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 PAGE 14



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BLOGGER MURDER

14 wounds

Killers were gone in 10 minutes

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A four-inch wound gaped from below the chin to the right ear and a three-inch wound in the right side of his head. Another gaping wound was deep in the back of his neck. His chin and hands were severely wounded too.

This was how a police inquest report described the wounds to the body of Niladri Chattopadhyay Niloy, 28, who was hacked to death by four assailants inside his flat in the capital's Goran on Friday afternoon.

There were eight wounds to the upper part of his body, excluding several others to both of his hands. The ones to the upper part were three to four inches wide and two to two-and-a-half inches deep, according to Dhaka Medical College (DMC) morgue sources.

A test at the DMC's forensic department says he was hacked 14 times in a brutal manner, which has many similarities with the murders of other bloggers. US, UK CONDEMN -- PAGE 16 SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



Asha Moni breaks into tears as a family friend yesterday took her to a 'safer place' from her Goran house where her blogger husband Niladri Chattopadhyay Niloy was brutally killed a day ago. PHOTO: COLLECTED

Which religion they're protecting?

Asks PM, warns against abuse of religious sentiment

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday warned that the government would not allow anyone in Bangladesh to do politics over people's religious sentiment.



"At least, this can't be done in Bangladesh... we won't allow this to happen," she told a function in the capital's Osmani Memorial Auditorium.

The women and children affairs ministry organised the programme to mark the 85th birth anniversary of Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib, wife of Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

The PM said various incidents are happening now in the country and the government is tackling those. "At least our government is not sitting idle."

The wave of terrorism and militancy that spread to different parts of the world had also hit Bangladesh, she noted. "We're trying to check those incidents with an iron hand."

Hasina said 90 percent people in

SEE PAGE 2 COL 6

COMMENTARY

Resist "Thought Prisons"

How many more murders will galvanise us into action?

MAHFUZ ANAM

The killers are doing their work. Are we doing ours? Need we answer?

With each blogger's murder, Bangladesh's founding ideals of being a country of freedom, rights, and creativity for a multi-religious, multi-ethnic and multi-cultural people are being eroded, weakened, and brought closer to being destroyed. This is no longer a question of government, party or ideological leanings. It is a question of survival of the Bangladesh our martyrs had laid down their lives for and those of us who work for it today dream for.

Collectively, we all--the government, the intellectuals, the civil society, the media, etc-- are failing our country and our people. If the war criminals, now being prosecuted and punished, tried to destroy us at birth, the blogger-killers are trying to destroy us now. However the unity, determination and strength with which we fought our enemies then are totally absent now. The present assault on our existence is far more insidious and difficult to fight against as we are divided and the 'enemy' is far more difficult to identify. There is only one way to defeat this 'second' attack on our Mukti Juddho and that is to really forget all our differences and take the plunge to destroy this threat as soon as possible.


The government's lack of commitment exemplified by its law enforcement agencies is shameful to say the least. The performance of police has been abysmal to put it mildly. Except in the case of Ahmed Rajiv Haider, the first blogger to be killed in February, 2013, in no other instances-- Avijit Roy, Oyasiqur Rahman, Ananta Bijoy Das and now of Niladri Chattopadhyay, --can the police claim any credible progress.

SEE PAGE 2 COL 1

TOP! QUOTE

"How long will our law enforcement agencies be asleep? ... How long will they keep looking on as bloggers get killed one after

NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION CHAIRMAN **MIZANUR RAHMAN** ON THE RECENT KILLINGS OF BLOGGERS



PART - 1

It has always been mutual: Malaysia needs workers, and Bangladesh has plenty of them. That's why, Malaysia, after Saudi Arabia, has become the second most sought-after destination for Bangladeshi jobseekers. Given this, a transparent system for labour recruitment could have dismantled the human trafficking chain and also save the lives of hundreds of migrant workers. But why the two countries have so far failed to devise one such mechanism? In the first part of a three-part series, The Daily Star focuses on the elements in both the countries that push for the murky system in order to rake in money.

JOBS IN MALAYSIA

Govt initiative made to fail?

PORIMOL PALMA

The government-to-government (G2G) labour recruitment system between Bangladesh and Malaysia was made to fail.

Ever since the G2G became operational, private sector agents in Malaysia lobbied against it and convinced the Malaysian government officials to scrap this reliable and worker-friendly system, according to insiders.

As a result, Malaysia recruited only around 10,000 workers from Bangladesh since 2012 when the two governments signed the G2G deal, whereas over 4 lakh Bangladeshis went to the Southeast Asian country in 2007-08 alone through the private sector, popularly known as the business-to-business (B2B) system.

Eventually, their efforts paid off as the two countries in June decided to revert to

SEE PAGE 2 COL 3



Bangladeshi jobseekers in a detention centre in Malaysia after being rescued from the sea in May. PHOTO: FILE

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