

'Forge unity to resist imperialist designs'

BSS, Dhaka

Responsibilities of leaders, intellectuals, professionals and the people of small nations have increased many times in the wake of occupation of Iraq, speakers said at a discussion on Thursday.

Organised by Matbinimoy Forum, the discussion on 'The occupation of Iraq and the role of small states in facing the crisis' was held at Asad auditorium in the city with its convenor Dr. T Ali in the chair.

Workers' Party president Rashed Khan Menon, writer and researcher Syed Abul Maksud, economist Anu Mohammad, Abeer Hasan, Kamruddin Absar and Kaisar Imam Manik took part in the discussion.

Rashed Khan Menon said occupation of Iraq has created a grave situation in the world, but now people are more aware of the disastrous effect of neo-imperialism.

He called for forging unity among

the people to resist the imperialist designs.

Syed Abul Maksud said the people should heighten the awareness and vigilance against the imperialists.

He called for boycotting the products of imperialist countries and patronising local goods in the greater interest of national economy.

Meat fiesta at Nandan

Nandan, the country's largest super shop for daily needs, is having a meat fiesta, which has been extended till August 15, says a press release.

With the purchase of Tk 700 worth of meat, customers will receive 500 grams of Dinajpur's Radhunipogol rice as well as 40 grams of Nandan brand's turmeric, 40 grams chili and 40 grams coriander free.



Samajtantrik Mahila Forum took out a procession in Chittagong city yesterday demanding arrest and trial of those responsible for the premature death of Umme Habiba Rumi, a student of Nazirhat College under Fatikchhari Police Station.

Shrimp certification course

BSS, Dhaka

The first shrimp certification training course in Asia begins in Cox's Bazar on Monday.

The Aquaculture Certification Council (ACC) in collaboration with the Shrimp Seal of Quality (SSOQ) has

organised the four-day training course.

Commerce Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury and State Minister for Communications Salahuddin Ahmed will attend the inaugural function to be held on Sunday as chief guest and special guest.

IDEB suggests new site for Padma bridge

BSS, Faridpur

When opinions of millions are divided over the site for construction of the proposed Padma Bridge, the Faridpur chapter of Institute of Diploma Engineers of Bangladesh (IDEB) has suggested a newer site for the same.

In a press release, the IDEB said construction of the bridge linking Kartikpur of Dohar Upazila, Dhaka, and Gopalpur of Charbhadrasan

Upazila, Faridpur, would minimize the distance and fuel cost and save time in direct road communication between southern region and the capital.

This route via Buriganga Bridges No. 1 and 2 is already in service over the Padma River.

Moreover, Roads and Highways Department recently decided to introduce ferry service between Kartikpur and Gopalpur Ghat to make an easy alternative road

connection between the capital and southern region.

The IDEB said if the proposed bridge is constructed at Kartikpur-Gopalpur point, the distance from capital to Faridpur will be reduced to 72 km from 132 km.

In addition, time will be saved by at least one hour to any destination from the capital to the southern region and the transport fair will be reduced by 30 per cent. Tk 20 crore in foreign currency will also be saved in terms of fuel cost annually.

According to water experts, if the proposed bridge is constructed at Gopalpur-Kartikpur point, the river training scheme for the bridge would help check erosion in the upstream of the Padma protecting Faridpur town and Hajiganj where severe erosion takes place every year.

In that case no separate measure will be needed to check erosion, saving huge money for the purpose, the IDEB added.

Hasina's daughter awarded

UNB, Dhaka

Sayma Wazed Hossain (Putul), daughter of Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina, has received the prestigious 'Certificate of Merit for Excellence in Student Research Award' in Canada for her research work.

American Psychological Association conferred the award on Putul at its inaugural ceremony of the two-day convention at Toronto Metro Convention Centre on Thursday, according to a message received in the city yesterday.

Putul is a research student of Psychology at the Barry University in Miami, Florida.

The topic of Putul's research was "Psychological Wellbeing of Bengali Women as a function of Education, Employment, Control of Finances and Purdah."

Indigenous People's Day programme

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The Tribal Welfare Association (TWA) has taken up elaborate programme here to observe the International Day of Indigenous People today.

The programme includes rally, discussion and cultural functions.

A colourful rally will be brought out from Town Hall premises at 10.00am.

It will be followed by a discussion at Zila Parishad auditorium with Tapan Marak, vice-president of the celebration committee, in the chair.

Swami Sarbesharanda will attend the discussion as chief guest.

A cultural function will be held in the afternoon.

Garo Chhatra Sangsad, Garo Chhatra Union and other tribal cultural groups will take part in it.

Congratulations



Mohammad Shawkat Hossain, a student of chemistry department, has secured first class first position in the B.Sc. (Hons.) examinations held in 2003 under Dhaka University, says a press release.

A resident of Narayanganj, he is the second son of Mohammad Elias Mollah and Noorjahan Begum.

Md Abul Bashar



Advocate Mohammad Abul Bashar of Bangladesh Supreme Court has obtained Ph.D. degree from Dhaka University

recently, says a press release.

The title of his thesis is 'Human Rights in Islam: A study of Human Rights implemented by the Prophet Muhammad (S)'.

Dr Bashar is a son of late Sona Miah and Altaj Khatun of village Kharana under Patiya thana in Chittagong district.

Md Lokman Hossain



Md Lokman Hossain, assistant director, National Academy for Educational Management, has obtained Ph.D. degree

from the Department of Zoology, Dhaka University, recently, says a press release.

He did his research on 'Ecology and breeding biology of commercially important freshwater turtles of Bangladesh'.

He is the eldest son of Md Abul Bashar Miah and Halima Khatun.

Shahid Uddin

Mahmood



Shahid Uddin Mahmood, an assistant professor, has obtained Ph.D. degree from the Department of

Zoology, Dhaka University, recently, says a press release.

He did his research on 'Studies on artificial breeding and larval rearing techniques of Koi fish, anabas testudineus (Bloch 1792) in Bangladesh conditions'.

He is the eldest son of Shamsuddin Ahmed and Murshia Khatun.



Garments workers took out a procession in the city yesterday demanding that they be allowed to enjoy weekly holiday on Friday.



Moderate rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Rajshahi, Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal divisions during the next 12 hours till 6.00pm today.

No appreciable change in day temperature is expected over the country, Met Office said.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 35.6 degree Celsius was recorded at Jessore and the lowest of 24.2 degree at Sylhet.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:37pm today and rises at 5:32 am tomorrow.

The highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	34.1	28.5	73	67
Chittagong	32.4	26.8	69	73
Rajshahi	34.8	27.9	76	72
Khulna	34.2	27.2	73	76
Barisal	32.6	27.5	81	76
Sylhet	31.0	24.2	96	80
Cox's Bazar	33.0	26.0	78	85