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Graphic: Dipankar Chanda

Transgenders help in cremation

Sukumar Mahato

Behrampore: Neither the neighbours nor the relatives attended the cremation of 37-year-old Pratima Biswas from Gandhi Colony of Behrampore because she was the mother of a transgender.

Her husband Ganesh Biswas had left her 10 years back when he realized that one of his sons, Swapan Biswas alias Bhadu was a transgender. Biswas had two other sons, one of them was disabled.

She said, "My father left us with our mother when everybody realised I am a transgender. Like father, neighbours too started neglecting our family. I could not believe the fact that they would not help in my mother's last rites. Finally, some of my transgender friends stood beside me alongside an NGO head, Matiur Rahaman."

Matiur Rahaman, secretary of an NGO said, "When I heard none of Bhadu's neighbours came to help, I tried to unite some of the transgenders and helped Bhadu."

Ranjan Bhattacharya, a psychologist explained, "Actually, we are still in an underdeveloped country where people are ignorant."



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