

# Abducted PCJSS man killed in Bandarban

Shot UPDF activist dies in Rangamati

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bandarban

An activist of Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS), abducted on Tuesday from his house at Bethchhara headman Para under Rowangchhari upazila, was found dead in a remote area of the upazila yesterday.

Deceased Redase Marma, 22, was an activist of PCJSS Rowangchhari upazila unit.

Police quoted family sources as saying that a gang of 15-16 people led by Khala Ching Marma and Pulu Mong Marma of the area, picked up Redase from his house on Tuesday night.

Family filed an abduction case with Rowangcharri Police Station on Thursday, accusing 16 people, including Khala Ching Marma, Pulu Mong Marma and Kaohla Prue Marma. Police arrested the three following the recovery of the body.

Being informed by locals, police went to Bethchhara hill area at around 11:30am and found Redase's body lying there, said Officer in-Charge (OC) Abdus Sattar of Rowangchhari Police Station.

Contacted, KS Mong Marma, PCJSS district unit president, claimed that Redase was killed by his political opponents. He demanded exemplary punishment of the killers.

Our Rangamati correspondent reported that a former activist of United People's Democratic Front (UPDF), who was shot by an unidentified gang in Naniachar upazila of the district on Friday evening, died at Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) at midnight.

The dead was identified as Santosh Chakma *alias* Himel, 28 son of Gayana Bikash Chakma of Shialpara village in the upazila.

Locals said a gang of criminals opened fire on Santosh at Shialpara village when he along with his friend Jibon Kumar was returning home at the village from upazila headquarters riding a motorbike at around 7:00pm.

Locals rescued bullet-injured Santosh and Jibon and sent them to CMCH where Santosh died, said Mostafa Kamal, officer in-charge (OC) of Naniachar Police Station. Jibon is undergoing treatment at the hospital.

In a press release yesterday, Niron Chakma, press secretary of UPDF central unit, blamed Parbatya Chattagram Jana Sanghati Samity (PCJSS) for the killing. PCJSS refuted the allegation.

No case was filed with the police station concerned in connection with the murder as of 5:00pm yesterday.



PHOTO: FOCUS BANGLA

Advocate Sultana Kamal, former advisor to the caretaker government in 2006, addresses a rally at Shaheed Abdur Razzak Park in Satkhira yesterday. Committee for Maintaining Communal Harmony organised the rally, demanding judicial investigation into the atrocities let loose by Jamaat-Shibir men in some districts, including Satkhira, and ban on Jamaat-Shibir politics.

## Six sued for issuing loan to dead man

Patuakhali court asks ACC for action

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

Six people including the incumbent and a former managers of Sonali Bank Kalapara branch in the district have been sued on charge of issuing Tk 3 lakh loan in the name of Gazi Jahangir Alam, who had died three years and nine months before issuance of the loan.

Late Jahangir's nephew Kamrul Islam *alias* Tarun Gazi filed the case with Kalapara Upazila Judicial Magistrate's Court on Wednesday and the court asked the Patuakhali deputy director of the Anti-Corruption Commission to take necessary legal action.

The accused are incumbent manager of the branch Ebadur Rahman, former manager Abu Eusuf Howlader (now working at the bank's principal office in Patuakhali), and four brokers of the bank -- Jahangir Alam, Bachchu Talukder, Jamal Hossain and Manik Bapari -- all from different areas in Kalapara upazila.

Abu Eusuf Howlader was manager at Kalapara branch from April 1 in 2009 to March 13 in 2011.

On October 28 in 2010, the bank issued a mortgage loan of Tk 3 lakh in the name of Gazi Jahangir Alam who had died on January 20 in 2007, sources said, adding that the bank recently called bid to sell the so-called mortgage property as the loan amount reached Tk 5,00,788 including interest.

Hearing the matter, Tarun Gazi and other family members became astonished as the bank had arranged a 'false loan case (No 14)' showing Jahangir Alam as the proprietor of Milon Traders in Kalapara upazila town.

Seeking remedy, Tarun Gazi sent a legal notice to the bank but got no reply. Finally he filed the case with the court.

Earlier Tarun Gazi submitted a written complaint to the higher authorities of the bank that formed a probe body to investigate the matter.

It is widely alleged that a gang led by the then manager Abu Eusuf issued such fictitious loans with fake names and addresses.

The bank filed a loan case (No 10) dated April 25, 2013 against Abdur Rahman Mollah and another one (case No 11) against Sobahan Mollah of Dariapur village in Nilganj union for taking Tk 5,000 each but there are no people with the names at the village, locals said.

"A loan of Tk 30,000 has been issued in my name although I never received any loan from the bank. At least 300 fake loan cases would be found only in Nilganj area," said Liakat Hossain, schoolteacher.

Shahadat Hossain, president of Kalapara upazila teachers association, said at least 12 fake loans have been issued in the names of teachers in the area.

Ebadur Rahman, manager of the branch, said, "When I found these irregularities I informed the higher authorities of the matter."

Contacted, the then manager Abu Eusuf Howlader said, "I issued the loans after seeing valid papers."

Asked whether the people concerned physically came to the bank to receive the loan, he declined to give any reply.



PHOTO: STAR

Criminals vandalise five idols at three temples in Sreenagar upazila of Munshiganj on Friday night. Photo shows a damaged idol at Shitala Temple at Paul Para of Sholohgar in the upazila.

## Criminals damage idols at 3 Munshiganj temples

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

Criminals damaged at least five idols at three Hindu temples at Paul Para and Sen Para of Sholohgar in Sreenagar upazila on Friday night.

Although the Sreenagar upazila Puja Udjapon Committee President Bijoy Chakrabarty and General Secretary Laxman Sen brought the matter to the notice of Sreenagar police, none could be arrested in this connection till yesterday.

Worried local Hindus said the criminals damaged one idol at Bani Temple at Sen Para and four others at Biswakarma and Shitala Temples at Paul Para sometime at midnight.

In Madaripur, thieves took away several articles and cash money from the Sri Sri Pranab Math Temple in Pathak Kandi area in the district town on Friday night, reports our correspondent.

Swami Satyaprianandaji Maharaj of the temple said, a gang broke the lock at midnight and looted the goods worth Tk. 10,000.

Police visited the spot after they informed it to them in the morning, he said.

In Moulvibazar, three

houses were reduced to ashes in a fire in the compound of Shyamsundor Jiur Temple at Soyarpur in Sadar upazila early yesterday, reports our correspondent.

Sources said, three families living at rented houses built of wooden planks in the compound.

Eyewitnesses and owners said that goods worth Tk one crore were damaged in the fire. None was injured, they said.

Contacted, Moulvibazar fire service sources said that the temple owners claimed that the fire was not accidental. It was set on by a physically challenged boy of a tenant, they said.

## ABU RAIHAN MURDER Two Shibir leaders held in Satkhira

UNB, Satkhira

Joint forces arrested two Shibir leaders in Kulia area of Debhata upazila yesterday and the day before in connection with the Awami League leader Abu Raihan killing case.

Of them, Maruf is the main accused in the case.

The arrestees were identified as Abul Kalam, secretary of Debhata upazila unit of Shibir, and Maruf Hossain, a leader of the same unit.

With the two, a total of 27 people have so far been arrested in the murder case.

Tareque Biswas, officer in-charge of Debhata police station, said on secret information, a team of the joint forces, comprising members of police, Rapid Action Battalion and Border Guard Bangladesh, raided the area and arrested Maruf on Friday evening.

During interrogation, Maruf confessed to his involvement in the killing of Abu Raihan.

The joint forces, based on information from Maruf, raided another place and

arrested Abul Kalam early yesterday.

Abul Kalam also confessed to his involvement in the killing of Abu Raihan.

Abu Raihan, 38, organising secretary of the upazila unit of the ruling AL, was stabbed to death by criminals at Parulia Bazar in Debhata upazila on November 21.

Earlier police arrested another Shibir activist from a bus in front of the district judge court early Thursday on charge of killing an AL activist.

The arrestee was identified as Kamrul Hasan, 19, son of Khayer Morol of Amtala village in Sadar upazila of the district.

Enamul Haque, officer in-charge of Sadar police station, said on secret information, they raided the spot and stopped a Dhaka-bound bus, 'Songram Paribahan', and arrested Kamrul in a case for killing AL activist Azahar Ali. Azahar her was killed in an attack allegedly carried out by Jamaat-Shibir activists on December 7 last year.

## 'Missing' boy found dead

UNB, Laxmipur

Police recovered the body of a 'missing' boy from a ditch in Jagatpur area of Ramganj upazila on Friday.

The deceased was identified as Jabelul Islam, 12, son of Abu Taher, a rickshaw-puller, of the upazila.

The family members of the boy said, Jabelul went out of his house on Thursday evening and since remained traceless.

Later, locals found Jabelul's body afloat in a ditch of the area in the morning and informed police.

In Sherpur, a schoolboy was killed as a wall of an abandoned school building collapsed on him at Charsripur village in Sadar upazila yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Minal Mia, 12, a student of class V of Charsripur Government Primary School and son of Ashraf Ali of the village.

Witnesses said, a wall of the abandoned building of the school fell on Minal while he was playing there around 1:30pm, leaving him dead on the spot.

## SNIPPETS

### 27 return after jail term in India

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

At least 27 Bangladeshi people returned home through Benapole check post on Friday night after languishing for two years in an Indian jail. All the returnees are brick kiln workers. Of them, 13 hail from Bagerhat while 14 from Barisal district. Nayek Subedar M Abdullah, commander of Benapole check post of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB), said Indian Border Security Force (BSF) handed over the Bangladeshis to the BGB there at about 8:30pm. Quoting the returnees, the commander said, Indian police had arrested them while they were working at a brick kiln in Kerala state, on February 11, 2011. They were later produced before a court that sent them to an Indian jail.

### Photo studio owner killed

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

The owner of a photo studio was hacked to death by criminals in Colony area of the district town on Friday night. The deceased was identified as Rafiqul Islam, 36, son of Golam Rahman of Janjaigar village in Ulipur upazila of Kurigram district and proprietor of Shapla Digital Studio in Colony area. Locals said, a gang enter the studio of Rafiqul and stabbed him indiscriminately with sharp weapons at about 10:30pm, leaving him seriously injured. Hearing Rafiqul's screams, local people rescued him and took him to Shaheed Ziaur Rahman Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries at night. Police recovered the body and sent it to the hospital morgue for an autopsy. OC of Sadar PS AHM Faizur Rahman said they were yet to ascertain the reason behind the attack on Rafiqul. Rafiqul's wife Kakali Begum filed a case against unidentified criminals.

### Housewife murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Benapole, Jessore

Police recovered the body of a housewife from a pond at Pachbhulot village in Sharsha upazila of Jessore district on Friday. The deceased was identified as Mina Khatun, 25, wife of Khorshed Alam of the village. Motiur Rahman Shikdar, sub-inspector of Bagachra police camp, said they recovered the body of Mina when locals informed police. Father of the deceased Abdur Rahim claimed, Khorshed Alam along with his family members killed Mina sometime at night on Thursday and dumped the body in the pond. The body bore several injury marks, said police. However, police could not arrest anyone as Khorshed and his family members went into hiding.

## 'Robber' beaten to death

STAR COUNTRY DESK

A suspected robber was beaten to death by mob at Kanaighat village in Companiganj upazila of Sylhet early yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Suroj Ali, 35, son of late Chand Mia of Puran Megargaon village in the upazila, reports UNB.

Witnesses said, a gang of robbers swooped on the house of local businessman Amiruddin and looted cash and gold ornaments at midnight, keeping the members of the house hostage at gunpoint.

Hearing the hue and cry, villagers rushed in and chased the robbers. At one stage, they caught Suroj and gave him a good beating, leaving him critically injured.

Later, police and members of Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) rescued him and admitted him to Sylhet Osmani Medical College Hospital where the doctors declared him dead in the morning.

In Sirajganj, a man was strangled by alleged robbers at Bhuiagati village in Solonga upazila on Thursday.

The dead is Ajit Chakrabarti, 44, son of Kanta Chakrabarti of the village, reports our Pabna correspondent.

Officer in-charge of Solonga police station Md Rashedul Islam, quoting the family members of Ajit said, a gang of robbers numbering 18 to 20, swooped on the house of Ajit Chakrabarti at about 3 am on Thursday. Ajit was killed as he tried to resist the gang.

## ATTACK ON NILPHAMARI HINDUS

# Victims suffer for lack of proper list

EAM ASADUZZAMAN, Nilphamari

One and a half months into the arson attack and vandalism by activists of Jamaat-e-Islami and its student wing Islami Chhatra Shibir in five villages of Nilphamari Sadar, the local administration is yet to prepare the victims' list.

Consequently, organisations and individuals willing to extend help for the victims find the task difficult.

Jamaat-Shibir men looted and damaged about 150 shops, godowns and dwelling houses at Beltoli Bazar, Kachari Laxmichap Bazar, Dubachhuri, Palashbari and Taronibari villages of Sadar upazila on the night of December 12 last year, apparently in reaction to the execution of Abdul Kader Mollah, assistant general secretary of Jamaat, on charge of crimes against humanity.

On Wednesday, Abdul Gaffar, assistant organising secretary of the central committee of Ghatok Dalal Nirmul Committee, on behalf of its convenor Shahriar Kabir, went to Sadar Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Sabet Ali to get a list of the victims for providing them help, but the latter failed to deliver.

Earlier central leaders of the committee provided material support to the victims of similar attacks at different villages of Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, and Gaibandha districts.

"We have received a number of lists of victims from different organisations and the union parishads concerned. It needs verification before finalising as we want to help the real victims,"

said UNO Sabet Ali.

So far, no government aid reached the victims of Jamaat-Shibir attacks in Nilphamari Sadar, sources said.

Visiting Beltoli and Laxmichap Kachari bazar on Thursday, this correspondent saw, torn pieces of corrugated iron sheet, scattered pieces of wood, burnt account books, ashes etc all around.

"About 150 shops, godowns and living houses at five villages were destroyed in Jamaat-Shibir attack. After looting valuables from my house at Dubachhuri village, they sprayed petrol and set fire," said Shyam Charan Roy, 62, former chairman of Laxmichhap union parishad in Sadar upazila, also union unit president of ruling Awami League.

Owner of a big grocery at Bottoli Bazar, Binod Roy, 40, said, "Earlier I used to sell goods worth Tk 50 thousand on an average daily but the arson attack left me helpless, destroying things worth Tk 8-10 lakh. I am yet to restart business due to lack of capital."

Sexagenarian Ashraf Ali, a grocer at Battoli Bazar, lost goods worth about Tk 80 thousand, started a makeshift shop in the deserted market on a wooden cot to sell betel leaves, nuts, with Tk 2000 received from Hindu-Bouddha-Christian Oikya Parishad.

"Authentic list of victims should be made immediately for providing support to them. Commercial banks and NGOs should also be instructed to provide them loans on easy term," said Tapon Kumar Roy, chairman of Polashbari union parishad.



PHOTO: STAR

Trader Binod Kumar Roy gives a bleak look at his warehouse torched by Jamaat-Shibir men at Beltoli Bazar in Nilphamari district on the night of December 12 last year in reaction to the execution of Jamaat leader Abdul Quader Mollah.

## Accused confesses to killing schoolboy

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kurigram

Shamim Rahman Sagar, one of the four accused in Raihan murder case, confessed to killing the schoolboy in Mogalhat area of Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

"As Raihan could recognise us, we killed him by slitting his throat and then buried the body in the sand," Sagar told the court.

Townpeople, including teachers, students, socio-cultural and political activists, and businessmen, formed a human chain on Kurigram-Chilmari Road in front of Kurigram Press Club yesterday morning, demanding immediate arrest of the remaining three killers of Raihan.

Contacted, Officer-in-Charge Abdul Baten of Kurigram Sadar Police Station said they are raiding different areas to arrest the rest of the accused in Raihan murder case.

his three accomplices kidnapped Raihan from Roumari Para in the town for ransom and took him to a char of Dharla Road in Mogalhat under Lalmonirhat Sadar upazila.

He gave confessional statement before the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court here on Friday.

Raihan Islam, 13, a class eight student of Kurigram Government High School, was abducted by Sagar and his three accomplices from Roumari Para under Kurigram municipality on January 18.

Sagar was arrested on January 22 following a case filed by Rayhan's father Ershadul Haque. On the basis of his statement, police recovered the body from the char area of Mogalhat the same day.

In his statement before the court, Sagar said he and