

Housewife burnt to death for dowry

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A housewife succumbed to her burn injuries yesterday after fighting for life for seven days at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Shikha Begum, 18, of Dakhin Shaljana of Mankiganj district was allegedly set on fire by her husband and in-laws for dowry.

On the day of the incident on Wednesday, Shikha, second wife of Mohammad Billal Hussain, was mercilessly beaten by her husband and in-laws as her father failed to meet the demand for Tk one lakh as dowry. They doused her with kerosene and set her on fire.

With fire all over her body, Shikha jumped into a nearby pond.

Later, she was rushed to Shibalay Health Complex in Manikganj.

She was shifted to the burn and plastic surgery unit of DMCH when her condition deteriorated.

Victim's relatives said Billal used to threaten and torture Shikha, daughter of a poor boatman, for dowry.

Shikha filed a case accusing her husband seven-month ago of torturing her for dowry. Police also arrested Billal in this connection. Later he was released from the jail on bail after seven days.

"Billal deliberately killed Shikha to take revenge as she sent him to jail," said the victim's relatives.

Billal along with his family members have been absconding since the incident.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina speaks at a view exchange meeting with Sunamganj AL leaders at Dhanmondi party office in the city yesterday.

Properties worth Tk one lakh gutted in Ctg

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Properties worth over Tk one lakh were gutted in a fire at Ashkerdighir Parr in the port city on Tuesday night.

According to sources, the fire originated from Madina Furniture at the posh furniture market of the city under Kotowali Police Station at around 10:30pm.

The fire soon engulfed eight other adjoining showrooms and godowns and damaged a good quantity of furniture and timbers.

The other affected furniture shops were MM Furniture, Eden Furniture, New Denim Furniture, Dimple Furniture, Classic Furniture and Rima Foams.

Eight firefighting vehicles extinguished the blaze after one and a half hour. The origin of the fire could not be known.

Fire service sources estimated the loss at over Tk one lakh while the affected owners claimed the loss to be around Tk four lakh.