



1 June 2007

Press Release

**30 killed by Law Enforcement Agencies, 10 killed by BSF
in May 2007**

During 01-31 May 2007, as many as **30** persons were reported killed by the law enforcement agencies. Of them, **14** were killed by RAB, **10** by Police, **01** by Joint Forces, **01** by Navy, **01** by Jail Police and **03** by joint actions of RAB and Police. It may be noted that out of this **30** people, **18** were killed in 'Crossfire', **05** were tortured to death and **07** were the victims of Police firing.

Of those **30** people who were reported killed by law enforcement agencies, **13** were killed in crossfire by RAB. **One** was reportedly tortured to death by RAB. It has also been reported that **02** persons were killed by Police crossfire and **01** died due to Police torture, **07** were also apparently shot dead by them. **One** was reported tortured to death by Navy. Another **one** was reported tortured to death by Joint Forces and **01** was allegedly tortured to death by Jail Police while **03** others were reported killed in crossfire by RAB and Police jointly.

It was also reported that of the **30** persons, **01** from Awami League, **02** from Purbo Banglar Communist Party (Jonouddho), **02** from Purbo Banglar Communist Party, **02** from Purbo Banglar Communist Party (Red Flag), **01** from Jatiyo Shomajtantrik Dol (JSD), **02** from Gono Mukti Fouz (GMF) and **01** was reported as an 'extremist'.

Members of other groups were also among those reported killed. **One** belonged to the Salam Bahini, **02** were alleged arms dealers, **01** was an under trial prisoner, **01** alleged mugger, **01** alleged drug peddler, **06** alleged dacoits and **04** alleged criminals were also among those reported killed.

Apart from the above, others reported killed including **01** farmer, **01** female garments worker and **01** was housewife.

Between 01-31 May, it has also been reported that a total of **10** persons died in jail custody. Among them, **01** died allegedly as a result of torture by Jail Police, **01** died due to a clash between the prisoners and **08** died reportedly due to illness.

Moreover, **8** political persons were reported killed and **33** were injured in this month.

The report, which covers the human rights situation all over the country, also shows that **05** Journalists were injured and **02** were detained by the law enforcement agencies and **31** Journalists together with Acting Director of Odhikar was threatened during the month of May 2007. In addition, **01** press office and **01** press organization was also threatened during the reporting period.

Since 01 to 31 May 2007, a total of **43** women were reportedly victims of human rights violations due to dowry demands or raped or victims of acid violence.

Among them, a total of **19** women were reported victims of dowry related violence. Of them, **15** were killed, **04** were tortured. A total of **12** women were alleged victims of rape. Among them, **05** were killed after being raped and **05** women were the victims of gang rape. However, **12** women were the victims of acid attack in this reporting period.

Besides, **96** children were reportedly victims of human rights violations. Of them, a total of **30** children were killed. A total of **33** girl children were raped – of which **01** child was killed after being raped, **05** were the victims of gang rape. Moreover, **04** children were the victims of acid attack. However **09** were injured, **02** were allegedly abducted, **06** committed suicide and **12** went missing during this period.

Members of the Indian Border Security Force (BSF) were reported to have killed **10** Bangladeshi nationals in May 2007 and **02** were injured, **09** were reported abducted by BSF.

During 01- 31 May 2007, a total of **275** persons were reported killed throughout the country. Odhikar also expresses its concern regarding the atrocities perpetrated on garment workers and non-payment of their wages as per tripartite agreement at various garment factories.

Odhikar has prepared this report on the basis of 11 national dailies and its own fact-finding reports.