

# BAIL GRANTED, FREEDOM DENIED

## How “Shown Arrests” Became a Tool of Fear in Bangladesh

Despite court-approved bail, thousands remain behind bars. Linked to new cases. Shown arrested again. Justice delayed. **Freedom denied.**

-  Bail is granted
-  New cases are filed
-  Accused shown arrested
-  Families face pressure
-  Detention continues



When justice depends on money, the rule of law is the first victim.



**MISUSE OF LAW**  
Names missing from FIRs, yet detention continues.



**JUSTICE FOR SALE?**  
Families pressured to pay for release.



**POLITICAL WEAPON**  
Targeting opponents, silencing voices.



**A SYSTEM IN CRISIS**  
Trust in courts and police is rapidly eroding.

**STOP SHOWN ARRESTS. PROTECT JUSTICE. RESTORE TRUST.**

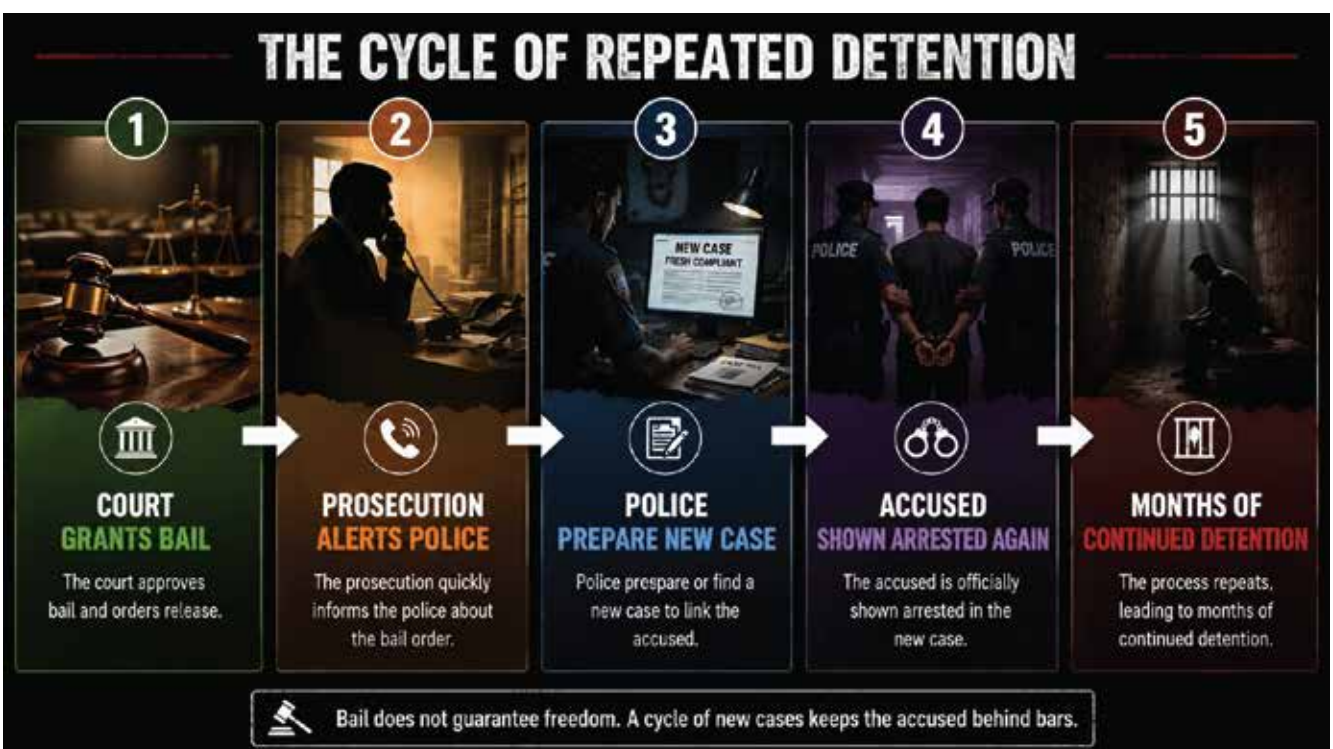
## Summary

In Bangladesh's current justice system, critics allege that securing bail no longer guarantees freedom. Instead, many detainees are reportedly being trapped in a cycle of repeated "shown arrests," where police link already jailed individuals to new cases moments before release. Families accuse law enforcement of using these tactics to prolong detention, demand unofficial payments, and silence perceived political opponents or ordinary citizens with no proven involvement in crimes. Legal experts warn that detaining people without direct evidence, witness testimony, or inclusion in FIRs represents a dangerous misuse of law that weakens judicial credibility and undermines public trust in the rule of law.



## The Pattern Alleged Across Bangladesh

According to allegations described in recent reports, many detainees in Bangladesh are not being released even after securing bail. Instead, they are allegedly being tied to fresh cases immediately after court approval, creating a cycle of repeated detention.



## What Is a "Shown Arrest"?

A "shown arrest" happens when a person already in custody is officially linked to another case while still in jail.

**CRITICS SAY THE SYSTEM IS BEING USED TO:**

- PREVENT RELEASE AFTER BAIL**  
Bail is granted, but new cases are filed to stop release.
- PRESSURE FAMILIES FINANCIALLY**  
Families are allegedly pressured with demands for money.
- EXTEND DETENTION WITHOUT CONVICTION**  
Detention continues for months with no trial or proven guilt.
- CREATE FEAR AMONG OPPONENTS OR CITIZENS**  
Used to silence political opponents or frighten ordinary citizens.

**LEGAL EXPERTS ARGUE THAT IN MANY CASES:**

- THE ACCUSED PERSON'S NAME DOES NOT APPEAR IN THE FIR**  
Their name is missing from the original complaint.
- WITNESSES DO NOT IDENTIFY THEM**  
No witness identifies the accused as involved.
- NO DIRECT EVIDENCE LINKS THEM TO THE INCIDENT**  
No physical or digital evidence connects them to the crime.

**YET DETENTION REPORTEDLY CONTINUES.**  
Despite lack of name in FIR, no witness identification, and no direct evidence—people remain in jail.

**JUSTICE DENIED**

### Source



## Reported Cases Highlighted

# REAL PEOPLE. REAL STORIES. REAL INJUSTICE.

Three stories. One pattern. Countless others.



Came to Dhaka seeking employment



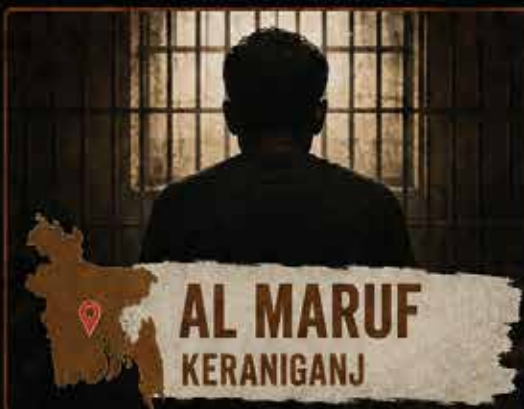
Allegedly detained in multiple cases



Family claims he remained under "observation" after bail



Release allegedly came only after financial arrangements



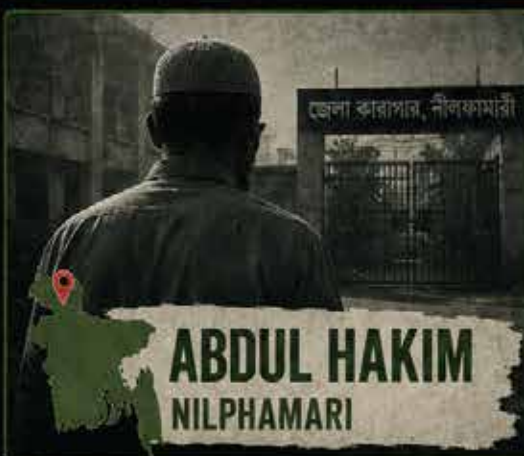
Worked as a private tutor



**1 YEAR 3 MONTHS IN JAIL**



Brother claims detention continued because the family could not pay money allegedly demanded through intermediaries



Received bail in 3 Dhaka cases



Then shown arrested in 2 additional Nilphamari cases



Sent back to his home district for continued detention



**ALLEGED REASON:**

Former involvement with Chhatra League



These are not isolated incidents. This is a system that turns justice into a tool of control.

**BAIL DOESN'T MEAN FREEDOM. NOT IN BANGLADESH TODAY.**

## What Legal Experts Say

# EXPERTS SPEAK.

## LAW DEMANDS JUSTICE, NOT DETENTION.



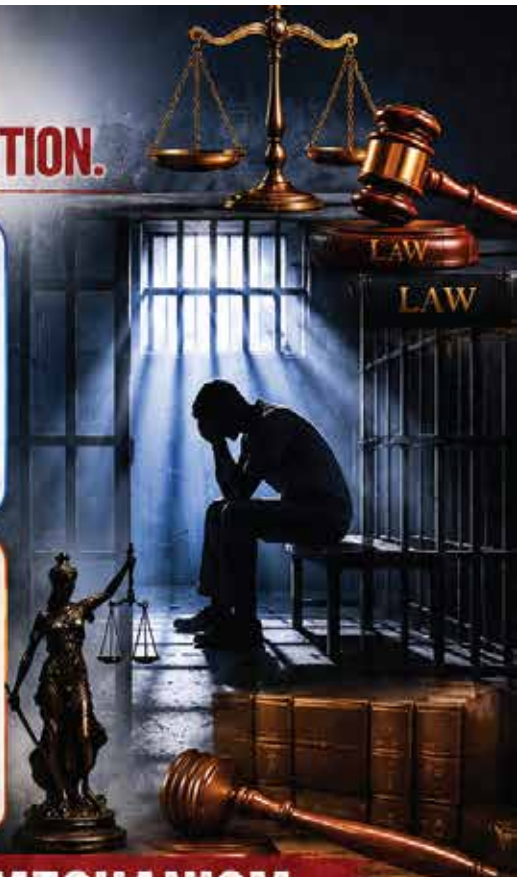
**Dr. Shahdeen Malik**

“ Keeping someone **jailed before conviction** is not the norm in a civilized justice system. ”



**Former District Judge Shahjahan Saju**

“ Showing someone arrested without their name in the FIR or supporting testimony is a **serious misuse of law.** ”



## ALLEGED DETENTION MECHANISM

STAGE	ALLEGATION
<p>1  <b>BAIL GRANTED</b></p>	<p>Court approves release.</p>
<p>2  <b>INFORMATION SHARED</b></p>	<p>Police station notified quickly.</p>
<p>3  <b>NEW CASE ADDED</b></p>	<p>Fresh complaint prepared.</p>
<p>4  <b>SHOWN ARREST</b></p>	<p>Accused linked to new case.</p>
<p>5  <b>NEGOTIATION PRESSURE</b></p>	<p>Families allegedly approached.</p>
<p>6  <b>CONTINUED JAIL TIME</b></p>	<p>Release delayed indefinitely.</p>

**THE PATTERN IS CLEAR.**

Bail may be granted by the court, But **freedom is decided elsewhere.**



## Political Allegations

**THE ARTICLE STRONGLY ACCUSES THE BNP-JAMAAT ALLIANCE OF:**

- POLICIZING POLICE OPERATIONS**
- 2001-06**  
LAW AND ORDER BREAKDOWN  
REVIVING PRACTICES ASSOCIATED WITH THE 2001-06 PERIOD
- থানা**  
TURNING POLICE STATIONS INTO CENTERS OF EXTORTION
- USING THE JUSTICE SYSTEM AS A POLITICAL WEAPON**

**WHEN POWER CONTROLS THE POLICE AND JUSTICE, INNOCENT PEOPLE PAY THE PRICE.**

## Justice Depends on Money

**“ THOSE WITHOUT MONEY STAY IN JAIL. THOSE WHO CAN PAY ARE RELEASED. ”**

**NO MONEY. NO FREEDOM.**      **MONEY BUYS FREEDOM.**

**CRITICS DESCRIBE THIS AS:**

- INSTITUTIONALIZED EXTORTION**  
A system where power holders demand money to control outcomes.
- COMMERCIALIZATION OF POLICE CLEARANCE**  
Turning legal processes into paid services for the privileged.
- EROSION OF JUDICIAL CREDIBILITY**  
Undermining public trust in courts and the rule of law.

**JUSTICE SHOULD NOT DEPEND ON YOUR WALLET.**



# KEY QUESTIONS BEING RAISED



If bail is granted, why are detainees not released?



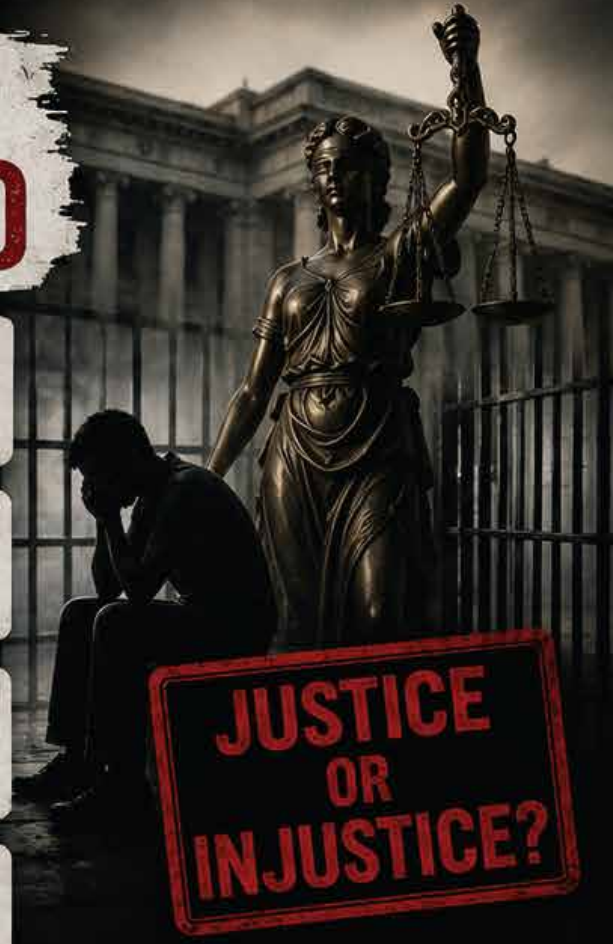
Who decides which new cases appear?



Why are unnamed individuals repeatedly shown arrested?



Is due process being bypassed?



## BIGGER CONCERN

Human rights advocates and legal observers warn that repeated use of shown arrests can:



### Undermine trust in courts

Public confidence in the judiciary is weakened when arrests become tools of manipulation.



### Weaken rule of law

Selective and politically motivated arrests desecrate the principle of equality before the law.



### Normalize prolonged detention without trial

People remain in jail for months or years without trial, turning the exception into the norm.



### Create fear among ordinary citizens

It spreads fear in society, silences dissent, and discourages people from speaking up or seeking justice.



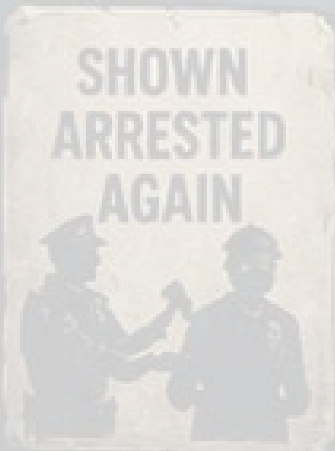
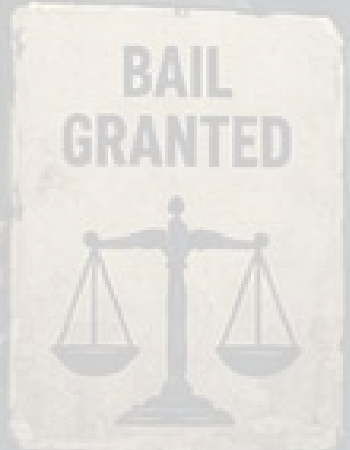
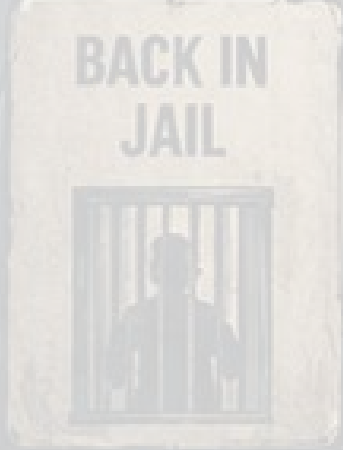
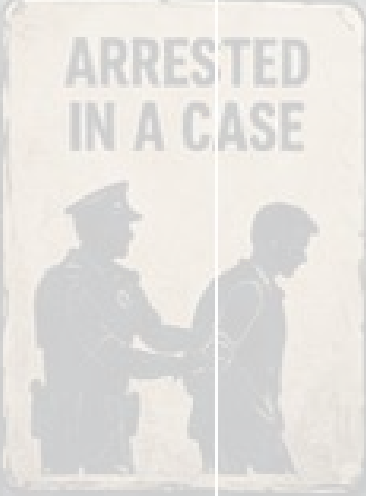
**A JUSTICE SYSTEM THAT DOESN'T PROTECT RIGHTS TODAY,  
CANNOT DELIVER JUSTICE TOMORROW.**



Families face pre



Detention contin



NO EVIDENCE.  
NO WITNESS.  
NO JUSTICE.