



NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE

BANGLADESH

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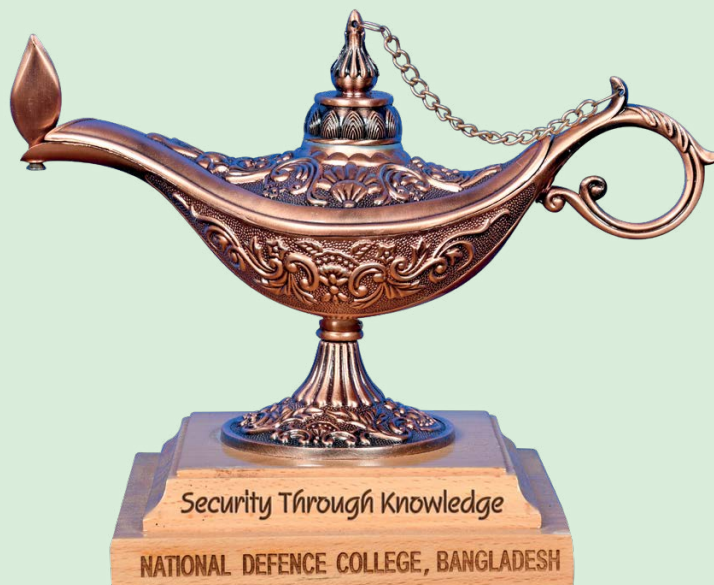
National Defence College (NDC) is the premier national institution in Bangladesh, a centre of excellence conducting training and research on leadership, defence, security, strategy and development studies.

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 foundation stone of the Academic Complex of NDC was laid on 10 January 1998 at 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 academic building was completed on 22 November 2000. Since then, National Defence College has been fully devoted to its assigned responsibilities.

College Motto



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".

NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE

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.

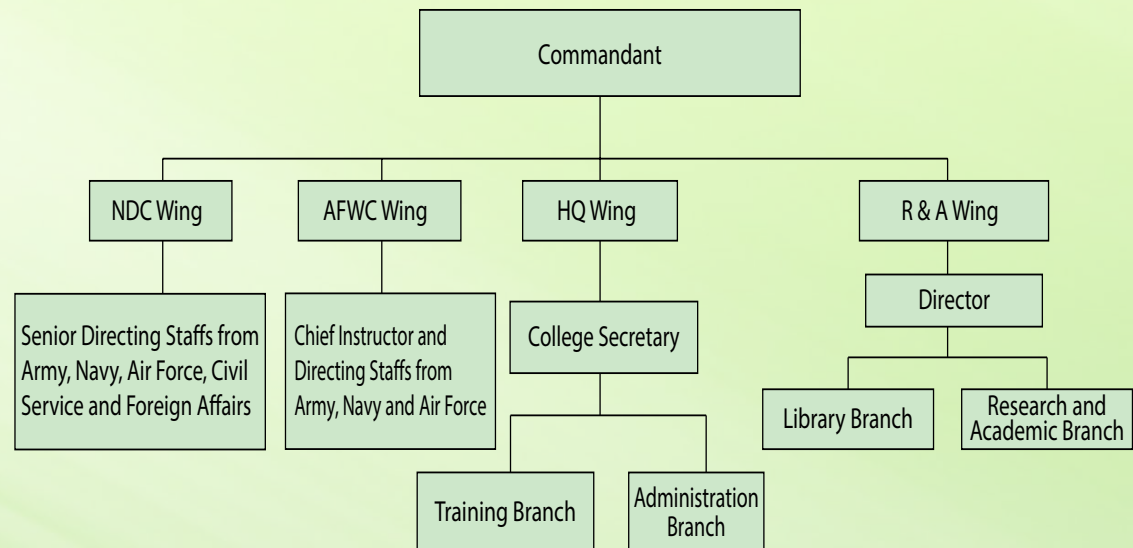


Objectives

- 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.



NATIONAL DEFENCE COLLEGE

Commandant



**BA-3889 Lieutenant General
Md Faizur Rahman,**
BSP, SGP, ndc, afwc, psc

Lieutenant General Md Faizur Rahman was commissioned from Bangladesh Military Academy in December 1990 in the Corps of Infantry. For his outstanding performance at Academy he became the best cadet of his course and earned prestigious “Sword of Honor”. He underwent various professional courses both at home and abroad. Beside all mandatory professional courses at home, he attended All Arms Tactics Course in Army Combat Institute (Pulada) Malaysia. He is a graduate from both ‘Defence Services Command and Staff College (DSCSC)’, Mirpur, Bangladesh and ‘Command and General Staff College (CGSC)’, Fort Leavenworth, USA. He also attended Armed Forces War Course and NDC from National Defence College (NDC), Bangladesh. He completed Masters in Defence Studies (MDS) from National University, Bangladesh and Masters in Military Arts and Science (Strategy) from USA. Lieutenant General Faiz is currently posted as Commandant, National Defence College. The General commanded an Infantry Regiment, Army Security Unit, two Infantry Brigades, an Infantry Division, and Directorate General of Forces Intelligence. He also served as Commandant of prestigious Defence Services Command and Staff College, Bangladesh. He is a distinguished instructor, who served in few prominent military training institutions of Bangladesh worth mentioning are School of Infantry & Tactics (SI&T), Defence Services Command and Staff College and National Defence College. He served as staff officer at Army Training and Doctrine Command (ARTDOC) and Armed Forces Division. He also served as Quarter Master General of Bangladesh Army. General participated in two United Nations Missions; firstly in UNIKOM (Kuwait) as contingent member and then in UNOCI (Ivory Coast) as senior Staff Officer (operations) at Sector HQs. General Faiz was awarded with Bishishto Sheba Padak (BSP) and Sena Gourab Padak (SGP) in his long distinguished career.

Ex-Commandants



**BA-405 Maj Gen Abul
Muneem Mansur
Ahmed, psc**
10 Jan 1999 to 29 Feb 2000



**BA-502 Maj Gen Hasan
Mashhud Chowdhury,**
awc, psc
10 Mar 2000 to 31 Dec 2000



**BA-543 Maj Gen Abu Kaisar
Fazlul Kabir, ndc, psc**
14 Jan 2001 to 26 Nov 2001



**BA-838 Maj Gen Jiban
Kanai Das, ndu, psc**
10 Jan 2002 to 16 Jan 2003



**BA-1308 Maj Gen/Lt Gen Md
Aminul Karim, ndc, Idmc, psc**
04 Feb 2003 to 01 Jan 2004,
15 Jun 2008 to 12 Mar 2009



**BA-1136 Maj Gen/Lt Gen
ATM Zahirul Alam, rcds, psc**
04 Jan 2004 to 25 May 2007,
26 May 2007 to 12 Jun 2008



**BA-1555 Lt Gen Sina Ibn
Jamali, awc, psc**
14 May 2009 to 31 Oct 2009



**BA-1895 Maj Gen A K M
Muzahid Uddin, ndu, afwc, psc**
01 Nov 2009 to 23 Jun 2011



**BA-1440 Lt Gen Mollah Fazle
Akbar, ndc, psc**
24 Jun 2011 to 16 Feb 2015



**BA-2004 Lt Gen Chowdhury
Hasan Sarwardy, BB, SBP, BSP,
ndc, psc, PhD**
18 Feb 2015 to 31 May 2018



**BA-2213 Lt Gen Sheikh Mamun
Khaled, SUP, rcds, psc, PhD**
12 Aug 2018 to 30 Oct 2020



**BA-2666 Lt Gen Ataul Hakim
Sarwar Hasan, SBP, SGP, ndc,
afwc, psc, PhD**
01 Dec 2020 to 13 Jan 2021



**BA-2890 Lt Gen Md Akbar
Hossain, SBP, SUP (BAR), afwc,
psc, G+, PhD**
14 Jan 2021 to 10 Nov 2023



**BA-2999 Lt Gen Md Saiful Alam,
SBP, OSP, SUP, awc, psc, PhD**
11 Feb 2024 to 06 Aug 2024



**BA-3571 Lieutenant General
Mohammad Shaheenul Haque**
OSP, BSP, ndc, hdmc, psc
07 Aug 2024 to 03 Mar 2026

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 Adviser to the Honourable Prime Minister (Ministry of Defence and Armed Forces Division) and Chiefs of three services act as the Senior Vice President and Vice Presidents of the Governing Body respectively. Governing Body sits 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
- Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration
- Secretary, Ministry of Defence
- Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- Secretary, Finance Division, Ministry of Finance
- Secretary, Secondary and Higher Education Division, Ministry of Education

- Vice Chancellor, Bangladesh University of Professionals
- Vice Chancellor, University of Dhaka
- Vice Chancellor, Jahangirnagar University
- Vice Chancellor, National University

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 develop Course Members' strategic vision and leadership qualities.
- To enhance Course Members' knowledge on developing policy and strategy on national security and development issues at the strategic level.
- To increase Course Members' understanding of the factors influencing national policy and strategy making.
- To improve Course Members' personal qualities including individual and interpersonal skills.



Participants

National Defence Course comprises of officer of Bangladesh Army, Navy, Air Force, Civil Service and Allied officer of the rank of Brigadier General/Colonel and equivalent. The number of Course Members have gradually increased from 20 to 105 due to increasing demand of vacancies from home and abroad. So far, military officers from 28 friendly countries have participated in the National Defence Course which is 32.62% of the total number of graduated Course Members. 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 presentation, 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 and group research work on contemporary issues on security, strategy, leadership and development studies.



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Course Programme

National Defence Course is a multidisciplinary course tailored to suit the stated aim and the objectives. The 11 month long course is divided into four terms. Each term is 11 to 12 weeks long, concentrating on related key aspects. The theme moves from Bangladesh to global issues and to international relations. It focuses on analysis of Bangladesh's National Security and a look into the future. Course curriculum include visits and tours at home and abroad, designed to widen the horizon of knowledge. The outline of four terms are given below:

Term 1: The Nation-State and Socio-Political Studies

This term aims to introduce Course Members to the concept of national security and give them a broad understanding of the social and political factors that impact it. A module on “Strategic Leadership Package” is included in this term. An adjunct module on “Research” and a “Group Research Paper” assignment are also included in this term.



Term-2: Economy and Development Studies

This term aims to develop a comprehensive understanding of core economic principles, global economic dynamics, and Bangladesh's evolving economic landscape, with particular emphasis on identifying national prospects and strategic opportunities.

Term 3: International Relations, Global, and Regional Studies

This term aims to give the Course Members a broad view of today's world from different national and multinational perspectives to find out and deal with the current challenges to global security. A module on “Policy and Strategy Formulation Package” is included in this term. An adjunct module on the Art of Negotiation at the strategic level is also conducted, along with an exercise titled “Exercise Dire Straits”.



Term 4: Global, Regional, and National Security Studies

This term explores the factors affecting national security from theoretical and contextual perspectives by focusing on concepts, strategies, military power, defence industrialization, regional and international security environments, defence and foreign policies including internal and external issues impacting Bangladesh. It also addresses strategic leadership issues, planning, and policy formulation at the strategic level through an exercise titled “Exercise Golden Bengal”.



Research

Research work is one of the most important part of the NDC curriculum. The course members are required to conduct Individual Research

preferably on a subject of their own choice. 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. 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 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 Head of the State, 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 conducted in two phases. This 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:

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

- To enhance the 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.
- To deepen the understanding of operational art to develop operational strategy.
- To foster a common understanding of the employment of conventional and unconventional forces, logistics environment, and integration of these at the operational level.
- To develop an understanding of leadership, staff, management and research skills necessary for the higher assignments.
- To enhance 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. An 'Operational Leadership Package' and 'Joint Operation Planning Course' are 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 is conducted for senior leaders, executives, policymakers, and bureaucrats of Bangladesh under the arrangement of National Defence College (NDC). It aims to prepare senior leaders to understand and address the multi-dimensional challenges facing Bangladesh in a rapidly evolving international and regional strategic environment. The course seeks to enhance participants' strategic thinking, decision-making, and problem-solving capabilities while fostering cross-sectoral collaboration. Through a combination of lectures, panel discussions, group discussions, and field visits, participants will develop competencies in national power, leadership, and crisis management. Upon completion, fellows will be equipped to contribute effectively to national and organizational decision-making, strategic planning, and policy implementation.



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Aim of Capstone Course

To enable higher-level leadership to develop a common understanding of key national challenges connected to the security and development of Bangladesh.



Objectives of Capstone Course

- To help higher-level management to understand the spirit of the liberation war and constitutional responsibilities for safeguarding the core national interests of Bangladesh.

- To help participants develop a common understanding of the complex and multifaceted nature of national security.
- To help participants understand the foreign relations of Bangladesh and discuss the challenges of security cooperation from a regional and Bangladesh perspective.



- To help higher-level management understand development strategies, impediments, and challenges of Good Governance for Bangladesh.
- To promote mutual understanding and build confidence among policy planners and members of different communities, including the media, to generate synergy in collective accomplishment.

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Programme

NDC facilitates the registration procedures for Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) programme conducted by Bangladesh University of Professionals (BUP). The duration of PhD programme is 03 years out of which 1st year is for course work and next 02 years are for the research work.



Master of Philosophy (M Phil) Programme

The Course Members of both National Defence Course and Armed forces War Course can pursue M Phil programme 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) Programme

The Course Members of National Defence Course and Armed Forces War Course can register in MSS in Security and Development programme 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 informations 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 "Beacon" 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 'Beacon', 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. The college also publishes NDC E-Journal, this 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.



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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, volleyball, swimming pool and fitness centre. Cricket, golf, volleyball and 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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