

Teachers, students demand fair probe into death of Akter Jahan

RU Correspondent · Rajshahi

FACULTY members and students of mass communication and journalism department of the University of Rajshahi on Wednesday demanded a fair investigation into the unnatural death of their fellow teacher, professor Akter Jahan, who reportedly committed suicide in her apartment on September 9.

The teachers and the students formed a human chain and held a rally on the campus, protesting against such untimely death of Akter Jahan.

They also demanded exemplary punishment of those who forced her to commit suicide.

Over hundred and fifty students of the department brought out a mourning procession on the campus around 10:00am which later converged at a human chain in front of the RU central library.

Addressing the human chain, the speakers said that Akter Jahan did not commit suicide; she was forced to do it.

She was gradually led to death as all her happiness, love and beauty were snatched away. She was alive like a dead person; and recovering of her dead body was mere a formality, they observed.

They said they believe it is possible to identify those responsible behind her death.

'We never thought that

we will gather here and talk over Akter Jahan madam's death. We don't know how much physical and mental tortures could push a person toward committing suicide,' said Najmul Hasan Rana, a final year student of the respective department.

Associate professor Akter Jahan was found dead inside her dormitory at Zuberi Bhaban, a guesthouse-cum-quarter designated for teachers, living single on the campus. On that night police and his colleagues also found a 'suicide note' under a laptop in her bedroom.

The note read, 'No one is responsible for my death. I committed suicide due to physical and mental pressure.' In the note, she also wished to

donate her body to Rajshahi Medical College Hospital, instead of taking it to Dhaka.

The police and doctors said that no sign of injury was found on her body and that she had committed suicide by taking poison.

Her colleagues said she lived her last few years amid unhappiness. Things related to her death could be surfaced through a fair investigation.

Police said no arrest was made and that three SIMs of the teacher were sent to the respective mobile operators for information on correspondence during the last few days. Motihar police said they are also talking to the colleagues of Akter Jahan to find clues to her death.