

BISHWAJIT MURDER

Court accepts charges against 21 BCL men

Staff Correspondent

A METROPOLITAN magistrate on Tuesday rejected the petition filed by a lawyer for a judicial probe into the Bishwajit Das murder case and issued warrant for the arrest of the absconding accused after accepting the charge sheet.

The metropolitan magistrate, Mustafizur Rahman, accepted the charge sheet and asked the authorities concerns to appear in the court on April 17 and let it know about the progress in executing the warrant.

A group of Chhatra League activists hacked to death Bishwajit, 23, a tailor

by profession, near Bahadur Shah Park in Dhaka during the countrywide road blockade the BNP-led opposition alliance had enforced on December 9, 2012.

On March 20, the court had set the date for hearing on the acceptability of the charge pressed against Chhatra League activist Rafiqul Islam Shakil, 25, who was seen striking Bishwajit with a machete in video footages broadcast by television channels, and 20 others.

The police have so far arrested seven of the accused.

On Tuesday, lawyer Mahbubul Alam Dulal, who earlier had filed another

case with the court over the incident, while taking part in the charge acceptability hearing argued that the police investigator did not mention the negligence of police standing nearby during the attack on Bishwajit that of the physicians who had delayed attending the youth.

He told the court that the deputy commissioner of police, assistant commissioner of police and the officer-in-charge present at the place of occurrence had not discharged their duties.

Dulal filed the petition seeking further investigation as he termed the charge sheet 'faulty' and 'incom-

plete' which was aimed at 'saving the masterminds.'

He told the court that he had found that the investigation was done in breach of the Code of Criminal Procedure and also the Police Regulations.

Additional public prosecutor Shah Alam Talukder appealed to the court to accept the charge sheet.

The magistrate, however, left for chamber saying that he would deliver the order after going through the statement of the accused that was recorded under section 164 of the Code of Criminal Procedure.

Later, the court passed the order from the chamber.