



Court Correspondent

After long 11 months, the International Crimes Tribunal-1 today will deliver its judgment on the trial of crimes against humanity during the 1971 Liberation War by war crime accused and Jamaat-e-Islami ameer Motiur Rahman Nizami.

Justice M Enayetur Rahim, chairman of the three-member tribunal, flanked by two other members Justice Jahangir Hossain and Justice Anwarul Haque, passed the order on Tuesday as it came up on the cause list.

Passing the order in presence of the prosecution and the defence lawyers, the tribunal issued a production warrant asking the jail authorities to produce the detained accused Jamaat ameer before it by 10 am.

Earlier, the announcement of judgment was deferred thrice on different grounds since November 13 last year. The reconstitution of the tribunal, rehearing on summing-up arguments from both sides and sudden sickness of the accused in custody are among the reasons behind the delay.

A former minister during the BNP-Jamaat alliance's rule (2001-06), Nizami was indicted on May 28, 2012 with 16 counts of crimes against humanity, including murder, genocide, loot, rape, incitement, planning, abetment, and killing intellectuals during the Liberation War.

Earlier, Nizami was condemned to death in January this year in the sensational 10-truck arms haul case in Chittagong in 2004.

On December 11, 2011, the prosecution submitted the formal charge against Nizami before the tribunal.

The tribunal took cognizance of the formal charge on January 9, 2012 against Nizami for facing the trial of crimes against humanity during the country's Liberation War.

On May 28, 2012, the tribunal indicted the Jamaat ameer for committing the 1971 crimes against humanity.

Nizami was arrested in front of the National Press Club on June 29, 2010 after a magistrate court in Dhaka issued a warrant for his arrest in connection with a criminal case over hurting the religious sentiment of Muslims. Later, he was shown arrested in the war crimes case.