

Bangladeshi magazine publisher killed in USA

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Robbers stabbed a Bangladeshi magazine publisher to death in the US state of Arizona on Monday.

Police arrested Bryan Dominick Hunt, 20, and Craig Calderon, 19, suspecting them of killing Mohammad Muraduzzaman, 45, in Mesa, The Arizona Republic reported on Thursday.

Muraduzzaman, who was reported missing on Tuesday by his wife, was well-known in the Arizona's Bangladeshi community and was the chair of the Bangladeshi

club of the county Democratic Party organisation.

Muraduzzaman was the publisher of the bimonthly 10,000-circulation Asian magazine, officials said. He went by the nickname 'Murad'.

Investigators say Hunt and Calderon saw advertisements for real estate and rental property in Muraduzzaman's magazine and believed he was wealthy.

Murad was a documentary filmmaker in Bangladesh and also a graphic designer, his wife, Tania, said Wednesday.

"I was shell-shocked. The guy simply has no enemies," said the magazine's assistant editor, Kriti Agarwal on Wednesday. "He wanted to give a platform and a voice to the Asian community in Arizona."

"The community is just devastated by what has happened," said Judy Kennedy, chairwoman of the Maricopa County Democratic Party.

Muraduzzaman moved to the Valley 12 years ago and started the magazine in 1993. It serves Arizona, New York, Texas and California.

He is survived by his wife and two children, ages 6 and 13.

Australian agri minister to visit Dhaka

BDNEWS, Dhaka

Australian Agriculture Minister Kim Chance is expected to visit Bangladesh next week to explore his country's wool industry market here.

"Bangladesh could become an important export market for Australia's depressed wool industry," he said, according to a report by ABC News Online.

The minister will visit Bangladesh during an overseas tour starting next week, which also

includes stops in the United Arab Emirates, Egypt, Algeria and Turkey.

Chance said he is keen to explore opportunities in Bangladesh for Australian wool to be blended with cotton.

"Bangladesh has a quite sophisticated textile manufacturing industry based on cotton. The combination of wool and cotton of course is not a new technology. I think there are some new opportunities to expand the use of that particular fabric," he said.

Tourists robbed at Sitakunda Eco Park

BDNEWS, Chittagong

A group of tourists was robbed by a band of muggers who decamped with valuables worth over Tk 2 lakh at Sitakunda Eco Park yesterday.

The muggers also injured a girl as she screamed and delayed to hand over her belongings, police and witnesses said.

The tourists numbering 13 who came to the Eco Park from Tarabo municipality of Narayanganj district fell prey to eight muggers while visiting the park at around 10:00am.

The muggers took away one digital video camera, ten mobile phones, wristwatches, ornaments and cash worth about Tk 2.30 lakh from the tourists.

The girl Mahmuda was slightly injured when one of the muggers hit her with a metallic object.

Later, the onlookers and security personnel held one mugger identified as Solaiman while fleeing away the scene.

Nazrul Islam, a member of the tourist group, filed a case with Sitakunda Police Station in this connection.

Newsman assaulted

BDNEWS, Keraniganj

A gang of hoodlums beat up a journalist in Keraniganj on Thursday night for publishing a report on a rape incident where he allegedly mentioned the name of an accused involved in the incident.

Md Abdul Hye of the Dainik Alor Jagat was admitted to Mitford Hospital in Dhaka in a critical condition.

Police said a gang of criminals attacked and beat him with iron rods as he published the name of a person accused of rape.

A case has been filed with Keraniganj Police Station.