



**Moni Begum, resident of Bishwa Colony area of Chittagong was allegedly tortured in custody of Sitakunda Police**

Fact Finding Report  
Odhikar

Members of the Sitakunda Police Station arrested Moni Begum on July 18, 2012 at around 9:00pm from her house 'Bonoful' at 343/344, Block # G, Bishwa Colony, Sitakunda. Eleven days after her arrest, the police formally took Moni on remand on July 29, 2012. Her family alleged she was tortured.

The mother of two, Sharmin Aktar and Shabrin Aktar, Moni is the daughter of late Abdul Matin and Rumer Nesa. Her husband is late Shahid.

Odhikar conducted a fact finding mission into the matter and interviewed:

- Victim Moni Begum
- Moni Begum's daughter: Sharmin Aktar and Shabrin Aktar
- Doctor of Chittagong Medical College
- Eyewitness (Jail Police)
- Her Lawyer
- Members of law enforcement agency



Photo: Moni Begum

**Moni Begum (38), victim**

Moni Begum told Odhikar that on July 18, 2012 at around 9:30pm, few people knocked at the door of her ground floor. When she went downstairs, they identified themselves as police and asked her to open the gate. They wanted to know her identity after she opened the door. When she identified herself, they inquired for the mobile phone she used. When she gave her mobile phone, they asked her to accompany them to the police station. When she asked for a reason, they said that there was filed a case against her at the Sitakunda Police Station. A plainclothes policeman among them identified himself as SI Khaled Hossain. After reaching the police station, she came to know that one Ibrahim Sumon, whom she and her late husband Shahid knew, had been murdered and was found from an area under Sitakunda police station. Sumon's wife filed a case accusing Moni Begum. The police arrested her based on the case. At around 3:00am, SI Khaled arrived at the police station and said to her that the police, based on her call list, found information about her involvement in the murder. He asked her to confess everything. Khaled left after a while.

Two days later, on July 20, 2012 at around 12:00am SI Khaled came again, tied her hands and intimidated her to admit her involvement in the murder. At one stage Khaled slapped on her face and threatened to beat her while she was in remand. On July 20, 2012 at around 1:00pm, police sought a 7-day remand at the court of Farida Yasmin, Judge, Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court (2). The Court approved two days for her remand and issued orders to transfer her to the Chittagong Central Jail. On July 29, 2012 at around 2:00 pm Khaled brought Moni to the Sitakunda Police Station from Chittagong Central Jail. At around 11:30pm she was moved to a different room in handcuff from where she was kept in custody. There, 8/10 police personnel, led by SI Khaled tortured her there (Some of them were in police uniform and rest were in plain cloth). A female police member was present there at that time. They pressed her to confess her involvement in the murder of Ibrahim Sumon. When she said that she did not know anything about it, they assaulted her. After a while, they inflicted electric shock on her elbow while she was seated on a chair. She dropped on the floor and again everybody beaten her. They kicked on her chest, back and abdomen. After a while they picked her up from the floor and inflicted electric shock on two thighs and burned her hand and back with a cigarette. They continued torturing her for about an hour. At one stage she lost her consciousness.

Next day on July 30, 2012 at around 8:00 am, she found herself at Sitakunda Hospital. She had no strength and could not move because of pain. She saw that the doctor of the hospital did not want to admit her but the police were insisting. After a while she was referred to the Chittagong Medical College from Sitakunda Hospital. On July 30, 2012 she was eventually admitted to the casualty department at the Chittagong Medical College at 1:00 pm.

**Sharmin Aktar (19), elder daughter of Moni Begum**

Sharmin Aktar told Odhikar that on July 18, 2012 at around 9:30 pm, Police members of Sitakunda police arrested her mother. She could not meet her mother till July 29, 2012. On July 30, 2012 she came to know from her uncle Abu Taleb that her mother was taken to the Chittagong Medical College. She went to the hospital at around 4:00pm with her younger sister Shabrin Aktar. She saw her mother lying in the bed handcuffed. The police on doctor's request, unlocked her handcuff. She noticed her mother's body and face were swollen. She saw marks of torture while Moni Begum was changing clothes. There were marks from electric shock inflicted on her and burn and physical injuries on her elbow, fingers, thighs, legs, back, chest and lower abdomen as well. The police wanted to take Moni back in custody on August 3, 2012 at around 11:00am. However, the doctors at the hospital refused the Officer in Charge (OC) and 3/4 other police members their request to take Moni back.

**Imam Hossain (32), nephew of Moni Begum**

Imam Hossain told Odhikar that on July 19, 2012 he contacted SI Khaled. He paid BDT 20,000 to SI Khaled on two occasions, the last on July 20, 2012 at around 2:00am, requesting him not to harass her. Khaled said that if his Aunt was guilty, court will take its due course. After taking money, Khaled also told him, "give me some clue about the murder and I will not do anything". Imam asked the policeman what clue he could provide. SI Khaled did not say anything in reply. Because of the torture inflicted upon her, Moni had to be treated at Chittagong Medical College Hospital from July 30, 2012 to August 7, 2012.

The doctor released Moni on August 7, 2012 after the police insisted although she did not fully recover. In the release letter, the doctor stated that Moni Begum was tortured on 11 places of her body. Imam collected the copy of the release letter. Though Moni was released on August 7, 2012 at 10:30am from hospital, police produced her in front of the Chief Judicial Magistrate Farida Yasmin's Court without release letter at around 3:00pm. SI Khaled did not visit the hospital that day, instead 3/4 members of the police took her to the court from hospital. As there was no release letter among the document presented to the court and by seeing the physical condition of Moni Begum, the Court Inspector did not receive Moni Begum and ordered her to come with a release letter.

The police then took Moni Begum to the Kotwali Police Station. Next day SI Khaled brought a false release letter and produced Moni Begum to the Court. At that time when Moni Begum's lawyer showed the genuine release letter to the court, the Court ordered hospital authority to treat her aunt in the hospital. In the release letter that was submitted by the police it was mentioned that due to diabetes Moni Begum became ill during the remand and as a result she required treatment in the hospital for 8 days. Moni however, did not have diabetes.

Moreover, diabetic patients are not treated in the casualty ward, where Moni was admitted. Though the Court ordered admitting Moni Begum at the Jail Hospital, jail authorities admitted her to the general ward.

**Lutfunnahar Begum, jail police, eyewitness**

Lutfunnahar Begum of the Chittagong Jail Police told Odhikar that on July 29, 2012 when Moni Begum was taken to Sitakunda Police Station for remand, she was with Moni Begum as advised by the jail authority. But when Moni was taken to a separate room from the police custody for interrogation, she was not allowed to enter the room. SI Khaled asked her to stay at the inspector's room. After approximately an hour later, Moni Begum was brought out of the room in an ill state and taken to the Sitakunda Hospital for treatment. Next day on July 30, 2012 at around 12:00pm Moni was taken to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital. Till July 31, 2012 she was at Chittagong Medical College Hospital on duty to look after Moni Begum.

**Bidhu Bhushon Bhowmik, Upazila Health Officer, Sitakunda Hospital**

Bidhu Bhushon Bhowmik said to Odhikar that on July 30, 2012 at around 9:00am, Sitakunda Police brought Moni Begum in a sick condition to the Sitakunda Health Complex for treatment. At that time Moni was suffering from severe breathing problem. So, she was immediately sent to the Chittagong Medical College Hospital. By seeing her condition it seemed to him that she needed a very good medical attention immediately. He did not find enough time to observe whether there was any mark of torture on her body.

**Doctor Shambhu Das, Casualty Unit, Chittagong Medical College Hospital (doctor, who treated Moni Begum)**

Doctor Shambhu Das told Odikar that Casualty Unit maintains strict confidentiality. So, it is out of the rule to disclose any information of any patient outside of the unit. As a result he disagreed to tell anything.

**Mohammad Helal Uddin, Advocate, Judge Court, Chittagong (lawyer of Moni Begum)**

Mohammad Helal Uddin told Odhikar that police arrested Moni Begum within the two hour of a (case no. 19, dated: July 18, 2012, under Section 302/34) filed by the wife of late Ibrahim Sumon, Rehana Aktar. They kept her in police station for two days unlawfully. Later 8/10 police members tortured her in remand violating the state's rule of law. They did not stop there; they even counterfeited the release letter and produced the accused to the Court. After Moni Begum became sick on July 29, 2012 while in remand, she was admitted at the Casualty ward of Chittagong Medical College Hospital for treatment from July 30, 2012 to August 7, 2012.

On August 7, 2012 at around 10:30am, hospital authority issued the release letter mentioning that Moni Begum was tortured on 11 places of her body. SI Khaled brought Moni Begum to the court moments before the closing of the court, keeping her in an unknown place all day long and tried

producing her in front of the Court with a false release letter. But observing Moni's physical condition, the Court Inspector refused to receive her and ordered to come the next day with the real release letter issued by the hospital authority. SI Khaled kept Moni at the Kotowali Police Station on August 7, 2012. But the rule is: if Court did not receive an accused for any reason, the accused must be returned to the respective police station. So, rule was also violated in this respect. Next day on August 8, 2012 at around 11:30am, police produced Moni Begum in front of the Court of Farida Yasmin, Judge of Senior Judicial Magistrate's Court (2) with a false release letter (which mentioned she was treated for diabetes). But diabetes is not treated in the casualty department where Moni Begum was admitted. When Moni's lawyer drew attention on the matter to the Court, the Court ordered for her to be sent to the jail and treated at the jail hospital. It also mentioned that she be produced to the court with a real release letter on August 14, 2012. Police did not submit the letter on August 14, 2012. The Court ordered the authority of Chittagong Medical College Hospital to produce the release letter.

**Mohammad Farid Uddin, Sub-Assistant Police Commissioner (north), Chittagong**

Mohammad Farid Uddin told Odhikar that he received a complaint regarding the torture of Moni Begum during her remand. But he did not get any proof against the complaint. He also told that as far as he knew, Moni was a schemer and prime accused in the Ibrahim Sumon murder case. So, it was natural that police would interrogate her to solve the case and she would also allege against the police to save herself.

**Mohammad Aminul Islam, Officer in Charge (OC), Sitakunda Police Station, Chittagong**

Mohammad Aminul Islam, Officer in Charge (OC), Sitakunda Police Station, Chittagong told Odhikar that although Moni Begum's house at Bishwa Colony was 50 kilometres away from Sitakunda, her cell phone was traced within the range of Sitakunda tower at night of July 17, 2012. Besides, she talked several times with Ibrahim Sumon. He also told that after initial investigation he had information about her involvement of Moni Begum in the murder. Moni Begum was suffering from diabetes and fell ill out of tension right after she was taken on remand. That was why she was admitted to the hospital. She was kept at the police station for few hours. It is not possible to torture in such a short time.

**Mohammad Khaled Hossain, Sub Inspector (SI) and Second Officer, Sitakunda Police Station, Chittagong (accused police officer)**

SI Khaled Hossain told Odhikar that on July 18, 2012 at around 7:00am, police retrieved a body, with hands, legs and mouth tied, from the east of Dhaka-Chittagong highway adjacent to the Koshakhana of Shiekhpara under Sitakunda Police Station. At around 2:00pm, Rehana Aktar, resident of 1/pa, Block -G, Bishwa Colony under Khulshi Police Station came at the police station and identified the body. It was of her husband Ibrahim Sumon. That same day Rehana Aktar filed a case accusing Moni Begum, whose husband was late Shahidur Rahman, resident of

plote-343/344, Block # G, Bishwa Colony, Khulshi as plaintiff (case no. 19, Dated: July 18, 2012, under Section 302/34). The plaintiff stated that Sumon had a financial dispute with Moni Begum. On July 17, 2012 at around 6:00pm Moni called Sumon on his mobile phone and asked him to come at OlonkerMor at Pahartoli to take money. Sumon never returned after that. On July 18, 2012 his body was found at Sitakunda. The plaintiff talked to Moni Begum about the matter afterwards. From the conversation, the plaintiff suspected her and filed a case against her. In the same night SI Khaled arrested Moni Begum from her house at Bishwa Colony. He said they received important information from her. But the investigation was not complete. Regarding the torture, SI Khaled said that Moni Begum's character was not good; she was a shrewd and cruel person. It was proved that she had relation with miscreants and armed killers. She pretended to be sick from the beginning of the interrogation.

### **P.S.**

On July 31, 2012 SI of Sitakunda Model Police Station Mohammad Khaled Hossain submitted a report with a copy of prescription issued from Upazila Health Complex, Sitakunda, Chittagong to the Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, Chittagong through the Court Inspector, Sadar Court, Chittagong. The report stated that on July 30, 2012 when the accused informed that she was feeling sick out of asthma, high blood pressure and diabetes, the doctor on duty gave her first aid and recommended her to Chittagong Medical College Hospital for better treatment. The doctor at emergency department at Chittagong Medical College Hospital admitted her at bed no. 17 of Casualty Ward for observation. It was known from hospital that the patient was suffering from asthma, diabetes and high blood pressure and was kept at hospital for observation. But during the fact-finding mission Odhikar found two release letters for her issued by Casualty Department. On one letter Moni Begum was mentioned as a patient of diabetes and on another injury note was provided.

### **Latest condition**

On October 30, 2012 investigation officer of the case SI Mohammad Khaled Hossain told Odhikar that the case was under High Court division of the Supreme Court (case no. 19, Dated: July 18, 2012, under Section 302/34) and Moni Begum was at the Chittagong Central Jail. He also said that police of Sitakunda Police Station arrested two suspects named Mohammad Javed and Kalam Hossain. They admitted in their confessional statements the involvement of Moni Begum in the Ibrahim Sumon murder case.



হাসপাতাল ভ্যাগকালে উপদেশ ও ব্যবস্থাপত্র :-

• আবার - অ্যাডমিট

✓ Tab. Turbocef 500mg/ Cap. Triocim 200mg  
1+0+1 ..... দিন, ১২ ঘটা পর পর → ০০/৮/১২ তারিখ পর্যন্ত থায়ে

✓ Tab. Xidolac 10mg  
1+0+1, ভরা পেটে ..... দিন

✓ Cap. Proceptin 20 mg  
1+0+1 (যেবার ১/২ ঘটা পূর্বে) ..... দিন।

X Tab. Bextrum Gold  
0+0+1 (যেবার ১/২ ঘটা পূর্বে) ..... দিন।

চিকিৎসা:

৩) চিকিৎসা গ্রন্থি মায়েন

৬) নিচের টেস্টগুলো করছেন

• Xray Rt knee (AP) → বর্তি করে অর্ধগোলাক  
বর্ধি: বিস্তারিত ফলাফল

• ECG  
• Serum creatinine  
• RBS  
→ এই test সমূহ করে  
বিস্তারিত বর্ধি: বিস্তারিত  
ফলাফল জানাবেন

৬) হানস সান্দ্রোয়ালি দ্বারা বায়ুজ পুনঃসংস্থাপনা  
বর্ধি: বিস্তারিত ফলাফল জানাবেন

বিঃ দ্রঃ- পুনরায় ভর্তি বা উপদেশের জন্য এই ছাড়পত্র অবশ্যই সঙ্গে আনবেন।

দ্রষ্টব্য: সীলন ও পর্যবেক্ষণের ফলাফল :-

Injury note :

there were bruise in different parts of body.

In left arm → 2 bruises, one is 1x2 cm  
another is 2x2 cm

In left forearm → a bruise present in extensor  
surface, just above the wrist joint & little  
finger

2 cm above left elbow, on medial side of  
arm a bruise about 1x2 cm.

In Rt arm → in extensor surface 3 cm below  
elbow joint.

Small burn mark in proximal phalanx of Rt  
thumb.

Bruise in the lateral side of left knee (0.5x0.5)cm

Bruise in medial side of Rt knee & lower  
leg 1x1 cm.

Bruise over Rt knee 2x2 cm.

Bruise over Rt great toe and 1st Metatarsal 4x3 cm.

Bruise over left great toe 2x2 cm.

বাংলাদেশ ফর্ম নং ৮১৭

হাসপাতাল

17-10-2012

B-17

R-72524/17

ছাড়পত্র

প্রত্যয়ন করা যাইতেছে যে, ক্রমিক নং (৪০/৪২২)

পিতা/স্বামী: মো: হারিসুল ইসলাম

ঠিকানা: শুল্কী, চট্টগ্রাম

আস হাসপাতালে: সার্জারি বিভাগে, ক্যান্সার

০৭ শয্যা/কেবিনে ০০/৭/১২ ইতে ০৮/১২

আবিধ পর্বত চিকিৎসাধীন ছিলেন।

তিনি Physical assault

ভুক্তিহীন।

তারিখ: ০৭/০৮/১২

স্বাক্ষর: [Signature]

পদবী: [Title]

বেজি নম্বর: [ID Number]

for [Signature]  
০৭/১২

স্বাক্ষর ও সীলন  
হাসপাতাল  
০৭/১২

প্রদত্ত চিকিৎসা ও শল্য চিকিৎসার বিবরণ :-

- Tab. Furacef 600mg
- Tab. Protonil 20mg
- Tab. Rolac 10mg
- Tab. Emistat 8mg
- Syrup Entacyd

হাসপাতাল ভ্যাংকালে উপদেশ ও ব্যবস্থাপন :-

খাবার - ডায়াবেটিক

✓ 1. Turboclear  
Tab. FH-250mg/500mg/ Cap. Textit 200mg/400mg  
১+০+১ দিন, ১২ ঘণ্টা পর পর → ০০/৮/১২ তারিখ পর্যন্ত খা যেন

✓ 2. Tab K- Flam 10mg  
১+০+১, ভরা পেটে ..... ৩ দিন

✓ 3. Tab Nexe - 20mg  
১+০+১ (খাবার ১/২ ঘণ্টা পূর্বে) ..... ৩৫ দিন।

✓ 4. Tab-Aztrum-Gold-  
০+০+১ ..... দিন।

৫. Tab. Cortine ২০০ mg  
০+০+০

৬. Tab. Nons (10mg)  
০+০+০

৭. Tab. Comet (৬০০mg)  
০+০+০

৮. Tab. Angilock ৫০mg  
০+০+০

৯. Tab. Kollium ০.৫mg  
০+০+০

উদ্দেশ্য:

৩ নিয়মিত ওষুধি খাফে

২) X ray Rt knee joint

থ্রু - টেস্টে করে

অর্থোপেডিক বারি: বিভাগে

যোগাযোগ করবেন

৩. ECG

• serum creatinine

• RBS

টেস্ট-মস্কুং করে ডায়েগনসিস করিয়ে

যোগাযোগ করবেন

৬) লেন্সডেল্ল থ্রুই স্বর্ণে কাননুগস

মহ নার্জারি বারি: বিভাগে

যোগাযোগ করবেন

বিঃ দ্রঃ- পুনরায় ভর্তি বা উপদেশের ক্ষেত্রে এই ছাড়পত্র অবশ্যই সঙ্গে আনবেন।

বাংলাদেশ ফরম নং ৮১৭

হাসপাতাল চমেকিয়া

ছাড়পত্র

প্রত্যয়ন করা যাইতেছে যে, জনাব আনি বেগম (৪০ বছর)

পিতা/স্বামী মোঃ নূরুদ্দীন রহমান

ঠিকানা খুলনারি, চট্টগ্রাম

অত্র হাসপাতালে আর্ডার বিভাগে রোগী ওয়ার্ডে

৩৩ নং শয্যা/কেবিনে ১০০/০৭/১২ ইংতে ০৭/০৮/১২

তারিখ পর্যন্ত চিকিৎসাধীন ছিলেন।

তিনি Restlessness with History of DM, HTN, Bronchial  
Asthma and Physical assault ছিলেন।

তারিখ ০৭/০৮/১২

স্বাক্ষর Dr. Anwar

পদবী State

রেজিঃ নম্বর

## Statement of Odhikar

Torture is a clear violation of Section 35(5) of the Constitution of Bangladesh. Despite that, the long tradition of impunity of law enforcement agency is continuing. As a result, the rule of law is undermined. Odhikar demands a fair trial for the mental and physical torture on Moni Begum in the police custody.