

## Study of homicidal death recorded at Forensic Medicine Department of Dinajpur Medical College

Md. Mizanur Rahman<sup>1</sup>, Kazi Golam Moakhlesur Rahman<sup>2</sup>, Md. Gisan Hossain<sup>3</sup>

### Name of authors:

<sup>1</sup>Associate professor of Forensic Medicine, Enam Medical College, Savar, Dhaka. <sup>2</sup>Associate professor of Forensic Medicine, Dhaka Medical College, Dhaka. <sup>3</sup>Lecturer of Forensic Medicine, Enam Medical college, Savar, Dhaka.

### Abstract:

Homicide is the most prevalent form of criminal offence in our country. It is also prevalent in other countries also. It is punishable under certain circumstances (Culpable Homicide) and not punishable under other circumstances (Excusable or justifiable Homicide). The punishment for homicide may be an imprisonment for life or even death sentence. A retrospective study was conducted on homicidal death in the Department of Forensic Medicine of Dinajpur Medical College. Above 300 cases were examined from January 2004 to December 2006 for 3 years. All the cases were referred from different police stations of Dinajpur district. Among them the highest number of cases were brought by Kotaali police Station about 12% and the lowest from Hakimpur Police Station about 2.5%. Out of 300 cases 70% victims were male Muslims. The highest frequency of offence was found in lower socioeconomic groups. The age group of them was from 32 to 45 years.

**Key Words:** Homicide, reporting

### Introduction:

Homicide means causing the death of one person by the act of another<sup>1</sup>. In other way, homicide means killing of a human being by another human being.<sup>2</sup> It is a form of violation of human rights which is same all over the world. In our country, the incidence of homicide is increasing day by day. Unfortunately, we are considered as the 3<sup>rd</sup> world developing nation with high rate of birth, mortality and morbidity and the higher population growth rate.

Higher population pressure directly and effects on country's low socioeconomic group, lack of education, unemployment and poverty. As a result, criminal activities of our country are increasing day by day. Homicides are increasing gradually. In statistics, it was found that about 110 homicides were found in 2004. Broadly speaking, homicide may be considered as destruction of human life by the act of any agency, procurement or culpable omission of some other

persons.<sup>3</sup>It encompasses not only murder but also several other types of non accidental killing<sup>4</sup>.

Although the mortality of man breaks down certain conditions 1.social and economic insecurity 2. Political terrorism. The causes of homicide are not only related with the accused but also associated with multiple factors related with the victims. Social and economic insecurity and political terrorism cause the increased number of homicidal incidence. Now a days, different papers publish the incidence of homicide with due importance though many cases are not reported due to social stigma, fear and prestige of the family. In fact, the homicidal cases are much higher than the cases recorded by authority.

### Methods:

The study was carried out from January 2004 to December 2006. During these years, all the medico legal cases were referred from different police stations of Dinajpur district to the Department of Forensic Medicine

of Dinajpur Medical College. The data was collected from the relatives of victims.

**Result:**

Total 200 cases were brought by 13 police stations and 1 railway stations for autopsy examination of Department of Forensic Medicine of Dinajpur Medical College. Considering the socioeconomic status of the victims it is found that higher frequency of homicide occurred in the lower socioeconomic group. The highest cases of victims were noted in table 1; the age group 30 to 35 years noted in table-2. According to special opinion, no definite opinion of homicide was given. According to police stations, the higher frequency about 12% was from Kotaali police Station and the lowest about 2.5% from Hakimpur Police Station.

**Table-1**

Class	Number of cases			Total
Upper	30(in'04)	35(in '05)	40(in'06)	105
Middle	35	30	40	105
Lower	45	35	45	125

-1 shows the distribution of the cases according to socioeconomic status

**Table-2**

Age group(in Year)	Number of cases in each year		
	In 2004	In 2005	In 2006
0 to 20	1	5	4
20 to 30	15	10	14
30 to 40	60	70	70
40 to 50	30	35	45

Table-2 shows the distribution of cases according to age

**Discussion:**

Homicides are increasing day by day. According to Bureau of Police research and development, the number of homicide has been increasing in Bangladesh in previous years. National Commission on cause and prevention of violence in 1967 showed that about 47.9% of all homicides were perpetrated on victims between age groups of 32 to 45 years, 27.9% on victims aged about 45 years. If we look for the daily newspapers, there is news on cases of homicides. One study shows that victimization homicides increases with middle age

group as well as those who are socioeconomically lagging behind. In case of death from wounds, the question of their being suicidal, accidental or homicidal may often arise. Though it is mainly an exercise of the circumstantial evidence, it can be solved to an extent by the doctor. The points to be observed may include 1. At the scene (to be observed by investigating agency) 2. On the body (to be observed by the doctor).

Homicidal traffic death are very rare, though the author has been involved in 1 incident where racial hatred lead to the running down of youth of one ethnic group and another when a near repeatedly crushed the near side of his own car in an effort to kill his passenger(his wife)5.

Persons with xyy chromosome pattern have a natural tendency to violence whether such violence is excusable or not is for the courts to decide.6

Broadly speaking, homicide (Latin – homicidium) is the act of a human killing by another human. The word has come to mean unjust taking away of human life, perpetrated by one 7.

**Conclusion:**

As homicide is the most prevalent form of criminal offence in our country and it is increasing day by day through out the world, we must try to prevent this sort of heinous propensity without considering the caste, creed and color and also the sex and age of individual. The criminal should be highly punished so that no incidence can occur in future.

**Reference:**

- 1 Text Book of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition by Nagesh Kumar G Rao, medicolegal aspect of wound .
2. The Essentials of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology by K.S. Narayan Reddy , 28<sup>th</sup> edition, 2009, medicolegal aspect of wound, page-254
3. Text Book of Forensic Medicine & Toxicology by krishan Viz , injuries , medico legal consideration , page-308
4. Forensic Pathology by SIMPSON, 12th edition, the examination of wounds, page-60.
5. Forensic Pathology by Bernard Knight, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition
6. Parikh's Text Book of Medical Jurisprudence, Forensic Medicine & Toxicology, 6th edition , injuries medico legal aspect , page – 4.55
7. www.newadven .org/cathen