



The Daily Star

SECOND EDITION

www.thedailystar.net

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24 PAGES PLUS STAR LIFESTYLE PRICE : Tk 12.00

REGD. NO. DA 781 | VOL. XXV No. 49 | FALGUN 19, 1421 BS | JAMADIUL AWAL 10, 1436 HIJRI



WITH TODAY'S ISSUE
LIFE
style



THE DECEPTION

Traders cash in on higher transport cost, as farmers, consumers pay heavy price

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THE UKRAINE CRISIS

Kerry and Lavrov hold talks in Geneva as death toll soars past 6,000

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AVIJIT MURDER

Key suspect arrested

Rab detains Farabi at Jatrabari

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shafur Rahman Farabi, who had issued repeated death threats to writer-blogger Avijit Roy, was arrested by the Rab in the capital's Jatrabari area early yesterday.

Known in the social media and blogsphere for his vitriolic campaigns against progressive and free-thinking bloggers, Farabi is the key suspect in the Avijit murder, the elite-crime buster said.

Avijit's father too alleged that Farabi had been threatening his son for the last one and a half years, said Rab officials.

A Rab team arrested the 29-year-old around 5:30am at Jatrabari Bus Terminal when he was about to leave for Chittagong, said Mufti Mahmud Khan, director of Rab's legal and media wing, at a briefing later in the day.

He was detained twice before -- in 2010 for vandalism on Chittagong University campus and in 2013 for issuing death threat to the imam who conducted namaz-e-janaza of Rajib Haider, a blogger chopped to



death in Mirpur on February 15 the same year.

He was indicted under the ICT act following his arrest on February 24, 2013. But he came out on bail after about six months and started to incite killing of free-thinking bloggers.

Farabi again came to the fore

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1 Farabi Shafiur Rahman মাল্লান রাহী অভিজিৎ রায় আমেরিকা থাকে। তাই তাকে এখন হত্যা করা সম্ভব না। তবে সে যখন দেশে আসবে তখন তাকে হত্যা করা হবে।
February 9, 2014 at 10:28pm · Like · 5

Farabi Shafiur Rahman March 15
নতুন কিছু নাই। অভিজিৎ রায়ের বই গুলি সব খুস্টান মিশনারিদের দ্বারা পরিচালিত ওয়েবসাইট থেকে কপিপেস্ট করা। আনসারিং ইসলাম এই ওয়েবসাইটের লেখাগুলি চুরি করে তারপর বাংলা অনুবাদ করে অভিজিৎ রায় তার নিজের নামে চালিয়ে দিচ্ছে। যাইহোক এই রকমারি ভট কম ওয়েবসাইট টা হল অন্যরকম ফ্রন্টের একটি sister concern। এই রকমারি ওয়েবসাইটের অফিসের ঠিকানাটা হল
2/2 E,Arambag
Motijheel, Dhaka-1000
Phone: 16297. 015 1952 1971

3 Farabi Shafiur Rahman Sanuwar Rashid Taskin Haque এটা হচ্ছে অভিজিৎ রায়ের ফেইসবুক আইডি www.facebook.com/Avijit.Roy.MuktoMona এই অভিজিৎ রায় আমেরিকা থাকে। তবে সে বুয়েট থেকে পাস করা ইঞ্জিনিয়ার। যারা আমেরিকায় থাকেন তারা তার ব্যাপারে খোজ খবর লাগান।

Farabi Shafiur Rahman এটাই হল অভিজিৎ রায় তার স্ত্রী বণ্যা আহমেদ ও তার মেয়ের ছবি। এরা সব আমেরিকার Louisiana প্রদেশের New Orleans city তে থাকে।



January 28, 2014 at 7:30am · Edited · Like · 4

Face of a hate campaigner

M ABUL KALAM AZAD

Shafiur Rahman Farabi is a religious extremist who has been rather open about his business. His numerous postings online show his main mission is to identify free-thinking bloggers and hound them on social media platforms.

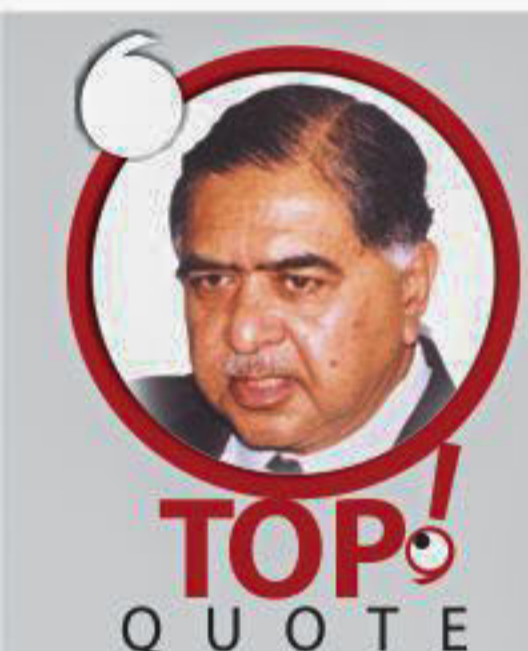
This is exactly what happened in the case of slain writer-blogger Avijit Roy. Farabi became a Facebook friend of Avijit about five years ago. Later, he started reading Avijit's blog, Mukto-Mona, and came to learn about his views on religion and science.

Farabi has been "very active" in spreading fanatic ideologies online since he joined the Hizb ut-Tahrir in 2010, a year after the militant outfit was banned, when he was

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IMAGE: SCREENSHOT

1. Farabi tells a Facebook friend that Avijit lives in America. So it won't be possible to kill him now. But he will be killed once he returns.
2. This post is part of his campaign against Rokomari.com, an online book store that had to remove Avijit's books from its list following his threats. Farabi also accused Avijit of copying materials from websites run by Christian missionaries.
3. Farabi gives his friends the Facebook ID of Avijit and asks those living in America to enquire about the writer.
4. Posting a photo of Avijit with wife Bonya and daughter Trisha (blurred), Farabi says: "They live in New Orleans of Louisiana."



TOP QUOTE

"If political games are played with the law, it causes uncertainty and instability. This is the biggest hurdle to freeing [ourselves] from this abnormal situation."

DR KAMAL HOSSAIN AT A DISCUSSION YESTERDAY

HC questions legality of calling blockade

Issues rule on govt, 41 political parties to explain in 4 weeks why such political programme should not be declared illegal

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday issued a rule upon the government and all the 41 registered political parties including the Awami League and the BNP to explain in four weeks why calling blockade should not be declared illegal and unconstitutional.

Following a writ petition filed by the

country's top business bodies, the HC in its rule also asked the government to explain why its inaction to impose reasonable restrictions on calling hartal and blockade should not be declared unlawful.

It ordered the government and the political parties to explain why calling hartal without any prior notice would not be

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Khaleda may not appear before court tomorrow

UNB, Dhaka

Although there is a warrant out for her arrest from a Dhaka court, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia is unlikely to appear before it tomorrow to seek bail in Zia orphanage and Zia charitable trust fund graft cases.

"The BNP chief won't appear before the Dhaka court for security reasons.

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Modi 'eagerly waiting' to visit Dhaka

Says in a letter to Hasina; 2 foreign secys discuss Teesta, land boundary; Dhaka sees 'major change' in India's foreign policy

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi has written to his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina that he is "eagerly waiting" to visit Dhaka.

In her instant reply, Hasina said she was "keenly waiting" to welcome Modi, Hasina's Press Secretary AKM Shameem Chowdhuri told reporters yesterday.

Indian Foreign Secretary Dr Subramanyam Jaishankar, who arrived in Dhaka yesterday morning for less than a 24-hour visit, handed over Modi's letter to Hasina when he called on her at her parliament office.

Modi's letter is considered highly significant in the context of the current political turmoil in Bangladesh.

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Arsonists become desperate

Vehicles, AL offices torched, vandalised

STAR REPORT

Incidents of vandalism and arson increased in the last few days across the country, with attackers in groups pouncing on vehicles in broad daylight and disappearing fast.

The capital saw two such incidents yesterday, the second day of the BNP-led alliance's 72-hour country-wide hartal and the 58th day of indefinite blockade.

A group of about eight youths vandalised five vehicles with cricket stumps and torched a private car near the Aarong outlet in Hatirjheel area around 4:00pm, said witnesses.

Around the same time, some 12 pickets damaged and torched two private cars in front of Hotel 71 in Bijoy Nagar.

Emerging from a nearby alley, the attackers intercepted the cars and blasted a crude bomb.

As the passengers got off the cars, the pickets vandalised the vehicles, set those on fire and left the scene. Fire fighters later doused the flames.

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Suspected pickets vandalise and torch cars in Hatirjheel area of the capital yesterday morning during the opposition's 72-hour hartal.

PHOTO: COLLECTED



Sudden attacks raise alarm

PM, ministers discuss rise of subversive activities, huge arms recovery, Avijit killing; joint drive wherever arson attacks take place

PARTHA PRATIM BHATTACHARJEE

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday asked ministers to remain alert to the sudden rise in subversive activities and vandalism.

Hasina said this during an unscheduled discussion following the formal cabinet meeting when ministers expressed their concern over the marked increase in arson attacks and violence over the last three days across the country.

The ministers said they were also worried over the recovery of huge caches of explosives from Chittagong, and the killing of writer-blogger Avijit Roy, according to sources.

Some ministers during the discussion stressed the need for strengthening monitoring by intelligence agencies and launching joint operations to recover more explosives.

The PM said that Avijit Roy's killing was preplanned and related to the attack on eminent writer Humayun Azad, sources said.

Over the last three days, arson attacks in the capital saw a sudden rise with attackers disappearing soon after hurling bombs.

Vehicles were torched in this manner in front of Desh TV office at Mouchak on Saturday night, under the Gulishtan floyer on Sunday and at Hatirjheel yesterday.

All the attacks were carried out in merely three to five minutes, during which time some youths first blasted crude bombs to create panic, then vandalised vehicles with rods, set them on fire and disappeared very quickly.

According to a CCTV footage broadcast on Desh TV on Saturday, it was seen that around 20 people took position about an hour before conducting the attacks in front of the television channel's office.

Meanwhile, the Prime Minister's Office (PMO), in a letter, directed the home ministry to conduct immediate

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9 officials promoted to secretary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The government has promoted nine additional secretaries to the rank of secretary.

The public administration ministry yesterday issued a gazette notification in this regard. The officers were posted to different ministries and divisions as acting secretary before their promotion.

According to the gazette notification, MA Hannan, acting secretary to the liberation war affairs ministry, has been made secretary to the ministry while Nazrul Islam, acting secretary to the Cabinet Division, and Shyam Sundor Shikdar, acting secretary to the ICT Division, have been made secretaries to their respective divisions.

Besides, Shahidullah Khandokar, acting secretary to the Implementation Monitoring and Evaluation Division, and Mohammad Shafikul Azam, acting secretary to the Planning Division, have been made secretaries to their respective divisions.

Humayun Khalid and Arastu Khan, acting members of the Planning Commission, have been made members of the commission.

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