agree the violation of human rights is increasing day by day?

**There will be 5 grapes in result discussion:****Introduction:**

Human rights are based on the principle of respect for the individual. Their fundamental assumption is that each person is a moral and judicious being who deserves to be treated with dignity. They are called whereas nations or specialized groups enjoy specific rights that apply only to them, human rights because they are universal. Rights apply to everyone. The full scope of human rights is very broad. They mean choice and opportunity. They mean the freedom to obtain a job, adopt a career, select a partner of one's choice and raise children. They include the right to travel widely and the right to work gainfully without harassment, abuse and threat of arbitrary dismissal. They even embrace the right to leisure. Ultimately, human rights are the basis of everything people care for about their way of life. Long before the term "human rights" came into existence, men and women struggled, fought and died for these uprightness. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is the world's premier human rights instrument. Its opening Article is a powerful affirmation of the principles that lie at the heart of the modern human rights system: "Recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the base of freedom, justice and peace in the world."

Figure-1: Symbole of Human Rights



Source: BBS

figure-2 symbole of Present Situation of Human rights In Bangladesh :



Source BBS

## 1. Arbitrary Destitution of Life and Other Unlawful or Politically Motivated Killings:

The constitution provides for the rights to life and personal liberty. There were countless reports, however, that the government or its agents committed arbitrary or unlawful killings.

Law enforcement raids occurred throughout the year, primarily to counter terrorist activity. Distrustful deaths occurred during some raids, arrests, and other law enforcement operations. Security forces frequently accounted for such deaths by claiming when they took a suspect in custody to a crime scene to recover weapons or identify co conspirators, the suspect was killed during an exchange of gunfire when accomplices

at the location shot at police. The government usually described these deaths as “crossfire killings,” “gunfights,” or “encounter killings,” terms used to characterize exchanges of gunfire between the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) or other police units and criminal gangs. The media also sometimes used these terms to describe lawful uses of police force. Human rights organizations and media outlets claimed many of these crossfire incidents actually constituted extrajudicial killings. In some cases human rights organizations claimed law enforcement units detained, interrogated, and tortured suspects, brought them back to the scene of the original arrest, executed them, and ascribed the death to lawful self-defense in response to violent attacks. A domestic human rights organization, Human Rights Support Society (HRSS), reported security forces killed more than 400 individuals in crossfire incidents from January through September. Another domestic human rights organization, Odhikar, reported security forces killed 415 individuals in crossfire incidents from January through October 2018.

## 2. **Disappearance:**

Human rights groups and media reported disappearances and kidnappings continued, committed mostly by defense services. The government made limited efforts to prevent or investigate such acts. Following alleged disappearances, security forces released some individuals without charge, arrested others, found some dead, and never found others. HRSS stated there were 58 enforced disappearances from January 2017 through September. Odhikar stated there were 83 enforced disappearances from January through November 2017.

High-ranking government officials repeatedly denied incidents of enforced disappearance and claimed victims were hiding of their own accord. A 2017 judicial inquiry concluded enforced disappearances occurred and ordered the Police Bureau of Investigation to take actions regarding disappeared persons. Local law enforcement maintains they continued investigating these disappearances throughout the year.

## 3. **Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman, or Degrading Treatment or Punishment :**

Although the constitution and law prohibit torture and other cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment, local and international human rights organizations and the media reported security forces, including the intelligence services and police, employed torture and cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. Security forces reportedly used torture to gather information from alleged militants and members of political opposition parties. Security forces reportedly used threats, beatings, kneecappings, and electric shock, and sometimes committed rapes and other sexual abuses. Odhikar reported five deaths from torture during the first 10 months of the year 2018.

The law contains provisions allowing a magistrate to place a suspect in interrogative custody, known as remand, during which questioning of the suspect can take place without a lawyer present. Human rights organizations alleged that many instances of torture occurred during remand.

According to the United Nations, three allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse against Bangladeshi peacekeepers reported from 2015-17 remained pending. The cases alleged both sexual exploitation (exploitative relationship, transactional sex) and abuse (sexual assault against minors) involving peacekeepers deployed in the UN Stabilization Mission in Haiti and the UN Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Two allegations have been substantiated according to UN investigations. The peacekeepers in question were repatriated by the United Nations. The investigations by Bangladesh authorities were pending at the end of the year.

## 4. **Prison and Detention Center Conditions :**

Prison conditions remained harsh and at times life threatening due to overcrowding, inadequate facilities, and a lack of proper sanitation. There are currently no private detention facilities. ASK claimed these conditions contributed to custodial deaths, which it claimed totaled 74 from January through December - 2018.

**Physical Conditions:** According to the Department of Prisons, in November -18 more than 95,000 prisoners occupied a system designed to hold approximately 37,000 inmates. Authorities often incarcerated pretrial detainees with convicted prisoners.

According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, as of October-2018, Bangladesh prisons held more than 90,000 prisoners compared to an official capacity of roughly 36,000; prisoners slept in shifts and did not have adequate toilet facilities. In 2016 human rights organizations and the media stated some prisoners did not receive medical care or water, although prison authorities maintained each prisoner had access to water. Water available in prisons was comparable with water available in the rest of the country, which was frequently not potable.

Conditions in prisons, and often within the same prison complex, varied widely. Authorities lodged some prisoners in areas subject to high temperatures, poor ventilation, and overcrowding. The law allows individuals whom prison officials designated as “VIPs” to access “Division A” prison facilities with improved living and food, more frequent family visitation rights, and the provision of another prisoner without VIP status to serve as an aide in the cell.

Authorities routinely held female prisoners separately from men. Although the law prohibits women in “safe custody” (usually victims of rape, trafficking, and domestic violence) from being housed with criminals, officials did not always provide separate facilities. Authorities must issue permission for these women to leave this “safe custody.” Although Dhaka’s central jail had facilities for those with mental disabilities, not all detention facilities had such facilities, nor are they required to by law. Judges may reduce punishments for persons with disabilities on humanitarian grounds. Jailors also may make special arrangements, for example, by transferring inmates with disabilities to a prison hospital.

**Administration:** Prisons had no ombudsmen to whom prisoners could submit complaints. Prison authorities indicated they were constrained by significant staff shortages. The scope for retraining and rehabilitation programs was extremely limited.

**Independent Monitoring:** The government permitted visits from governmental inspectors and nongovernmental observers who were aligned with the incumbent party. No reports on these inspections were released.

### 5. Arbitrary Arrest or Detention :

The constitution prohibits arbitrary arrest and detention, but the Special Powers Act of 1974 permits authorities to arrest and detain an individual without an order from a magistrate or a warrant if authorities perceive the individual may constitute a threat to security and public order. The act was widely cited by law enforcement in justifying their arrests. The constitution provides for the right of any person to challenge the lawfulness of his or her arrest or detention in court, but the government did not generally observe these requirements. Media, civil society, and human rights organizations accused the government of conducting enforced disappearances not only against suspected militants but also against civil society and opposition party members. Authorities sometimes held detainees without divulging their whereabouts or circumstances to family or legal counsel, or without acknowledging having arrested them.

### 6. Violation of Human Rights by Law and enforcing Agencies:

Figure-3 Violation of Human Rights by Law and enforcing Agencies:



Source:BBS

According to police policy, all significant uses of force by police, including actions that resulted in serious physical injury or death, triggered an automatic internal investigation, usually by a professional standards unit that reports directly to the Inspector General of Police. The government neither released statistics on total killings by security personnel nor took comprehensive measures to investigate cases. Human rights groups expressed skepticism The Bangladesh Police, which falls under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Home Affairs, has a mandate to maintain internal security and law and order. Numerous units of the Bangladesh Police operate under competing mandates. The most significant among such units are the Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime Unit (CTTCU), the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB)--a mostly counter terrorism focused Special Mission Unit--and the Detective Branch (DB). The military, which reports directly to the prime minister (who also holds the title of minister of defense), is responsible for external security. The military may also be "activated" as a backup force with a variety of domestic security responsibilities when required to aid civilian authorities. This includes responding to instances of terrorism.

The government continued support of the Internal Enquiry Cell that investigates cases of human rights abuses within the RAB, which did not widely publish its findings and did not otherwise announce significant actions against officers accused of human rights abuses.

## 7. Violation of human rights in arrest and Detention:

The constitution requires arrests and detentions be authorized by a warrant or occur as a result of observation of a crime in progress, but the Special Powers Act of 1974 grants broad exceptions to these protections. Under the constitution detainees must be brought before a judicial officer to face charges within 24 hours, but this provision was not regularly enforced. The government or a district magistrate may order a person detained for 30 days to prevent the commission of an act that could threaten national security; however, authorities sometimes held detainees for longer periods with impunity.

**Arbitrary Arrest:** Arbitrary arrests occurred, often in conjunction with political demonstrations or as part of security force responses to terrorist activity, and the government held persons in detention without specific charges, sometimes in an attempt to collect information about other suspects. The expansiveness of the 1974 Special Powers Act grants a legal justification to arrests that would often otherwise be considered arbitrary, since it removes the requirement that arrests be based on crimes that have previously occurred. This year experienced a significant increase in arrests of opposition party activists. According to figures provided to the *Dhaka Tribune* by the BNP, 434,975 criminal charges in 4,429 cases were lodged against BNP members from September 1 through November 14. Law enforcement also arrested at least 100 students, most of whom participated peacefully in the quota reform and road safety protest movements. On September 5-2018, DB officers in Dhaka arrested numerous students from their student residences late at night, allegedly for their roles in the road safety protests in July and August. While authorities later released some of the students, 12 of the students were kept in custody for days before being brought before a judge. Human rights activists criticized the DB for its initial denial of the arrests and failure to produce them before the court within 24 hours of arrest, as mandated by the law. Some of the students released by DB alleged physical abuse during their informal detention.

**Pretrial Detention:** Arbitrary and lengthy pretrial detention continued due to bureaucratic inefficiencies, limited resources, lax enforcement of pretrial rules, and corruption. In some cases the length of pretrial detention equaled or exceeded the sentence for the alleged crime. In July, Hasnat Karim, a UK citizen detained without charges and denied bail for more than two years as part of the investigation into the 2016 Holey Bakery Attack that killed more than 20 persons, was released. Law enforcement authorities decided not to charge Karim, due to a lack of evidence against him.

**Detainee's Ability to Challenge Lawfulness of Detention before a Court:** Pursuant to the Special Powers Act, a magistrate must inform a detainee of grounds for detention within 15 days. Regulations require an advisory board, appointed by the government, to examine each case of detention that lasts longer than four months. Detainees have the right to appeal. Judicial vacancies hampered legal challenges to cases of

detention. In 2017 *The Daily Star* reported delays in the recruitment of judges were hampering judicial proceedings and leading to a substantial case backlog. The article noted approximately 400 lower court judgeships, including 50 district judgeships, remained vacant. On January 16, the Law, Justice, and Parliamentary Affairs Minister reported to parliament that 3,309,789 cases were pending with the court system on the last day of 2017.

## 8. Violation of human rights in Public Trial:

The law provides for an independent judiciary, but corruption and political interference compromised its independence. In 2014 parliament passed the 16th amendment, authorizing parliament to remove judges. In 2017 the Supreme Court ruled the amendment unconstitutional. The resulting public dispute with parliament and the prime minister resulted in the resignation and departure from the country of Chief Justice S. K. Sinha. In an interview with *BBC Bangla* broadcast on September 19, Sinha claimed he was placed under house arrest following judgment and forced by the intelligence service to leave the country. In his autobiography, released in August, Sinha claimed the prime minister, the president, and law minister pressured him to rule in favor of the government. A petition filed by the government seeking to review the decision remained pending with the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court. The government continued to pursue corruption charges against Sinha at year's end. Media observers and political commentators alleged the charges were politically motivated.

Human rights observers maintained magistrates, attorneys, and court officials demanded bribes from defendants in many cases, or they ruled based on influence by or loyalty to political patronage networks. Observers claimed judges who made decisions unfavorable to the government risked transfer to other jurisdictions. Officials reportedly discouraged lawyers from representing defendants in certain cases. Corruption and a substantial backlog of cases hindered the court system, and the granting of extended continuances effectively prevented many defendants from obtaining fair trials.

## 9. Violation of Human Rights in Trial Procedures :

The constitution provides for the right to a fair and public trial, but the judiciary did not always protect this right due to corruption, partisanship, and weak human resources. Defendants are presumed innocent, have the right to appeal, and have the right to be informed promptly and in detail of the charges against them. The accused are entitled to be present at their public trial. Indigent defendants have the right to a public defender. Trials are conducted in the Bengali language. The government does not provide free interpretation for defendants who cannot understand or speak Bengali. Defendants also have the right to adequate time to prepare a defense. Accused persons have the right to confront prosecution or plaintiff witnesses and present their own witnesses and evidence. They also have the right not to be compelled to testify or confess guilt although defendants who do not confess their guilt are often kept in custody. The government frequently did not respect these rights.

Mobile courts headed by executive branch magistrates rendered immediate verdicts that often included prison terms to defendants who were not afforded the opportunity for legal representation. Deputy Commissioners from various districts requested the government expedite the passage of an amendment to the Mobile Court Act of 2009 giving executive magistrate's increased judicial powers. Parliament had not introduced such legislation by year's end. In 2017 the High Court ruled that empowering executive magistrates with judicial powers was "a frontal attack on the independence of the judiciary and violates the theory of separation of powers." The government appealed the verdict through the Appellate Panel of the Supreme Court, which stayed the verdict, allowing the mobile courts to function pending the Appellate Panel's next decision.

## 10. Human Rights violated in Political Prisoners and Detainees :

There were reports of political prisoners or detainees. Political affiliation often appeared to be a factor in claims of arrest and prosecution of members of opposition parties, including through spurious charges under the pretext of responding to national security threats. The opposition BNP maintained thousands of its members were arrested arbitrarily throughout the year. guilt although defendants who do not confess their guilt are often kept in custody. The government frequently did not respect these rights. Mobile courts



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## 11. Violation of Human Rights in Property Restitution:

The government did not implement the 2001 Vested Property (Return) Act to accelerate the process of return of land to primarily Hindu individuals (see section 2.d.). The act allows the government to confiscate property of anyone whom it declares to be an enemy of the state. It was often used to seize property abandoned by minority religious groups when they fled the country, particularly after the 1971 independence war. Minority communities continued to report land ownership disputes that disproportionately displaced minorities, especially in areas near new roads or industrial development zones where land prices had increased. They also claimed local police, civil authorities, and political leaders were sometimes involved in evictions or shielded politically influential land grabbers from prosecution (see section 6). In 2016 the government amended the Chittagong Hill Tracts (CHT) Land Dispute Resolution Commission Act which may allow for land restitution for indigenous persons living in the CHT. The amendment has not yet provided resolution to any of the disputes (see section 2.d.).

## 12. Violating Human Rights by Unlawful Interference with Privacy, Family, Home, or Correspondence:

The law does not prohibit arbitrary interference with private correspondence. Intelligence and law enforcement agencies may monitor private communications with the permission of the Ministry of Home Affairs, but police rarely obtain such permission from the courts to monitor private correspondence. Human rights organizations alleged the Bangladesh Police, the NSI, and the DGFI employed informers to conduct surveillance and report on citizens perceived to be critical of the government. The government became increasingly active in monitoring social media sites and other electronic communications in an effort to intimidate the public. The government formed a monitoring cell to "detect rumors" on social media.

## 13. Violation the Right of Freedom of Expression, Including the Press :

The constitution provides for freedom of speech, including for the press, but the government sometimes failed to respect this right. There were significant limitations on freedom of speech some journalists self-censored their criticisms of the government due to harassment and fear of reprisal.

**Freedom of Expression:** The constitution equates criticism of the constitution with sedition. Punishment for sedition ranges from three years' to life imprisonment.

The law limits hate speech but does not define clearly what constitutes hate speech, which permits the government broad powers of interpretation. The government may restrict speech deemed to be against the security of the state; against friendly relations with foreign states; and against public order, decency, or morality; or that constitutes contempt of court, defamation, or incitement to an offense. The Foreign Donation Act criminalizes any criticism of constitutional bodies. The 2006 Information and Communication Technology Act (ICTA) references defamation of individuals and organizations and was used to prosecute opposition figures and civil society.

**Press and Media Freedom:** Both print and online independent media were active and expressed a wide variety of views; however, media outlets that criticized the government experienced negative government pressure.

The government maintained editorial control over the Bangladesh public television station and mandated private channels broadcast government content at no charge. Civil society said political interference

influenced the licensing process, since all television channel licenses granted by the government were for stations supporting the ruling party.

**Violence and Harassment:** Authorities, including intelligence services on some occasions, and student affiliates of the ruling party, subjected journalists to physical attack, harassment, and intimidation, especially during the August student road safety protests.

A top Dhaka Metropolitan Police official reported the government gathered details on approximately 100 social media accounts, which they claimed incited violence during student traffic safety protests by spreading provocative content. It was difficult to obtain reliable counts on the total number of those arrested, detained, released, or disappeared in conjunction with either the April through May quota protests or the August student traffic safety protests. Reports varied in the media. Families of the detained held press conferences to encourage the government to acknowledge their family members were being held in custody.

**Censorship or Content Restrictions:** Independent journalists alleged intelligence services influenced media outlets in part by withholding financially important government advertising and pressuring private companies to withhold their advertising as well. RSF alleged media self-censorship is growing due to “endemic violence” against journalists and media outlets, and the “almost systematic impunity enjoyed by those responsible.” Privately owned newspapers, however, usually enjoyed freedom to carry diverse views. Political polarization and self-censorship remained a problem.

In September parliament passed the Digital Security Act (DSA), claiming it was intended to reduce cybercrimes. Human rights groups, journalists, media outlets, and political opposition parties denounced the DSA as intended to suppress freedom and criminalize free speech. The DSA provides for sentences of up to 10 years imprisonment for spreading “propaganda” against the Bangladesh Liberation War, the national anthem, or the national flag. Human rights organizations criticized the DSA as restricting freedom of expression. According to some journalists and human rights NGOs, journalists engaged in self censorship, due to fear of security force retribution and the possibility of being charged with politically motivated cases. Although public criticism of the government was common and vocal, some media figures expressed fear of harassment by the government.

Some international media outlets reported delays and difficulties in obtaining visas. A government-managed film censorship board reviewed local and foreign films and had the authority to censor or ban films on the grounds of state security, law and order, religious sentiment, obscenity, foreign relations, defamation, or plagiarism, but it was less strict than in the past.

## 14. Violation of rights in Internet Freedom:

In several incidents the government interfered in internet communications, filtered or blocked access, restricted content, and censored websites or other communications and internet services. It suspended or closed many websites based on vague criteria, or with explicit reference to their pro-opposition content being in violation of legal requirements. The Bangladesh Telecommunication Regulatory Commission (BTRC) is charged with the regulation of telecommunications. It carries out law enforcement and government requests to block content by ordering internet service providers to take action. The BTRC filtered internet content the government deemed harmful to national unity and religious beliefs. In 2016 the BTRC carried out a directive to block 35 news websites that had published material critical of the government and political leaders who were perceived to feature overt support for political opposition groups. Many of the sites remained blocked.

On June 18, the bdnews24 website was blocked for several hours by the BTRC without an official explanation. According to independent journalists, a report written by the media outlet contained a paragraph about the offer of presidential clemency and release from prison of the brother of the recently appointed army chief. The paragraph was removed and the newspaper portal later unblocked. The BTRC blocked the *Daily Star*'s website on June 2, following a June 1 article reporting on extrajudicial killing in Cox's Bazar. On December 9, the BTRC also blocked 58 various news portals' websites affiliated with political opposition parties (see section 1.a.).

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) reported in 2017 that approximately 18 percent of the population uses the internet. The BTRC reported approximately 90 million internet subscriptions in September, including an estimated 85 million mobile internet subscriptions (one individual may have more than one subscription).

## **15. Violation of Human Rights in Freedom of Peaceful Assembly :**

The law provided for the right to peaceful assembly, but the government limited this right. The law gives the government broad discretion to ban assemblies of more than four persons. A Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) order requires advance permission for gatherings such as protests and demonstrations in Dhaka. According to human rights NGOs, authorities continued to use approval provisions to disallow gatherings by opposition groups. Occasionally, police or ruling party activists used force to disperse demonstrations.

## **16. Freedom of Association :**

The law provides for the right of citizens to form associations, subject to “reasonable restrictions” in the interest of morality or public order, and the government generally respected this right. The government’s NGO Affairs Bureau sometimes withheld its approval for foreign funding to NGOs working in areas the bureau deemed sensitive, such as human rights, labor rights, indigenous rights, or humanitarian assistance to Rohingya refugees (see sections 2.d., 5., and 7.a.). The 2016 Foreign Donations (Voluntary Activities) Regulation Act places restrictions on the receipt of foreign funds by NGOs or government officials and provides for punishment of NGOs making any “derogatory” comments regarding the constitution or constitutional institutions (see section 5). The government announced in October 2017 a number of NGOs were no longer allowed to operate in Cox’s Bazar, including Muslim Aid Bangladesh, Islamic Relief, and Allama Fazlullah Foundation. The three organizations remain barred from operating in Cox’s Bazar during the year, according to media reports.

## **17. Violating Rights restricting Freedom of Movement :**

Government enforced some restrictions on access to the CHT by foreigners.

More than 700,000 individuals, mostly Rohingya women and children, have fled violence in Burma since August 2017, which the Secretary of State determined in November constituted a deliberate campaign of ethnic cleansing by the Burmese military. The total number of Rohingya refugees hosted in Bangladesh was approximately one million living in refugee camps and host communities in Cox’s Bazar near the Burmese border. The government restricts Rohingya refugees to the Ukhia and Teknaf subdistricts in Cox’s Bazar, although the government has allowed exceptions for medical treatment in Cox’s Bazar city. The law provides for freedom of internal movement, foreign travel, emigration, and repatriation, and the government generally respected these rights, except in two sensitive areas--the CHT and Cox’s Bazar.

## **18. Violation of Democratic Right: Elections and Political Participation:**

Recent Elections: Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina and her Awami League party won a third consecutive five-year term in an improbably lopsided December parliamentary election that was not considered free, fair, and credible and was marred by irregularities, including ballot-box stuffing and intimidation of opposition polling agents and voters. With more than 80 percent of the vote, the AL and its electoral allies won 288 of 300 directly elected seats, while the main opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) and its allies won only seven. During the campaign leading to the election, there were credible reports of harassment, intimidation, arbitrary arrests, and violence that made it difficult for many opposition candidates and their supporters to meet, hold rallies, and campaign freely. According to data assembled by the NGO Democracy International, there were 1,324 acts of violence against the opposition BNP and its political allies and 211 acts of violence against the ruling AL and its allies during the month prior to the election.

Political Parties and Political Participation: The government mobilized law enforcement resources to level civil and criminal charges against opposition party leaders. BNP leader Khaleda Zia was convicted and imprisoned on February 8 based on corruption charges filed under a nonpartisan caretaker government in 2008. She was unable to take advantage of bail awarded in this case pending appeal because of more than two dozen other charges filed against her in recent years by the government. Police implicated approximately 435,000 BNP members in criminal charges in the run-up to the national election and detained many of the accused. Human rights observers claimed many of these charges were politically motivated.

Participation of Women and Minorities: No laws limit participation of women or members of minorities in the political process, and they did participate. In July parliament amended the constitution to extend by 25 more years a provision that reserves 50 seats for women in parliament. These female parliamentarians are nominated by the 300 directly elected parliamentarians. The seats reserved for women are distributed among parties proportionately to their parliamentary representation.

## **19. Governmental Attitude Regarding International and Nongovernmental Investigation of Alleged Abuses of Human Rights :**

A number of domestic and international human rights groups generally operated with some government restrictions, investigating and publishing their findings on human rights cases. Government officials were rarely cooperative and responsive to their views. Although human rights groups often sharply criticized the government, they also practiced some self-censorship. Observers commented on the diminished strength of civil society, exacerbated by threats from extremists and an increasingly entrenched leading political party. Even civil society members affiliated with the ruling party reported receiving threats of arrest from the security forces for public criticism of government policies.

The government continued to restrict the funding and operations of the human rights organization Odhikar. Although the ACC dropped a case against Odhikar in 2016, Odhikar representatives continued to report harassment by government officials and security forces, including disruption of their planned events. On June 6, Special Branch (SB) officers entered Odhikar offices demanding information on the organization's activities. SB also requested the mobile phone numbers of the organization's officers. On June 25, SB officers entered Odhikar offices again demanding information on the organization's president. Family members and Odhikar staff reported additional harassment and claimed security officers constantly monitored their telephone calls, emails, and movements.

The United Nations or Other International Bodies: The government had not responded to a UN Working Group on Enforced Disappearances request to visit the country.

Government Human Rights Bodies: The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) has seven members, including five honorary positions. Observers noted the NHRC's small government support staff was inadequate and underfunded, limiting the commission's effectiveness and independence. The NHRC's primary activity was educating the public about human rights and advising the government on key human rights issues.

## **20. Discrimination, Societal Abuses, and Trafficking in Persons :**

### **a)Women :**

Rape and Domestic Violence: The law prohibits rape of a female by a male and physical spousal abuse, but the law excludes marital rape if the female is older than 13. Rape can be punished by life imprisonment or the death penalty.

According to human rights monitors, many victims did not report rapes due to lack of access to legal services, social stigma, fear of further harassment, and the legal requirement to furnish witnesses.

b)Other Harmful Traditional Practices: Some NGOs reported violence against women related to disputes over dowries. From January through September, HRSS documented 35 women killed and an additional 41 women injured as a result of dowry-related violence.

On March 6, Rima Begum died at Ujirpur Health Complex after sustaining injuries from dowry-related violence by her husband. Begum's brother, Arif, said during his sister's one and a half year marriage to her husband, Shipon Howlader, Begum was often subjected to violence by Howlader and his parents for

insufficient dowry. Begum's father, Akkel Ali, filed a case with the Ujirpur Police Station against Howlader and his parents for the death of his daughter.

On September 16, parliament, in an apparent bid to stop abuse of the 1980 Dowry Prohibition Act, adopted the Dowry Prohibition Act of 2018 incorporating new provisions and rearranging some of the provisions in the original law. The new law contains provisions that have imposed a maximum five years' imprisonment or a fine of 50,000 BDT (approximately \$590) or both for the filing of a false charge under the law. Anyone demanding dowry will be imprisoned for one to five years, or fined 50,000 BDT (approximately \$590), or will face both punishments, according to the new law.

A Supreme Court Appellate Division ruling allows the use of "fatwas" (religious edicts) only to settle religious matters; fatwas may not be invoked to justify punishment, nor may they supersede secular law. Islamic tradition dictates only those religious scholars with expertise in Islamic law may declare a fatwa. Despite these restrictions village religious leaders sometimes made such declarations. The declarations resulted in extrajudicial punishments, often against women, for perceived moral transgressions.

Incidents of vigilantism against women occurred, sometimes led by religious leaders enforcing fatwas. The incidents included whipping, beating, and other forms of physical violence.

Assailants threw acid in the faces of victims--usually women--leaving them disfigured and often blind. Acid attacks were often related to a woman's refusal to accept a marriage proposal or were related to land disputes. From January through September, HRSS documented 13 incidents of acid violence against women.

The law seeks to control the availability of acid and reduce acid-related violence directed toward women, but lack of awareness of the law and poor enforcement limited its effect. The Commerce Ministry restricted acid sales to buyers registered with relevant trade organizations.

On February 4, Sujan Chandra Paul and Arjun Chandra Paul, along with two other assailants, threw acid on the newlywed Jharna Rani, while she was riding on a motorcycle in Baliadangi Upazila with her husband, causing severe burns to her. The Paul family had proposed the marriage of their sister to Rani's husband, Dilip Kumar, who refused. Rani's father filed a case with the Baliadangi Police Station against the suspects for the attack on Rani. The charges against the assailants were pending at the end of the year.

**c)Discrimination:** The constitution declares all citizens equal before the law with entitlement to equal protection of the law. It also explicitly recognizes the equal rights of women to those of men "in all spheres of the state and of public life." According to human rights NGOs, the government did not always enforce the constitution or the laws pertaining to gender equality effectively. Women do not enjoy the same legal status and rights as men in family, property, and inheritance law. Under traditional Islamic inheritance law, daughters inherit only half of what sons do. Under Hindu inheritance law, a widow's rights to her deceased husband's property are limited to her lifetime and revert to the male heirs upon her death.

## 21.Children :

**Birth Registration:** Individuals are born citizens if their parents were Bangladeshi citizens, if the nationality of the parents is unknown and the child is born in Bangladeshi territory, or if their fathers or grandfathers were born in the territories now part of the country. If a person qualifies for citizenship through ancestry, the father or grandfather must have been a permanent resident of these territories in or after 1971. Birth registration is required to obtain a national identity card or passport.

**a)Education:** government offered subsidies to parents to keep girls in class through 10th grade. Despite free classes, teacher fees, books, and uniforms remained prohibitively costly for many families, and the government distributed hundreds of millions of free textbooks to increase access to education. Enrollments in primary schools showed gender parity, but completion rates fell in secondary school, with more boys than

girls completing that level. Early and forced marriage was a factor in girls' attrition from secondary school. Education is free and compulsory through fifth grade by law, and the

**b)Child Abuse:** Many forms of child abuse, including sexual abuse, physical and humiliating punishment, child abandonment, kidnapping, and trafficking, continued to be serious and widespread problems. Children were vulnerable to abuse in all settings: home, community, school, residential institutions, and the workplace. In 2016 the government, with support from UNICEF, launched "Child Helpline--1098," a free telephone service designed to help children facing violence, abuse, and exploitation.

On August 4, Supreme Court Chief Justice Syed Mahmud Hossain expressed frustration with 75 judges of 69 juvenile courts across the country for keeping more than 21,500 juvenile cases pending, including 614 cases pending for more than five years. The Children Act of 2013 calls for opening child friendly courts across the country.

Despite advances, including establishing a monitoring agency in the Ministry of Home Affairs, trafficking of children and inadequate care and protection for survivors of trafficking continued to be problems. Child labor and abuse at the workplace remained problems in certain industries, mostly in the informal sector, and child domestic workers were vulnerable to all forms of abuse at their informal workplaces.

**c)Early and Forced Marriage:** The legal age of marriage is 18 for women and 21 for men. In 2017 parliament passed the Child Marriage Restraint Act, which includes a provision for marriages of women and men at any age in "special circumstances." The government ignored the recommendations and concerns raised by child rights organizations, human rights organizations, and development partners concerning this act. In 2017 the High Court ruled that the government should explain why the provision allowing the marriage of a minor should not be declared illegal in response to a writ petition filed by BNWLA. BNWLA's petition argued the Muslim Family Law describes marriage as a "contract," and a minor could not be a party to a contract.

In June, Abhaynagar sub district officials stopped the underage marriage of 15-year-old Bonna Roy. Officials and police officers arrived at the fiance's family's home shortly before the ceremony after receiving an anonymous tip. The fiance fled the scene. The fiance's father was arrested and subsequently released on bail. Roy was returned to her parents.

## 22. Other Societal Violence or Discrimination:

Vigilante killings occurred. Local human rights organizations acknowledged the number of reported cases probably represented only a small fraction of the actual incidents. Illegal fatwas and village arbitration, which a prominent local NGO defined as rulings given by community leaders rather than religious scholars, also occurred. According to Odhikar 45 individuals suffered from vigilante killings from January through October, primarily by public lynching.

## 23. Violation of Worker Rights :

### a. Freedom of Association and the Right to Collective Bargaining agent:

The law provides for the right to join unions and, with government approval, the right to form a union, although labor rights organizations said that burdensome requirements for union registration remained. The law requires a minimum of 20 percent of an enterprise's total workforce to agree to be members before the Ministry of Labor and Employment may grant approval for registration of a union.

The ministry may request a court to dissolve the union if membership falls below 20 percent. Generally, the law allows only wall-to-wall (entire factory) bargaining units. The labor law definition of workers excludes managerial, supervisory, and administrative staff. Fire-fighting staff, security guards, and employers' confidential assistants are not entitled to join a union. Civil service and security force employees are prohibited from forming unions. The Department of Labor may deregister unions for other reasons with the

approval of a labor court. The law affords unions the right of appeal in the cases of dissolution or denial of registration. Export processing zones (EPZs), which do not allow trade union participation, are a notable exception to the national labor law.

### **b. Prohibition of Forced or Compulsory Labor :**

The law prohibits all forms of forced or compulsory labor. Penalties for forced or bonded labor offenses are five to 12 years' imprisonment and a fine of not less than 50,000 BDT (\$625). Inspection mechanisms that enforce laws against forced labor did not function effectively. Resources, inspections, and remediation efforts were inadequate. The law also provides that victims of forced labor have access to shelter and other protective services afforded to trafficking victims. Some individuals recruited to work overseas with fraudulent employment offers subsequently were exploited abroad under conditions of forced labor or debt bondage. Many migrant workers assumed debt to pay high recruitment fees, imposed legally by recruitment agencies belonging to the Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies and illegally by unlicensed subagents. Children and adults were also forced into domestic servitude and bonded labor that involved restricted movement, nonpayment of wages, threats, and physical or sexual abuse (see section 7.c.).

### **c. Prohibition of Child Labor and Minimum Age for Employment :**

The law regulates child employment, and the regulations depend on the type of work and the child's age. The minimum age for work is 14, and the minimum age for hazardous work is 18. The law allows for certain exceptions, permitting children who are ages 12 or 13 to perform restricted forms of light work. Minors may work up to five hours per day and 30 hours per week in factories and mines or up to seven hours per day and 42 per week in other types of workplaces. By law every child must attend school through fifth grade. The Labor Ministry's enforcement mechanisms were insufficient for the large, urban informal sector, and authorities rarely enforced child labor laws outside the export-garment and shrimp-processing sectors. Agriculture and other informal sectors that had no government oversight employed large numbers of children.

### **d. Acceptable Conditions of Work:**

The National Minimum Wage Board established minimum monthly wages on a sector-by-sector basis. The board may convene at any time, but it is supposed to meet at least every five years in a tripartite forum to set wage structures and benefits industry by industry. By law the government may modify or amend wage structures through official public announcement in consultation with employers and workers. In the garment industry, the board increased the minimum monthly wage from 5,300 BDT (\$66) which was set in 2013, to 8,000 BDT (approximately \$95). Ready-made garment industry workers conducted public protests after the announcement. They had requested a minimum wage of 16,000 BDT (approximately \$190). The increase took effect on December 1. Also dissatisfied were more senior workers, whose pay was not increased at the same rate as the minimum wage. That left some of them earning only marginally more than entry level workers.

**Data analysis and findings:****Age Group of the respondent :**

Figure: age group of the respondents

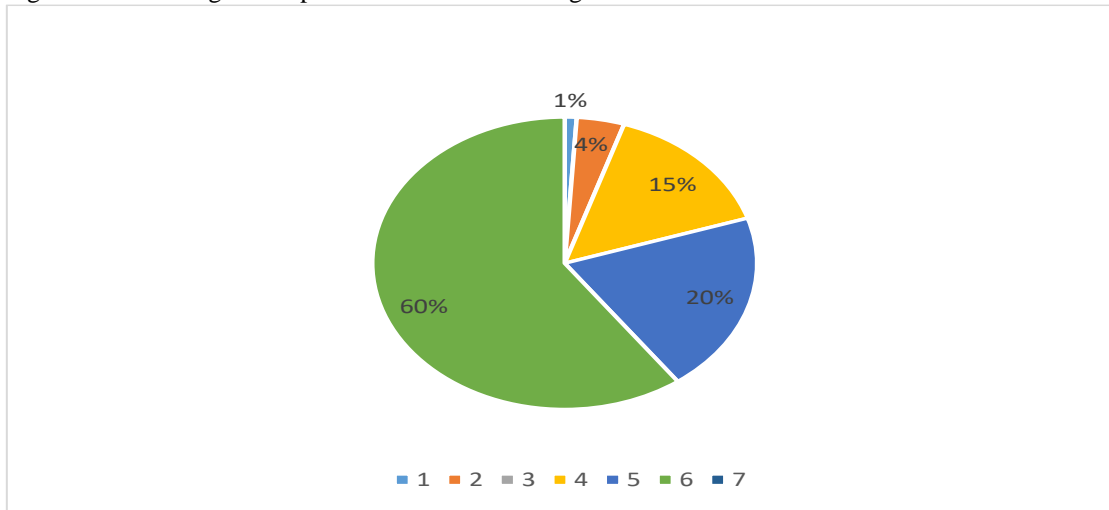
From the result it was found that Age group 41-50 years was 28% which was maximum, Age group 31-40 years was 24% which was second position, Age group 21-30 years was 18% which was third position, Age group 51-60 years was 17% which was fourth position and age group above 61 years was 13% which was the minimum.

Table -1

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
S.S.C Level people have knowledge about Human Rights	3	1%
H.S C Level people have knowledge about Human Rights	12	4%
Under Graduation Level people have knowledge about Human Rights	45	15%
Post Graduate people have knowledge about Human Rights	60	20%
Among these educated people who has no knowledge about Human Rights	180	60%
Total	300	100%



Figure-4: Knowledge of respondent about Human Rights



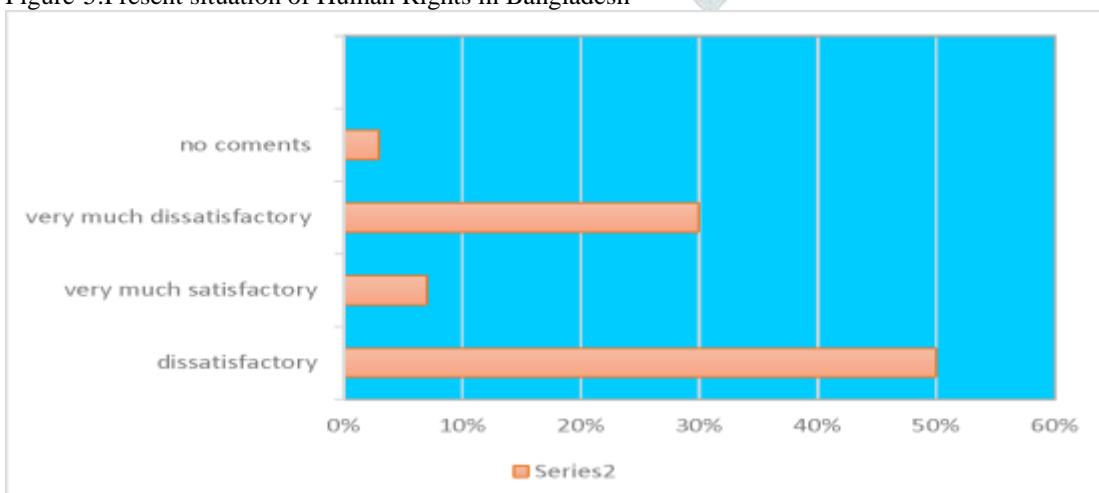
Source: survey

The Graph shows that From the result it was found found that **1% respondent on SSC Level has knowledge about human/fundamental rights in Bangladesh** and on HSC level 4%respondents **have knowledge or capacity to access about human/fundamental rights in Bangladesh** and **15%respondent on undergraduate level have knowledge or capacity to access about human/fundamental rights in Bangladesh** and 20% respondent who is completed post graduate **have knowledge or capacity to access about human/fundamental rights in Bangladesh** and it is matter of great sorrow among these Educated people from SSC -Post graduate and above 60% respondents have no knowledge **or capacity to access about human/fundamental rights in Bangladesh** .

Table-2

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Satisfactory	30	10%
dissatisfactory	150	50%
very much satisfactory	21	7%
very much dissatisfactory	90	30%
no comments	9	3%
Total	300	100%

Figure-5:Present situation of Human Rights in Bangladesh



Source:survey

From the result was found that 10% respondents are satisfy about the present situation of human rights condition of **Bangladesh** and among the respondents 50%respondents are Dissatisfied about the present situation of human rights condition of **Bangladesh and** 7%respondents are very much much dissatisfied about the present situation of human rights condition of **Bangladesh and** 30% respondents shows their attitude that they are very much dissatisfy about the present situation of human rights condition of **Bangladesh and** 3%of the respondents are not interested about the Human rights in Bangladesh.So it can present that maximum respondents 50%+30%=80% Respondents reply that the present condition of human rights of Bangladesh is Beyond description and very much critical.

Table: 3

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Satisfactory	30	10%
dissatisfactory	180	60%
very much satisfactory	21	7%
very much dissatisfactory	69	33%
Total	300	100%

Figure-6:Role of National Human Rights Commission



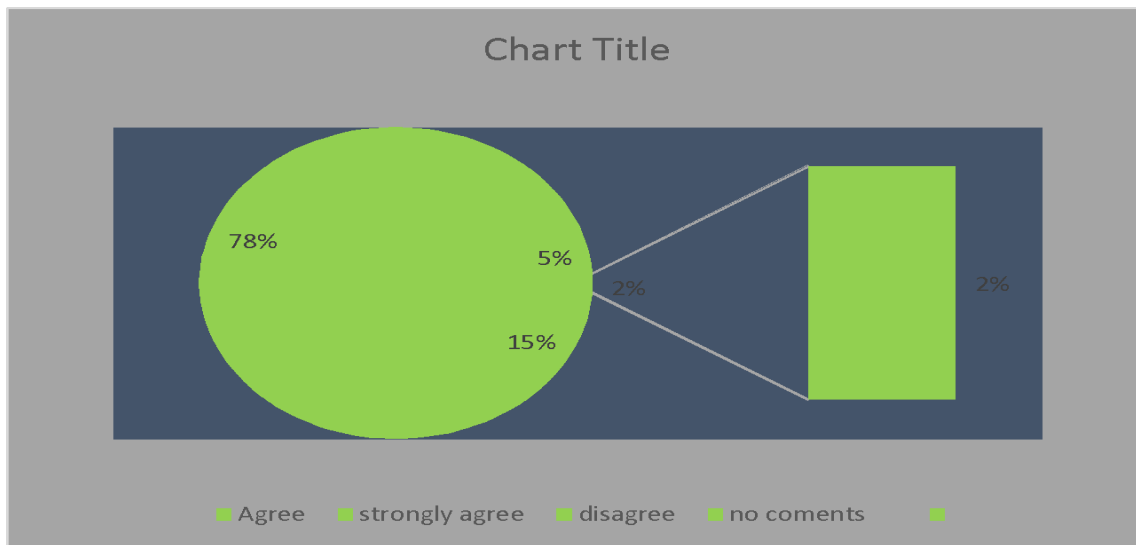
Source:survey

From the result was found that 10% respondents are satisfy about the role of National Human Rights Commission are sufficient for protecting the violation of human rights in Bangladesh and among the respondents 60%respondents are Dissatisfied about the role of National Human Rights Commission are sufficient for protecting the violation of human rights in Bangladesh **and** 7%respondents are very much dissatisfy about the role of National Human Rights Commission are sufficient for protecting the violation of human rights in Bangladesh **and** 33% respondents shows their attitude that they are very much dissatisfy about the role of National Human Rights Commission are sufficient for protecting the violation of human rights in Bangladesh .So it can present that maximum respondents 60%+33%=93% Respondents reply that the present condition of human rights of Bangladesh is Beyond description and very much dangerous.

Table:4

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
Agree	45	15%
strongly agree	234	78%
disagree	15	5%
no comments	6	2%
Total	300	100%

Figure-7: Where there is Violation of Human Rights there is no Rule of Law ?



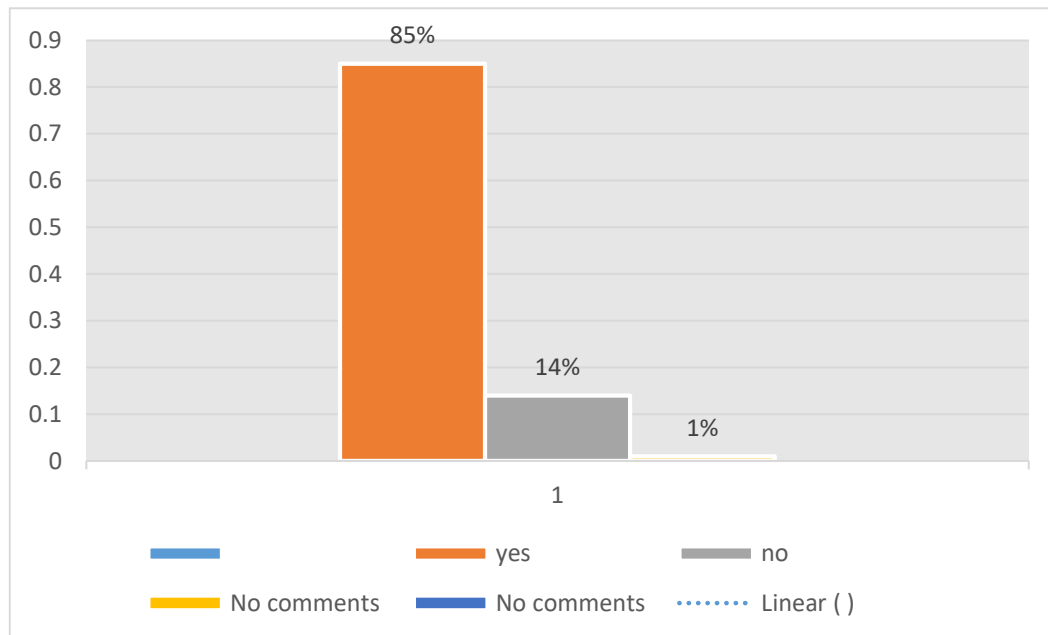
Source:survey

From the result was found that human rights there is no rule of law and then 78% respondents are strongly agree that where there is violation of human rights there is no rule of law and 5% respondents dis agree with the term that where there is violation of human rights and 2%respondents shows no comments about that term .So it can present that maximum respondents 15%+78%=93% Respondents reply that where there is violation of human rights there is no rule of law .So I can establish this theory through this survey without established human rights no one can think Rule of Law and Fare justice so through this research the hypothesis is established that where there is violation of human rights there is no Rule of Law .om the above result it was found that 15% respondents are agree that where there is violation of

Table :5

Variable	Frequency	Percentage (%)
yes	225	85%
no	42	14%
No comments	3	1%
Total	300	100%

Figure-8: Attitude of respondent about violations of human rights are being normalized



source :survey

From the result was found that 85% respondents present their attitude that violation of human rights are being normalized in Bangladesh but 14% respondents showed their negative attitude and 1% respondent are not interested to show their attitude so from this research it clear that the violation of human rights are normalized now a days in Bangladesh.

### **Result discussion:**

National Human Rights commission (NHRC) is a state mandated body, Independent of Government, With a broad constitutional or legal mandate to protect and promote human rights at national level. (NHRC) address the full range of human rights including civil, political, social, and cultural rights but in Bangladesh we noticed that human rights commission has no power it a commission of present government and they take duty to established government agenda as a result the situation of human rights and rule of law in Bangladesh goes beyond description. According to this research it can present that the table -1 shows that in Bangladesh 60% people are ignore about their human rights and fundamental rights. They don't know what is right and how it can implement in the society. Among the 100% the rest of 40% respondent people know about the right but they don't know if the right is violated what can do? The 2nd table shows that 50% respondents are dissatisfied about the present situation of human rights in Bangladesh and 30% respondents are very much dissatisfied so it can present that 80% respondents are dissatisfied about the condition of human rights in Bangladesh

The 3rd table presents the role of (NHRC) of Bangladesh. The respondents are very angry and annoyed for the role of human rights commission. total 93% respondents are dissatisfied with the work of (NHRC). Then the 4th table presents that 93% respondents are agree with the term that where there is violation of Human Rights there is no Rule of Law. On the above discussion we noticed that in every estep of Bangladesh there are violating Human rights as a result violating the rule of law and as such violating the natural justice. So without establish human rights Rule of Law can't imagine. So Through this research the hypothesis is also tested. so it is strongly established where thew is violation of human rights there is no rule of law. The 5th table presents that violation of human rights in bangladesh is normalized 85% respondents think so.

### **Recommendation:**

National Human Rights Commission, Bangladesh is always focused on addressing the human rights agenda on a wider scale to reach its visionary goal of establishing a human rights culture and a society free from discriminations, violence and violations of rights. NHRC wants to reach to the people of all strata of life irrespective of class, caste and creed and wants to render its services as

vigilance, protest, inquiry, inspection, reporting, Advocacy, Counselling, Complaint handling, Publicity and press coverage, Knowledge sharing, International and regional cooperation, Partnership drafting law, Universal periodic review, Training, Research, Upholding International convention though the national human rights organization are trying to do best but my suggestion it has to engage with more activities such as 1. protection of women 2. protection of children 3. ending the torture and execution 4. protection of prisoners conscience 5. protection of refugees. 6. Protection and overcoming the phenomena of human rights violations that are related to his physical and psychological integrity. 7. Abolishing the death penalty, torture and other cruel treatment has held prisoners 8. Fair and first trial 9. Overcoming the phenomena of discrimination on any grounds; gender, race, religion, language, political opinion national or social origin and others. Another recommendation is the use of torture and any form of cruel or inhuman behavior is not justified. Violence and the use of harsh treatments should be stopped. The use of force does not increase security of citizen. The (NHRC) should also take steps for Good governance. And also fact finding and media campaigning and should take steps for human rights defenders training.

### **Conclusion:**

The global situation on Human Rights in 2019 was not adequate. Bangladesh was not in exceptional condition. The year witnessed both the incidences of human rights violations and some improvement in upholding human rights. Bangladesh has been recognized both nationally and globally for accomplishing most of the targets of MDGs. There has been remarkable achievement in poverty alleviation, advancement in education, lessening the death rates of mothers and children and so on. The year 2018-19 also witnessed some measures taken by the government to improve rule of law and other related factors that affect social security, economic growth, standard of living, democratic values and human rights. Amid these achievements, the attacks on minority communities, women and children, militant attacks on bloggers, killings at the borders by the BSF and the horrible incidence of "Holy Artisan Attack" were among the big concerns.

### **Biography:**



Md. Oliul Islam is an Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh. He has been working for Law & Human Rights in Bangladesh since 2010. Mr. Islam is a famous Lawyer in Bangladesh Supreme Court. Mr. Islam is engaged in research activities throughout his academic career more than 10 years and has published many research papers, participating in international conferences.

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