

**Protest of Barrister Abdur Razzaq against the news titled  
“Barrister Razzaq is also being Investigated for War Crimes”  
published in the *Amader Shomoi***

Barrister Abdur Razzaq, Senior Advocate of the Supreme Court of Bangladesh and also the Assistant Secretary General of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami has formally protested against the news item published on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2011 in the Daily Amader Shomoy, a Bangla language daily newspaper published from Dhaka under the title “**Barrister Abdur Razzaq is also being Investigated for War Crimes**”.

In his protest, Mr Razzaq stated that a certain quarter has been active in a smear campaign against him with the view to harassing and humiliating him. This campaign started soon after he took over the onerous task of defending five top leaders of Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami who are accused of war crimes before the International Crimes Tribunal, Dhaka. In his note of protest, Barrister Razzaq asserted that it is his fundamental right guaranteed by and under the Constitution of Bangladesh, to perform his professional duties by defending people accused of committing crimes. However, a powerful section within the administration is active in preventing him from discharging his professional responsibilities. Despite all odds, Barrister Razzaq expressed his determination to perform his professional duties without any fear.

The news item referring to International Crimes Tribunal sources, reported that the Investigation Agency is conducting an investigation against Barrister Abdur Razzaq, who is the chief defence counsel for the leaders of Jamaat who are facing war crimes charges. It may be mentioned that in the past attempts have been made to implicate Barrister Razzaq in various criminal proceedings including a criminal proceeding arising out of an incident that took place in Dhaka in September while he was in Europe.



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