

local Lion leaders about new

programmes of public interest," he said.

But he particularly urged the Lions clubs to take programmes to make the people aware about the

benefit of education saying, "this

will be a great service to the people and the nation since education is

the backbone of a nation.

Poet Abdul Mannan Syed speaks at the publication ceremony of a book titled 'Kingbadantir Kathakata' at the National Press Club yesterday. Seated from left are former finance minister AMA Muhit, Prof. Sardar Fazlul Karim, poet Al-Mahmud, Prof. Anisuzzaman, poet Shamsur Rahman, Mahzabin Khan and The New Age Editor Enayetullah Khan.

Kingbadantir Kathakata launched

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The publication ceremony of a book titled 'Kingbadantir Kathakata' was held at the National Press Club yesterday

The 'Kingbadantir Kathakata' is a memorial book on poet Abu Zafar

Eminent poets and writers like Shamsur Rahman, Sardar Fazlul Karim, Sunil Gangopadhaya, Syed Shamsul Haque, Zillur Rahman Siddiqui, Mustafa Nurul Islam, Faiz Ahmed, and Santosh Gupta have contributed to this publication.

The book must be read by all Bangalees, said Sardar Fazlul Karim at the publication ceremony.

Poet Shamsur Rahman said, 'Obaidullah was undoubtedly an eminent poet of our country. He was a successful person and great human being.

Poet Al-Mahmud said, 'Obaidullah was a modern poet. His poems and essays are of high quality. Not many writers are there in our country like him."

Prof. Anisuzzaman, Belal Chowdhury, Abdul Mannan Sved, Begum Selima Rahman, Mahzabin Khan, Qayyum Chowdhury, A M A Muhit, Tridib Dostidar, Ali Ahmed, Enayet Ullah Khan and Zahidul Haque also spoke.

Edited by Belal Choudhury and Prof. Anisuzzaman, the book contains 25 write-ups. Eminent artist Qayyum Chowdhury has designed the cover of the book published by the Centre of Bangladesh Culture.



Participants of the National Defence Course-2003 and Armed Forces War Course-2003 pose with Prime Minister Khaleda Zia at the graduation ceremony at National Defence College at Mirpur Cantonment yesterday.

Supplement govt efforts for development

President tells Lions clubs

President Iajuddin Ahmed yester-day urged the Lions clubs to supplement the government efforts for development particularly in promoting education and fighting

"The government has been doing its best to improve the socio-economic condition of the people and it has given top priority to expansion of education and alleviation of poverty," he said while he was inaugurating the 31st International Area Forum of Lion $clubs\,at\,Sonarga on\,Hotel\,here.$

The Lion members, he said, can supplement the government activities in such fields and thus help

also addressed the inaugural session of the conference attended by more than 500 foreign and local delegates from 54 countries.

The president praised the humanitarian activities of the Lions clubs across the globe and noted that having 1.5 million members all over the world, the organisation has been given a "consultative status" in the United Nations in recognition of its services.

He said in Bangladesh, over 12 thousand Lion and Leo member have been working to mitigate the sufferings of the distressed people through operating programmes like eye-camps and carrying out relief and rehabilitation activities at a time of natural calamities and

2 JCD activists held on abduction charges, freed

DU CORRESPONDENT

The two Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) members arrested Wednesday on abduction charges were released yesterday after police interrogation.

Amzad Hossain Jewel, acting president, and Samrat, activist, of Shahidullah Hall unit JCD, were

A group of JCD men abducted a businessman from a commercial blood bank at Chankhar Pool a week before the Eid and demanded Tk50,000 in ransom.

Police later raided the hall and rescued the businessman but could not arrest any abductors.

Shahidullah Hall authorities expelled Jewel from the hall.



A convicted prisoner of Rajshahi Central Jail died at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH) on Wednesday night. The jail sources said here yester-day that the prisoner, identified as Aftab Uddin, 50, from Mallikpur

A man killed his wife following an altercation over dowry in their house at Fulbaria in Uttara yester-

The victim, Rina Begum, 24

died on the spot when her husband hit her in the neck with a bathi (kitchen knife) at around 10.00am.

Later, locals caught her husband, Abu Hanif Mamun, and handed him over to the police.

an electric goods trader.

Mamun claimed himself to be

Locals said Mamun, 30, was a

drug addict. He often pressed his wife for bringing dowry form her

"The couple was quarrelling in the morning. In a fit of rage, Mamun struck his wife with the

bathi in the kitchen," said Din Islam, a neighbour.

Victim's mother Taslima Begum

village under Naogaon district suddenly fell sick and was immediately rushed to the RMCH at about He died at the RMCH after a few

3.00am, the sources said.

Aftab was given a life-term imprisonment by the Naogaon Judge Court in a murder case on November 21, 1993. He was shifted to Rajshahi Central Jail from Naogaon jail on November 24 the same year.

A case of unnatural death was recorded with Rajpara police station in this connection.

SCF vows to resist sale of DU admission form

DU CORRESPONDENT

Samaitantrik Chhatra Front (SCF) a left-leaning student organisation yesterday vowed to resist the sale of admission forms of Dhaka University (DU) if their demand for withdrawal of increased price is not met immediately.

The price has been increased by Tk 50 per form raising it to Tk 250

The sale of admission form begins on December 8.

Addressing a rally on the campus, the SCF leaders said the price of admission forms has been increased as part of the alliance government's plan to commercialise higher education in the coun-

They said students coming from middle and lower classes will be discouraged to pursue their studies at DU as a result of fee-hike.

The SCF leaders threatened to launch greater movement along with other like-minded student organisations if their demands are SCF President Khalekuzzaman

Lipon, DU unit President Janardan Datta Nantu and DU unit General Secretary Abu Raihan addressed

Earlier, the SCF brought out a procession that paraded campus

Bangladesh Chhatra League, student chapter of opposition Awami League also expressed its solidarity with the SCF from another rally on the campus.

Earlier, Progatishil Chhatra lote, a combined left-leaning student organisation, demonstrated for immediate withdrawal of increased price of admission forms.

Housewife killed for dowry STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Art exhibition

The opening ceremony of the 6th solo art exhibition by Rafi Haque will be held with French Ambassador Michel Lummaux as chief guest. Venue: Alliance Française gallery, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.00pm. The exhibition will remain open from 9.00am to 12.00 noon and 5.00pm to 8.00pm daily except on Saturday from 5.00pm to 8.00pm till December 15.

Painting show

The inaugural ceremony of the 4th solo painting exhibition titled 'Beauty hidden in the nature' by Pintu Islam will be held with poet Shamsur Rahman as chief guest. Venue: Drik gallery, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.30pm. The exhibition will remain open from 3.00pm to 8.00pm daily till December 12.

Film show

Bishwasahitya Kendra will screen a film titled 'The 400 Blows' by Flancois Truffaul. Venue: Bishwasahitya Kendra auditorium, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 5.00pm.

Movie show

The Academy Film Society will screen two films -- The Fourth Protocol and The Graduate. Venue: Society auditorium, 21/C Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm and

Pepsi music

The first episode of Pepsi Music Express, a magazine programme on band music directed by Ferdous Bappi, will be telecast. Venue: n tv. Time:

Exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of an international architectural exhibition, organised by the Institute of Architects Bangladesh, will be held. Venue: Winter Garden of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10.30am. The exhibition will remain open till December 8 from 10.00am to 8.00pm daily.

Prize giving ceremony

The prize giving ceremony of annual cultural competition-2003, organised by Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU), will be held. Venue: DRU auditorium, Topkhana Road. Time: 10.00am.

Seminar

A seminar on the 'Role of teacher in education', organised by Bangladesh Economics Teachers Association, will be held. Venue: Naem auditorium. Dhanmondi, Time: 9.00am.

Discussion

In observance of International Voluntary Service Day, Hunger Free World will hold a discussion. Venue: 2/8 Block-F Lalmatia. Time: 3.30pm.

NFYOB discussion

National Federation of Youth Organisations in Bangladesh (NFYOB) organises a discussion and youth rally to mark the International Voluntary Service Day. Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy premises. Time:

Conference The annual conference of Bangladesh

Society for Total Quality Management will be held with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: Hotel Rajmoni Isha Khan, Kakrail. Time: 9.00am.

Gonoforum meeting

An extended meeting of the central committee of Gonoforum will be held. Venue: 60, Purana Paltan. Time:

Peace rally

peace rally demanding an end to war and production of weapon around the world. Venue: Muktangan. Time:

World Peace Organisation will hold a

Leo rally

Leo Club of Dhaka Faridabad, District 315-A1 organises a rally to mark the International Leo Day. Venue: Wooden Bridge, Gandaria. Time: 7.30am.

Blood group

National Youth Council of Bangladesh blood group. Venue: Council office, Gandaria. Time: 10.00am.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Symposium The inaugural session of a two-day

symposium on Poverty and Population, organised by the population science department of Dhaka University in cooperation with the UNFPA, will be held with Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz as chief guest. Venue: Auditorium of the Academy for Planning and Development, Nilkhet. Time: 10.30am.

Film show

The Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'The Older House Rules'. Venue: Society auditorium. 21/C Jigatola, Time: 6.30pm.

build a self-reliant Bangladesh. State Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources A K M "I assure you that we shall continue to extend our support in the days to come. I hope that the Lions Mosharraf Hossain and president International President and other of the International Association of Senior Lion leaders, during their Lions Clubs Dr Tae Sup "TS" Lee visit to Bangladesh, will discuss with

Dry weather to continue

Prevailing dry weather will continue over the country and light to moderate fog may occur at places over the river basins of the country during morning till

Highest temperature 30.4 degree Celsius was recorded vesterday at

The sun sets in the capital at 5:11 pm today and rises at 6:27 am tomor

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, Met Office said.

angamati and lowest 11.6 degree at Srimango

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in	
	In Celsius		percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	27.5	16.6	67	65
Chittagong	28.5	16.4	71	58
Rajshahi	26.2	12.5	89	82
Khulna	28.0	15.2	80	76
Barisal	27.5	14.5	90	90
Sylhet	28.0	15.5	70	68
Cox's Bazar	28.6	16.5	74	78

Residents of North Jatrabari protest water crisis in the area (right) while Wasa supplies water by water tanker (left). But the supply is too inadequate.

Identification of arsenic contamination

Existing system not correct: JS body

Staff Correspondent

A parliamentary standing committee vesterday recommended new initiative to identify arsenic contamination in the affected areas of the country.

New time of **US** embassy student centre

UNB, Dhaka

The Student Advising Centre of the American Centre, US Embassy in Bangladesh, will follow a new time schedule from December 7.

From that period, the Advising Centre will be open to users from 10 am to 4 pm instead of 3 pm, Sunday through Wednesday, said an Embassy release.

The parliamentary standing committee on Local Government and Rural Development (LGRD) ministry resolved that the existing system of identifying arsenic contamination is not correct.

The meeting was told that several NGOs conducted survey in 268 upazilas of 61 districts to identify arsenic since 1993. "Primary school teachers are

testing the level of arsenic in water

in affected areas, but what do they

know about arsenic? " asked Abdul Mannan Talukder, chairman of the committee. He told newspersons after the meeting that some school teachers have identified some tubewells in his constituency as arsenic-

way as they tested water only to mix some medicines," he added. LGRD Minister Abdul Mannan Bhuivan, however made no com-

affected. But it was not the right

ment about the meeting. The parliamentary body also formed a sub-committee to probe alleged irregularities and corruption in public health and engineering department during past Awami League government.

Presided over by Abdul Mannan Talukder at the Jatiya Sangsad Bhaban, the meeting was attended by committee members and officials concerned.

Sangbadik Kalyan Fund invites application

Bangladesh Sangbadik Kalyan Fund has invited applications for providing financial assistance to

ournalists, says a press release. The prescribed forms will be available from the office of the Chairman of the fund Golam Sarwar, also the editor of the daily Jugantor, from 10.00am to 2.00pm



Recipients of merit scholarship awards pose with State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon and other guests at the award ceremony at the East West University auditorium in the city yesterday. The university organised