

Homeopath hacked to death, IU teacher injured

Staff Correspondent

Three assailants riding on a motorbike hacked to death a homeopath and injured a Kushtia University teacher in Kushtia on Friday morning when the victims were riding on another motorbike.

The 55-year-old-homeopath, Mir Sanaur Rahman Sana, died on the spot while his neighbour Saifuzzaman, also Islamic University Bangla department assistant professor, sustained critical injured in the head and was moved to Dhaka as his condition was deteriorating.

Both the victims were bauls, a group of mystic minstrels of Sufi Muslims, said local peoples and police investigators.

The incident bore the hallmark of previous attacks on secular bloggers, activists, intellectuals, spiritual leaders and religious minorities as the police investigators suspected that it might have connection to militancy among others issues.

On May 13, a septuagenarian Buddhist monk was hacked to death at his place of worship at a remote village of bordering Naikhyangchari upazila in Bandarban.

The police investigators were not clear about motive

of the killing on the homeopath within a week of the killing of the monk.

Until Friday evening, no one claimed responsibility for the Friday's killing.

Local people and police officials said that three assailants hacked the two victims in the heads and left the spot leaving a machete in Battail-Poradah road in the district headquarters at about 9:30am.

Saifuzzaman was riding on a motorbike to drop homeopath Sanaur, who was riding pillion, at Shishirpara Math where the slain travel every Friday morning to provide free treatment to the poor.

As a part of charity, both the victims tried to provide free medication to the poor on every Friday.

With grievous injuries, Saifuzzaman in Kushtia hospital told his friends and students that three assailants riding on a motorbike hacked Sanaur from behind.

After Sanaur fell down from the motorbike, the attackers chased him, the teacher said.

His student Mostafa Jubair Alam said that when the teacher fell down on the road with the motorbike, the attackers, aged between

Continued on page 2 Col. 2

Humiliated teacher

Continued from page 1
Allah and Islam.

They said they supported Selim Osman and warned that the fate of those leftists who were taking stance against Selim would not be good.

Inspector Mozammel Haque, in charge of DMCH police camp, confirmed the news of Shyamal Kanti's admission under medicine department.

Sub-inspector Abdur Rahman of Bandar police station in Narayanganj brought him to the hospital from Khanpur 300-bed Hospital where he had been undergoing treatment since the incident of torture and humiliation.

'Shyamal has been shifted to DMCH as his family wanted his better treatment', he said.

Shyamal's wife Sabitri Hal-

dar told New Age in the evening, 'Shyamal was so weak now... He is being administered saline'.

New Age correspondent in Narayanganj reports: activists of qoumi madrassah-based organisation Hefazat-e-Islam under the banner of Tauhidi Janata held a rally in DIT Masjid area, protesting at what they termed 'offensive' remarks made by Shyamal Kanti Bhakta.

Besides, Islami Shashantantra Andolan brought, out a procession in the city demanding the teacher's trial.

People under the banner of Tahrik-e-Khatme Nabuwat brought out another procession in the city where they chanted slogans in favour of local lawmaker AKM. Salim

Osman and demanded Shyamal's trial.

Addressing a rally in front of DIT Masjid, Hefazat-e-Islam Narayanganj district amir Maulana Abdul Awal threatened to collapse the country unless Shyamal was arrested within 72 hours.

He demanded removal of education minister from the cabinet as he 'backed those who insult Islam'.

Tahrik-e-Khatme Nabuwat leader Enayet Ulla Abbasi warned that the consequence of 'leftists' who were taking stance against Selim would not be good.

Sammilita Sangskritik Jote in Narayanganj at a rally the district press club protested at the humiliation of the teacher and the Islamist

leaders' stance for Selim.

Similar protests against the teacher's humiliation were also held at National Press Club in Dhaka by different organisations.

The education ministry on Thursday dissolved the Piyar Sattar Latif High School management committee and reinstated its head teacher Shyamal Kanti Bhakta, who was humiliated by local lawmaker Selim Osman in public and suspended by the committee on allegation of hurting religious sentiment of the Muslims.

The probe committee, formed by the Directorate of Secondary and Higher Education, in primary investigation, did not find authenticity of the allegation against Shyamal.