## Ex-DU VC Arefin Siddique laid to rest

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AAMS Arefin Siddique

## No Janaza at DU

Former Dhaka University vice-chancellor Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique was laid to rest on Friday at the Azimpur Graveyard in Dhaka.

Arefin Siddique passed away on Thursday night at around 10:45pm while undergoing treatment.

He was on life support for the past few days, said his younger brother Saifullah Siddique Tuhin.

His first namaz-e-janaza of Arefin Siddique was held on Friday at around 11:00am at Al Aqsa Mosque, adjacent to his residence on Green Road in Dhanmondi, Dhaka.

Dhaka University vice-chancellor Professor Niaz Ahmed Khan along with former and current teachers and students participated in the janaza.

After the janaza prayer, Professor Niaz Ahmed said that considering the overall situation and following the family's decision, the janaza of Professor AAMS Arefin Siddique took place there.

'We respect his family's decision,' said Niaz Ahmed Khan.

However, the failure to arrange the former DU vice-chancellor's janaza on the university campus sparked criticism on social media.

Arefin Siddique's brother Saifullah Siddique told New Age, 'We came to know that the current authority of the university would not be able to provide security for the janaza.'

'Because of this, we did not proceed to arrange the janaza prayer on the Dhaka University campus,' he said adding 'It would be better if his Janaza was held on the Dhaka University campus.'

When contacted regarding this matter, Dhaka University vice-chancellor Niaz Ahmed Khan did not respond to the phone call.

After jumma prayers, Arefin Siddique's second janaza was held at Shahi Eidgah Jame Mosque in Dhanmondi 6/A followed by the third janaza held at the Eidgah field.

After the janaza, Professor Arefin's body was taken to Azimpur where he was buried beside his parents' graves.

Earlier On March 6, he suddenly collapsed while conversing at Dhaka Club. He was immediately taken to Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital. After initial treatment, he was transferred to the Neuro ICU.

Professor Arefin Siddique, a former faculty member of mass communication and journalism department at Dhaka University, was appointed university's 27th vice-chancellor in 2009.

He also served as president and general secretary of Dhaka University Teachers' Association and as chairman of the board of directors of Bangladesh Sangbad Sangstha.