

NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE



**NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE**  
**BANGLADESH**

## **NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE BANGLADESH**



**National Defence College (NDC) is the premier national institution in Bangladesh, a centre of excellence conducting training and research on defence, security, strategic and development studies.**

## Background



The necessity for a premier national institution, National Defence College (NDC) was felt long before for conducting training, research and education on leadership, defence, security, strategy and development studies. The journey started when the then Honourable Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, laid the foundation stone of the Academic Complex of NDC on 10 January 1998 in Mirpur Cantonment. However, the first National Defence Course commenced in the campus of Defence Services Command and Staff College on 10 January 1999.

Construction of the present academic building was completed on 22 November 2000. Since then, National Defence College has been fully devoted to its assigned responsibilities.



## College Motto



*Security Through Knowledge*

## The College Emblem



The College Emblem is a PRODEEP (Lamp) that symbolizes knowledge. Both sides are flanked by sheaves of paddy with the national flower Shapla (water lily), crowning the whole. The tri-services' colours ringed by the national colour in the background denotes a national institution administered by the Armed Forces.

The motto imprinted in Bangla, on a scroll at the bottom means "Security Through Knowledge".

## Vision

The National Defence College is dedicated to be the premier national institute of excellence in defence, security, strategic and development studies.

## Mission

To impart training to selected senior military and civil officers from home and abroad on national and international security related fields as well as to impart training to mid ranking military officers of Bangladesh on war studies.

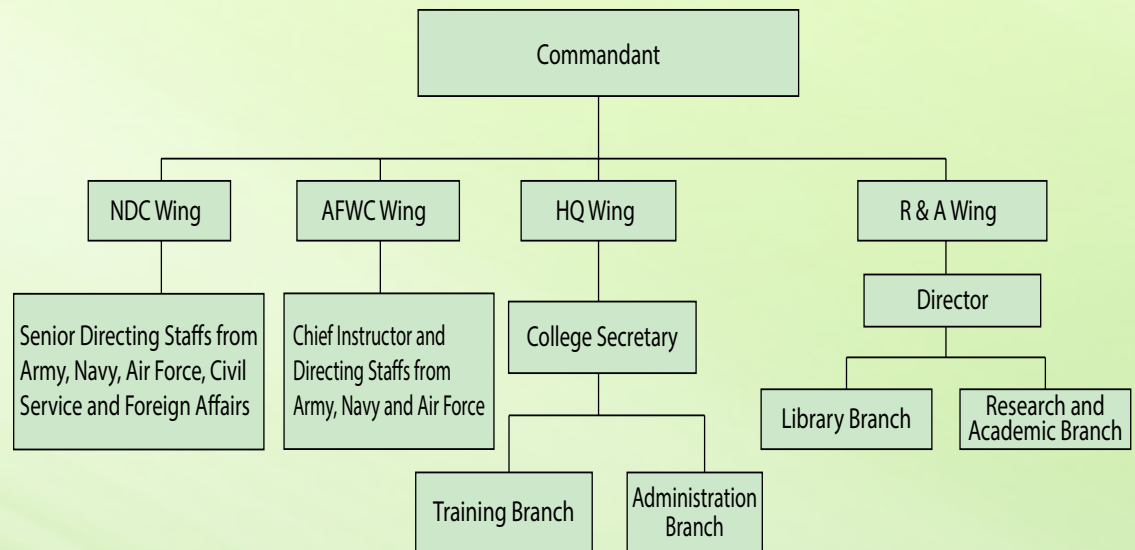


## Objectives

- To educate and train selected armed forces, civil services and allied officers at operational and strategic level of national security and development.
- To focus on long term national security and development issues and suggest appropriate national responses.
- To support the national agencies in policy making on security and development matters.
- To support the Armed Forces on strategic and operational level planning of warfare.
- To strengthen civil-military relations in Bangladesh.
- To strengthen military to military co-operation within region and beyond.

## Organization

Commandant NDC is the head of the institution and under him there are four wings namely National Defence Course (NDC) Wing, Armed Forces War Course (AFWC) Wing, Headquarters (HQ) Wing and Research & Academic (R&A) Wing. A group of experienced Faculty and Staff is vested with the responsibilities of running the courses curricula and administration.



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## Commandant



**Lt Gen Md Akbar Hossain,**  
SBP, SUP (BAR), afwc, psc, G+, PhD

## Lieutenant General Md Akbar Hossain, SBP, SUP (BAR), afwc, psc, G+, PhD

Lieutenant General Md Akbar Hossain, SBP, SUP (BAR), afwc, psc, G+, PhD has taken over as the Commandant of National Defence College (NDC) Bangladesh on 14 January 2021. He was commissioned in the Regiment of Artillery on 20 December 1985 with 13<sup>th</sup> BMA Long Course. In his illustrious service career, he served in varied capacities including holding almost all regimental appointment during the threshold stage. With the elevation to the rank of Major General, he served as Director General of Forces Intelligence, General Officer Commanding of 9 Infantry Division and Commandant of Defence Services Command and Staff College. He has been awarded with “Senabahini Padak” (SBP), the highest distinguished service medal in peace time and also “Sena Utkorshota Padak” (SUP) twice for his relentless service and dedication to the Army and the Nation. The General is a PhD Fellow from Jahangirnagar University.

## Hall of fame (Ex-Commandants)



**Maj Gen Abul Muneem  
Mansur Ahmed, psc**  
10 Jan 1999 to 20 Feb 2000



**Maj Gen Hasan Mashhud  
Chowdhury, awc, psc**  
10 Mar 2000 to 31 Dec 2001



**Maj Gen Abu Kaisar  
Fazlul Kabir, ndc, psc**  
14 Jan 2001 to 26 Nov 2001



**Maj Gen Jiban Kanai Das,  
ndu, psc**  
10 Jan 2002 to 16 Jan 2003



**Lt Gen/Maj Gen Md Aminul  
Karim, ndc, Idmc, psc**  
14 Feb 2003 to 01 Jan 2004, 15 Jun 2008 to 12 Mar 2009



**Lt Gen Abu Tayeb Mohammad  
Zahirul Alam, rcds, psc**  
04 Jan 2004 to 12 Jun 2008



**Lt Gen Sina Ibn Jamali,  
awc, psc**  
14 May 2009 to 31 Oct 2009



**Maj Gen A K M Muzahid Uddin,  
ndu, afwc, psc**  
01 Nov 2009 to 23 Jun 2011



**Lt Gen Mollah Fazle Akbar,  
ndc, psc**  
24 Jun 2011 to 16 Feb 2015



**Lt Gen Chowdhury Hasan  
Sarwardy, BB, SBP, BSP, ndc, psc, PhD**  
18 Feb 2015 to 31 May 2018



**Lt Gen Sheikh Mamun Khaled,  
SUP, rcds, psc, PhD**  
10 Aug 2018 to 29 Oct 2020



**Lt Gen Ataul Hakim Sarwar Hasan,  
SBP, SGP, ndc, afwc, psc, PhD**  
01 Dec 2020 to 13 Jan 2021

## Faculty & Staff

The Faculty is headed by the Commandant of the college. He is supported by an experienced team of Senior Directing Staffs (Major General and equivalent from both military and civil services), Directing Staffs (Brigadier General/Colonel and equivalent) and a host of competent staff officers. The college is equipped with all the necessary administrative and technical supports required for running different courses.

## College Governing Body

The Governing Body of National Defence College is the highest policy making body related to all aspects of the college. The Governing Body is headed by the Honourable Prime Minister of the Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh. The Security Adviser to the Honourable Prime Minister and Chiefs of three services act as the Senior Vice President and Vice Presidents of the Governing Body respectively. Governing Body meets once in a year to formulate policy and provide

directives in order to ensure smooth functioning of the college. The other distinguished members are Commandant NDC, Principal Staff Officer, Armed Forces Division, Commandant Defence Services Command and Staff College, Secretaries of five different ministries of the Government and Vice Chancellors of four public universities.

## Courses at National Defence College

National Defence College conducts three courses in the campus. These are: National Defence Course, Armed Forces War Course and Capstone Course.

## National Defence Course

The National Defence Course is designed for the senior officers of Bangladesh Armed Forces, Bangladesh Civil Services and the allied countries.



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The course offers a blend of academic studies and discussions both at formal and informal settings of learning environment. The course members have the opportunity to develop their strategic vision through in-depth individual studies, intellectual discourses, researches and study on policy/strategy formulation.

## Aim of the Course

To prepare selected senior officers of the armed forces, the civil services and the allied countries for taking higher responsibility in the direction and management of national security and development.



## Objectives of the Course

- To enhance course members' knowledge on higher level national security and defence issues and matters affecting national policy.
- To reinforce course members' understanding of Bangladesh institutions and society.
- To enhance course members' understanding of the factors that influence national policy making.
- To develop course members' strategic vision.
- To improve Course Members' personal qualities, individual skills and interpersonal relationship.



## Participants

National Defence Course comprises of officer of Bangladesh Army, Navy, Air Force, Civil Services and allied officer of the rank of Brigadier General/Colonel and equivalent. The number of Course Members have gradually increased from 20 to 88 due to increasing demand of vacancies from home and abroad. The participants bring together considerable depths of experience and knowledge to add to the value of the course.

## The Environment

The structure and ambience of the National Defence Course has been developed to provide the Course Members an unique experience of learning environment both at formal and informal settings within the college and outside.

## Special Features of the Course

- The freedom to discuss the views of course members and resource persons.
- A varied combination of lecture, panel discussion, seminar, case study and syndicate works.
- Domestic, regional and international study tours conducted to allow members to physically observe and learn from the experiences of others at every level.
- Individual research work on contemporary issues on security, strategy, leadership and development studies.



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## Course Program

National Defence Course is a multi-disciplinary course tailored to suit the stated aim and the objectives. The 11-month long course is divided into four terms. Each term is 10 to 12 weeks long. The theme moves from strategic context to security studies and policy formulation to regional and global issues. It focuses on analysis of Bangladesh's National Security and a vision into the future. Besides, the theme of leadership is conveyed throughout the course in every term. Every term is sub-divided into elements. Course curriculum includes visits and tours at home and abroad, designed to widen the horizon of knowledge. The outline of four terms are given below.

### Term 1: Strategic Context and Leadership

Term 1 builds academic foundation. The elements of this term include basic theories and concepts of international relations, concept of nation



state and Bangladesh, and lastly 'how the world is run: power, actors and international order'. A module on 'Managing defence in wider security context and strategic leadership' is conducted in this term. The individual assignment of writing a 'Research Paper / Dissertation' starts in this term with the module on 'Research Methodology'. The strategic leadership program starts in this term and continues to the last term.

### Term-2: Security Studies and National Security

Term 2 develops detailed understanding of theoretical concepts of security and the approaches to security. The elements of this term include concepts and traditional approaches to security, non-traditional approach



to socio-political and economic security in the context of Bangladesh, and security through development. The term ends with making a strategic security net assessment and examining security solutions and options for small and developing nations.

## Term 3: Strategy and Policy Formulation

Term 3 familiarizes with the process of making policy and strategy on a specific security scenario. The elements of this term include introduction to strategy and policy, and national security strategy and policy framework. A module on 'Policy and Strategy Formulation' is conducted by the UK Defence Academy in this term. An exercise on making policy and strategy on a specific security scenario is conducted in this term.

## Term-4: Global and Regional Studies

Term 4 reinforces strategic insight by reviewing geopolitical hotspots and strategic issues. Visit to other countries in the region, strategic neighborhood and beyond helps to develop a comprehensive global and regional view of security. The elements of this term include regional and global security studies. The strategic leadership program culminates in this term. An exercise on international negotiation is conducted in this term.



## Research

Research work is an important part of the NDC curriculum. The course members are required to complete an Individual Research Paper on a subject of their own preference. They are also required to take part in a number of Group Research Projects and Seminars on selected topics. The research works are aimed at contributing innovative ideas and policy options on national and international issues.

## Seminars

Seminars on contemporary themes related to the course objectives are conducted at the end of each study. Three seminars are organized both within the course participants as well as jointly with the participation of



eminent think tanks and institutions. The seminars provide the course members a unique opportunity to conduct in-depth research and study of important issues and enhance their knowledge through mutual learning.

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## Local Visits

Tours and visits form an integral part of the course curriculum. Local visits are particularly intended to provide an in-depth understanding of the most significant features of national institutional life in Bangladesh as well as an opportunity to a first hand experience of the society and



culture. A number of local visits are organized during the course. These include call on the Honourable President, visits to the Parliament,



Supreme Court, Press Club, Stock Exchange, NGOs, Business Organizations, Industries, Media centers and other places of interest in and around Dhaka.



## Internal Study Tours

The internal study tours are intended to enable each course member to examine the socio-political, economic, religious and cultural aspects of the nation. Visits are made to both public and private sectors to gain an insight into the country. Calls are made to government officials, chambers of commerce, business and financial centres to gain an understanding of the challenges faced by them. All important military and national installations are visited by the course members during the course.



## Overseas Study Tours

The three weeks overseas study tour includes visits to neighbouring, developing and developed countries. The aim of these tours is to examine the social, political, economic and military systems of those countries.



The course members get the opportunity to meet high-ranking civil and military officers and visit government, military and industrial establishments to exchange views and opinions. The visits also promote good relations between those countries with Bangladesh.



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## Resource Persons

The course is founded on a programme of lectures, panel discussions, research works and seminars. Competent resource persons are invited to speak on different subjects and conduct various academic events. Resource persons are selected from following categories:



- Eminent personalities such as statesmen, diplomats, ministers and advisers of the government whose views may be of great value.



- Experts drawn from among the academicians, businessmen, scientists, journalists, technocrats etc.
- Senior officers from the government departments who are best placed to speak authoritatively on a subject.
- Opportunity lectures by eminent personalities as guest speakers.



## Armed Forces War Course

The Armed Forces War Course (AFWC) is a joint services course which focuses on operational level planning and conduct of war. The 45 weeks Course is divided into four terms. Each term is of 10 to 12 weeks.



## Aim of the Course

To prepare selected armed forces officers of Bangladesh for taking higher command and staff responsibilities.

## Objectives of the Course

The broad objectives of the course are:

- An understanding of the current and potential security and strategic environments within international, regional and national contexts and of evolving military thoughts.

- A solid understanding of comprehensive national power, the relationship between political and strategic objectives to formulate military strategy, and their linkage to the achievements of objectives at operational level.
- A deeper understanding of operational art to develop operational strategy.
- A common understanding of the employment of conventional and unconventional forces and logistics environment, and their integration at the operational level.
- A deeper understanding of leadership, staff, management and research skills necessary for the higher assignments.
- An understanding of the employment of armed forces in national development and non-traditional security issues.



## Participants

The course comprises of selected Armed Forces Officers of Bangladesh of the rank of Colonel/Lieutenant Colonel and equivalent.

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## Course Curriculum

The AFWC curriculum is aimed at developing the thinking process of the course members towards planning and execution of warfare at the operational level.



The course begins with studies on theories of war and operational doctrines followed by visits to different parts of the country. The course focuses on planning aspects of operational level at joint environment basing on realistic scenario. Seminar on contemporary theme related to the course objectives are conducted during the course. A 'Strategic Leadership Package' is also included in the course curriculum.



## Faculty and Staff

The wing is headed by a Chief Instructor of the rank of Brigadier General. Directing Staffs of the rank of Brigadier General/Colonel and equivalent from the tri services are dedicated for the course.

## Capstone Course

The Capstone Course on National Security and Strategic Studies at National Defence College, Bangladesh, is designed to enhance knowledge, skills and networks related to multilateral security cooperation in Bangladesh among senior law / policy makers, security- practitioners, judges, executives, civil society representatives, senior military officers, media personalities, entrepreneurs and other distinguished personalities of the society.



The course intends to provide a unique platform to the distinguished participants to share their views and experiences with a view to creating a common understanding of national security and development. It helps to stimulate strategic analysis and to understand major security trends



and challenges of the century taking into account both internal dynamics and the external influences. During the discourse, endeavours are made to create ideas to enhance capacity building, conflict resolution and crises management for both internal and external matters on security and development related issues.

Additionally, the course encourages improving individual leadership skill in critical thinking, communication, co-operation, collaboration and decision making in complex and critical security environment.

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## Aim of Capstone Course

The aim of the course is to enable higher level leadership / elites of various strata / segments of the society to have common understanding of major challenges to national security and development of Bangladesh.

- To help participants develop their understanding of the complex and multifaceted nature of national security.
- To examine security trends and challenges within the country/ region and study problems of security co-operation between different stakeholders.



## Objectives of Capstone Course

- To help the higher level leadership/management to understand the constitutional responsibilities in safeguarding the core national interests of the country.
- To help the higher level leadership/management to understand development strategies, impediments and preconditions for sustainable development in the context of Bangladesh.
- To promote mutual understanding and confidence amongst policy planners and other members of the community including media to generate synergy in collective accomplishments.

## Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Program

NDC is affiliated with Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) for course work of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) program. PhD is a 3-year course where NDC conducts the 1<sup>st</sup> year course work including course examination and oral examination. Out of 42-credit hour, NDC conducts 12 credit hour. Rest 30-credit hour is conducted by Centre for Higher Studies and Research of BUP.



## M Phil Program

The Course Members of both National Defence Course and Armed forces War Course can pursue M Phil program while undergoing mentioned courses in National Defence College. This college is affiliated with Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP) for academic programme of M Phil.

## Master of Social Science in Security and Development (MSS in SD) Program

The Course Members of National Defence Course and Armed Forces War Course can register in MSS in Security and Development program which is conducted by National Defence College under Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP).



## Training Support

NDC provides all necessary training support to the participating course members. Various training materials, study papers and presentations are circulated through the NDC website/emails whenever required.

## Information Technology (IT) Centre

The College IT Centre provides course members with modern facilities which assist in the preparation of the research papers and presentations. The College has a fully equipped IT centre with printing facilities within the campus. The entire campus is covered by wifi network.

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## NDC Website

NDC has a very rich and interactive website. All necessary information are available in this site. The address of NDC webpage is (<http://www.ndc.gov.bd>).

## Library

NDC library is the nerve centre for all the college studies and plays an important role in promoting academic excellence of its members. The library subscribes to many national and international journals, magazines and all major daily newspapers. The library also has a reports and pamphlets section, where the latest reports published by various ministries and department of the government can be found. Besides, members may also use other reputed libraries in Bangladesh. NDC library is connected with NDC website and members can enjoy e-library facilities. NDC Library also provides access to thousands of e-books in a variety of subject areas.



## Residential Accommodation

NDC provides accommodation to the Course members and their families. Course members are encouraged to bring their families to Dhaka for the entire duration of the course.

## Officers' Mess

NDC operates an Officers' Mess to provide necessary dining support to the members of the college within the campus.



## Publications

NDC regularly conducts various research works on contemporary issues on national security and development. The College publishes two volumes of "NDC Journal" each year which includes selected research papers written by the courses members. The NDC Journal is a mirror image of the research works on national and international issues that are carried out at the College. National Defence College also publishes pictorial magazine "Prodeep" every year which covers all activities of the college. This Magazine is a pictorial history of rich curriculum and traditions of the College. Beside 'NDC Journal' and 'Prodeep', the college also publishes number of Newsletters every year which covers the highlight of the course activities. NDC regularly published the seminar proceedings organized by NDC. NDC also publishes two volumes of NDC E-Journal. NDC E-Journal is a professional, peer reviewed and open access journal which provides a forum for the publication of scholarly articles in the field of security and development. The address of NDC E-Journal is: <https://ndcjournal.ndc.gov.bd/ndcj/index.php/ndcj/>.

## EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



## Social Programmes

The college organizes many social programmes round the year. Annual social calendar includes many attractive and entertaining cultural and



social events. NDC ladies club organizes a good number of learning and cultural events for all members of NDC ladies' community. The college also organizes visits to different places of interest for the families.



## Sports

NDC members have the opportunity to avail the Sports and Physical Fitness facilities of National Defence College and Mirpur Cantonment. These include football, cricket, badminton, tennis, squash, basketball and volleyball, swimming pool and fitness centre. Cricket, golf, volleyball and

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football tournaments are organized by the college in which the course members are encouraged to participate. All the members are given

temporary membership of Army Golf Club and/or Kurmitola Golf Club, Dhaka, for the duration of the course.







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