

DISTORTION OF HISTORY

DU, BOU teachers to face criminal charge

HC orders filing case within 24 hrs

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court yesterday directed Bangladesh Open University (BOU) authorities to file a criminal case against three Dhaka university professors and several others who are allegedly liable for distorting Liberation War history in two BOU textbooks.

It asked the authorities to file the case within 24 hours.

The DU professors are Ferdous Hossain, Dil Rawshan Zinat Ara Naznin and Hasanuzzaman Chowdhury all teachers of political science department at the university.

The HC passed the order after BOU Vice Chancellor Prof Aminur Rashid brought allegation against the three professors and several BOU teachers of distorting history of the Liberation War in books of

SEE PAGE 6 COL 2

DU, BOU teachers

FROM PAGE 20

Sociology 2nd paper and Civics 2nd paper of Higher Secondary School Certificate under his university (BOU).

The BOU teachers are Md Galib, Kobeda Aktar, Md Abdur Rahim, Md Kutubuddin, Md Ansaruzzaman, Md Mizanur Rahman, Anwarul Islam, Md Ashek Ali, AB Khairul Islam, Abdul Karim and Md Nasimul Islam.

Prof Aminur Rashid, DU pro-VC Prof Harun-or-Rashid, Prof Shawkat Ara Hossain, Prof Sadiha Sultana, Mahfuza Chowdhury and HM Delwar Hossain yesterday appeared before the HC as per its earlier

order in connection with a writ petition filed on charge of distorting history of the Liberation War.

Petitioners' counsel Belal Hussain Joy told The Daily Star that the six would have to again appear before the HC bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik and Justice Jahangir Hossain Selim on March 12 in this connection.

Supreme Court lawyers Altaf Uddin Ahmed and Mahmud Hossain filed the petition with the HC in January 2010, saying that Sociology 2nd paper and Civics 2nd paper of HSC under the BOU described

late president Ziaur Rahman as the one who had declared the country's independence, although the HC in a verdict in 2009 ruled that Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman had declared the independence on March 26, 1971.

The books also say that Zia is the greatest son of the country and nation, although the HC termed Bangabandhu the greatest Bangalee of a thousand years.

The writ petition stated that the books published were suppressing historical facts and incorporating false and fabricated information

into the history of the declaration of the independence.

In an immediate reaction, DU Pro Vice-Chancellor Harun-or-Rashid yesterday told reporters at his residence that the three DU professors committed a crime against the war of liberation and betrayed the martyred freedom fighters through their effort to distort the history.

Terming the distortion of the history a 'cold blooded murder', he demanded exemplary punishment of the accused so that none would dare to do the same crime in future.