

Arrest, bring to justice killers of blogger Avijit

Outcry at human chains, processions, rallies in districts

STAR COUNTRY DESK

Cross section of people in different areas of the country joined human chains, processions, and rallies yesterday demanding arrest and punishment of the criminals who killed progressive writer-blogger Avijit Roy and badly injured his wife Rafida Ahmed Banna, also a writer, on Thursday night.

Students, teachers, political and cultural activists and people from all walks of life at a human chain at Thakurgaon Intersection in the town yesterday condemned the killing of Avijit Roy, reports our Thakurgaon correspondent.

The district unit of Ganajagoran Mancha organised the hour-long human chain programme which followed a discussion at the same venue.

The speakers demanded immediate arrest of the killers and effective steps to ensure exemplary punishment of the criminals.

They urged the government to take long-term plan for rooting out and resisting the religious extremists for sake of stability and establishing rights of free-thinking, writing and telling.

Two attackers hacked with machetes Avijit and Rafida near TSC on Dhaka University campus around 8:45pm on Thursday, when the couple were returning from the Amar Ekushe Book Fair.

Avijit, 42, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital while Rafida, 40, who suffered multiple head injuries and lost a finger, is undergoing treatment at Square Hospital.

The brutal incident at a crowded place covered by a



PHOTO: STAR
The district unit of Sammilito Sangskritik Jote forms a human chain in front of Dinajpur Press Club yesterday demanding early arrest and punishment of the criminals who killed progressive writer-blogger Avijit Roy (inset) and badly injured his wife Rafida Ahmed Banna, also a writer, near TSC at Dhaka University on Thursday night.

multi-tier security blanket raised questions about the response of law enforcers.

A year ago, religious fanatics had threatened to kill Avijit, then living in America, when he returns home.

Avijit came to the country from America on February 16 to attend the Ekushe Book Fair where three of his books were published this year. And the criminals took only few days to implement their plan.

Our Rajshahi University (RU) correspondent reports: Leaders and activists of Progressive Student Alliance, a platform of four left-leaning students' body, yesterday formed a human chain in front of RU central library demanding

arrest and punishment of the killers of Avijit Roy.

Speakers at the programme alleged that the state has failed to try the killers of popular writer Humayun Ahmed, blogger Rajib Haider, RU teachers Prof S Taher Ahmed, Prof Dr Yunus, and lastly Prof AKM Shaful Islam.

RU Progressive Teachers Society, RU Journalists Association, RU unit of Awami Ain Chhatra Parishad, and RU Kendrio Sangskritik Jote also condemned the killing and demanded immediate arrest of the killers.

Our Rangpur correspondent adds: Students of Rangpur Carmichael College at a rally held in front of the



administrative building on the campus yesterday demanded immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of the killers of Avijit Roy.

Students of Jahangirnagar University (JU) brought out a procession and held a rally on the campus yesterday protesting the brutal killing of secular writer-blogger Avijit Roy, reports our JU Correspondent.

Bangladesh Student Front and Bigyan Chorch Kendro formed a human chain on the premises of the central Shaheed Minar at Chittagong University yesterday demanding immediate arrest and punishment of the murderers of blogger Avijit Roy, reports our CU Correspondent.

Missing factory worker found murdered

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Munshiganj

A 'missing' factory worker was found murdered in Crown Cement Factory area at Charmuktarpur in Sadar upazila on Friday.

The deceased was identified as Mizanur Rahman Taher, 20, son of Abul Bashar of the area and supervisor of transport section of Premier Cement Factory at Charmuktarpur in the upazila.

Taher went missing on February 24, said Mosharraf Hossain, sub-inspector of Muktarpur Police Outpost.

Locals found his body in the area at night and informed the police.

The law enforcers then reached the spot, recovered the body and sent it to Munshiganj General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

Four drug peddlers arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jamalpur

Detectives in separate drives arrested four alleged drug peddlers in three upazilas of the district early yesterday.

The arrestees are Abdus Sattar Litu, 45, of Moslemabad village in Madarganj upazila, Md Minhaj Uddin, 29, of Bhabki Fakirpara village in Melandah upazila, Samidul Islam, 35, and Rafikul Islam, 24, of Rashidpur village in Sadarupazila.

On secret information, a team led by Shuvra Shaha, assistant sub-inspector of Jamalpur DB police, raided nurses' quarters of Madarganj Upazila Health Complex at around 2:30am and arrested Litu, husband of Rozina Akhter, staff nurse of the health complex, along with 79 bottles of phensidyle.

In two other drives, law enforcers arrested Minhaj at Bhabki Fakirpara and Samidul and Rafikul at Rashidpur village in the upazila.

CASE FOR TORCHING VEHICLES

80 sued in Chirirbandar for attacking cops, snatching accused

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Dinajpur

Eighty-people have been sued for attacking police and snatching a criminal from them (police) in Chirirbandar upazila of Dinajpur on Friday afternoon.

Sub-Inspector Md Atowar Hossain filed the case with Chirirbandar Police Station, the same day.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) Anisur Rahman of the police station declined to disclose the names of the accused. He, however, said law enforcers arrested two of the accused yesterday.

Around 10 cops raided Tushlipur village in the upazila at around 4:30pm and arrested local BNP leader Hobibur Rahman, an accused in a case for torching vehicles in Amtoli area of the upazila recently.

When the team was on its way back to the pickup, waiting at a distance, the detainee's two sons and wife accompanied by a few others attacked them and took him away, said the OC.

Sub-inspector Rabiul Islam and constables Zahangir Alam and Md Habibullah were injured in

the attack. They were admitted to Dinajpur Medical College Hospital.

As Hobibur's sons Rezwanul Haque and Md Haidar tried to snatch away a pistol from Sub-Inspector Rabiul, he fired four bullets in self-defence.

Rezwanul sustained two bullets in the abdomen and died on the spot while his younger brother Haidar, 18, and mother Ambia Khatun, 40, were hit by one bullet each in their legs.

As the situation was going worse, police fired 16 blank shots and left the place.

Abducted schoolgirl rescued in Joypurhat, three arrested

Kidnapped boy found dead

STAR COUNTRY DESK

A schoolgirl, abducted from Manikganj on February 21, was rescued in Khetlal upazila of Joypurhat on Friday.

Meanwhile, the body of an abducted teenage boy was found murdered in Rajnagar upazila of Moulvibazar district the same day.

In Manikganj, a schoolgirl, who was picked up by a gang of criminals from Daulatpur upazila, was rescued by police from Natuabari village in Khetlal upazila of Joypurhat on Friday, six days into her abduction, reports UNB.

Nazmul Nishat, officer in-charge of Daulatpur Police Station, said the gang picked up the girl, a class X student of Daulatpur Kalia

Public High School, while she was returning home from the school.

Failing to know his daughter's whereabouts, victim's father lodged a case with the police station on February 26, added the OC.

Acting on a tip-off, a police team raided a house at Natuabari village and rescued the girl from there. Police also detained three alleged abductors, Rabiuzzal, Abdur Rahman and Ayub Ali of the village, from the spot.

Our Moulvibazar correspondent reported that, police recovered the body of a 14-year-old boy in Rajnagar upazila on Friday, 20 hours after his abduction.

Police said criminals picked up Sheikh Raihan Ahmed, 14, son of Saliur

Rahman, from near his house at Kharpara village around 11:00pm on Thursday.

Locals spotted Raihan's body on a paddy field and informed the police on Friday evening. Police recovered the body and sent it to the hospital morgue for autopsy.

Contacted, Md Shamsuddoha, officer in-charge of Rajnagar Police Station, said following a case filed by the victim's father, police arrested Javed Mia, 22, and Rubel Mia, 23, from Uttaisar village of the upazila.

According to their statements, police later recovered Raihan's bicycle and mobile phone set from a place in the area, the OC added.



PHOTO: STAR
Criminals vandalised this idol of Sri Sri Mongalchondi temple in Bhunbir union of Sreemangal upazila under Moulvibazar district early yesterday.

Girl gang-raped in Bagerhat, one held

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bagerhat

A 17-year-old girl was raped by four youths at Gourambha village in Rampal upazila on Friday.

Police arrested one Selim Mollah, 24, son of Amanat Mollah of the village, for his alleged involvement in the incident.

Police said one Nayan of the village developed a relationship with the girl of Batiaghata upazila in Khulna district over mobile phone.

At the invitation of Nayan, the girl came to Bhandercourt area in Rampal on Friday afternoon.

When the girl along with Nayan and his friend Pradip was returning to Gourambha village from the area, Selim and his three accomplices--Lokman, Babul and Sentu-- waylaid them. In the face of threat by the gang, Nayan and Pradip left the scene.

Later, the gang forcibly took the girl to a nearby garden of one Julfikar Ali Hazi of the village and violated her.

Hearing screams, locals rushed to the spot, rescued the girl and caught Selim. However, his accomplices managed to flee the scene.

Selim was later handed over to police, said Mohammad Shah Alam, sub-inspector of Rampal Police Station.

The victim filed a case, accusing Selim, Lokman, Babul and Sentu under Women and Children Repression Prevention Act, said the SI.

Yesterday, the girl was sent to Bagerhat Sadar Hospital for medical test, he said.

Our Ranpur correspondent adds: A housewife allegedly committed suicide at Paikpara village in Badarganj upazila of the district on Friday.

The deceased was identified as Jesmin Akhter, 21, wife of Saidul Islam of the village.

Family sources said Saidul often tortured Jesmin as she protested her husband's extramarital affair with a woman of the village.

Following an altercation with her husband over the issue on Friday night, Jesmin took her life by hanging herself from the ceiling of her room.

An unnatural death case was filed with Badarganj Police Station, said Md Aminul Islam, officer-in-charge of the police station.

Clash over cricket match, 5 hurt

UNB, Kushtia

Five people were injured in a clash between two groups of villagers over playing a cricket match at Pateldanghi village in Khoksa upazila yesterday.

Police said supporters of local ward commissioner Amanur Rahman and Fazlur Rahman of the area locked in an altercation over playing a cricket match on Friday afternoon.

At one stage, chase and counter chase

took place that left one Amanur's supporter hurt.

As a sequel to the incident, Amanur's supporters attacked the houses of their rivals prompting them to retaliate.

Five people were injured in the clash. Of them, Akkas Ali, 70, Mukta Parvin, 30, and Mizanur Rahman, 25, were admitted to Khoksa Upazila Health Complex.

On information, police went to the spot and brought the situation under control.



PHOTO: STAR
Teachers and students of Muslim Girls' School and College in Mymensingh bring out a colourful procession in the town yesterday, celebrating the institution's selection as the 'Best Digital Educational Institution' in Dhaka division recently.

শাখা স্থানান্তর

সোনালী ব্যাংক লিমিটেড, নতুন বাজার শাখা, চাঁদপুর কুমিল্লা রোডস্থ মিয়া ম্যানশন এর পুরাতন ভবন হতে চাঁদপুর পৌরসভাভবীন শহীদ মুক্তিযোদ্ধা সড়কস্থ জনাব মোঃ জামাল হোসেন, হোল্ডিং নং-২১৭/২১৯ এর নতুন ভবনে স্থানান্তরিত হয়ে অদ্য ১ মার্চ ২০১৫ হতে ব্যাংকিং কার্যক্রম শুরু করতে যাচ্ছে।

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