

Monday, May 30, 2022



## Man filming BCL-JCD clash ends up in jail

Muktadir Rashid | Published at 12:18am on May 30, 2022

A man detained while filming the clash between opposition Bangladesh Nationalist Party student-wing Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and the ruling Awami League student wing Bangladesh Chhatra League near Dhaka University campus on May 26 ended up in Keraniganj jail, his family said on Sunday.

Mahfuz Kabir Mukta, 33, of Panchgarh was brutally beaten by the BCL for filming their attack on opposition supporters before he sought help from police deployed nearby, his wife Fahmiha Moni told New Age.

‘Is filming a clash a criminal offence? On that day, my husband was brutally beaten by the Chhatra League activists. The police did not arrest them. They instead arrested my husband. Is this justice?’ she cried.

Following the incident on May 26, Shahbagh police station sub-inspector Mainul Islam told New Age that a journalist [Mahfuz Kabir] was filming the incident and BCL activists got angry with him and accused him of doing live coverage for the BNP Facebook page.

‘We rescued him and took him to the [Shahbagh] police station for interrogation on instruction from senior officials,’ said Mainul.

Until 9:30pm on that day, Mahfuz’s wife Moni said the police were willing to release him but the BCL leaders kept insisting on his detention.

She said that her husband was taken to the Shahbagh police station at 12:00noon. Moni said that two days before the incident he was targeted and beaten when he was filming a BCL attack on JCD.

Shahbagh police station sub-inspector Palash Saha on May 27 filed a criminal complaint against Mahfuz Kabir Mukta and one Masud Hossain along with 400 unidentified people on charge of unlawful assembly, rioting and obstructing public servants in discharging their duties, among others.

In the complaint with the Shahbagh police station, Palash claimed that they arrested the two at about 9:55pm when they were roaming suspiciously around the Dhaka University campus.

Shahbagh police station officer-in-charge Moudud Hawlader said that the two people were detained in connection with the clash.

He told New Age that Mahfuz was accused in 13 cases.

The police record showed all 13 cases were filed against Mahfuz under various sections of the Negotiable Instruments Act, 1881, mostly for cheque defrauding.

On May 26, dozens of leaders and activists of JCD and BCL were injured as they clashed on the Dhaka University campus and its adjacent areas as JCD leaders and activists attempted to enter the campus marching from the National Press Club area.

The Bangladesh Nationalist Party secretary general Mirza Fakhrul Islam Alamgir in a statement on Sunday demanded the release of 'freelance journalist' Mahfuz Kabir Mukta and two Netrakona JCD leaders.



Editor: **Nurul Kabir**, Published by the Chairman, Editorial Board ASM Shahidullah Khan on behalf of Media New Age Ltd. 30 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 Phone: 880-2-8170450-56 (PABX), Fax: 880-2-8170457

---

© 2022 Media New Age Limited or its affiliated companies. All rights reserved.