



Two people were shot dead by BSF in the Daudpur Frontier of Birampur at Dinajpur

Fact-finding Report

Odhikar

On December 16, 2011 at about 11.30 pm Tayej Uddin (33), the son of Asir Uddin Mondol of Ronogaon Basupara village of Dinajpur district of Bangladesh and Motiar Rahman (22), son of Siddique Sarkar of Dakkhin Daudpur village of Dinajpur of Bangladesh were shot dead by the Border Security Force (BSF) of Gobindopur camp, Hilli thana, South Dinajpur district of India. They were killed near sub pillars 22-23 of main pillar 289 of Daudpur Frontier of Dinajpur. The Border Guard Bangladesh (BGB) came to know about the incident through a flag meeting with BSF.

Odhikar conducted a fact-finding mission into the incident and spoke to:

- The relatives of the deceased Tayej Uddin and Motiar Rahman
- Eye-witnesses
- The person who washed the bodies before burial
- Member of law enforcement agencies



Picture: Flag meeting between BDR and BSF on December 18, 2011; the dead body of Motiar Rahman

Mosammat Taslima Bibi (27), wife of Tayej Uddin

Mosammat Taslima Bibi told Odhikar that, she has two daughters and one son. Her husband used to earn a livelihood by plying a cycle van that he bought with a loan taken from a local NGO. At 7 pm on December 16, 2011 her husband went out in search of a job with his van and did not return at night. In the morning of December 17, 2011 she learnt from some locals that, two people were

shot dead by the BSF at the border at night. When she contacted the BGB camp, she was informed that, among them, one was called Motiar and another one was her husband, Tayej Uddin. On December 18, 2011, the local police handed over her husband's body. At 11 am on December 19, 2011, the body of her husband was buried in Ronogaon Basupara village. She claimed justice for the murder of her husband.

Abdur Roshid (36), elder brother of Tayej Uddin

Abdur Roshid told Odhikar that at around 11.30 in the night of December 16, 2011, he heard 3/4 shots being fired. This happened while he was out looking for his brother as he had not returned home that night. At around 7 in the morning of December 17, 2011, he heard that two bodies were found at the border. After going to Daudpur village he came to know that while crossing the border, Tayej Uddin was shot dead by BSF. He contacted the BGB camp. At around 8.50 pm on December 18, 2011, the police of Birampur Police Station handed over his brother's body to him in the presence of BGB members. Then, at around 10 in the morning of December 19, 2011, he conducted the bath ritual of his brother's body. At that time, he saw a bullet hole in the right side of his brother's head. He believed the BSF shot Tayej Uddin from a close range.

Monsur Ali Mondol (28), uncle of deceased Motiar Rahman

Monsur Ali Mondol told Odhikar that Motiar Rahman was a farmer. At around 11.30 in the night of December 16, 2011, he heard the sound of four bullets firing from the Daudpur border. As a consequence, the local people got scared. At around 5.25 in the morning of December 17, 2011, he went to work on his land. There he talked with some Indian farmers of the bordering Srikrishnapur village. One of the Indian farmers told Monsur Ali that two Bangladeshi cattle traders had been shot dead by the BSF. He also added, from the BSF, he came to know that one of them was Motiar and the other one was Tayej Uddin. Then Monsur Ali contacted the BGB camp to get the body of Motiar Rahman. At around 8.50 in the night of December 18, 2011, the BGB members and police handed over Motiar and Tayej Uddin's body to their relatives. As the Indian police already performed the post mortem, the Bangladeshi police did not repeat it. At 11.00 in the morning of December 19, 2011, Motiar was buried in Dokkhin Daudpur village. Monsur Ali saw a bullet hole in the right side of Motiar's waist.

Nazir Uddin (52), local resident

Nazir Uddin told Odhikar that at night on December 16, 2011, he heard from the local people that, at around 11.30 pm while bringing cows from the Indian border, two people were shot dead by BSF and they were Tayej Uddin and Motiar Rahman. On December 18, 2011, he came to know that on that specific night Tayej and Motiar in a group went to the area to bring Indian cows over

the border to Bangladesh. Between 10.00 to 11.00 pm on December 16, 2011, they were able to bring some cows from India to the Daudpur border. While crossing the border, a cow suddenly lay down on the road. They tried to pull the cow up, but it refused to stand. At that time, the BSF came and told them to leave the cow there. The cattle traders refused to do so and this caused a scuffle between them and the BSF. The BSF soldiers started firing and Tayej Uddin and Motiar were shot dead on the spot. The other cattle traders fled back into Bangladesh.

Nayeb Subedar Bozlor Rahman, In-charge of Daudpur Border Camp of BGB, Birampur, Dinajpur.

Nayeb Subedar Bozlor Rahman told Odhikar that at around 11.30 at night on December 16, 2011, he heard the sound of four gunshots. Immediately he went to the area to carry out an investigation with the assistance of the locals.

At around 6.00 in the morning of December 17, 2011 he learnt that two Bangladeshis named Tayej Uddin and Motiar Rahman lay dead 350 yards away from the sub pillars 22 and 23 of the main pillar 289 of Daudpur border. The BSF members of Gobindopur Camp of Shrikrishnopur village, India, had shot them. Then he sent a letter to the BSF for the return of the bodies of the two men. At around 11.30 in the morning of December 18, 2011, a Commander level flag meeting between the BSF and BGB was held near sub pillar 53 of the main pillar 289 of the Indian border. Major Tareq Iftekhar, Acting Brigadier; Major Shahed Sarowar OBS Officer; and Company Commander Abdul Kader Mir of Vigor Camp of the 40 BGB Battalion led this meeting on behalf of the BGB.

From the Indian side, Deputy Commander Sri Juhal; Company Commander Sontosh Shorma of the 96 BSF Battalion of Patiram Camp of South Dinajpur; Company Commander Rakesh Kumar of Agra Camp; Inspector Purand of Gobindopur Camp; and Company Commander Martin Gore of Hilli Camp of the 28 Battalion of BSF were present. After the meeting, BSF returned the bodies.

Subedar Abdul Kader Mir, Company Commander of BGB, Vigor Camp, Birampur, Dinajpur

Subedar Abdul Kader Mir told Odhikar that at around 11.30 in the night of December 16, 2011, when he came to know about the news of the shootings, he went immediately to the border for investigation. On December 17, 2011, he sent a letter to the BSF asking for identification and return of the bodies. At 11.30 in the morning of December 18, 2011, a Brigadier- level flag meeting was held near the sub pillar 53 of main pillar 289. After the meeting, the bodies were handed over by Company Commander Rakesh Kumar to him. Subedar Abdul Kader Mir then handed over the bodies of Tayej Uddin and Motiar Rahman to Sub Inspector Belal Hossain of Birampur Police Station of Dinajpur, Bangladesh.

Sub Inspector Belal Hossain, Birampur Police Station , Dinajpur, Bangladesh

Sub Inspector Belal Hossain told Odhikar that he came to know from the BGB that the BSF would return the bodies of Tayej Uddin and Motiar Rahman. At 7.20 in the evening of December 18, 2011, a flag meeting was held, where the relatives of Tayej and Motiar were present. At around 8.20 pm the Company Commander Rakesh Kumar of Agra Camp, Indian BSF handed over the two bodies to the Company Commander Abdul Kader Mir of Vigor Camp, BGB. Then Company Commander Abdul Kader Mir gave the bodies to Belal Hossain. Then he prepared a draft of the inquest report. He noticed that Tayej Uddin was shot in the left side of his head; and Motiar Rahman was shot in the right side of his waist. Company Commander Rakesh Kumar of Agra Camp told him that, the Hilli Police Station police of South Dinajpur, India had already completed the post mortem of the two men. Besides, an Indian policeman, being a plaintiff filed two death cases, informed Rakesh Kumar. The unnatural death cases were: late Tayej Uddin , son of Asir Uddin of Ronogaown Basupara, Hilli; case filed on 18/12/11 and numbered 32/11; and late Motiar Rahman ,son of Siddique Sarkar of South Daudpur/ case number 33/11 filed on 18/12/11. The BSF said that they would give the F.I.R. and post mortem reports to the BGB. After the inquest he handed the bodies of Tayej Uddin and Motiar to their relatives. As two cases were already filed in the Hilli Police Station, the Bangladeshi police did not file any further case at Birampur Police Station.

Fajlur Rahman(50), who conducted the bath ritual of Motiar Rahman

Fajlur Rahman told Odhikar that, at around 10.00 pm on December 18, 2011, he conducted the bath ritual of Motiar. He saw a bullet hole below the right side of his waist.

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