

February 14, 2005

## **Press Statement**

### **The Investigation**

There are some very disturbing reports in the Press about the conduct of the investigation into my husband's assassination. We believe that it is vital that the FBI Team take charge of the investigation as soon as possible – before the killers, their protectors and accomplices can destroy the evidence and cover their tracks. The Government should stop trying to delay the arrival of the FBI.

There is an unconfirmed report that the Rapid Action Battalion (RAB) has taken charge of the local investigation (see the *Janakantha*, February 14, page 12). This is very disturbing given the RAB's record. We fear that some key local suspects and those already arrested may fall victim to "crossfire" before they can implicate the real people behind the killing of my husband.

### **Current Programs**

I have been receiving encouraging news from the districts and overseas regarding the Silent Protest held on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>. Ordinary people seem to have been stirred to action, and the shared sense of outrage has united groups that have not worked together before. I would ask everyone to participate in the signature campaign (Oath in Blood-Red Letters) that is to be completed by the 28<sup>th</sup>. Everyone is also requested to support The Silent Vigil in the road outside my residence (Road 3-A) Dhanmondi (February 16, 17, 18, from 4 to 6 pm).

Further programs of peaceful protest will be announced soon.

**Mrs. Asma Kibria**