

‘HEADMASTER’S HUMILIATION’ Judicial probe ordered

M Moneruzzaman

THE High Court Division on Wednesday directed the Dhaka chief metropolitan magistrate to hold a judicial investigation into the recent incident of torture and public humiliation of headmaster Shyamal Kanti Bhakta at Narayanganj.

The court passed the order describing the probe report submitted by the police as incomplete and deplor-

able for its failure to identify the mastermind and his accomplices in the offence of r beating the headmaster and subjecting him to inhuman and degrading punishment in full public glare.

The court said that the entire episode occurred in broad day light as the local MP AKM Salim Osman taking part in the offensive acts with his cronies on May 13.

Continued on page 2 Col. 5

Judicial probe ordered

Continued from page 1

The court said that people across the country saw the video footage of the proceedings posted on the social media.

The court said that there was no confusion about the identities of the perpetrators as the video clips were shown by the electronic media and snap shots were printed in newspapers.

In the order, the bench of Justice Moyeenul Islam Chowdhury and Justice Ashish Ranjan Das directed the Dhaka CMM to submit the judicial probe report to it on November 3.

The bench said that it would pass further orders on the issue on November 6.

The bench said that Narayanganj Bandar police had submitted a ‘perfunctory, incomplete and inconclusive report’ prepared under the influence of manipulators.

The court said that it was stunned by the police’s failure to identify the perpetrators.

The court described the failure on the part of the police as ‘highly deplorable’.

The court said that an incident of humiliating a headmaster to save him from the mob’s wrath cannot occur suddenly as the police probe report tried to make out.

The bench said that it was no less stunned over a senior judicial magistrate at Narayanganj accepting the police’s probe report without apply-

ing judicial mind.

The bench said that non-identification of the perpetrators of shocking offence undermines the rule of the law.

The essence of the rule of law is that ‘no one is above the law and everybody is subject to law, said the court.

It said that no judge could keep his eyes closed when any violation of human rights takes place any where in the country.

On May 18, the same bench in a suo moto rule asked the police to explain to it what action was taken against Salim Osman and his associates for their outrageous misdeeds.

On June 9, the bench directed the police superinten-

dent of Narayanganj and the officer in charge of Bandar police station to submit a detailed probe report on the incident.

Ain O Salish Kendra which defended Shyamal Kanti Bhakta as intervener submitted in an affidavit that the police prepared the probe report without recording his statement.

ASK said that without ever speaking to the headmaster, the police said in the report that he did not seek justice.

Ask submitted that on investigation it found that Salim Osman was the main perpetrator of the despicable actions against the headmaster of Piyar Sattar Latif High School.