

Case filed over brutal murder of woman

OUR CORRESPONDENT,
Sylhet

A case was filed on Thursday night in connection with the murder of a woman, whose dead body was recovered from a pharmacy in Sunamganj's Jagannathpur municipality area in the afternoon of that day.

The woman, 35-year-old Parvin Jotsna, was a mother of three. She was a resident of Jagannath municipality.

Parvin's brother Helal Miah filed the case with Jagannathpur Police Station, accusing Jitesh Chandra Gope (45), owner of Ovi Medical Hall pharmacy, who hails from Kishorganj's Itna upazila, said Mijanur Rahman, officer-in-charge of the police station.

According to police and the case statement, Parvin went to the pharmacy on Wednesday afternoon to buy some medicine. However, she went missing soon after.

Her brother Helal later went to the pharmacy around 5:30pm to look for her, but found that it was closed.

Upon receiving information, police found that Jitesh, who was a resident of the municipality, was on the run along with his family.

Later on Thursday afternoon, police broke open the pharmacy and recovered the woman's body — which was chopped into six parts.

The knife used for the murder was also found at the pharmacy.

The deceased's body was sent to Sylhet MAG Osmani Medical College for autopsy.



82 Shantinagar was the centre of the Language Movement's reinvigoration following February 21 and its aftermath. Today, a multi-storey apartment building is being constructed where the greenery-adorned garden house once stood.

PHOTO: PRABIR DAS

The Language Movement did not just come to be. Behind the historic movement, that brought about a turn of events for Bangladesh, are a million stories — of people, of premises, of places. In this 10-part series, we explore some of the places and premises vital to the movement. Establishments that we've lost to time, buildings that today bear no sign of the glories they once played host to. For part seven, we take you to 82 Shantinagar, the relaunch-pad of the movement after it threatened to cool down following February's brutal days.

Moin Uddin Ahmad's 82 Shantinagar

DIPAN NANDY

Right after February 21, tension spread throughout East Bengal. Faced with repressive policing and torture, the Language Movement started to get deflated. But even then, some of its organisers remained steadfast, and it was one residence in the capital's Shantinagar that gave them the space needed to re-organise.

This building, 82 Shantinagar, played host to numerous meetings since then. On March 7, 1952, a secret meeting there was foiled by a sudden police raid, which resulted in the arrest of several Rashtra Bhasha Sangram Parishad leaders and activists.

But 82 Shantinagar and the greenery that surrounded it continued to shelter the protestors, although none of that history could be felt, if one visited the under-construction apartment building that stands there today.

Former British Railway official of Faridpur Moin



Uddin Ahmad bought the house in 1947, from a Hindu family that left the country during partition.

His daughter Rabeya Haq wrote in her piece "Bhasha Andolan-er Dingulo", "The year is 1952. I'm still a tenth grader. All nine of us siblings used to live amid the greenery of this large garden house with our parents. Shantinagar back then was a neat and clean area. We'd often have jalsa and musical nights at our house. Poets Monsur Uddin and Jasimuddin used to visit us."

Of Moin's nine children, Dr Abdul Mutalib and Abdul Maleq were directly involved with the movement. His brother-in-law, folk scientist Monsur Uddin Ahmad was also part of the movement, while youngest son Abdul Khaleq was a supporter.

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'Shujan not a stakeholder'

Hasan Mahmud slams rights body's remarks on EC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Attending a journalists' meet at Chattogram Circuit House yesterday, Awami League (AL) joint general secretary and information minister Hasan Mahmud slammed Shushasoner Jonno Nagorik (Shujan) for its opinions and statements over formation of the Election Commission (EC).

"Shujan is not a stakeholder of the elections. It's mysterious why this NGO keeps showing attitude like it's some kind of a 'big brother'," the minister said.

This came after journalists asked Hasan of Shujan's demand to make public the 10 names recommended by the search committee for the EC's formation.

He also said it's the discretion of the search committee whether they want to publish the names or not.

"Shujan is run by collecting funds from different organisations... It even received funds from the EC once, as mentioned by the former chief election commissioner," he said. "My question is over Shujan's advices and why the media chooses to highlight it."

He also said the process of EC's formation is transparent, adding that opinions from all corners have been taken. "Even pro-BNP intellectuals have shared their opinions... The names that came from these discussions have already been brought to light."

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