

All children have the right to be protected from violence and exploitation. Due to the current political status the children of our country are particularly vulnerable and at risk. This is one of the many cases that occur each day. Most of them go un reported. It was difficult for us to enter the Dhaka Medical College Hospital Burn Unit to talk to the families of countless victims lying on the corridor floors owing to lack of hospital beds compared to the large number of burn victims. We could talk to just one of the hundreds of families before the authorities asked us to leave. This is the case of 13 year old school girl Happy AkhterSurovi (photo attached) who suffered gruesome burns on both her legs. She sits on the bed of hospital burns ward surrounded by tearful relatives. On 21st December, 2014 after coming back from school while playing game near the courtyard with friends a sudden petrol bomb explosion burnt both Happy's legs. She was admitted to the Intensive Care Unit of Dhaka Medical College & Hospital. She does not yet know what is going to happen to her. Her mother related how Happy screamed in fear as the bomb was hurled at her by a striker. She is a student of class eight of Azimpur girl's school. She lives at Dhakessori, Lalbagh with her parents. Her father is a government clerk who is not fully able to pay the high cost of his daughter's treatment. Violence and exploitation burnt not only the Happy's physical health but also affected her mentally. This midless act of violence will surely have an impact in her transition to adulthood with adverse consequences later in life. Her family wants justice for the incident that will scar their daughter for life.

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