

# Pigeon-associated projects in Bangladesh

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## ABSTRACT

To continue pigeon rearing in the country, need to keep sufficient knowledge on this issue. Direct attachment to the members of National Pigeon Association of Bangladesh (NPAB) and Bangladesh Racing Pigeons Entrepreneurs Limited (BRPEL) and another three sister organizations—Bangladesh Racing Pigeon Owner’s Association (BRPOA), Bangladesh Racing Pigeons Shariatpur Club (BRPSC), Alliance Racing Pigeon Club Dhaka (ARPCD), and finally attended the last international pigeon show (24 February, 2023) influenced to write this composition. Many scientific articles, few but renowned books, several pigeon clubs, associations, colleges and universities, and livestock research centers of the country were directly or indirectly associated with many pigeon-related activities throughout the year. Remarkably, information on fancy pigeons and racing homer pigeons enhanced the affection to keep pigeons in the country.

**Keywords:** NPAB, BRPEL, BRPOA, BRPSC, ARPCD, Pigeon Clubs, Pigeon Articles, Pigeon Books, Veterinary Research, Bangladesh.

## ABBREVIATIONS

NPAB: National Pigeon Association of Bangladesh; BRPEL: Bangladesh Racing Pigeons Entrepreneurs Limited; BRPOA: Bangladesh Racing Pigeon Owner’s Association; BRPSC: Bangladesh Racing Pigeons Shariatpur Club; ARPCD: Alliance Racing Pigeon Club Dhaka.

## INTRODUCTION

Bangladesh has a long history to keep pigeons. Amusement by flying pigeons is a prehistoric event in this country, and that time pigeon lovers used to fly tumbler pigeons. Those birds showed circular flying to the direction of their loft. Since, pigeons are very tame and showed mind-blowing behavior, so many people prefer to keep pigeons. To release white doves was a historical tradition in many events of the world even in Bangladesh [1]. At the present context, there are many pigeon clubs are circulating their news through online for focusing them in order to enhance pigeon farming. National Pigeon Association of Bangladesh (NPAB) [2] is fully functional in the country. It has many potential members. This private organization is continuing their all procedures through the basic rules and regulations. They organize monthly meeting and have some good breeders, and few writers. Till now, the NPAB organized two international pigeons’ show in Bangladesh where foreign experts came to judge best pigeon breeds of the country. In university

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or college level, some teachers write articles on pigeons especially meat breeds. In Bangladesh, pigeons are not categorized as a different bird; this is included in poultry sector. Bangladesh Racing Pigeons Entrepreneurs Limited (BRPEL) [3] is another active pigeon organization. They organize flying competition by trained racing homers [4-6]. In this case, pigeon breeders select their best pigeons from the very beginning. They provide special feed for those trained pigeons. The feed ingredients and ratio are noteworthy for pigeons in Bangladesh and all breeders introduce proper feed at proper time (egg laying, hatching, juvenile, pre-adult, adult) [7]. Pigeon breeders of the country maintain good bloodline for their pigeons. The overall number of homer pigeons in Bangladesh is notable at all.

## MATERIALS AND METHODS

### Research works:

Since, scientific articles on pigeons were not as many as possible for this paper but some renowned books were the significant. Rural areas of Bangladesh, many people eat squab for their protein consumption. There are many types of pigeon breeds in Bangladesh especially tumbler and homer pigeons.

### Organizations:

Since, NPAB is the national organization but they organize international show each year where foreign experts came to judge pigeons. Additionally, racing homer associations are doing excellent through many events for racing of their top-graded pigeons. These organizations always upload their all sorts of information on the internet.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Articles:

Many university and college teachers are engaged to write many articles about meat pigeons, tumbling behavior, and color genetics. These articles are the baseline to focus more research projects in the field of pigeons. Accumulated information on pigeons from the articles could play a significant role to write further papers.

### Books:

A book on animal husbandry or veterinary medicine focuses a part on pigeon in the contents. At the present context, we have demand to write more books on pigeons. A book always deals the entire experience of such breeders in their lifetime. Additionally, those experiences could help others to handle any obstacles during continuing a loft properly. There is only one complete book on pigeons of Bangladesh has been written by Khan [8].

### Clubs and associations:

Pigeon lovers are huge in the country and they get together to share their knowledge and exchange many ideas to the newcomers. A sport by flying tipplers where counted the spinning (complete circle/full turn) of those pigeons [9]. Exhibition of pigeons helps to promote the love of competition, compare birds with others, advertisement, and create fellowships. National Pigeon Association (NPA) of the Indianapolis started their journey with only 15 pigeon fanciers. The USA is famous for publishing journals, digest/periodicals, books, and magazines [9]. In Bangladesh, we have two strong pigeons' association—National Pigeon Association of Bangladesh and Bangladesh Racing Pigeons Entrepreneurs Limited. NPAB is dedicated to organize many fancy pigeon breeds [10], whereas racing association only handles racing homers. Through the exhibition, it is possible to isolate best pigeons by proper judging [11-18]. At the time of judging of pigeons, grading is important for the judges or experts [19]. Both have good records on exhibition for selection best graded pigeon and best flying homers. Genuine pigeon breeders are always maintained their pigeon through proper selection for breeding [20,21]. Age of pigeons more than one year showed exciting racing records [22]. Within the first 3-4 months, the basic steps of development on navigational capabilities are largely completed [23]. In Bangladesh, racing competition started from December to March in each year. From Dhaka to Tetulia and Dhaka to Cox's Bazar are their primary racing route for this competition. Quality pigeons are available in Bangladesh [24], and above organizations have both online and offline membership form and accessories for pigeons (Plates 1-2).

Plate 1. Membership form.



Plate 2. Seamless band.

### College and University:

Many educators of the subject Zoology, Veterinary Medicine, and Animal Husbandry could write, publish, and upload articles on the internet. Research projects after getting fund enhance to continue more research works about pigeons.

### Livestock research sectors:

Our government sector always focuses pigeons with the poultry. All livestock offices of the country provide sufficient medications to the pigeons. We do not have specific guidelines or manual for pigeon farming, we apply the rules of poultry on pigeons and such outputs are praiseworthy at all. Sometimes, pigeon breeders cross their pigeons non-judiciously, so they get mixed and non-productive bird. Seminar on pigeon is scarce in the country. Some government projects on poultry organize the discussion on pigeons to enhance this sector in the country for the improvement of our economic sector.

### CONCLUSIONS

For the improvement of the pigeon sector in Bangladesh, government organizations could play a significant role. Pigeon breeders should keep their rare or expensive breed through proper breeding method. Viable and pure breeds ensure us to get real value from home and abroad. Finally, we should always focus all sorts of positive information through the clubs to strengthen our economy.

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