

'I could not believe my eyes'

Says father of Nafiz, 16, after identifying slain son in a photo

NILIMA JAHAN

On August 5, several newspapers featured the image of a wounded protester being carried by a rickshaw-puller in the Farmgate area of the capital.

The photo showed a protester with a Bangladeshi flag tied around his head, lying in the footwell of a rickshaw with his head hanging over one side and his feet dangling from the other.

The viral image helped Golam Rahman, a businessman



PHOTO: REUTERS

from Mohakhali, identify the protester as his son, Golam Nafiz, 16.

Nafiz, who recently admitted to Noubahini College after completing his SSC, was a participant in the quota reform movement from the very start.

While he was alive when the photo was taken, he died on the way to Suhrawardy Medical College Hospital. The rickshaw-puller later handed his body over to the hospital's morgue authorities.

"Nafiz was my youngest of two sons, but he was the most active in protesting. I admired his passion and never discouraged him from joining protests. He participated in demonstrations across Mohakhali, Rampura, Mirpur, Farmgate, and other locations," said Rahman.

"On August 4, he was protesting in the Farmgate area. He even called his mother in the afternoon from a friend's phone. She asked him to come home, and he said he would be coming soon. That was their last conversation," he added.

When Nafiz did not return home, the family feared he had been arrested and searched nearby police stations in Tejgaon, Kolabagan, Hatirjheel, Khilgaon, the DB office on Minto Road, and the CID office in Malibagh. Despite their efforts, no one could confirm his arrest.

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ROBBERIES IN DHAKA

People stand vigil through the night

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sleepless nights and living in a state of panic have become a constant for the residents of different areas in the capital for the past three days due to a series of alleged attacks and robberies in their neighbourhoods, amid the absence of law enforcers.

However, people did not sit idly and instead took the matter into their own hands, as residents of Uttara, Dhanmondi, Mohammadpur, Basila, Adabor, Mirpur, Jigatola, Gulshan, Badda, Jatrabari, and the old part of Dhaka took to the streets to ensure

their safety.

Armed with sticks, they patrolled their areas every night amid the situation and returned to their homes in the morning.

Students, alongside general citizens from all walks of life, formed area-specific patrol teams, coordinating through various social media messaging platforms.

To alert residents of potential attacks, announcements were made from mosques urging everyone to stay vigilant. Many also took to social media to seek help from neighbours and volunteer groups during alleged

robberies.

Army men were also seen patrolling the streets in some areas of Mirpur, Pallabi, Uttara, and Mohammadpur.

Robbers of various ages, mostly teenagers and young adults, wielding knives and machetes, reportedly entered several houses and establishments. Army personnel, in association with locals, apprehended some of these robbers from various areas.

Meanwhile, information and videos of robberies in

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GAZIPUR, JAMALPUR

19 hurt in prison escape attempts

Kashimpur jail super withdrawn

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least 16 people were injured, including inmates and prison guards, at the Gazipur District Jail yesterday morning following sudden firing of shots after prisoners protested and demanded their release.

Similarly, three inmates were injured and taken to the district hospital as prisoners set fire to the Jamalpur District Jail in the afternoon, during a jailbreak attempt.

The situation was brought under control around 7:00pm. On the same day, Senior Jail Superintendent Subrata

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