It is human instinct to flee the scene of a grue same crime. In times of danger, it is only natural for a person to be more concerned about their own safety and protect their lives. Jharna Begum, a 28-year old single mother of two, was an exception to the rule.



PHOTO: STAR FILE

Jharna Begum being honoured for her courage.

Jharna was the only local to brave the wrath of Shibir activists and help the seriously injured Jahangir Alam, in-charge of the Upashahar police camp, who was savagely beaten up by the said activists earlier this year. Without worrying about her safety, Jharna ran to the scene, covering her scarf around the wounded police officer's head to curb the bleeding. Her attempts at saving a fellow human being were not diminished even when she saw that no one was willing to come forward with a helping hand.

Even when others joined her Jharna continued with her efforts, not abandoning her responsibility even when Jahangir was taken to the hospital. She waited at the hospital until the policeman's relatives arrived at the hospital, and left Jahangir's side only when she was sure that he was in the care of loved ones.

She was honoured by the police department with a crest and certificate and was recently rewarded with a permanent job at the attorney general's office. For Jharna, the courage she showed was only natural as she did it for the "sake of humanity." But for the rest of us, Jharna Begum has become an icon; she has become the face of compassion and valour of the common person on the streets.

# Common Woman, Uncommon Valour




Jharna Begum rushes to help a severely injured policeman.

PHOTO: STAR FILE