

Thursday, October 31, 2019



BUET protesters continue class, exam boycott

Staff Correspondent | Published at 01:41am on October 31, 2019

The protesting students of Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology continued boycotting all academic activities on Wednesday for the 14th straight day.

The students announced on Tuesday that they would continue boycotting classes and exams until the charge-sheet in Abrar murder case was framed and those involved in the killing were permanently expelled from the university and their other demands were met.

Abrar, a second-year student of electrical and electronic engineering at the university, was tortured to death by a group of Bangladesh Chhatra League leaders at Sher-e-Bangla Hall on October 7, allegedly for his critical views on social media over the recently signed deals between Bangladesh and India.

Meanwhile, the university authorities on Wednesday handed over Abrar's belongings at the Sher-e-Bangla Hall to his father Barkat Ullah. Abrar was a resident of room 1001 at Sher-e-Bangla Hall.

Barkat Ullah told New Age that the university authorities provided with Abrar's books, clothes and other belongings to him, reported New Age correspondent in Kushtia.

On October 16, protesters announced to 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 before capping their 11-day-long field agitation.

The students said they would make it sure that justice was served to Abrar even if it costs sacrificing their academic career.

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 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.

The vacation for Durga Puja and examination preparatory leave at the university ended on October 20 but the university authorities could not announce examination schedule due to ongoing stalemate at the university.

Police so far arrested 21 suspects in the killing of Abrar and 16 of them were named in the first information report filed by the Abrar's father.

Of the suspects, eight made statements before metropolitan magistrates.