

**POLITICAL VIOLENCE**

**07** KILLING **317** INJURED

**RELIGIOUS MINORITIES FACED**

**21** CASES OF VIOLENCE

**CUSTODIAL DEATHS**

**10** CUSTODIAL DEATHS

**MOB VIOLENCE**

**5** KILLING **26** INJURED

**JOURNALISTS FACED**

**01** DEATH **41** PHYSICAL ATTACK

In October 2025, the overall situation remained tense across several districts of Bangladesh due to continued political instability, factional conflicts, and targeted acts of violence. Political clashes resulted in deaths, large numbers of injuries, and scattered incidents of vandalism. Religious minorities and indigenous communities faced harassment, intimidation, and property-related attacks. Journalists and media workers continued to experience physical violence, intimidation, and legal pressure, reflecting ongoing challenges to freedom of expression. Additionally, deaths under state custody remained a point of concern. The month's incidents indicate an environment marked by volatility, mistrust, and recurring cycles of confrontation and retaliation.



**ATTACK ON JOURNALISTS**

There was 1 reported killing of a journalist in October. Additionally, 41 journalists faced physical attacks while reporting in the field or while covering political events. Vandalism related to press work was reported in 5 cases, while 4 journalists faced legal harassment, including defamation suits and summons. Another 4 journalists received direct threats linked to their reporting. These incidents reflect a difficult environment for independent journalism, especially in politically charged contexts. These incidents underscore the persistent risks faced by journalists in Bangladesh, reflecting a hostile environment for press freedom and the urgent need for stronger protection and accountability to ensure their safety.

**EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLING**

The killing of Almas Uddin in Sylhet's Jaintiapur upazila constitutes an extrajudicial killing, as he was an unarmed civilian struck by bullets fired during a BGB anti-smuggling operation without any judicial process or confirmed involvement in a crime. Police reported that Almas was crossing the road when he was hit by gunfire the BGB said was aimed at dispersing alleged smugglers. Although the BGB claimed the shots were "blank rounds" used in self-defense, the death of a bystander indicates the use of lethal force in a manner inconsistent with due process and basic proportionality standards. An executive magistrate prepared the inquest report, and the body was sent for autopsy, while the BGB stated that legal procedures are underway.

**POLITICAL VIOLENCE SPIKES**

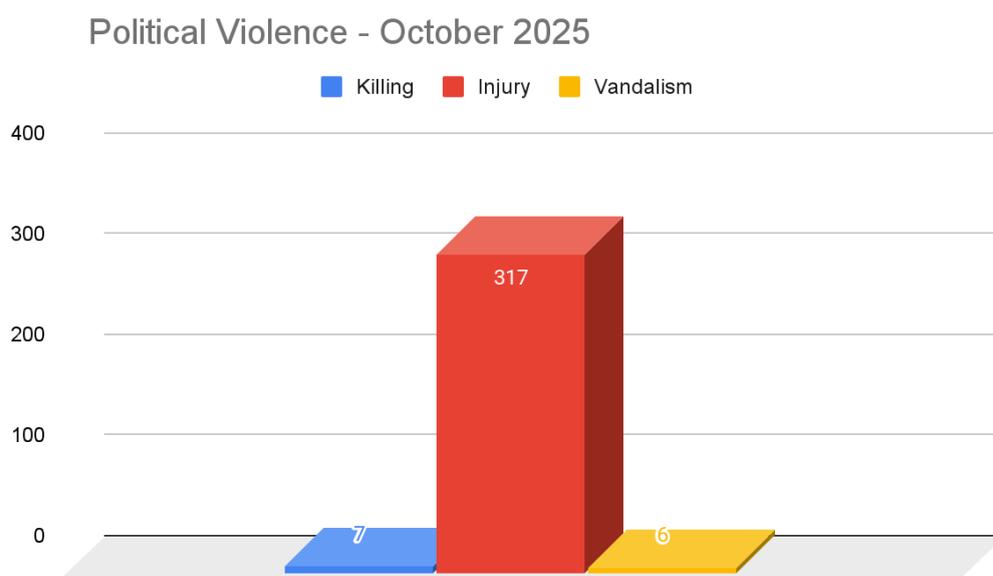
In October 2025, political violence continued across several districts, resulting in 7 deaths, 317 injuries, and 6 incidents of vandalism. A significant portion of these incidents stemmed from intra-party tensions, sudden street clashes, and processions related to ongoing national political activities. When categorized by political affiliation, BNP supporters were most affected, with 188 casualties, largely due to internal disputes and local organizational rivalries. Jamaat-e-Islami supporters accounted for 97 casualties, Awami League affiliates for 19, National Citizens' Party (NCP) supporters for 31, while 38 cases involved individuals without direct party affiliation, including ordinary citizens and law enforcement.

## 1. Overview

In October 2025, the overall situation remained tense across several districts of Bangladesh due to continued political instability, factional conflicts, and targeted acts of violence. Political clashes resulted in deaths, large numbers of injuries, and scattered incidents of vandalism. Religious minorities and indigenous communities faced harassment, intimidation, and property-related attacks. Journalists and media workers continued to experience physical violence, intimidation, and legal pressure, reflecting ongoing challenges to freedom of expression. Additionally, deaths under state custody remained a point of concern. The month's incidents indicate an environment marked by volatility, mistrust, and recurring cycles of confrontation and retaliation.

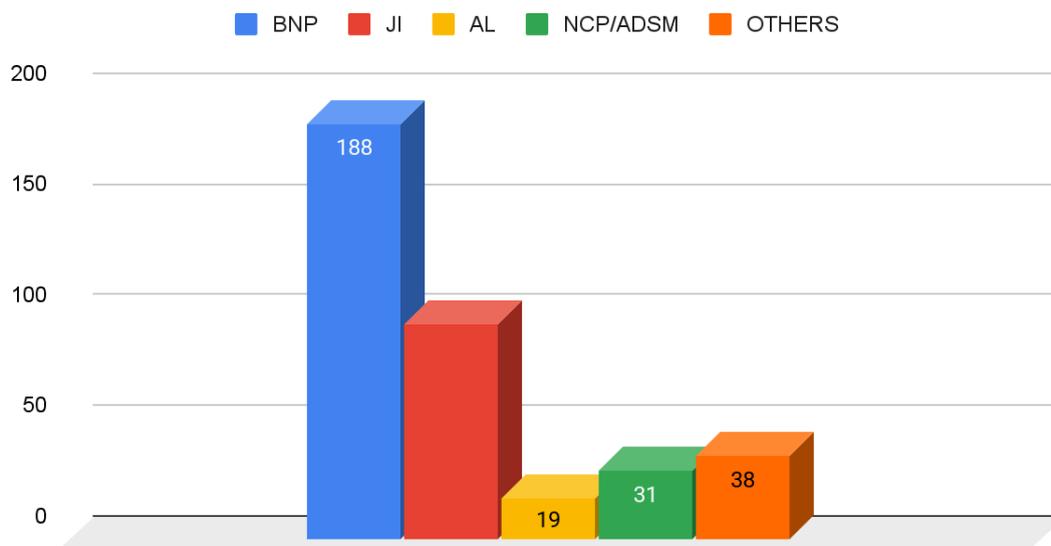
## 2. Political Violence

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### Voilance by Party - October 2025

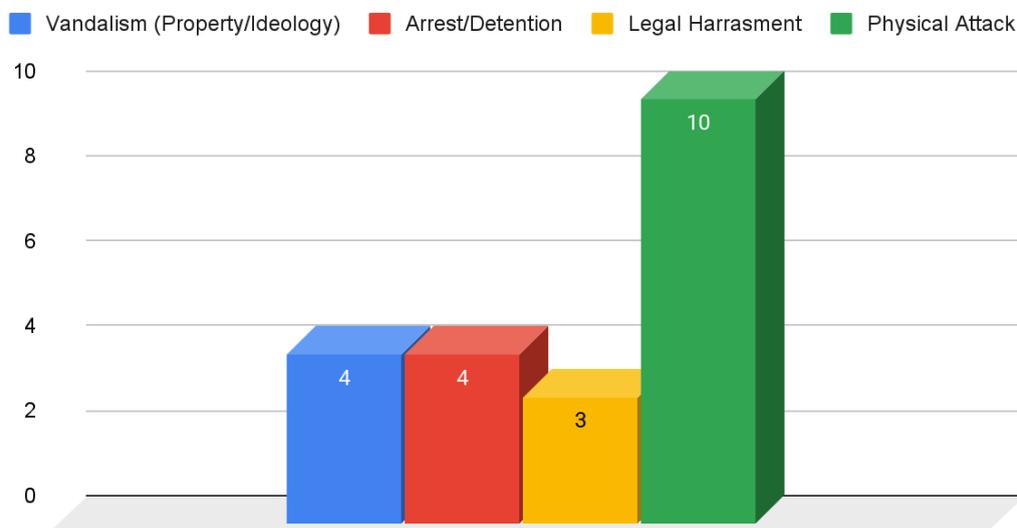


Several notable episodes shaped the month's political climate. On 17 October in Dhaka, a demonstration organized by a group identifying themselves as "*July Fighters*" near the Parliament area escalated after police attempted to disperse the gathering, [resulting in 27 injuries from baton charges and tear gas](#). On 3 October in Chandpur's Hajiganj, political tension intensified after doctored photos of party figures circulated on Facebook, triggering clashes between [BNP and Jamaat supporters that left around 20 people injured](#). Meanwhile, on 19 October in Noakhali Sadar, [confrontations broke out during a gathering linked to Islami Chhatra Shibir and local Jubo Dal supporters](#), leading to the vandalism of a local mosque and around 40 injuries, before security forces intervened to restore order.

### 3. Attacks on Religious Minorities

Members of minority religious communities faced 10 incidents of physical attack and 4 cases of vandalism targeting homes, temples, or community spaces. Additionally, 7 cases of legal harassment were reported, often tied to allegations or disputes that escalated into intimidation. These incidents contributed to insecurity among minority groups and highlighted ongoing tensions around religious identity and social belonging.

Attack on Religious Minority - October 2025



On 10 October in Singra, Natore, [influential locals allegedly attacked seven Hindu families](#) in Biyash village after they refused to pay a demanded extortion of 10 lakh taka; on 17 October in Poynda village, Mohonpur Union, Sunamganj, [Hindu households were attacked, vandalized, and looted](#) by a local criminal and his associates over a 5,000-taka extortion demand; and on 23 October in Maheshkhali, tension and protests spread across the upazila after [three Hindu youths were accused of making derogatory comments about the Prophet on Facebook](#), leading to arrests.

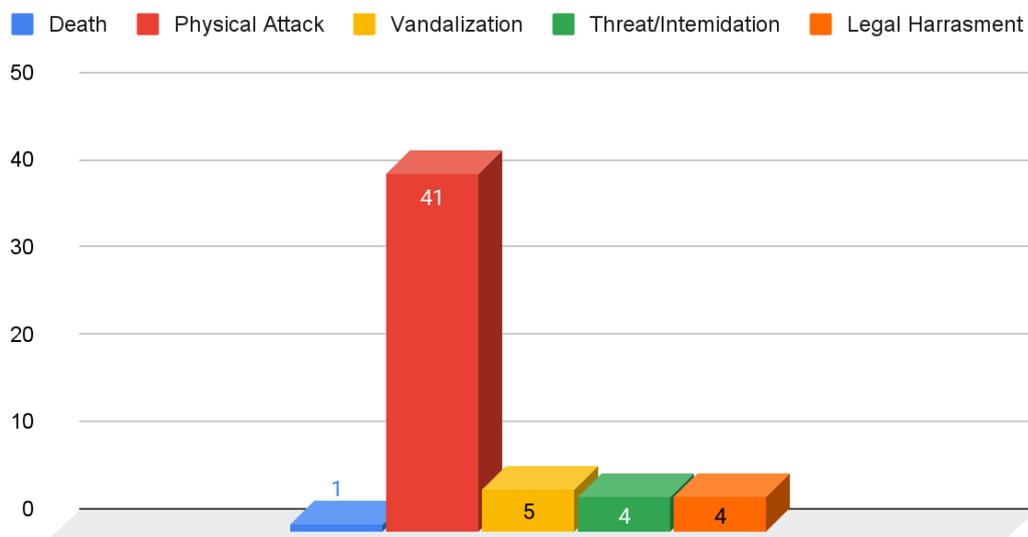
These incidents highlight ongoing insecurity and targeted harassment faced by minority communities, underscoring the need for stronger protection and swift legal action to ensure their safety and rights.

## 4. Freedom of Expression

### Attacks on Journalists

There was 1 reported killing of a journalist in October. Additionally, 41 journalists faced physical attacks while reporting in the field or while covering political events. Vandalism related to press work was reported in 5 cases, while 4 journalists faced legal harassment, including defamation suits and summons. Another 4 journalists received direct threats linked to their reporting. These incidents reflect a difficult environment for independent journalism, especially in politically charged contexts.

Attack on Journalists - October 2025



On 5 October, in Bagerhat, [journalist and BNP leader Hayat Uddin was brutally attacked and killed at his home in Harikhali](#), with multiple suspects including local party affiliates named in the murder case. On 2 October, in Debidwar, Comilla, [eight journalists were assaulted while](#)

[covering a local property dispute](#), with attackers also targeting their families and seizing equipment and cash.

On 11 October, in Kachua, Bagerhat, [five journalists were attacked](#) while gathering information at the local health complex, resulting in physical injuries and destruction of cameras and phones. Later, on 29 October, in Dhaka, [police launched a baton charge on journalists covering a peaceful demonstration outside the National Press Club](#), injuring several reporters including Maruf Sarker (Bhorer Kagoj) and Khondokar Asifuzzaman (Kaler Kantho).

These incidents underscore the persistent risks faced by journalists in Bangladesh, reflecting a hostile environment for press freedom and the urgent need for stronger protection and accountability to ensure their safety.

## **5. Freedom of Assembly**

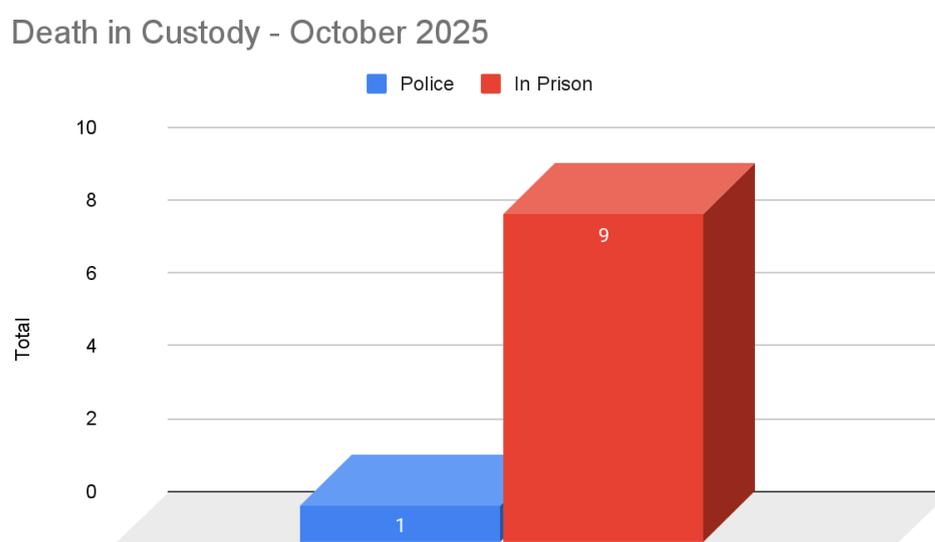
October saw repeated restrictions on peaceful assembly, with law enforcement intervening forcefully in multiple political and social gatherings across Dhaka.

In Kakrail, [police twice broke up a peaceful Jatiya Party gathering](#) with baton charges, claiming the rally lacked permission, while party leaders said the attack was unprovoked. [Near Parliament, “July Fighters”—youth demanding recognition and rehabilitation](#)—were violently dispersed after refusing to leave the July Charter-signing event; police used batons, tear gas, and sound grenades, and protesters vandalized vehicles and set fire to control booths as clashes escalated. At the National Press Club, [MPO-listed teachers demanding increased allowances were also dispersed](#) with water cannons, sound grenades, and batons, leaving several injured and five detained.

Across these incidents, assemblies were repeatedly broken up through force rather than facilitated through negotiation or crowd management. The pattern of violent dispersal, detentions, and disproportionate tactics reflects a continued erosion of the right to peaceful assembly in October.

## 6. State Violence and Custodial Deaths

State custody-related deaths continued, with 1 death occurring under police protection and 9 deaths reported inside prisons. These incidents raise concerns regarding detention conditions, oversight, and the treatment of detainees during legal processing.



On 22 October, [Almas Uddin \(30\) was killed in Jaintapur, Sylhet, during a BGB anti-smuggling operation](#), with the Border Guard firing allegedly in response to an attack. Ahmad Mostafa Khan Bacchu (80), an Awami League leader in Sirajganj, [died in hospital after months in the district jail](#). On 4 October, Mizanur Rahman Mizan (48), senior joint convener of Tangail's Basail Upazila Jubo League, [died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital while in police custody](#). Amin Ali (60), an accused in a murder case, [died of an alleged heart attack in Gaibandha jail](#), with authorities initially delaying disclosure.

## 7. Violence Against Indigenous Communities

Incidents targeting indigenous communities resulted in 5 cases of vandalism affecting homes, shops, and community properties.

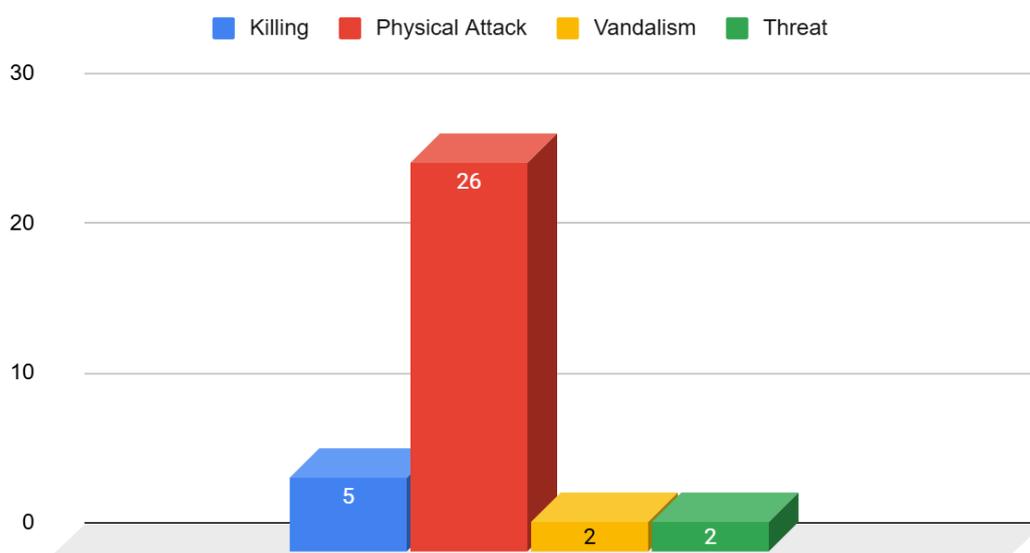
In Godagari, Rajshahi, [five Khol indigenous families were evicted by court order](#), their homes and belongings destroyed, leaving them to take shelter under bamboo thickets.

These events added to an ongoing pattern of insecurity for indigenous groups, particularly in areas marked by land disputes and local power contests.

## 8. Targeted Mob Violence

In October 2025, several incidents across Bangladesh and bordering regions highlighted a disturbing rise in targeted mob violence. These acts involved killings, physical assaults, vandalism, and threats, often executed outside legal boundaries and driven by suspicion, political motives, or extortion. In total, five people were killed, 27 physically attacked, two incidents of property vandalism occurred, and two individuals received direct threats.

Mob Violence - October 2025



On October 11 in Badalgachhi, Naogaon, [Ashadul Islam \(42\) was fatally beaten and killed by local residents](#) while allegedly attempting a robbery at a local business. In Tripura, India, on October 16, [three Bangladeshi day laborers—Pandit Mia \(40\), Sajol Mia \(25\), and Juel Mia \(35\)—were beaten to death](#) by locals who suspected them of cattle theft. The victims' bodies were later recovered by police and repatriated with coordination from Border Guard Bangladesh. In Baraigram, Natore, on October 23, [student leader Nissan Hasan \(22\) and his associates created a mob and reportedly threatened a woman](#), accusing her of immoral activity, and forcibly took her gold chain and cash. On October 26, in Chattogram, Anisur Rahman, a local resident with serious health issues, was targeted by [NCP leaders, who created a mob and handed him over to police after he refused to pay extortion money](#). He was subsequently arrested under unrelated charges despite being innocent.

These incidents reveal a pattern of extrajudicial mob violence, where ordinary citizens are attacked, accused, or extorted without proper legal process. The recurring nature of such events reflects deep social vulnerabilities, including communal suspicion, political interference, and lack of accountability. Immediate measures are needed to protect civilians and ensure that justice is administered through lawful channels rather than mob action.

## **9. Conclusion**

October 2025 was marked by recurring cycles of political confrontation, factional violence, pressure on free expression, and targeted attacks on vulnerable communities. The continuation of custodial deaths and harassment of journalists indicates systemic issues that require long-term institutional attention. Building conditions of trust, accountability, and non-partisan law enforcement remains necessary to reduce conflict and protect civic life. Strengthening conflict resolution channels within political parties, ensuring fair legal protection for minority and indigenous communities, and safeguarding journalists' safety are critical steps toward a more stable public environment.