Madrasa boy dies a day after beating by teacher

OUR CORRESPONDENT, MADARIPUR

Wednesday, a day after he was beaten mercilessly by one of his teachers in Sadar upazila of Madaripur.

The 11-year-old Asif Matabbar, son of Anwar Matabbar of Sreenodi in the upazila, was a residential student of class-II in Gachbaria Jamia Karimia

Quoting the victim's family members, police said Asif was allegedly beaten by his teacher Yusuf Ali on Sunday as he refused to comply with Yusuf's order.

"A 500 taka note fell from the pocket of Yusuf and he ordered Asif to pick that up. As the boy refused to do so, the teacher beat him," said Saugatul Alam, officer-in-charge (OC) of Sadar Thana.

Asif's parents took him back to the madrasa on Tuesday. After they left, Yusuf started beating him again, and at one point the boy lost consciousness, said the OC.

around 5:00pm saying the boy took poison, he said, adding that Asif died in the hospital at 6:30pm on Wednesday.

Medical Officer Akhil Sarkar said the victim had marks of torture all over his body and he might have had some internal injuries.

death surged into an uproar as locals in the community rushed to the hospital and protested the incident, police said.

They caught madrasa teacher Abul Hasan Khan, who brought Asif to the hospital, and handed him over to the police. Yusuf Ali is on the run.

The victim's father Anwar demanded justice for his son saying: "Yusuf killed my son and I want justice!"

Salma Begum, the victim's mother, has been in tremendous shock since the incident.

Asif was their only child since their eldest son had died of cancer several years back.

OC Saugatul said thy sent the body to Madaripur General Hospital morgue for an autopsy. No case was filed regarding this till the filing of

Condemning the incident, recommended the authorities concerned to take swift actions against the culprit involved in the

to contact the superintendent of the madrasa over phone for comments but found his phone switched off.

this year will be a screening of "Hasina: A Daughter's Tale". Like in previous years, the festival

will feature a number of panel sessions dedicated to freedom of expression and women's rights. It will also be the venue for the Gemcon Literary Awards, which will be hosted

Sadaf Saaz, the director of Dhaka Lit Fest, in her welcome address, expressed her passion for the literary world. "Books, stories and poetry

"Literary festivals seem very relevant and important today, to hope that Dhaka Lit Fest is a place for making a huge range of perspectives

with respect and tolerance." Co-director, Kazi Anis Ahmed at the event said, "Dhaka Lit Fest is where fiction meets science, science meets poetry, poetry meets art and art

"At the Dhaka Lit Fest, we ask is not about finding one answer, rather we work on appreciating and celebrating different ideas."

Ahsan Akbar, another co-director, said, "In the time of digitalisation, where online platforms are easy to

access, we still hold the festival where people have to come physically. We have witnessed every time a crisis strikes, the power of crowd has played a great role," he said." Monica Ali was also present

excited, honoured and grateful to be here today. When I left Dhaka in 1971, I was only three-and-half years old. Although Bangla was absent in my life, but in musical records, in television, newspaper and in literature it was present in my life," she recalled. "It's good to be back here, and attending the literary

The director general of Bangla M Khalid MP, along with the three

directors and Monica Ali, officially inaugurated the Dhaka Lit Fest 2019. Over 200 local and international literary figures, performers and

attend the three-day literary festival

Khoka laid to rest

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Committee members Mirza Abbas Hossain Khoka to join his janaza. and Iqbal Hasan Mahmud Tuku received the body while a number of leaders and activists of the party were present at the airport.

Later, the coffin of Khoka was taken to the South Plaza of Jatiya Sangsad where his first namaz-e-janaza was Current and former MPs, leaders of different political parties and the people from all walks of life breathe his last in his motherland. took part in the janaza.

From the parliament compound, Khoka's body was taken to Central Shaheed Minar and it was kept from 12pm-1:00pm enabling people of all walks of life to pay their last respect to the valiant freedom fighter.

From there, the body of Khoka was taken to BNP's Nayapaltan central office around 1:30pm and kept on a temporary stage in front of it where leaders and activists of the party paid their last respect.

activists from its different front and associate bodies gathered in Nayapaltan area and bid tearful adieu to their beloved leader.

Thousands of BNP leaders and

country) namaz-e-janaza was held in the area where thousands of party leaders and activists joined.

After the janaza, BNP Secretary General Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir along with party's senior leaders, Khandaker including Mosharraf Hossain, Mirza Abbas, Gayeshwar Chandra Roy, placed wreaths on Khoka's coffin on behalf of party Chairperson Khaleda Zia. They also draped the coffin with a party flag showing respect to the late leader.

In a brief address prior to a Janaza, Fakhrul said, "We are here in front of

Doubts grow

Akram-Al-Hossain at the secretariat to

discuss the matter yesterday afternoon.

"We told them in the meeting that

we would boycott the exams unless

we can meet Prime Minister Sheikh

Hasina and tell her what our demands

are," Oikya Parishad Member Secretary

Samsuddin Masud told The Daily Star.

teachers have been protesting for

several years for 10th grade salary

for headteachers and 11th grade for

Currently, trained and untrained

Public hearings

headteachers get 11th and 12th grade

salaries while assistant teachers get

lawmakers from both parties and

trained staff question witnesses, many

of whom the White House has sought

Republican lawmakers have spent

weeks accusing Democrats of holding

"sham" secret hearings in the US

Capitol basement and demanding a

fast-moving inquiry had arrived, and

that Americans would be able to hear

the accounts of potential abuse of

The hearings will let the American

people "evaluate the witnesses for

themselves, to make their own

determinations about the credibility

of the witnesses, but also learn first-

hand about the facts of the president's

An anonymous whistleblower complaint

in September highlighted potential

abuse of power by the president when he

telephoned Ukraine's leader and asked

him to investigate former vice president

Joe Biden, Trump's potential 2020

launch their impeachment inquiry,

The complaint led Democrats to

were caught up in the scandal.

misconduct," Schiff said.

QUID PRO QUO

Schiff said that moment in the

Government primary school

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assistant teachers.

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to discredit.

more open process.

the beloved party office of Sadeque He had been out of the country for five years as he was subjected to the government's vengeance. The

outstanding role in liberating Bangladesh, he lamented that the valiant freedom fighter could not

that was created following the death of Khoka will never be filled.

Khoka's son Ishraque Hossain said his father was loyal to his party and its chairperson until his last breath.

make any compromise over bringing him back to the country. He told me don't do anything without the consent of Khaleda Zia and BNP as he didn't want anybody to call him collaborator for making any understanding with the government," Ishraque said.

Then Khoka's body was taken to his former office, which is now known as Dhaka South City Corporation Bhaban, for his third namaz-e-janaza. Later, his third (second in the His body was then taken to his

> Khoka passed away in the USA on Monday at the age of 68.

at Jamaica Muslim Center in New York. He had been suffering from kidney

his wife went to the USA in 2014 for

cancer since 2014. He along with

Ishraque Hossain, Isfaque Hossain and a host of relatives, followers and well-wishers to mourn his death.

'Robber' killed in 'gunfight' with cops

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A suspected robber was killed and three others were injured in a "gunfight" with law enforcers in Bhatara area of the capital yesterday. The dead was identified as Lavlu

Mia, 50, said police.

Tipped-off that a gang of robbers has gathered in Bhatara, a team of detective branch of Dhaka Metropolitan Police went to raid the area around 2:00am, said Deputy Commissioner (media) Masudur Rahman of DMP. During the raid, the law enforcers

approached a microbus parked on the road, and tried to search the vehicle. Sensing the presence of the

detectives, the people inside the vehicle started shooting on the team, forcing them to retaliate, said the DC. After the "gunfight", Lavlu was

found wounded by bullets, and lying on the ground with the other three. They were taken to Dhaka Medical

College Hospital where Lavlu died around 4:00am, said the police, adding that the rest were undergoing

41, Kamal Hossain, 45, and Russel, 35.

a jacket inscribed with Rab, a pair of handcuffs, two pistols, and several bullets from the spot. Detectives said the gang members

impersonating as Rab, used to loot money and valuables from people.

2.25cr suffer from mental

City

TYPE OF MAJOR DISORDERS FOUND

in adults (%)

DISORDERS	OVERALL	MALES	FEMAL
Depressive disorders	6.7	7	6.5
Anxiety disorders	4.5	4.2	4.8
Somatic symptom and related disorders	2.1	2	2.2
Schizophrenia spectrum disorder	1	0.9	1.1
Sleep-Wake disorders	0.9	0.7	0.6
Obsessive compulsive and related disorders	0.7	0.5	0.5
Bipolar and related disorders	0.4	0.5	0.3
Neurodevelopment disorders	0.3	0.3	0.4
Neurocognitive disorders	0.3	0.4	0.2
Substance related and addictive disorders	0.2	0.1	0.4
Personality disorders	0.1	0.1	0.1
Sexual dysfunction	0.1	0.1	0.05
Disruptive, impulse control and conduct disorders	0.01	0.01	0.01

TYPE OF MAJOR DISORDERS FOUND

in children (%)

DISORDER	OVERALL	BOYS	GIRLS
Neurodevelopmental disorders	5.9	7	4.7
Anxiety disorders	4.5	3.6	1.2
Disruptive, impulse control and conduct disorders	1.9	2.7	1.2
Depressive disorders	0.4	0.3	0.5
Sleep-Wake disorders	0.6	0.7	0.5
Schizophrenia spectrum disorder and			
psychotic disorders	0.2	0.2	0.3
Obsessive compulsive and related disorders	0.1	0.1	-
Bipolar and related disorders	0.1	-	0.1

SOURCE: NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH SURVEY OF BANGLADESH, 2018-19

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all 64 districts between April and June this year. The report identified that adults

aged between 18 and 60 are affected by 13 types of mental disorders while children aged between 7 and 17 are affected by 8 types of mental disorders. Of adult respondents, the highest

number of affected are suffering from depressive disorder (6.7%), followed by anxiety disorder (4.5%) and somatic symptom and related disorders (2.1%), says the report. Of child respondents, 5.9 percent

is suffering from neurodevelopmental disorders, followed by anxiety disorders (4.5%) and disruptive, impulse control and conduct disorders (1.9%), it says. Also, mental disorders are more

their male counterparts (16.7%). The report also showed that more urban adults (18.7%) are affected

prevalent in adult females (17%) than

than the rural ones (16.2%). It found "treatment gap" among 92.3 percent of the adult respondents and 94.5 percent of child respondents diagnosed with different mental

disorders. Principal Investigator of the report Prof Faruq Alam said people who show lack of enthusiasm in performing everyday tasks may be

suffering depressive disorders. These people may show an unwillingness to sleep, eat, go to office

or even shave their beard. Those who feel tensed and unstable, are afraid of talking to people and cannot sleep properly at night have a possibility to be diagnosed with anxiety disorders, said Prof Faruq.

Moreover, different types of body pains and headache can be caused by somatic symptom and related disorders, he said.

He suggested that physicians and doctors should have an orientation on somatic symptom related disorders as the patients suffering from such diseases often seek medical attention without realising that they are suffering

from mental disorder, he further said. Prof Faruq said 1.4 percent of the adult respondents were suffering from "major mental disorders" like schizophrenia spectrum disorders and

bipolar disorder. "These types of patients are usually

labelled as mad or abnormal," he added. excessive use of to smartphones, many children were found less engaged in extra-curricular

activities that developed a lack of

enthusiasm in them, said NIMH Director Prof Mohit Kamal. Such children were found less attentive at schools while many parents expressed apprehension about their children's poor exam results, he said.

However, this is a major mental health issue for the country's children, he added.

WHO Bangladesh Representative Bardan Jung Rana praised the survey report and said it was "technically sound". Health Minister Zahid Maleque

said the government made significant progress in ensuring primary healthcare for the countrymen and the time has come to include mental health in the scheme.

"We are working to this end," he said while addressing the event as the chief guest.

Pointing on the estimated 2.25 crore adults found with mental disorders, the minister said the country has only about 200 psychiatrists and psychologists to treat them.

So, there is a big gap here, he said, stressing the need for more psychiatrists and psychologists in the country.

Trove

FROM PAGE 20 found "the world's first mammoth trap," it said.

"Mammoths lived here for thousands of years. The herds grew, reproduced, died, were hunted... They lived alongside other species, including horses and camels," archaeologist Luis

Cordoba told journalists. Researchers said at least five mammoth herds lived in the area of

the find. Mexico has been the scene of surprising mammoth discoveries before.

In the 1970s, workers building the Mexico City subway found a mammoth skeleton while digging on the capital's north side.

Responsibility not ours, state's

power directly from witnesses who are not the same as FAIR hearings,"

FROM PAGE 20

election rival.

thinks that we are protesting against corruption after being instigated by some others, she may investigate

"We have read it [reports on corruption] on newspapers and watched it on TV. We urged the VC at the time to launch an investigation, but she didn't." Meanwhile, JU BCL General Secretary SM Abu

Sufian Chanchal submitted his resignation, said Ahsan Habib, office secretary of BCL executive committee.

Chanchal allegedly received Tk 25 lakh from the JU VC. Coordinator of the protesters, Prof Rayhan Rhyne

yesterday expressed deep concern at what he said was the government's reluctance to form a body to look into the allegations despite the abundance of evidence of corruption. "In the beginning, we demanded a fair

investigation. But the VC decided not to launch an

investigation... Our suspicion grew deeper after she decided not to form a probe body," he said.

Prof Mirza Taslima Sultana of anthropology said, "We teach and... we do research. If the government wants, there are institutions that investigate." Shovon Rahman, organising secretary of JU

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, said, "We urge Prof Farzana Islam to face an investigation and prove her innocence. But she doesn't have the spine needed to do that." Contacted, ASM Firoz-Ul-Hasan, acting proctor of

the university, said, "The university has been closed indefinitely. Classes and exams have been ceased. The dorms have been cleared. If anyone tries to cause an upheaval, it will be against the law." JU authorities on Tuesday closed the university

for an indefinite period and banned processions and rallies on campus until further notice. The move came hours after Chhatra League men

assaulted the demonstrators.

Shahnaz

in

Out of the four top

taxpaying companies in

the print and electronic

linked with Transcom

Group: Prothom Alo

Mediaworld Ltd and

Transcraft Ltd.

Transcom Group.

Star's owning company

the printer of the dailies

Mediaworld Ltd is an

associate company of the

media category, three are

owner Mediastar, The Daily

different

FROM PAGE 20

taxpayers

categories.

Nat'l award

provision. "I did not file the papers and I am not aware of the issue. The film's producer

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submitted the papers.' Speaking to The Daily Star, "Dhaka Attack" producer Sunny Sanwar said, "We submitted documents following the criteria set by the ministry. We did not

submit his [Kalam's] name as he does not have a Bangladeshi national ID or passport. "The jury board probably liked his work and gave him the award," he added. Morshedul Islam, national film award winning director, said, "It might have

Speaking to The Daily Star over phone, Md Kalam, who lives in India and has worked in a number of Bangladeshi films, said, "First of all I am a Bangalee. So, any sort of recognition encourages me to do good work. I am happy.

"If there is any clause that the national award would not go to any foreigner, I would say this barrier should be lifted for the development of film and cultural growth."

"After listening to the teachers demand, Akram-Al-Hossain said officials would try to help them get an appointment with the PM," said an additional secretary who was present at the meeting.

65,593 government primary schools.

There are 349,217 teachers in

14th and 15th grade salaries.

invigilators in the coming exams for the students' sake," Additional Secretary Badrul Hassan told this newspaper. Ministry officials believe that the

which has led to an avalanche of

witness testimony from current and

former diplomats or administration

officials who have largely corroborated

as "phony" and has demanded the

whistleblower's identity be revealed.

been disparaging the impeachment

process, as House Minority Leader

Kevin McCarthy sought to do after

"Don't be fooled. Public hearings

Next week's marquee appearance

It painted a damning picture of

may well be by Taylor, whose full

testimony transcript was made public

Trump offering a quid pro quo.

According to the testimony, his

administration conditioned both

military aid and a sought-after

Ukraine meeting with Trump on

Kiev's willingness to launch an

energy firm connected to Biden's son.

it was "my clear understanding,

security assistance money would

Trump has attacked the complaint

Trump loyalists in Congress have

the whistleblower's account.

Schiff's announcement.

McCarthy tweeted.

Wednesday by Schiff.

teachers would eventually call off the

Ukraine committed to pursue the investigation.' "Are you aware that quid pro quo

literally means this for that?" an investigator asked, according to the transcript. "Yes," Taylor replied. In testimony to investigators

Burisma investigation.

Taylor said a US diplomat involved in the shadow diplomacy, Ambassador to the European Union Gordon Sondland, told him that "everything, including military aid, depended on

While several witnesses have already testified, the White House

Democrats summoned the highestranking White House official yet, acting chief of staff Mick Mulvaney, to testify this week, although he is highly likely to refuse.

Mulvaney publicly stated last month that the decision to freeze aid was tied to the demand for investigations of Democrats. He later walked back those comments.

POPULAR MEDICAL COLLEGE

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college office from 13-11-2019 to 24-11-2019 between 8.30am to 5.00pm everyday including Fridays and government holidays. Correctly filled admission form along with all required papers and requisite fees must be submitted to the college office by 5.00pm on 24-11-2019 Online applications are also accepted provided all requisite papers

are scanned and attached with the application and due fees are paid through Bkash. Details are available in prospectus and college website (http://www.pmch-bd.org/admission/). Detailed information about successful applications(Merit: A-Z) and

admissions will be notified on 27-11-2019.

Director General of Health Services through agents, directly or online provided all requisite requirements are met (details are available in the prospectus and in the college website).

Principal

been a mistake and I hope the authorities concerned will correct it."

government implicated him in false cases and convicted him."

Stating that Khoka played an

The BNP leader said the vacuum

"His last word to me was not to

Gopibag house.

A janaza of Khoka was earlier held

treatment. Khoka has left behind his wife Ismat Ara, daughter Sarika Sadeque, sons

treatment in the hospital. The injured are Selim Chowkidar,

Police claimed to have recovered

Meanwhile, the Directorate of Primary Education has started making alternative arrangement for the PECE invigilation. The DPE on Tuesday sent a letter to local administrations asking them to pick exam centre secretaries

school and madrassa teachers.

DPE officials said exams will be held "We requested them to work as at 7,458 centres across the country. Of those, 3,931 will be at government primary schools and 3,527 at secondary schools and madrasas. "We cannot sit idle. We have to

and invigilators from secondary

have an alternative plan," said Badrul. PECE was introduced in 2009 and its madrasa equivalent Ebtedayee in 2010.

revealed last month, he expressed grave concerns about the Trump administration's "irregular, informal channel of US policy-making" and its pressure on Ukraine to announce a

Ukraine's Biden probe.

continues its stonewalling efforts.

investigation of Burisma, a Ukrainian Taylor told investigators that not come until the president [of

Fax-88-02-9675633, web: www.pmch-bd.org, e-mail: pmedicalcollege@gmail.com

Application forms along with prospectus shall be available in the

Foreign students are eligible to apply as per instructions of

festival."

intellectuals from five continents will

The festival will conclude on November 9.

A madrasa student died of injuries on

Madrasa.

Out of distress, the boy returned home but and did not tell anybody about the incident, the police said.

Meanwhile, the news of Asif's

the report at 8:30pm yesterday. National Human Rights Commission

The Daily Star correspondent tried

9th edition

by DLF.

shaped the person I am today," she connect to each other in real time. We

meets culture. questions on many topics and engage in freedom of expression. Our festival

at the inaugural ceremony. "I am

Academy, Habibullah Siraji and the State Minister for Cultural Affairs K

with over 100 sessions. It is open for

The madrasa authorities took the victim to Madaripur General Hospital