

Suspected mugger beaten to death in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One person died at a city hospital early yesterday six hours after a mob beat him suspecting him as mugger at Katashur at Adabor in the city.

The victim was identified as Kabir Hossain, 30, a resident of Rahim Beparir Ghat in Mohammadpur.

Local people caught Kabir at Mohammadpur area at around 9:30pm on Sunday suspecting him as mugger, hospital sources said quoting police and witnesses.

They beat him mercilessly, leaving him seriously injured.

Later police rescued and rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital. He was shifted to the Chest Disease Hospital as his condition deteriorated. Later, Kabir succumbed to his injuries at 3:30am.

Police quoting witnesses said two of his accomplices fled the scene exploding three homemade bombs.



PHOTO: STAR

Landless people stage a demonstration at Muktangan in the city yesterday to press their 11-point demand, including land reforms. Bhumihin Fedaration organised the protest.

SWISS FESTIVAL BEGINS IN CITY TOMORROW

'Switzerland keen to invest in power sector'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three-day Swiss Festival begins at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city tomorrow to mark the 35th anniversary of friendship between Bangladesh and Switzerland.

Swiss Embassy in Dhaka, Swiss Agency for Development & Cooperation (SDC) and Switzerland-Bangladesh Business Forum (SBBF) have jointly organised the festival for the first time in Bangladesh.

Speaking at a press conference yesterday, SBBF President Ashfaqur Rahman said Switzerland is likely to invest in the power sector of the country in the near future.

"We are expecting that the next

investment from Switzerland will be in the power sector," he said, adding that the opportunities in this regard are being considered.

The festival will feature development projects of SDC, activities of the Swiss investors, cultural programmes and seminars. The SDC has provided 232 million dollars in development assistance for Bangladesh during the period from 1990 and 2005.

It will be a unique festival, which will provide an opportunity for all to have an idea how both the countries benefited from the diplomatic and trade relations in the last 35 years, said Ashfaqur Rahman.

Swiss Ambassador in Dhaka Dora Rapold said the festival

would be an opportunity for the people to learn more about trade and culture of the two countries and explore new opportunities.

Annual trade between the two countries has reached 80 million dollars and it is increasing by 10 percent every year, she said, adding that the trade is slightly in favour of Switzerland.

Switzerland is the second largest exporter of textile machinery to Bangladesh after China, Dora Rapold said. Food, cement, pharmaceuticals, infrastructure and services are the other areas of trade, she added.

The diversity in Bangladesh economy will help increase the trade between the two friendly nations, she observed.