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BUET class, exam boycott continues

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The protesting students of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology on Sunday continued boycotting all sorts of academic activities to press for fulfillment of their demands following the murder of their fellow student Abrar Fahad.

They would continue their boycott of classes and examinations until the charge sheet on the killing of Abrar was submitted and those involved in the killing were permanently expelled from the university.

As a spokesperson for the protest, fourth-year student Antora Tithi on the day reaffirmed to New Age that they would carry on the protest programme until their demands were met.

Earlier on Wednesday, the BUET protesters at an oath-taking event capped their 11-day-long field agitation against the murder of Abrar.

But they announced that their boycott of academic activities would continue.

Abrar, a second-year electrical and electronics engineering student of the country's premier university, was tortured to death at his dorm by leaders and activists of the university's unit of ruling Awami League-backed student organisation Bangladesh Chhatra League.

He was killed reportedly for his critical views on social media over the recently signed deals between Bangladesh and India.

Following the murder, the protesting BUET students placed 10-point demands that include rustication of the killers of Abrar from the university, capital punishment to them, compensation to Abrar's family, bearing the family expenses for running the case, speedy trial of the case, making the charge sheet public, rustication from the university of all those involved in torturing students in the past and banning organisation-based student politics at the university.

In the face of the student agitation, the BUET authorities issued five separate notices announcing a ban on organisation-based politics on the campus, conducting drives against illegal occupants at the university dorms and sealing off the student organisation offices at the university, introducing a web portal where students could file complaints about any kind of abuse.

Police so far arrested 20 accused students linked to Abrar murder, including 15 of the 19 listed accused in the first information report.

