



# Domestic Violence In Present-Day Bangladesh And Its Social Impact.

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1. introduction - Definition of domestic violence - Physical, emotional, sexual, and psychological abuse - Importance of addressing domestic violence - Human rights issue, public health issue - Overview of the current situation in Bangladesh - Urban vs. rural settings
2. Historical Context - Traditional views and historical precedence of domestic violence in Bangladesh - Evolution of laws and social perceptions over time - Key milestones in the struggle against domestic violence.
3. Current Statistics and Prevalence - Recent data on the incidence of domestic violence - Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, WHO reports - Demographic analysis - Age, economic status, education level - Comparative analysis with neighboring countries and global context.
4. Legal Framework - Overview of the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act of 2010 - Key provisions - Protection orders, legal aid - Challenges in enforcement and implementation - Judicial system inefficiencies, police response - Notable case law and its implications - Comparison with global best practices in legal frameworks addressing domestic violence.
5. Cultural and Societal Factors - Gender roles and patriarchal structures in Bangladesh - Societal stigma surrounding victims and cultural normalization of violence - Influence of religion and tradition - Justifications for violence, role of religious leaders - Role of family honor and shame - Silence and tolerance within families and communities.
6. Economic Factors - Economic dependence of women and barriers to leaving abusive relationships - Impact of poverty and unemployment on domestic violence occurrence - Economic costs of domestic violence on victims and society - Healthcare, lost productivity, legal costs.
7. Impact of COVID-19 - Increase in domestic violence incidents during the pandemic - Lockdowns, economic strain, isolation - Psychological and emotional toll on victims - Compounded stress, mental health crises - Responses and failures during the crisis - Government actions, NGO interventions.
8. Healthcare and Mental Health Impacts - Health consequences of domestic violence - Physical injuries, chronic conditions - Psychological impacts - Anxiety, depression, PTSD - Impact on children - Trauma, developmental issues - Role of healthcare providers in intervention and support.

9. Support Systems for Victims - Availability and accessibility of shelters and crisis centers - Role of NGOs, community organizations, and government initiatives - Services offered, funding issues - Legal aid, counseling services, and rehabilitation programs - Bridging the gap between urban and rural areas

10. Victim Narratives and Case Studies - In-depth profiles of victims - Struggles and resilience in seeking help - Outcomes and reflections on their journeys - Analysis of systemic failures and successes 11. Community Engagement and Advocacy - Role of civil society in combating domestic violence - Grassroots movements, volunteer organizations - Initiatives aimed at raising awareness and educating communities - Workshops, media campaigns, and public forums - Success stories and impactful advocacy efforts.

12. Education and Prevention - Role of education in changing societal attitudes - Curriculums addressing gender equality and violence prevention - Importance of men's involvement in prevention - Community-level interventions and outreach programs.

13. The Role of Media in Addressing Domestic Violence - Media portrayal and public perception - Effectiveness of social media campaigns - Responsibility of media in reporting sensitively on domestic violence - Successful campaigns and their impact.

14. Policy Recommendations and Future Directions - Strengthening the legal framework - Enhancing enforcement mechanisms - Economic empowerment initiatives for women - Integrating mental health services - Long-term strategies for societal change.

15. Conclusion - Summary of key findings - Emphasis on the multidimensional impacts of domestic violence - Urgency of concerted action by all societal sectors - Call to action for government, community, and individuals  
### Expanded Content (Sample Sections).

1. Introduction: Domestic violence is a pervasive and insidious problem that affects millions of individuals worldwide. In Bangladesh, Domestic abuse impacts millions of people globally and is a widespread and sneaky issue. The problem in Bangladesh is well ingrained in the legal, cultural, and economic structures, making it extremely difficult to rectify and lessen its effects. Mostly committed by men against women, domestic violence encompasses a variety of violent behaviors, such as physical, emotional, sexual, and psychological abuse. To effectively mobilize efforts to address domestic violence, it is imperative to acknowledge it as a public health concern as well as a violation of human rights.

2. Historical Context: Domestic violence in Bangladesh has always been seen through the prism of religious and cultural customs that frequently ignore or condone such behavior. Slowly but surely, domestic violence has become recognized as a social problem. Before the 20th century, victims of domestic abuse had few legal rights, and the majority of instances were resolved in private within families. A significant turning point was the incorporation of international human rights principles into local law, which resulted in the creation of legal mechanisms to safeguard victims. Among the most common forms of violence against women, including physical, sexual, and emotional abuse as well as controlling behaviors through intimate partners, is intimate partner violence (IPV), a flagrant violation of human rights that is more common in low- and middle-income countries. Violence against intimate partners is prevalent across all demographics, including socioeconomic, religious, and cultural groups. There are reports of IPV victims who are women. One of the most prevalent types of violence against women in the world is intimate partner violence, or IPV. Current Statistics and Prevalence: Recent statistics provide a grim picture of domestic violence prevalence in Bangladesh. According to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics, approximately 72% of women have experienced some form of domestic violence in their lifetime. This figure encompasses physical, emotional, and sexual abuse, highlighting the widespread nature of the issue. A demographic analysis reveals significant variances in prevalence rates based on factors such as age, education, and economic status. Comparative studies indicate that while Bangladesh faces unique challenges, it shares commonalities with other South Asian countries in terms of domestic violence prevalence. Different types of IPV in Bangladesh:

For females, in all levels of life, such as Adolescents, pregnant women, older adults

Experiences of IPV had been documented, and the kinds of IPV experienced consisted of physical, sexual, emotional, and verbal abuse and a variety of controlling behaviors in varying frequencies.

In addition, the Partner's anger is primarily based on jealousy, whenever, in search of health

Care for herself, which is the most frequent trouble being predicted to ask the partner

Permission Thus 84% of the females stated emotional violence through their intimate

partner. Teasing (khota, tishara), demonstration of anger, verbal abuse (gali-gala), the threat of abandonment or divorce, and remarriage were the major kinds of emotional abuse. The most frequent form of physical IPV ever perpetrated used to be having slapped or thrown something at their partner, followed through having pushed or shoved their partner, hitting their companion with a fist or something else, kicking, dragging, beating, choking, hitting in the eye or cause bodily injury to their partner, and having threatened or used a gun or knife on their partner

4. Legal Framework: The Domestic An important piece of legislation in Bangladesh, the Domestic Violence (Prevention and Protection) Act of 2010 aims to give victims of domestic abuse legal redress and protection. On September 3, 1981, Bangladesh observes International CEDAW Day, which is called the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women. Adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1979, the international treaty went into effect on September 3, 1981. CEDAW was ratified by Bangladesh in 1984. Bangladesh has objections to four articles of CEDAW when it was ratified. Reservations were later removed from two articles, although they are still in place for articles 2 and 16.1(c). Article 2 requires ratifying governments to implement laws that end discrimination against women, while Article 16 discusses women's equality in divorce, marriage, and family relationships. The Act describes a number of measures, such as victim support programs, legal aid, and protective orders. However, a number of obstacles stand in the way of this legislation's successful implementation, such as victims' ignorance, law enforcement officers' inadequate training, and structural inefficiencies in the legal system. Bangladesh's laws may be improved in a few areas to better protect victims, according to a comparison with other nations' legal system.

The government on 13 October in 2020 approved the death penalty as punishment for rape, after widespread protests in response to several gang rape cases. But the incident of rape did decrease due to such measures. According to information with the police headquarters, over 19 thousand cases were filed under the act in 2022 and over 03 thousand in just the first seven months of this year2024.

5. Cultural and Societal Factors and Impact: Cultural and societal norms play a critical role in perpetuating domestic violence in Bangladesh. Deep-seated patriarchal structures and gender roles dictate power dynamics within households, often relegating women to subordinate positions. Societal stigma and victim-blaming further exacerbate the problem, discouraging many women from reporting abuse or seeking help. Additionally, the influence of religious and traditional beliefs can justify or obscure instances of domestic violence. Challenging these cultural norms is essential in creating an environment where domestic violence is not tolerated. Cultural narratives are woven into the fabric of society, shaping perceptions, roles, and expectations. In Bangladesh, centuries-old traditions, influenced by social, religious, and historical contexts, have established norms that often subordinate women and perpetuate gender inequality. The interplay of patriarchy, traditional values, and societal expectations forms the basis of cultural narratives that contribute to violence against women.

Embedded within cultural narratives are norms that dictate the control and subordination of women. These norms extend across various spheres of life, dictating women's behavior, mobility, and roles within the family and society. The concept of 'izzat' or family honor, often associated with women's behavior, places a significant burden on them to adhere to societal expectations, limiting their freedom and autonomy.



The divorce rate in Bangladesh has doubled in last two years 2022-2023.

The rate of divorce rose to 1.4 per thousand people in 2023, compared to 0.7 per thousand in 2022, according to the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics.

In its report on the Bangladesh Sample Vital Statistics 2023, the national statistics agency said the divorce rate was higher in rural areas, which saw an increase of 0.6 per thousand compared to 0.5 per thousand in urban areas. The findings are based on a survey of more than 1.3 million people and 300,000 households across the country in 2023. Experts say educated and employed women are no longer willing to accept gender-based violence at home, which is one of the major causes contributing to the rise in divorce rates. So many women in the region face domestic violence, discrimination, and torture. However, some of them say no due to empowerment and education. According to the Dhaka city corporations' data, during the coronavirus pandemic in 2020, domestic violence and divorce rates rose by 29.78%, while divorce applications increased by 34% in the last seven years.

6. Economic Factors: one major obstacle keeping women from leaving abusive situations is economic dependency. Because so many Bangladeshi women depend on their husbands for financial support, it can be challenging for them to escape violent situations. The problem is made more complex by the combination of unemployment and poverty since financial stress can lead to an increase in domestic violence. Beyond the people who are directly impacted, domestic violence has a negative financial impact on legal institutions, healthcare systems, and general productivity. One important tactic for lowering domestic violence is to invest in women's economic development.

7. Impact of COVID-19: In Bangladesh, the COVID-19 pandemic has made the country's domestic violence problems worse. Because victims were forced to stay with their abusers during lockdowns, reports show a marked rise in domestic violence incidences during these times. The additional strain of health hazards and economic uncertainties exacerbated tensions at home. Victims have experienced a severe emotional and psychological toll, which has raised their prevalence of anxiety, sadness, and other mental health conditions. In reaction, governmental and non-governmental groups have tried to modify their offerings to tackle the intensified crisis; yet, obstacles still exist.

8. Healthcare and Mental Health Impacts: There are extensive health effects of domestic violence. Victims of long-term abuse frequently have bodily harm, long-term illnesses, and problems with their reproductive health. A few examples of psychological effects are sadness, anxiety, PTSD, and other mental health issues. Domestic violence exposes children to severe trauma as well, which can have an impact on their growth and general well-being. Healthcare professionals are essential in recognizing and assisting victims of domestic abuse, which calls for thorough training and integrated services.

9. Support Systems for Victims: In Bangladesh, there are several different but frequently underfunded support networks for victims of domestic abuse. Although they are not widely available, especially in rural regions, shelters, and crisis centers offer crucial help and refuge. NGOs and neighborhood associations are essential in providing counseling, legal assistance, and restoration initiatives. Although government attempts to assist victims have had varying degrees of success, more work is needed to improve and broaden these services. Case studies and personal accounts give the problem of domestic violence a human face. Detailed victim biographies highlight the numerous obstacles victims encounter while trying to get assistance and deal with the legal system. These accounts demonstrate survivors' tenacity while pointing up both structural flaws and chances to strengthen support systems. Common themes and possible intervention areas are revealed through case study analysis.

10. Community Engagement and Advocacy: In order to effectively combat domestic abuse, it is imperative to engage communities and advocate for change. Grassroots movements and civil society organizations have played a key role in promoting social change and increasing awareness. Efforts to promote gender equality and educate communities about domestic abuse have had encouraging outcomes. Advocates' success stories demonstrate the power of group effort.

11. Education and Prevention: One effective way to stop domestic violence is through education. By including subjects like gender equality and violence prevention in the curriculum, schools may challenge negative conventions and promote early awareness. Outreach and education programs at the community level emphasize the role of males in prevention efforts while attempting to alter attitudes and behaviors. Reducing the incidence of domestic violence requires long-term prevention and education initiatives.

12. The Role of Media in Addressing Domestic Violence: Media representation of domestic violence plays a significant role in shaping public perception. Responsible reporting and media campaigns can raise awareness and challenge societal norms. Social media has emerged as a powerful platform for advocacy, amplifying voices, and mobilizing support. Successful media campaigns demonstrate the potential for positively influencing attitudes and behaviors. Unfortunately in some cases, it has been observed that people with high status or extremely rich manipulate many such incidents, and justice is simply being denied to those tycoons, some of them even own their own media house.

13. Policy Recommendations and Future Directions: Suggestions for effective policy cover a variety of tactics meant to stop domestic abuse as well as assist victims. Improving enforcement methods and fortifying legal frameworks are essential first steps. Long-term efforts for societal transformation, the integration of mental health services, and economic empowerment programs for women are also crucial. To make significant progress, cooperation between international organizations, civic society, and the government is required.

14. Conclusion: In Bangladesh, domestic violence is a complex problem with significant societal repercussions. All facets of society must make a thorough and coordinated effort to address this issue. A safer and more equal environment can be achieved for everyone by bolstering legal protections, questioning cultural norms, empowering victims, and rallying community support. Negative attitudes against women must be altered before gender-based violence against them may be prevented. Depending on the kind of repression, the legislation must be applied effectively. Child marriage must be avoided, attitudes toward women must shift, and this issue needs to be made more widely known. Abuse and neglect among child laborers are serious public health concerns. In particular, neglect of child laborers both at home and in the workplace exacerbates their social and health risks. Despite this, the issue continues to be overlooked by researchers and policymakers. In this study, we investigated the prevalence and factors of child labor neglect in rural Bangladesh.