

## City contractor shot dead by extortionists

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A sub-contractor was shot dead by extortionists for refusal to pay tolls in the city yesterday.

Mustafizur Rahman Sharif, 25, of Madhya Badda Comilla Para, was called out of his house at around 10:45am by one Topu to meet

Kawser, a local extortionist who had demanded Tk 50,000 in tolls from him, said family sources.

Sharif had already paid Kawser Tk 10,000 in toll.

An altercation erupted when Sharif refused to pay any further amount and at one stage they roughed each other.

Kawser then left the place but returned soon with a gang of around 15 men and sprayed bullets on Sharif which hit his chest and head.

The gang then fled away. Sharif was rushed to Dhaka Medical College and Hospital where the doctors declared him dead.



PHOTO: STAR

Selina Aktar, mother of Dr Milon, places wreaths at her son's grave on Dhaka Medical College premises yesterday.

## 2 major parties trying to take autocrat into their folds

Regrets Dr Milon's mother

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leaders and workers of different political parties and socio-cultural organisations yesterday paid tributes to Shaheed Dr Shamsul Alam Khan Milon on the occasion of his 16th death anniversary.

They placed wreaths at Milon's grave on the premises of Dhaka Medical College and at Milon Memorial in front of the Teacher-Student Centre. Dr Milon, then joint secretary general of Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA), was shot dead in 1990 during the anti-Ershad movement.

Speaking at a BMA discussion on the occasion, Selina Aktar, mother of Dr Milon, said his sacrifice had led to the mass upsurge, resulting in the fall of Ershad government.

But it is regrettable that the two major political parties, who jointly launched the movement against the autocratic ruler at that time, are now trying to take the same person into their folds only to win the elections, she said.

"Was the anti-autocratic movement only a means to grab power?" she posed the question to the political parties. "Are not you showing disrespect for the martyrs through such a move?"

She also said the dreams of Milon - making Bangladesh a secular, democratic and prosperous country - are yet to be materialised, as the people are still struggling to establish rights to vote.

She urged all the political parties to work unitedly to ensure a free and fair election.

Speaking as the chief guest, former health minister and BNP leader Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain said the supreme sacrifice of Dr Milon had accelerated the movement for restoration of democracy.

He said Milon's dream of restoring democracy is yet to be fulfilled, as a vested quarter is trying to make the country an undemocratic state by creating anarchy.

When democracy is taking an institutional shape, the 14-party alliance is hatching a conspiracy to destroy it, Mosharraf said, adding that the Awami League-led 14-party wants to foil the election as they know that they would get people's mandate in the election.

Prof Dr MA Hadi called on all the political parties to work together to keep the democratic process on track and establish peace in the country.

BMA Secretary General Dr AZM Zahid Hussain and former BMA president Prof Dr MA Mazed also spoke.

## Tribute paid to Prof Aftab

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) paid a rich tribute to late Prof Aftab Ahmad, a professor of Political Science department of Dhaka University (DU) and former vice-chancellor of National University.

Teachers expressed resentment over no improvement in his murder case and demanded immediate arrest and punishment to the culprits, says a press release.

At the meeting held at Duta office on Sunday, teachers said the country and the DU met an irreparable loss at the untimely death of Prof Aftab. The country will remember his contribution to study and research in sociology and political science for long.

Duta President Prof Sharif Ullah Bhuiyan presided over the meeting, while General Secretary Prof Dr Mohammad Akhtaruzzaman conducted.

At the beginning of the meeting, one-minute standing ovation was observed to show respect to the Freedom Fighter.

Prof Dr Tazmeri SA Islam, Prof Dr Ashraf Uddin Chowdhury, Prof Dr Harun-or-Rashid, Prof Nurul Amin Bapari, Prof Sadeka Halim, Robaet Ferdous and other teachers spoke on life and works of Prof Aftab.

In a separate press release, Duta yesterday expressed deep shock at the death of Pir of Charmonai Maulana Syed Fazlul Karim.

Duta leaders prayed for salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family members.