

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh  
Ministry of Information  
Office of the Minister  
Bangladesh Secretariat, Dhaka

Ref: Memo No. TAMA/TAMAD/BIBIDH-10/2013/2144

Date: 10/07/2013

Subject: Requesting a copy of fact finding report carried out by Odhikar on 'Assembly of Hefazate Islam Bangladesh and Human Rights Violations'

Dear Sir,

We have seen in the media that your organisation published a fact finding report titled 'Assembly of Hefazate Islam Bangladesh and Human Rights Violations' on June 20, 2013. You have mentioned in the report that you have collected the names of 61 deceased persons, who were killed during the operation conducted by the law enforcement agencies to disperse Hefazate Islam activists on early morning of May 6 at Shapla Square in Motijheel, Dhaka. But we were informed by the police department that 11 persons, including a policeman, were killed during the clash between law enforcement agencies and Hefazate Islam on May 5, 2013 and no one was killed at night during the operation to disperse the assembly of Hefazate Islam. We have searched thoroughly the reports published on May 6 and 7, 2013 in various national daily newspapers, including the daily Naya Diganta, daily Songram, and daily Inqilab and we could not find more than 16 persons who died on that day. Confusion has been created over the actual number of deaths of Hefazat men during the whole day of May 5 and early morning of May 6. The government is enthusiastic to make public the real facts and actual number of deaths by conducting a further in-depth investigation as there has been confusion regarding the death toll during the clash between Hefazate Islam and law enforcement agencies. Your fact finding report would be necessary for this task of the government.

Therefore, we request you to send us your fact finding mission report including the detailed list of 61 deceased persons along with the names of their fathers, mothers and their addresses.

Thank you,

sd/-

10/07/2013

(Mohammad Shahidul Huq Bhuiyan)

Personal Secretary to the Minister (Deputy Secretary)

Ministry of Information

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