

Khadiza fighting for life, survival chances slim

Say doctors; attacker Badrul suspended from Sust; BCL insists he's not from the organisation; Sust-BCL men contradict

STAR REPORT

The chances of survival are slim for the girl who was hacked in broad daylight by a Chhatra League man in Sylhet on Monday.

The attacker delivered blows on Khadiza Begum Nargis' head with a machete, and the sharp weapon went beyond the skull multiple times injuring the brain, said doctors.

"With such injuries, the chance of someone's survival is between five and 10 percent," said Rezaus Sattar, a neurosurgeon at the Square Hospitals where the girl was being treated.

Talking to reporters in front of the hospital, he said Khadiza had a neurosurgery and doctors would observe her for the next 72 hours.

He said the girl was on life support since she had been brought there yesterday morning.

Mirza Najimuddin, medical director of the



Badrul



Khadiza

hospital, said, "During the attack, she must have had initially tried to protect herself by covering her face with her arms, which resulted in injuries to her forearms."

A student of Sylhet Government Women's College, Khadiza, 23, was hacked repeatedly by Badrul

Alam, a fourth-year student of Shahjalal University of Science and Technology (Sust) and also senior assistant secretary of the BCL unit in Sust.

However, the BCL in a statement yesterday urged journalists not to mention the organisation's name while reporting the incident, claiming that Badrul had nothing to do with the organisation.

The statement was signed by Delwar Hossain Shahjada, office secretary of pro-ruling Awami League student body.

BCL Sust unit also issued a statement making

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similar claims.

It claimed that Badrul was a teacher at a school in Sunamganj and that a job service holder cannot be a member of the organisation.

A Facebook profile that appears to be of Badrul's, however, tells a different story.

It shows Badrul purportedly mentioning himself as the senior assistant secretary of the Sust BCL.

On September 12, Badrul purportedly uploaded a picture of what seems to be an Eid greetings pamphlet featuring a collage of pictures of himself along with three central leaders of BCL.

Wishing not to be named, several activists of the BCL unit said Badrul was indeed holding the post.

Following the attack, Khadiza was initially admitted to Sylhet Osmani Medical College where she had undergone a surgery.

The gruesome attack was carried out on

Murari Chand College

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sioner of Sylhet Metropolitan Police.

In the case, Kuddus said, "As he started to harass my niece, we told him to leave our house. Although he left the house, he kept stalking Khadiza on her way to college."

Khadiza's family then contacted Badrul's parents and informed them of the matter.

But instead of stopping him, his parents "tried to encourage" Badrul to continue with his activities, said the case statement.

The statement also said Khadiza came under attack when she was returning home after one of her second-year examinations at the MC College.

Badrul ambushed her when she was going past a pond on her way home. Khadiza's classmates tried to save her but they had to run away on being threatened by Badrul, added the statement.

Later, the students along with locals caught and beat Badrul up and handed him over to police.

Meanwhile, students and locals blockaded the Sylhet-Tamabil highway for an hour from 11:00pm, demanding justice for Khadiza.

