

## **BNP's Brutalities in Photographs**



**(28 -29 October 2023)**

## Recent Violence by BNP - Jamaat during 28 and 29 Oct 2023

The BNP activists attacked, vandalized and ransacked the residence of the Chief Justice of Bangladesh and the Judges Tower (*residence of other Judges of the Supreme Court*), They torched and destroyed office of the Ramna traffic police, a number of police outposts located at Kakrail, Bijaynagar, Fakirapool and Malibagh areas and damaged close circuit cameras of law enforcement agencies. They torched ambulances and government vehicles at Rajarbag Police Hospital premises causing disruption of emergency medical services. They ransacked the Institute of Diploma Engineers and business properties along Bailey Road. They hurled crude bombs, cocktail bombs and brick chunks targeting the police and innocent passersby in various parts of the city including Kakrail, Nightingale Square, Paltan, Malibagh etc.

One policeman and one Ansar member were killed. Another policeman and one Ansar member are critically injured and fighting for their lives. At least 100 policemen have been injured in the clash and are currently undergoing treatment at different hospitals.

According to a statement from Department of Fire Service and Civil Defence, a total of 45 fire incidents were reported across the country by riotous people on Saturday. Of these, 27 fire incidents were reported in Dhaka City Corporation, 14 cases of fire were reported in Dhaka division (outside Dhaka City Corporations), 1 in Rajshahi division, 2 in Khulna division, and 1 in Rangpur division.

### **Deaths and Injuries**

Date	Law Enforcement Agencies	Journalists	Civilians
28 Oct 2023	Police: 1 killed and 42 injured Ansar: 25 injured NSI: 1 injured	1 killed and 25 injured	1 killed and hundreds injured

### **Damage to the Public Properties**

Date	Vehicles burnt						
	Ambulance	Bus	Police Car	Microbus	Pickup	3 ton car	Bike
28 Oct 2023	03	19	01	03	01	01	16

### **Violence during general strike on 29 October 2023**

**A bus helper was burned to death and another injured as four buses were torched in different incidents in the capital.** Nayem, a 22 year old bus helper, was sleeping in a bus of Wasim Paribahan route in the capital's Demra area when arsonists set the bus on fire at 3am. The perpetrators escaped unidentified. His colleague, Robiul, 25, was also on the bus. As the blaze began to engulf the vehicle, Robiul made his escape with burns covering an estimated 17% of his body. Nayem, however, was not so lucky. When the fire was finally doused, his body was discovered within the bus.

**In Lalmonirhat, AL activist Jahangir was killed in a clash between the ruling party activists and BNP and Jamaat activists in Sadar upazila,**

At least 13 people were injured and 17 vehicles were vandalised in on Sunday, 29 October 2023. BNP activists blocked the Dhaka-Dinajpur highway in Sadar Upazila area. When the law and order forces tried to evacuate them, a clash broke out. Later they also vandalised some other cars. Daily Jugantar's reporter Mr. Shakil was wounded on his leg after being hit by a brick and a few police officials were also injured.

Two police officials have been injured by brickbats thrown by picketers around 9am in Azadnagar area of Lakshmipur district. The injured have been identified as Sub-Inspector of Ramgati police station Nazmul and Assistant Sub-inspector Mannan.

In Sylhet, picketers vandalised about 25 vehicles, including three public transports, two human haulers, 12 auto-rickshaws and the motorcycle of a reporter, and ransacked several rickshaws in different parts of Sylhet during the day-long hartal strike.

In Narayanganj, at least 70 people were injured as the activists of the BNP and police locked into clashes in the Araihaazar and Press Club areas.

In Manikganj, miscreants set a Dhaka-bound passenger bus on fire at the Tara Bridge area of Sadar upazila on the Dhaka-Aricha highway during hartal.



A bus conductor was burned alive inside a bus in Demra, Dhaka on 29 Oct 2023



A Police official attacked and murdered by the BNP activists on 28 Oct 2023



Attack on a police van (28 Oct 2023)



Attack in central police hospital on 28 Oct 2023



Explosion and attack in Kakrail on 28 Oct 2023



Vandalism by BNP activists in TNT Colony on 28 Oct 2023



Police box vandalised on 28 Oct 2023



Attack on media personnel on 28 Oct 2023



Violence by BNP in Dhaka on 28 Oct 2023



Attack on the residence of Hon'ble Chief Justice on 28 Oct 2023



Fire on Kamlapur bus depot on 28 Oct 2023



Motorcycle set on fire in Narayanganj on 28 Oct 2023



Atrocity in Rajarbagh on 28 October 2023



Cocktail explosion at Nightingale Square on 28 Oct 2023



Passenger bus set on fire on 28 Oct 2023



Cocktail explosion on a motorcycle in Gazipur on 28 Oct 2023



A bus set on fire in Savar on 28 Oct 2023



A fire service vehicle set on fire on 28 Oct 2023



Bus set on fire in front of Baitul Mokarram on 29 Oct 2023



A bus set on fire in Mouchak on 29 Oct 2023



Motorcycle set on fire in Dhaka on 29 Oct 2023



A Jubo League leader was killed in Lalmonirhat on 29 Oct 2023



Vandalism in Manikganj on 29 Oct 2023



A private car damaged by fire in Bagha, Rajshahi on 29 Oct 2023



A BRTC bus set on fire in Gazipur on 29 Oct 2023



Rogue set fire on a pick-up van in Dhaka-Mymensingh highway on 29 Oct 2023



A bus set on fire in Dhaka-Mymensingh highway on 29 Oct 2023



A bus set on fire in Tatibazar on 29 Oct 2023



A bus damaged by fire set on by BNP activists in Keraniganj on 29 Oct 2023



A bus damaged by fire in Magura on 29 Oct 2023



Bus and cycles damaged by fire set on by the BNP activists in Dhaka on 29 Oct 2023

## **Legacy of Violence by BNP & Jamaat**

BNP, as a political party started its journey with the legacy of violence. The party was founded by a military ruler in 1978 following the assassination of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and most of his family members in 1975. Since its birth, BNP actively promoted divisive and polarizing policies that contributed to political instability and violence in Bangladesh. Legacy of violence was further reinstated when the anti-liberation forces were allowed to do politics. Such political actors use democratic space like strikes, blockade, processions, public gatherings, protests etc. for their narrow self-interest. Widespread violence was deliberately unleashed to coerce the general people and to take them hostage.

Delving a bit into the past, in early 2000s, Bangladesh Nationalist Party promoted an atmosphere of violence and intimidation, particularly during the 2001 general election, which was marred by widespread violence and allegations of vote rigging. After the election, BNP-Jamaat activists commenced a nationwide wave of violence against opposition Awami League party men as well as minority Hindu community (with the allegation that they voted for the secular Party Awami League), including through murder, severe torture and notably mass rape of Hindu women.

BNP and Jamaat attacks on religious minorities and Awami League activists and supporters following the 2001 election have also been widely documented and reported internationally, by such organizations as Amnesty International, the Canadian Government, Freedom House and the US State Department. According to the investigation of a Judicial Commission in Bangladesh, formed at the behest of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh, it was found that 26,352 leaders and supporters including 26 Ministers and lawmakers of the BNP and the Jamaat-e-Islami were involved in the aforementioned crimes. The Canadian Federal Court, in two occasions, declared that the BNP (Bangladesh Nationalist Party) is an organization that “engages, has engaged or will engage in terrorism”.

In 2013, at least 400 people were killed and thousands got injured during the nationwide violence unleashed by the Jamaat-e-Islami, the main ally of the BNP to halt the trial of war criminals.

This has come as no surprise to the people of Bangladesh having seen the BNP including their political ally Jamaat-e-Islami to resort to indiscriminate violence under the pretext of boycotting and disrupting the 2014 general elections that continued after the election as well as during the first anniversary of the election in 2015.

In the run up to the elections of 5 January 2014, 46 people were killed in the nearly two months long violence from BNP enforced blockades and strikes. 20 members of law enforcement lost their lives during this time. On the day of the election, 26 people were killed including Election Presiding Officers. The campaign of violence targeted thousands of vehicles, mostly commuter buses. Thousands received third degree burn injuries, many handicapped for life. Government offices, power stations, business enterprises, roadside vending stalls, railway tracks, mosques, temples and pagodas, all came under attack.

Schools were not spared, with 582 schools being burnt on Election Day. Following the elections, houses of Awami League supporters and Hindus were burnt, destroyed and looted. Around 160 incidents of such attacks and atrocities took place in 21 districts.

In a repeat of this violence, starting from 4 January 2015, BNP and its allies embarked on yet another campaign. This spate of violence resulted in the deaths of 231 people (mostly through arson and petrol bomb attacks) and injured (mostly through burning) 1,180 others. The Burn Unit of Dhaka Medical College Hospital was overflowing with such victims, the air heavy with their cries. Arson attacks were conducted to burn 2,903 cars, 18 rail carriages and 8 passenger water vessels. Through targeted attacks, 70 government offices were vandalized and or destroyed and 6 land offices were burnt.

The people of Bangladesh, just like the rest of the world, overwhelmingly oppose the violent politics of the past. As a result, BNP terribly lost in 2018 National Elections and won only 7 seats in parliament of 350 seats. They continued their legacy of Election Day violence on 30 December 2018 which claimed at least 18 lives including an Ansar while 200 others were injured, making it one of the deadliest polls in the country.

These campaigns of fear and intimidation not only affect their own credibility as a legitimate political force, but also dent the very image of the country on a global stage. The Government ensures that the political parties enjoy their rights to assembly while such political activities do not damage public or private properties, disrupt public life and endanger law and order situation. The Government is firmly committed to take necessary measures against the legacy of violence to save public lives and maintain law and order situation.