



DB Police firing allegedly killed Roni

Fact Finding Report

Odhikar

Members of the Detective Branch of police (DB) in Dhaka shot 16-year-old Mohammad Shahadat Hossain Roni to death on October 13, 2012 at around 3:00pm in Ashulia, his family members have claimed. Roni is the son Hazrat Ali and Anu Begum of Chanpur village under Savar Police Station and was an 11th grade student of commerce department in Government Bangla College in Mirpur, Dhaka. His family members claimed he was shot to death on the Norshinghopur-Konabari road beside the Dhonaidh Eidgah field under the Ashulia police station.

Roni went to attend an invitation on October 13, 2012 at Mehedi Hasan Noyon's aunt Sahara Begum's house in Bagbari village of Kashimpur union under Joydebpur Police Station in Gazipur. He went to the invitation with Mehedi Hasan Noyon (27), son of Mohammad Sirajuddoula and Majlunnahar of Pachkani village of Kaundia union in Savar. Also, with them were Ripon, Mohammad Hossain, Mamun, Al-Amin, Rubel, Abdul Al Mamun alias Boro Babu and Hossain Babu alias Choto Babu. Noyon, Roni and others were returning home on a microbus through Norshinghopur-Konabari road from there. At that time the Officer in-Charge (OC) of Dhaka district DB police Wahiduzzaman, Inspector Shahin Shah Parvez and a few other DB personnel were stationed on a microbus near Dhonaidh Eidgah field. At around 3:00pm when their microbus reached near Dhonaidh Eidgah field on Norshinghopur-Konabari road, the DB police stopped them and asked where Noyon's cousin Nurunnahar was. Thinking that they have been detained by Hijackers or miscreants, Roni, Noyon and others began screaming in fear and as a result the DB police officials beat them up. Fearing further trouble, driver Harun of their microbus panicked and attempted driving away when the DB police aimed at them and fired 30/40 rounds. Roni was bleeding from his back and another friend Ripon was bleeding from his head. Noyon told the driver to go towards a hospital. However, the DB police were chasing them with their microbus and when their microbus reached Talukdar Filling Station on Ashulia-Baipal road the DB police stopped their microbus, brought down Noyon, Roni and the others and began beating them again. Roni died a few moments after this incident. After that the DB police filed a case in Ashulia Police Station against Noyon, Ripon and the others and showing them arrested on accusation of murder and possessing illegal arms. They were sent to jail through a Court order.

Meanwhile, Noyon's cousin Nurunnahar has been receiving death threats ever since she had her father Kofiluddin's inherited property lawfully rescued from illegal possession of their neighbor

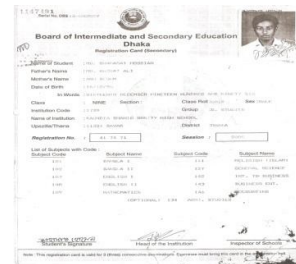
Amanullah. Amanullah is considered to be a very influential person in the area.

Nurunnahar, daughter of Kofiluddin and Sahara Begum had filed a case against Amanullah and rescued the land in 2009. The opponents in the case became angry and vengeful after the incident and they began sending her death threats. In order to take possession of that land again, Amanullah even tried to get Nurunnahar killed using the DB police.

On October 13, 2012, Nurunnahar was supposed to return to Dhaka with Noyon, Roni and the others. Unable to find Nurunnahar, the DB police began beating up Noyon, Roni and the others and fired at their running microbus. Although Noyon was safe but Roni died in the police fire.

Odhikar carried out a fact finding mission into the incident. During the fact finding mission Odhikar interviewed:

- Roni's relatives
- Eyewitnesses
- The doctor who conducted the post mortem
- The accused DB police officers and
- Members of the law enforcement agencies



ID card of Mohammad Shahadat Hossain Roni Mohammad Shahadat Hossain Roni Mohammad Shahadat Hossain Roni's Registration Card

Mohammad Mokbul Hossain (52), Roni's maternal uncle:

Mohammad Mokbul Hossain informed Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 8:00am Roni went to college but he did not return home at noon. Roni was in the 11th grade of the commerce department in Government Bangla College and stayed in his maternal uncle's house. On October 13, 2012 at around 7:00pm his younger brother Hobi Hossain informed him on phone that Roni went to his friend Mehedi Hasan Noyon's aunt's house. While returning from there the DB police shot him to death. He learnt that Roni's dead body is kept at Enam Medical College Hospital. He went there and saw that Roni's legs were swollen and the sole of his feet were blackened. The police took Roni's dead body from the hospital to Savar Model Police Station. From there they took the dead body to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for post mortem. On October 14, 2012, Roni's dead body was brought from the hospital and buried at Kaundia

graveyard. He went to file a case regarding the matter at Ashulia Police Station but the police did not accept it. The DB police are trying to suppress his killing and shift the focus onto a different issue. He claimed that the DB is defaming Roni by identifying him as a miscreant hired for land grabbing purposes. He demands that the Officer in-Charge (OC) of Dhaka district DB police Wahiduzzaman, Inspector Shahin Shah Parvez and other members involved in Roni's killing be arrested, brought under trial and punished accordingly.



Photo:1



Photo:2



Photo:3

Photo: 1. Norshinghpur-Konabari road near Eidgah field, Photo: 2. Mehedi Hasan Noyon, whose aunt's house Roni went to visit, Photo: 3. The identified circle shows the sign of bullet fire in the wind shield

Mehedi Hasan Noyon (27), Eyewitness:

Mehedi Hasan Noyon told Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 12:00pm he and friends Roni, Ripon, Mohammad Hossain, Mamun, Al-Amin, Rubel, Abdul Al Mamun and Hossain Babu went to his aunt Sahara Begum's house in Bagbari village of Kashimpur union under Joydebpur Police Station in Gazipur district on a NOAH microbus (Dhaka Metro Cha-13-1073). From there at around 3:00pm Roni, him and others were returning home. After crossing Dhonaidh Eidgah field a microbus (HIACE) with tinted glasses came from the opposite side and stopped their microbus. Some seven/eight men got out of the microbus, broke the windows of their microbus using the butt of the arms (he assumed that these were shotguns and pistols) while some also fired a few rounds of blank shots. One of them put a gun to his head while asking whereabouts of his cousin Nurunnahar in abusive words. He asked why she was not with them when she was supposed to be. When he did not have an answer, the DB men slapped him, punched him and even hit him with the back of their guns. After some time, one of the men fired at Noyon but he saved himself moving away quickly. The driver of the microbus Harun sensed trouble and started the van. The police used 30/40 rounds of fires as the microbus moved about 5/6 yards. They began chasing the microbus Noyon and others were on. Roni and Ripon were screaming out of fear. He noticed Roni was bleeding from his back and Ripon bleeding from his head. At around 4:00 in the evening the men stopped their microbus again in front of M/S Khan Automobiles and Doladoli motors near Talukdar Filling Station situated beside Ashulia-Baipail road and assaulted them while calling them miscreants. He noticed that a few of the men who attacked him were wearing jackets of DB police. That is when he was certain that they were members of law enforcement. He repeatedly requested the DB to take Roni and Ripon to the hospital as soon as possible but they did not pay any heed and instead continued assaulting them. After some time the DB separated him from the group and dragged him onto another police car. The car travelled around places in Ashulia with him inside and while in the

car the DB officials threatened to kill him. He saw one of the DB men asking someone on cell phone to arrange some arms and bring to them. At around 8:00pm, the DB police brought him out of the car and took him to a place behind the amusement park Fantasy Kingdom located in Jamgora of Ashulia.

Standing there, the DB police officers fired around 4/5 blank shots. He was told that he is an infamous miscreant and he is involved in murder, extortion and land grabbing. That is why he will be punished. One policeman handed him a gun and told him to admit that he killed Roni with this gun. Since he did not agree to admit to the offence, they beat him with sticks. All the DB police personnel present there beat him one by one all while threatening him with death unless he admitted killing Roni. One policeman held a gun to his chest and told him to say his final prayers as he would be shot to death then. One of them began slapping and punching him while another one was hitting him with a shotgun repeatedly. After torturing him physically and mentally for a long time in an attempt to get a confession out of him, they took a break.

During that break he heard the conversation among the DB members where they were saying that even though they were told not to shoot, they shot and killed someone for no reason. As a result their job might be in jeopardy. After that a few unknown men brought a bag there. They took out 5/6 large knives, 6/7 medium knives and a machete and placed them in front of him. Then he was told that if he said anything against the DB police he will be slaughtered with those knives.

On October 14, 2012 at around 1:00am the DB police took him to Ashulia Police Station from the area behind Fantasy Kingdom. After he arrived at Ashulia Police Station he got to know that Officer in charge (O.C) of DB police Wahiduzzaman and DB Inspector Shahin Shah Parvez were among those who tortured him and his friends in Dhonaidh Eidgah field, Ashulia-Baipail road and afterwards at Fantasy Kingdom.

He also informed that before entering Ashulia Police Station OC Wahiduzzaman and Inspector Shahin Shah Parvez threatened him that if he said anything against them, i.e. anything about Roni's killing then he would also be killed. In Ashulia Police Station, he was again forced to confess that he shot Roni to death. Moreover, he was also being forced to admit that he grabs land in Ashulia for Fifty Thousand Taka (50000) and on that day he went to his aunt's house with some hired miscreants to kill Roni. However, since he did not agree to what the DB police were telling him to admit he was tortured and threatened with death. Later, he was sent to the Dhaka Central Jail, he said.



Gun fires broke the glasses of the microbus and the circles indicate the bullet hits.

Shobuj Mia (35), tea-stall owner, Eyewitness:

Shobuj Mia informed Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 4:00pm he heard 4/5 rounds of gun fires. He saw that a few young men were screaming from inside a white NOAH microbus while others were looking out terrified in front of “M/S. Khan Automobiles and Doladoli Motors” situated some 20 yards away from his shop near Ashulia-Baipail road. At that time another microbus arrived there and a few men wearing DB uniforms got out and beat those young men with sticks. After that the DB police officials picked up one young man from there into a car and went away. The rest of the young men who were there were taken away in another car by the other DB police officials.



The photo from the left shows the place near the Talukdar Filling Station where Roni, Noyon and others were beaten for second time, and (Right) shows bloodstains where Roni sat.

Mohammad Monir Hossain (24), Roni’s maternal cousin:

Mohammad Monir Hossain told Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 6:00pm he learnt from his younger uncle Mohammad Hobi Hossain that at around 3:00pm the DB policemen shot his cousin Roni to death on Norshinghopur-Konabari road and that his dead body was kept at Enam Medical College Hospital. He went there and after that Roni’s dead body was taken to Dhaka Medical College Hospital for post mortem. The next day at around 6:00pm Roni’s dead body was brought home and at around 9:00pm he was buried at Kaundia Union graveyard.

He added that on October 17, 2012 at around 9:00am when Roni’s family members, relatives, friends and classmates formed a human chain in front of Government Bangla College demanding justice for the killing of Roni by DB police, sub-inspector of DB Shahin Shah Parvez came there and swore at them and made death threats. Shahin Shah Parvez was accompanied with other police

members who assaulted them with sticks and took away the banner they held demanding justice for Roni's killing.



The photo shows the NOAH microbus which carried Roni and others. The circle shows the sign of bullet fire

Kamrunnahar (37), Novon's paternal cousin:

Kamrunnahar informed Odhikar that a few influential people namely Amanullah, son of late Abdus Sobhan, Aatur Rahman Saman, Shonaulah and Robiullah had illegally occupied about 82 decimal lands that they inherited in Baghbari village in Kashimpur Union under Joydebpur Police Station in Gazipur district. To prevent those influential people from taking ownership of their land, her younger sister Nurunnahar took legal action and they got back their ownership on the land in 2009. Amanullah and the others with him were harassing their family and giving them death threats since then, to get the property back. When he was unable to occupy the land again after repeated attempts, he began bribing the DB with hefty amount of money to take revenge on her family members.

On October 13, 2012, Nurunnahar went to the village from Dhaka. On that day Aatur Rahman Saman, Mohammad Nobi and their men along with DB police conspired to kill her younger sister Nurunnahar as she was the main person behind taking back ownership of their inherited land. The opponents had the DB attack them resulting in the death of Roni who had come to their house with Noyon to attend a programme.

On October 25, 2012, the Ashulia Police Station refused to take the case, her cousin and Noyon's older brother Mahmudul Hasan Mamun went to file. So he filed it at the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court in Dhaka against Khalilur Rahman, Mohammad Kabir Hossain Sarkar, Motiur Rahman, Saidur Rahman, Aatur Rahman, Monir Hossain, Atikur Rahman, Mohammad Nobi, Firoz Ahmed, Meherul Huda, Inspector of DB police Shahin Shah Parvez, OC Wahiduzzaman, ASI Harun-Ur-Rashid and 4/5 other people. Section- 148/149/325/326/307/302/34/109¹ of the Penal Code, 1860.

¹ The following sections of the Penal Code, 1860 stated about-
Section-148: Rioting, armed with deadly weapon,
Section- 149: Every member of unlawful assembly guilty of offence committed in prosecution of common object,
Section- 325: Punishment for voluntarily causing grievous hurt,
Section-326 : Voluntarily causing grievous hurt by dangerous weapons or means,
Section- 307: Attempt to murder,
Section -302: Punishment for murder,
Section- 34 : Acts done by several persons in furtherance of common intention.

The case number is 1003/12. She also informed that after that incident the DB police filed a murder case against Noyon and others under section 143/332/353/307/302² of the Penal Code, 1860. The case number is 54 and a case is filed under section-19/a³ of Arms Act,1878, Date 13/10/12. The case number is 55.

Sheikh Mohammad Badrul Alam (PPM), Officer in-Charge (OC), Ashulia Police Station,

Dhaka:

Sheikh Mohammad Badrul Alam told Odhikar that he cannot reveal any information regarding Roni's death without the permission of the Superintendent of police and the Court.

Wahiduzzaman, Officer in-Charge (O.C), District DB police (Detective Branch), Dhaka:

Wahiduzzaman told Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 3:00pm a team of DB police were performing their duties at a check post which they had set up on Norshinghopur-Konabari road situated in Dhonaidh Eidgah Field in Baghbari village of Joydebpur in Gazipur district. They saw a microbus and signalled it to stop. However, the microbus paid no heed to their signal and began speeding away while two men from that microbus were firing at the DB police. The police chased the microbus and caught one man with arms. He claimed that he or DB police had no involvement in the conflict regarding the inherited land of a man named Kofiluddin Ahmed of that area. He informed that this mission was carried out after informing former Police Superintendent Mizanur Rahman who is now Additional Deputy Inspector General of Police and Sheikh Mohammad Badrul Alam (PPM), Officer in-charge of Ashulia Police Station.

Inspector Shahin Shah Parvez, District DB (Detective Branch), Dhaka:

Inspector Shahin Shah Parvez informed Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 3:00pm the DB police signalled a microbus to stop at the check post they set up on Norshinghopur-Konabari road. The microbus slowed down for a bit and then sped away while people from inside it opened fire at them. When the microbus reached the Talukdar Filling Station in Ashulia, officials of Ashulia police line and Ashulia Police Station stopped the microbus. From there eight people were arrested and brought to Ashulia Police Station, he stated.

Section-109: Punishment of abetment if the act abetted is committed in consequence and where no express provision is made for its punishment.

² The following sections of the Penal Code, 1860 stated about-

Section-143: Punishment for unlawful assembly

Section- 132: Abetment of mutiny, if mutiny is committed in consequence thereof

Section- 353: Assault or criminal force to deter public servant from discharge of his duty.

Section- 307: Attempt to murder

Section- 302: Punishment for murder.

³ Section 19(a) of the Arms Act, 1878 stated about:

19. Whoever commits any of the following offences (namely):-

(a) punishment for manufactures, converts or sells, or keeps, offers or exposes for sale, any arms, ammunition or military stores in contravention of the provisions of section 5;

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Dr. Dipankar, Medical Officer, Enam Medical College Hospital, 9/3 Parboti Nagar, Thana Road, Savar, Dhaka:

Dr. Dipankar told Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 5:30pm the police of Ashulia Police Station brought a man named Roni into the emergency department of the hospital. He gave the death certificate and mentioned that there was a bullet wound on the right side of Roni's back which caused his death. He also mentioned in the death certificate that Roni had Cardio-respiratory failure due to severe haemorrhage. The members of police brought the dead body to the Savar Model Police Station.

Abu Zafar Rashed, Assistant Commissioner (land) and Executive Magistrate, Savar, Dhaka:

Abu Zafar Rashed informed Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 8:15pm he prepared the inquest report of Roni at Savar Model Police Station. He saw a bullet wound on Roni's back, above his waist and there was a small hole in his shirt as well which he mentioned in the report.

Dr. Kazi Golam Mokhlesur Rahman, Head of the department, Department of Forensic Medicine, Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Dhaka:

Dr. Kazi Golam Mokhlesur Rahman told Odhikar that on October 13, 2012 at around 8:30pm the police of Ashulia Police Station brought the dead body of a man named Roni into the morgue. He carried out the post mortem of the dead body on October 14, 2012 at around 2:00pm. The post mortem number is: 2043/12. There was a bullet wound on Roni's back and a bullet was obtained from there. In Roni's post mortem his cause of death was mentioned to be Cardio-respiratory failure due to severe haemorrhage. After completion of the post mortem the family members took the body away through the police.

Babul Chandra, Morgue Assistant, Dhaka Medical College Hospital, Dhaka:

Babul Chandra informed Odhikar that on October 14, 2012 he helped the doctor carry out a post mortem on Roni's body. He noticed a bullet wound on the back of the body. After completion of the post mortem the family members took the body through the police.

Odhikar's view: The incident of members of law enforcement agencies in plainclothes shooting someone to death is really alarming and is equivalent to taking a stance against the legal system of the country. Government has repeatedly failed to tackle this situation due to which the rule of law in the country is breaking down. Odhikar demands that the government finds the perpetrators of Roni's killing through a free and fair investigation.