Two brothers get life for murder in Habigani

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Habiganj

The District and Sessions Judge's Court here yesterday sentenced two brothers to life imprisonment for killing a man eight years ago

The convicts are Sohrab Ali and Asad Ali, sons of Noab Ali of village fandrail under Habiganj Sadar upazila. The court also fined them Tk 5000 each, in default, they will have to suffer another year in jail.

According to the prosecution, the victim, Rafiquddin Chowdhury, 58, of the village came under attack by the convicts and their associates while he was returning home from Habiganj town at 10:30pm on August 10, 1995. They beat up Rafiq mercilessly as a sequel to previous enmity and fled the scene, leaving him seriously injured.

Rafiq was admitted to Habiganj Modern Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries the following

day.
Zilu Miah Choudhury, son of the victim, lodged a case with Habiganj Sadar Police Station, accusing nine people. Police, after investigation, pressed charges against Sohrab

Judge A K M Ishtiaq Hussain, after Examining 14 witnesses found the two brothers guilty and awarded the punishment.

Trio wins Nobel for bringing quantum physics in from the cold

Quantum physicists Alexei A. Abrikosov, Vitaly L. Ginzburg and Anthony J. Leggett yesterday won the 2003 Nobel Physics Prize for pioneering contributions to the theory of superconductors and superfluids.

The three have made "decisive contributions concerning two phenomena in quantum physics: superconductivity and superfluidity," the

Abrikosov and Ginzburg developed superconductivity theories while Leggett explained one type of superfluidity. Both phenomena occur at extremely low tempera-

Reached by AFP in Moscow, Ginzburg said the trio had been chosen among many others who toil away in the same field.

SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

Liakot placed on fresh remand

COURT CORRESPONDENT

Top listed criminal Liakot Hossain yesterday was placed on a four-day fresh remand after the first four-day remand had expired.

Police pressed charges against Liakot for his alleged involvement in criminal activities including extortion and murder in the city and sought for a seven-day remand yesterday afternoon, while the defence lawyers submitted a petition for bail and repeal of further remand.

After hearing both sides, Metropolitan Magistrate Jahangir Alam rejected the bail petition and granted a four-day remand.

The Rapid Action Team (RAT) of police arrested Liakot, one of the top 23 criminals in the city, his bodyguard Sohagh Sarder and driver Badal Hawlader from Dhanmondi on October 1 when they were going to extort money

Sohagh and Badal were sent to jail Monday on expiry of their threeday remand.

| Oct 08 | | 5-39 pm |
|----------------|---------|---------|
| Oct 09 | 5-53 am | |
| Prayer Timings | | |
| October 8 | | |
| | Azan | Jamaat |
| Fajr | 5-00 | 5-25 |
| Zohr | 12.45 | 1 15 |

4-25

7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

4-40

Sun Rises | Sun Sets



The formal opening of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association's 49th conference at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in Dhaka yesterday.

mediation in the civil court to

quicken the administration of

mortality rate, attaining self-

sufficiency in food production and

women's empowerment through

education and employment where

he said USAID is the core partner in

But Thomas struck a note of

worry over the law and order

situation, corruption and lack of

transparency that he felt continue to

cast adverse impact on governance

About hartal, he thought that it

was a thing of the past -- before

independence and democracy

came in as the order. In the present

context, it is an old means damaging

the economy of an independent

and political violence must be

mentioned that the Bangladesh

government is working towards

while the US government offering

training programme to improve

professionalism and skill of the

However, Thomas said, "cultural

this regard, he

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

and performance of the economy.

programmes.

addressed

He also appreciated low infant

US envoy worried

at slide in crime

Washington ready to help

tighten border security

US Ambassador Harry K Thomas

yesterday appeared concerned at

law and order situation, corruption

and lack of transparency as well as

recurrent hartals that take a heavy

will have negative impact" on

security and rights of individual

citizens and Bangladesh as a whole

while "frequent hartal as a means of

expressing grievance causing harm

criticism of both the parties in power

and opposition the US envoy made

speaking at a workshop on "Re-

gional Stability: The Role of Small

States" at Bangladesh Institute of

International and Strategic Studies

Khan, BIISS Chairman M R

Osmany and Director General

Major General Md Abdul Mubeen

also spoke in the opening session of

praise for the government's several

major steps toward establishment of

an independent anti-corruption

commission, money laundering law

and legislation for wider use of

The US envoy had words of

the two-day workshop.

Foreign Minister M Morshed

(BIISS) auditorium in the morning.

The apparent double-edged

"Law and order and corruption

toll of Bangladesh's economy.

to economy," he said.

UNB, Dhaka

3 US soldiers killed in bombings in central Iraq

Three US soldiers and an Iraqi nterpreter were killed and three other service members were wounded in a pair of roadside bombings in central Iraq, the US military said yesterday. They were the first reported deaths by hostile fire of American soldiers in Iraq since

In the first attack, one soldier attached to the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment was killed and another wounded in a bombing about 9:50 p.m. Monday just west of the Iraqi

capital, the US Central Command said in a statement.

About an hour later, another roadside bombing killed two soldiers from the 82nd Airborne Division and their Iraqi translator, the military said. Two other soldiers were injured in the bombing, which took place in al-Haswah, about 25 miles south of Baghdad.

The latest deaths bring to 91 the number of American soldiers killed by hostile fire in Iraq since President Bush declared an end to major combat operations here May 1. A

total of 320 US service members have died in Iraq since the United States and Britain launched military operations against Saddam Hussein's government on March 20.

The military also reported a helicopter made a hard landing at the US air base near Habaniya just west of Baghdad. Two soldiers were slightly injured.

US troops carried out a raid Tuesday and captured an officer in the former Iraqi army's special forces who allegedly helped orga-**SEE PAGE 11 COL 1**

Mortar hits Iraq's foreign ministry compound

AFP, Baghdad

Iraq's foreign ministry compound was hit last morning by a mortar shell, minutes before a firefight broke out between US soldiers and gunmen, witnesses and officials

The shell, which struck inside the foreign ministry compound, did not cause any casualties, Police Captain Ali Khadim told AFP. "One mortar hit inside the com-

oound." Khadim said, as US troops cordoned off the compound. "There were no casualties.

The US military confirmed there was an explosion and said US troops were involved in a shoot-out SEE PAGE 11 COL 4

One stabbed to death, 3 others sustain bullet. stab injuries

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A youth was stabbed to death at Aga Sadek Lane Monday, two people sustained bullet wounds at Shyampur and Moghbazar and a trader was stabbed at Suritola yesterdav Twenty-year-old Arman was

lying fatally injured with six stab injuries in his body near a temple at Aga Sadek Lane at 11:15pm. Locals rushed him to Dhaka

Medical College Hospital (DMCH) where he died half an hour later. His father Solaiman said Arman

khadem (attendant) of a local majar, did not return to their house at 23/F Aga Sadek Lane since a local youth Babla, called him out at 7:30pm.

"Arman had a dispute with some local people including Babla, Firoze and Mahbub over urs at the majar

RU poised to recruit teachers ignoring UGC embargo

ANWAR ALI and ABU KALAM,

Rajshahi University authorities have formed 92 committees for recruiting one hundred teachers in 44 departments, violating a University Grants Commission (UGC) embargo on fresh recruitment.

Five members of the university svndicate raised obiections about the committees, questioning the

except one. They withdrew their names from seven recruitment

The UGC on August 17 put an embargo on appointment of teachers till further orders, sources said.

Sources said the UGC imposed the embargo as there had been a series of complaints of nepotism and political manipulation in hiring teachers at the public universities Moreover, there were allegations of

unnecessary recruitment despite funds constraints The UGC is now formulating a

recruitment policy for public universities and also scrutinising recent recruitment of teachers. But the RU authorities have

violated the embargo, allegedly to hire teachers loyal to the ruling "The recruitment committees

SEE PAGE 11 COL 7

Footpath traders along the Baitul Mukarram Mosque take shelter underneath plastic sheeting from the driving rains that continued all day yesterday. Caused by a severe depression over India's south-central coast, the Met office expects rains to last a couple of days.

FBI funded Hamas during Clinton era

US Federal Bureau of Investigation funnelled money to deadly Palestinian terrorist organization Hamas at a time when President Bill Clinton was trying to foster peace between Israelis and Palestinians, a media report has revealed.

Funnelling money to suspected Hamas figures was a sting that FBI conducted to see if the militant group would use it for terrorist attacks, according to interviews and court documents, the report said The sting happened when President Clinton was trying to broker peace between Israelis and Palestinians. The counter terrorism operation

in 1998 and 1999 was run out of the FBI's Phoenix office in cooperation with Israeli intelligence and was approved by Attorney General Janet Reno, FBI officials were quoted as

Several thousand dollars in US money was sent to suspected terror supporters during the operation as the FBI tried to track the flow of cash through terror organizations, the FBI said in a rare acknowledgment of the sting that never resulted in prosecutions.

"This was done in conjunction with permission from the attorney general for an ongoing operation, and Israeli authorities were aware of

One of the FBI's key operatives provided an account of the operation at a friend's closed immigration court proceeding.

Arizona businessman Harry Ellen testified he permitted the FBI to bug his home, allowed his Muslim

foundation's activities in the Gaza Strip to be monitored by agents, arranged a peace meeting between major Palestinian activists and gained personal access to Yasser Arafat

Ellen's FBI handler in the late 1990s was Kenneth Williams, an agent who later became famous for writing a pre-September 11 memo to FBI headquarters warning there were Arab pilots training at US flight schools. The warning went unheeded.

Ellen, a Muslim convert, testified he was taking a trip to the Gaza Strip to bring doctors to the region in summer 1998 when Williams asked him to provide money to a Hamas Williams wanted "the transfer of

US funds to some of the terrorist groups for violent purposes," Ellen testified to the immigration court in a closed June 2001 session. At the same time, Clinton and his negotiators were trying to reinvigo-

rate stalled West Asia peace talks,

an effort that culminated in the Wye Accords in October 1998. Clinton's national security adviser, Sandy Berger, said in an interview that the White House wasn't informed of the FBI activities. "We were not aware of any such operation," Berger said.

Ellen testified the operation ended abruptly in early 1999 when he and Williams had a series of disagreements over the operation, disputes that began when Ellen angered the FBI by having an affair SEE PAGE 11 COL 5

Shibir files murder case against JCD in Kushtia shootout

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Kushtia

Two separate cases were filed with Kushtia Sadar police yesterday in connection with Monday's gunbattle between Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Íslami Chhatra Shibir (ICS) on Kushtia Polytechnic Institute campus that left an ICS dead and many others

Torikul Islam, vice-president, Kushtia town unit of ICS, filed a case accusing 41 JCD men including Kushtia district unit JCD President Abdul Muyeed Babul, General

SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

Tk 1cr heroin haul in Sylhet

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Sylhet

of heroin reportedly worth Tk 1 crore from Baliaghat border in Sunamganj vesterday.

Two alleged Indian nationals entered into Bangladesh territory at around 10:00am. Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) personnel at the border outpost chased the two who fled leaving a bag, sources said.

Later, officials of liquor and narcotics department in Sunamganj headquarters confirmed contents of the bag to be heroin and it was sent

Fake Kala Jahangir tries to extort toll from WB staff

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Gangsters claiming themselves to be top listed criminal Kala Jahangir recently made phone calls to four World Bank (WB) officials in ar attempt to extort toll from them.

The WB senior resource management officer filed a complaint on September 29 with Ramna Police Station, claiming that a caller identifying himself as Kala Jahangir had demanded toll from World Bank (WB) employee, Tanvir Ahsan, threatening to kill Tanvir and his family members if the toll was not

Police suspect that these phone calls were made by unidentified miscreants, attempting to capitalize on the dread inspired by Kala Jahangir's name. Deputy Commissioner (DC) Khan Sayeed Hasan said one indication the WB callers were imposters was that they demanded only Tk. 1 lakh from the four WB officials. He added that the WB management is also convinced that it was not Kala Jahangir, but an imposter who made the phone calls. Another police official said in any

phone calls to anybody for tolls rather people go to him to pay the Earlier, on September 24, Criminal Investigation Department (CID) police arrested Sayeedur

case Kala Jahangir never makes

Chittagong plunges into darkness

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A vast area of Chittagong city plunged into darkness as two transformers of Khulshi Grid Substation tripped at around 6:20pm yesterday. Engineers of the Power

Development Board (PDB) were mending the technical faults till filing of this report at 9:15pm. Sources said the outage

occurred due to technical problems at the substation and it would take at least four to five hours to put the supply back on track. The unprecedented trip left Rahman from Uttara area as he was nearly 40 percent of the entire city SEE PAGE 11 COL 2

N Korea bans Japan from nukes talks

REUTERS, Seoul

North Korea says it will not allow Japan to take part in future talks on Pyongyang's nuclear weapons programme, further complicating efforts to coax the communist state back to the negotiating table.

Japan, responding swiftly to Pyongyang's surprise announcement, said it would not accept the notion Pyongyang could decide who attends mutually agreed multilateral talks. A statement from the North

Korean Foreign Ministry, published by the official KCNA news agency, said Japan had made itself an untrustworthy negotiating partner by linking other bilateral problems to the talks, such as the past abduction by

North Korea of Japanese nationals "A spokesman for the DPRK Foreign Ministry said in a statement today that the DPRK would not allow

Japan to participate in any form of negotiations for the settlement of the nuclear issue in the future,' KCNA said. Japan joined China, Russia, South Korea and the United States in an inconclusive round of nuclear

talks with North Korea in Beijing in

late August. The North has since said it is not interested in more talks on a crisis that erupted a year ago. Last week, Pyongyang said it had redirected plutonium extracted from thousands of spent nuclear fuel rods to help enhance its deterrent force

Bac files graft case against salt mill owner, bank staff

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna

Bureau of District Anti-corruption sued a former branch manager and a former assistant engineer of the divisional office of the Janata Bank for misappropriating reportedly Tk

AKM Shahidul Alam, manager of the KDA branch, and Md Mostafizur Rahman, assistant engineer, and Ranabir Roy, proprietor of Messrs Khulna Salt, have been sued, as the three in a nexus withdrew the amount from the salt trader's account with the bank from January 4 to December 31 in 1992, the FIR said.

EDITOR: MAHFUZ ANAM-Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd., 229 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd. 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhaka-12015, Tel: 8124944, 8124955, 8124966, Fax: 8125155, 8126154, GPO Box No: 3257, www.dailystarnews.com, E-mail: dseditor@gononet.com, dsreport@gononet.com