

Recap

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JANUARY ACID ATTACK VICTIM— 19 YEAR OLD GARMENTS WORKER DIES 12 DAYS POST ATTACK

| 10 FEBRUARY 2022

January acid attack victim of Manikganj, Sathi Akter, a 19-year-old garments worker, attacked on 29th January by drug addict ex over dowry, passed away on 10th February at 12.30 AM in Sheikh Hasina National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery (SHNIBPS). She was in ICU battling for her life since 31st January.

Around 3 months prior to the attack, Sathi divorced her ex over dowry-related domestic abuse. But even after the divorce, he assaulted her for dowry.

On 29th January 2022, in Sauria, Manikganj, Sathi's drug-addicted unemployed ex attacked her with acid in her sleep at 1 AM.

The spillage severely burnt her face and hands and also impacted her mother and sister sleeping next to her to a limited extent.

The survivors were first taken to Zila Sadar hospital for preliminary treatment and then to SHNIBPS for specialized care.

The police arrested the perpetrator after Sathi's uncle filed a case against him at the Sauria Police Station.

On 30th January 2022, ASF visited Sathi in SHNIBPS to evaluate her situation to provide necessary support.

We are deeply saddened by Sathi's passing and anxiously awaiting justice. May God grant eternal peace to the departed soul and grant strength and patience to the family.



SURVIVOR AYESHA SIDDIQUA PASSES HSC WITH GPA-5



| 13 FEBRUARY 2022

Ayesha Siddiqua, from Nandigram, Bogra was attacked with acid in 2007 in her sleep. Ever since we offered her medical treatment and financial assistance on multiple occasions to help her recover and receive a quality education respectively.

It is with great pleasure that we inform you that on 13 February, Ayesha successfully passed her HSC (Grade-12) with GPA-5 from Bogra Government Azizul Haque College. We are extremely happy for her in achieving this milestone and wish her the very best of luck in her future endeavors.

ASF STAFF ATTENDS COURT TO SUPPORT SURVIVOR CASE TRIAL

| 28 FEBRUARY 2022

On 28th February 2022, former ASF Medical Officer visited The Judges Court Dhaka to support survivor Akram Sheikh's trial by serving as a witness. ASF Health Care Coordinator and Trainee Legal Officer also attended the trial in an act of solidarity.

CASE STORY

REBA YASMIN

- Year of incident: 2000



Reba Yasmin was born in Boriya village of Jhalokati district to a middle-class family of 10. Her father was a sweet shop owner and her eldest brother was an expatriate in Saudi Arabia.

Reba's parents wanted her to flourish academically and financially. Following Reba's HSC graduation, they wished she earned a higher degree and became financially independent. But Reba wanted to gather work experience instead before resuming her education.

Her father arranged a clerk job for her in the computer section of a college which paid Tk 9,000 and had her admitted to a BA degree program in the same college. Not long after, Reba got engaged to a college peer named Shamim from the same district. Their wedding was arranged two months following the engagement.

On the day of the ceremony, Faruq, one of their relatives made sure everything went

smoothly and according to plan. Preparations were all in place and guests were to arrive at 10 in the morning. But everything fell apart as soon as 4.

Months before, Faruq, their relative, a married man and a father of two, proposed Reba. Her father declined and on another occasion, her younger brother Kamal beat Faruq on account of teasing her repeatedly. Although the two parties sat down soon after and settled matters, Faruq simmered in anger and remained vengeful.

On the day of Reba's wedding, Faruq entered her room with a mug full of acid. She did not think too much of his appearance. Soon after, Faruq threw acid at her which immediately burnt her eyes, nose, mouth, throat, hands, feet, and back severely.

At first, Reba mistook the sizzling liquid for hot vegetable broth. But in an instant the corrosive fried Reba's skin causing her to

let out a screech and run around in pain. Her screams were muffled by the loud music in the house but soon her father and sister noticed. The festive mood and colors of the day washed away in an instant flood of horror.

Reba was rushed to Barishal Medical College Hospital and later a case was filed at Rajapur police station against Faruq. The tribunal sentenced Faruq to 14 years of imprisonment on the basis of evidence. But it was later reported that he was released and moved to India. Reba's marriage to Shamim was nullified and not long after he left for America.

Nothing went as planned that fateful day. Reba was devastated but she did not give up. We intervened and offered her treatment. As she recovered we offered her computer training for job placement. She gained confidence in herself and found her place again in society. Soon, she got married and had a daughter.

Last year, her husband passed away amid the pandemic but she's still kept her head up high. Reba has immense patience and resilience. She has our utmost respect and support.



EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH: MD EBNUL FORHAD

Md Ebnul Forhad was born and raised in Chapai Nawabganj, Rajshahi. He graduated from Daffodil International University with a BSc in Computer Science and Engineering in 2016.

Before joining ASF, Forhad served as a project engineer in System Operation Center at Robi for about 3 years and as a technical officer in Network Operation Center at Citycell for a year. In 2020, he switched from Telecoms to IT, and the year after joined ASF as an IT officer.

At ASF, his work includes website update and maintenance, MIS, posting content over social media, and maintaining and troubleshooting technical issues in both hardware and software. He is also involved in resource mobilization in that he communicates with donors and

supporters about ASF communication products and handles ASF's online payment gateways.

In his free time, he enjoys playing cricket, watching movies, and cooking.

Forhad is ASF's only IT professional which translates to a lot of work day in and day out for an individual. But he handles his work with grace and patience. At times of failure, he is quick to bounce back with renewed vitality and try again. During the Pandemic, in a time of hopelessness, Forhad's high spirits gave a lot of strength to the team. We are very proud to have such a dynamic person on board with us. Thank you Forhad for all your hard work and sincerity.



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SERVICE REPORT

AT A GLANCE

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SURVIVORS



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- 10 Legal Counseling
- 79 Medical Consultation
- 07 Psychotherapy
- 02 Physio Advice
- 13 Pressure Garments
- 08 Medical Referral
- 30 Hotline Service



acidsurvivors.org
asf@acidsurvivors.org

House #39, Road #12, Block #Kha
Pisciculture Housing Society
Adabor, Dhaka - 1207, Bangladesh

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Our aim is to eradicate acid violence in Bangladesh and empower survivors. Get involved with us by donating to us today!