



The Dhakabasi took out a colourful procession in the city on Thursday as part of its Eid celebrations.

PHOTO: STAR

## Youth dies trying to extinguish fire

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A youth was killed and property worth over Tk 40 lakh gutted in a fire in the port city in the early hours of Thursday.

The victim was identified as Md Abser. He was electrocuted while trying to extinguish the fire.

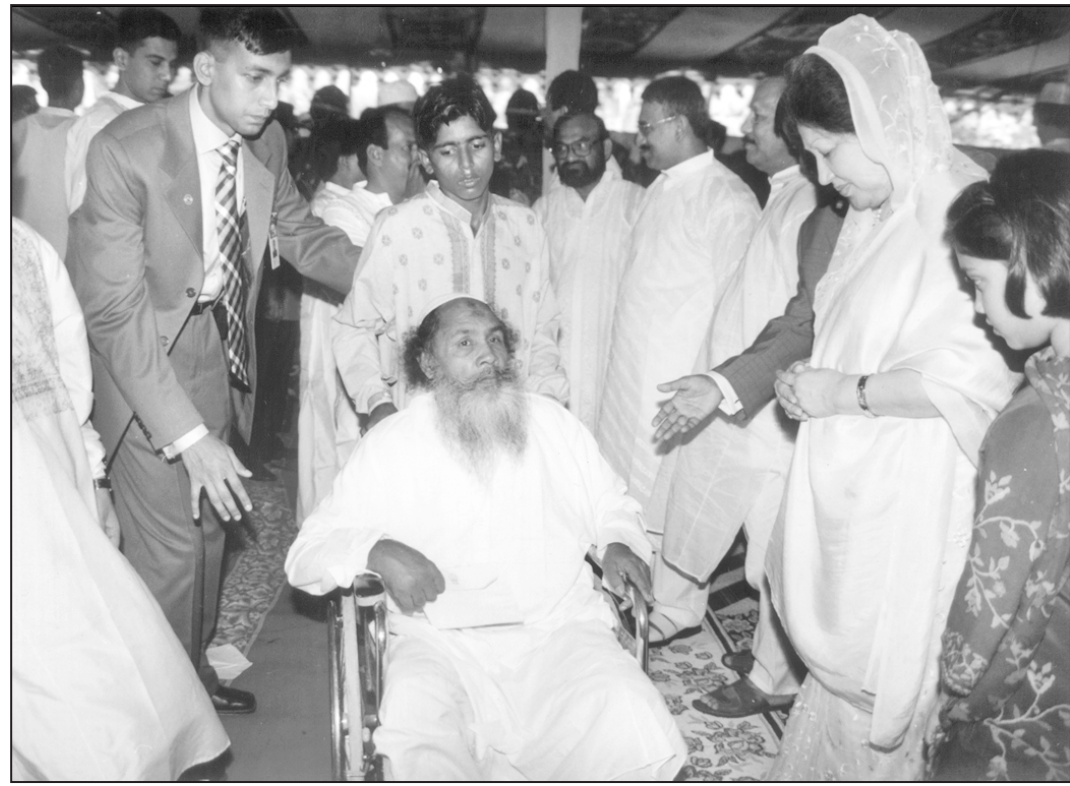
He succumbed to his injury at Chittagong Medical College Hospital, sources said.

The fire also gutted some 20 houses.

Police and fire service sources said the fire originated from a mosquito coil at a colony known as Muralir Baper Colony at Kalamia Bazar area under Bakolia thana at around 3.30am.

Another incident of fire took place at Shanti Nagar area of Nasirabad under Bayezid thana at around 1.15am.

Some twenty houses were gutted damaging property worth over Tk 5 lakh before the fire could be extinguished at around 2.00am, sources said.



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia exchanges Eid greetings with a disabled freedom fighter at the Prime Minister's Bhaban on Eid Day.

PHOTO: STAR

## Bijoy Mela begins in Ctg on Dec 7

UNB, Chittagong

Muktijuddher Bijoy Mela, a two-week fair organised by the pro-liberation forces every year since 1989, will begin at the outer stadium here on December 7.

The Muktijuddher Bijoy Mela Parishad took the decision at a meeting yesterday, with its advisor and former MP Kafiluddin in the chair.

Details of the fair will be announced at a press conference at Chittagong Press Club on December 1.

The Parishad also announced an agitation programme as the Chittagong district administration is yet to allocate the outer stadium for the fair even after three months of formal application.

They said if the district administra-

tion fails to allocate the venue, the Parishad would enforce a half-day hartal in Chittagong.

Bangladesh Army, which owns a part of the outer stadium, has granted permission for holding the fair on its premises, the Parishad leaders said. But the district administration is yet to give permission for the fair on its part of the outer stadium, they alleged.

Parishad Chairman and CCC Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury, Secretary General Abul Hasem, Joint Secretary of city Awami League Enamul Haq Danu, Ali Ahmad Nazir and Momen Bhuiyan of NAP, Shah Alam of CPB, Dr Mahfujur Rahman of JSD and former BMA General Secretary AQM Sirajul Islam were present at the meeting.

## Stamp on Eid released

UNB, Dhaka

Bangladesh Postal Department released a commemorative postage stamp of Tk four denominations on Tuesday on the occasion of holy Eid-ul-Fitr.

An inaugural envelope of Tk six denominations was also released.

Post and Telecommunication Minister M Aminul Haq released the commemorative postage stamp and the envelope at his official residence.

The commemorative postage stamp and the envelope will be sold in all the main post offices and the other post offices, said an official release.

## UNAB symposium

BSS, Dhaka

In observance of International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People, the United Nations Association of Bangladesh (UNAB) will hold a symposium at National Scout Bhaban here at 4.30pm today.

Palestine Ambassador to Bangladesh and Dean of Diplomatic Corps Mohammad Shahta Zarab will be the keynote speaker, a press release said yesterday.

## FAO confce from today

UNB, Dhaka

Agriculture Minister MK Anwar left for Rome on Wednesday to attend the 32nd session of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) Conference from November 29 to December 10.

The minister will lead a four-member delegation at the biennial conference at the FAO Headquarters in Rome where ministers from the member countries of the FAO will also take part.

Three ministerial level roundtables will also be held at the conference.

The Bangladesh delegation will actively participate in the roundtable titled "The role of water and infrastructure in ensuring sustainable food security", said an official release.

The themes of the two other roundtables are: Implications of the WTO negotiations, in particular the Cancun Ministerial Conference, for world food security and the dimension of food safety in food security.

During the conference, the agriculture minister will deliver a statement in the plenary on the review of the state of food and agriculture in developing and least developed countries with special reference to Bangladesh.

At the sidelines of the conference, the minister will meet his counterparts from New Zealand, Italy, Malaysia, Thailand, Philippines, Sri Lanka and other agriculture-driven economies to explore ways and means to developing agriculture sector of Bangladesh.

The minister will also have exclusive meeting with the Director General of FAO Jacques Diouf.