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# Abdul Jalil's proposal



AL General Secretary Mr. Abdul Jalil's recent proposal to the BNP Secretary General Mr. Mannan Bhuiyan that he must attend the tea invitation given by the American Ambassador and must have the initial dialogue at her official residence was unacceptable. I feel as a Bangladesh citizen Mr. Jalil embarrassed the whole nation. As a Bangladeshi I feel the world will consider us as a nation which can't handle its own affairs.

I also feel that time has come for some leaders to retire from politics. I think the AL initially never had any issue to discuss regarding the caretaker government, because they have already participated in the last three general elections under the same arrangements.

**Jewel Hamid, New York, USA**

## Shuttle train of CU

Chittagong University is a well-established public university of Bangladesh. It is located in a beautiful place. There is also another thing which separates this university from other universities of Bangladesh- it has a shuttle train. The students take pride in the fact that only CU has a train service for students. Every day 5-6 thousand students use this train for communication. But if we take a closer look at the matter, it will be revealed that we don't have anything to take pride in. This train journey is a kind of suffering for the students. Normally a train should not take more than half an hour to cover the 30km distance from Chittagong city. But it is a matter of regret that it takes more than one-hour and the sitting arrangements are very poor. Sometimes students have to hang on to the handles of the train. This may cause accident any time. Last month one girl student was killed.

The Chittagong University authorities should look into the matter.  
**MD. Manzurul Karim**  
Chittagong University

## Ershad

JP Chairman Ershad is now a seasoned politician and an iron man in the truest sense of the term. He has learned politics the hard way, having spent such a long time in jail.

Of course, we cannot deny & forget the progress and certain major development works done during his tenure of nine years.

**Masih Ahmad, G.M.D.S.I. Ltd**  
Sholodubi, Gazipur



# Police excesses

Some members of the police beat up the national shooters, including the Commonwealth Games gold winner Asif.

The trouble started when a DIG's car was parked in violation of the rules. We must note that the wife of a DIG was deemed to be more important than a national hero! No

matter what they achieved in the past and what laurels they bring to the country in the future, the shooters are shooters only but a DIG's wife is a dignitary! The police were in a mood to provide holistic support to her and eventually they beat up the national heroes!

The police have been setting sev-

eral examples of barbaric behaviour. General public to journalists, innocent pedestrians to pregnant mother, cultural workers to politicians --nobody seems to be safe from police assault.

**Sina Chowdhury**  
Jigatola, Dhaka

# Puja Special

This is for the first time that The Daily Star has taken the initiative to publish a Puja Special supplement on the eve of Durga Puja, the biggest festival of Hindus. This has been highly appreciated by general readers throughout the country, Hindu subscribers in particular. Almost all articles that appeared in the special supplement were full of information. In fact, such illustrative columns are necessary to realise the depth of the concept of faith and philosophy of

Hindu tradition and religion. Unfortunately, we could not locate this supplement in the Internet on the day of publication, 30 September, 2006. This has deprived the Internet readers of The Daily Star both at home and abroad.

We, therefore, request you to ensure in future that such rare publications are made available to the Internet readers.

**Krishna Gopal Basu, Rajbari**



## Detained without trial

Like the US, Pakistan too is unfortunately engaged in retaining detainees without trial. While the Afghanistan President Mr. Karzai rules his country on behalf the Pentagon and does in his country exactly what he has been assigned by the US led forces that in effect rule the country with guns, the Pakistan President Mr. Musharraf under the shadow of the Pentagon tries to pop up his rule not caring about what the people feel and say, but his rule is largely coming under strain in recent times chiefly

because of interference from the Bush administration in the domestic politics of Pakistan and an impression is being created that he rules on behalf of the US-led countries. President Musharraf, like Karzai, also has to pretend to rule the whole of his country. Pakistan is overburdened by effects of the pressure tactics of New Delhi employed constantly to out-smart Islamabad and come closer to Washington and clinch the nuclear issue at any cost and India is making determined efforts to use the terror card to achieve that. But Islamabad has no justification for keeping detainees

without trial ostensibly on instructions from the CIA and the Pentagon, irrespective of whether or not Pakistan gets paid by Washington for whatever services it renders or the number of Muslims caught and handed over or killed.

CIA and the Pentagon can afford to undertake illegal actions with respect to the Muslims and Pakistan's mistake of following their footsteps would land it in greater troubles in due course.

**Dr. Abdul Ruff Colachal**  
Jawaharlal Nehru University  
New Delhi

## Inconsistent!

How is it that a nation which still cannot decide on whether to start the holy fasting month of "Ramadan" simply by following the schedule of Saudi Arabia, but finds it a part of religious fervour to start their "iftar" with the date fruit from that desert country, so much so that the importers find it to be a very lucrative business and the mobile teams are thus discovering old and rotten stocks of the fruit!

**CNR**  
Chittagong