

## Ex-Jubo League leader killed in 'crossfire'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A former Jubo League leader was killed in "crossfire" during a shootout between the Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and his cohorts at Adabor in the city yesterday.

Acting on a tip-off, Rab raided a Dhaka-bound bus near Kaliakoir that was coming from Sirajganj on Saturday afternoon and picked up Dulal. Rab sources said. The bus was also seized.

The Rab took him to Nabodoy Housing Balu Math in the early hours yesterday to recover illegal arms from his den and to nab his accomplices, the Rab sources claimed.

When the Rab personnel neared their den, Dulal's accomplices opened fire on them, forcing the law enforcers to retaliate.

Dulal fell in the line of fire and died on the spot, the sources added. A revolver was recovered from the scene.

Police sources said that Dulal was accused in at least six cases, including two for murder.

His family sources, however, said that all the cases against him were political, adding that he was released on bail three months back. He was a former president of ward no 43 Jubo League, they further said.

## Thunderbolt kills two

BSS, Kishoreganj

Two people were killed in separate incidents of thunderbolt in Kishoreganj and Sirajganj yesterday.

Peals of thunder fell on local trader Jalal Uddin Jalu, 26, when he was returning home from Joshodal Bazar at Sadar upazila yesterday noon.

Our Sirajganj Correspondent said one farmer was killed and another injured at Monoharpur under Ullapara upazila when a thunderbolt struck them at about 10.00am yesterday. The dead was identified as Nurul Islam.

Local people said at the time of the incident five farmers were working in a paddy field. Three of them survived taking quick shelter in shallow pump house.

## Tributes paid to Abidur Reza

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a citizens' memorial meeting have paid rich tributes to the memory of renowned parliamentarian Abidur Reza Khan.

They said the nation today needs real patriots like Reza Khan to uphold the image of the country and establish democracy at all times of national life.

The meeting was organised by Abidur Reza Khan Smirittee Parishad at the National Press Club in the city on Saturday.

The speakers said Reza Khan, one of the architects of the Constitution, inspired people to serve the poor and distressed humanity.

They said he would be ever remembered for his honesty and dedication in politics.

Presided over by Justice Habibur Rahman Khan, the meeting was also addressed by Awami League Presidium Member Tofail Ahmed, Colonel (ret'd) Shawkat Ali, Lawyer KM Saifuddin Ahmed, Advocate Mahub Ali, Advocate Sudhir Kumar Hazra and Advocate Abdul Baten.

## PM addresses Ctg public meet tomorrow

BSS, Chittagong

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will address a public meeting at Hathazari in Chittagong tomorrow, local BNP sources said yesterday.

Golam Akbar Khondaker, president of Chittagong north district BNP and Shahjan Siraj, general secretary of the unit in a joint statement urged the BNP leaders and workers and its front organisations to make the planned meeting a success.

## Inter-university debate begins today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three-day-long 'City Bank-TIB 6th Inter-University Debate Competition 2006' begins in the city today.

The inaugural session will be held at the auditorium of Teachers Students Centre (TSC) of Dhaka University at 10:30am.

Debaters from different public and private universities will take part.

Dhaka University Debating Society in collaboration with City Bank, NA Bangladesh and Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) has organised the competition, says a press release.

## SEPTEMBER 11 TERRORIST ATTACKS

# Fight against terrorism not against Islam

Says US envoy

UNB, Dhaka

US Ambassador in Dhaka Patricia A Butenis has lauded the people of Bangladesh for rejecting the extremists' terrorism and their conception of society saying, "They (Bangladeshis) chose freedom over tyranny and tolerance over intolerance."

The fight against terrorism is not a war against Islam, this is a struggle that unites the peoples of the USA, the UK, Bangladesh and India, said the ambassador yesterday in a statement in memory of September 11 terrorist attacks in US.

"The anniversary of September 11 terrorist attacks is an appropriate occasion for the international community to reaffirm our unequivocal condemnation of all acts of terror. No faith condones the deliberate targeting and killing of innocent civilians, and no cause or grievance - no matter how legitimate - can ever justify it," she said.

Butenis said the victims of September 11 were citizens of more than 90 different countries

including Bangladesh and adherents of many faiths including Islam.

Since Osama bin Laden declared war on America ten years ago, thousands of people of many nations, religions, races and beliefs have been murdered as a result of his instigation or incitement of acts of terror, she added.

"Terrorist attacks against the United States and our friends and allies began long before we acted to remove the Taliban regime which was harbouring al Qaeda in Afghanistan," she said.

Butenis said al Qaeda's agenda is to impose a Taliban-like tyrannical regime on many proud and sovereign nations of the Islamic world, "and they have nothing but intolerance for all those who do not share their extremist beliefs including fellow Muslims."

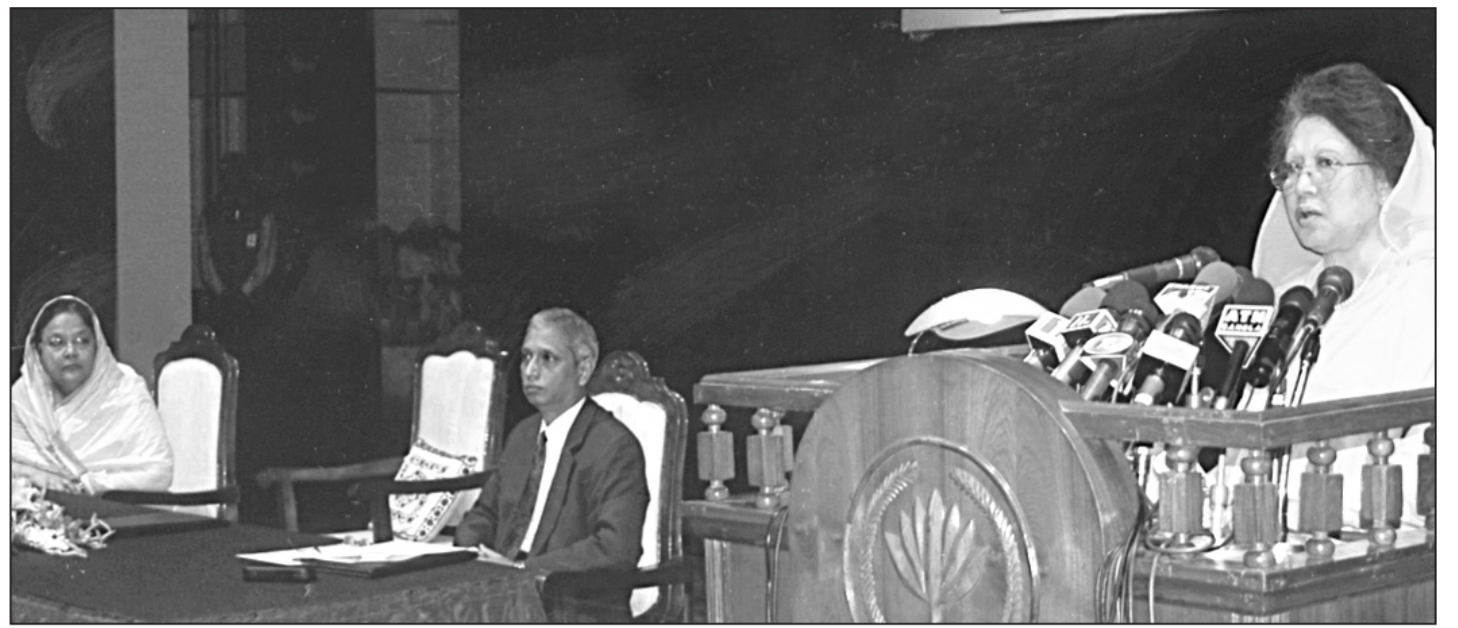
"Whether or not they had direct ties to al Qaeda, this is also the type of society that violent extremists sought for Bangladesh. The people of Bangladesh rejected the extremists' terrorism and their conception of society; they chose

freedom over tyranny and tolerance over intolerance," the US Ambassador said.

She said despite al-Qaeda's repeated attempts to characterize the world as being in the midst of a clash of civilisations, the simple fact is that the international community comes together to confront common threats and ease human sufferings.

The US envoy said, "Here in Bangladesh we provide funds for Muslim girls and boys to go to school, for Muslim women to visit health clinics, and for Muslim young people to get training for jobs not because they are Muslim, but because of our shared humanity."

"As we look back on September 11, 2001 we also look forward. We seek to work in a spirit of partnership with people and nations across the world to confront this ideology of hate and foster a climate of hope and opportunity. We are far from perfect, yet we believe the ideals of freedom and justice that guide us are universal," said Butenis in her statement.



Prime Minister Khaleda Zia speaks at the inaugural function of the International Literacy Day at the Osmany Memorial auditorium in the city yesterday.

# Govt has turned population into resources thru' education

PM tells Int'l Literacy Day inaugural function

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia said her government has already set a unique example of success by turning the country's population into human resources through education.

"Now smartly dressed up children go to schools in groups in the cities, towns and even in the remote villages... When I see them, I discern the nation's potentials and a picture of a bright future," she observed.

The PM was inaugurating

International Literacy Day-2006 at Osmani Memorial auditorium here yesterday.

The theme of this year's International Literacy Day is "Literacy sustains development".

The Prime Minister said she would be very happy if those who would write the history of Bangladesh's development would identify the present tenure of her government as an 'age of enlightenment, women education and expansion of primary and mass education'.

She said her government

attached the highest priority to education as it believes that without modern education we cannot build a developed nation.

Khaleda said poverty eradication would be impossible without spreading education and promoting primary and mass education, particularly women education.

Referring to poet Shamsur Rahman's piece of poetry entitled 'Dukhini Barnomata', she said, "We can remove the sorrows of our alphabets by introducing them to people of all ages across the country. She called for launching a

literacy campaign across the country.

The prime minister said her government has been implementing extensive programmes giving priority on poverty alleviation, expansion of education and public health alongside various other steps to curb terrorism from the society.

The PM's Adviser on Primary and Mass Education Prof Jahana Begum presided over the function attended by ministers, MPs, representatives of the development partners and high officials.



Police intercept the women activists of the opposition Awami League at Paltan intersection in the city yesterday, top, while a Chhatra League activist is being taken to custody at Shahbagh during hartal hours, bottom.

## People express no-confidence in govt thru' hartal: Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Opposition leader Sheikh Hasina said the people expressed their total no-confidence in the government by making yesterday's dawn-to-dusk hartal an "all-out success", ignoring police repression.

"The country's entire people are united for holding a free and fair election through realising the reforms of the system of caretaker government and the Election Commission," she said in a statement.

Hasina, also chief of Awami League, said, people cannot be kept under subjugation through oppression. "People will establish their legitimate demands and their right to food and vote at any cost."

Condemning the atrocity of police during the "peaceful hartal", she demanded unconditional release of the arrested persons belonging to Awami League and the 14-party alliance and withdraw false cases filed against them.

Hasina called upon the people, including different professional groups, to join the on-going movement to bring an end to the misrule of the anti-independence alliance government.

## Indian NDC team in city

A 21-member Indian National Defence College (NDC) team led by Air Vice Marshal GS Kochar arrived in Dhaka on a five-day goodwill visit to Bangladesh yesterday, says an ISPR press release.

They are scheduled to call on President Iajuddin Ahmed, Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Moeen U Ahmed, Chief of Naval Staff Rear Admiral M Hasan Ali Khan, Chief of Air Staff Air Vice Marshal Fakhru Azam and Principal Staff Officer of the Armed Forces Division Major General Md Jahangir Alam Chowdhury.

They will also visit some defence establishments in Dhaka and Comilla.

## Qulqhwani

BSS, Dhaka

Qulqhwani of AH Khairul Anam will be held at his residence at Mohammadpur in the city after Asr prayers today.

Khairul Anam, a retired senior audit officer of Uttara Bank, hailed from Rangpur, passed away due to a cardiac arrest on Saturday at the age of 65, family sources said.

He left behind his wife, two sons and one daughter.

All have been requested to attend the qulqhwani at his residence at J/7, Kazi Nazrul Islam Road, Block-E at Mohammadpur in the city.

# Seoul Declaration for building Asian Community

UNB, Dhaka

The International Conference on Asian Political Parties (ICAPP) held in Seoul, South Korea, has adopted a declaration calling for building an Asian Community for bringing permanent peace and stability in the region.

According to a message received here yesterday, representatives of political parties of Asian countries unanimously adopted the 22-point Seoul Declaration at the concluding day of the conference in Seoul.

More than 300 representatives from 90 political parties of Asian countries including Bangladesh, Australia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, China, Cyprus, East Timor, India, Iran, Japan, Malaysia, Thailand,

Singapore, Sri Lanka and Vietnam attended the 4-day ICAPP general assembly.

The Seoul Declaration echoed the sentiment of the Asian political leaders including Awami League General Secretary Abdul Jalil who had called upon the Asian leaders to form a Union or Association to give leadership to the world.

Condemning all forms of terrorism, the Asian political leaders have agreed to work together in finding and implementing measures to effectively control terrorism.

The Declaration called upon the international community to work towards eradicating the root causes of terrorism and strengthening coordination and collaboration among countries and regional organisations towards achieving the goal.

# N'ganj city BNP divided over new body

OUR CORRESPONDENT, N'ganj

A section of local BNP leaders yesterday held a rally in the town demanding dissolution of the city unit convening committee only three days into its formation.

Three years after the dissolution of the previous committee, the 91-member committee was formed on September 7 with local lawmaker Advocate Abul Kalam as the convenor.

Alleging that the local MP formed the 'pocket committee' with his son, brother and other relatives to fortify his position, the aggrieved BNP leaders said.

They also alleged that those who

underwent torture during the previous government's rule for the cause of the party were not included in the committee.

District BNP Law Secretary Advocate Shakhawat Hossain, President of Swechchhasebak Dal Suruzzaman and former president of Bandar Thana BNP Amanuddin Aman addressed the rally at Chashara.

Dissolving BNP's Narayanganj city committee three years ago, Hawa Bhaban formed Narayanganj municipality committee with the local MP as president and Rafiqul Islam as general secretary.

But the local MP resigned immediately as the committee had the status of a thana level committee.

## Obituary

Mohammad Mozaher Ali, father of Kabita, a senior reporter of the daily Amar Desh, passed away due to brain haemorrhage at the Holy Family Hospital in the city yesterday at the age of 77, says a press release.

Mozaher Ali left behind his wife, three daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) Acting President Saiful Islam and General Secretary Shaheed Chowdhury expressed condolence at the death of Mozaher Ali and sympathy to the bereaved family members.

## Syeda Fateha Khanam

Syeda Fateha Khanam Chowdhurani, wife of former principal of Dhaka Medical College Dr Syed Hafizuddin Ahmed, passed away yesterday

due to old age complications at the city's Central Hospital at the age of 86, says a press release.

She was survived by three sons, two daughters, grandchildren and a host of relatives and admirers.

Family members of the deceased have requested all to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

## Death anniversary

Today is the second death anniversary of Kazi Anwarul Huq Tareq, former director of Abahani Club Limited, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held at his residence at Dhanmondi in the city after Magharib prayers today.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the mahfil.

## Dr Samsul Alam Khadem

Today is the fifth death anniversary of Dr Samsul Alam Khadem, former medical officer of Tejgaon Thana Health Project, says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil have been arranged on the Kharampur Darga premises in Akhaura after Asr prayers.

All relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the mahfil.

## Urs Mubarak

The annual Urs Mubarak of Shamsul Ulema Hazrat Moulana Saifullah (R.A.) will be held tomorrow at 78 Shantiganar in the city, says a press release.

On the occasion, Quran Telawat will begin at 10:00am and doa will be held at 12:00noon followed by distribution of Tabarak.

## WEATHER TODAY

## Moderately heavy falls likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over all the divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy falls are likely at places, Met Office said, predicting nearly an unchanged day temperature over the country.

Highest temperature 34.6 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Rajshahi and lowest 23.6 degree Celsius at Rangpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:07pm today and rises at 5:44am tomorrow.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	29.6	26.0	89	92
Chittagong	31.8	26.5	74	83
Rajshahi	34.6	25.9	84	81
Khulna	34.0	28.0	82	97
Barisal	32.5	27.3	79	97
Sylhet	28.5	26.0	92	90
Cox's Bazar	32.5	26.0	82	74

## Bangladesh envoy presents credentials to Emperor Akihito

BSS, Dhaka

Newly appointed Bangladesh Ambassador to Japan Ashraf-ud-Doula presented his credentials to Emperor Akihito in traditional Japanese ceremony at the imperial palace in Tokyo recently.

The Emperor enquired about the health condition of President Iajuddin Ahmed and recalled the visit by Prime Minister Khaleda Zia in 2005, a foreign ministry press release said here yesterday.

Ashraf-ud-Doula told the Emperor that the people and the government of Bangladesh deeply appreciated the Japan's generous assistance that was contributing greatly to the socio-economic development of the country.

Emperor Akihito wished the ambassador a success during his tenure and hoped that he (ambassador) would work for strengthening the very cordial and excellent relations between Bangladesh and Japan.