

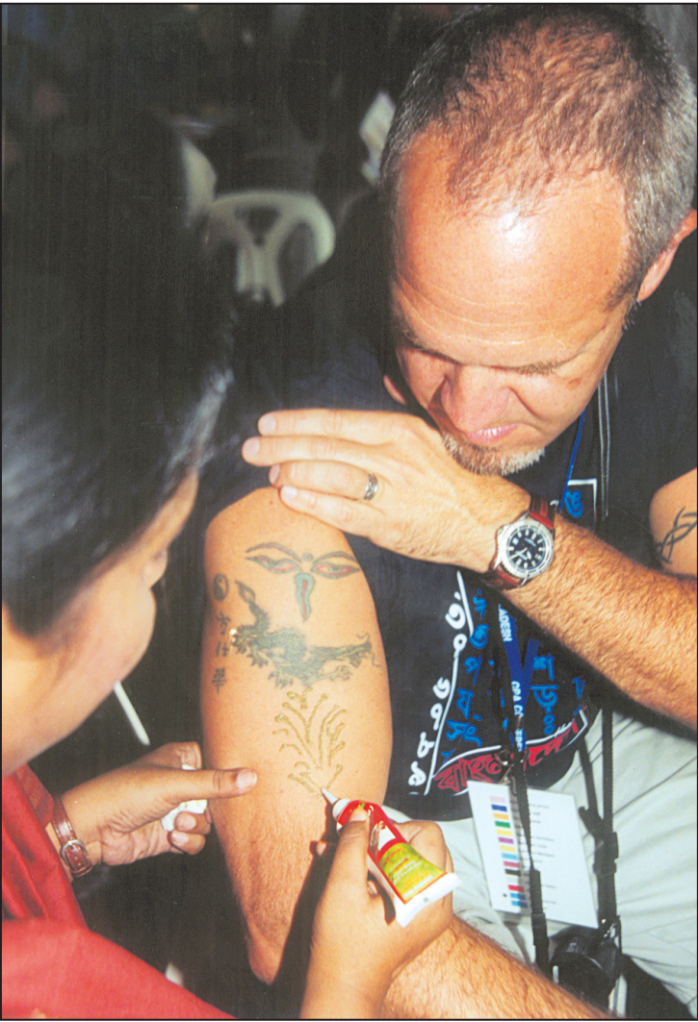
Int'l Disaster Day observed

UNB, Dhaka

Disaster Management and Relief Ministry and Bureau of Disaster Management jointly chalked out various programmes both at national and field levels to create mass awareness on natural calamities.

The International Disaster Mitigation Day was observed in the country as elsewhere in the world yesterday.

A colourful procession that brought out from the National Museum ended at the Shishu Academy. It paraded the main thoroughfares of the city.



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Nurul Islam murder case

4 more PWs make deposition

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

Four more prosecution witnesses (PWs) yesterday made their deposition before the Judge of the Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal, Chittagong M Hasan Imam in the sensational Laxmipur BNP leader Nurul Islam murder case. Of them, one Abul Kalam Azad, a neighbour of slain leader, was declared 'hostile' by the judge for giving irrelevant accounts and backtracking from what he confessed earlier to police under 164.

The three other PWs included

Abdur Rahim, a peon of Laxmipur pourasava, and Monirul Islam Howlader, Laxmipur district public prosecutor and former general secretary of Bar Council.

The court has so far completed hearing of eight out of 63 PWs in the case.

Earlier, plaintiff and former Bar Council president AKM Tarekuddin Mahmud, then Deputy Commissioner Mahbubul Alam, Superintendent of Police Irfan Ali Khan and Tajul Islam, younger brother of Nurul Islam, completed their deposition.

The tribunal judge fixed October 14, 15 and 18 for next phase of hearing.

Intending Hajj pilgrims asked to deposit money by Oct 30

BSS, Dhaka

Persons willing to perform Hajj under the government management in 2004 have been asked to deposit money by October 30 with any of 11 banks.

The banks are: Sonali Bank, Agrani Bank, Janata Bank, Rupali Bank, Pubali Bank, Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited, Bangladesh Krishi Bank, Al Arafa Islamic Bank Limited, Oriental Bank Limited, City Bank Limited and Rajshahi Krishi Unnayan Bank.

The pilgrims belonging to category "A" will have to deposit Tk 1,27,097 and category "B" Tk 1,10,612, according to an official release.

The pilgrims can deposit the money either in one or three installments. The date for depositing Hajj money will not be extended further, the release said.

1259 more arrested

UNB, Dhaka

Police arrested 1259 people, including seven listed criminals, during their countrywide drive in last 24 hours ending at 6am yesterday.

During the drive, they recovered 11 firearms and 20 bullets and filed seven cases against 10 people under the Arms Act, says an official handout.