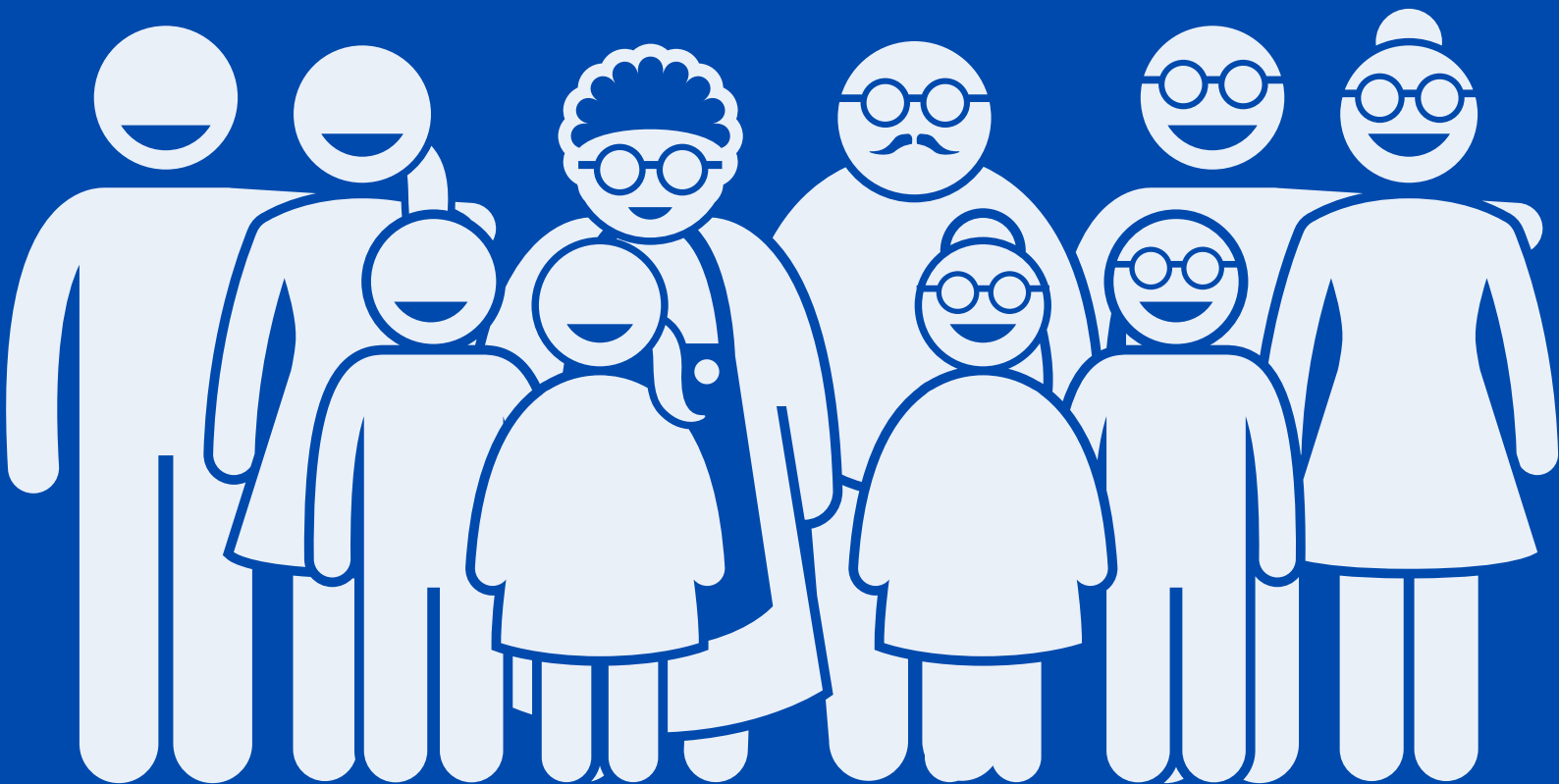


# REPORT ON

**HOSPITAL CARE FOR 350 ACID  
VICTIMS IN BANGLADESH (45128)**

**2024**

**APRIL-JUNE**





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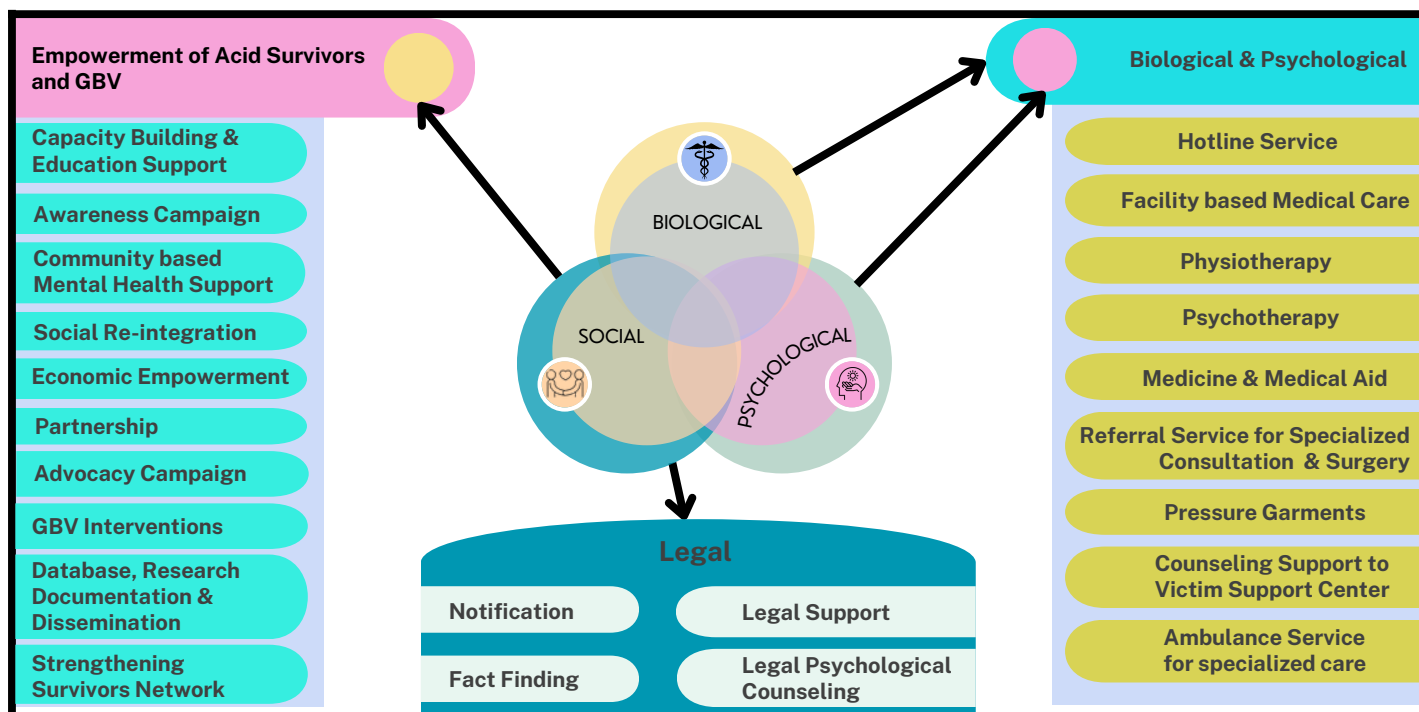
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# INTRODUCTION

The Acid Survivors Foundation (ASF) is a non-governmental organization dedicated to supporting survivors of acid attacks and preventing acid violence. Founded in 1999, Over the years the organization established itself as a specialized one-stop-service enter dedicated to the needs of the survivors and advocacy for elimination of acid violence. Utilizing a home-grown bio-psycho-social model, ASF offers comprehensive support services in free of cost to acid survivors, including medical treatment, psychological counseling, legal assistance, empowerment initiatives, awareness campaign, advocacy, and research. In this journey it has engaged government, relevant national, international NGOs, media, civil society forces, private sector, donors, and acid survivors.

## BIO-PSYCHO-SOCIAL SERVICE MODEL





# Leading with Vision, Inspiring Success

*Dear Friends,*

I am delighted to present this Report, showcasing our remarkable journey and accomplishments throughout the months. As the sole NGO in Bangladesh committed to preventing, addressing, and ultimately eradicating acid violence while safeguarding the rights of them, including men, women, and children, who have suffered from this abhorrent form of violence, ASF stands resolute. Our aspiration is to foster a Bangladesh free from acid violence, where victims, particularly women and children, can lead lives of dignity with peace and happiness.

Services designed in bio-psycho-social model to acid and other burn survivors such as medical consultation, psychotherapy, physiotherapy, medicine couriered, medical referral, tele-medicine service, surgery, medical aid, pressure garments and legal counseling from ASF are provided in timely manner and in perceptions of their needs. It is with immense pride that I reflect on the unwavering support of our valued donors and partners, the dedication and resilience of our team, and the positive impact we have made in the industry.

In the face of unprecedented challenges, we have remained steadfast in our commitment to excellence, donors' satisfaction. Our focus on delivering exceptional services, coupled with our agility in adapting to survivors needs, has been instrumental in our continued growth and success.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to our talented team members who have consistently gone above and beyond to exceed expectations and drive our organization forward. Their unwavering passion, expertise, and commitment have been the bedrock of our achievements.

Furthermore, I would like to express my appreciation to our esteemed donors and partners for their trust and collaboration. Your valuable insights, feedback, and loyalty have propelled us to new heights, and we are grateful for the opportunity to contribute to your success.

Looking ahead, we remain dedicated to our core values, fostering a culture of innovation, and delivering sustainable value to our stakeholders. We are excited about the opportunities that lie ahead and confident in our ability to navigate the evolving landscape.

On behalf of the entire leadership team, I assure you that we will continue to prioritize transparency, integrity, and responsible growth in everything we do. Together, let us embrace the future with optimism and determination, knowing that our collective efforts will shape a brighter tomorrow.

Thank you for your unwavering support, and I invite you to delve into the following pages of this report to discover the milestones, achievements, and exciting prospects that define our organization.

Sincerely,

**Sarder Jahangir Hossain**

Executive Director  
Acid Survivors Foundation



## New Acid Attack Statistics 2024 (April- June)

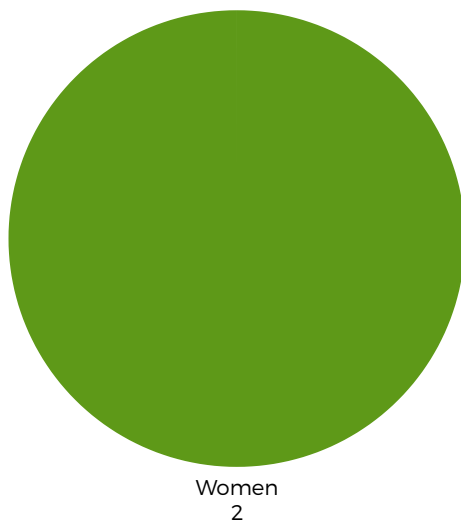
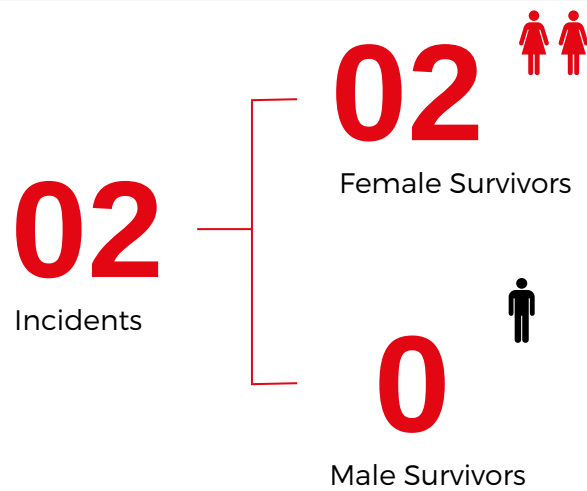


Fig.1: Sex Ratio

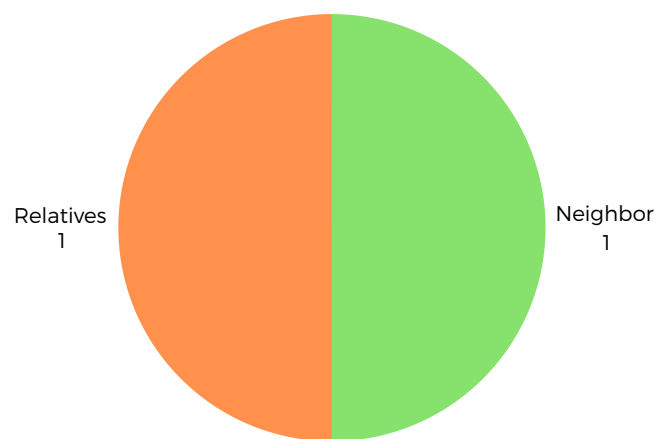


Fig.2: Perpetrators

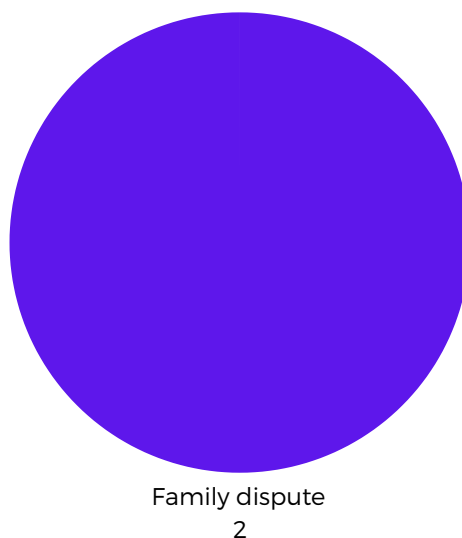


Fig.3: Causes

← Family dispute



# Completed Activities



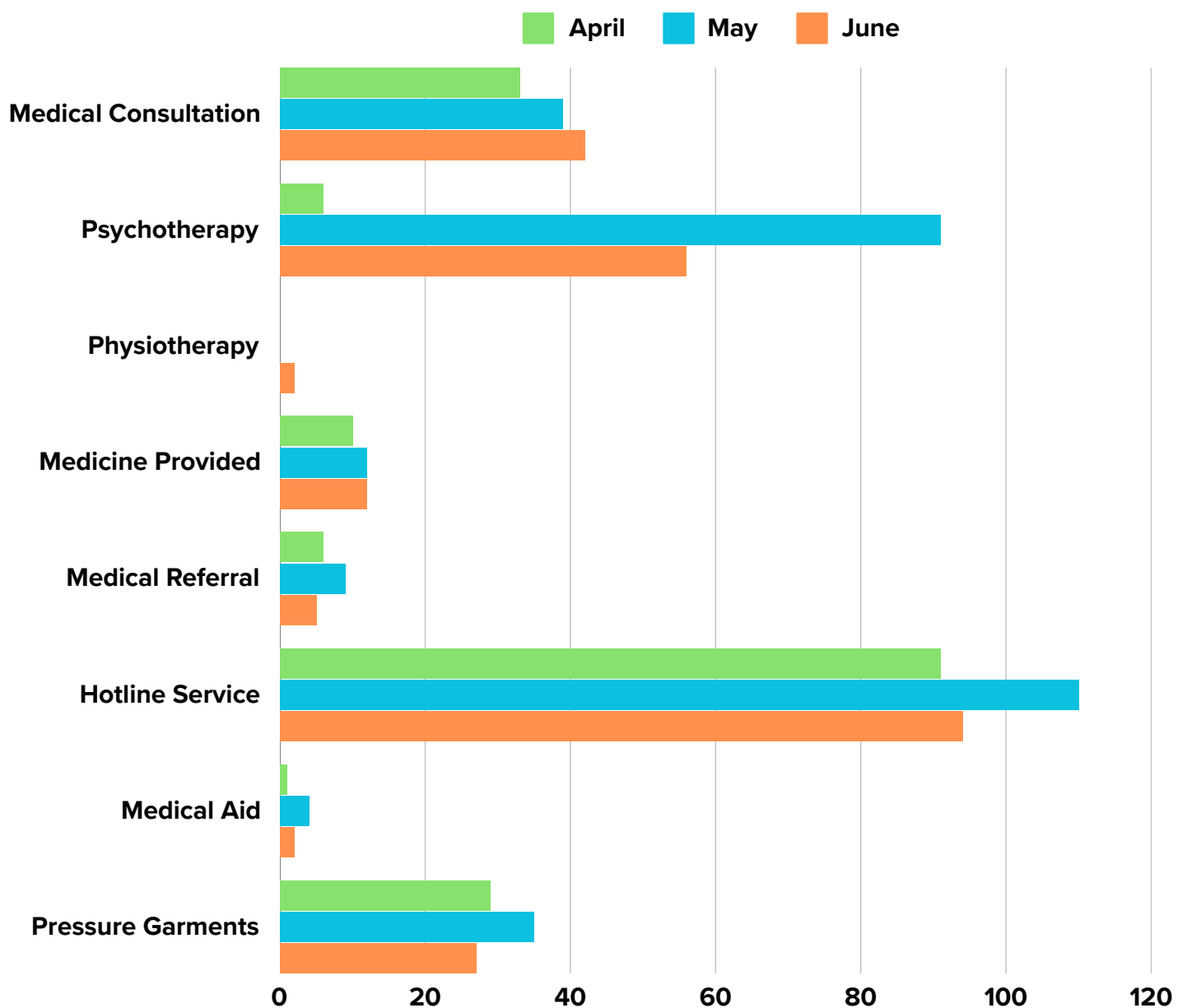
*It is a process where the volume of activities grows concurrently with group effort.*

Activity	Outcome
Medical Consultation(OPD)	114
Psychotherapy	153 15 in-person 138 E-counseling
Physiotherapy	2
Medicine Couriered	34
Medicine for OPD patients	80
Medical Referral	20
Hotline Service	295
Medical Aid	7
Pressure Garments	91



# Services

## Month-Over-Month





## Medical Hotline



To prevent recurring complications caused by chemical burns, a total of 295 survivors sought medical advice through our hotline service. The services requested included the management of contractures, issues related to feeding tubes, and problems affecting burned eyes and ears.

## Direct Consultation (OPD)



Survivors received health consultations for recurring complications resulting from chemical burns, including contractures, ophthalmological issues, hearing difficulties, and infections. During the reporting period, a total of 114 survivor patients were served.





## Medicine and Medical Aids



Medicine was provided to 114 patients. Among them, 80 received their medication in person from the ASF Service Center, along with a one-way transport allowance. The remaining 34 patients had their medication delivered via courier, as they were unable to visit the center due to reasons such as physical condition, distance, cost, or the lack of an attendant. Additionally, eyeglasses were provided to 4 patients, as their eyes had been damaged by acid burns.

## Physiotherapy



Physiotherapy plays a crucial role in the recovery process for burn injuries. If not administered timely, it can lead to complications such as contractures, deformities, and subsequent disabilities.

In this period, 02 patients were treated as a referral service in the SP Hospital, utilizing a variety of techniques such as stretching, massage, and exercise to aid in their rehabilitation.



## Psychotherapy



Acid violence has a profound and lasting impact on the mental health of survivors, who are at a heightened risk of developing depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder. Additionally, children exposed to violence and abuse are more likely to exhibit violent behavior as adults.

Psychotherapy services, including counseling, treatment, and rehabilitation for survivors and their families, have been proven to mitigate the negative psychological effects of violence and reduce the likelihood of re-victimization. In total, our psychotherapist served to 153 acid survivors, with 15 conducted in person and 138 through e-counseling.

## Referral Care for specialized consultation and surgery



A total of 20 patients were referred to various hospitals for specialized advanced care, including the National Institute of Ophthalmology Hospital, Shaheed Suhrawardy Hospital, Ispahani Islamia Eye Hospital, the National Institute of Mental Health & Hospital, Dhaka Medical College & Hospital.

## Ambulance service to carry referral cases

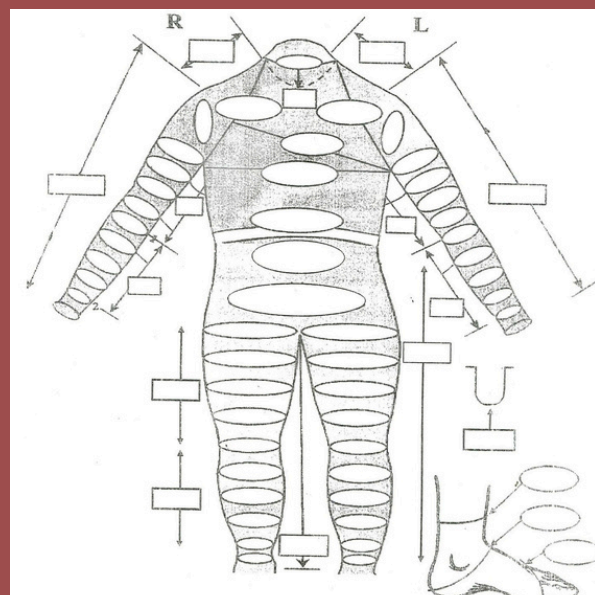


A total of 20 referred patients were provided with ambulance service to transport them to the hospital.



## Pressure Garments

Pressure garments (PGs), also known as compression garments, are useful protecting components for burn injury management. These are specialized pieces of clothing made of elasticized fabric called Lycra. PGs are used for keeping the burn area tightly fitting in order to prevent the skin from scar formation and protect the skin from the development of contracture from the maturing scar and ensuing disability conditions.



The tightness of PGs has multiple benefits. It helps stop the itching associated with healing burns, provides support and protection for fragile skin, and reduces swelling, and relief from pain while promoting healing. They also help to reduce discomfort caused by burns. Additionally, they help improve the range of motion in burned areas by providing support during movement.

PGs are tailored to meet each survivor's specific needs based on the physician's advice. ASF operates two survivor-run pressure garment manufacturing unit in Dhaka Medical College & Hospital (DMCH), and another at the ASF Service Center. In the reporting period, ASF provided pressure garments to 91 survivors including 2 acid burn and 89 other burn survivors.





# Pressure Garments



## GALLERY







## SHARMIN AKTER

GOPALGANJ

17 APRIL 2024

A housewife named Sharmin Akter (28) was burnt with acid in Gopalganj Sadar Upazila. She was admitted to Gopalganj 250 bedded general hospital. The incident took place at Sadar Upazila at night around 1:30 am on 17th April, 2024.

Sharmin's husband Hanif lives abroad. Sharmin was sleeping in her room with her six-year-old son. Around 1.30 am some people entered his house by cutting the canal. After a while, they grabbed Sharmin's hair and threw acid on her body. Later, sister-in-law and mother-in-law rushed to Sharmin's screams and took her to Gopalganj 250-bed general hospital.

The survivor alleged that their relatives Shaheen Munsi and Sumi Begum did the work with the help of neighbor Anis Munsi. They had previous familial dispute and also dispute over land. They were preparing to file a case against the perpetrators.



## NAJMA AKTER

RANGPUR

6 MAY 2024



Najma Akter, 27, survived an acid attack on May 6, 2024, in Mithapukur, Rangpur. She was alone at home when the incident occurred, resulting in acid burns to her hand, chest, and lower waist. Initially, she received treatment at the Upazila Health Complex in Mithapukur, Rangpur. After primary care, doctors referred her to the One Stop Crisis Center at Rangpur Medical College and Hospital.

Najma reported that the attack stemmed from familial disputes with her uncle. She had previously filed a case against him under the Nari O Shishu Nirjatan Daman Ain 2002. Following his release after a three-month jail term, he attacked Najma with acid to take revenge. The Police is investigating the case.



# Jasmine's Journey

CUMILLA

NOVEMBER 1, 2011

Jasmine, now 37, was born in Cumilla, the youngest of seven children in a family of modest means. Her early years were enriched by close family ties and simple joys. Seeking better opportunities, she moved to Dhaka to live with her older sister. There, she met Amir Hossain, who would later become her husband.

Despite initial familial resistance, Jasmine and Amir married and their union was eventually accepted by both families. They built a joyful life despite economic challenges, welcoming three children: one son and two daughters. Jasmine supported the household through various odd jobs, embodying the spirit of perseverance.



However, their happiness was short-lived. Amir began pressuring Jasmine for dowry money, which soon escalated into abuse. Jasmine borrowed 10,000 taka from her brother, but Amir's demands and threats of violence continued. The situation reached a tragic peak on November 1, 2011. At around 11 a.m., Amir assaulted Jasmine and locked her in a room, inflicting horrific acid burns on her face, eyes, neck, chest, hands, shoulders, back, and lower skull. Their children were not at home during the attack. Neighbors, alerted by Jasmine's cries, broke into the room, doused her with water, and rushed her to Dhaka Medical College & Hospital (DMCH) for treatment.





# Jasmine's Journey

CUMILLA

NOVEMBER 1, 2011

After her discharge from DMCH, Jesmine moved to the ASF Hospital on March 5, 2012, for further treatment and support. ASF has continued to provide extensive support to her, including four reconstructive surgeries, physiotherapy, psychological counseling, medication, meals, transport allowances, legal assistance, and financial assistance of Taka 50,000 for economic empowerment. Most recently, on May 26, 2024, she underwent neck surgery at a private hospital, funded by ASF. The acid attack left Jasmine with severe physical scars and emotional trauma. She experienced blurred vision in one eye, constant pain, and social abandonment due to her deformed face.

Throughout these challenges, her siblings have remained a steadfast support system. Jasmine benefited from ASF's counseling services, helping her emotionally heal from the traumatic attack. Despite her ongoing struggles, Jasmine's spirit remains unbroken. Her son and older daughter are currently residing in a madrasa, continuing their education and finding stability amidst the turmoil.


Jasmine's inspirational tale is a powerful reminder of the human spirit's resilience in the face of overwhelming hardship. Her journey from a happy family life to surviving a vicious attack underscores the urgent need for societal change for reintegration and mainstreaming of them so that they can live a dignified and peaceful life. Join us to stand alongside them!





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