

# RU TEACHER KILLING

## Police still in dark about motive, protests on

**Staff Correspondent**

POLICE still grope for the motive behind the murder of Rajshahi University teacher AFM Rezaul Karim Siddiquee even after five days of the killing that sparked raging protests on the campus.

The university teachers and students continued demonstrations for five consecutive days on Wednesday, demanding justice for professor Rezaul.

Rajshahi Metropolitan Police commissioner Mohammed Shamsuddin in a news briefing at his office quoting witnesses said three people aged 24 to 25 took part in the killing but the motive was not clear yet.

He also said the detained madrassah teacher Monsur Ali was released and Imam Raihan Ali was in police custody for interrogation, our Rajshahi correspondent reports.

AFM Rezaul Karim Siddiquee, 58, was killed on April 23 near his house while he was awaiting the university transport at Battola intersection.

Following the incident Rezaul Karim Siddiquee's son Riasat Erntiaj Sourav filed a case with Boalia police on that day and a day after the case was transferred to detective branch of police.

Riasat expressed the dissatisfaction over the investigation of the case as the police were not yet able to bring the criminals to book.

He told New Age, 'Five days have passed but the police are yet to find out any clue. That is mysterious.'

Meanwhile, RU teachers and students of different departments including English, Bangla, accounting and information systems, marketing, folklore, and computer engineering departments observed different protesting programmes on the campus on Wednesday since morning.

The protesters brought out a silent procession, held rallies and blocked the Dhaka-Rajshahi highway, demanding immediate arrest and exemplary punishment of the killers.

Associate Professor Abdullah Al Mamun, once student of Rezaul Karim

Siddiquee, said they would continue their protest programmes beside holding classes until the killers were arrested.

'We would submit memorandums to Rajshahi divisional Commissioner, deputy commissioner and police commissioner tomorrow in this regard,' he added.

Md Sakhawat Hossain said the killers were trying to stop free thinking and trying to create standstill by killing teachers one after another.

At least four teachers were killed in last 12 years in RU including Rezaul Karim Siddiquee.

The Federation of Bangladesh University Teachers' Association in a press release said they would hold a three-hour work abstention and stage demonstration on May 2 at all public universities across the country demanding trial in the gruesome murder.

The decision was made at a general meeting of teachers held at Teachers' Club at Dhaka University on Tuesday, said the association president, Farid Uddin Ahmed.

To express solidarity with the agitating teachers and student leaders of the federation will also join a protest rally at Rajshahi University on May 3, said Farid.

FBUTA leaders will also submit a memo and hold a meeting with home minister Asaduzzaman Khan Karnal on May 4 demanding security of all university teachers, he said.

--