

POLITICAL VIOLENCE

06 KILLING **335** INJURED

RELIGIOUS MINORITIES FACED

16 CASES OF VIOLENCE

CUSTODIAL DEATHS

13 CUSTODIAL DEATHS

MOB VIOLENCE

4 KILLING **3** INJURED

JOURNALISTS FACED

43 CASES OF VIOLENCE

In November 2025, Bangladesh experienced significant socio-political turbulence characterized by escalating political violence and systemic rights violations. Conflict-related clashes resulted in six deaths and approximately 250 injuries, while mob aggression and factional infighting created a persistent climate of insecurity for ordinary citizens.

Human rights concerns were further deepened by targeted attacks on religious minorities and journalists, who faced physical assaults, legal harassment, and death threats. Additionally, state authorities used force to disperse peaceful demonstrations, leading to hundreds of injuries and raising alarms over custodial deaths and a lack of institutional accountability. Collectively, these events underscore a volatile environment where freedom of expression and the protection of vulnerable groups remain severely compromised.



ATTACK ON BAULS

In November 2025, Baul singer Abul Sarkar was arrested and sent to jail in Manikganj following allegations of religious insult linked to a folk performance, after a video clip circulated on social media. After his arrest, Baul artists and Sarkar's supporters were subjected to attacks and obstruction while attempting peaceful protests demanding his release. In Manikganj, several supporters were injured during an attack. In Thakurgaon, three Baul artists were assaulted ahead of a planned protest, forcing its cancellation. In Khulna, a human chain calling for Sarkar's release was attacked, injuring at least 15 people. Protest programs were also halted in Sylhet due to police objections, and a solidarity gathering in Faridpur was forcibly disrupted. These incidents reflect a pattern of targeted violence and suppression against Baul artists and their supporters following Sarkar's arrest.

DEATH IN CUSTODY SPIKES

In November 2025, multiple deaths were reported in police and prison custody across Bangladesh. Md. Moktar Hossain and Shahadat Hossain died while in DB custody in Dhaka and Sirajganj, with injury marks noted in Shahadat's case despite police claims of illness. Several detainees also died after falling ill in prison, including Sultan Mia in Tangail, Tarik Rifat in Gaibandha, and Tanvir Mahmud, a life-term convict in the Hallmark loan scam, who died while receiving treatment in Dhaka Medical College Hospital. These deaths highlight ongoing concerns over custodial care and accountability.

STATE REPRESSION ON ASSEMBLY

Recent state actions in Dhaka reveal a systemic suppression of peaceful assembly through excessive force. In Shahbagh, police used batons, water cannons, sound grenades, and tear gas to disperse primary school teachers demanding pay reforms, resulting in over 110 injuries. Similarly, BCS candidates seeking an exam postponement were met with unprovoked violence after a five-hour blockade. These incidents mirror a broader pattern of state intervention against groups like MPO-listed teachers, illustrating a troubling trend of using state power to silence civic demands and dismantle democratic expression in Bangladesh.

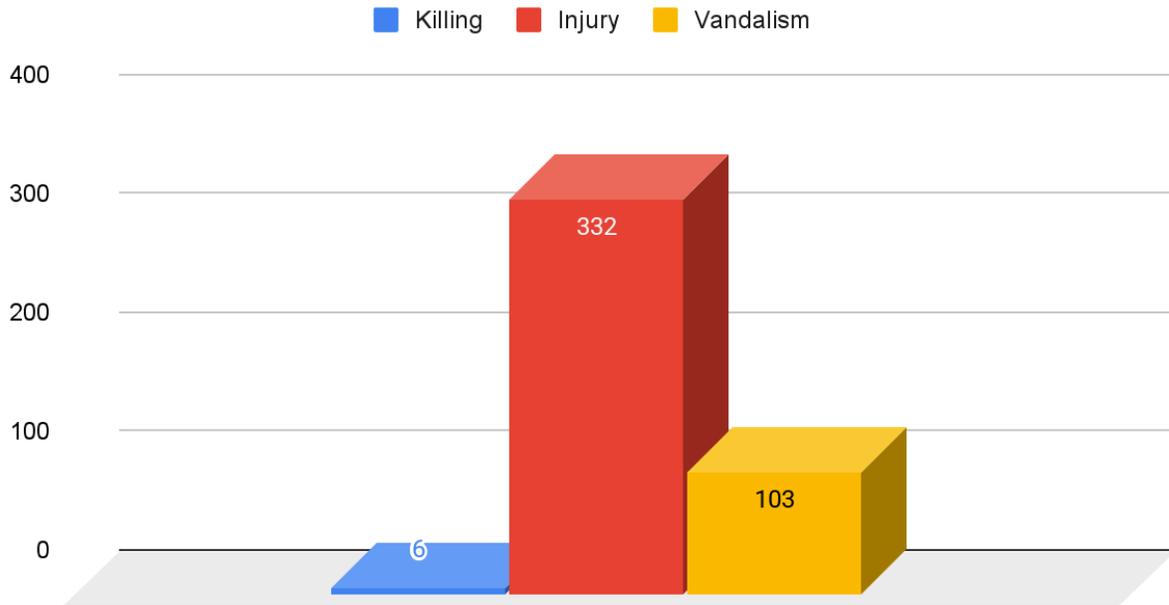
1. Overview

November 2025 witnessed a continuation of socio-political turbulence across Bangladesh, marked by escalating political violence, attacks on journalists, targeted violence against religious minorities, and recurring incidents of mob aggression. A total of six deaths and around 250 injuries were reported in political conflicts, while ordinary citizens often found themselves caught in factional clashes. Minority communities experienced intimidation, legal harassment, and physical assaults, reflecting persistent social tension and gaps in protection mechanisms. Journalists faced multiple physical attacks, vandalism, and death threats, underscoring a challenging environment for an independent workspace for them. Freedom of assembly was similarly constrained, with authorities employing force to disperse peaceful demonstrations, leaving hundreds injured. Furthermore, cases of custodial deaths and state violence raised serious concerns regarding accountability and the treatment of detainees. Collectively, these incidents highlight a climate of insecurity, political volatility, and vulnerabilities across social, legal, and institutional structures in Bangladesh.

2. Political Violence

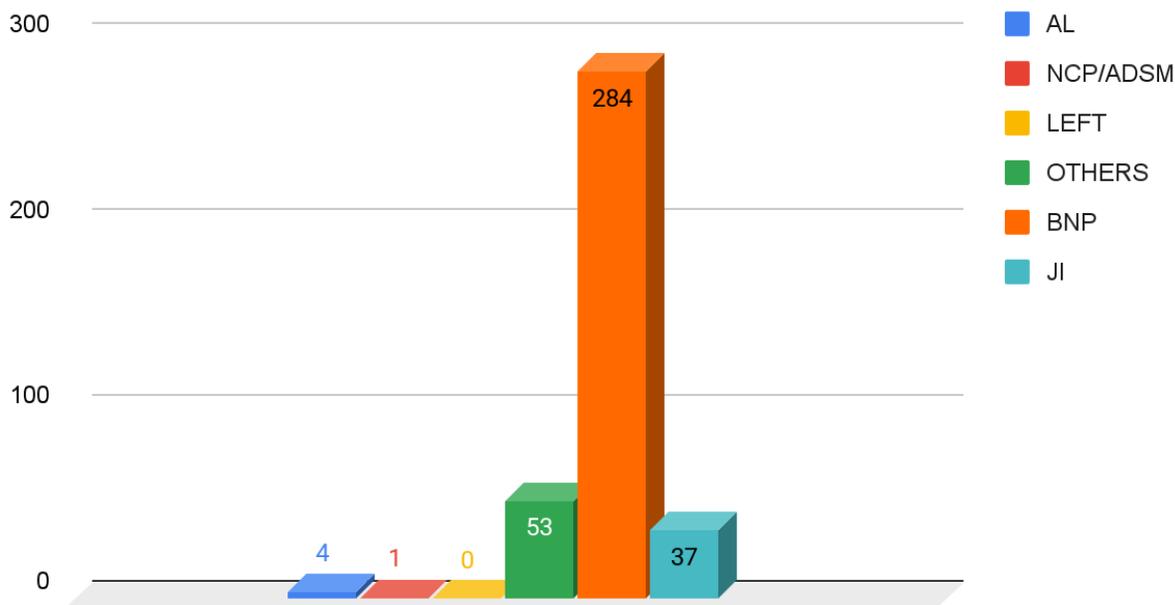
In November 2025, political violence continued across several districts, resulting in six deaths, around 250 injuries, and 103 incidents of vandalism. BNP supporters were most affected, with 222 casualties largely due to internal disputes and local organizational rivalries. Jamaat-e-Islami supporters accounted for 32 casualties, one Awami League member was killed brutally, and National Citizens' Party (NCP) supporters accounted for one casualty, while 29 cases involved civilians caught in local disputes or factional conflicts.

Political Violence - November 2025



A gun and bomb attack at a [BNP office in Khulna on 2 November](#) killed teacher Imdadul Haque and injured three others. In Munshiganj, clashes between rival [BNP-supported groups over local dominance on 11 November](#) left two young men, Rayhan and Arif Mir, dead and several injured. [Abu Musa, a former UP member and Awami League leader](#), was brutally killed in Brahmanbaria's Cholarampur area on 30 November, reportedly over disputes concerning local resources.

Political Violence by Party - November 2025



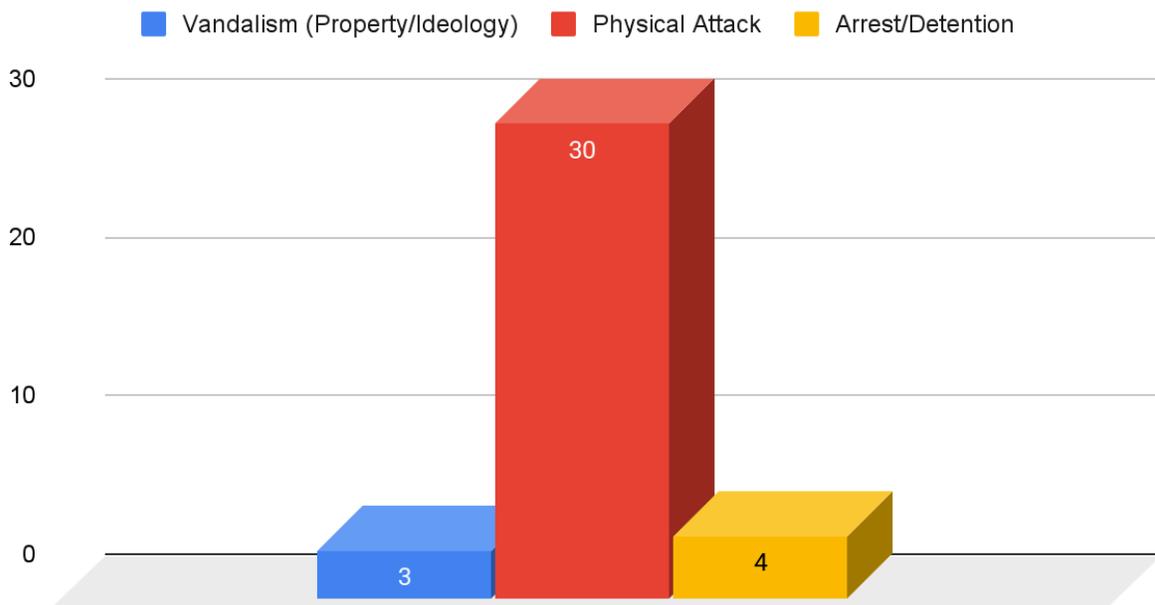
Earlier in November, factional clashes during [Revolt and Solidarity Day in Boalmari](#), Faridpur injured at least 23 people and caused extensive property damage, including motorcycles set on fire. In Chouddagram, Comilla, confrontations between [BNP and Jamaat-Shibir activists](#) resulted in at least seven injuries and attacks on party offices and private homes. In Kishoreganj-5 (Bajitpur-Nikli), [a clash between supporters of BNP nomination aspirant Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Iqbal and unregistered Jatiya Party leader Syed Ehsanul Huda](#) on 9 November left 25 people injured, including two gunshot victims, with extensive damage to vehicles and motorcycles. A joint army and police operation later led to the arrest of 30 people in connection with the violence.

These incidents underline the continuing volatility of local political rivalries in Bangladesh, with ordinary citizens often caught in the crossfire, and emphasize the urgent need for stronger measures to prevent political violence and ensure accountability.

3. Attacks on Religious Minorities

In November 2025, members of minority and marginalized communities faced 4 incidents of arrest/detention, 3 incidents of vandalism, 2 cases of legal harassment, 1 incident of rape, physical attacks affecting approximately 25–30 individuals, and around 500 reported threats. These incidents contributed to fear and insecurity among vulnerable communities and reflected ongoing social tension and weak protection mechanisms.

Attack on Religious Minority - November 2025



On 20 November in Manikganj, [Baul singer Abul Sarkar was arrested](#) on allegations of hurting religious sentiments, and subsequent tensions involved his followers, leading to public unrest and intimidation. In Barguna (Amtali), a [Hindu housewife was subjected to gang rape](#) in two separate incidents, later facing threats and displacement before returning home under police protection. On 8 November in Tangail (Kalihati), [miscreants vandalised 09 idols at a Hindu temple](#), creating fear within the local Hindu community. On 3 November in Chandpur, [a minority](#)

[youth was detained](#) following allegations of religious defamation, triggering protests and clashes.

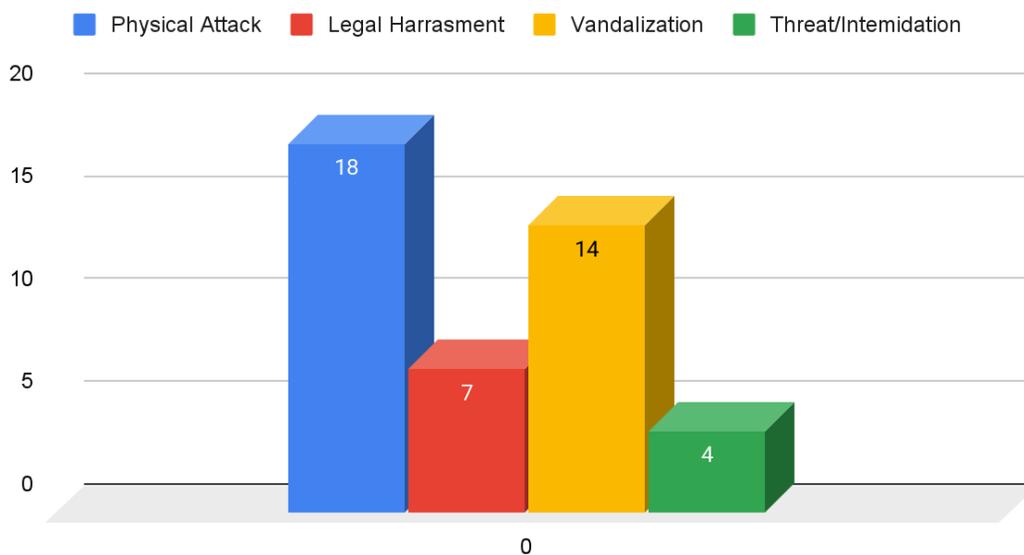
These incidents highlight ongoing insecurity, intimidation, and targeted harassment faced by minority communities, underscoring the need for stronger protection and timely legal measures to safeguard their safety and rights.

4. Freedom of Expression

4.1 Attacks on Journalists

In November, more than 18 journalists faced physical attacks while reporting, 14 experienced vandalism, 7 faced legal harassment, and 4 received direct threats. These incidents reflect a challenging environment for independent journalism, particularly in politically sensitive and socially charged contexts.

Voilance against Journalists - November 2025



[On 3 November, in Khulna, two journalists](#) covering a local political dispute were attacked. Their cameras were damaged and personal belongings seized during the incident. [On 12 November, at Titumir College in Dhaka, three journalists](#) were physically assaulted while reporting on student unrest, resulting in minor injuries and damage to equipment. On [20 November, in Trishal, journalists faced harassment](#) while covering a local protest, with assailants attempting to prevent them from recording the event. [On 25 November, in Pirojpur, a journalist was attacked](#) while covering a community dispute, sustaining injuries and temporary loss of equipment.

In a separate incident, [journalist Manjurul Alam Panna](#) reported receiving public death threats on 8 November. Panna, who had recently been released on bail in a high-profile anti-terrorism case, alleged that the threats were linked to his reporting on sensitive political and historical issues.

These incidents underscore the persistent risks faced by journalists in Bangladesh, highlighting the urgent need for stronger protection and accountability measures to ensure press freedom and the safety of media workers.

4.2 Attack on Expression



In November 2025, [Baul singer Abul Sarkar was arrested and jailed in Manikganj](#) following allegations of religious insult related to a folk music performance, after a video clip from his 4 November palagan spread on social media. A local imam filed a case, and Sarkar was detained by police from a music event in Madaripur before being produced before a magistrate and sent to prison.

Following his arrest, religious groups organized demonstrations demanding harsh punishment. During this period, Abul Sarkar's followers and fellow Baul artists became targets of violence and intimidation. In Manikganj, supporters attempting to hold peaceful programs demanding his release were attacked, leaving several people injured, with no immediate arrests reported.

Similar attacks occurred in Thakurgaon, [where Baul artists were assaulted ahead](#) of a protest rally, injuring three people and forcing the cancellation of the gathering. In Khulna, [a human chain organized by the Democratic Student Alliance](#) demanding Sarkar's release was attacked, injuring at least 15 people. In Sylhet, [police objections led to the suspension](#) of a Baul Unity Council protest program, while in Faridpur, a planned solidarity assembly was forcibly disrupted.

These incidents collectively indicate a pattern of targeted violence and suppression against Baul artists and their supporters in the aftermath of Abul Sarkar's arrest.

5. Freedom of Assembly

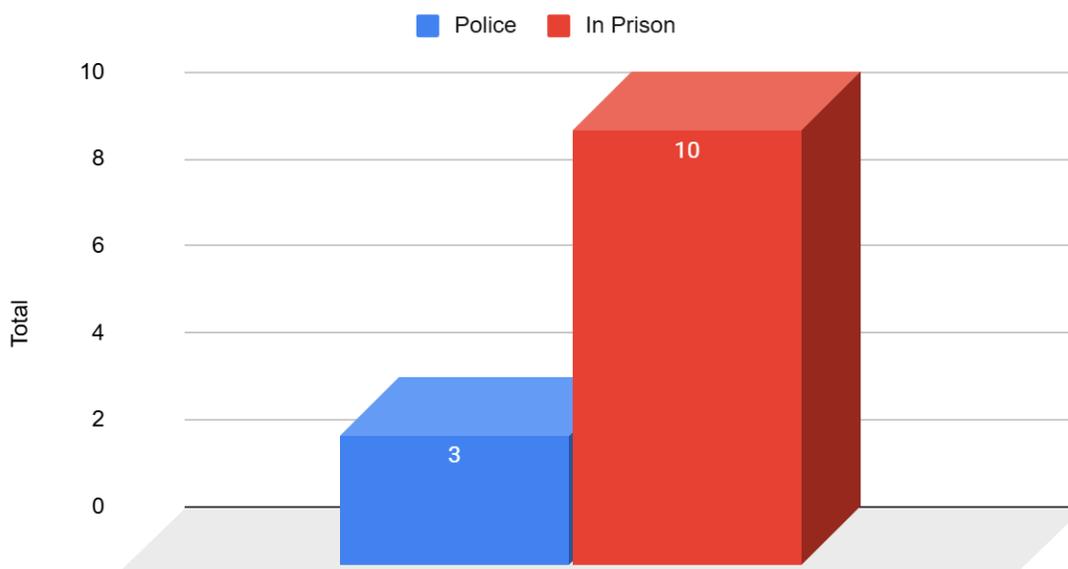
In November, authorities continued to restrict peaceful assemblies, often resorting to force. On 25 November, [candidates of the 47th BCS exam were violently dispersed at Shahbagh](#) while demanding the postponement of their written exams. Police used batons and water cannons to break the protest, injuring several participants as they attempted to march towards the Jamuna River (Prothom Alo). Earlier, on 23 November, [primary school teachers' protest](#) at Shahbagh demanding implementation of their three-point demands was also violently suppressed, leaving over 110 injured.

These incidents indicate a persistent pattern of excessive force, lack of negotiation, and suppression of peaceful dissent, highlighting ongoing challenges to the right to assemble in Dhaka.

6. State Violence and Custodial Deaths

In November 2025, 2 deaths occurred in police custody and 9 deaths in prison, highlighting serious concerns regarding the treatment and protection of detainees.

Death in Custody - November 2025



Notable cases include the [death of Murad Hossain \(65\)](#), an Awami League leader, who died in Kashimpur High Security Central Jail after being hospitalized due to illness. In police custody, [two individuals died under Detective Branch](#) supervision, raising questions [about law enforcement accountability](#). Additionally, Tanvir Mahmud (55), managing director of Hallmark Group serving a life sentence for a financial scandal, passed away in Dhaka Central Jail while receiving hospital treatment.

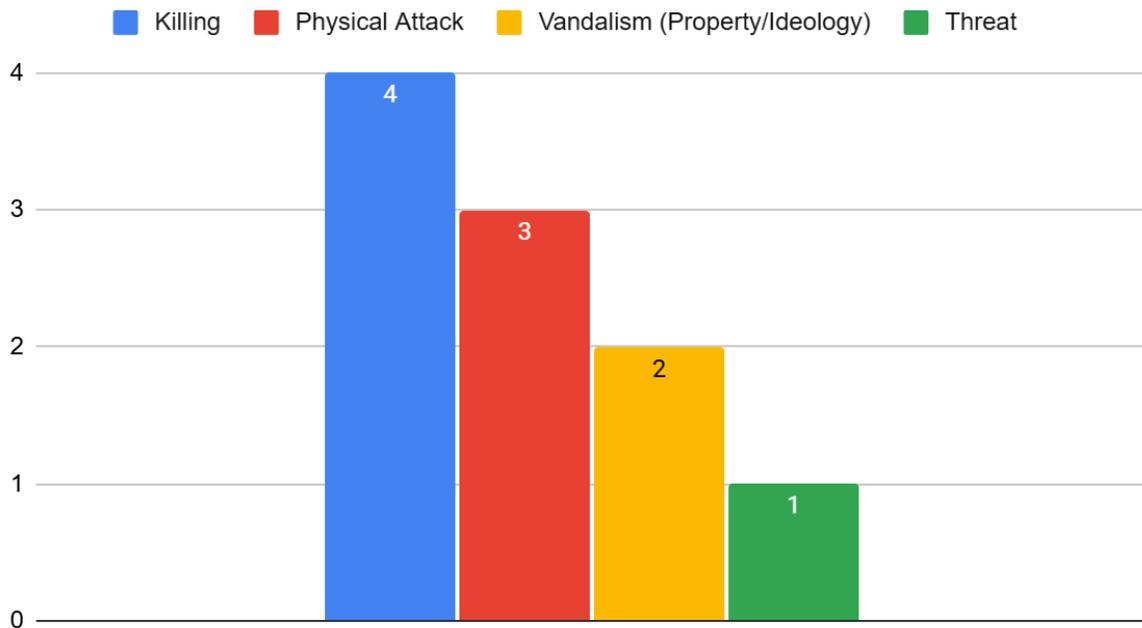
These incidents underscore the state's responsibility to ensure the safety, medical care, and rights of all detainees. Independent investigations and accountability measures are critical to prevent such deaths.

7. Targeted Mob Violence

In November 2025, Bangladesh saw a troubling continuation of targeted mob violence, with four people killed, three physically attacked, two incidents of property vandalism, and one reported

threat. These acts often occurred outside legal boundaries, driven by suspicion, political motives, or personal disputes.

Targeted Mob Violence - November 2025



On November 2 in Gaibandha's Gobindganj, [three men suspected of cattle theft were beaten to death by local residents](#). Police later recovered the bodies, confirming two died at the scene while the third succumbed to injuries at the local health complex. In Noakhali's Begumganj, [Abdul Kader Jilani \(35\) was fatally attacked by local assailants](#) using sticks and sharp weapons; authorities later recovered his body for postmortem examination. In Laxmipur's Kamalnagar, a young man named Mainuddin was [physically assaulted by a mob led by local leaders](#) under false claims of immoral activity, and forcibly compelled into a marriage registration.

Physical assaults also targeted residents without resulting in death. In Chattogram, [Faisal Mahmud \(30\) was kidnapped from a hospital](#) by a mob demanding extortion money, physically beaten, and held for ransom before being released; the police later arrested three suspects. In

Madhabpur, Habiganj, [journalist Pabitra Debnath was attacked](#) and harassed by a group including school staff while documenting irregularities, with his equipment damaged and videos deleted.

These November incidents reflect a persistent pattern of extrajudicial violence where ordinary citizens are attacked, accused, or extorted without due process. The recurrence of such events underscores deep social vulnerabilities, including communal suspicion, political interference, and impunity, highlighting the urgent need for lawful accountability.

8. Conclusion

November 2025 reflects a continuing pattern of instability in Bangladesh, where political rivalries, social tensions, and weak protection mechanisms intersect to produce widespread violence and insecurity. The month's events demonstrate the urgent need for strengthened law enforcement, protection of journalists and minorities, and accountability for both state and non-state actors. Without systematic intervention and preventive measures, such cycles of violence and intimidation are likely to persist, further threatening public safety, democratic processes, and the rule of law.