

DEFAMATORY STATEMENT AGAINST HASINA

JCD president, secretary, 6 others sued

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Liakat Sikder, president of Bangladesh Chhatra League, yesterday filed a criminal case against the Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) president, general secretary and six other leaders for making defamatory and provocative statements about Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina.

Liakat filed the case with the Court of Chief Metropolitan Magistrate, Dhaka. He accused the JCD leaders of making the statements about Hasina at a rally on Dhaka University (DU) campus on February 3.

The accused are JCD President Azizul Bari Helal, General Secretary Shafiqul Bari Babu, and leaders Selimuzzaman Selim, Hasan Mamun, Saiful Islam Firoz, Dulal Hossain, Abdul Halim Khokon and JCD DU Convener Sultan Salauddin Tuku.

After the hearing, Metropolitan Magistrate Emdadul Haq recorded statement of Liakat Sikdar, took it into cognizance and ordered a judicial inquiry into the case.

The plaintiff said he came to know from the national dailies on February 4 that the JCD leaders at a rally at Aparajeo Bangla made the statements.

The JCD leaders said Hasina has no right to carry out her politics and the 13th Saarc summit was postponed for her negative politics, he added.

Liakat said they accused Hasina of damaging the sovereignty of the country by blasting bombs as per direction of India. They also accused her of hiring foreign journalists for running a propaganda campaign against the country.

They said she should be exiled and also made indecent comments about Hasina, Liakat added. Hasina and her son Sajib Wajed Joy will be vanished by another incident like August 15 of 1975 and the arms of that incident would blaze again, Liakat quoted them as saying.

The statements have defamed the social status and popularity of Hasina, Liakat alleged.



PHOTO: STAR

Convener of Jatiya Oikya Mancha Dr Kamal Hossain speaks at a meeting of the representatives of Oikya Mancha at the thana level in the city yesterday.

ADDRESSING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Mindset of women a major obstacle

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The major obstacle to addressing domestic violence is the traditional mindset of women who believe the physical and mental torture they face at the family level is justified, said women's rights activists at a discussion yesterday.

"It is one of the root causes of violence against women and children at the family level that the victims themselves hold the same perception as the perpetrators," said Tawfique M Haque while presenting his research findings.

At least 16 percent of women victims see domestic violence as justified while another 16 percent think it is unethical but not unusual, according to his research survey conducted in six upazilas in Bagerhat, Jessore, Thakurgaon and Panchagarh districts.

Worse, most victims are unable to recognise the mental torture on they endure, he said.

The discussion on 'Domestic Violence: An Issue of Human Security in Bangladesh' was organised by Manabik Shahajaya Sangstha (MSS) at its head office in the city.

The findings also revealed that poverty has a direct impact on domestic violence - 29 percent of the victims are ultra poor, 45 percent are poor while 26 percent are tolerably poor.

It also showed that 47 percent of the victims suffered very severe torture, 35 percent severe torture and 18 percent

suffered not-so-severe torture. Haque said dowries, financial dependence, family values, lack of awareness about their rights and legal protection, illiteracy and patriarchal mindsets are responsible for violence against women.

"We have to launch a women's rights movement from our respective family," said researcher and gender specialist Maleka Begum, adding that policymakers must ensure democracy in the family first.

Shirin Akter, president of Kamojibi Nari, said that one must recognise the economic value of a woman's role in a family with due dignity.

Dr Hamida Hossain and Abdul Mannan Khan of Ain-O-Salish Kendra (ASK), Gulshan Akter of the daily Jugantar and Farida Yasmin of the daily Ittefaq also spoke.

DHAKA TODAY

Photo exhibition

A month-long solo exhibition of photography titled 'Chitrakabya' by Abdullah-Al-Masum will be inaugurated. Venue: BPS Gallery, 63/2 Science Laboratory Road. Time: 4.00pm.

Drawing competition

Save The Youth Forum organises a drawing competition for the children and a discussion to mark the International Mother Language Day, with Law Minister Moudud Ahmed as chief guest. Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy. Time: 4.00pm.

Freedom Festival

The Liberation War Museum will hold a Freedom Festival with the students who took part in the outreach programme of the museum. Venue: Abahani playground, Dhanmondi. Time: 9.00am.

Sharee Exposition

Purple Dots arranges a 'Sharee Exposition' with the best quality handloom from Tangail. Venue: Drik Gallery, House #58, Road # 15A (New), Dhanmondi. Time: inauguration at 4.30pm.

Condolence meeting

Bangladesh Economic Association will hold a condolence meeting in memory of former finance minister Shah ASM Kibria. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10.30am.

Film show

Biswa Sahitya Kendra will screen an Indian film, Maha Prithibi, by Mrinal Sen. Venue: Biswa Sahitya Kendra. Time: 10.00am.

Drama festival

A six-day Udichi Drama Festival,

organised by Udichi Central Drama Section, will begin. Venue: Mohila Samity auditorium. Time: 10.00am.

Musical programme

Swapanakuri will hold a musical programme and a session of poetry recitation. Venue: Muldhara Zakia Alam Auditorium, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.30pm.

Discussion

Social Assistance and Rehabilitation for the Physically Vulnerable organises a discussion on 'Surgery Treatment of Rickets Affected Children'. Noted French Surgeon Dr Nurutte Gilles will make a presentation. Venue: Health & Hope Ltd. 152/1-H Green Road. Time: 4.00pm.

Gono Forum

An extended meeting of the Gono Forum will be held, with Dr Kamal Hossain in the chair. Venue: Central office of the Forum, Hotel Eden Complex, 2/1 A Arambagh. Time: 10.00am.

Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat

A three-day Annual Jalsa of Ahmadiyya Muslim Jamaat will begin. Venue: 4 Bakshi Bazar Road. Time: 3.00pm.

Cultural function

The first annual general meeting and a cultural function of Engineers' Recreation Centre, Dhaka will be held. Venue: Institute of Engineers, Bangladesh. Time: 10.00am.

Human chain

Paribesh Bachao Andolon will form a human chain and stage a demonstration demanding compensation for the gas field explosions in Tengratila and Magurchhara, making the investigation report public and punishment to the persons responsible. Venue: Shahbagh. Time: 10.30am.

Over 600 held in Bagerhat on gunrunning tip

UNB, Bagerhat

Police arrested more than 600 people on Tuesday and Wednesday nights in three upazilas of Bagerhat on the basis of an intelligence report saying a big consignment of firearms and explosives were smuggled into the district from across the border.

Police Superintendent M Mahub Alam told the news agency that all police stations, camps and

outposts were put on red alert following the report.

He said more than 600 people were nabbed in block raids on Tuesday and Wednesday nights in the outlaw-infested areas of Fakirhat, Mollahat and Bagerhat Sadar upazilas in a bid to recover the smuggled arms and explosives.

The arrestees are being quizzed at different police stations while check posts have been set up at different places.

ASSAULT OF DU TEACHER

Duta demands action against constable

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) yesterday demanded stern action against the police constable who beat up a Dhaka University (DU) teacher mercilessly on January 19.

The Duta leaders made the demand at a rally at the Central Shaheed Minar.

Earlier the Duta brought out a silent procession from the foot of Aparajeyo Bangla that ended at Shaheed Minar.

Duta President Professor AAMS Arefin Siddiqui at the rally said "If the government does not take stern action against the police constable within the next 72-hour, we would go for tougher programmes." He also threatened an indefinite work abstention if their demand was not met.

Constable Monjur Rahman reportedly beat up Sheikh Morshed Jahan, a teacher of the Institute of Business Administration (IBA), on January 19.

Death anniversary



Today is the second death anniversary of Khandaker Hasib Uddin, District and Secessions Judge of Dhaka, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held after Juma prayers at his village Doshpara, Daudkandi in Comilla, says a press release.

Relatives and admirers are requested to attend the milad mahfil.

Chehlum

Chehlum of Mehta Begum, wife of Siddiqur Rahman, Superintending Engineer (rtd), Public Health Engineering, will be held at her village home Akand Para, Ramkrishnapur, Homna, Comilla, today after Juma prayers says a press release.

She died on January 4 at her Gulshan residence.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the chehlum and pray for salvation of the departed soul.

Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Asaf Ali, former news editor of the Dainik Azadi, will be held at his Iqbal Road residence after Asr prayers today.

He died of a cardiac arrest on Tuesday at the age of 57. He is survived by his wife and two sons.

Feroza Nargis



Qulkhwani of Feroza Nargis, wife of Hamidur Rahman, former director of Civil Aviation Authority of Bangladesh, will be held at her residence at

House # 430, Road # 7 (east), DOHS, after Asr prayers today.

She died of cancer on February 7 at the age of 54, says a press release.

She left behind her husband, sons, daughters and a host of relatives and friends to mourn her death.

ABM Sultan Ahmed



Qulkhwani of ABM Sultan Ahmed, acting Officer-in-Charge of Katawali Thana, will be held at his Baitulamin residence at his

village home Muchhapur in Noakhali district after Juma prayers today, says a press release.

He died of a cardiac arrest on February 3 while performing his duty.

Anwara Begum

Qulkhwani of Anwara Begum, mother of noted writer Imdadul Haque Milon, will be held at her residence at 76/A Distillery Road at Gandaria in the city after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

She died on February 8.