

CGS PEACE REPORT

an initiative of BPO

 CENTRE FOR
**GENOCIDE
STUDIES**
UNIVERSITY OF DHAKA



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**Peace in Bangladesh:
A Global Perspective**

**Law and Order Situation
in Bangladesh**

**BPO: A Data-driven
Crime and Violence
Monitoring Initiative**

**Understanding
Violent Extremism in
Bangladesh: A Focus on
Gazipur**

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From the Editor's Desk

The Chinese philosopher Lao Tzu once remarked, “a journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” The activities designed to fulfill the core objective of BPO - Bangladesh Peace Observatory, a platform housed at the Centre for Genocide Studies (CGS), University of Dhaka, and dedicated to inform and sensitise the public, both home and abroad, about the nature of violence in Bangladesh and, if any, how to contain or overcome it, are several. This includes: (1) Open Access Data; (2) Micro-narratives; (3) Training programs; (4) Bi-monthly reports; (5) Research volumes; and (6) Annual conference on genocide and mass violence. The publication of the bi-monthly (one in two months) *CGS Peace Report* is in this light only ‘a single step’! Needless to say, the task of containing or overcoming violence, whether nationally, regionally or internationally, is an arduous one, indeed, no less than ‘a journey of a thousand miles’! Hope, however, lies in making a beginning.

The maiden issue of *CGS Peace Report* is a timely one, not only because Bangladesh in recent times has witnessed violence of a unique kind, one that is referred to as post-rational or suicide terrorism, but also because it found itself in the midst of an international scare when it comes to violence, although evidence of violence in Bangladesh is much less compared to some of the other South Asian countries. But this is as much a practical issue as it is a methodological one. Not only research on violence in Bangladesh is weak but also the data on violence remains weak and unreliable. If this creates space for distortions then it also provides opportunities for manipulation. And there lies the danger!

Indeed, the ‘image deficit’ that Bangladesh is suffering from as a result of violent incidents and international scare not only discourages many investors from investing in Bangladesh but also ironically motivates the trouble-mongers, including violent extremists, to spread hate and kill people. Violence in the age of globalization is no longer territorial, what happens in Bangladesh, whether in Gazipur, Sholakia, Sylhet, Dhaka or Sathkhira, is as much an issue that concerns the world. Similarly, what happens across the world, whether in Karachi, Baghdad, New York, Damascus, Srinagar or Manchester, is as much an issue that concerns Bangladesh. Nothing less than a collective effort, therefore, will do if violence is to be contained and brought to a minimum level, whether in Bangladesh or elsewhere.

Hopefully, the readers will find the *CGS Peace Report* useful and will make an effort to work both individually and collectively towards this mammoth task of understanding, disseminating, and even coming up with policies and recommendations of countering and preventing violence. Let the journey of a thousand miles begin!

Professor Imtiaz Ahmed
29 May 2017

Peace in Bangladesh: A Global Perspective

Positive Peace

Positive peace is the presence of attitudes, institutions, and structures that create and sustain peaceful societies.¹

Negative Peace

Negative peace is the absence of violence and fear of violence.²

In the last ten years, global peace has experienced a historic deterioration.³ Increasing prevalence of war, conflict, state-based violence as well as rise in religio-centric extremist activities significantly contributed to this deterioration. Apart from some traditionally peaceful countries (mostly located in West Europe and North America), majority of the countries around the globe have progressively become much less peaceful, creating increased levels of inequality in global peace.⁴

According to the Positive Peace Index 2016, published by the Institute for

Economics and Peace in South Asia, internal security concerns as well as non-state extremist threats sponsored by external elements led to a dismal positive peace performance in India, Bangladesh, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Nepal. The positive peace situation in Afghanistan is the worst. Bhutan is considered as the most peaceful country in South Asia.⁵

In terms of connotation, positive peace is different from negative peace. Positive peace implies absence of direct violence, intentional use of physical force, violent or nonviolent disagreement between two or more individuals or groups, or resilience ability to absorb and recover from shocks. Also, positive peace is the presence of the attitudes, institutions and structures that create and sustain peaceful societies under which human potential can flourish.⁶ The

¹ Positive Peace Report (2016), Accessed: 20 April 2017, available at: <http://visionofhumanity.org/app/uploads/2017/02/Positive-Peace-Report-2016.pdf>

² Ibid.

³ Global Peace Report (2016), Accessed: 20 April 2017, available at: http://visionofhumanity.org/app/uploads/2017/02/GPI-2016-Report_2.pdf

⁴ Ibid.

⁵ Positive Peace Report (2016), Accessed: 20 April 2017, available at: <http://visionofhumanity.org/app/uploads/2017/02/Positive-Peace-Report-2016.pdf>

⁶ Ibid.

Positive Peace Index ranked countries based on statistical measures of eight factors. These are termed as variables of positive peace. These include:

(1) Well-functioning government; (2) Sound business environment; (3) Equitable distribution of resources; (4) Acceptance of the rights of others; (5) Good relations with neighbors (other countries); (6) Free flow of information; (7) High levels of human capital; and (8) Low levels of corruption.⁷

Based on the scores received, countries are ranked accordingly from the top to bottom. According to this rating, Bangladesh ranks 132nd among 162 countries with a cumulative point of 3.564 (table 1 and 2).

TABLE 1: A REGIONAL INDEX OF POSITIVE PEACE 2016

Country	Rank	Point
India	107	3.31
Myanmar	130	3.528
Bangladesh	132	3.564
Pakistan	148	3.818
Nepal	118	3.444
Sri Lanka	95	3.237
Bhutan	86	3.158
Afghanistan	160	3.997

In the Global Peace Index 2016, Bangladesh has performed comparatively

well. With cumulative score of 2.045, Bangladesh ranks 83rd out of 162 countries (figure 2).⁸ Nevertheless, the national cost of violence in the country is more than 13 billion USD.⁹ The Global Peace Index has used indicators like: perception of criminality, homicide, access of weapon, violent crimes, terrorism impact, internal and external conflicts, displacement and external relations. In all these indicators, Bangladesh has performed between 1.1/5 to 3.3/5 except for violent demonstration (5/5) and political terror (4/5).¹⁰ However, the establishment and recent activities of Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) unit in Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) may bring positive change in the above indexes in the future.

According to the Global Terrorism Index 2016, Bangladesh ranks 22nd out of 163 countries with a score of 6.48. The number indicates a better situation than Afghanistan, Pakistan and India but not as good as neighbors like Sri Lanka, Bhutan and Nepal (figure 1). Indeed, 2015 was a difficult year for Bangladesh. It saw the highest number of attacks and deaths since 2000, although the lethality rate per

⁷ Ibid.

⁸ Global Peace Report (2016), Accessed: 20 April 2017 available at: http://visionofhumanity.org/app/uploads/2017/02/GPI-2016-Report_2.pdf

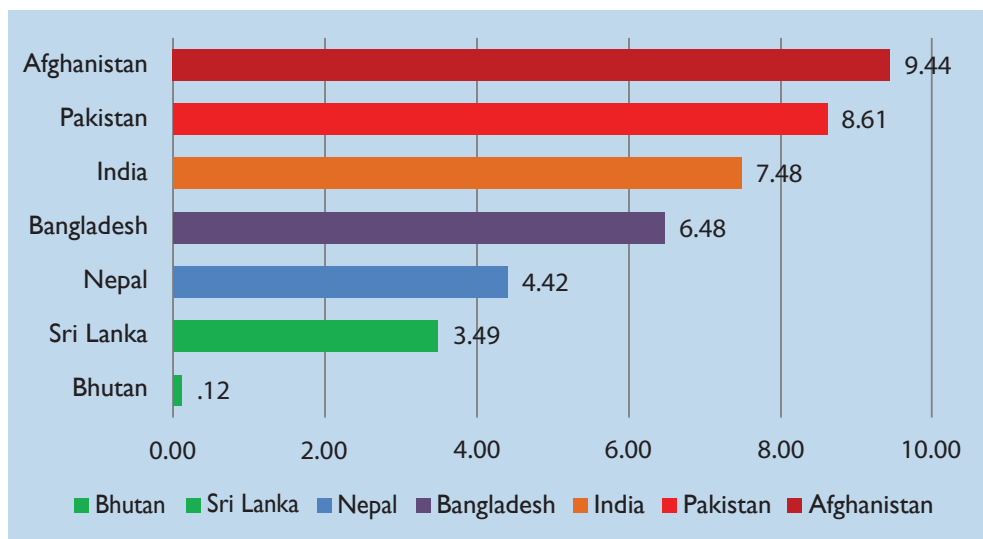
⁹ Ibid.

¹⁰ Ibid.

attack was low. There were 459 attacks, which resulted in 75 deaths.¹¹

In the past, terrorism in Bangladesh was carried out by local groups such as Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen (JmJB), a group, which was allegedly involved in the July 2016 Holey Artisan Bakery attack in Dhaka that resulted in 29 deaths. However, for the first time al-Qa'ida in the Indian Subcontinent and a local ISIL affiliate, as admitted by them, were engaged in attacks, resulting in 11 deaths in 2015.¹²

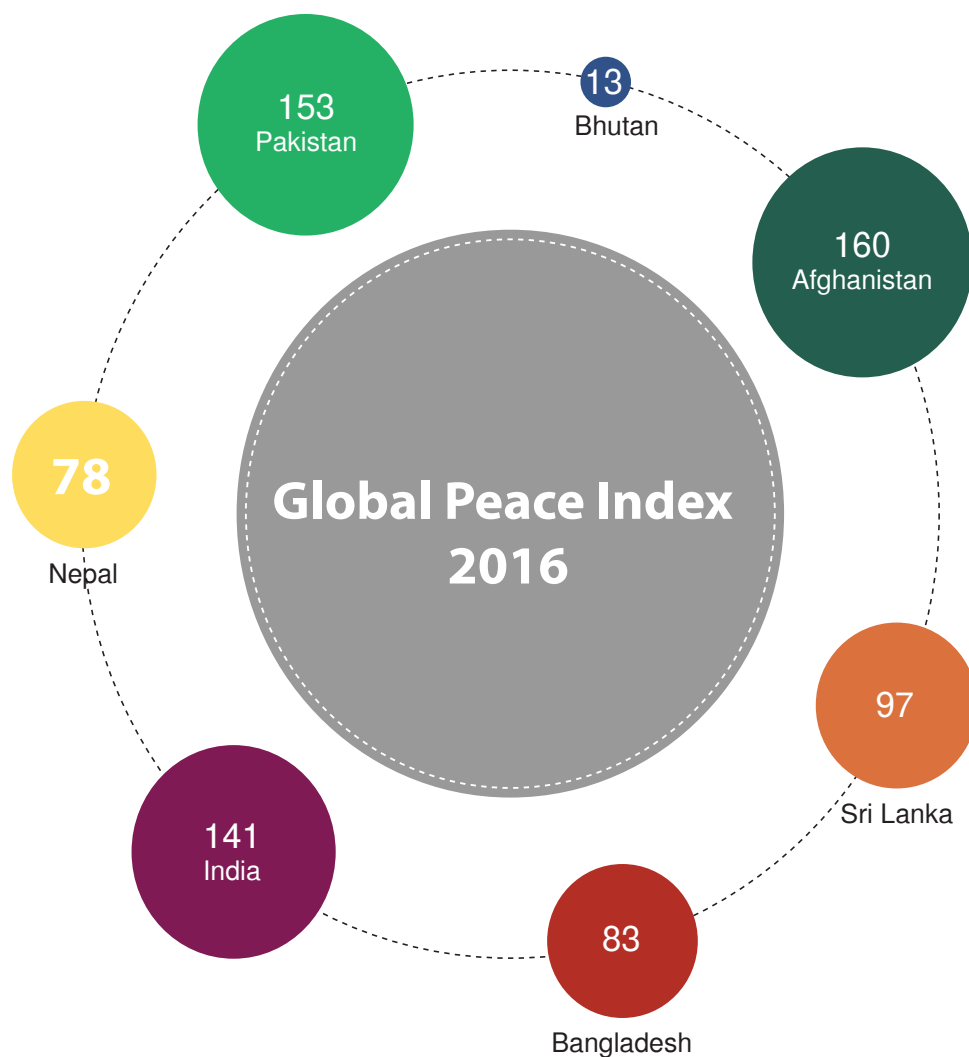
FIGURE 1: GLOBAL TERRORISM INDEX 2016 - UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND, USA



¹¹ Global Terrorism Index (2016), Accessed: 20 April 2017, available at: <http://economicsandpeace.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/11/Global-Terrorism-Index-2016.2.pdf>

¹² Ibid.

FIGURE 2: GLOBAL PEACE INDEX 2016 (SOUTH ASIA)



Source: Global Peace Report (2016), Institute for Economics and Peace, USA.

TABLE 2: POSITIVE PEACE RANKING 2016*

COUNTRY	RANK	PPI OVERALL SCORE	WELL FUNCTIONING GOVERNMENT	LOW LEVELS OF CORRUPTION	SOUND BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT	EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION OF RESOURCES	ACCEPTANCE OF THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS	FREE FLOW OF INFORMATION	HIGH LEVELS OF HUMAN CAPITAL	GOOD RELATIONS WITH NEIGHBOURS
Denmark	1	1.361	1.06	1.314	1.341	1.421	1.64	1.732	1.324	1.134
Finland	1	1.361	1.186	1.375	1.417	1.162	1.373	1.635	1.387	1.36
Sweden	3	1.396	1.272	1.468	1.441	1.143	1.22	1.713	1.35	1.569
Norway	4	1.408	1.193	1.391	1.417	1.247	1.71	1.734	1.371	1.215
Ireland	5	1.448	1.473	1.782	1.404	1.177	1.412	1.949	1.299	1
Switzerland	5	1.448	1.378	1.42	1.403	1.25	1.691	1.72	1.533	1.518
Bangladesh	132	3.564	3.804	4.135	4.129	2.813	3.599	3.13	3.768	2.667
Zimbabwe	158	3.946	3.746	4.407	4.332	3.255	3.973	3.309	4.07	4.133
Chad	159	3.961	3.876	4.346	4.318	3.701	3.678	3.586	4.505	3.427
Afghanistan	160	3.997	3.91	4.47	4.19	3.329	4.065	3.261	4.158	4.237
Central African Republic	161	4.154	4.356	4.241	4.356	3.73	4.131	3.31	4.618	4.229
Somalia	162	4.192	4.398	4.645	3.853	3.839	3.758	4.076	4.216	4.598

*The table shows the countries ranked at the top and bottom alongside with Bangladesh's position.

Law and Order Situation in Bangladesh

In order to have a better understanding of the dynamics and patterns of violence in Bangladesh, it is important to take a close look at the national crime statistics along with the international indexes discussed in the earlier section. Both governmental and non-governmental agencies/organizations of Bangladesh collect crime and conflict data.

Police Source

Police is the core law and order enforcement force in Bangladesh. They are primarily responsible for keeping all types of crime data. At present, the Bangladesh Police website data provides a comparative statistics of different forms of

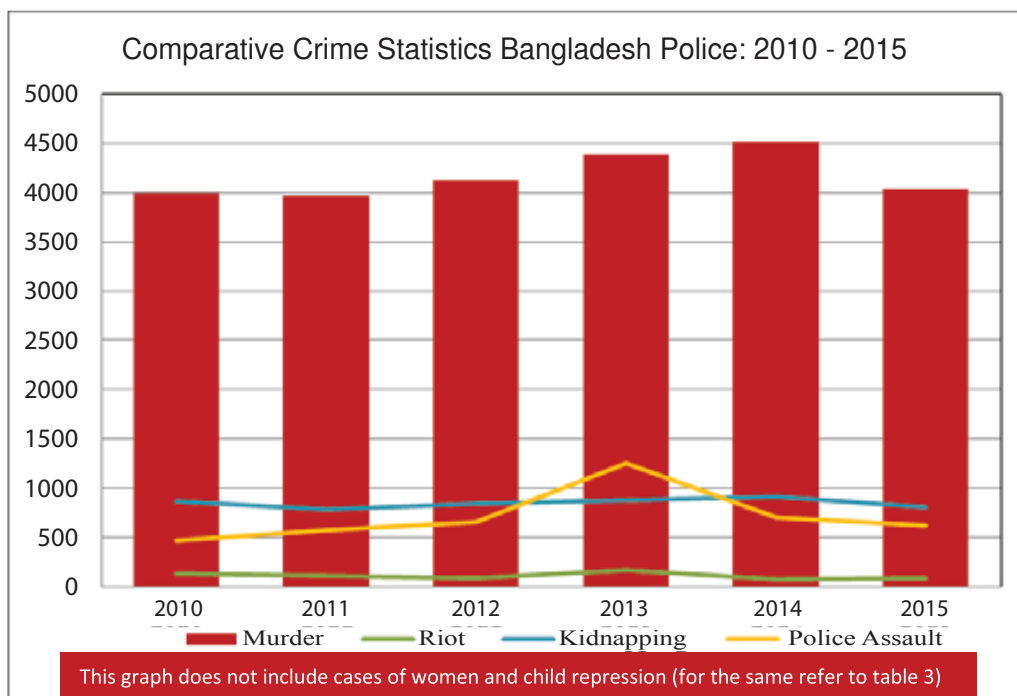
crime and violence of the last five years. According to the available data (table 3), from 2010 to 2015, the total number of homicide is 55,875, the number of riots across the country is 5,315. If all other incidents remain constant, the degree of explosive recovery has increased in the past few years. After 2013, there was a decline from 1007 to 520, but in 2015 it rose to 725 (table 3, figure 3). Also, if we look at human rights violation dynamics, the number of women and child repression remains higher than other cases. This is an area of non-traditional security threat, which demands serious consideration, as it may be a triggering factor for many other crimes and violence.

TABLE 3: CRIME AND RECOVERY DATA (BANGLADESH POLICE 2010-15)

Comparative Crime Statistics Bangladesh Police: 2010 – 15							
Year	Murder	Riot	Women & Child Repressor	Kidnapping	Police Assault	Recovery under Arms Act	Explosive Recovery
2010	3,988	130	17,752	870	473	1,575	253
2011	3,966	109	21,389	792	581	1,269	207
2012	4,114	94	20,947	850	659	1,115	289

Comparative Crime Statistics Bangladesh Police: 2010 – 15							
Year	Murder	Riot	Women & Child Repressor	Kidnapping	Police Assault	Recovery under Arms Act	Explosive Recovery
2013	4,393	172	19,601	879	1257	1,517	1,007
2014	4,514	79	21,291	920	702	2,023	520
2015	4,035	93	21,220	806	629	2,081	725
Total	55,825	5,315	243,373	11,887	6641	225,687	6,148

FIGURE 3: BANGLADESH POLICE COMPARATIVE CRIME DATA



Non-governmental Source

Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK) is a leading non-governmental organization in Bangladesh, which advocates for human rights and justice in the country. ASK has been collecting crime and violence data across the country since 1997. Its' data collection method and statistics differ from the police. Their dataset comprises comparable ingredients such as: political clash and attack, death by law enforcement agencies, journalist harassments, violence against women, violence against domestic worker, death

in jail custody, abduction by law, and mob beating.¹³

According to the ASK compiled data, from 2014 to 2016, 2,499 political clashes took place between different political parties, which resulted in the injury of 27,067 people and 490 deaths (figure 4).¹⁴

¹³ Ain o Salish Kendra (ASK), Accessed: 10 April 2017
Available at:

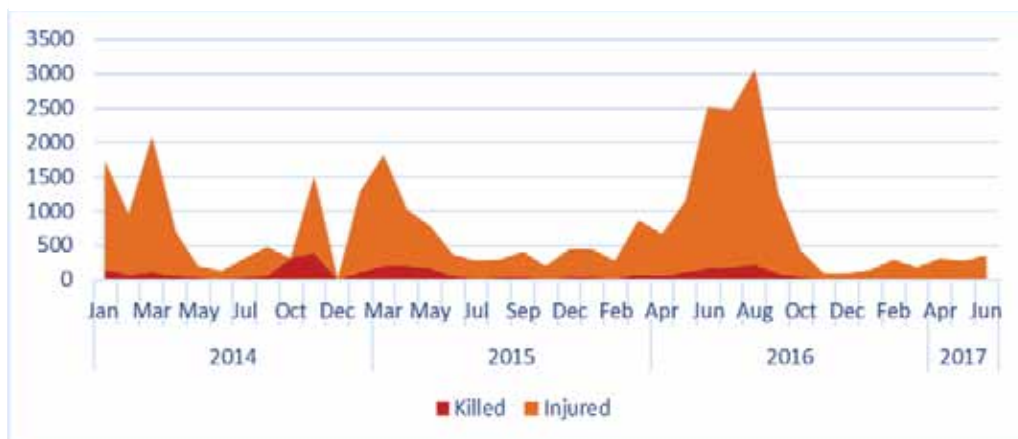
<http://www.askbd.org/ask/>

¹⁴ Compiled from ASK website. Accessed: 10 April 2017

Available at:

<http://www.askbd.org/ask/>

FIGURE 4: AIN O SALISH KENDRA POLITICAL VIOLENCE DATA (2014-17)



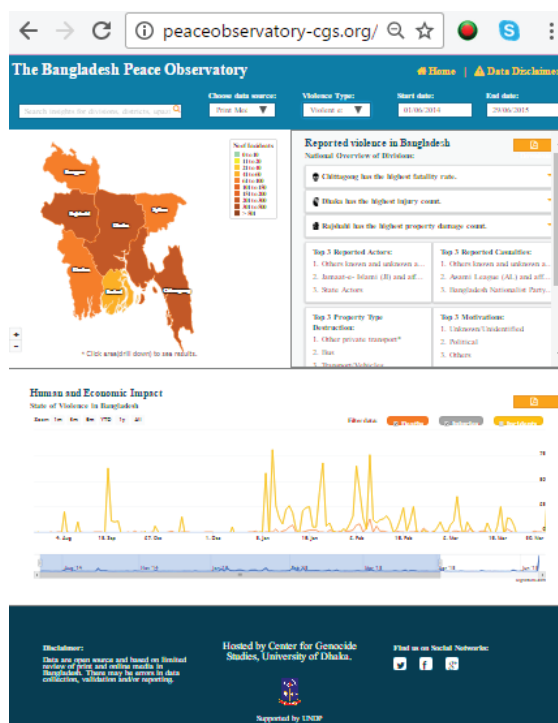
Bangladesh Peace Observatory: A Data-driven Crime and Violence Monitoring Initiative

Data from governmental and non-governmental sources provide a general understanding of crime and violence in Bangladesh. However, the data often lack clarity. Also, the available data are not characterized by high level of granularity. Therefore, CGS at the University of Dhaka in collaboration with United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) houses a research facility, which is capable of performing robust violence data analysis using its advanced mapping and data analytics tools. Named as the 'Bangladesh Peace Observatory (BPO)', the platform provides a coherent analysis using the datasets.

BPO is designed to collect information from open stream data sources including crime statistics, census data, media reports and other local databases on the subject matter. This data is then standardized to deduct repetition and ensure authenticity. After this rigorous process, the consolidated and aggregated data is placed into BPO's mapping and data analytics technology. The user can perform data-based visualization and analysis for their research or policy works. In this way, anyone can openly access BPO and go

through the information in a user-friendly way (figure 5).¹⁵

FIGURE 5: BANGLADESH PEACE OBSERVATORY, CENTRE FOR GENOCIDE STUDIES



¹⁵ Bangladesh Peace Observatory. Accessed: 25 April 2017, Please see: <http://peaceobservatory-cgs.org/>

Understanding Violent Extremism in Bangladesh: A Focus on Gazipur

Historically, Bangladesh has been a peaceful and tolerant country. Irrespective of religious, ethnic and cultural differentiation, people of Bangladesh have respected and celebrated different cultural and religious occasions for centuries. However, in the recent past Bangladesh has experienced a rise in different types of political, religious, ethnic, and gender based violent extremism. Each form of violent extremism has unique drivers, operational manifestations as well as different preventive measures. In order to understand the complexities of the field in preventing violent extremism serious academic research is imperative.

However, the boundaries between different forms of violent extremism are fluid and one can often morph into another. In order to understand the complexities of violent extremism, a field study has been carried out by CGS in different geographic regions of the country during 16-30 October 2016 with the support of the UNDP using the micro narrative method. The method involved

the collection of 'life stories' of the respondents and then having them clustered in terms of commonalities and exceptions. It was considered the most appropriate methodology in view of the subject matter, the time available, and the need to avoid generalizations. The purpose of the field study is to substantiate, validate, and reinforce the lessons and findings gathered from secondary sources, various experts and stakeholders' interviews and consultations.

Four districts of Bangladesh were selected. These are Satkhira, Bogra, Kishoreganj, and Gazipur. A total number of 160 micro narratives, 40 in each district, were collected. Focus Group Discussions (FGDs), two in each district, two in Dhaka, totaling 10 FGDs, critically examined the findings of micro narratives.

This issue of CGS peace report gives a bird's eye-view of the information gathered from the Gazipur district on violent extremism.

Gazipur district falls under the administrative area of Dhaka division of Bangladesh. Gazipur has an area of 1,741.53 sq. k.m., located from 23°53' to 24°21' north latitudes and in between 90°09' and 92°39' east longitudes.¹⁶ It is bounded by Mymensingh and Kishoreganj districts on the North, Dhaka, Narayanganj and Narsingdi districts on the South, Narsingdi district on the East, Dhaka and Tangail districts on the West (figure 6). The total population of Gazipur is 3,403,912 (Male- 1,775,310 and Female- 1,628,602), sex ratio 109:100, population density 1884/sq. k.m., and annual population growth rate is 5.21%.¹⁷ The majority of the population is Muslim comprising 94.02% of the total population (table 4). The literacy rate of Gazipur district is 62.60% (Male- 66.00% and Female- 58.90%) and school attendance rate is 42.50% for 5 to 24 years age group.¹⁸ The following table (table 5) provides some other facts on Gazipur district.

TABLE 4: POPULATION BY RELIGION IN GAZIPUR

Religion	Number of followers	Percentage
Muslim	3,200,383	94.02
Hindu	176,582	5.19
Buddhist	701	0.02
Christian	23,843	0.7
Others	2,403	0.07

Source: District Statistics 2011 Gazipur, Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS).

FIGURE 6: ADMINISTRATIVE MAP OF GAZIPUR DISTRICT



Source: Local Government Engineering Department, Bangladesh.

¹⁶ Banglapedia 2014, Accessed 30 April 2017, available at: http://en.banglapedia.org/index.php?title=Gazipur_District

¹⁷ The Bangladesh Network 2016, Accessed 29 April 2017, available at: <http://www.thebangladesh.net/gazipur-details.html>.

¹⁸ Ibid.

TABLE 5: GAZIPUR AT A GLANCE¹⁹

Manufacture	Garments industry, aluminum factory, textile mill, pharmaceutical industry, cosmetics industry, machine tools factory, diesel plant, security printing press, ordnance factory, ceramics factory, packaging industry, brick field etc.
Main Crops	Paddy, jute, mustard seed, sugarcane, chili, arum, turmeric, ginger, pulses, oilseeds, palm, jackfruit, wood trees and seasonal vegetables.
Main Exports	Vegetables, fruits, medicine, cosmetics, cigarettes, aluminum products, readymade garments, mosquito coil, beverage (soft drinks).
Communication System	Gazipur has excellent by road and railway communication system with the capital city and the rest of the country. Gazipur route is widely used for both daily transportation and long distance travel.
Economic Situation	Though, the district has seen massive industrialization in last few decades, yet a lion's share of the economy remained primarily agrarian in Gazipur. Currently, out of total 538,597 holdings, about 42.74% holdings perform agricultural activities. Non-farm economic activities have also a substantial share in revenue earnings and livelihood. Establishments like Bangladesh Machine Tools Factory, Bangladesh Rice Research Institute, Bhawal National Park and a number of NGOs have also created employment opportunities.
Indigenous Communities	Rajbangshi (Koach), Garo, Santal, Mandi, Bhangor and Nunia.
Marks of the War of Liberation	Mass killing site and mass grave are situated in the eastern side of the Joydebpur Rajbari, Sathkamair, Tongi Shaheed Smriti School compound and at Gachha. Memorial monument 'Jagrata Chaurangi' is located at Joydebpur Chowrasta and the premises of the Joydebpur Rajbari.

¹⁹ The Bangladesh Network 2016, Accessed 29 April 2017, available at: <http://www.thebangladesh.net/gazipur-details.html>.

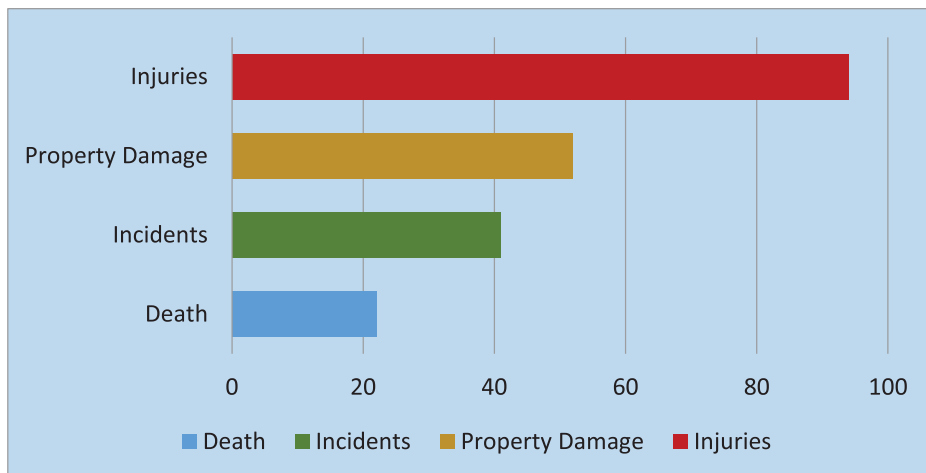
The district is in the heartland of Readymade Garments (RMG) factories of Bangladesh. RMG factory owners, entrepreneurs, brokers and workers from various parts of Bangladesh come to live in Gazipur for investment purpose and job opportunities. As a result, Gazipur has become a melting pot representing the diversities of Bangladesh. As the RMG workers are mostly young men and women, any kind of radicalization among them will result in catastrophic consequence.

Apart from these, in recent months, the police has unearthed a number of extremist dens and hideouts in Gazipur and conducted operations resulting in the killing of numerous extremists and one of

their financiers. This raises the question: why extremists are choosing Gazipur as their hideouts? The answers may lie in the close proximity of the district to the capital city, dense and the polyglot nature of the demography of the area, which is home to internal migrants. This makes the outsiders unnoticeable.

According to the BPO print media review, in the year 2014-16 there were 41 incidents, of religio-centric violent extremism in the area. In these incidents, 22 people died and 94 were injured (figure 7).

FIGURE 7: VIOLENT EXTREMISM IN GAZIPUR-2014-16



Source: Bangladesh Peace Observatory- CGS.

Case:	General Observations:	Findings:
• Name: Mohammad Abdul Matin • Age: 56 • Profession: Vice Principal (Safiuddin Sarkar Academy and College); • Location: College Gate, Tongi, Gazipur district.	• The level of security measures around the respondents' area was noticeable; • Respondents explained different types of violence which they had seen around them; • People were holding back information to themselves due to security concern.	• Densely populated district: an easy hide out; • Planning zone of criminals; • Intolerance against political dissent/ fear of political persecution; • Diverse perception on minority issue; • Availability of drugs and weapons; • Conservative outlook on attire; • Domestic violence, polygamy; • Unplanned industrialization; • Prevalence of religious conservativeness.

According to Abdul Matin, “Tongi has turned into a melting pot as people from different parts of the country migrate here to settle and do job or business due to large scale industrialization. Despite this, people have lived here in peace and tranquility. However, it is now a matter of great concern and sorrow for the residents of Tongi that the area has become the hotspot of the drug dealing business. Above all, the militant attacks came as a shock for the entire Gazipur district.” He maintains that violence and intolerance is not in the nature of local people. Instead, these are exported by the outside criminals who may be few in numbers but have chosen Gazipur as their operation zone.

He adds on, “people are now forgetting their own indigenous culture and are more attracted to a foreign culture. Moreover, degenerative activities like drug addiction among youth are destroying their potential. They are confused about their own identity, which is hampering the process of the growth of their personality.” He relates this to religious extremism where young people are given misinterpretation of real stories. He continues, “different groups of youths love to brag about their knowledge of religion in front of others without having proper understanding and practice of religion. This makes them intolerant to people of other religion. It also involves them in criminal activities.”

On 17 August 2005, JMB activists carried out bomb attacks at nine spots of Gazipur. The area was under Joydebpur Police station. On 10 August 2015, seventeen members of the banned Islamists outfit Jamaatul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) received 10 years detention as punishment for their criminal involvement in Gazipur's case.

"One of my good friends, Advocate Anwarul Azam died in the incident. I was getting ready to go to the office that day. After hearing the news of bomb attack, I called Azam. The phone rang and rang, but he was not picking up. Later, I came to know that he had suffered serious injuries in that bomb attack. Seven days later he died."

**- Hasina Akter Jahan Bithi,
Lawyer, North Rajbari, Sadar, Gazipur**

On Saturday, October 8, 2016, seven militants were killed when a joint team of Police and Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) raided a two storied building in Patar Tek, Gazipur. Kabir is a migrant laborer from Kurigram district living near that house. He experienced the chilling moments of the anti-militant raid at Patar Tek. Later, he had to spend a few days in his native village to ease his trauma. Following his return, he found the members of his locality deeply concerned and frightened. They did not want to talk about the incident. There was an element of fear.

"I live in Patar Tek. My house is very near to the house where law enforcers raided. When the gunfight between them and militants started I became very scared....I did not return to my living place until evening. I spent the whole day in tension and anxiety. The situation became totally unpredictable. Anything could have happened. I saw ambulances bearing the dead bodies of militants.....My family was very much worried for me. After the incident, I could not sleep well for a few days. I feared that militants will come back and will take revenge against the people of this locality."

**- Kabir Hossen
Rickshaw Puller, Patartek, Gazipur**

"It was 8th day of the last month (October 2016). I do not know when the police force came. It was impossible to be aware of the presence of police. I only noticed them at 8 in the morning when they surrounded the house where militants were residing. SWAT and RAB were also there. Before that, I could not even imagine some militants were living so near to me. Around 12 PM, they came to our house and told us – "Please, leave the house. There may be bullet fire. The people of the house can suffer injuries." They were polite to us. Immediately, I left the house with my children and other family members. We all went to the backyard of the house.....There were five flats in that building of which one was militant's hideout. There were seven other families living there.....The law enforcers used a loudspeaker to warn the militants. They sounded the final ultimatum to the militants, asking them to come out and surrender or face action. But the Jongi (militant) did not listen; they took time.....I do not think that the Jongi (militant) were innocent. If they were innocent then why they had not come out when police asked them to do so.... But who knows what will happen? In these days, innocent people are also becoming subject of harassment. Who knows whether the seven people were Jongi or not? Now, if the police come one day and arrest me or kill me what could be done?"

**- Mst. Habiba
Entrepreneur, Patartek, Gazipur**

"The boys who were killed in the raid, never talked with anyone in this locality. It indicates that they were not decent persons.... I saw the militants' dead body. They were mostly 18-25 years old.....We are concerned about the outsiders after the raid. Seeing any strange person, we, particularly women feel intimidated as they may be either from law enforcement agency or militant groups.....We knew that there were four students residing in that house. But, following the raid, we came to know that there were seven persons. So, there is a possibility that militants are hiding in any of the house in this locality even now."

**- Asma Akter
Tailor, Patartek, Gazipur**

Patar Tek and Harinal have similarities in anti-militancy incident pattern. Although in Patar Tek, the duration and result of the raid was longer and dangerous, the people of Harinal are also living in fear. The difference is that, Patar Tek is mostly inhabited by local people with fewer settlers than Harinal. That is why, people of Harinal blame the overflow of outsider in their area for prevalence of militant activities.

“I did not know them. The only thing I knew is that they came here after the Eid ul Adha. We are all very busy with our own works. So, we did not try to know them. Also, they did not come out of house much. We never saw them to go to the mosques even for prayers. So, I did not have any chance to meet them.....After the incident, people became aware of the matter. If they were conscious about the matter, nothing could have happened.”

**- Shah Ali
Mason, Lebubagan, Harinal, Gazipur**

GLOSSARY

al-Qa'ida: A militant Sunni Islamist organization founded in 1988 by Osama bin Laden responsible for the attacks of 9/11.

Counter-Terrorism and Transnational Crime (CTTC) Unit:

A unit under Dhaka Metropolitan Police that conducts intelligence-led proactive investigation in terrorism and transnational crime, arrest criminals, collect criminal intelligence and keep the terror suspects under surveillance and finally stop such activities with the help of people.

Eid ul Adha: Meaning "Sacrifice Feast", which is the second of two Muslim holidays celebrated worldwide each year.

Granularity: The scale or level of detail presented in a set of data or other phenomenon.

Homicide: A violent action that leads to the death or injury of a person or in which lethal weapons. The incidents that are associated with murder, honour killing, mob violence, armed robbery, clashes among gangs, etc.

Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen (JmJB):

A local Islamist terrorist organization founded on 1998. It is allegedly responsible for the simultaneous series bombing at 63 districts of Bangladesh in February 2005.

Micro Narratives: Life stories of people on how they have experienced and make meaning of incidents.

Political Violence: 1) Violence: includes an incident that results in at least one death, or property destruction, 2) Political – involving members of at least one clearly defined political group, public institution and/or civil society, interest groups, Islamist organizations, rebel and militant groups. Political groups include political parties and all their allied organizations such as volunteer, youth and worker groups.

Prevalence: Number of cases that are present in a particular population at a given time.

Rapid Action Battalion (RAB): An elite anti-crime and anti-

terrorism unit of the Bangladesh Police formed in 2004.

Special Weapons And Tactics (SWAT): An elite tactical unit of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police operating under the Detective Branch active since 2009.

The Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL):

Also, known as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), Islamic State (IS), and Daesh led by Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi. It is a militant group that aims to create an Islamic caliphate across Iraq, Syria and beyond. To pursue this, ISIL captures land and captivates the residence enforcing a fundamentalist, Wahhabi doctrine of Sunni Islam.

Variable: An element, feature, or factor that is liable to vary or change.

Violent Extremism: includes incidents involving rogue (religious or non-religious) organizations, rebel and militant groups who use violence and intimidation for pursuing their aims.

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