

It took 16 years for court to find a man innocent

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Shipon Mia, who had languished in jail for 16 years in a murder case, finally has been acquitted by a Dhaka court.

Paribesh Adalat (the Environment Court) of Dhaka on May 3 delivered the verdict after examining the documents and evidences of the case.

On November 8 last year, the HC bench of Justice M Enayetur Rahim and Justice JBM Hassan on a suomoto order granted bail to Shipon and directed the trial court to finish the case in 60 days after receiving the order. Shipon was released from Kashipur Jail-2 on November 15 last year.

In 1994, a man was killed in a clash between two groups at Sutrapur in the capital. Victim's relatives filed a case where Shipon was made an accused. Police arrested Shipon in 2000 and a court sent him to jail later.



Students, cultural activists, journalists and civil society members under the banner of "Hok Protibad" demand exemplary punishment for all the rapists, especially of the two university students who were allegedly raped in the capital's Banani recently, at a human chain in front of Jatiya Press Club in the capital yesterday. Right, Gonojagoron Mancha does the same at Shahbagh, with a participant holding a symbolic noose demanding death penalty for rapists.

PHOTO: STAR



NEWS IN brief

DU pro-AL teachers panel divided ahead of senate polls

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Awami League-backed "Blue" panel has submitted two panels for the Dhaka University senate polls scheduled for May 22.

"Blue" panel convener Prof Najma Shaheen submitted a panel, while Dhaka University Teachers' Association (Duta) President Prof ASM Maksud Kamal submitted the other.

BNP-Jamaat backed "White" panel also submitted its panel yesterday, said the panel's convener Prof Akhter Hossain Khan.

The election of 35-member teachers' representation to the DU senate will be held at Nabab Nawab Ali Chowdhury Senate Bhaban from 9:00am to 2:00pm.

RU reunion in Dhaka today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rajshahi University (RU) is going to organise the first ever reunion of its former students and teachers at International Convention City Bashundhara (ICCB) in the capital today.

Registration process will begin from 9:00am at ICCB, near Kuril Bishwa Road, said a press release.

Earlier on Thursday, the organisers made a declaration of the programme at a press briefing at Dhaka Club, where former RU students, including lawmaker Mir Shawkat Ali and Abdul Wadud, spoke.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 11th death anniversary of Tofail Ahmed Chowdhury, a founder and former principal of Tejgaon College.

A milad and doa mahfil will be held this afternoon after the Asr prayers at the college mosque.

Teachers, students and college staff and Tofail's former colleagues are requested to attend the programme, jointly organised by the college's Teachers Council and Tofail Ahmed Chowdhury Memorial Trust.



Tofail Ahmed

Dhaka urges Brussels to reopen its embassy

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka has urged Brussels to reopen its embassy in Dhaka soon so that the two countries can engage in broader economic activities.

Expressing gratitude for Belgium's support during the 1971 Liberation War, Law Minister Anisul Huq, who is now visiting Brussels, made the request during his meeting with Belgium Deputy Prime Minister Didier Reynders at the Ministry of Federal Public Service for Foreign Affairs on Wednesday.

Belgium closed its embassy in Dhaka in 1990.

Tied and tortured

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Patuakhali

All she had was the 60 decimals of land to call her own.

Kanon Bala, 50, a widow, lived there with her son and daughter-in-law at Purbo Alipur village under Dashmina upazila in Patuakhali.

The son worked as a night guard and the wife a cleaner. Life went on for the family amid hope of a better one.

But everything changed on Monday. Around 7:30am, a gang of land grabbers, led by one Abul Hossain, an influential local, came to her land and started building a house there.

When she tried to protest, they tied her legs and hands with ropes and beat her mercilessly. At one point, they forcibly took off her clothes and continued beating her.

She was later rescued by locals and police. She is undergoing treatment at Patuakhali General Hospital.

Her son filed a case with Dashmina Police Station on Thursday accusing 14 persons, including Abul Hossain. No one was arrested till filling of the report yesterday.

"We got the land from the government as a landless family," said Asim, her son.

He said Abul Hossain tried to grab the

land, claiming that it belonged to him. "My wife and I were at work on Monday. Abul Hossain along with 18/20 persons came to our land and started building a house there."

"When my mother tried to resist them, they beat her brutally, tying her legs and hands," he said.

Kanon Bala said, "They not only tortured me, but also forcibly took my clothes off."

Asim also alleged that when he was taking his mother to the upazila health complex some of the land grabbers tried to stop them. "Later at night, I took her to Patuakhali General Hospital," he said.

Hiron Chandra, assistant sub-inspector of Dashmina Police Station, said, "When we rescued Kanon Bala, her body was covered with nothing but a scarf."

He said he stopped the construction work, but "the grabbers fled the scene."

Contacted, Abul Hossain said, "The land belongs to me. I bought it." But he could not show any valid documents in this regard.

"An investigation is underway," said Eunus Ali, officer-in-charge of Dashmina Police Station.

Saheb Ali Pathan, additional police superintendent of Patuakhali, said, "We are taking necessary steps to arrest the accused."

Blogger Ananta murder indictment hearing May 23

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

A Sylhet court will hear charges for indicting the accused of the blogger Ananta Bijoy Das murder case on May 23, two weeks after the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) of police submitted the charge sheet on May 9.

The Sylhet Metropolitan Sessions Judge accepted the charges against six persons - Shafiqur Rahman Farabi, 30, Mannan Yahya alias Mannan Rahi, 24, Abul Khayer Rashid Ahmed, 24, Abul Hossain, 25, Harunur Rashid, 25, and Faisal Ahmed, 27.

After the murder of Ananta on May 12, 2015, militant outfit Ansarullah Bangla Team claimed responsibility online.

Ananta's brother Ratneswar Das filed a murder case accusing unnamed people with Sylhet Airport Police Station the next day.

Mannan Rahi and Abul Khayer are students of the Shahjalal University of Science and Technology. Mannan confessed he along with Khayer and three others hacked the blogger for his write-ups "promoting freethinking".

Farabi, Rahi, and Abul Khayer are in jail, and the remaining three on the run.

On the occasion, bloggers, theatre, and social online activists yesterday paid tributes at the memorial of Ananta, built on the place where he was killed, in Sylhet city.

Shab-e-Barat

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special prayers, arranged milad and other religious rituals seeking divine blessings for the wellbeing of mankind.

President Abdul Hamid and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the occasion.

Injury scheme for workers soon: PM

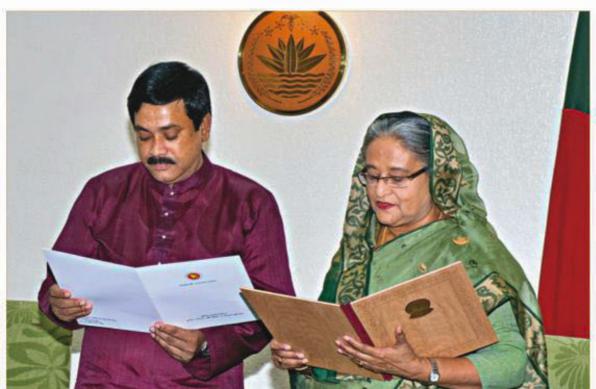
UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Thursday said her government is going to introduce a long-term and sustainable employment injury scheme soon to ensure better benefits and support for workers.

Hasina was addressing a programme marking the distribution of cheques of financial assistance among 64 people, including successors of the deceased workers and their meritorious children studying in medical, engineering and agriculture disciplines, from the fund of Bangladesh Workers Welfare Foundation at her office.

She said representatives of the government, owners and workers have already made a visit to Germany to know about the employment injury scheme and they have gained practical knowledge. "We want to introduce this in Bangladesh very soon, and if it happens, the workers will get more support. I hope owners, workers and the organisations concerned will work sincerely to this end."

She said there is a provision in the Bangladesh Labour Act to provide proper compensation to the deceased workers if they die in accidents or from occupational diseases, and if they lose their working capacity.



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina administers oath to newly-elected Comilla City Corporation Mayor Monirul Hoque Shakoo, a BNP leader, at her office in Dhaka on Thursday.

PHOTO: BSS



Newly elected Chairman of UCB Mrs. Rukhmila Zaman, Vice-Chairman Hajee Yunus Ahmed, Executive Committee Chairman Mr. Anisuzzaman Chowdhury, and Audit Committee Chairman Mr. Akhter Matin Chaudhury. (From left to right)

United Commercial Bank Limited elects Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Executive Committee Chairman and Audit Committee Chairman

Young women entrepreneur and Managing Director of Aramit Group Mrs. Rukhmila Zaman has been unanimously elected as the Chairman of United Commercial Bank Limited in an emergent board meeting after the 34th Annual General Meeting held on 11 May, 2017 at the corporate

office of UCB. Notable industrialist, one of the sponsor directors of UCB, Chairman of Yunusco Group Hajee Yunus Ahmed has been elected as Vice-Chairman of UCB.

Mr. Anisuzzaman Chowdhury, has been elected as Executive

Committee Chairman of the Bank. He is also the Director of Ronny Chemical Industries Ltd.

Mr. Akhter Matin Chaudhury, FCA, FCS, independent director of UCB has been re-elected as the Chairman of Audit Committee.

United Commercial Bank Limited is one of the finest private commercial banks of the country with the prudent leadership of its far-sighted Board of Directors.

দোয়া মাহফিল



গত ৯ মে আমাদের জ্যেষ্ঠ কন্যা আফরিদা আহমেদ'র নামাজ-ই-জানাযায় (উত্তরা মসজিদ ও গুলশান আজাদ মসজিদ) অংশ গ্রহণকারী মাননীয় মন্ত্রী, মেয়র, এম.পি, উচ্চ পদস্থ সরকারী-বেসরকারী কর্মকর্তা এবং এফবিসিসিআই, ডিসিসিআই, এমসিসিআই, লায়নস ক্লাবস ইন্টারন্যাশনাল, বেসরকারী বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় সমিতি, রয়ামন্ড গ্রুপ, বৃহত্তর কুমিল্লা সমিতি, চাঁদপুর জেলা সমিতি, মতলব সূরী সমাজ, নর্থ সাউথ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় ট্রাষ্টি বোর্ড-শিক্ষক-কর্মকর্তা-শিক্ষার্থীদের প্রতি বিশেষভাবে কৃতজ্ঞ।

এছাড়া ব্যক্তিগতভাবে সহানুভূতি জানানোর জন্য সকল আত্মীয়-স্বজন বন্ধু-বান্ধব ও শুভানুধ্যায়ীর প্রতি আমরা বিশেষভাবে কৃতজ্ঞতা জানাচ্ছি।

আজ শনিবার ১৩ মে ২০১৭ গুলশান আজাদ মসজিদে বাদ আসর মরহুমার রুহের মাগফেরাত কামনা করে দোয়া অনুষ্ঠিত হবে।

বিনীত

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