

Uprising Terrorism in Bangladesh: A Threat to Internal Security

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Abstract

Terrorism affects adversely life and society in any country and similarly it creates threat to the internal security of Bangladesh. The various terrorist activities at different time, particularly after the 17th August, 2005, clearly demonstrate the need to understand this phenomenon of terrorism and to discuss how it creates itself over the issue of internal security of Bangladesh. This also facilitates the use of the study in the wider perspective, because each individual, group and state can be evaluated in the respective context. To make this study user friendly for analysis, the original structure of this paper focuses on terrorism and internal security, findings of the study and recommendations, and a brief examination of the future threat at the end of this work. We have also rationalized the information concerning the trends of terrorism nowadays. The end of the study is designed to encourage the readers to apply their understanding to correct events.

Introduction

Terrorism has been an outstanding mode of conflict in the localized primitive wars; and unilateral violence has been used to subdue satellite countries, and control the dissident groups within a dictatorship.¹ Terrorism has now emerged as a terrifying reality affecting the countries across the globe including Bangladesh. There is much terrorism all over the world and Bangladesh, one of the developing countries of the world, is no exception to that. The form or pattern of terrorism in Bangladesh, causes are many and multi-dimensional. The vital causes of terrorism are poverty, corruption and political instability. Ethnic and religious differences, drug, weak law enforcing agencies, violence in print and audio-visual media etc promote the terrorist activities.² Some of the key

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affected area for terrorism are national security (internal and external), politics, socio-economic insecurity, and so on. Terrorism is indeed a threat to internal security. It is an ugly campaign to impugn the motives and patriotism of the media, though Bangladesh has been considered as a moderate even liberal Muslim country for many years. Previous bomb attacks and a series of deaths across Bangladesh have contributed to the already deteriorating internal security of Bangladesh. Bomb blasts and the rise of religious militants have again suggested that internal security in Bangladesh is at stake. Ordinary people with sedimentary technology and very little management skill can terrorize the whole nation and may often get away with it. So it is finally acknowledged that religious extremism exists in the country.

1.2 Background of the Study

State terrorism in the Muslim countries originated after the World War-II. In fact it originated following the creation of the Israel in the Arab land in 1948.³ Terrorism in the Indian subcontinent grew due to repeated invasions by the alien troops who often dislodged the local rulers. Sporadic raids launched by the dethroned rulers to regain the lost glories were termed as terrorism by the occupant rulers. The British introduced European alien culture and language that resulted into conflict between the Hindus and the Muslims through educational and legal systems. As a consequence, two conflicting schools of thought grew due to pursuance of dubious educational and legal policies, and in the long run, it has created sharp divisions amongst the people and the deprived groups who have resorted to organized terrorism in the recent years. In this way, bomb blasts in cinema halls, cultural functions, churches etc were used sporadically to terrorize the people and the country as a whole.

The second phase started with killing the secular forces indiscriminately. The next target was the popular leaders and finally they displayed this mighty existence of the terrorists through nationwide bomb blasts. Thus terrorism has become one of the major problems in Bangladesh. The society is on the brink of the precipice and the civilized existence is threatened. After August 17, 2005, uprising terrorism throughout the country orchestrated with bomb strikes. The so-called religious militants are using suicidal squads for rampant violence in different targets in Bangladesh.⁴ After August 2005, some bombing occurrences took place in Gazipur in November 29, 2005, where 7 persons were killed and 50 injured. Again in December 1, 2005, one person was killed and 30 injured.⁵ From this time, lots of cases were filed by the police on the 'exclusive act' in various police stations in Bangladesh in different times. It was 595 in 2005, 308 in 2006, 239 in 2008

and 150 in the first 8th months of 2010.⁶ On the other hand, some “purported” religious leaders in the name of religion and fundamentalism, such as JMB (*Jagrata Muslim Bahini*), are orchestrating terrorism. JMB as an armed organization has resorted to bomb blasts, though it was never heard or thought of much in Bangladesh. Many people have been killed and the number of killing stands at 26 today in which there are honorable numbers of the parliament, journalists, lawyers, teachers and persons of national importance.⁷ Though the character of terrorism may change, yet it is not that it started all on a sudden.

1.3 Rationale of the Study

Peace is desired by all but terrorism is hated by all. The abundance of conflict, war and terrorism since the end of the cold war has created skepticism about the prospects for peace and security. One of the most serious problems which the developing countries are facing today is “terrorism” particularly inside the country. It is noticeable that Bangladesh is one of the states in the world which has been suffering from terrorism for some years. Terrorism is an endangered emblem of economic, social and cultural maladjustment of the people. There are many studies and writings on terrorism in the developing countries but only a few are on Bangladesh. Furthermore, these few studies mostly concentrate on the analysis of its factors but the context of internal security has not drawn much attention.

Internal security is entirely dependent on the internal law and order situation in the country. But terrorism always hampers internal and external security of a country like Bangladesh. It present, some religion based terrorist groups have appeared who are creating terrible insecurity for the country. There is no study on “Uprising Terrorism”. So this study aims to explore uprising terrorism in Bangladesh and to consider it as a threat to the internal security of the country.

1.4 Objectives of the study

The principal objective of this study is to assess how uprising terrorism poses as a threat to internal security of Bangladesh. Nevertheless, the study focuses on the following specific objectives:

- a. To identify the events those come under uprising terrorism in the context of Bangladesh and to evaluate those events and activities in terms of separate and intended incidents.
- b. To assess the definition of internal security in terms of ongoing situation and to identify the highly influential sectors of internal security.

- c. To examine *Madrashah* involvement and foreign intervention in pursuit of terrorism and to find out the people and financial purveyors who are directly and indirectly involved in terrorist activities.
- d. To examine the statements in relation to domestic economy, politics, national security and foreign policy of Bangladesh and justify easily accessible approaches to terrorism through foreign intervention, long-term political imprudence and leadership failures.
- e. To collect information and relevant data to assess and to determine the level of terrorism and anticipate the future structure of terrorism in Bangladesh, Finally the paper tries to assess the effectiveness of the government initiatives and measures to prevent terrorism.

Methodology of the Study

Both qualitative and quantitative research methods have been used for the fulfillment of the objectives of this research paper. Data from both primary and secondary sources were collected. Secondary sources include reports, documents, magazines, books, journals, various newspapers, and subject related websites and research documents. Literatures covered definitions and dimensions of terrorism and its impacts on general people in the context of internal security in Bangladesh. Primary data have been collected through sample survey using structured questionnaire. Structured questionnaire was used for primary data collection from the respondents. Bengali versions of the questionnaire have been used for practical reasons. The total number of the questionnaire was three hundred and there were twenty-five questions in each questionnaire.

1.6.1. Sampling and Strengths of the Sampling

Selective sampling technique was used to choose the study area and *Gazipur* out of 64 districts was selected. In this way, *Gazipur Sadar* out of seven thanas was again selected to conduct the study because the terrorists attempted more here than in other thanas. Selected sample was specific in size reducing sampling errors to a reasonable level. Better management strategy and elaborate questionnaires were followed.

1.6.2. Data Processing, Quality Control and Data Analysis:

After completion of work, the questionnaires have been rechecked. Experienced persons worked whole-heartedly as well as have processed the data. Bi-variate and multivariate statistical analyses were carried out on the collected data to draw conclusion.

2. Theoretical Framework of Terrorism and Internal Security

2.1 Theoretical Framework of Terrorism:

The term 'terrorism' originates from the France in the 18th century. The word terrorism based on "terror" comes from the Latin verb '*terrere*'

meaning "to frighten".⁸ Originally, the leaders of the French Revolution attempted to weed out 'traitors' among the revolutionary ranks and used 'terror' as the best way to defend liberty. But as the French Revolution soured, the word soon took on grim echoes of state of violence and guillotines. Defining terrorism and a terrorist will remain as difficult as ever. One non-controversial part of the definition will be killing the innocents, to intimidate the people who hold political power at particular points of time. A simple meaning of the word terrorism is that it refers to individuals, groups or government that terrifies people irrespective of gender, age and culture. The *New Encyclopedia Britannica* defines terrorism, as the systematic use of terror or unpredictable violence against governments, public, or individuals to attain political objectives⁹. Moreover, since 1994, the *United Nations General Assembly* has repeatedly condemned terrorist activities using the following political description of terrorism: "Criminal acts intended or calculated to provoke a state of terror in the general public, a group of persons or particular persons for political purposes are in any circumstance unjustifiable, whatever the considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or any other nature that may be invoked to justify them."¹⁰

Webster Collegiate Dictionary defines terrorism as the use of physical force in a coordinated manner by an organized group so as to ignore other.¹¹ John Dutch has mentioned 'terrorism' as acts of violence committed against innocent persons or non-combatants that are intended to achieve political ends through fear and intimidation.¹² Cindy, C. Combs considers a loose definition of contemporary terrorism. He defined "Terrorism as synthesis of war and threat, a dramatization of the most proscribed kind of violence which is perpetrated on innocent victims played before an audience in the hope of creating a mood of fear, for political purposes."¹³ No definition of terrorism has been accepted as authoritative by the United Nations. In November 2004, a UN panel described terrorism as any act "intended to cause death or serious bodily harm to civilians or noncombatants with the purpose of intimidating a population or compelling a government or an international organization to do or abstain from doing any act."¹⁴

From the definitions above, it can be said that 'terrorism' refers to a series of events where some people are designated as terrorists while, at the same time, the same people are thought by some groups as patriots. Some other interest groups for their self-interests exploit these groups of people. Thus they violate various laws and regulations imposed by various administrative groups and they are usually defined as terrorists. In this way defining terrorist will remain as difficult as ever. The one non-

controversial part of the definition will be killing the innocents, to intimidate the politically powerful persons and society at a particular point of view. But the concept of uprising terrorism indicates the situation where terrorism is yet to reach a peak but is expanding and flourishing day by day and where the situation is somehow under control of the state. So if the government does not take necessary steps in time, it may break out extensively and immediately.

2.2 Theoretical Perspective of Internal Security

The term internal security can be said to connote not just an aggravated form of law and order but must comprehend within its fold on assurance of peace and provision for necessary infrastructure in which stable and peaceful conditions are the pre-requisites for pursuing normal vacation and proper utilization of resources.¹⁵ The maintenance of internal security is one of the greatest challenges that confronts law enforcers today who are otherwise often hapless and helpless before the nefarious activities of the miscreants under the patronage of their respective 'godfather.'

Internal terrorism, practiced by a state against its own people, has produced some of the most elegant violations of human rights that the world has ever seen. Terrorists violate human rights with less qualm or concern than that of the government. The hidden agenda of the terrorist is perhaps democracy itself as it is only in democracy that the "Rule of Law" subsists and their goal is to cripple the system. Without internal security, there can be no government and without constitutional government there can be no freedom and the slogan of the rule of law will remain a far cry. Finally, internal security is the act of keeping peace within the borders of a sovereign state or other self-governing territories, generally by upholding the national law and defending against internal security threats. Responsibility for internal security may range from police to paramilitary forces, and in exceptional circumstances, the military itself.¹⁶

3. An Overview of the Development of Terrorism in Bangladesh

Terrorism linked to religious fundamentalism has been rising in Bangladesh since mid-1990.¹⁷ A section of terrorists who are using violence to propagate their brand of Islam in the impoverished nation, wants to establish *Sha'riah* based Judiciary. The *religious extremists* favoring *Sha'riah* law for the nation do not believe in secular laws. The spate of bombing has been on the rise in Bangladesh for at least six years. The blasting of terrorist's activities reached a catastrophic proportion on the dates. The *Islamists* (some so-called religious leaders who work in the name of religion and fundamentalism) proved that they are well organized to blast hundred of bombs or hand grenades synchronously. Religion based terrorist attacks began in the northern part of Bangladesh

in 2000.¹⁸ They launched various terrorist activities after organizing themselves and ran their trainings in the islands, the hilly areas, the hills and residents in educational institutions including *Madrashas* and the remote countryside areas.

They are providing various types of training to the students on how to handle explosives, firearms, and war tactics. A stock of arms and ammunitions is also being created. A number of terrorist organizations based on religion such as Jagrata Muslim Janata, Mujahideen Bahini, Al-Hiqma, Harqat-Ul-Jihad and Jamayatul Mujahidden have started their activities openly. Bangla Bhai, who was the chief of Jagrata Muslim Janata, has come over ground after holding a meeting on November 17, 2005. Most jihadis (armed) caught by the police of Bangladesh have categorically said to the press: "To do armed jihad is my right, and to participate in armed jihad is my responsibility as a Muslim. No one has the right to stop one from doing jihad." Hizbut Touhid, another religion based terrorist organization, had met over resuming their activities in Gournadi in Barisal area. The Hijbut activists have announced that they would wage Jihad till they die to avenge the death of their fellow activists.¹⁹

In this way, the outlawed Islamic militants suddenly burst into prominence on 16 August 2003 and for the next fortnight they featured prominently in all the national news media. As a result police, and BDR hunt was launched against the militants in many districts such as Dinajpur, Naogaon, Panchagarh, Thakurgaon, Bogra, Chapai Nawabganj, Gaibandha and Joypurhat. Some were caught in connection with this case. They indicated that they were waging a *jihad* for Islamic rule. It was also proved that some of the militants had been trained in Pakistan and Afghanistan and some of their ammunitions came from Pakistan. It was also learnt that the illegal organizations have active power all over the country.²⁰

3.1 Religion Based Terrorist Groups in Bangladesh

There are some religion based militant outfits in Bangladesh. A brief discussion about the profile of these groups is given below:

3.1.1 Harkrat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (HUJI)

The main militant outfit in Bangladesh, the Harkrat-ul-Jihad-al-Islami (HUJI), was formed in 1992, allegedly with financial support from Osama bin Laden himself, HUJI now has an estimated strength of 15,000 followers and is led by Shawkat Osman aka Sheikh Farid in Chittagong. Its members were recruited mainly from various parts of Bangladesh. An internal document from HUJI lists no less than 19 "training establishments" all over

Bangladesh but it is uncertain how many of them actually offer or receive military training.²¹

3.1.2 *Jamaat-Ul Mujahideen in Bangladesh (JMB)*

JMB is a religious militant organization formed in 1998 in Palampur, Dhaka Division. It was noticed for the first time in Parbatipur in Dinajpur district. The leader of JMB is Abdur Rahman. The JMB's highest decision-making body is called 'Majlish-e-shura' of which *Bangla Bhai* is a member and commander of the anti-sarbahara venture. JMB is active in northern and northwestern and in the south and central areas of Bangladesh. It has divided Bangladesh into nine organizational divisions with a divisional office each in Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, and Chittagong and two in Dhaka and three in Rajshahi.

3.1.3 *Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB)*

Jagrata Muslim Janata Bangladesh (JMJB) means 'awakened muslim masses'. JMJB came to limelight in 2003 after the operation in Khetlal, in which 18 militants were arrested with leaflets dealing with its organizations activities. *Bangla Bhai* is the top leader of JMJB. *Bangla Bhai* goes by various names Siddiquel Islam, Azizur Rahman, Siddiqur Rahman etc.

JMJB has three-tier system for its cadres:

Ehsar: Fulltime activists who act on the directives of higher echelons,

Gayeri Ehsar: part-time activists,

Third Tier: This involves people from all sections who indirectly co-operate with JMB and JMJB.²²

Apart from the religion based terrorist organizations, there are also some terrorist groups, organizations and areas in Bangladesh. They include denizens of the underworld who were once in the same group. Some are the gurus; some are the 'disciples'. They broke up over responsibilities, sharing the booty and power tussles. They got involved in murder. Even the police have a hand in the killing of terrorists by terrorists. There are a lot of allegations of such involvement.²³ Extremist outfits *Sharbaharas*, in southwestern Bangladesh, are reportedly going through many upheavals. Seven such active outfits in Khulna are:

- i. Purbo Banglar Communist Party (ML-Janajudhho),
- ii. Purbo Banglar Communist Party (ML)
- iii. Purbo Banglar Maoist Communist Party
- iv. New Biplobi Communist Party
- v. Biplobi Communist Party
- vi. Dakhhin Banglar Chhinnomul Communist Party and
- vii. Jihadi Party.

Actionists of these outfits do not hesitate to kill even their patron, not to speak of politicians, journalists, police and even their own colleagues. Apart from the criminal underworld and *Sharbaharas*, there are a few more areas from where terrorism might have started to take extreme turn. Situation in Chittagong hill tracts may get out of hand if it is not wisely tackled. They have once again plunged into unrest after seven years of the landmark peace accord signed between the government and the tribal rebels, *Shanti Bahini*. Growing incidents of human rights violations and armed hostilities have now gripped the region. The 5th anniversary of signing the Chittagong Hill Tracts Treaty (CHTT) was observed in December 2, 2005. But it bore all the marks of impending trouble in this region if the right steps are not taken by Bangladesh. All major parties of the region held separate rallies to advance their conflicting programs. If this happens, this region might once again plunge into crisis.

After August 17, 2005, the top two JMB leaders and Chief, Shaikh Abdur Rahman and operation commander Siddiqui Islam (Bangla Bhai) were captured on 2nd March and 6th March' in 2006'.²⁴ Finally the Bangladesh government made the right decision in banning Hizbut Tahrir in Bangladesh in October 22, 2010.²⁵ Deputy Commissioner Nisarul Arif of Dhaka Metropolitan Police told "The New Nation"(daily English newspaper) that they arrested the chief coordinator of banned Hizb ut Tahrir, Prof. AKM Mohiuddin Ahmed, from his Green Road residence, who is also an Associate Professor in the Institute. of Business Administration of Dhaka University, on charge of instigating subversive activities in the city in the early hours of April-19, 2010.²⁶

4. Socio-Economic Background and Demographic Profile of the Respondents

The figures 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 indicate the data characteristics with percent distribution of sex, age, education, occupation, marital status, and religion which present the socio-economic background and demographic profile of the respondents. Figure-2:1 indicates sex distribution of the respondents, 64% are male and the rest (36%) are female, but it is not representative because of the demographic composition of the research area and the social values in case of the female respondents. The male married are 42% and female married are 14% (Figure-2:2) and the total percentage of married (male and female) is 56% and the distributions of religious groups (not shown in the figures) are Muslims-86%; Hindu and others 14%.

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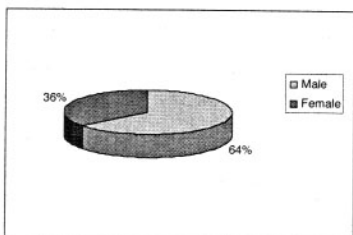


Figure-2.1: Sex Distribution of the Respondents.

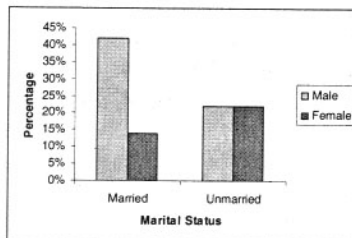


Figure-2.2: Marital Status of the Respondents

Figure-1 illustrates age distribution beginning from 15 to 60 and above with the chronological dominance of the age year (15-20 with 17%), (30-35 with 15.33%) and (35-40 with 14.33%) respectively. Occupation represents diverse professional groups, while education represents different levels. **Figure-4** indicates that 24% of the respondents are teachers; only 20% are students; 18% are service holders, 6% and above are NGO workers, business, lawyer and agriculture respectively. Only 3% are Imams who work in the Mosque.

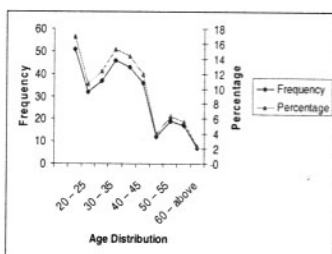


Figure-1: Age Distribution of the Respondents

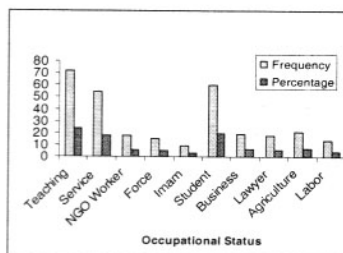


Figure-4: Occupation Status of the Respondents

As observed from **Figure-3**, most of the respondents (32%) are post-graduate, 24% are graduates, 22% are in HSC and 15% are in SSC. Only very few numbers occupy primary education. The distribution of these groups, though does not properly represent national proportion, fairly represents the typical demographic characteristics of the research areas.

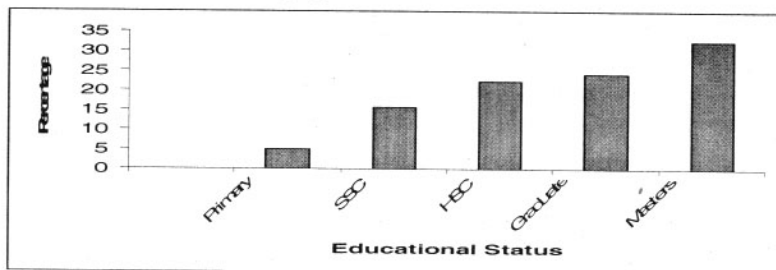


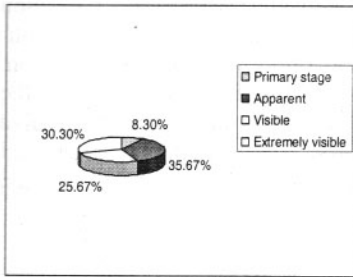
Figure-3: Educational Status of the Respondents

5. Data Presentations and Analysis

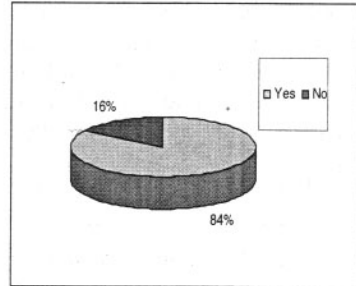
This chapter presents data presentation and analysis process collected from different views of respondents regarding uprising terrorism in Bangladesh and their perceptions about impacts of terrorism on internal security. Mainly, data have been graphically shown and discussed under them. Here one respondent has given his more than one against a question. So the gross percent of the responses and total number of the respondents for every question have been often more, often less.

5.1: Define Terrorism and Internal Security

Different types of responses regarding terrorism are shown in appendix table-3.1, 70% of the respondents consider terrorism as terrible and violent activities whereas only 12% define terrorism as a struggle to establish new political ideology. It has been observed from the data of the survey that about 38% refer to terrorism that means emerging fundamentalist activities while about 22% refer to diffusion of international violent activities in our society. The survey (Figure-6) shows the stratifications or levels of contemporary terrorism in Bangladesh in various arenas. About 36% of the respondents consider contemporary terrorism as an apparent stage whereas 8.3% consider it as a primary stage. Another 30% and 26% respondents regard terrorism as extremely visible and visible respectively.



[Figure-6: Stratifications of Contemporary Terrorism]



[Figure-5: Foreign Intervention behind Terrorism]

The idea of internal security of the respondents has been shown in appendix table-3.6 where majority of the respondents (about 37%) identifies internal security as development of economic condition whereas 14.67% refers to ensuring national security. On the contrary, 21% and 27% of the respondents seem to say that internal security means social and political stability and development of law and order situation in the country.

5.2 Reasons for Development of Terrorism and Peoples' and Madrasha's Involvement in Terrorist Activities:

About the reasons for the development of terrorism in Bangladesh where different perceptions of the respondents suggest that socio-economic

insecurity (42%) is mainly responsible for uprising terrorism whereas about 19% suggest that the evil aim of using power by the political leaders is responsible for the same. It has been illustrated by the survey that about 34% mulled over the disappointment and futility of political leaders accountable for generating terrorism whereas 26% for provocation of external evil powers (Appendix table-3.2). It is also shown in appendix table-3.5 the involvement of financial purveyor in terrorism. Majority portion of the respondents (38.33%) refer several Muslims and intelligence agencies of selfish states as their financial involvement backing up in terrorism activities in Bangladesh whereas (14.67%) refer Indian agencies as involved. It has been also revealed from the survey that internal selfish group (25%) and any internal political party (27.67%) also responsible for backing up terrorist activities in Bangladesh respectively. Peoples' involvement in terrorist activities are shown (Appendix table -3.3) that about (62%) of the respondents consider some organized groups and organizations (*Islamic education organizations like Madrasha, JMB*) to establish Islamic rule as are involved in terrorist activities where the lowest number of the respondents (14% and about 17%) indicate extreme leftist parties and mainstream political parties and their organs. It has also been revealed from the survey that about 44% of the terrorist activities are done by the frustrated and destitute people in our country.

Madrashas' involvement in terrorism has been brought to light (Appendix table-3.4), 46% respondents consider *Madrasha* education incompatible with modern education which is accelerating terrorism in our country whereas only 12% did not give their opinions about this question. Moreover, 38% and 30% think that they lack good perception about the *Madrasha*. Most of the apprentices who come from the poor class involve themselves in terrorist activities in our country. 20% respondents articulated that *Madrasha* education is neglected in Bangladesh which motivated apprentices to be engaged in terrorist activities.

5.3 Foreign Intervention behind Terrorism

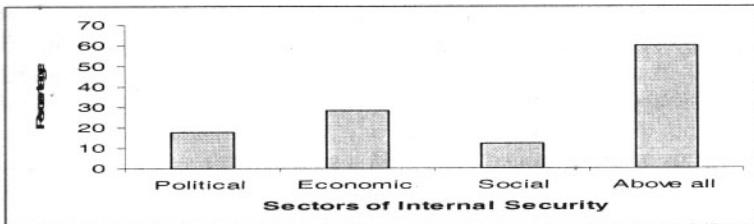
It is shown in the figure-5, 84% of the respondents refer to foreign intervention behind backing up terrorism whereas 16% do not refer to intervention. About 44% (not shown in figure or table) suggest that foreign intervention in terrorism is done to intervene in internal political affairs and to diffuse influence in such cases whereas only 5% refer to the spread of neo-colonialism. It emerges from the survey that 27% of the respondents consider Bangladesh as a failed and fundamentalist state whereas 20% suggest that it is done to establish Islamic law and order in Bangladesh.

5.4: Some Sectors of Internal Security Influenced by Terrorism

It emerges from this study (Figure-7) that some sectors of internal security are influenced by terrorism. Most of the respondents (60%) refer to all the sectors (political, economical and social) which are responsible for

development of terrorism whereas only 12.33% refer to social sector of internal security influenced by terrorism. It is also found that economic (29%) and political (18%) sectors of internal security are influenced by terrorism.

Influence of terrorism in the political sphere is shown in appendix table-3.7. It describes that terrorism (35%) hampers democratic building process whereas about 17% hamper creation of political violence. On the other hand about 29% and 21% respondents seem to that helping to growth noxious culture and enhancing gradual political intolerance are persuaded by the terrorists activities in our country. Appendix table-3.8 illustrate that 35% of the respondents suggest that domestic economic development is hindered by the uprising terrorism whereas only 8.67% suggest that terrorism is an impediment to gross domestic investment. Foreign direct investment (FDI) is a pivotal matter for the development of our economy which is adversely affected by terrorism. According to the survey, about (25%) respondents suggest that uprising terrorism leads to decreased foreign direct investment (FDI). As a result, gross domestic products (GDP) and gross national products (GNP) are reduced. It is an inescapable truth that terrorism is causing a drawback in the sound development of our economy.



[Figure-7: Sectors of Internal Security Influenced by Terrorism]

It has been disclosed from the survey (appendix table-3.9) that **social**-infrastructure is hampered by terrorism in our country. 39% of the respondents indicate that lack of confidence among the people is a consequence of terrorist activities in social infrastructure whereas only about 21% of the respondents look at terrorism as the cause of downfall of internal law and order situation in the state. Moreover, about 31% and 25% respondents think that people suffer from social insecurity and depreciation of social values takes place because of terrorist activities.

5.5: Foreign Relation Influenced by Terrorism:

Terrorism obstructs not only country's image in international arena but also widens scope of foreign intervention in internal politics. As a result foreign trade opportunities and foreign direct investments (FDI) decrease. It has been found from the survey (not shown in figure or appendix) that about 48% respondents seem to say that terrorism hampers country's image in

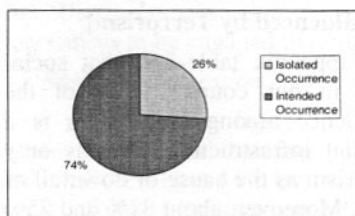
international arena whereas 18% think foreign trade opportunities are curtailed due to uprising terrorism. The survey also reveals that the changes of foreign intervention in internal politics widen and about 38% and 27% respectively agree with this possibility.

5.6: Possibility of National Security Influence in the Future

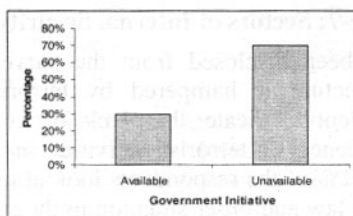
Appendix table-3.10 has depicted the impacts of uprising terrorism on national security in the years to come. As observed from this survey, 36% of the respondents indicate unsolicited foreign intervention that would begin due to fragile security system whereas 26% refer to hampering of overall development activities and life style in the country. 34% of the respondents have indicated that administrative activities would be hampered and law and order activities would fail and 24% say that there will be no public security owing to futile actions of domestic intelligent agencies in the future.

5.7: Justification of Terrorist Activities

Justification of uprising terrorism as an isolated and intended incident has been described in Figure-8. Most of the respondents (74%) consider terrorist activities as an intended occurrence whereas only 26% refer to it as an isolated incident. Rationales of the respondents in favor of 'Yes' and 'No' shown in the appendix table 3.11 and 3.12. Most of the respondents (about 36%) in table 3.11 indicate conspiracy of ideologically intended organized groups behind this occurrence whereas about 07% suggest that it was an intrigue to spread the spate of neo-colonialism. And most of the respondents in table 3.12 refer to terrorist activities as isolated incidences because this never happened before. So the member of respondents backing up 'Yes' is 198 and 'No' is 102. In this way, the total number of the respondents is 300.



[Figure-8: Justification of Terrorist Activities]



[Figure-9 Government Initiative to Prevent Terrorism]

5.8: Government Initiative to Prevent Terrorism

Figure-9 illustrates that the justification regarding 'availability of government initiatives against terrorism is delineated where most of the respondents (70%) indicate that government initiatives are not available to curb terrorism in our society. Majority of the respondents (about 32%) in appendix table-3.13 refers to lack of the initiative of the government is the fundamental reason to take preventive action against terrorism. Moreover,

unavailable internal and external security system, lack of judiciary amendment and political disagreement are also responsible (18%, 12% and 08%) for the taking protective action against terrorism. On the contrary, (appendix table-3.14) only (30%) respondents point out that the government initiatives are available where maximum respondents articulate (14%) the immediate effective and preventive actions are intriguing by the government to restrain terrorism from our society whereas only 04% cited for preparing to make proper acts against terrorism.

5.9: Ways out from Uprising Terrorism

The ways out from terrorism have been charted below chronologically according to the waitage the respondents gave appendix table-3.15. These are:

1. Creating political agreement and concusses in the interest of the nation.
2. Identifying the persons or organizations which often support terrorist activities financially and to control those strongly.
3. Ensuring proper judgment of the terrorists through the application of customary laws and making new acts against terrorism, if necessary.
4. Embellishing the intelligence agencies and the law and order security forces.
5. Emphasis on border sentry to prevent free movement of the terrorists.
6. Observing the activities of various NGOs, multinational companies and foreign intelligence agencies in the country, and taking action accordingly to the laws.
7. Increasing regional and international cooperation for preventing terrorism.
8. Introducing modern and scientific educational system in *Madrasha*.

5.10: Future of Terrorism in Bangladesh

Future of terrorism in Bangladesh has been discussed on the basis of some opinions of the respondents. It has been found from appendix table-3.16 that 14% of the respondents consider that the people will sooner or later; prevent extremists although they carry religious mindset. Most of the respondents (52%) consider that terrorist activities may increase as dreadful if proper enquiry and judgment are not made possible. On the other hand, 16% of the respondents indicate that the country will be marked as a fundamentalist one. Even state existence might be questioned of suicide bombing continues whereas only 18% indicate that internal security systems might fall due to killing intellectuals and politicians. And the country might be suffered in the context of socio-economic perspective leading to abolishing radical thinking and destroying religious image.

6. Findings and Recommendations

6.1: Findings of the Study:

The following decisions have been achieved from the study:

- a. Basic concepts of terrorism and violent activities have been defined and considered in the article. People of various groups think that terrorism refers to any kind of endangered, terrible and violent activities. The main reason of uprising terrorism is largely due to socio economic insecurity in the country.
- b. Some so called organized groups and organizations formed to establish Islamic law are involved in terrorist activities, It has, of late, been recognized that incompatibility of the *Madrashas* with the religious schools as well as the education system in the country identified as cause of involvement in terrorism.
- c. Several Muslims and intelligence agencies of interested states are marked as the financial purveyor of terrorism.
- d. Contemporary terrorism prevails though it is not at a highly dangerous level. The concept of internal security in the context of contemporary security is defined as development of economic condition. All the sectors of internal security like politics, economic and social, are influenced by uprising terrorism.
- e. Terrorism helps to hamper democracy building process in the political sphere, makes obstacle to overall economic development, create lack of confidence among the people in the social sector, and damages the image of the state in international area.
- f. Terrorism might invite unsolicited foreign intervention. Fragile security system may be easily defeated by the strong terrorists.
- g. Terrorism is not an isolated incident. It often gets mixed up with the ideological motivation and takes a turn to the conspiracy against the country. The government initiatives have not been enough to prevent terrorism because the government was not conscious but from the very beginning

6.2: *Suggestions and Recommendations*

- In order to establish the original spirit of Islam, the spread of education, the exercise of culture, conducting research, combining the knowledge of science and modernity with the necessities of the present time are the essentials. It is necessary to infuse religious knowledge with modern touch of education and scientific knowledge.
- Not only Madrasha rather each and every educational institution should be searched for terrorism. To combat religious extremism, it needs to look at the roots of the problems, to try to recognize them, to solve them and to strengthen law enforcement.
- The crisis can be overcome only through enlightened political movement guided by courageous leadership coupled with substantive public actions. Such actions should aim at giving an institutional shape to democratic values, secular mindset, and equity in distribution of public resources and benefits of development.

- By setting examples of good governance, the government needs to demolish the credibility of the extremists and deal with this problem by apprehending the people involved in terrorism and uprooting the network as much as possible and trying to ensure socio-economic security of the people.
- The spectrum of issues and participation should be an ongoing dialogue that would be parallel to intergovernmental conferences that usually seek the introduction of more statutory instruments to deal with terrorism. The government should formulate and implement the appropriate policies that address the above issues seriously and seek to redress them sincerely.
- To stop this sort of terrorism what is needed is a comprehensive national consensus in which almost all the patriotic forces will be accommodated. Creation of a condition of political sustainability and the unity of the people can stop terrorism to a great extent.
- Effective actions must be simultaneously defensive and offensive and inevitably require some compromise of civil liberty. Mechanisms of cooperation at both national and international levels between intelligence and law enforcement agencies must be established for controlling terrorism.

7. Conclusion

The danger increases in a world where, like other phenomena, terrorism is globalized and local forces of terror can count on support from such and powerful allies abroad. One should not underestimate the ability of a determined band of terrorists to exploit people's religious susceptibilities to achieve their objective. Nevertheless, it may be ignored only at the peril of the responsibility of terrorists for the present upsurge of extremism in the country and the rate they can play in combating it. Over the past years, violence, threats and terrorist attacks have become the most enduring patterns of internal insecurity in Bangladesh. The August 17, 2005, serial bomb blasts and the subsequent militant attacks have confirmed the existence of Islamic militancy. If Bangladesh fails to address the issue and control its, it might lead the country to a disaster. There is also a strong possibility that the religious terrorists may lie up with the so-called leftists in Bangladesh. It is an area where there has been little enquiring.

This is not to suggest that a diehard core of religious extremists cannot create havoc in a society. The danger from the terrorists who are willing to kill themselves in order to kill others for what they consider true Islam is all too real. If the current perpetrations of terrorist bombings may

develop greater accuracy and sophistication in their act, they could specify and greater the leaders of corruption in the society. Unless government, politicians and worthy people take care of the million people of Bangladesh, terrorism in Bangladesh may pose greater threats to the security and economy of the country. It may be mentioned, in this study, that the activities of the *Jamat-E-Mojahedeen* Bangladesh was aimed at establishing the country and creating chaos and confusion among the people under the garb of religion. None of the leaders of Bangladesh can escape responsibility for the growth of religious fundamentalism and the so-called *jihadi* concepts in their country. Now the world is standing on the volcano of terrorism, everybody should be conscious about of it. The people of the world want to live in peace. They do not support any destructive activity. Human beings want to see a world where will remain only peace. So it is desired by everybody they lead peaceful life through proper establishment of internal security. What the so-called religion based terrorists do in most of the areas in Bangladesh is nothing less than terrorism. If the state of internal security of Bangladesh were assessed, it would certainly betray a ghastly scene.

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Appendix: 3

Appendix table-3.1: Defining Terrorism

No.	Types of responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Terrible and violent activities	210	70.00
B	Emerging Fundamentalist activities	115	38.33
C.	Struggle to establish new political ideology	36	12.00
D.	Diffusion of international violent activities	67	22.33

Appendix table-3.2: Reasons behind Uprising Terrorism

No.	Types of responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Socio-economic insecurity	126	42.00
B	Misinterpretation of religion by selfish group	89	29.67
C.	Provocation of external evil powers	78	26.00
D.	Disappointment and futility of political leaders	103	34.33
E	Evil aim for using power by political leaders	59	19.67

Appendix table -3.3: Peoples' Involvement in Terrorist Activities

No.	Types of responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Few aberrant frustrated and destitute people	131	43.67
B	Some organized groups and organizations named to establish Islamic rule.	185	61.67
C.	Extreme leftist parties	42	14
D.	Mainstream political parties and their organs	53	17.67

Appendix table-3.4: *Madrashas'* Involvement in Terrorism

No.	Types of responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Honourary education system in <i>Madrasha</i>	24	08
B	Most of the apprentice come from poor class	90	30
C.	Lack of good perception to the <i>Madrasha</i>	114	38
D.	<i>Madrasha</i> education is incompatible with modern education system.	138	46
E	<i>Madrasha</i> education system is neglected	60	20
F	<i>Madrashas</i> are not involved)	36	12

Appendix table-3.5: Financial Purveyor behind Terrorism

No.	Types of responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Several Muslims and Intelligence agencies of selfish states	115	38.33
B	Any Indian Agency	44	14.67
C.	Internal selfish groups	75	25
D.	Any internal political party	83	27.67

Appendix table-3.6: Defining Internal Security

No.	Types of responses	Frequency	Percentage
A.	Development of Economic condition	109	36.33
B.	Social and political stability	64	21.33
C.	Development of law and order situation.	81	27
D.	Ensure national security	44	14.67

Appendix table-3.7: Political Sphere Influenced by Terrorists Activities

No.	Types of responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Increase political violence	63	21
B	Help to growth noxious culture	85	28.33
C.	Create gradual political intolerance	50	16.67
D.	Hamper democratic building process	105	35

Appendix table-3.8: Domestic Economy influenced by Terrorism

No.	Types of Responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Foreign direct investment (FDI) is decreased	73	24.33
B	Gross domestic products (GDP) and Gross national products (GNP) are reduced	30	10
C.	Production system is hampered	39	13
D.	Gross domestic investment is hampered	26	8.67
E	Economic development is obstacle	134	35

Appendix table-3.9: Social Infrastructure Hampered by Terrorist Activities

No.	Types of Responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	People suffer in social insecurity	91	30.33
B	Downfall of internal law and order	61	20.33
C.	Depreciation of social values	73	24.33
D.	Creation lack of confidence among people	117	39

Appendix table-3.10: Possibility of National Security Influenced in Future

No.	Types of Responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Administrative activities would be hampered and law and order activities would be failing.	102	34
B	Unsolicited foreign intervention would begin due to fragile security system	108	36
C.	There will no public security owing to futile actions of domestic intelligent agencies.	72	24
D.	Overall development activities and life style would be hampered	78	26

Appendix table-3.11: Rationales of Terrorist Activities as Intended Incident

No.	Types of Responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Conspiracy of ideologically intended organized group	107	35.66
B	Gaining political advantage	53	17.66
C.	Secret plotting to establish a fundamentalist statè	43	14.34
D.	Intrigue to spread spate of neo-colonialism	19	6.33
E	Total	222	73.99

Appendix table-3.12: Rationales of Terrorist Activities as Isolated Incident

No.	Types of Responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Never happened before	30	10
B	Deteriorating socio-economic situation	23	7.66
C.	Mutual blaming of political parties	21	07
D.	Anarchic habit of terrorists	4	1.3
E	Total	78	25.96

Appendix table-3.13: Rationales in Favor of Unavailable Government initiative Prevents Terrorism

No.	Types of Responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Lack of government accuracy	96	32
B	Lack of judiciary amendments	36	12
C.	Political disagreement	24	08
D.	Unavailable internal and external security system	54	18
E	Total	210	70

Appendix table-3.14: Rationales in pursuit of Government initiative Prevents Terrorism

No.	Types of Responses	Frequency	Percentage
A	Immediate effective and preventive action	42	14
B	Conformation of stable Security	6	2
C.	Attempt to take strict actions against terrorism	30	10
D.	Prepare to make acts against terrorism	12	4
E	total	90	30

Appendix table-3.15: Ways out from Uprising Terrorism

No	Comments	Frequency	Percentage
A	Making political consensus for the national interest	115	38.33
B	Introducing modern & scientific educational system in <i>Madrasha</i>	32	10.67
C	Identify the person or organizations of financial assistance in terrorist activities and control their ones.	93	31.00
D	Increase regional and international cooperation for preventing terrorism.	41	13.67
E	Embellish intelligence agencies and law and order forces	72	24.00
F	Ensure proper judgments of the terrorist through the proper application of laws and create new laws if necessary.	83	27.00
G	Observe the activities of various national and international NGOs, multi-national companies and foreign intelligence agencies in the country.	52	17.00
H	Emphasis on border sentry to protect free movement of the terrorist.	66	22.00

Appendix table-3.16: Future of Terrorism in Bangladesh

No.	Comments	Frequency	Percentage
A	People will prevent extremist although they carry religious mindset	42	14
B	Terrorist activities may increase as dreadful scenery if proper enquiry and judgment are not possible.	156	52
C.	Country will be marked off futile and fundamentalist. Even state existence might drops like a stage of suicide bombing.	48	16
D.	Internal security systems of the state might fall down due to killing intellectual and politicians. And country might be suffered in the context of socio-economic perspective with abolishing radical thinking and destroying religious image.	54	18