

Recap

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25-YEAR-OLD ATTACKED UPON REJECTING MARRIAGE PROPOSAL

| 02 AUGUST 2022

On the 2nd of August, 2022, at Polash, Narsingdi, 25-year-old Ratna Akhter was attacked with acid. On the morning of the attack, Ratna was asleep in her home when 30-year-old perpetrator Shafiqul Islam threw acid on her. The acid burnt her left hand, back and waist. Ratna was rushed to the nearest Upazila Health Complex by her neighbors and family and later transferred to Narsingdi Sadar Hospital.

Ratna Akhter lived with her daughter at her father's place. She moved after divorcing her

husband. Four months prior to the incident, Shafiqul Islam's family came to Ratna's with a marriage proposal. Having turned down the proposal, Shafiqul harassed her often and coaxed her to marry him. But after continuous rejection he threatened to murder Ratna. Sure enough, he threw acid on her soon after the initial threat.

A case has been filed at Polash Police Station. Shafiqul was arrested on 3rd August and confessed to his crime.



SERVICE-LEARNING FAIR AT AISD

- 29 AUGUST

ASF was invited to participate in the Service-Learning Fair organized by the AISD school. Secondary and higher secondary students visited ASF's stall and enquired about acid violence and ASF's work. The fair was held from 10.45 am to 12.30 pm.

The purpose of the fair was to create awareness and sensitize students to different social issues and inculcate a sense of responsibility so that they may become future change makers.



MD. RAFIKUL ISLAM

A Case Story |

32-year-old Md. Rafikul Islam from Shatkhira is the sole breadwinner of his family. He sells dry pulses and nuts to bring food to his children and wife. Food is scarce in the Rafikul family. His son aged 3 is malnourished.

On the night of November 19, 2019 just before the Pandemic, perpetrators poured acid over Rafikul over land disputes. He had 3 surgeries over the years. As for justice, he never got any.

After pouring water he was first brought to Kaliganj Thana Hospital then transferred to a series of hospitals before arriving at ASF's Hospital.

On arrival, 27% of his body was burnt. Including his scalp, face, chin, cheek, lips, eyes, neck, ear, back, arms, chest and legs. His left eye and ear lost total functionality.

At first, Rafikul suffered from a slew of psychological issues including high

levels of stress, fear, anxiety, hopelessness, frustration, and low mood.

Now, he suffers from itchy skin, tissue complexities and contractures, breathing difficulties, coughing and severe headaches. Apart from that, he has memory issues and has difficulty focusing.

Despite his traumatic past and how difficult his day-to-day life is, Rafikul refuses to give up. He is determined to see through it all and is positive better days stay ahead.

ASF supported Rafikul financially at various points to cover his medical costs. On 2020 we granted him 50k BDT to cover medical bills. At present, we reimburse his medical, medicine, transportation and food costs for Out Patient Department visits. On Aug 1st, we granted Rafikul a foot-van worth 50k BDT so that he may make a livelihood off of selling vegetables.

AUGUST 2022 SERVICE REPORT

91

survivors served



- 07 Legal Counseling
- 59 Medical Consultation
- 22 Psychotherapy
- 01 Physio Advice
- 01 Medicine Couriered
- 06 Medical Referral
- 18 Pressure Garments
- 25 Hotline Service

81K

in BDT (USD 838)
spent for survivors

includes survivor food and transportation to and from ASF Health Center and referral hospitals, medicine, rehabilitation support, etc.



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DONATE



Join the fight to eradicate
acid violence in Bangladesh