

BANGLADESH'S CHILDREN IN CRISIS

**ONE YEAR OF SLAUGHTER AND
SILENCE UNDER A FAILED REGIME**



BANGLADESH
PERSPECTIVES

With 124 children murdered and 308 abused in 2025, the nation's once-stable protection framework has been replaced by a bloody culture of impunity.

Since the seismic political shifts of mid-2024, the country has spiraled into a lawless vacuum where the primary victims are not politicians or activists, but children. According to a damning media-monitoring report by the child rights organisation Shishurai Sob, 2025 recorded at least 124 child homicides across the country – an average of nearly 11 innocent lives extinguished every single month. Girls suffered disproportionately: 63 were killed compared to 59 boys (with two cases undetermined). The youngest and most defenceless bore the brunt – 64 victims, over half the total, were aged 0-6 years. Dhaka division led the horror with 38 cases.

Worse still, these murders were not random street crimes. Over 66% occurred inside the supposed sanctuary of the family home or with relatives. Parents themselves were perpetrators in 38 cases. Family conflict drove 37.9% of the killings. Teachers and madrasa authorities accounted for 15. Justice? A sick joke. Only 35 cases saw formal complaints, 29 arrests, and a pathetic two convictions. The rest languish in bureaucratic hell.

The sexual violence is equally grotesque. Another 308 children – mostly girls – endured rape, attempted rape, gang rape or rape followed by murder. The breakdown is chilling: 197 rapes, 77 attempts, 24 gang assaults and 10 cases where the child was killed after violation. Again, Dhaka topped the list with 90 incidents. The home, that sacred space, became the primary hunting ground. These figures come from painstaking analysis of national and local media reports. They are conservative. Independent studies confirm the bloodbath is far broader.



Rising Violence Against Children: 124 Murders, 308 Sexual Abuse Cases in One Year



The Awami League Legacy: Children First

The Awami League government was no utopia, but it was a bulwark. Decades of investment in education, social safety nets and law enforcement created measurable safeguards. The Children Act was not window-dressing; convictions, while still too low, were pursued. Stability meant fewer families fractured by political violence, fewer streets ruled by armed mobs, and fewer opportunities for monsters to operate with impunity.



*Rising Child Abuse in Bangladesh:
A Four-Year Analysis of Violence Indicators
and Help-Seeking Patterns (2022--2025)*

Under Awami League rule, Bangladesh was building toward a future where children could walk to school without fear, sleep in their beds without dread. That progress has been torched. The interim regime that replaced it has presided over institutional meltdown. Police demoralised. Courts clogged. Political patronage replacing rule of law. The result? Parents killing their own children. Teachers raping pupils. Neighbours turning into predators. A society devouring its young.

Impunity as Policy

The most damning indictment is the near-total absence of justice. In the 124 homicide cases, perpetrators were overwhelmingly known to the victims – family, relatives, neighbours. Yet the system barely stirred. This is not accidental. It is the direct consequence of a government too busy consolidating power to protect the innocent.

International observers have noted the same pattern across violence indicators. The 2024 unrest did not just topple a government; it shattered the thin veneer of child safety painstakingly maintained for years. The current authorities' response? Silence, deflection and zero accountability.



*Child rape against girl children and its impacts
on survivors and their families*

Snapshot of the Crisis: Child Casualties in 2025

Category	Total Cases	Key Breakdown	Most Affected Division
Child Homicides	124	Girls: 63; Boys: 59; Age 0-6: 64 (51.6%); Family perpetrators: 38	Dhaka (38)
Sexual Abuse Victims	308	Rapes: 197; Attempts: 77; Gang rape: 24; Rape + murder: 10	Dhaka (90)

These numbers expose a regime that has failed its children utterly. The Awami League era offered protection. The current one offers only excuses. The contrast could not be starker – or more damning.

The World Must See the Blood on Their Hands

Bangladesh's children are not collateral damage of "transition". They are deliberate victims of governance failure. The Awami League era proved that strong, centralised leadership with a genuine stake in social stability can curb these horrors. The current dispensation has proven the opposite: weakness invites barbarism.

Every murdered child, every raped girl is a silent accusation against those who promised "change" but delivered carnage. The international community – donors, rights organisations, foreign governments – cannot remain complicit. Aid flows must be tied to verifiable child protection metrics. Sanctions and scrutiny must target the enablers of this impunity.

Bangladesh owes its children better. The Awami League understood that children are the nation's future. The current regime treats them as disposable. Until accountability returns and the proven safeguards of the previous government are restored, the killing and the raping will continue. One year of horror is already too many. How many more children must die before the world demands: enough?

Bangladesh's Children in Crisis – 2025

2024 Political Upeaval | One Year Later



124 Children Killed



308 Children Sexually Abused

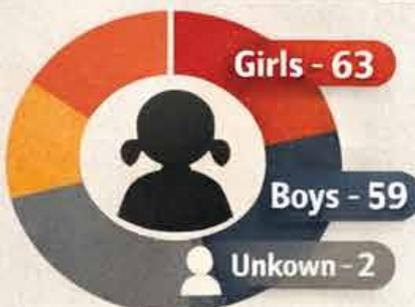


Nearly **11** Children Killed Every Month



Total: **124** child deaths in 2025

Who Were the Victims?



Girls slightly more vulnerable.

The Youngest Paid the Highest Price



More than half were under 7 years old.

Danger Inside the Home



308 Children Sexually Violated in 2025



Child Protection Then vs Now

Before 2024

- Institutional Stability
- Child Protection Frameworks
- Education & Safety Investments



After 2024

- Rising Violence
- Institutional Breakdown
- Justice System Paralysis

Source: Compiled child rights monitoring data, 2025



