

NATION PAYS HOMAGE TO MARTYRED INTELLECTUALS



Different socio-political organisations and individuals place wreaths at Martyred Intellectuals Graveyard at Mirpur in the city yesterday marking the Martyred Intellectuals Day. (1) BNP leaders led by its Chairperson Khaleda Zia, (2) People from all walks of life, (3) AL-led 14-party combine led by Sheikh Hasina, (4) Speaker Jamiruddin Sircar, (5) Advisers to the caretaker government, (6) LDP leaders led by Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury, (7) Bangladesh Mahila Parishad, (8) Ekkattor Ghatok Dalal Nirmla Committee, (9) A child and (10) Students of Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Model High School.

3 Gram Police men killed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Bogra  
 Unidentified miscreants slaughtered three Gram Police men at Fashitola village in Khatlal upazila of Joypurhat district on Wednesday night. The dead are Bachchu Mondol, 46, Abdul Jalil, 38, and Roisuddin, 45. Police said six members of Gram Police were on duty at the village on Wednesday night. Later, three of them went to the nearby village on information that their salaries have been increased and a letter in this regard is lying with another member of Gram Police at the village. They did not return the whole night. Yesterday morning, locals found the slaughtered bodies of the three on

a cropland and informed the police. Police went to the spot and recovered the bodies. No-one was arrested in connection with the killings as of yesterday noon.

17 Myanmar citizens held in Cox's Bazar  
 STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Ctg  
 Seventeen citizens of neighbouring Myanmar were detained for illegally entering the country in Cox's Bazar yesterday.

Acting on a tip off, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) members in a raid held the Myanmar citizens from Shaplapur coast under Ukhiya at around 11:00am. The members of Rab 7 of Chittagong held the intruders when they landed on the coast after getting inside the Bangladesh border by boats, sources said. The detainees were handed over to police at Shaplapur outpost, they added.

Meanwhile, members of Rab-7 also arrested a notorious terrorist identified as Sree Prakash Sheel, 37, at Koerpara under Raozan upazila in the district on Wednesday night. Sree Prakash, son of Arun Sheel, was an absconding criminal and accused in seven criminal cases including three murders, abduction and extortion, sources said. Prakash was later handed over to Raozan thana police.

2 robbers held in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Chittagong  
 Two robbers were caught red handed while trying to commit dacoity at Noorbaz under Kotwali Police Station yesterday noon. The arrestees were identified as Rezaul Karim, 28, of Miar Baper Masjid area of Bakalia and Md Hanif, 22, of Chan Mia Munsil Lane of the same area. Police said a gang of five robbers entered the house of one Dr ABM Lutful Kabir at Noorbaz Residential Area near OR Nizam Road at around 1:30pm. Holding the inmates at gunpoint, the robbers started to loot valuables.

Nation pays homage to martyred intellectuals

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 bodies in Rayerbazar, Mirpur and other killing fields. Different socio-cultural organisations and political parties observed the day through various programmes, including seminars, discussion and silent processions. They hoisted black flag and the national flag at half-mast to commemorate the martyred intellectuals. Thousands of people, including teachers, students, freedom fighters, party activists, professionals and members of the martyred intellectuals' families, visited the Martyred Intellectuals Mausoleum at Mirpur and Rayerbazar Mausoleum and placed wreaths with due respect to the martyrs. President and Chief Adviser Iajuddin Ahmed placed wreaths at Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Mausoleum at 7:00am yesterday. As a mark of respect he stood in solemn silence for sometime while bugles played the last post. Advisers to the caretaker government, Dhaka City Corporation mayor, president's adviser, secretaries and high officials, among others, were present. Liberation War Affairs Adviser Dhiraj Kumar Nath paid floral tribute to the intellectuals at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Mausoleum and Rayerbazar Mausoleum.

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia placed wreaths at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Mausoleum at 7:30am. Bangladesh Awami League (AL) chief Sheikh Hasina placed wreaths at the Mirpur Martyred Intellectuals Mausoleum and Rayerbazar Mausoleum in the morning. Major political parties including BNP, AL, Liberal Democratic Party, Communist Party of Bangladesh, Workers Party, different factions of Jatiya Party, Gono Forum and Bangla Academy, Sammilita Sangskritik Jote and other socio-cultural organisations arranged various programmes to mark the day. Dhaka University Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz along with the teachers and students placed wreaths at the mausoleum at Mirpur. From early morning yesterday, members of the martyrs' family, representatives of different political parties, social, cultural and professional organisations paid tributes to the martyrs at the Mirpur mausoleum. Ghatok Dalal Nirmla Committee, Jahangirnagar University, National University, Open University, different halls of DU, Bangladesh Shikkhak Karmachari Oikya Parishad, Gono Sanghaty and



Family members of slain former finance minister Shah AMS Kibria and civil society members stage a demonstration in front of the High Court in the city yesterday demanding proper investigation into the killing of the former minister.

5 killed in road accidents

STAR REPORT  
 Five people, including a policeman, were killed in separate road accidents in the country yesterday. Our Staff Correspondent reports: An Assistant Sub Inspector of police was killed while his family members got injured in a road accident at Savar in the early

hours of yesterday. The victim, identified as Abdur Rahman, 42, had recently been transferred to Rajshahi from Shyampur Police Station. He was on his way towards Rajshahi along with his wife and two sons when the incident occurred. Sources and witnesses said the truck carrying Rahman lost control due to heavy mist and fell into a roadside ditch at around 4:00am at Ashulia. The injured were rushed to a local clinic and were later shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where Rahman succumbed to his injuries at around 11:00am.

In another incident, an unidentified man, aged around 35, was killed while crossing the road as a heavy vehicle knocked him down near Uttara Azampur bus stand. He was rushed to Bangladesh Medical College Hospital where on duty doctors declared him dead. Meanwhile, UNB from Sirajganj adds: Three people were killed and 13 injured in separate road accidents at Shahjapur in the district yesterday. Noor Nabi, 25, who was traveling in a three-wheeler, died on the spot when the vehicle turned turtle on the road at Dinnadayir village at about 4:00pm. Three co-passengers were also injured. In another incident, a speedy truck dashed down Alhaj, 30, a pedestrian, from behind at Baghabari at about 2:30pm. He died on the spot. In another incident, a day labourer named Maidan Ali, 40, was killed when a truck carrying the labourers turned upside down at Daya at about 4:00pm. Nine of the ten injured labourers were admitted to the upazila Health Complex.

Death anniversary of Fazle Rabbee today

Today is the 35th death anniversary of Dr Md Fazle Rabbee, a martyred intellectual, says a press release. Pakistani occupation forces and their collaborators Razakar, Al-Badr and Al-Shams picked him up from his Jalpaiguri House at 75 Shiddheswari at about 4:00pm on this day in 1971 and killed him brutally at Rayer Bazar at night. His body was recovered from Rayer Bazar killing ground on December 18. To mark the day, wreaths will be placed and fateha will be offered at his grave at the New Azampur graveyard and Qurankhwani and a doa mahfil will be held at Dhaka Salimullah Orphanage.

Obituary

BSS, Rangpur  
 Aziza Khatun, the lone female freedom fighter of Bhurungamar, passed away due to cancer on Wednesday at her residence at the age of 57. Aziza, an employee of the Upazila Family Planning Department, had been living alone after separation with her husband. She had no children. She fought the War of Liberation in 1971. She was buried with the state honour at her family graveyard in Bhurungamar after namaz-e-janaza. Taramon Bibi Bir Pratik, freedom fighters, politicians, and professionals condole the death.

SM Fazlul Haque

Today is the 11th death anniversary of SM Fazlul Haque, former principal of Barisal Islamia College, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at his College Road residence after Asr prayers. Feroza Billah Chowdhury Feroza Billah Chowdhury, mother of Samir Chowdhury, deputy general manager of Basic Bank Ltd passed away due to brain hemorrhage in Toronto, Canada on December 10 at the age of 72, says a press release. She left behind her seven sons and one daughter. Her body will arrive in Dhaka on December 16. She will be buried at her family graveyard at Masumpur in Feni.

Wahiduddin points at good intentions

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 "There needs to be a code of conduct or a norm of behaviour to judge the type and quality of personality of a potential candidate for appointment," he said. In this regard, he referred to other important public service posts like judges, Chairman of the University Grants Commission and the head of the Public Service Commission. Calling for a code of conduct for politicians, he said, "If politicians are ignorant of good norms of behaviour, how can they appear as the leaders of the country?" Mahmud, adviser to the interim governments in 1996 and 2001, expressed dissatisfaction over a state of politics where "We have been reduced to judge whether government institutions and processes abide by the constitution." Commenting on possible

improvements to the present state of governance, he said, "The current formalised accountability procedures are weak, so there needs to be more tangible indicators that could help us formalise accountability." To that end, Mahmud proposed more "Non-institutionalised informal accountability measures," in accordance with proposals made by the CGS study. ASM Shahjahan, another adviser to the 2001 caretaker government, said the right to information law needs to be addressed by the present caretaker government to allow the media and civil society to improve government's accountability. M Hafizuddin Khan, also a caretaker government adviser in 2001, lamented the past government's "insensitivity" to civil society research findings and proposals. "The State of Governance

Report 2006: Knowledge, Perceptions and Reality," released by CGS, found that public institutions have been forcibly or illicitly made partisan -- from the recruitment to the retirement stage. The report also found that there is a dearth of widespread demand for reform to governance systems within Bangladesh while the demand comes largely from the donor community. The study also found that sections of the civil society have acquired a 'partisan tilt'. However, rising interest and greater public participation in politics-related matters is a positive sign, the study said. Jamilur Reza Chowdhury, vice-chancellor of Brac University, Manzoor Hassan, Director of CGS and Naomi Hossain, a research fellow, also spoke on the occasion.

Murderers of intellectuals must be tried

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 identified and brought to trial. "At least we should hate those who killed the intellectuals in a planned way to make the country intellectually crippled," he said at a discussion meeting organised by the BNP to mark the Martyred Intellectuals Day at the Jatiya Press Club auditorium. Bhuiyan however did not make any comment on Razakar, Al-Badr and Al-Shams (mostly leaders of BNP's key ally Jamaat-Islami and its student front), who were collaborators of the Pakistani occupation army and kidnapped frontline Bengalee intellectuals and professionals on December 14, 1971 and killed them.

the political crisis and said the country would face a constitutional crisis if the election cannot be held within the 90-day time limit. "The army has been deployed due to their (14-party) activities and they will be responsible if democracy faces any crisis," he said. "We did not want army deployment so early but the president did his duty as economic and educational activities had collapsed due to their (14-party) blockade. Even they announced

Bangabhaban siege programme though now they are saying that they did not enforce the programme," Bhuiyan said. MK Anwar, vice chairman of the BNP, said it is unfortunate that the killers of the top intellectuals were not brought to trial as after the Liberation War Sheikh Mujibur Rahman pardoned them. Other speakers included former minister and BNP vice chairman Shahjahan Siraj and Tariqul Islam, Zafurul Hasan, Barkat Ullah Bulu, Aman Ullah Aman and Shireen Sultana.

## WEATHER TODAY

### Mild cold wave likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain dry over the country in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Light to moderate fog may also occur over the river basins of the country during early morning, Met Office said in a forecast.

Mild cold wave may sweep over the western part of the country and the regions of Sirimongal. It also said that night temperature may fall slightly over the country.

Highest temperature 26.7 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chittagong and lowest 8.2 degree Celsius at Sirimongal.

**The sun sets in the capital at 5:14pm today and rises at 6:34am tomorrow.**

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in celsius	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	24.9	15.0	61	53
Chittagong	26.7	14.4	65	64
Rajshahi	23.8	09.4	68	77
Khulna	24.6	12.0	69	64
Barisal	25.8	11.0	78	84
Sylhet	26.0	12.5	82	76
Cox's Bazar	26.5	15.5	41	57