

THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BANGLADESH FACT SHEET

CONCERN
worldwide



CONCERN
FAST
2018

FAST FACTS

BANGLADESH is a country nestled between India and Myanmar. It gained independence from India in 1947 as part of Pakistan, before becoming an independent nation in 1971. It is one of the world's most densely populated countries, with widespread poverty which is exacerbated by its vulnerability to extreme weather events.



Capital: Dhaka



Population: 164 million



Currency: Taka



Land area: 143,998 sq km



Borders: India, Myanmar



Language: Bengali



Religion: 86% Islamic, 12% Hindu



Life expectancy: 69 years (men),
70 years (women)



Climate: A tropical-monsoon climate
with rainy summers and dry winters



The climate is one of the wettest in
the world!



Terrain: Mostly flat and hilly in the
south-east



Natural resources: Land, timber, coal
and natural gas



National day: 26th March



Symbol: Shapla (or a water lily) and
the Royal Bengal tiger



National anthem: Amar Sonar Bangla
(‘My golden Bengal’)

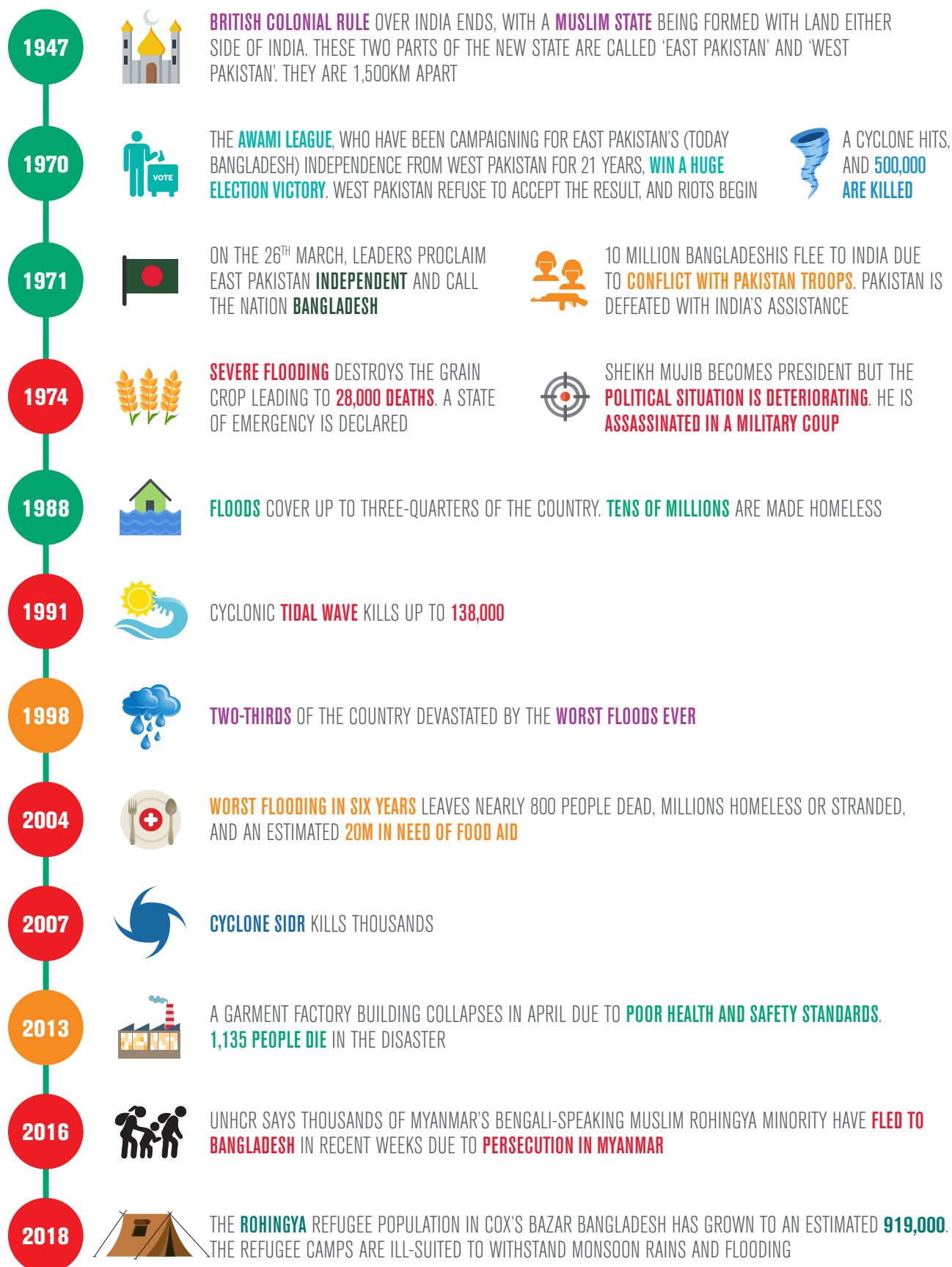


Landmarks: Jaintapur megaliths,
Sixty Dome Mosque, Baklai Falls



Wildlife: Royal Bengal tiger, king cobra,
salt-water crocodiles

BANGLADESH TIMELINE: CONFLICT AND DISASTERS



KEY WORDS

- **Colonial rule:** a country or area under political control of another country and occupied by settlers from that country
- **Natural disaster:** A natural event such as a flood, drought or storm which causes widespread damage and loss of life



The world must work together to help achieve Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) 1 and 13 in Bangladesh



GOAL 1 NO POVERTY

End poverty in all its forms, and provide protections for the poor and vulnerable



GOAL 13 CLIMATE ACTION

Strengthen resilience and adapt to climate related events

FOOD FOR THOUGHT?

- How do you think natural disasters impact on people's access to food, water and education?
- How can we support those who live in areas prone to natural disasters?
- How does our experience of climate change and extreme weather events in Ireland differ to those living in Bangladesh?



NATURAL DISASTERS IN BANGLADESH

Bangladesh is one of the countries most vulnerable to climate change. This is the result of a combination of factors including its geographical location, low lying lands, reliance on the lands, high population and widespread poverty. The climate in Bangladesh is changing: its summers are hotter, rains irregular and often very heavy when they come which causes flooding and landslides.

These natural effects of climate change in Bangladesh come with human consequences. High levels of rainfall and a rise in temperatures lead to prevalence and outbreak of diseases such as malaria, dengue fever and cholera. Also, flooding and a change in predictable seasons impacts on agriculture and therefore food security for Bangladeshis.

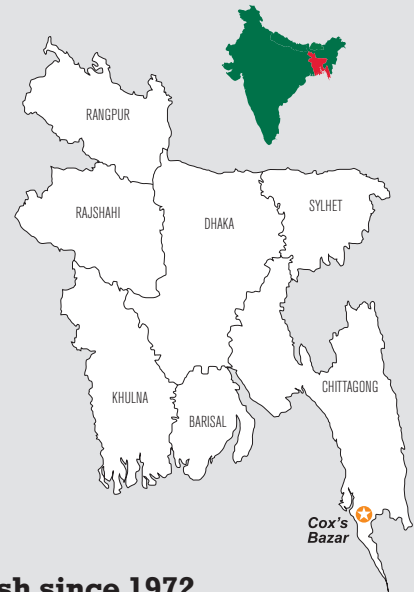
Additionally, natural disasters lead to displacement of people which can cause conflict for resources and tensions in areas where people move to.



WHAT IS CONCERN DOING?



2017 (September), Bangladesh,
Photographer: Kieran McConville



Concern has been fighting extreme poverty in Bangladesh since 1972.

Since August 2017 Concern has been working in the refugee camps near the Myanmar border to ensure that the basic needs of Rohingya refugees like Hala and her mother Layru (above) are met.

Women and children make up 80% of the refugee population in these camps.

Concern has established nine Outpatient Therapeutic Programme (OTP) centres. These centres offer emergency nutrition support to children under 5 years of age, along with pregnant and lactating mothers.

By taking part in this year's Concern Fast you can help save the lives of children like Hala.

Just €40 could provide life-saving food for one child for six weeks.



Want to Learn MORE?

Concern Worldwide's Active Citizenship Team run workshops for students during the academic year. If you are interested in exploring and critically examining global issues in the classroom please contact us on schools@concern.net



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Checkout **videos** of the projects that we are working on

ACT



Contact our **Fast Coordinator** Noeleen Doyle via phone 01 479 1320 or email noeleen.doyle@concern.net for more information.

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