

Once valiant FF now hounded by Razakars

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Jessore

Local freedom fighters have demanded justice for brutal attack, threat and false case against a freedom fighter and his family members at Dohakhula village in Bagherpara upazila under the district.

Abdul Aziz, who bravely fought against Pakistani occupation forces and their collaborators during the Liberation War in 1971, had hoisted the national flag first in Bagherpara on December 8 that year.

But now at an advanced age, he is passing days amid utter insecurity as cohorts of a few alleged Rajakars (collaborators of the Pakistan occupation forces in 1971) injured him and his son, threatened the family and filed a false case against them.

"Recently some local BNP activists and supporters attacked the house of freedom fighter Jalil Uddin at Dohakhula village, following a clash between Chhatra League and Chhatra Dal at Bagherpara Degree College. As they started beating Jalil's grandson Jony, my son Rony protested and the attackers beat him too," Abdul Aziz said.

"Later on April 14, the criminals, also men of a few Rajakars of Dohakhula village, waylaid me when I was returning home. They beat me up indiscriminately with sticks and iron rods. I was rushed to Jessore Medical College Hospital with serious injuries," he said.

The freedom fighter filed



PHOTO: STAR

Abdul Aziz showing injury marks to the journalists.

a case in this regard on April 15 with Bagherpara police station but police could not arrest the culprits afterward.

"Meanwhile the accused took bail from the court on April 18. Now they are threatening me and my family members of dire consequences. The anti-liberation forces also filed a counter case against my two sons Nazmul Huda Mithu and Famid-bin-Aziz Rony, and relative freedom fighter Abdul Jalil's son Golam Dastagir and grandsons Jony and Joy to harass us," Aziz said.

Officer in charge of Bagherpara police station Ramprosad Bhakta said, "The accused have taken bail from the court and we are investigating the matter."

Demanding arrest and punishment of the culprits, Mazharul Islam Montu, commander of Jessore district unit of Muktiyoddha Sangsad, said, "How sorrowful is it that anti-liberation forces torture a freedom fighter in an independent country."

Jubo League man shot dead in infighting

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Jessore

A Jubo League man was shot dead by rivals in Puratan Kasba Talikhola area in the town yesterday morning.

The killing was a sequel to an internal feud between the supporters of district Jubo League vice president Mehedi Hasan and joint secretary Moinuddin Mithu over establishing supremacy in the area, locals said.

Police arrested two suspects in connection with the murder. Agitated locals vandalised four houses of the alleged killers at noon.

The deceased was identified as Sarwar Hossain Tulu, 30, son of Abdul Kader Sardar of Police Line Talikhola area in the town, also an aide to Mehedi Hasan.

Mehedi alleged that Moinuddin Mithu and his men were behind the murder.

Office in-charge (OC) of Kotwali police station Emdad Hossain Sheikh said, a gang called Tulu out of his house at about 6am. They

took him to a nearby place and shot him in chest and leg.

Critically injured Tulu was rushed to Jessore Medical College Hospital where the on duty doctor declared him dead, he added.

The OC said that Tulu had an altercation over financial matter with Shipon, brother of Moinuddin Mithu and some other youths who also belong to Jubo League of the same area.

Tulu's mother identified some youths including the arrestees -- Shapon alias Chinese Shapon and Raju, the OC said.

At noon, agitated locals held a protest procession with the body of the deceased. They vandalised the houses of Moinuddin Mithu, Doublu Tito, Shipon and Kalo Mithu while passing by the area.

Mehedi Hasan told this correspondent that Tulu was a member of Jubo League. The killers are also activists of Jubo League and the murder was done to establish supremacy in the area, he added.

Hearing in case against Limon deferred again

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Barisal

Hearing of charge framing in the case under Arms Act against college student Limon Hossain was deferred for the ninth time yesterday.

The Special Tribunal-2 of Jhalakathi fixed the next date for charge framing hearing in the case on May 29.

Earlier the defense lawyers appealed for extending time as Limon was appearing in his HSC examinations.

Judge Kiran Shankar Halder accepted the prayer and deferred the date, said Manik Acharya, advocate of Limon.

A Rab team allegedly shot in the leg of Limon, who used to work at a brick kiln to bear his educational expenses, taking him to a place near his house at Jamaddarhat in Rajapur upazila of Jhalakathi on March 23, 2011.

Limon's left leg was amputated from the thigh on March 27 and later he was arrested.

Rab on March 23, 2011 filed two cases with local PS against Limon, seven others under the Arms Act and another on charge of obstructing official duty, attempt to murder and injuring Rab personnel.

Jubo League man looting neighbour's trees

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Patuakhali

A Jubo League man has continued felling trees on a neighbour's homestead at Uttar Subidkhali village in Mirzaganj upazila under the district since Wednesday.

Ten to twelve labourers employed by Ruhul Kuddus, member of Mirzaganj upazila unit of Jubo League, have already cut down and removed trees worth over Tk 3 lakh from the house, said Jahanara Begum, wife of house owner Mannan Mridha.

Jahanara filed a case with the Judicial Magistrate's Court on Sunday and the court asked the headmaster of Rahman Ishaq Pilot High School in the upazila town to inquire into the matter as police did not receive the case in this regard.

A group of journalists from Patuakhali town visited the spot on Sunday noon and found 10/12 labourers cutting trees in Mannan Mridha's house as per direction of Ruhul Kuddus.

Jahanara Begum said, "My husband, a health department employee, bought the 0.12 acres of land 30 years ago from Nur



PHOTO: STAR

Local Jubo League activist Ruhul Kuddus sits on a log, after having forcibly felled several trees of the house of his neighbour at Uttar Subidkhali village in Mirzaganj upazila under Patuakhali district on Sunday.

Mohammad Howlader, father of Ruhul Kuddus. Later we planted different species of trees there.

"On April 6, police sent my husband to jail in a case. On Wednesday, agangled by Ruhul Kuddus started forcibly cutting trees including raintree, mahogany and chambol. They have already looted trees worth over Tk 3 lakh.

"I went to the police station to file a case regarding

the matter but police did not receive it. I also informed local UP Chairman Sultan Ahmed of the matter but in vain. Sultan Ahmed is working against us as my husband supported another candidate during the last UP election," Jahanara said.

Neighbours Eunus Howlader and Osman Gazi said Mannan Mridha bought the land from Nur Mohammad Howlader long

ago and afterwards Mannan planted the trees on the land.

When contacted, Ruhul Kuddus said, "I am cutting trees on my father's land. My father did not sell the land. Mannan occupied the land forcibly."

Abir Ahmed, officer in charge of Mirzaganj police station, said, "I could not receive the case as the local UP chairman informed me that owner of the land cut trees."



PHOTO: STAR

Vast tract of cropland and houses got flooded following damage to the ring embankment (inset) at Purbo Keyamullah in Chandpur union of Tazumuddin upazila of Bhola district under the impact of the strong current of the Meghna River during the high tide on Sunday afternoon.

MEGHNA DAMAGES DYKE IN TAZUMUDDIN Four Bhola villages flooded

A CORRESPONDENT, Bhola

Four villages under Chandpur union in Tazumuddin upazila of the district were inundated on Sunday afternoon.

Heavy tide in the Meghna due to full moon damaged a portion of the embankment at Purbo Keyamullah point of the union causing the rolling river water to flood

Hazikandi, Keyamullah, Aralia and Dori Chandpur villages at about 4:00pm.

More than 3000 families have been affected as roads, houses and a vast tract of cropland went under water.

Locals said, Water Development Board (WDB) officials recently visited the affected area but they did not take any step to repair the dam.

They expressed the fear that all the 20 villages of Chandpur and Chachra unions would go into the Meghna in the coming rainy season if the dam was not repaired immediately.

Upazila nirbahi officer of Tazumuddin Md. Khairul Hasan, however, said they had repaired the damaged area of the dam with the help of villagers.

Sub-divisional engineer Md Alaaddin said they did not have enough fund for the repair work. "Still we tried our best to protect the villages", he said.

Shahidul Islam, executive engineer of WDB-2, said that they sought Tk. 3.5 crore to set up a new dam as the old one was not dependable anymore.

Six kids hurt as classroom caves in

UNB, Chandpur

Six students were injured as the floor of a classroom of Mukti Kandi Government Primary School in Sadullahpur union of Matlab (south) upazila caved in on Sunday morning.

The land subsidence created a panicky situation in the area. The injured students are Mili Akhtar, Shanta Akhtar, Nusrat and three others.

Police said the students got injured when the floor of a classroom on the south-west corner of primary school caved in around 11.00am.

5 kids drown in ponds

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Five kids drowned in ponds in Jhenidah, Chandpur and Pabna districts yesterday and the day before.

Two twin brothers drowned in a pond at Mashli village under Kaliganj upazila of Jhenidah yesterday.

They had come to visit their grandfather's house at the village a few days ago, reports our correspondent.

The deceased were identified as Nurani Hossain and Nur Hossain, five-year-old sons of Yunus Ali of Bijoy Nagar village in Sadar upazila.

Family sources said at around 11:00am, they went to bathe at a pond with their mother.

Their mother sent them home after the bath, but the boys returned to the pond when she left the area.

They met their tragic end as they did not know how to swim.

In Chandpur, a two-year-old boy drowned in Sadar upazila early yesterday, reports our correspondent.

The deceased was identified as Jihan Hossain, son of Md Jalal Uddin of Raghunathpur village.

Family members said, Jihan went missing in the morning and after sometime he was rescued from a nearby pond.

He was rushed to Chandpur General Hospital where the attending doctor declared him dead.

In Pabna, two kids drowned in a pond in Tarabaria village in Sadar upazila on Sunday afternoon, reports our correspondent.

They are Md. Rakib, 3, son of Iqbal Hossain and Taslima, 3, daughter of Sachchu Hossain of the village. They were cousins, locals said.

They said Rakib and Taslima, while playing on the bank of the pond beside their house, fell in it and drowned.

Little girl 'sold to circus party' a year ago rescued

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Barisal

A 13-year-old girl, allegedly sold off to a circus party by the chief security guard of Barisal Training and Rehabilitation Centre for Socially Disadvantaged Women and Girls (TRCSDWG) under the Social Welfare Department, was rescued on Saturday night.

The authorities concerned closed the accused security guard to Barisal social welfare office and formed a committee to investigate the matter.

Asaduzzaman, manager of the centre, said Pirojpur Sadar Police Station handed over a 10-year-old girl to them on April 17, 2010. "As the girl went missing from the centre on November 8, 2012, I filed a general diary with Barisal Kotwali Police Station the same day," the managers said.

The girl told journalists yesterday that Jasimuddin, chief security guard of TRCSDWG, sold her to Arun Das, owner of Royal Bengal Circus Party of Gournadi for Tk 20,000, saying that she would lead a better life there.

"Arun Das tortured me both physically and mentally many times. I searched for a way to get rid of the agony and managed to escape from the circus party Saturday morning," the girl said.

Shahidul Islam Jewel, a human rights activist of Agorpur area under Babuganj upazila, said the

girl boarded a passenger bus from a place in the upazila on Saturday morning and requested the bus conductor to drop her near Bhuterdia bus stop under the upazila. As she narrated her agonising ordeal to Shamima Begum, a passenger of the bus, she took the girl to her home at Jahapur under Agorpur union under Babuganj upazila and sought help from local human right activist Shahidul Islam Jewel, who later brought the girl to Gournadi Press Club.

Being informed by local journalists, Barisal social welfare office sent a team and female Ansars led by TRCSDWG Manager Asaduzzaman to Babuganj. The team brought the victim to Barisal at night.

Mahbulul Islam, deputy director of Social Welfare Department, Barisal, said a three-member team comprising Deputy Superintendent Rosy Begum and Administrative officer Humaun Kabir of TRCSDWG and upazila social welfare officer Shahjadi Begum interrogated the victim at the centre on Saturday night.

"We have already closed the security guard Jasim to the district office. Necessary actions will be taken against him on the basis of the investigation report," the deputy director said.

Refuting the allegations, Arun Das said he did not purchase any girl from TRCSDWG for his circus party.

SNIPPETS

10 Myanmar citizens held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Satkhira

Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) arrested 10 Myanmar citizens on a Satkhira border point while they were trying to cross into India early yesterday. BGB sources said, following tip off, they caught them near Bhomra land port. The arrestees hail from Balibazar area under Munda police station in Myanmar. Officer in-charge (OC) Md Amanullah of Satkhira Model police station said, Subedar Md Kabir Hossain of Bhomra BGB camp filed a case with the police station in this connection.

Drinks poison by mistake

UNB, Benapole, Jessore

A housewife died allegedly after she drank poison by mistake in Monirampur upazila of the district early yesterday. The deceased was identified as Shukrita Roy, 36, wife of Ashutosh Roy, resident of the upazila headquarters. The victim's family said Shukrita had been suffering from severe headache for the last several days. She fell sick when she took poison taking it for medicine on Sunday evening. Seriously ill, Shukrita was admitted to Jessore Medical College Hospital where she died at about 4.00am yesterday.

Smuggled clothes seized

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

Members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) seized a huge number of Indian saris and three-pieces worth Tk 2 crore from Boroachra border yesterday morning. 26 BGB Benapole camp commander Rafiqul Islam said, on a tip-off, a team of border guards, raided the spot area at about 6:00am and seized the 19 bales of saris and three-pieces in an abandoned condition. The smugglers, however, managed to flee the scene, sensing the presence of the BGB team.

Ansar men held with phensidyl

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Two Ansar members, one of them platoon commander, were held with 30 bottles of illegal phensidyl syrup in Panchbibi upazila of Joypurhat on Saturday. The arrestees were identified as Ramzan Ali, Panchbibi upazila Ansar platoon commander and his member Ruhul Amin. Police said on suspicion, they intercepted their motorbike on the way to Hili land port and seized the bottles from their possession.

Fake Rab men arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Two fake members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) were arrested in Ghoraghat upazila yesterday. The arrestees were identified as Abdur Rashid Proddhan, 40, son of late Mozammel Haque of Proddhanpara under Gobindaganj upazila of Gaibandha and Shamsul Alam, 40, son of Shajahan Mia of Boalia village under Ghoraghat upazila of Dinajpur. Acting on a tip-off, a police team of Ghoraghat, led by Sub Inspector Mahmud Hasan, raided Ghoraghat Technical College area on Ghoraghat-Hakimpur Road and arrested them at around 2.00pm. Police also seized some dresses, a motorbike and identity cards from their possession.