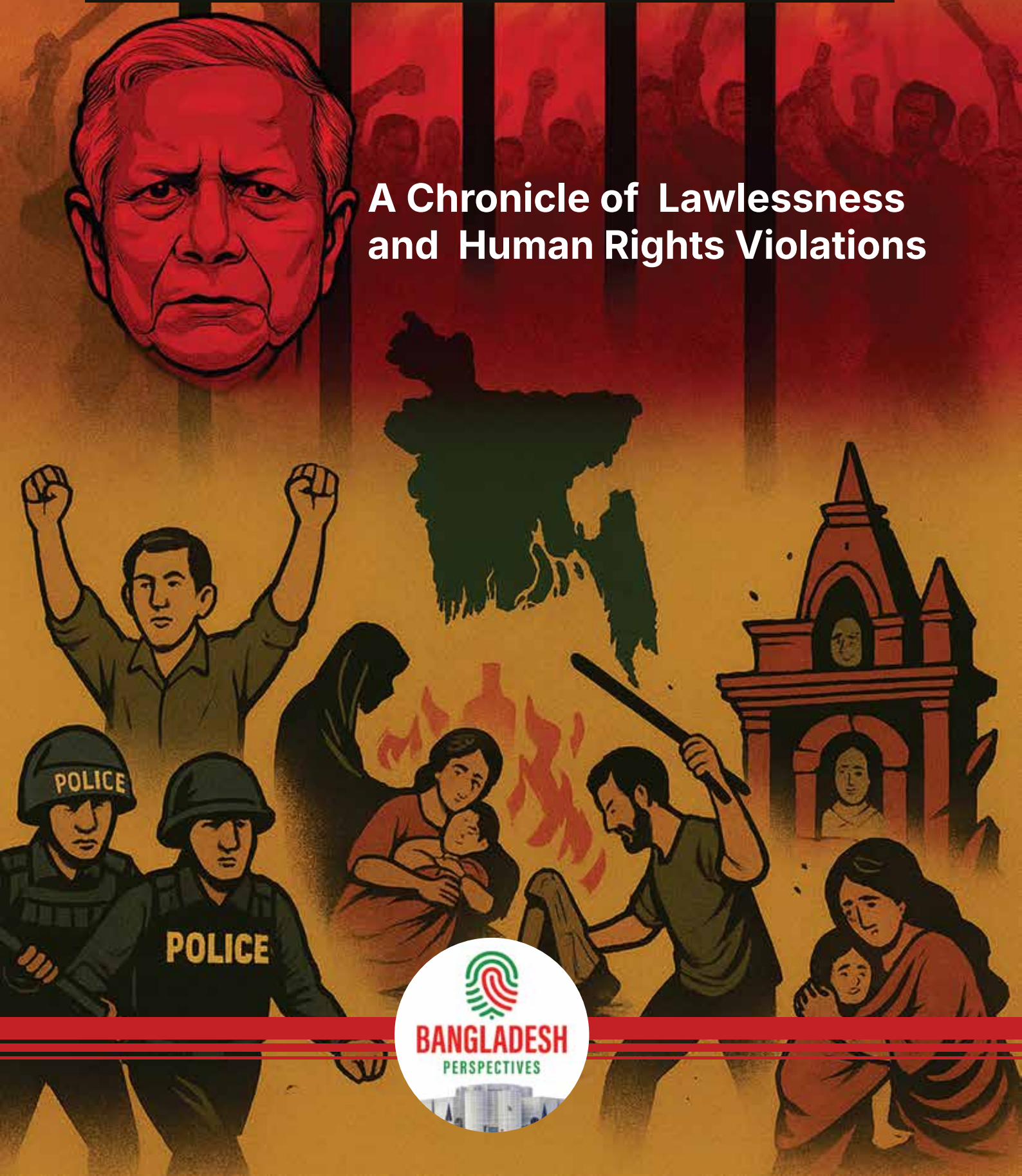


Bangladesh Under the Yunus Regime

A Chronicle of Lawlessness and Human Rights Violations



This week marks yet another grim reminder of how far Bangladesh has fallen under the Yunus government. What began as an “interim” administration has hardened into a regime defined by brutality, silence, and betrayal of the very people it claims to govern. From mass arrests to minority persecution, from attacks on academics to inhumane treatment of women leaders behind bars, the violations are no longer isolated incidents, but part of a calculated pattern.

Across the country, citizens are waking up to a climate of fear where justice is a privilege of the few and repression is the norm for the many. Each passing day exposes more evidence that Yunus’s rule is not one of neutrality or reform; it is one of vengeance and authoritarian control.

In this week’s issue, we break down the growing crisis in four parts:



Political Persecution and Arbitrary Arrests



Targeted Violence Against Minorities



Silencing the Intellect: Attacks on Academics



Women Leaders and Prison Torture

The picture is clear: Bangladesh is bleeding under a regime that has weaponized governance into a tool of oppression.

► When Law Enforcement Turns into a Political Weapon



Mass Arrests in 24 Hours

- 1,849+ opposition leaders & activists detained
- Arrests based on fabricated charges
- Objective: silence opposition, intimidate citizens



Justice System Manipulated

- Detainees held without bail
- Repeatedly transferred between courts & jails
- Creates prolonged suffering & fear



Public Safety Ignored

- Authorities prioritize political suppression over fighting real threats
- Identified terrorists left at large
- Ordinary citizens criminalized & persecuted



Women Leaders Targeted

- Reports of physical abuse & psychological torture in prisons
- Medical care denied
- Family visits blocked
- Punished for speaking out or disobeying arbitrary orders



The Stark Reality

- Law enforcement & justice systems have become tools of oppression
- stripping citizens of their fundamental rights

Under the Yunus regime, political persecution has escalated to alarming levels, revealing a systematic strategy to silence opposition and intimidate the populace. In the past week alone, reports confirm **mass arrests of Awami League leaders and activists across Bangladesh**, with figures exceeding **1,800 detained in just 24 hours**. These arrests are rarely tied to genuine legal violations; instead, they form part of a relentless campaign of harassment aimed at destabilizing political opposition.

► Mass Arrests Continue as Police Detain 1,849 More



Even more disturbing is the treatment of women leaders and activists in detention. Testimonies and official complaints indicate widespread physical abuse, psychological torture, and denial of basic rights inside prison walls. Female political figures are reportedly being subjected to targeted, brutal harassment, often punished simply for speaking out or refusing to comply with prison authorities' arbitrary orders. Families have repeatedly raised alarm over the deliberate delay in medical treatment, denial of visitation rights, and harsh conditions that endanger detainees' health and safety.

Statistics and investigative reports paint a chilling picture: of the thousands detained under political pretenses, many are held without bail, charged with fabricated cases, or transferred repeatedly between courts and jails, ensuring prolonged suffering. Law enforcement, rather than focusing on actual security threats or terrorism, appears to prioritize political suppression over public safety, leaving identified terrorists at large while ordinary citizens and opposition members face relentless legal persecution.

This week's figures underscore a stark reality: Bangladesh's legal and security systems have become instruments of oppression, weaponized to enforce political dominance while citizens are stripped of their fundamental rights.

► Torture and Deaths in Custody Continue



Case Example: Abu Bakkar Siddiq Munna (68)

- Veteran Awami League leader
- Arrested on politically motivated charges
- Fell gravely ill in custody → denied medical care
- Transferred too late → died in Gaibandha Prison



Religious Persecution & Attacks Hindu Community Under Attack

- Temples vandalized in Gazipur
- Durga idols destroyed during Mahalaya
- Kritish Dash (youth) murdered after disappearance



Islamist-Backed Violence

- Jamaat-e-Islami fueling sectarian attacks
- Sunni Imams, shrines, & mausoleums desecrated
- Four shrines in Cumilla attacked after public announcement
- Khanqah Sharif in Mymensingh vandalized, Qawwali gatherings disrupted



Systematic Abuse in Prisons

- Men & women detainees face intimidation, torture, & inhumane treatment
- Families report planned harassment & "orchestrated deaths"
- Justice system replaced by political suppression



Government Failure

- No arrests of perpetrators
- Authorities accused of negligence or tacit approval
- Religious freedom & social harmony under siege



The Grim Reality

- Prisons have become tools of repression
- where opponents risk torture, neglect, or death

The dark shadow of the Yunus government extends far beyond arbitrary arrests; inside the walls of Bangladesh's prisons, political persecution has taken a deadly turn. Former Awami League leader Abu Bakkar Siddiq Munna, a 68-year-old veteran of local politics, serves as a chilling example. Detained on politically motivated charges, Munna fell gravely ill while in custody. Despite his deteriorating condition, he was reportedly denied urgent medical attention. By the time he was transferred to Gaibandha Sadar Hospital, it was too late; doctors pronounced him dead.

► **Death of Awami League Leader Reported Inside Gaibandha Prison**



This case is not isolated. Reports from multiple prisons indicate that both men and women political detainees are subjected to relentless mental and physical abuse. Prisoners face intimidation, torture, and inhumane treatment, often under the watch of authorities who prioritize silencing dissent over safeguarding lives. Families of detainees fear for their loved ones, describing the jails as sites of planned harassment and, in some instances, orchestrated death.

► **Allegations of Abuse: Inmates Face Physical and Psychological Torture**



The systematic maltreatment inside Bangladesh's prisons underlines a grim reality: political suppression has been elevated above justice, human rights, and basic decency, leaving the vulnerable at the mercy of a government willing to let its opponents die behind bars.

From Mahalaya to Mausoleums, No one is Safe in Bangladesh Under the Yunus government, minorities in Bangladesh have increasingly become targets of violence, with religion often used as a tool for political gain. Hindu communities have faced repeated attacks, including temples being desecrated and Durga idols destroyed, especially during important religious events like Mahalaya.

► **Idols Vandalized at Temple in Gazipur**



In Gajipur, temples have been vandalized and idols smashed, while in Habiganj, the tragic case of Kritish Dash, a young Hindu man who went missing and was later found dead, highlights the deadly consequences of government inaction. These incidents reveal a pattern of systematic targeting, with authorities often turning a blind eye and letting attackers act with impunity.

At the same time, Islamist-backed violence has been on the rise. Jamaat-e-Islami, using religion as a cover for political agendas, has carried out attacks on Sunni Imams, shrines, and mausoleums, including the desecration of graves. In Comilla, four shrines were attacked with loudspeaker announcements, vandalized, and set on fire, yet there is no evidence that the government arrested the perpetrators.





► Four Shrines Attacked in Cumilla After Announcement Over Microphone



Simultaneously, in Mymensingh, weekly Qawwali gatherings at Khanqah Sharif have been repeatedly disrupted, and in Gazipur, temples have suffered further attacks with idols destroyed. These actions create fear among religious communities and threaten social cohesion.

► Sufi Khanqah in Mymensingh Vandalized Over Weekly Qawwali Gatherings



The Yunus government's failure to act, to prosecute attackers, or even protect religious sites, suggests either negligence or tacit approval. Religious freedom is under constant threat, social stability is undermined, and both Hindu and Sunni communities are left vulnerable. The pattern of attacks shows how political and sectarian violence is allowed to continue unchecked, highlighting a deep failure to uphold constitutional protections.

► Violence Against Women and Children at Its Peak



Violence Against Women & Children Child Abuse on the Rise

- 300+ girls and 30 boys abused in first 7 months of 2025
- Child rape cases up 75% compared to last year
- Survivors left with lifelong trauma



Systemic Failures

- Under-reporting due to family intimidation
- Delayed justice → predators roam free
- Cases drag on for months/years without accountability



Government Inaction

- Authorities fail to protect children
- Human rights crisis ignored
- Public trust in law & justice system eroding



Urgent Reforms Needed

- Stronger protective measures for children
- Swift legal action against perpetrators
- Awareness campaigns on child safety



Silencing Academia Scholars Targeted

- Professors Abul Barakat & Hafizur Rahman Kurzon jailed
- Arrests tied to criticism of extremism & government inaction



Education Under Siege

- Militant student groups collaborate with regime
- Universities turned into spaces of fear
- Teachers & students face harassment, detention, violence



Impact on Society

- Freedom of expression eroded
- Critical thinking stifled
- Risk of a generation too fearful to innovate



The Stark Message

- Persecution of educators = not just academic censorship
- It is a human rights crisis threatening Bangladesh's future.

In the first seven months of 2025, Bangladesh has witnessed a sharp surge in child abuse, with over 300 girls and 30 boys falling victim to sexual assault and exploitation. These numbers are not just statistics; they reflect a human rights emergency, exposing children to lasting physical and psychological trauma.

► When Law Enforcement Turns into a Political Weapon



Reports show that low reporting and delayed justice leave children incredibly vulnerable. Families often face intimidation, and authorities frequently fail to take timely action, leaving predators free to operate with impunity. Cases drag on for months, if not years, with little accountability, creating an environment where violence thrives.

Human rights experts are calling for urgent reforms: stronger protective measures for children, swift legal action against perpetrators, and widespread awareness campaigns to educate communities about child safety. Without immediate intervention, the cycle of abuse is likely to worsen. The Yunus government's inaction in addressing these crimes highlights a deeper problem: a systemic failure to protect the most vulnerable. Inaction not only violates basic human rights but also undermines public trust in law enforcement and justice systems.

As citizens, advocates, and policymakers, the warning is clear: the safety of women and children must become a national priority. Without decisive measures, this ongoing crisis will continue to deepen, leaving Bangladesh's future generations at risk. Academics Are Not Spared Too. Bangladesh's educational sector has become a direct target for political repression under the Yunus government. Prominent scholars like Professor Abul Barakat and Professor Hafizur Rahman Kurzon have been jailed simply for speaking out against extremist ideologies and government inaction. These arrests are not isolated; they are part of a systematic effort to silence critical voices in academia through fear and coercion.

Militant student organizations, including Islami Chhatro Shibir, are reportedly collaborating with the regime to suppress dissent, turning educational spaces into arenas of intimidation rather than debate, research, or free thought. Students and teachers are increasingly vulnerable to harassment, arbitrary detention, and even violence.

Human rights observers warn that this politicization of education undermines freedom of expression, stifles critical thinking, and jeopardizes Bangladesh's intellectual future. Without urgent reforms and protective measures, the country risks producing a generation of academics and students too fearful to question, challenge, or innovate.

The message is stark: the persecution of educators is not merely an academic concern; it is a human rights crisis threatening the intellectual and moral fabric of the nation.



► False Cases, Harassment, and Political Targeting Didn't Stop

Just like the rest of the year, this week also witnessed a disturbing surge in false, harassing, and politically motivated cases. Innocent citizens, journalists, street vendors, and even former political leaders are increasingly targeted to silence dissent and consolidate power.

► Innocents Suffer Under the Power of False Lawsuits



A striking example is Abu Alam Mohammad Shahid Khan, who was arrested under the anti-terrorism law merely for attending a discussion on the Liberation War and the constitution. Similarly, vendors like Rustum Ali have been extorted and falsely accused, demonstrating how legal instruments are manipulated to harass, intimidate, and extract concessions.



These cases are far from isolated. Reports indicate that authorities selectively pursue prosecutions, weaponizing the judicial system to serve political ends rather than uphold justice. While some partial procedural reforms have been introduced, including guidelines to prevent the targeting of the innocent, implementation remains weak, leaving the system vulnerable to abuse.

Human rights observers warn that this systematic manipulation of the legal apparatus not only undermines public trust in law enforcement and the judiciary but also chills freedom of expression, assembly, and civic engagement. In essence, what should be a shield for citizens has become a tool of oppression, ensuring that fear and compliance prevail over justice and accountability.

► A Nation at Breaking Point

The Grim Reality Under the Yunus Regime

- 🔥 Mass Arrests
- 🏠 Custodial Deaths
- 🕌 Religious Persecution
- 👩 Attacks on Women & Children
- 🎓 Silencing of Academics
- ⚖️ Weaponization of Law



🏛️ Not governance.

⚖️ Not justice.

🧠 A systematic dismantling of human rights, democracy, & social harmony



The Choice Before Bangladesh

- Reclaim secularism, justice, democracy or
- Become a cautionary tale of extremism & authoritarianism.



The Urgent Call

- For citizens: Resist repression.
- For civil society & global community: Speak out.
- For everyone: Remember — silence is complicity.

This week's accounts once again lay bare the grim reality of Bangladesh under the Yunus regime: mass arrests, custodial deaths, religious persecution, attacks on women and children, silencing of academics, and weaponization of the legal system. What emerges is not a government safeguarding its citizens, but one systematically dismantling human rights, justice, and social harmony in the name of control.

The choice before us is stark. Either Bangladesh reclaims its values of secularism, justice, and democracy, or it risks becoming a cautionary tale of how extremism and authoritarianism hollow out a nation from within. For the international community, civil society, and every citizen, the message is urgent: silence is complicity. The time to resist this cycle of repression is now, before the fabric of our nation is beyond repair.



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