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Political activities banned at Buet

19 accused of Abrar killing suspended from university; students vow to continue demo until all demands are met; 2 more accused held



Buet authorities will open a website in which students will be able to share their experiences of ragging, torture and harassment. The Directorate of Students' Welfare will receive the complaints from the website.

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Buet authorities yesterday banned all political activities on the campus and suspended 19 students, mostly leaders of the university's BCL unit, accused in Abrar Fahad killing case.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Saiful Islam made the announcement amid student protests over the gruesome murder last week.

At a meeting with the agitating students, the VC also said they were working to launch a dedicated website for posting complaints about ragging and other forms of torture on the campus.

Later in the day, the protesters, however, said they will continue demonstrations until all their demands are met.

They also threatened that they will not allow the Buet authorities to hold the admission tests on Monday unless security

is ensured for all students on the campus by then.

Meanwhile, detectives arrested two more accused in the case in Sylhet and Satkhira yesterday. With them, 18 people have been held over the murder.

Abrar, a second-year student of Buet's electrical and electronic engineering department, was beaten to death by a group of Chhatra League leaders at the university's Sher-e-Bangla Hall between 7:00pm Sunday and 2:30am on Monday.

Doctors said Abrar died from "internal bleeding and excessive pain".

The incident triggered a firestorm of protests on university campuses across the country. Many took to the social media to demand justice for Abrar.

Law enforcers suspect Abrar was attacked because of one of his recent Facebook

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Buet students bring out a procession on the campus yesterday, demanding justice for fellow student Abrar Fahad. Inset, protesters stage a sit-in near the main entrance to the university.

PHOTO: ANISUR RAHMAN

HRW slates Abrar killing

Urges govt to ensure impartial investigation

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

Buet student Abrar Fahad's killing reflects a deeper failing by the Bangladesh government to bring those responsible for politically motivated abuses to justice, says Human Rights Watch.

"A government that ignores torture, enforced disappearances, extrajudicial killings by security forces, and arbitrary arrests over dissent begets a culture where students can run a "torture cell" on a university campus," said Brad Adams, Asia director of HRW, in a statement yesterday.

Bangladesh authorities should ensure a thorough, impartial, and transparent investigation into Abrar murder, and hold all those responsible to account, he said.

On October 6, Abrar, 21, was summoned from his dorm room at the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (Buet) to

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HORRIFIC accounts of cruelty

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Meftahul Islam Zion, a key accused in Buet student Abrar Fahad murder case, yesterday told a magistrate how Abrar was beaten to death with cricket stumps and skipping rope by him and some other Chhatra League leaders and activists.

Zion, sports secretary of Buet Chhatra League, and a batch-15 student of naval architecture and marine engineering department, confessed to the magistrate that he himself beat up Abrar with a cricket stump, said sources involved in the investigation.

The attackers pressed Abrar to give them the names of Buet students involved in politics of Chhatra Shibir.

At one stage of non-stop beating, Abrar fell sick and lied down on the floor of room-2011 at Sher-e-Bangla Hall. But the BCL men pulled him up and started assaulting him again, the sources quoted Zion and Ifthi Mosharrif Shakal as saying in their confessional statements to two magistrates.

Shakal, deputy social welfare secretary of Buet BCL, gave his statement to another magistrate on Thursday.

Facing torture for a few hours, Abrar started vomiting. He threw up thrice before becoming motionless.

Among the attackers, Buet BCL Information and Research Secretary Anik Sarkar hit Abrar the most. He indiscriminately struck Abrar with a stump in his knees, legs, soles of feet and arms.

Failing to endure the torture, Abrar randomly mentioned some names.

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Abrar Fahad

JUBO LEAGUE PRESIDIUM Demand for change in leadership

Office secretary expelled over graft allegation

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jubo League presidium yesterday called for a change in the leadership, alleging that many of its leaders had been using the organisation for their personal gains.

The demand came at a presidium meeting held at the organisation's central office in the capital's Bangabandhu Avenue.

"Most of the presidium members at the meeting said many leaders are considering Jubo League as their ancestral property," a presidium member of the organisation told The Daily Star after the meeting.

The meeting also discussed bringing fresh blood in Jubo League leadership through the upcoming central council scheduled to be held on November 23, he said.

The last council of Jubo League was held in 2012.

During the meeting, the ruling party-backed organisation also expelled its central office Secretary Kazi Anisur Rahman over corruption allegation, said ABM Amjad Hossain, another presidium member of Jubo League.

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Rab arrests DNCC councillor Mizan

About Tk 8cr in cheques, FDR seized from his residence; illegal pistol also found

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Rab recovered Tk 1 crore in fixed deposit receipts and Tk 6.77 crore in cheques from Ward Councillor Habibur Rahman Mizan's flat in the capital's Muhammadpur yesterday evening, hours after he was arrested in Sreemangal.

The Awami League leader and councillor of ward-32 of Dhaka North City Corporation was arrested in the morning at his friend's house in Sreemangal.

Rab officers found an unlicensed pistol, four bullets and Tk 2 lakh in his possession, said Executive Magistrate Sarwar Alam.

Sensing that the law enforcers would be coming after him, Mizan was about to flee the country through Sylhet, he said.

Taking him along, Rab started searching his flat on Aurangzeb Road around 3:30pm and continued for nearly four hours.

Officers are also looking for a stash of Tk 68 lakh Mizan had withdrawn from a bank on Thursday.

"He reportedly owns property in Texas, USA. We are verifying the information" Sarwar told reporters after searching Mizan's flat.

Mizan owned no business and had no job in the last 15 years. His only legitimate source of income is a monthly allowance of TK 36,000 he has been receiving as a councillor, Sarwar said.

Officers are also checking whether he had involvement in the Freedom Party and was an accused in a case filed over an attempted murder of Sheikh Hasina, he said.

Besides, there are numerous allegations of extortion and drug dealing against him.

For now, he would be accused in two separate cases of money laundering and arms possession, Sarwar told reporters.

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Ethiopia PM wins Nobel Peace Prize

Awarded for ending Eritrea standoff

AFP, Oslo

Hailed as a visionary and reformer, Ethiopian Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed yesterday won the Nobel Peace Prize for his efforts to resolve the long-running conflict with neighbouring foe Eritrea.

Abiy was honoured "for his efforts to achieve peace and international cooperation, and in particular for his decisive initiative to resolve the border conflict with neighbouring Eritrea," the Nobel Committee said.

The award is seen as a welcome boost for Africa's youngest leader as he faces worrying inter-community

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In Loving Memory of
Rear Admiral M. H. Khan
Former Chief of the Naval Staff
Bangladesh Navy.

On his 1st Death Anniversary
He breathed his last on 13th October 2018

We request all Colleagues, well wisher, friends
and relatives to pray for the salvation and
eternal peace for his departed soul.

May Almighty Allah grant him Jannah.

Begum M. H. Khan
Son Maruf & Grandsons Musavvir & Muazzam.