



The world's eighth most populous country is plagued by endemic poverty and rampant corruption. The country born of a bloody war with Pakistan, its minorities and indigenous population are persecuted and crimes against them are rarely punished. Chittagong Hill Tracts still face violence, fuelled on by ethnic tensions and deep political divisions. Violations, corruption and mismanagement have led to international aid. Is the country in danger of becoming an extremist haven or a secular future?

# CULTURE OF IMPUNITY

## BANGLADESH

# Culture of Impunity: Bangladesh

30 min Documentary Report

A presentation of OHM Net

Bangladesh - The world's eighth most populous country. While its problems may seem removed from the rest of the world, its military provides the biggest share of UN peacekeepers globally, earning billions for the government. Well known as a nation of endemic poverty and rampant corruption, it's also a country born of a bloody war with Pakistan, enduring what one high US official called the most calculated thing since the Nazis in Poland.

"At the time, it was the most horrendous genocide since the Second World War."  
Shahriar Kabir

Now an Islamic state like Pakistan - the country it fought for independence from, religious minorities - Hindus, Christians, Buddhists and others are under threat; and crimes against them are rarely punished, like the war crime perpetrators over thirty years ago.

Not only religious minorities but the little known indigenous population in the Chittagong Hill Tracts - including the Chakmas, who claim to be the clan of the Buddha - still face violent attacks, urged on by extremists. Yet despite its human rights violations, the country still receives European and international aid. With elections coming in 2013, is the country in danger of further becoming an extremist haven or is there hope for a democratic and secular future?

This 30 minute documentary features key Bangladeshi activists and experts as well as survivors of attacks across Bangladesh and the Chakma people themselves. Beautifully filmed in Dhaka and rural areas in High Definition, the film also features hidden camera footage, showing a side of the country rarely seen and what happens when extremism flourishes unchecked, in a culture of impunity.

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