



'I don't know what mistake I have made'

Journo Anis arrested in anti-terrorism case, put on 5-day remand

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Journalist Anis Alamgir was arrested and put on remand in an anti-terrorism case yesterday, a day after he was picked up from Dhaka's Dhanmondi area.



Dhaka Additional Chief Metropolitan Magistrate Jashita Islam placed him on a five-day remand after police produced him before the court with a seven-day remand prayer, said state lawyer Shamsuddoha Sumon.

The journalist was escorted to the courtroom amid tight security around 5:30pm from the court's lockup.

During the hearing, Anis was allowed to speak after the prosecution submitted their arguments in favour of remand.

Anis told the court that he is a journalist, and questioning those in power is his job.

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Police obstruct a procession from the Dhaka University campus as it heads to besiege the home ministry to protest the shooting of Sharif Osman Hadi and demand the resignation of the home adviser. The photo was taken near the Abdul Gani road yesterday.

PHOTO: AMRAN HOSSAIN

3 advisers must go if demands are not met

Says Shadik Kayem as students block Shahbagh over Hadi attack

DU CORRESPONDENT

Ducusu Vice President Abu Shadik Kayem yesterday demanded the resignation of the home, law, and foreign affairs advisers if their three demands, including the arrest of those involved in the attempted assassination of Sharif Osman bin Hadi, are not met immediately.

He issued the ultimatum at a press briefing after meeting Home Adviser Jahangir Alam Chowdhury.

A 10-member delegation led by Shadik met the adviser after police obstructed their procession in front of Shikkha Bhaban from the Dhaka University campus to besiege the home ministry in protest against the shooting of Hadi, spokesperson for Inqilab Moncho, on Friday.

During the press briefing, Shadik placed the three demands.

First, all those involved in the shooting of Hadi, including the attackers, planners, and facilitators, must be arrested immediately. Relevant state bodies, including intelligence agencies, must be held accountable, negligence must be punished, and individuals who

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'Polls will be held on time defying conspiracies'

Tarique urges all to be vigilant

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The shooting of Dhaka-8 aspiring candidate Sharif Osman Hadi was part of a conspiracy to disrupt the upcoming election, BNP acting chairman Tarique Rahman said yesterday.

He said a vested group against Bangladesh's interests is repeatedly trying to obstruct the polls by using various excuses.

Calling on people to stay united, Tarique said there is no reason to fear and that the election would be held on time.

"We have to stay alert. The conspiracy has not stopped yet. Osman Hadi is a brave son who stands for democracy, and the incident in which he was shot is also part of that conspiracy," he said while speaking virtually at a discussion marking Victory Day, organised by BNP at the city's Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh.

Asking what Hadi's crime was, Tarique raised three questions and said he thought the answers would make the attackers' character clear.

"First, if the interim government can be made to fail, who will be happy? Second, if the current interim government can be kept in place without an election, who will benefit? Third, if a people's government is not formed through the people's votes, who will gain?" he asked.

"I believe the identity of the attackers of Hadi are hidden in the answers to these questions," he said.

Referring to the election, Tarique said, "After more than one and a half decades, the Election Commission has finally announced the date of that long-awaited national election."

A fallen and fugitive group has for a long time distorted the history of Bangladesh's independence and the Liberation War for its own interests and attempted to politicise history, he said.

"As a continuation of this attempt, the defeated forces

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Trader chased down, hacked to death in the capital

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A local trader was hacked to death by unidentified miscreants in Dhaka's Dakkhinkhan last night.

The deceased was identified as Shahjahan Dealer, 45, a resident of the Ashkona Panir Pump area. He provided cable TV service in the area.

Police and local sources said he was a member of the local Jubo League.

A witness said four men armed with sharp weapons chased Shahjahan before attacking him. They described the assault as "barbaric", saying the attackers struck the victim's head indiscriminately.

Dakkhinkhan Police Station Officer-in-Charge Shoriful Islam said the incident occurred around 9:00pm when Shahjahan went to Noddapara's Taltola area for business purposes.

Miscreants attacked him when he was standing next to a roadside phone top-up shop, he said.

Police said they are collecting and reviewing CCTV footage from the area to identify and arrest those involved in the murder.

Dakkhinkhan Police Station Sub-Inspector Saiful Islam said no one had been arrested as of midnight, but the operation was ongoing.

"The motive is not immediately clear. The body will be taken to a hospital morgue for autopsy."

Clarify your remarks on Hadi

Jamaat ameer asks CEC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami Ameer Shafiqur Rahman has demanded an explanation from Chief Election Commissioner AMM Nasir Uddin over his remarks regarding the shooting of Osman Hadi, spokesperson for Inqilab Moncho.

The Jamaat chief said CEC's statement has deeply hurt the nation.

"Because of this painful and cowardly attack on Osman Hadi, the whole nation is deeply shocked.

Everyone is expressing sympathy. At such a time, a person holding a very responsible position, the head of the Election Commission, which will effectively oversee the country in the coming days, made a statement that, I believe, has hurt people like me and many others."

He made the remarks yesterday while speaking as the chief guest at a Victory Day discussion organised by Jamaat-e-Islami Dhaka South at the Jatiya Press Club.

Earlier in the day, CEC Nasir said the country's law and order situation has not deteriorated, describing the recent shooting of Hadi as an isolated incident.

"I would politely request him [CEC] to explain his statement without delay... He must prove that he is fit to hold such a sensitive and responsible position. Then, if the nation's pain is eased, that is one outcome; otherwise, the nation will decide for itself. It will be one of the two."

He continued, "If '24 had not happened, the Chief Election Commissioner ... would not be here today. If '24 had not happened, many of those serving in the current interim government would have been in jail... Respecting '24 means respecting Bangladesh and its people. I humbly request everyone to respect '71, and in the same way, to respect '24 as well.

"If we are elected with the love of the people of this country, we will build a united nation by including everyone. We will invite all to join us in forming the

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Australia mourns victims of mass shooting

Vows stricter gun laws as toll rises to 15; police accuse father, son duo; Bondi 'hero' who disarmed gunman recovering



People gather in front of a floral tribute near Bondi Pavilion following a shooting at Bondi Beach in Sydney, Australia, yesterday.

PHOTO: REUTERS

REUTERS, Sydney

Australia vowed stricter gun laws yesterday as it began mourning victims of its worst mass shooting in almost 30 years, in which police accused a father-and-son duo of killing 15 people at a Jewish celebration at Sydney's famed Bondi Beach.

The incident has raised questions whether Australia's gun laws, among the toughest in the world, need overhaul, with police saying the older suspect had held a firearms license since 2015, along with six registered weapons.

Prime Minister Anthony Albanese said his cabinet agreed to strengthen gun laws and work on a national firearms register to tackle aspects such as the number of weapons permitted by gun licences, and how long the latter are valid.

"People's circumstances can change," he had told reporters before the cabinet met. "People can be radicalised over a period of time. Licences should not be in perpetuity."

Of the two gunmen, the 50-year-old father was killed at the scene, taking the

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