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1 **M A Sobhan**
Necessity of Community Policing in Bangladesh

2 **Mst. Shahala Pervin**
Combating Human Trafficking: Prevention, Protection, Partnership and Prosecution in Bangladesh

3 **Fatema Islam**
Sociological Profiling of Terrorists in Bangladesh

4 **Dr. Mallick Faqrul Islam**
Assessing Juvenile Gang Culture in Bangladesh from Youth Development Context

Editor's Note

Dear Readers

It is a great pleasure for me to introduce you to the articles of this issue of the PSC Journal. The first article is centered around the importance of community policing in the context of Bangladesh. The discussion includes ideas for implementing the community policing principles in solving social problems, control of drug addiction, and overall improvement of law and order.

The second article encompasses a broad spectrum of issues regarding human trafficking and its prevention mechanisms in Bangladesh. The author discusses active prevention procedures, protection mechanisms for victims and prosecution mechanisms for combating human trafficking. The importance of partnerships government with international organizations and non-government organizations for combating this transnational crime was discussed.

The third article is a study on apprehended and convicted terrorists with a view to analyzing their sociological profile. The researcher reviewed interviews and court documents to gain insights into the profiles of operatives of terrorist organizations of Bangladesh. The findings shed light on the potential factors and background issues that were prevalent among those involved in terrorist organizations in the mentioned period.

The fourth article centers on the issue of juvenile gang culture and youth development. It was found that by following the measures underlined in the Children's Act 2013 and taking a holistic approach to rehabilitation of youth involved in juvenile gangs, the issue can be effectively addressed.

All the articles presented in this issue holds special significance in today's world. The precepts of community policing have been implemented in many countries of the world. With the changing global trends of relationship between the police and the public, community policing continues to be a crucial tool for forging stronger community partnerships. The problem of trafficking of women and children persists, both in Bangladesh and beyond. The increase in economic

inequality and global unemployment trends point to further challenges, related to human trafficking, for police in the near future. The state of global geopolitics and wars in Europe and the Middle East have led to deepening economic and political uncertainties, posing a difficult scenario in terms of both human trafficking and the threat of terrorism. The discussion on youth gang culture is pertinent for both developing and developed nations, since juvenile gangs pose considerable law and order challenges in many places.

On behalf of the editorial team, I express my earnest hope that the articles published in this issue will contribute to better understanding of the issues involved, and add to the discussion on critical issues of in the current context. Wish all the very best for our esteemed readers.

Mohammad Shahjahan, PPM (Bar), Ph.D.
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Contents

Title	Page No.
M A Sobhan Necessity of Community Policing in Bangladesh	01-08
Mst. Shahala Pervin Combating Human Trafficking: Prevention, Protection, Partnership and Prosecution in Bangladesh	09-23
Fatema Islam Sociological Profiling of Terrorists in Bangladesh	24-42
Dr. Mallick Faqrul Islam Assessing Juvenile Gang Culture in Bangladesh from Youth Development Context	43-53

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Necessity of Community Policing in Bangladesh

M A Sobhan[1]

Abstract: *Bangladesh police is introduced community policing in their policing activities. So the people are becoming close to police and realising the limitations of Bangladesh police. Moreover, more friends are creating in the society. Image is imortant for works and activities. In many countries, police have image crisis. To minimise image problems police have to be people oriented. The police can works with drug addicts. They are the burden of the society. Addiction might be controlled by the community polcing activities. It may helps in development of sustainable law and order development. Community policing programme can be helped in solving socieo-cultural problems of the society as well as the moral values upgradation. Community policing are being organised and motivated the peoples and solved the problems of the community.*

Keywords: Community policing, society, law and order, people, motivation

Introduction

Community policing is the type of policing that performed by the help of people or through the involvement of community. Now, the community policing is not only a concept but a philosophy. In this philosophy, police think themselves as a part of the community. The police leaders think that they will eradicate the crime with roots. In community policing, police alone cannot bring success but he needs support from the society. Combined efforts of police and people may bring a real success in crime control and law and order development. It may be implemented through formation of committee in fields or by pilot projects or by building communication and connectivity.

Objectives

The broad objective of this study is to explore and discuss the necessity of community policing in the context of Bangladesh.

The specific objectives of the study are:

1. To explore the applicability of basic principles of community policing in pertinent issues related to service provided by Bangladesh Police.
2. To outline the relevant issues and way forward for utilization of community policing practices in the local context

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Literature Review

Community policing is, in essence, collaboration between the police and the community that identifies and solves community problems. With the police no longer the sole guardians of law and order, all members of the community become active allies in the effort to enhance the safety and quality of neighborhoods. Community policing has far-reaching implications. The expanded outlook on crime control and prevention, the new emphasis on making community members active participants in the process of problem solving, and the patrol officers' pivotal role in community policing require profound changes within the police organization. The neighborhood patrol officer, backed by the police organization, helps community members mobilizes support and resources to solve problems and enhance their quality of life. Community members voice their concerns, contribute advice, and take action to address these concerns. Creating a constructive partnership will require the energy, creativity, understanding, and patience of all involved (NCJRS, 1994).

Community policing is a new policing philosophy where police try to find out the causes of offences in society with the participation of people, the stake holders, groups or institutions (Rajjak, 2010).

Integrated endeaver in problem solving could be the best way where the law enforcers and the general people work together. The area of community and police participation is not confined in the conventional police activities only. It could be an idea of problem solving. The law enforcers have to have a good relation, interaction and communication with general mass. The police-people combined worked is being called community policing that started in Bangladesh since 1993 (Hoque, 2014).

Community policing is a policy and a strategy aimed at achieving more effective and efficient crime control, reduced fear of crime, improved quality of life, improved police services and police legitimacy, through a proactive reliance on community resources that seeks to change crime causing conditions (Friedmann, 1992).

Herman Goldstein (1979) developed and advanced the concept of problem oriented policing which encouraged police to begin thinking differently about their purpose. Goldstein suggested that problem resolution constituted the true, substantive work of policing and advocated that police identify and address root causes of problems that lead to repeat calls for service. Problem oriented policing required a move from a reactive, incident oriented stance to one that actively addressed the problems that continually drained police resources. In a study of problem oriented policing implementation in Newport News, Virginia,

problem oriented policing was found to be an effective approach to addressing many community problems and important data about problem oriented policing design and implementation was gathered.

Sir Robert Peel's nine principle of policing

Principle 1: The basic mission for which the police exist is to prevent crime and disorder.

Principle 2: The ability of the police to perform their duties is dependent upon public approval of police actions.

Principle 3: Police must secure the willing cooperation of the public in voluntary observance of the law to be able to secure and maintain the respect of the public.

Principle 4: The degree of cooperation of the public that can be secured diminishes proportionately to the necessity of the use of physical force.

Principle 5: Police seek and preserve public favour not by catering to the public opinion by constantly demonstrating absolute impartial service to the law.

Principle 6: Police use physical force to the extent necessary to secure observance of the law or to restore order only when the exercise of persuasion, advice and warning is found to be insufficient.

Principle 7: Police at all times should maintain arelatioship with the public that gives reality to the historic tradition that the police are the public and the public are the police; the police being only members of the public who are paid to give full time attention to duties which are incumbent on every citizen in the interests of community welfare and existence.

Principle 8: Police should always direct their action strictly towards their functions and never appear to usurp the powers of the judiciary.

Principle 9: The test of police efficiency is the absence of crime and disorder, not the visible evidence of police action in dealing with it.

Findings and Discussion

Community Policing in Police Image Building

Police image is important in discharging duties, control law and order, crowd management as well as in getting community support. Police is a family. So, the actions of everymembers have to be considered. If one member of police

family do unethical task or badwork or blunder, it declines the image of whole police family. For this, each and every member of the police has to be careful. It is well known that there is a big gap between police and people and it should be diminised. Police have to be people friendly. The greater societies have to involve in police works. They have to own the police works. Police have to achive the people's trust. To secure people's trust police have to work with impartiality, sincerety, rush to the place of occurrence, timely action, to provide support towards victims, making positive role in conviction, detection and law and order control. In this way, police image may increase.

The people of minor caste, vulnerable community, pedestrian, children, women, the slum dwellers, destitutes, beggers are helpless and they have lots of problems. The slum dwellers and pedestrian children are debarring from the basic rights. To building police image, police must remain their side and exteneded hands to them. Last cuple of years, Bangladesh police appreahended many extremists and produce them before courts and assitance in trial to provide witnesses as a result many militants convicted. Therefore the extremists' activities are decreased substantially. To introduce patrolling, close monitoring, making operation, detection, conviction and people support the militants activity are in controll.

It revealed that in rural villages, the village defence party formed with the supervision and guidance of police to combat theft, docaity and other crimes that improve the law and order situation. By this phenomenon the police people relationship increase dramatically which ultimately upgrade police image.

In the basic training syllabus, humanity, good behaviour, mob physochology, motivation, counselling, mutual respect have to be introduced which help in policing through people's participation that increase police image.

Most of the people do not know the limitations of police. Through community policing, police have to dessiminate their problems among people. In stead of applying force, police have to solve problems alternately. Any procession or assemble especially the students, workers and women's procession are very much sensitive. To control those processions, police should be addressed the problems properly (Sobhan, 2017).

Community Policing in Control of Drug Addiction

A tender aged or a man can be addicted from different reasons. At first, disappointment may cause harm a man in many ways; broken family is another reason for the addiction of a boy or girl. Somebody may be addicted by smoking from the friend circle. Unemployment is another problem, because each and everybody need works. Unemplyment loses human dignity, it denies honour. Taking drug as an amature, failure from love affairs, physical and mental

problems, loniness, availability of drugs and lack of ideal personnel in the society are the reasons for taking drugs in Bangladesh.

The addicts lead a very measureable life. They are our brother, sons and relatives. We should protect them and bring back them in the normal life. Drugs may control by two ways. Firstly, it could be by reducing demand and secondly by controlling supply. As, our borders are porous, it is not easy to control smuggling. Narcotics enter into our soils through land, water and air. So we have to emphasis on controlling supply. Narcotics are so profitable business that one could be rich if he or she can do the business for only one year.To control drug addicts; it is necessary to give medication for the addicts. After completion of treatment, the family members and the members of the society can make an important role. They have to provide company. In most of the cases they are not given good behaviour from the members of their family and also from the society. So after a span of time they back to drug again.

For this, family and the society have to play the vital role to mix them with the main stream of the society. To reduce narcotics supply, operations should be carried out by all agencies in a body. The public, private hospitals and clinics should facilitate the treatment facilities for addicts. In this context, the community police can play a substantial role to conscious, organise and motivate the people (Sobhan, 2017).

Community Policing in Law and Order Development

Community engagement of Bangladesh police is increasing day by day. In corona pandemic, police are distributing rations, maintaing social distance, disposed of dead bodies, admitting the infected people as well as performing conventional activities. Police works are depended mainly on conviction and detection. In these two cases, the community help and support are necessary. All the incidents are not occurred in front of police. To detect the cases people wittness, help, idea, information are important. Perfection in detection and exemplary conviction make vital effect in law and order delopment.

Intelligence based policing, information based policing, technology based policing are already been introduced in Bangladesh police. In investigation, forensic test, DNA test, CDR analysis, foot print, finger print, audieo-video recording have to be considered. Dection from scientific investigation and followed by the apprehention of accused is highly appreciated. However to get sustainable law and order development community involvement in policing is necessary.

The police have to be more propeople. People's share in policing can bring the success. The community people can brief and motivate the juveniles, boys,

the offenders that you may lead a good life; you could make a great part in social and nation building. The counselling of general people has to be done by community police personnel. The meeting regarding anti crime and rally may conscious the general mass. Humanity, personality, morality, mutal respect, values and consciousness may create through counselling (Sobhan, 2017).

Community Policing in Development of Ethical Value

In Bangladesh, there are many types of crimes and problems. Among all problems moral deprivation is the vital one. Rejection from love affiars, may lead a man go to astray. Many personnel become famous after reject from love affairs. Pervation can not be the tools of protest. The people should brief and launch counselling the eve teasers that your sister may victim of eve teasing. Adulteration in foods is an example of ill ethical value of our society. The law and order forces should launch operation agressibly to stop in adulteration of foods and submit the offenders before court. The members of police force have to interact with different layers people of the society. Have to participate with social and religious functions. Build up friendship in all houses and solve the problems with the society.

Moral education should be introduced in syllabus. Fulfil the basic rights of grass root people. Provide basic education for all citizens. School, college, family, social organisations, religious institutions, are the various layers of our society. Religious leaders, development workers, human right workers, teachers, social workers can make role to motivate the pervated boys and men. We are not the poor or the begger but the nation of heroes. We have many glories and pride that should elevate in front of young generation. Brief and conscious the pervated people that we can make a good nation. Police can organise the people of those layers and individuals through community policing (Sobhan, 2016).

Community Policing in Solving Social Problems and Social Awakening

In Asian countries, there are many social problems. Terrorism, militancy, fraud, intolerance, corruption, drug addiction, early marriage, rape, eve teasing, dowery, women oppression, moral deprivation, social deprivation etc are mentionable. It can not be stopped by the conventional policing.

In our society, there are lacks of personnels with ideal personality. A man can be derailed because of his weak personality. So, personality is important for a human being. The pervated persons may be an asset for the society, which would be telecasted in dramas, films and cinemas. The sports and cultural practises have to be started. Sports and exercise builds the body and mind, it debar a man from monotony. A man becomes displined and obedient and the leadership

qualities develop inside him. It can be provided the real religious education to the general mass. The cultural practices remove superstitions and turn a man creative and social. Library has to be set up in every colony or neighbourhood. In stead of facebbok or internet the library movement has to be started (Sobhan, 2017).

The movement regarding water crisis, food shortage, democracy, political assemblage, protests, anti-goverment activities are common phenomenon in less develop countries. If police try to control those activities by applying forces, the police became the targets of hostility. In these progammes, mass people's precipitations are found. To control those activities, people's help and support are necessary (NCJRS, 1994).

In Bangladesh, the police people ratio is about 1:1200. So, it is not possible to combat those problems by only the police forces. In different meeting, assemblage and rally we colud discuss the social problems especially the moral values. People's participation is necessary. Police and community combinedly could take the responsibility to motivate the people.

Conclusion

Police is an important organ of government machinery. There are lots of social and political problems in third world countries. It is not possible for police alone to solve all sorts of problems. Different new ideas and approaches have been initiated in various countries across the world to control law and order and to eliminate crime. Nowadays, police-people partnership is very much discussed among law and order practitioners. It is reported that in many countries the community policing concept has already been introduced and secured success in fighting crime. Sustainable law and order development is the one of the most desired issues in governance today. To maintain sustainable law and order management and to get an ideal society, police have to seek help from society.

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Combating Human Trafficking: Prevention, Protection, Partnership and Prosecution in Bangladesh

Mst. Shahala Pervin[1]

Abstract: *Human Trafficking is one of the transnational organized crimes all over the world. This paper explores the extent of human trafficking and its prevention mechanisms in Bangladesh. Active prevention procedures in place against it, protection mechanism for victims of trafficking, prosecution mechanisms available for perpetrator of this crime and give the justice to the victims of human trafficking cases. Combating this transnational crime, partnerships for the Bangladesh government with International Organization like International Organization for Migration (IOM), Interpol, Non-Government Organization (NGO) etc. The study was conducted on the basis of primary and secondary sources of data. Primary data were collected through semi-structured and open-ended written questionnaire from Two hundred eighty Sub-Inspectors (Investigating Officers) from different units. This paper concludes with possible recommendations and policy directives relevant to this issue within Bangladesh.*

Keywords: Prevention, Protection, Prosecution & Partnership

Introduction

Human trafficking is a transnational organized crime. It is not a unique problem for Bangladesh, rather it is global concern. Human trafficking is defined as "the selling or buying, recruiting or receiving, deporting or transferring. sending or confining or harboring either inside or outside of the territory of Bangladesh of any person for the purpose of sexual exploitation or oppression, labor exploitation or any other form of exploitation or oppression by means of threat or use of force: or deception, or abuse of his or her socio-economic or environmental or other types of vulnerability: or giving or receiving money or benefit to procure the consent of a person having control over him or her."

Street children, slum dwellers, garment workers are the main target for traffickers. The reason for targeting these groups is quite obvious - their vulnerability. They are the most vulnerable persons in our society owing to their socio-economic status. Nevertheless, divorced women and teenagers from poor and river erosion -prone areas are also prime targets. These vulnerable groups are targeted by traffickers who take advantage of the knowledge gap, lack of awareness, and desperation of the victims.

1. Additional Deputy Inspector General, Police Headquarters, Dhaka

In our country there are two types of traffickers- professional traffickers and non-professional traffickers. Professional traffickers are those who engaged themselves in trafficking as a means of livelihood. Sometimes they are the members of criminal gangs or organized underworld criminals. They are interlinked beyond the borders of countries. Much of the trafficking work are done by professional traffickers.

Non-professional traffickers are those who are not career criminals; they are not members of gangs. They may be the relatives or fellow villagers of victims. They use to do these one or two cases in his/her lifetime just for a little amount of money. They are the spotters or scouts who look for potential victims.

Trafficking can be divided in two categories according to destination - internal trafficking and external trafficking. If trafficking destination is within the country, it is defined as internal trafficking. If it is beyond the border or victim is carried out in another country, it may be termed as external trafficking. Bangladesh is surrounded by India and Myanmar with huge borders. Out of 64 districts of our country, 28 districts are in the border belt. So, traffickers prefer to use land ports.

Bangladesh Government has enacted a significant law for combating human trafficking-- the Prevention & Suppression of Human Trafficking Act 2012. The Ministry of Home Affairs has started a project to fill in the holes in the current legal system. It has also established a number of committees and subcommittees to combat trafficking. However, it is insufficient to fully stop human trafficking.

With this backdrop, this article discusses the extent of human trafficking and its prevention mechanisms in Bangladesh. Active prevention procedures, protection mechanisms for victims of trafficking, making prosecution mechanisms available for perpetrators of this crime and giving justice to the victims of human trafficking cases is required.

For combating this transnational crime, partnerships for the Bangladesh government with International Organization like International Organization for Migration (IOM), Interpol, Non-Government Organization (NGO) etc is also needed. After introducing necessary concepts and existing procedures of combating human trafficking in the country, the strengths and weaknesses present in the country's system to combat such crime is explored and discussed in detail.

Objectives

The main objective of the study is to explore the reasons for low conviction rate of human trafficking cases.

Specific objectives are

1. To discuss the laws and regulations for combating human trafficking
2. To outline partnerships among GO, NGO and International organizations to address this transnational crime.
3. Find out the possible solutions and recommendations for combating human trafficking

Literature Review

Human trafficking is existing in form of modern slavery. It is an organized crime. Human trafficking is the third illegal profitable business in the world largest source of profits for international organized crime, behind only arms and drug smuggling. It does not only violate the dignity of individual but also infringe human rights. Bangladesh is a major country of origin and transit for men, women and children subjected to trafficking in persons. Especially forced labor and force prostitution.

Human trafficking is one of the most lucrative illegal business practices in Bangladesh. Human trafficking has become more appealing to traffickers and extremely large-scale organized crime in Bangladesh due to its great profit potential and lack of severe penalties (Azad, 2019). Even according to a study done in 2015, Bangladeshi migrants who are seeking employment in the UAE lost hope before arriving in the Strait of Hormuz. A human trafficking organization operating out of Iran lures Bangladeshi citizens with promises of decent jobs in Europe. When they are removed from the UAE, transported 39 kilometers away from the mainland, and tortured there, they are kept captive. If the captive's family doesn't send them money, they will be tortured and possibly killed as well (Biswas, 2015). Bangladesh serves as an important trafficking crossroads between South Asia and the Gulf.

The main path taken by the traffickers begins in Dhaka and goes to Mumbai in India, Karachi in Pakistan, and ultimately Dubai. 20 transit sites spread across 16 districts are used by human traffickers to smuggle individuals from Bangladesh to India (Corraya, 2015). The destination of trafficking may be within the country as well as across the borders. Mainly Bangladeshi victims are detected in many parts of the world, with the top destinations being countries in the GCC, Thailand, Malaysia and India, as well as Europe, and the Americas.

Other recently found transit locations have been used to transfer individuals from Bangladesh to South-East Asian nations via sea channels. Bangladesh does not currently adhere to the minimal requirements for ending human trafficking, but it has made substantial steps to do so.

Rationale of the study

Bangladesh is a developing country with a high crime rate. Different types of crime like crime against property, crime against person, organized transnational crime etc occur here. Bangladesh is considered as a source and transit country. Who are the victims and what are the reasons were explained by many researcher but why the conviction rate is low in human trafficking cases and what should be done for prevention, protection and partnership measures related-research are few.

For this reasons the study is necessary to identify the main reasons for low conviction rate and find out the possible solutions to address this transnational crime of human trafficking. Exploring these issues can illuminate the way forward in the fight against transnational human trafficking.

THE ELEMENTS OF TRAFFICKING IN PERSONS

ACTS	MEANS	PURPOSE
Buying or selling Recruitment Transportation Transferring Harboring Receipt of Persons Deporting Sending Confining	Threat or use of force Deception Abuse of power or vulnerability Forms of coercion Abduction Fraud Giving or receiving money to procure the consent of the victim or his or her guardian.	Exploitation through prostitution or other forms of sexual exploitation, including pornographic material Forced Labor Slavery or similar practices, including debt bondage Fraudulent marriage Forcible engagement in the amusement trade Forced Begging Removal of organs

Source: The Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act,2012 (Act No.3 of 2012); Compiled by Author

Methodology

The study was conducted on the basis of primary and secondary sources of data. Primary data was collected using semi structured questionnaire. Two hundred eighty Sub-Inspectors (Investigating Officers) from different units 8 Ranges (Dhaka, Rajshahi, Chattogram, khulna, Rangpur, Mymensingh, Barisal, Shylet), 2 Metropolitan cities (Dhaka, Chattogram), PBI & CID of Bangladesh Police were interviewed for the study. Primary data were collected through semi-structured and open-ended written questionnaire. Interviews were taken face-to face by researcher herself. the study tried to find out the reasons behind low conviction rate, how to increase conviction rate and the steps to reduce the problem. The primary data was collected in the month of July to December 2021. Secondary sources of data were collected from books, Police Headquarters monitoring cell, articles, reports published in different national and local daily newspapers.

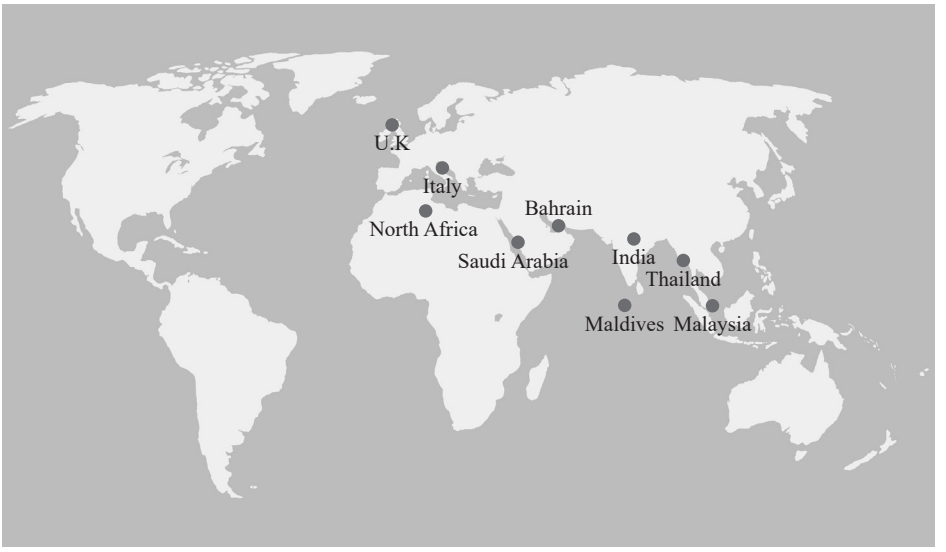
From Bangladesh Police Headquarters monitoring Cell, data was redrawn regarding trends of human trafficking cases, ended with conviction, ended with acquittal, victim trafficked, trafficking victims recovered, rehabilitation in last 5 years from 2017 to 2021. This secondary source of data has been used heavily throughout this paper to substantial the findings obtained from the primary survey data to compare and contrast the various points of information related to the human trafficking cases of Bangladesh.

280 respondents who are Sub-Inspectors specially Investigating Officers from different units of Bangladesh Police are given below their unit's names.

Table 1: Research area

Range / Unit names	Investigating Officers (IO)
Dhaka Range	35
Rajshahi Range	25
Chattogram Range	25
Khulna Range	25
Rangpur Range	15
Mymensingh Range	15
Barisal Range	13
Shylet Range	12
Dhaka Metropolitan	45
Chattogram Metropolitan	30
Police Bureau of Investigation (PBI)	20
Criminal Investigation Department (CID)	20
Total	280

Map: Key trafficking Destinationss



Source: UNODC Database on Trafficking in persons

Note: The boundaries and names shown and the designations used on this map do not imply official endorsement or acceptance by United Nations.

It is important to get general idea of types, trends and dimensions of human trafficking in Bangladesh. The following table is redrawn taking data from Police Headquarters Monitoring Cell covering last 5 years from 2017 to 2021. Police Headquarters Monitoring Cell has collected and complied information from 651 Police stations all over the country. Police Stations taking first Information Report regarding human trafficking all over the country. We can realize the real reported scenario about human trafficking in Bangladesh.

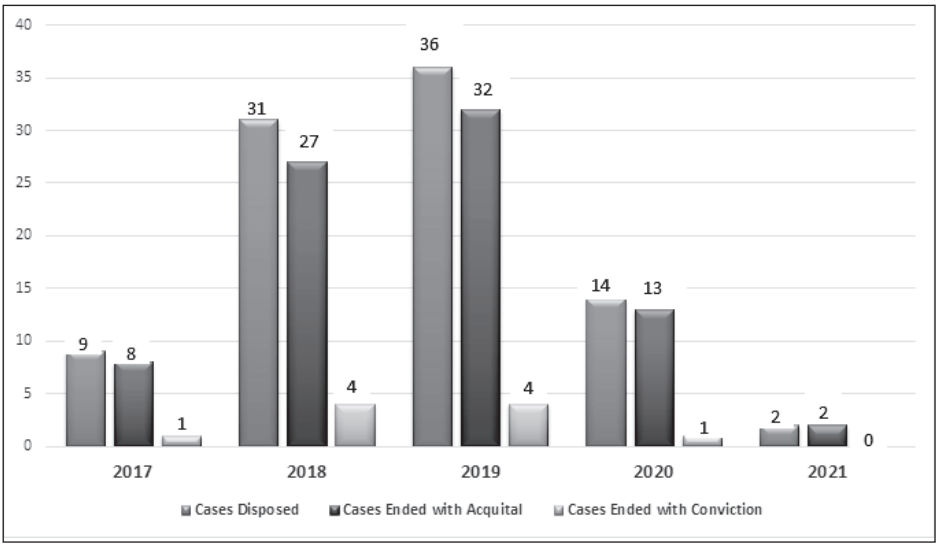
Table 1: Statistics of Human Trafficking cases (2017-2021): Victim Trafficked and recover

Year	Trafficking Cases	Victims Trafficked	Victims Recovered
2017	778	770	546
2018	561	502	355
2019	685	1016	904
2020	538	858	534
2021	659	701	525
Total	3221	3847	2864

In discussing the statistics of trafficking cases of Bangladesh within a contemporary timeframe (i.e., from 2017 to 2021), the table above shows that the reported trafficking cases victims trafficked and victims recovered also have spiked in the year of 2019, when the COVID-19 pandemic led to economic crises around the globe as well as in Bangladesh. Although the year 2020 the reported cases and victim trafficked seem to decrease afterwards.

Analysis of Findings

Figure 1: Convictions and case disposals in trafficking cases (2017-2021)



Source: Redrawn by Author from PHQ Human trafficking monitoring cell data

The Figure-1 Shows that 9 cases disposed, out of 9 only 1 case ended with conviction in the year of 2017. 31 cases disposed, out of 31 only 4 cases ended with conviction, 36 cases disposed, out of 36 only 4 cases ended with conviction, 14 cases disposed, out of 14 only 1 case ended with conviction, 02 cases disposed, out of 02 no cases ended with conviction in the year of 2018,2019,2020 and 2021 prospectively. Human trafficking cases conviction rate only 10.6%.

Prevention Measures

There is a saying; an ounce of prevention is worth a pound of cure. It's not feasible for a specific community or organization to prevent this grave problem. It should be prevent in an integrated ways.

Bangladesh government initiatives

Free and compulsory education: Bangladesh government has initiated of free and compulsory education for girls up to twelve. Govt. provided Stipend and financial support for buying books and reading materials to promote female education. As a result enrollment of girls has increased in primary and secondary levels.

Facilitating a conducive working environment: Government create conducive working condition and women friendly workplace. Number of day care centers has set up in different workplaces as well as has extended maternity leave for the female government employees from 4 months to 6 months.

Constitutional protection

Bangladesh constitution gives the opportunity to address this transnational crime.

Article 14: The responsibility of the state to emancipate all forms of exploitation of the backward sections of the people;

Article 17: made it obligatory on the state to ensure free and compulsory education for all children;

Article 19 (3): The state shall endeavor to ensure equality of opportunity and participation of women in all spheres of national life;

Article 27: All citizens are equal before law and are entitled to equal protection of law;

Article 28: prohibits discrimination on the ground of sex;

Article 29: guarantees equal opportunity of women in employment in the public sector;

Article 31: guarantees equal protection of law and to be treated only in accordance with law;

Article 32: prohibits deprivation of personal liberty save in accordance with law;

Article 34 (1): all forms of forced labor are prohibited;

Article 36: includes every citizen shall have the right to move freely throughout Bangladesh.

The National laws and measures to combat human trafficking

Commitments to address the problem of violence against women are also reflected in various laws/ legislations and policy documents of the government of Bangladesh.

1) Muslim Family Law Ordinance 1961 amended in 1986
2) The Dowry Prohibition Act 1980, amended in 1986
3) Penal Code 1860
4) The Child Marriage Restraint Act 1929, Amended in 1984
5) Domestic Violence Protection and Prevention Act, 2010
6) Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking Act, 2012
7) ICT Act 2006, amended in 2013

Non-government organizations

NGO`s also play a significant role to prevent human trafficking. They operate community based programmed. They also doing the rescue victims. NGO`s has shelter homes to provide support to the victims. Bangladesh national women lawyers association, right Jessore, Dhaka Assania mission are doing really excellent performance with the government.

Protection Measures

Role of police

Community policing, beat policing, open house day : Community Policing Beat Policing, Open House Day can be a significant way to prevent human trafficking. Every Police station arranges Open House Day once in a month to interact with that community to raise mass awareness regarding crime prevention & social problems. Through Community Policing, Beat Policing and Open House Day Police can close interactions with residence of that community. It`s a very much effective to prevent human trafficking.

P**atrolling :** Mainly there are four types of police patrolling. These are foot patrol, night patrol, town patrol and highway patrol. Patrolling prevent human trafficking. Traffickers often cross the road at night with the victims. Night Patrolling and the highway patrolling are effective to prevent trafficking.

Immigration : Bangladesh Police Special Branch is doing the work of immigration. Immigration plays vital role to prevent trafficking through close screening of visa, passport and other related travel documents.

Victim Support Center : Bangladesh Police with the support of the Police Reform program has set up first ever victim support center (VSC) in 2009, The Primary role of victim support center is to comfort and assist victim. VSC provide assistance and support on a twenty-four-hour basis. All staff are trained women police and 10 NGO representatives working in the VSC. Now, 8Victim Support Centers provide services in 8 divisions.

National Emergency Service 999: National Emergency Services 999 was launched on 12 December 2017 through the Department of Information and Communication Technology. Bd police has received great promulgation from the citizens of Bangladesh for wonderful emergency services for citizens. one phone call can prevent human trafficking and save the life of traffic victims.

One stop crises center (OSCC): One Stop Crises center runs by the ministry of women and children affairs. OSCC is a unique venture of Government and Non-Government collaboration. OSCC provides medical examination, legal support, counseling and development supports to receive Judgments and return to normal life. In Bangladesh 6 One stop Crises Centers run in the 6 Divisional medical college hospitals.

Shelter homes: Bangladesh Ministry of Social Welfare has 350 shelter homes all over the country to provide shelter of the vulnerable women. NGO`s has also shelter homes to provide of violence rehabilitation e affected victims.

Women support and investigating division: Bangladesh Police has inaugurated unit "Women Support and Investigation Division" for women and girls victims. Most of the sensitive women violence cases are going to investigated by this unit among. Women Support and Investigating Division has established in 2011. This unit investigate those cases which lodge the first Information Report (FIR) to the Dhaka Metropolitan Police stations. All staff are women .so, victims feel comfort to cooperate and continue their cases.

Partnership

To Encourage Partnership between GO & NGO : The International Organization for Migration (IOM) plays an important role in this issue as human trafficking can be seen as an act of forced migration. One of the key principles of the IOM however is, to fight forced migration and therefore also human trafficking. IOM is also assisting in the rehabilitation of victims of trafficking.

Interpol (NCB): When trafficking happens beyond the boarder lodge the FIR, Investigating officers can get help from Interpole through NCB, PHQ. Bangladesh's request Interpol issued at least seven red notices in 2020 and six of them against offenders charged with human trafficking from Bangladesh to

Libya. This is for the first time Bangladeshi authorities have asked Interpol to issue red notices against human traffickers.

Extradition treaty: Bangladesh government has only signed agreement with two countries with India and Thailand. Bangladesh government can repatriate offender through Extradition treaty. These treaties can be beneficial in increasing collaboration among law enforcement agencies of different nations. Collaboration across borders can assist in dealing with transnational trafficking gangs and international networks that abet and facilitate trafficking.

Table 2: Principle causes behind low conviction rates.

Causes of low conviction of trafficking cases (as mentioned by investigating officers)	Number of responses (n=280)	%
Victims' Compromising Attitude	60	21%
Inability to produce sufficient physical evidence in front of the Court	49	18%
Delayed Reporting to the Police Station	33	12%
Victims stay outside the country	29	10%
Lengthy Legal Process	29	10%
Non-Cooperation of Public Prosecutor	25	9%
Lack of Eyewitness	18	6%
Mistake of Fact	11	4%
Lack of logistics	11	4%
Insufficient Number of Women Police	8	3%
Other Reasons	7	3%

Source: Field survey (July - December 2021)

The data in Table-2 above was collected through interviewing Sub-Inspectors who have been working as Investigating Officers. Respondents are all Sub-Inspectors (i.e., Investigating Officers) active across different police stations all over Bangladesh. Sample size are 280, among which 21% responded that they believe a 'victim-compromising attitude' is one of the main reasons for low conviction rates in trafficking cases. They noticed that in most of the cases, victims are poor as well as in vulnerable positions in terms of their social position. But the accused in these trafficking are all influential people.

Data also indicates that when victims lodge the first information report, the accused attempt to convince the victims—who is mostly a female, and try to convince their families. The logic presented by the accused usually go along the line of the damages being already done, and some monetary help would in the end help the victim's family sustain itself. In this way, victim can be compromised and give the statement in front of court. 18% are of the opinion that sufficient physical evidence are not presented in front of the court. 12% mentioned, delayed reporting to the police station as a reason, and 10% of the respondents have mentioned that it is due to the victims staying outside of the country, usually because of the external trafficking case. 10% responded by mentioning the lengthy nature of the prosecution process as a reason, and 9% have given the opinion that the cooperation of public prosecutor being lacking is a principle cause. Additionally, 6% mentioned a lack of eye witnesses, and another 6% have said that mistake of fact is one of the main reasons for low conviction rate in human trafficking cases.

When an Investigating Officer investigates the case, it is usually found that the case is not even related with trafficking. The motive may be different. For example, it may be a case of a couple willingly marrying without the consent of their families and their subsequent attempts to escape from their family and stay hidden. The girl's father then lodges the trafficking case against that boy. 4% of the respondents gave their opinion that a lack of logistics is a cause for low conviction rates, and 3% gave their opinion that insufficient women Police were the reasons. 3% have mentioned some other reasons behind the low conviction rates for human trafficking cases.

Recommendations

(3-R strategy)

R = Rescue- Bangladesh government should sign agreement the extradition treaty with Middle-East countries.

According to the Bangladeshi law the prevention and suppression of human trafficking Act, 2012 section.19 (5)9, "Investigation officer (IO) will visit the place of occurrence (P.O) of another country". Bangladesh Government can sign Bi-lateral, Tri lateral Treaty with India, Myanmar and Middle-east regarding rescue victims and re-patriate offenders of human traffickers from those countries.

R=Rehabilitation- Rehabilitation means for the victim to be able to live with their past. Bangladesh government and non-government organization should rehabilitate the victims of human trafficking.

R=Reintegration- Reintegration basically mean to reintegrate victims, back into main streaming society so that they can live like they used to. Mind set of Bangladeshi people should be changed that victim is not offender. Anyone can victimize anytime, anywhere she may be our daughter, sister or wife. So, society should empathy on that victim.

The data in table-3 was collected through interviewing Sub-Inspector who have been working as Investigating officers. Respondents are all Sub-Inspectors (i.o. Investigating Officers) active across different police stations all over Bangladesh.

Table 3: How to enhance conviction rate in Human Trafficking cases

Factors (as mentioned by Investigating Officers)	Number of Responses (n=280)	%
Arranging training on forensic Crime scene management (& others)	64	23%
Reducing workload	60	21%
Coordination Among Police, Public prosecutor & Judiciary	48	17%
Role of supervising official as a investigation team member	37	13%
Awareness programs in Educational Institutions	30	11%
Ensure sufficient Investigation kit in the Police station	18	6%
Quick Report to The Police Station	10	4%
Increase Women Police in The Police Station (Thana)	8	3%
Other Ways	5	2%

Source: Field Survey, July to December 2021.

Sample size is 280, among which 23% responded that arrange training on forensic crime scene management and others enhance conviction rate of human trafficking cases 21% and 17% gave their opinion reduce workload and co-ordination among police, public prosecutor and Judiciary respectively enhance conviction rate of human trafficking cases 13% mentioned role of supervising official as a investigation team member.

11% said awareness to the educational institutions. 6% and 4% have given their opinion ensure sufficient Investigation in the police stations and quick report to the police station. respectively 3% and 2% mentioned. Increase women police in the police station and other ways respectively enhance conviction rate in human trafficking cases.

Conclusion

There are four core components in criminal justice system. They are Police, Public Prosecutor, Judiciary and Correction centers. Besides other components are forensic experts, doctors, legal practitioners, activists etc. If we want to give justice to the victims and enhance the conviction rate of human trafficking cases, we have to work together. It is not feasible that in a fine morning all crime related to human trafficking will be ended. In order to tackle the issues, the government must coordinate its efforts with those of International Organizations and Nongovernmental Organizations (NGOs). Bangladesh Government should establish a plan on how to rehabilitate and reintegrate victims of human trafficking.

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Sociological Profiling of Terrorists in Bangladesh

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Abstract: This exploratory and descriptive study analyses the sociological factors of terrorists in Bangladesh. Employing a mixed method research design, the researcher reviewed interviews and court documents, i.e. charge-sheets of 90 apprehended and convicted terrorists who were active in Bangladesh in between 2000-2019 and operated under one of the two prominent terrorist organizations of Bangladesh: Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT) and Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen of Bangladesh (JMB). The quantitative analysis findings included the following: (1) Muslim young people, aged 21-30, mostly male, mainly middle and upper middle class, with a graduation degree, chose the path of ABT; (2) Muslim young people, aged 21-30, mostly male, mainly lower middle class, with an education below the school certificate level, got involved in the terrorism of JMB; (3) all but one of the terrorists studied had no prior criminal history; and (4) the number of Madrasa (Islamic education center) students involved in terrorist groups was not significant. The qualitative study indicated that terrorists associated with both organizations were primarily influenced by religious ideology, social media, internet content, radical books, Islamic preaching, friends, family, and a sense of repression; and that female terrorists were mostly influenced by their family members.

Keywords: terrorist, sociological, Ansarullah Bangla Team, Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen of Bangladesh

Introduction

Terrorism is a threat to the national security, tranquility, and prosperity of any country, including Bangladesh. Terrorism causes direct economic destruction and indirect harm to overall financial indicators, such as inflation rate, gross domestic product, etc. In July 2016, Bangladesh experienced the Holey Artisan terror attack, which victimized some foreign investors (Kumar, 2016). In the following years, Bangladesh experienced fresh waves of violent extremism that had a profound influence on the country's social, political, and economic spheres. Terrorists do not suddenly turn into terrorists, and there is no personality attribute that compels them to engage in violence. No matter how distorted, intellectualism and idealism are usually present in some way in the person who becomes a terrorist. Additionally, terrorist organizations seek individuals who possess specialized skills and personalities, such as proficiency with computers or knowledge of weaponry and a fearless attitude (Jenkins, 1982).

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The purpose of this study was to examine the radicalization, recruitment, and orientation process of terrorists into terrorist groups, as well as the personality, ideologies, demography, and motivation of terrorists and potential terrorists. To do so, this study analyzed interviews and court documents of 90 terrorists in Bangladesh. Among them, 45 were from Ansarullah Bangla Team (ABT) and 45 were from Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen (JMB). Analysis of the profiles of ABT and JMB members revealed some common attributes of terrorists based on some sociological factors, such as age, ideological orientation, educational background, childhood, mental health, financial background, etc.

The analysis revealed that young people of Bangladesh often think of themselves as change makers who want to be the "hero of the society." Terrorist organizations utilize this psychology and show charismatic leadership to attract them. The analysis also revealed parents often feel happy when their children show a fascination with excessive religious engagement. However, young people are unable to distinguish between proper religious practice and excessive religious practice. Terrorist organization recruiters follow excessively engaged young people at mosques, Islamic preaching gatherings, educational institutions, and other public places. In recent years, recruiters have also become active on social media platforms to hunt fresh-minded, enthusiastic, educated people for their terrorist organizations. Experienced recruiters spend a long time explaining, convincing, and shaping the conception of young people of various income levels, including middle, upper middle, and even upper class. Finally, targeted youth are persuaded to do "hijrat" to perform "Jihad" against the enemies of Islam.

Problem Statement

The government in Bangladesh strictly upholds a "zero tolerance" policy against any form of violent terrorism to promote long-lasting tranquility, peace, and stability and to facilitate continuous socio-economic development. The law enforcement agencies of Bangladesh take certain proactive measures to prevent and counter radicalization. Law enforcers also take necessary steps to speed up de-radicalization programs. Finding the sociological factors of terrorism is necessary for the application of preventive methods for combatting terrorism. Law enforcement officers must comprehend the terrorists' mindset to determine why some people go for violence.

Demographic characteristics of terrorists also need to be analyzed to develop effective de-radicalization processes. This study focused on sociological factors related to patterns of operations and recruitment processes of terrorist organizations in Bangladesh. The researcher found some common characteristics of radicalization processes utilized by the two most prominent

terrorists associated with JMB and ABT. This findings will certainly help the law enforcers, especially Bangladesh Police to combat against terrorism. When the researcher analyzed the historical records of law enforcement interviews of terrorists of these two groups, she found that the radicalization processes of these two organizations followed distinct outlines. The recruiters targeted certain types of people to join their organizations by radicalizing them. However, the researcher also noticed distinct features of the sociological factors of ABT and JMB.

Therefore the research questions developed for this study included the following: (1) what sociological factors affect the radicalization of a terrorist in the context of Bangladesh? (2) what kind of people join terrorist organizations in Bangladesh? And (3) what are the differences between the sociological factors of terrorists of the ABT and JMB?

Literature Review

Rise of Terrorism in Bangladesh

Bangladesh is a country in south Asia with the third-largest Muslim population in the world. Bangladesh has a long history of being recognized as a nation where tolerant Islam is practiced. In the past, faithful Bangladeshis considered their religion as a component of their identity and took part in the customs and festivals of the other religions in the area. Bangladesh's struggle for independence from Pakistan in 1971 was motivated by Bengali nationalism, which favored equality, peaceful coexistence of different ethnic and religious groups, and secularism (Khan, 2019). Yet after Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibar Rahman, Bangladesh's father of the nation, was killed in 1975, Islam started to be used as a political instrument by the country's then-military government (Khan, 2019). Ziaur Rahman, the military dictator at the time, withdrew the word "secularism" from Bangladesh's constitution eight years after the country gained independence.

However, in recent decades, this nation has been dealing with a growing challenge related to Islamic radicalization (Lorch, 2011). Once Mujahideens—Bangladeshi citizens who fought for Afghanistan in the Soviet-Afghan War—returned to Bangladesh in the 1990s, Bangladesh began to experience the first wave of terrorism, defined as the use of violence or the fear of violence to have some kind of political impact (Parvez, 2004). Since then, terrorism has grown to be Bangladesh's top security threat. Terrorist attacks have resulted in the deaths of citizens, foreigners, and Law enforcerss. Furthermore, the scope of terrorist operations, such as indoctrination, financing, and recruitment, has expanded (Khan, 2019).

Terrorism in Bangladesh can be divided into five generations (Riaz, 2016). The first generation of Islamist terrorists in Bangladesh was formed under the aegis of Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami Bangladesh (HuJI-B), which was established and commanded by Shawkat Osman alias Sheikh Farid in 1992. The second generation was Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) and was led by Shaikh Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai, both of whom had previously been members of the Islami Chatra Shibir (ICS). The JMB also included the former Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB), which had been founded by Shaikh Abdur Rahman in 1998. The Hizb-ut-Tahrir Bangladesh Branch (HT), the third generation, was established in 2001 by a university professor who was a Commonwealth Scholar and studied in the United Kingdom.

This branch was divided into groups based on their technological expertise and educational backgrounds. Ansarullah Bangla Team, which first appeared in 2007 under the name Jamaat-ul Muslemin, is regarded as belonging to the fourth generation. The fifth generation differs significantly from the earlier ones. They appeared after Ayman al-Zawahiri founded Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), Al Qaeda's branch in South Asia, in September 2014. This generation is motivated by the ideologies of AQIS and ISIS, and they aspire to join the global jihad by founding the Islamic State in Bangladesh. The fifth generation of Islamic terrorists includes Ansar al Islam and Neo-JMB (Riaz, 2016).

According to Ali Riaz, the coercive nature of governance, criminalization of politics, the relationship between India and Bangladesh, the proxy war between India and Pakistan, and easy access to weapons are the causes of the rise of Islamist terrorism in Bangladesh. Additionally, corruption, a deficit economy, sufferings, unequal resource distribution, and political unrest all contributed to the evolution of terrorism in Bangladesh with little outside help (Momen, 2020).

The formation of terrorist organizations in Bangladesh was facilitated by political radicalization carried out in the name of Islam. According to Julfikar Ali Manik, Chetan Bhatt, and Shafi Md Mostofa, the terrorist organizations active in Bangladesh are either affiliated with or ideologically inspired by Al Qaeda and the Islamic State, two of the most well-known terrorist organizations in the world. 2018 International Crisis Group found Ansarul Islam, Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen Bangladesh, Neo-Jamaat-ul Mujahideen, and the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) as active terrorist organizations in Bangladesh (International Crisis Group, 2018).

The Sociological Factors of Terrorism

Russell et. al (2019) found, in a demographic study ranging from 1960 to 1990 that the majority of terrorists were from middle-class and upper-middle-class

families. Another study by Russell and Miller (1977) revealed the average age of terrorists was between 23.2 to 31.3. In 1982, during a Rand Corporation Conference participants made several observations about terrorist ideologies viewing people as individuals, groups, and members of a group. The dialog demonstrated that the researchers understood very little about the pattern of terrorist mindsets, recruitment, ideology, leader-follower relationships, organization, decision-making about targets and tactics, escalation of violence, and attempts by disillusioned terrorists to leave the terrorist group (Jenkins, 1982). A 1999 study showed that media played an important role in shaping the mindset of a terrorist as the potential terrorists became aware of terrorist activities, goals, and means from the media coverage (Hudson, 1999).

Another study suggests, the mindset of radicalized family and friends had some influence over the perception of potential terrorists (Hudson, 1999). The social and political contexts, cultural traditions, and internal dynamics of their covert groups are the factors from which the belief systems of terrorists are derived. According to British Terrorism expert Paul Wilkinson, psychologists have not sufficiently examined the terrorist's psychological mentality and ideology (Hudson, 1999). However, terrorists never consider themselves to be terrorists, rather they believe they are defending themselves against a repressive regime (Hudson, 1999). They think that what they are doing is right and proper (Jenkins , 1982). The fundamentalists see themselves as a symbol of Islam, not as individual terrorists (Monroe and Kreidie, 1997).

Teenagers who live in areas rife with political unrest may see terrorist actions personally and attempt to emulate them. Moreover, they may learn from their culture the open glorification of the terrorists, such as the "martyr posters" that line the streets of the countries like Shi'a regions of Lebanon, and Palestinian refugee camps (Krenshaw, 1992). A violent version of jihad is taught in religious institutions (Madrasa) for young Muslim males of Palestine and Pakistan where the number of the Madrasa and violent preaching over there have increased during the recent global rise of Islamic extremism (Armstrong, 2002). The social learning process might steer some young individuals down the path of terrorism. However, not everyone from those communities becomes a terrorist, despite being exposed to the same or similar circumstances (Sageman, 2004).

Some researchers believe that economic inequality causes terrorism and some believe that there is a sociological link between poverty and terrorism (Schmid et. al., 1983). It is worth noting that economic inequalities did play a significant role in triggering the European revolution in the eighteenth century (Victoroff, 2005). However, other studies suggests that potential terrorists are young persons with low self-esteem who have intense and desperate demands to solidify their identities (Olsson, 1988).

In the case of Bangladesh, the stereotype that terrorists are drawn from underprivileged, unemployed backgrounds and Madrasa education is unfounded. Most of them belong to middle-class or upper-middle-class families; a sizable proportion received their advanced education at prestigious universities and/or have technical training. And it is not surprising research has shown that most militants are young people (Riaz, 2016).

Throughout the globe, since people's access to the internet is increasing, various groups are using social media to radicalise people (Thompson, 2011). Terrorists use social media platforms to share and transmit messages, tag, hashtag, discuss, share video material, engage with other actors, and so on (KhosraviNik & Amir, 2020).

There is a research gap in existing researches on the sociological factors of a particular terrorist organization of Bangladesh.

Methods

The researcher uses a mixed methods approach for this study. Mixed methods is a research design where both quantitative and qualitative data are collected to pursue the same research. Mixed method is an appropriate approach to attain a better understanding of relationships and contradictories between qualitative and quantitative data (Shorten & Smith, 2017).

Data Collection

The sample for this study was drawn from apprehended and convicted terrorists in Bangladesh. The researcher selected interviews of ninety terrorists from different demographic and social background randomly who were interviewed by officers of Bangladesh police. Forty-five of the terrorists interviewed were followers of ABT and 45 were followers of JMB. The sample size is 90. The number of the population was 192. The researcher divided them into two groups: one for ABT, one for JMB. There were 100 interview and case documents for JMB, where only 92 set of data for ABT. The researcher then randomly selected 45 samples from ABT and 45 from JMB.

The interviews were semi-structured. The researcher personally conducted 10 and documented them with pen and paper. The other 80 interviews were conducted by other police officers and the interview reports were collected by the researcher at a later date with a permission of those interviewer officers. These 90 terrorists were in a custody of Police during the interview. The researcher randomly selected the interviews of 45 ABT and 45 JMB terrorists.

The interview was taken in between 2017-2018 in the custody of Counter Terrorism and Trans-national Crime Unit of Dhaka Metropolitan Police. The

language of these interviews was Bengali, the researcher herself translated them into English. Each interview took 60-90 minutes. The interviews were conducted for investigation and intelligence purposes. The police officers conducting the interviews asked the terrorists several questions related to the terrorists' involvement with terrorism, such as the circumstances under which they chose the path of violence or terrorism. The officers also asked many demographic and sociological questions, such as their age, gender, educational background, family background, community, marital status, ideology, childhood, abusive history, and employment status. The researcher also reviewed the court documents, i.e. Charge-sheets given by investigating officers of police to the court. The researcher analyzed the reports from all interviews and identified various causes of radicalization from these 90 terrorists' answers (impact of social media, family or friends, frustration, religious belief, etc.). In this study, the researcher only discusses the sociological factors of these terrorists.

Data Analysis

The researcher used chi-square and frequency distribution to conduct a quantitative analysis to determine whether the terrorist involvement of the 90 individuals was associated with their demographic categories. The qualitative data gathered from interviews was analyzed by open coding. Then the data were categorized into different themes. The mixed methodology approach used for this study was an appropriate methodology for exploratory and descriptive research.

Results

This chapter analyzes data gathered through interview and Charge-sheets by using systematic quantitative techniques. This chapter also includes a qualitative study to describe the data and the overall discussion of the study.

Quantitative Study: Discussion of the Demographic Factors

Table 1: Comparison between ABT and JMB in terms of Gender

Gender	***ABT (n=45)***	***JMB (n=45)***
Female	3 (6.67%)	2 (4.44%)
Male	42 (93.33%)	43 (95.56%)

Table 1 provides the gender distribution of the ABT and JMB terrorists interviewed. ABT had only 6.67% female terrorists, whereas JMB had only 4.44% female terrorists.

Table 2: Comparison between ABT and JMB in terms of educational pattern

Variable	*ABT (n=45)*	*JMB (n=45)*
Educational level		
Under Secondary School Certificate	3 (6.67%)	12 (26.67%)
Secondary School Certificate	1 (2.22%)	5 (11.11%)
Higher School Certificate	3 (6.67%)	4 (8.89%)
Honors (Graduation)	25 (55.56%)	8 (17.78%)
Diploma	0	3 (6.67%)
Masters	8 (17.78%)	2 (4.44%)
Madrasa (Dakhil)	1 (2.22%)	0
(Madrasa) Alim	0	2 (4.44%)
(Madrasa) Fajil	0	5 (11.11%)
(Madrasa) Kamil	0	0
(Madrasa) Daora Hadith	4 (8.89%)	3 (6.67%)
(Madrasa) Hafiz	0	1 (2.22%)
Education pattern		
General	40 (88.89%)	34 (75.56%)
Madrasa	05 (11.11%)	11 (24.44%)

The chi-square analysis of ABT showed significant gender differences with x^2= 26.01 and P<0.0001. Similarly, chi-square analysis of JMB indicated significant gender differences with x^2= 29.16 and p<0.0001.

Table 2 demonstrates the religious identity of ABT and JMB terrorists. All subjects of this study, from both ABT and JMB, identified as Muslim.

The Table-2 also represents the educational pattern of ABT and JMB terrorists. A scrutiny of the data demonstrates that 40 of 45 ABT terrorists and 34 of 45 JMB terrorists are from general education. In contrast, 5 ABT and 11 JMB terrorists are from a Madrasa background. Furthermore, The Chi-square analysis of the educational pattern of ABT founds the educational pattern of ABT statistically

Table 3: Comparison between ABT and JMB in terms of marital status

Variables	*ABT (n=45)*	*JMB (n=45)*
Marital Status		
Married	23 (51.11%)	21 (46.67%)
Unmarried	22 (48.89%)	24 (53.33%)

significant having x^2= 28.814 and p<0.0001. The Chi-square analysis of the educational pattern of JMB founds the educational pattern of JMB statistically significant having x^2= 12.806 and p<0.0003.

The Table 3 compares the marital status of ABT and JMB. In an overview, 23 out of 45 ABT terrorists are married which is 51.11%. On the other hand, 21(46.67%) out of 45 JMB terrorists are married. In addition, the Chi-square analysis of the marital status of ABT founds marital status of ABT is not statistically significant having x^2= 0.022 with p= 0.8815. The Chi-square analysis of the marital status of JMB founds that the marital status of JMB is not statistically significant having x^2= 0.200 with p= 0.6547.

Table 4: Comparison of ABT and JMB in terms of Previous Criminal record

Variables	*ABT (n=45)*	*JMB (n=45)*
Previous Criminal Record		
Yes	00	01 (2.22%)
No	45 (100%)	44 (97.78%)

As presented in Table 4, the ABT and JMB terrorists follow the almost same pattern in the category of a previous criminal record. It shows that only one JMB terrorist out of the total 90 (ABT+JMB) terrorists has a criminal history. He was sentenced to prison for a traffic related case and got connected to another JMB member who had been convicted of terrorism.

Table 5: Comparison between ABT and JMB in terms of Family Status

Variables	*ABT (n=45)*	*JMB (n=45)*
Family Status		
Upper Class	02 (4.44%)	00
Upper Middle	21 (46.67%)	06 (13.33%)
Middle Class	22 (48.89%)	14 (31.11%)
Lower Middle Class	0	25 (55.56%)

The Table 5 shows that ABT has two (4.44%) members who belong to the upper class, 21 (46.67%) upper middle class, and 22 (48.89%) middle class family background. The study found no one from the lower middle class who joined ABT. In contrast, 25 (55.56%) of the total 45 JMB terrorists are from the lower middle class.

As stated in the table, the highest number of ABT terrorists belong to the middle-class family, whereas the highest number of JMB terrorists are from the lower middle class. As evident from the table, the family status of the terrorists studied of ABT is at a higher position as that of JMB.

Table 6: Comparison between ABT and JMB in terms of Age range

Variables	***ABT (n=45)***	***JMB (n=45)***
Age Range		
15-20	5 (11.11%)	2 (4.44%)
21-25	19 (42.22%)	26 (57.78%)
26-30	7 (15.56%)	6 (13.33%)
31-35	11 (24.44%)	5 (11.11%)
36-40	1 (2.22%)	1 (2.22%)
Above 40	2 (4.44%)	5 (11.11%)

Table 6 presents the age range of terrorists of ABT and JMB. The average age of ABT is 27. The chi-square analysis of the age range of ABT is statistically significant with $x^2=27.36$ and $p<0.0001$. In the case of ABT, 37 0f 45 (82%) terrorists belong to the age limit of 21-35. Besides, the average age for JMB terrorists is a bit higher, 31. The chi-square analysis of the age range of JMB is also statistically significant with $x^2= 31.786$ and $p<0.0001$.

Qualitative Study: Discussion of Factors Influencing Radicalization

Qualitative study shows the sociological factors of the 90 terrorists of ABT and JMB through various category of themes.

Family Influence

Six of 45 ABT terrorists are connected to terrorism because of family influence. Among them, three are females. Two of these females are radicalized by their radicalized husbands. One radicalized female terrorists of ABT came to this path being radicalized by the university senior student. She then got married to another radicalized person without the consent of her parents. She stated that,

My senior brother "Z" used to text me about the religion "Islam". He advised me to follow the rules and regulations of Islam blindly and unconditionally. I was so convinced that I told him to find a groom of the same mentality as me. Then brother "Z" introduced me to a person named "Y". My parents did not like him for his radical attitude. I got married with the help of brother "Z" without the consent of my parents. After that, I along with my husband decided to Hijrat to Syria. My Husband sacrificed his life towards the path of ALLAH in a war against Kafir in Syria.

Another female ABT member decided to travel to Syria under the influence of his brother. This radicalized female provided not only moral support but also financial aid for her brother's journey to Syria. Her brother gave her guidance and direction to hijrat and jihad. Nevertheless, Bangladesh Police detained this female ABT member before she left for Syria.

Not only female but also two male ABT terrorists chose this terrorist organization by the influence of family. Among them, one followed his sister, another followed his beloved wife. The first ABT member stated that,

I completed my A level from a reputed and elite English Medium School in Dhaka. I was getting ready to attend a higher education program overseas. My elder sister, who was quite interested in religious activities at that time, advised me to obey Allah's instructions. She convinced me that I should devote myself to the way of Allah rather than educating myself at kafir institutions. Her words changed my mind, my life too."

In the case of JMB, two females and two males are radicalized by family members. Spouses played the role of radicalizer for two women; brothers played the same for the male terrorists. One female member realized her wrong just a moment before committing suicide. She stated that,

My husband was an officer of a reputed organization in Bangladesh. After a six months visit, he returned from Canada. At that time, I noticed some changes in him. He began engaging in excessive religious activity. After quitting his job, he joined JMB. He encouraged me to travel to Syria following him. After a while, I learned that he died in a police encounter. My spouse advised me to kill myself if the cops come to arrest me. I was ready to do that. However, afterward, I realized that I was going in the wrong direction.

Another interesting radicalization happened to a minor JMB member by his parents. He said,

We belong to a prosperous, content family. My father was invited to join the jihad against non-Muslims by some of his buddies. Being fascinated with their beautiful word; My mother, my father, and I got ready to fight for Allah. Many JMB people used to visit us. One night, police came to our home to arrest us. My father took his own life to avoid arrest. We assaulted the cops but were afterward taken into custody.

Social Media

Social media has been an effective source of radicalization. Posts on social media may affect the mindset of people, especially young people, who become radicalized after connecting with recruiters through Facebook. Charismatic personalities and captivating posts of recruiters may change the attitudes of young change-loving people.

Many of the terrorists interviewed got involved in the terrorism of ABT and JMB through social media apps. Fifteen out of 45 ABT terrorists interviewed said they were influenced by Facebook posts and YouTube videos.

One ABT terrorist claimed that he watched IS videos on Facebook and then contacted the individual who had shared the videos. He got to know him and started corresponding with him. That person belonged to ABT and he eventually joined ABT as well. Another ABT member worked as an IT specialist in England and became fascinated with Islamic radical videos and posts. Regarding the influence of social media, an ABT member stated:

> *I followed several IDs on Facebook to learn the Bengali meaning of the Quran and Hadith. I was interested to know about the warfare of Muslims against Kafir around the globe. I searched for this kind of post on Facebook. I found a person who frequently shared this thing. I added him and personally got connected with him. He was a member of ABT, I joined this organization later because I wanted to fight myself in the path of Islam, and against the Kafir.*

On the other hand, only one member of JMB admitted that he used to watch online Islamic preaching on Facebook.

This study shows, social media based radicalization and recruitment is accomplished by several steps: the recruiters Post status/tweets/videos on Facebook, Twitter, blog, YouTube, etc. with a request to like, comment, share and Develop contact with the person who has liked or shared the post by sending a friend request or following.

If a commenter or liker indicates an interest, they will describe the route and mechanics of jihad or terrorism. Then there is more one-on-one personal communication. Following that, a face-to-face contact with interested parties is established with the assistance of intermediaries in order to take additional initiatives if the target individual demonstrates willingness and aptitude.

Offline Social Network

A significant number of people became members of either ABT or JMB because of the offline social networks. Bangladeshis are mostly social and religious

people. They like meeting up with strangers in bazaars, mosques, and other public places. The recruiters of both terrorist organizations have taken advantage of the social nature of Bangladeshi people.

Twenty out of the 45 ABT terrorists interviewed claimed they chose the path of terrorism after being influenced by their offline social network, while 29 out of 45 JMB terrorists claimed the same. Social networks included university friends, neighbors, and even strangers who met in public places. One ABT member stated:

> *I come from a wealthy family. I once ran across a total stranger at the mosque while I just finished my prayers. We got along well. He informed me of his organization named ABT. He defended ABT's efforts to introduce Sharia law in our country. I gave him my moral support. In a few days, he persuaded me to provide ABT with my active support. I consented, took the oath, and carried out the attack on the police.*

ABT recruiters used to seek out university students. An ABT terrorists who was a student at a reputed university in Bangladesh stated:

> *I lived in a student dorm right behind my university. My university's seniors encouraged me to join their group called ABT. I first refused because I had a lot to study. I informed them that I was pressed for time. After a few days, several other ABT members visited me following the prayer at the university mosque. They coerced me into joining. I quit the university and moved to Dhaka. But they continued to message me on social media. They instructed me to promote their organization through publicity. And at last, I started working with ABT as a publicist.*

ABT members and recruiters used the language of Islam to recruit people and also threatened people to join their organization. An ABT terrorist said:

> *I visited a nearby village to hear what (Islamic preaching). I made some new friends there. Following that, I frequently travel to that village to offer my prayers in an Ahle Hadith Mosque which they would also frequently visit. They informed me of the suffering endured by Muslims around the world. They taught me the basics of Hadith. Their lectures were fascinating. I declared that I will kill people for Islam if Islam allows that. They advised me to divorce my wife because she opposed jihad. After that, they allegedly threatened to kill my father, if I do not join ABT. Finally, Fear drove me to join ABT.*

Among the individuals interviewed, it was very common for university students to join ABT due to the influence of friends, seniors, and juniors. One ABT terrorist said:

> *In the university's boys' lounge, I met some of my acquaintances. There, one of them claimed that a blogger in our country was constantly writing blasphemy. We intended to kill him. We joined ABT through a senior brother from our institution to carry out the plan.*

For JMB, recruitment through offline social networks was extremely common. The JMB recruiter's approach was to meet strangers in mosques and other religious settings. One JMB terrorist stated:

> *In the mosque of Ahl e Hadith, I met him. He later taught me the Quran and hadith. His lectures were engaging. I found out later about his group, JMB. He informed me that they engage in robbery and dacoit to raise funds to support the organization. He persuaded me that since the money was used for a good cause, it was okay to steal it. I took part in collecting money by these unlawful means.*

One terrorist who had previously been convicted in a different case met and was recruited by a JMB terrorist while he was in prison. This individual stated:

> *That person I met in jail gave me two numbers. When I came out of jail, I contacted them, they asked me to listen to the Islamic preaching of Jashim Uddin Rahmani. His voice encouraged me to take part in Jihad.*

Teachers also played the role of radicalizers. Generally, students were inspired by the belief and ideologies of teachers. One JMB terrorist, who was a teacher by profession, stated he encouraged his students to join JMB.

In addition to the guidance of neighbors, friends, co-workers, and co-tenants, even strangers have played a vital role in recruiting individuals to join both ABT and JMB. For example, a shopkeeper said that a stranger came to his shop disguised as a customer, started gossiping, and finally gave him a phone number. Out of curiosity, the shopkeeper called the number and discovered the stranger was a JMB recruiter.

Poor Mental Health

Based on interviews of both ABT and JMB terrorists, poor mental health appeared to be an ignored factor contributing to terrorism in Bangladesh. And adverse mental situations may drag a person to terrorism. Three of the ABT terrorists interviewed claimed that frustration due to unemployment forced them to join the ABT organization. One ABT member stated:

> *My older brother and I conducted business together. I eventually left the business owing to lose. I was upset. I become involved in excessive religious activities out of desperation. The person I met in tablig, delivered lectures on the Quran, hadith, and jihad. I got to know another person who was an ABT member through him. Then I was enrolled in ABT.*

Similarly, one JMB terrorist claimed he became frustrated by his unemployment and, having no other options, enrolled himself in JMB. JMB offered him a monthly allowance of 3,000 takas.

There were also cases with much different stories related to mental health. For example, one of the terrorists of the 45 JMB stated his mother had a mental illness and he was ill-treated in his community because of his mother's illness. To overcome the disgrace, he joined JMB and thought he was carrying out a noble job that would give him eternal praise, identity, and prosperity. Another JMB member explained:

> *After losing my job, I was passing my days miserably. Then one of my neighbors proposed me to earn money by joining his organization. I did not know about their job. I was unaware that they possess arms. Once I learned that they were involved in terrorism, I left the group.*

Terrorist Materials

Based on interviews of both ABT and JMB terrorists, terrorism in Bangladesh can be attributed to watching radical videos, reading extremist materials, and listening to Islamic preaching (waaj). Together with misleading rumor videos describing the sufferings of Muslims, radical Islamic preaching (waaj) was a common source of influence on the terrorists interviewed. During the interviews, a preacher named Jashim Uddin Rahmani was cited repeatedly. His Islamic preaching motivated many ordinary people to engage in Jihad. One ABT member stated:

> *My friend gave me jihadi books to read. I read them and gave them to my other friend. Then we both decided to go for Hijrat.*

Compared to ABT, JMB terrorists were more likely to watch Islamic speeches (waaj). Thirty-five JMB terrorists claimed to have heard Jashim Uddin Rahmani's waaj at some point during their terrorist careers, while 7 JMB terrorists stated that this waaj was the catalyst for their radicalization. When they first heard about Jashim Uddin Rahmani's waaj, they were inspired to join jihad with help of friends, neighbors, or others.

One JMB member, who was over 40 years old, stated:

> *Long ago I went to listen waaj of Mujahidin (Bangladeshi people fought for Afghans in the Afghanistan- US war). I came to know about the disgrace of Muslims. I decided to fight the war for ALLAH. I took training in the jungle of Bangladesh to prepare myself for the war in Afghanistan.*

Another JMB member stated,

> *I started getting ready for the IELTS test. I loved listening to Jashim Uddin Rahmani's waaj at the time. Listening to the waaj inspired me to engage in jihad. At the coaching center, I spoke with two people. They said that their organization is attempting to impose an Islamic caliphate on Bangladesh. I informed them of my interest in going to Afghanistan to carry out jihad. Then they took me to another person.*

Madrasa Education

Interestingly, Madrasa education had no discernible impact on Bangladesh's ABT recruitment. Among the 45 terrorists of the ABT who were interviewed, only 5 had a Madrasa education. One ABT terrorist stated:

When I was a student of the Madrasa, one of my teachers always used to tell me about the blasphemy of the atheist bloggers of our country. I decided to punish the bloggers as they undermine our religion and our prophet. However, I don't support some pillars of IS, like killing people by burning alive in the fire, and slavery.

Similarly, only 11 of the 45 JMB terrorists interviewed received their education in a Madrasa. One JMB leader stated:

> *I obtained my Madrasa degree in both Pakistan and India. To fight against Russia, I received military training in Afghanistan. I was admitted to a hospital due to an injury I had during that training. On return to Bangladesh, I established a Madrasa. Some leaders of the militants of Bangladesh came to meet me. We planned to undertake a huge operation to overthrow the government and establish an Islamist regime.*

In summary, the qualitative study revealed several psycho-social factors behind the radicalization and recruitment of terrorists in Bangladesh.

Discussion

The research demonstrated a strong correlation between several sociological factors and terrorist inclination. Quantitative research indicated that ABT members were likely to be younger, mostly male, Muslim, graduates, who belonged to the upper middle class. In contrast, the JMB members were young, primarily from lower-middle-class backgrounds, mostly male, and with less education. One important finding was that all but one studied terrorists had no criminal histories. Only one JMB member had a prior conviction history, and that related to a driving-related case, not violence. Another point is that marital status did not appear to be a factor in whether someone became a terrorist. The interviews also indicated that family members had a more significant influence on female terrorists than on male terrorists.

In qualitative research, the researcher discovered that social media played a big role in radicalization and terrorist activity. Both organizations (especially ABT) recruited members via social media, particularly Facebook and YouTube. Members (especially ABT) connected with other potential terrorists on Facebook and other social media apps. JMB terrorists were mostly recruited by communicating with people via offline means, such as mosques, meetings, waaj (Islamic preaching), shops, bazaars, etc. ABT members used online materials

mostly. On the other side, JMB members read and distributed offline books and materials to each other.

This study further indicated that Madrasa education played a very minor influence, particularly among ABT members. This indicated that inadequate knowledge of the basic ideology of Islam may be responsible for the radicalization of ABT and JMB members. Unemployment and poverty were two significant factors, and some terrorists claimed they were offered money to join a terrorist organization. The attractive recruitment campaigns of terrorist organizations also effectively grabbed the attention of the young generation.

This study has practical implications for the counter-terrorism strategy of Bangladesh. Law enforcers can study further to find potential terrorists by using the indicators identified through this research. Law enforcement agencies, social workers, and other accountable government agencies—such as the Ministry of Youth and the Ministry of Culture—could broaden their prevention and de-radicalization efforts by considering the risk factors highlighted through this research. The study could help efforts to achieve the three most important goals of counterterrorism: preventing radicalization, countering radicalization, and de-radicalization.

Conclusion

To conclude, this exploratory and descriptive research examined the sociological factors of terrorism in Bangladesh. The mixed methods research approach used for this study not only provides a better understanding of distinctive factors behind the causes of terrorist activities but also provides intense stories of terrorists of two prominent terrorist organizations in Bangladesh: ABT and JMB. Policymakers can undertake remedial measures to prevent and counter both terrorism and radicalization by analyzing the demographic and sociological factors identified through this study.

The researcher only analyzed data found from interviews and court documents, so data were scarce compared to the data needed to conduct a full-fledged comprehensive study. However, this study gives a descriptive account of the link between some sociological factors and terrorist activities. Further research is needed to understand more about terrorist behavior by using a more rigorous research design and a larger sample population in the terrorism field of Bangladesh.

Abbreviations

ABT = Ansarullah Bangla Team

JMB = Jamaat-ul-Mujahideen

HT = Hizb-ut-Tahrir

ICS = Islami Chatra Shibir

HuJi B = Harkat-ul-Jihad al-Islami Bangladesh

AQIS = Al Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent

ISIS = Islamic State of Iraq and Syria

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Assessing Juvenile Gang Culture in Bangladesh from Youth Development Context

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Abstract: The issue of juvenile gang culture and associated incidents are becoming a major concern for law and order in Bangladesh. This study was based on secondary data and analyzed key concepts using inductive reasoning. The primary objective of this study was to analyze the issue of juvenile gang culture in Bangladesh in the broader context of youth development. The study further aimed to analyze recent trends of juvenile gangs, possible legal measures for rehabilitation and discuss the related implications for youth development. It was found that by following the measures underlined in the Children's Act 2013 and taking a holistic approach to rehabilitation of youth involved in juvenile gangs, the issue can be effectively addressed.

Keywords: juvenile gangs, youth development, policing, future

Introduction

Background

Bangladesh is currently going through a phase of rapid economic growth. In line with the Vision 2041, the country is keen to utilize its demographic dividend. Estimates show that the possible demographic window of opportunity for Bangladesh opened up in 1984 and will last until 2037. (Farid and Mostari, 2022). Ensuring youth development and welfare is of prime concern in their own right. At the same time, the potential of youth development in the realm of preventing and controlling deviance among the young generation is also an avenue that can be explored with a holistic viewpoint.

According to UNICEF, the total number of children in Bangladesh is 57.15 million, almost one-third of the population. In order to optimize the demographic dividend and maximize the potential of the young generation, it is essential that the issues of gang culture and juvenile gangs be properly dealt with by concerned actors. In this regard, the issues of youth development and stemming the rise of gang culture among youth go hand in hand. The issue of youth development is of prime importance for countries like Bangladesh. For achieving the goals outlined in the visions and roadmaps for the future, the country must ensure that the potential of its young generation is optimized.

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Definition of key terms

Child – Global standards mention anyone below the age of eighteen as a "child". Article 1 of United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) defines "every human being below the age of eighteen years" as a child. The Children's Act 2013 also considers all persons up to the age of eighteen years as children.

Youth/ Young People – The UN Secretariat uses the terms "youth" and "young people" interchangeably to mean people between the ages 15-24. (UNDESA, 2013). The National Youth Policy-2017 of Bangladesh considers people in the age-group of 18-35 years as youths.

Adolescent – "Adolescence" is defined by the United Nations as the period between the ages of 10 and 19. Adolescents experience a transition period between childhood and adulthood.

Juvenile – The United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice, adopted in 1985, mentions that "a juvenile is a child or young person who, under the respective legal systems, may be dealt with for an offence in a manner which is different from an adult." In the context of this article, the term "juvenile" considers those young persons who are considered as "children" under the legal system of Bangladesh i.e. young persons who are up to the age of eighteen.

Offence/ Juvenile Offender – Both these terms are also defined in the United Nations Standard Minimum Rules for the Administration of Juvenile Justice. It is mentioned that "an offence is any behavior (act or omission) that is punishable by law under the respective legal systems; a juvenile offender is a child or young person who is alleged to have committed or who has been found to have committed an offence."

Gang Culture – According to the UK Centre for Social Justice, gang culture includes street-based young people who see themselves as a group and are:

- Engages in criminal activity and violence
- Lays claim over a territory
- Has an identifying feature
- Usually in conflict with other gangs

Youth Development – According to Banglapedia (2021), youth development focuses on the welfare of the youth by providing them with guidance, education, training and employment.

Literature Review

Gangs and Gang Culture

Gardner (1993), emphasized that "the key element [analytic property] that distinguishes a gang from other organizations of young people is delinquency; its members regularly participate in activities that violate the law." From this distinction, we get a clear picture of the difference between "gangs" and non-gang organizations.

Miller (1975) said that gangs possess the following attributes: (1) violent or criminal behavior as a major activity, (2) group organization with functional role division and chain-of-command, (3) identifiable leadership, (4) continuing and recurrent interaction of members, and (5) identification with and/or claims of control over identifiable community territory.

Gangs have been around for a long period of human history. The Police Regulations of 1943 mentions the terms "gangs" on multiple occasions. Histories of gang cases and of criminal gangs have been given much importance in the Police Regulations of 1943. During the Industrial Revolution, Britain saw an increase in gang culture. The rise of gangs in USA was seen in the 20th century. From 1967 to 1980, the number of gang homicides grew from 181 to 633—nearly a 250 per cent increase (Decker and Pyrooz, 2010).

Juvenile Gang Culture

One of the worrying trends in the modern world – both in Bangladesh and beyond – is the rise of gang culture among juveniles. In the United Kingdom, knife attacks involving young people aged 10 to 24 years has been on the rise since 2013. (Haylock et. al, 2020). In Bangladesh, youth involvement in urban crimes and violence is on the rise. (Haque and Rana, 2014).

The characterization of juvenile gangs encompasses several factors – such as association, common interests, leadership and internal organization. A youth criminal gang may therefore be defined as a group of peers with common interests, who commit such crimes as burglary, pick-pocketing, rape, snatch-and-grab, homicide etc, either individually or collectively. (Haque and Rana, 2014).

Reasons behind Juvenile Gang Culture

According to Spergel (1990), ''Youth gangs tend to develop during times of rapid social change and political instability. They function as a residual institution when other institutions fail to provide a certain degree of order and solidarity for

their members." Moreover, it has been argued that the use of social media often fuels gang culture. Gang based cyber-crimes are also on the rise in Bangladesh. (Hossain and Arifuzzaman, 2022).

Political patronization and use of youth for political gain is also mentioned as a factor in juvenile gang culture. Haque and Rana (2014) mentions "conflict and violence between political parties" as a factor and further adds that youth engagement in party politics tends to be highly associated with their engagement in violent activities through forming criminal gangs.

Serious breakdown in social order, often due to industrialization and urbanization is also a factor behind juvenile gang culture. It was mentioned that the growing of industrialization and urbanization gave rise to problem juvenile delinquency in Bangladesh. Since the transition is not yet complete, when Bangladesh is pre industrial, it is a mixed society, not completely traditional and not fully modern. An examination of the economic, political and religious institutions reveals a conflict between traditional and modern values, neither of which dominates the lives of the people. This conflict has created greater vulnerability to delinquent behavior (Riaduzzaman, 2017).

Toxic masculinity is a factor behind gang culture (Messerschmidt, 1993). Other factors include inadequacy in natural entertainment which may lead juveniles to form gangs where they practice antisocial activities, poor parental supervision, drugs and narcotics, effect of popular culture and mass media etc. (Hossain and Arifuzzaman, 2022; Riaduzzaman, 2017; Khuda, 2019)

Objectives of the Study

The primary objective of the study is to analyze the issue of juvenile gang culture in Bangladesh in the broader context of youth development.

The specific objectives of the study are:

a) To analyze utilization of the youth in Bangladesh and discuss matters related to contemporary juvenile gang culture

b) To discuss optimum strategies for rehabilitation of youth involved with juvenile gangs and facilitation of youth development

Analysis and Discussion

Juvenile Gang Culture in Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, the pattern of juvenile gang culture can be analyzed under two categories – in major cities and outside major cities. It is observed from different

reports that each of these gangs usually have around 10 to 15 members. The members are typically aged between 14 and 19 years. They are involved in many anti-social activities, including robberies, muggings, drug abuse, eve-teasing and extortion. Many are reportedly involved in trading drugs, besides being addicted to drugs. Some members even carry illegal weapons that they use in establishing local supremacy.

Reports suggest the existence of at least 50-60 juvenile gangs active in various areas of Dhaka, including Uttara, Abdullahpur, Tongi, Uttarkhan, Dakshinkhan, Badda, Gulshan, Banani, Khilgaon, Rampura, Dhanmondi, Rayerbazar, Mirpur and Mohammadpur. According to the news published in various media, from 2022 until march 2023, there were more than 100 incidents of robbery, violence and sexual harassment on the Dhaka University campus and the surrounding areas, including Suhrawardy Udyan. The killing of Adnan Kabir, student of Class 9 of Uttara Trust School, in January 2017 by "rivals" was a sensational incident related to juvenile gangs in Dhaka city.

In Chattogram, a large number of such juvenile gangs are active in different areas, including Chawakbazar, Kotwali, Panchliash, Khulshi, Chandgaon and Bakalia. "Golden Boys", "Danger Boys", "TSP" are some of the juvenile gangs reported in Khulna City. Rajshahi Metropolitan Police launched a crackdown on teen gangs in 2020, detaining nearly 400 members. Among them, at least 300 were later released under their parents' custody.

Outside major cities, activities by juvenile and youth gangs are also noticed. The murder of Rifat Sharif in Barguna on June 26, 2019, a reported gang-rape in Noakhali's Begumganj committed by a youth gang named Delwar Bahini, and the killing of teacher Utpal Kumar Sarkar by Ashraful Islam Jitu (aged 19) at the Haji Yunus Ali School and College playground at Ashulia in Savar on June 25, 2022 are much-publicized incidents involving juvenile gangs.

Existing mechanisms for rehabilitation of youth involved with juvenile gangs

The Children Act 2013 was enacted for the purpose of implementing the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. As per this Act, persons below the age of 18 can be categorized as "child in conflict with the law" and "child in contact with the law."

Members of juvenile gangs involved in violations of the law are "children in conflict with the law." Witnesses, victims, etc. are often "children in contact with the law. These two categories of children are to be received, supervised and taken care of by the Probation Officer under Section 6 of the Act. The Act thus lays an important responsibility on Probation Officers.

Under Section 13 of the Act, there will be a Child Affairs Police Officer in charge of the Child Affairs Desk in every police station. The Officer will be the primary point of contact for any child brought into the police station. Under Section 48 of the Act, the Court or the Child Affairs Police Officer may send the matter to the Probation Officer for "diversion" instead of a formal trial.

The Children's Court set up under Section 16 of the Act has an important role in dispensing justice and ensuring correction of juvenile gang members. "Alternative care" mentioned under Section 84, in the form of reintegration with parents, or extended family, or shelter in institutes specified in Section 85, is an important avenue for correction and rehabilitation.

Under Section 14 of the Act, in coordination with the Probation Officer, the Child Affairs Police Officer has an important role in dealing with children in contact with, or in conflict with, the law. For members of juvenile gangs brought to the station, the following can be done jointly by the Probation Officer and the Child Affairs Police Officer:

- Assessment of the allegations brought against the child
- Take diversionary measures, or to arrange bail
- To arrange for placement in safe home, before producing in court, if diversionary measures or bail not possible

Initiatives in place for utilizing youth in Bangladesh

In Bangladesh, the Department of Youth Development is the prime agency for ensuring the overall welfare and employability of youth in the country. The Department of Youth Development was established in 1978 by the government of Bangladesh under the Ministry of Youth Development, which was later renamed to Ministry of Youth and Sport. The Ministry of Youth and Sports is playing an important role in the socio-economic development of the country by imparting training to the youth and enhancing their skills, creating opportunities for self-employment and involving them in the nation-building activities.

Different policies including the National Youth Policy 2017, National Sports Policy 1998 and the Seventh Five Year Plan emphasized on effective utilization of youth in pursuit of socio-economic development. The Government has undertaken a wide range of programs to take ahead youth in line with the national development and progress. To this end, it conducts training programs, make youth self-reliant by undertaking self-employment projects after training, runs credit program for youth in all 64 districts of the country. The range of activities it undertakes also relates to poverty alleviation and technology transfer.

One of the main objectives of National Youth Policy is to make arrangements for creation of employment and entrepreneurship skills for youth by providing appropriate education and income generating & skill development training. The government prioritizes women's advancement in this regard, since young women's participation is indispensable for the attainment of SDGs goals.

They should be able to generate income through professional skills and socioeconomic development. For this reason, they are provided training on rearing of live stock & poultry, hatchery and agriculture, block-boutique, and computer training. As a result, women are becoming income generator and self-reliant.

To address the challenges and harness the power of youth in Bangladesh, in addition to the government initiatives, various non-governmental organisations have been developing the leadership capacity of youth, particularly young women, from the grassroots to encourage them to take on leadership positions in various decision-making bodies.

To address the digital divide, marginalised youth are also equipped with digital literacy and skills, so that they can leverage online platforms for learning, networking, advocacy, and campaigning. Non-governmental organizations (NGOs) are working just particularly in the areas of social justice, gender justice, and climate justice (Kabir and Ahsan, 2023).

Findings and Recommendations

Optimizing Role of Children's Act 2013 for Rehabilitation

The Children's Act 2013 contains extensive provisions for ensuring proper coordination between stakeholders involved in the structure for rehabilitation of children in conflict wih the law. These provisions can be utilized for sustainable rehabilitation of juvenile gang members. In particular, ensuring that the Probation Officer, concerned police officer in charge of the Child Affairs Desk, and Children's Courts work in coordination with each other is essential for effective rehabilitation of juvenile gang members and other children in conflict with the law.

In this regard, it is also important to keep improving the environment and logistic support for alternative institutes mentioned in Section 85 of the Children's Act 2013. Facilities such as training and rehabilitation centres for destitute children, government shelter homes, Sharkari Shishu Paribar and Chotomoni Nibash are important parts of the rehabilitation infrastructure. By enhancing the capabilities of these facilities along with effective coordination of the actors involved, the provisions of the Children's Act for rehabilitation of juveniles can be optimized.

Special Role of Police Regarding Youth Development and Prevention of Gang Culture

The police can act in partnership with various stakeholders in order to combat gang culture and facilitate youth development. Community policing, beat policing and localized interventions involving children can be led by local police stations, under the supervision of senior police personnel. In particular, children at risk of getting in conflict with the law should be given special focus through such initiatives.

Community policing techniques to build rapport with local organizations, school clubs and similar social institutions can be a good initial point for such endeavors. Police can partner with schools, public health and community agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and youth service agencies to combat gang culture. Police members can help past gang members to reintegrate with normal life, and also to prevent gang membership in the first place.

The SARA Model can help build initiatives and partnerships to prevent youth from joining gangs. The use of this model looks to identify and overcome the underlying causes of crime and disorder, versus just treating the symptoms. It can be applied to the juvenile gang problem by implementing each of four steps in the model: Scanning, Analysis, Response, and Assessment.

Taking the instance of the agenda to prevent gang membership in a certain area, for instance, "scanning" means that the police are in a unique position to make an early identification of youth who are at risk of joining a gang. In the "analysis" phase, the police can find the underlying actors and factors leading to gang membership in that particular area. In the "response" phase, the police will implement the plans and strategies formulated in to combat gang membership among children. Finally, the "assessment" phase might include evaluation of the effective

"Whole-of-Society" approach

Numerous studies have shown that the years spent before and during puberty are crucial for the cognitive development of human beings. Cognitive development, in turn, is closely related to moral development and the relation of young people with crime. For instance, from the ages of three to eight, the human brain undergoes billions of new neural connections. Thus, the experiences of a child from below the age of eight formulates the future adult. Since all these experiences, apart from family, take place in a social setting – the streets, educational institutions, social gatherings, etc. – the mental setup of a child is shaped by the societal environment in which one grows up.

In this context, the society needs to understand the importance of the juvenile years. The whole of society should come forward and take concrete measures to ensure overall positive experiences and opportunities for healthy entertainment for juveniles. The various segments of society can together formulate an integrated approach to ensure youth development and combat juvenile links with criminality.

A four-point integrated approach for youth development and combating juvenile gang culture

As discussed above, there is a need for a holistic approach incorporating manifold efforts of society. An integrated approach that can facilitate youth development and address the twin issue of juvenile gang culture can be effective in the current scenario. The approach outlined below incorporates the need for skill development and education among the youth, while enhancing familial and societal bonds and increasing scope for recreational activities for the young generation.

The purpose of vocational training programs is to enhance the skill of the youth in order to optimize their potential to contribute to the society and the economy. It can have a positive impact on the issue of unemployment, which is a key factor that needs to be addressed for ensuring development of the country's youth. Vocational training programs can also be undertaken in correctional institutes so that after release, past juvenile gang members can be employed in professional aspects.

Primary education and secondary education in Bangladesh mostly follows the curriculum set by the national authorities. Religious education for moral development of children is also provided under the national curriculum. Increasing the sense of social responsibility and patriotism can also be achieved through institutional education. The issues of youth development and prevention of factors that cause children to come into conflict with the law should be more prioritized in our educational system.

Recreational activities, including indoor and outdoor games, sports and physical exercise should be facilitated for all children. If these are made daily events and recreational activities are ensured regularly, then children will be better equipped to combat the forces pulling them toward criminality. Such facilities will also help children achieve their full potential and thereby drive youth development efforts.

Increasing social and familial bonding is necessary for ensuing a facilitative environment for our youth. A happy family life goes a long way in formulating the mindset and attitude of a person. In particular, the experiences of a happy

childhood have been heavily emphasized to be important for creating a responsible citizen for the future. Societal bonds give people a sense of belongingness and prevents antisocial thoughts and attitudes. Improving these interpersonal bonds can create a positive environment for children in the current perspective.

Conclusion

More initiatives and substantial investment are critical to empower youth to be the real change agents for the country. All stakeholders need to come together to help them step up and lead to realize the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 and a developed Bangladesh by 2041. The participation of grassroots youth is essential for achieving the full potential of the youthful population. In order to ensure that the potential of our youth is realized, we must tackle the menace of juvenile gang culture and facilitate youth development through interventions in various social development initiatives and by ensuring an enabling environment for the young generation of this nation.

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Police Staff College (PSC) Bangladesh headed forward its formal journey in 2000 with a vision "To Maximize Human Welfare through Quality Policing." In 1998, it was initiated by police policy group and within a few years, in 2002, it has been governed by a Board of Governors chaired by the Honorable Home Minister. The Rector is the chief executive of the institution.

Police Staff College conducts the courses for the participants, in particular police officers, to raise awareness about new ideas, thinking, perception, insight and vision to respond to changing needs of the society. The institute endeavors to provide wisdom to the participants to improve managerial capability, operational performance, commanding skill and ability to identify root cause(s) of problems with a package prescription for solution in the context of national and international scenario.

PSC works for the professional improvement of the senior police officers and executives from other security and law enforcing agencies under the umbrella of Ministry of Home Affairs. It provides quality training to the trainees with the help of a group of resource people in and/or out of police, including university academicians, scholars, lawyers, bureaucrats, justice and officers from Armed Forces.

Police Staff College always emphasizes conducting quality research on contemporary issues in policing and national development. PSC has recently launched its academic endeavor with the Masters of Applied Criminology and Police Management Programme offered to the police officers and non-police personnel who would like to evolve professionalism in crime and policing issues. PSC will work with the aim to establishing the college not only as 'Endeavour for Excellence' but also as a regional 'think tank' for Bangladesh Police as well as SAARC region.

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