

## Afghan envoy calls on Hasina

UNB, Dhaka

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina yesterday said they have formed a grand political alliance for establishing people's right to vote and democracy in the country.

Hasina made the remarks when outgoing Afghan High Commissioner to Bangladesh Akmal Ghani made a farewell call on her at her Sudha Sadan residence in the morning.

During the half an hour meeting, they discussed the prevailing political situation in the country and bilateral relations between Bangladesh and Afghanistan.

AL leader vice-principal Abdus Shahid and ex-ambassador Mohammad Ziauddin were present at the meeting.

Hasina hailed the Afghan envoy for his activities during his tenure here.

## Dhaka Club AGM on Dec 24

The annual general meeting of Dhaka Club Limited scheduled to be held on December 21 will now be held on December 24 due to unavoidable circumstances, says a press release.

Agenda, timing and venue of the meeting will remain unchanged.

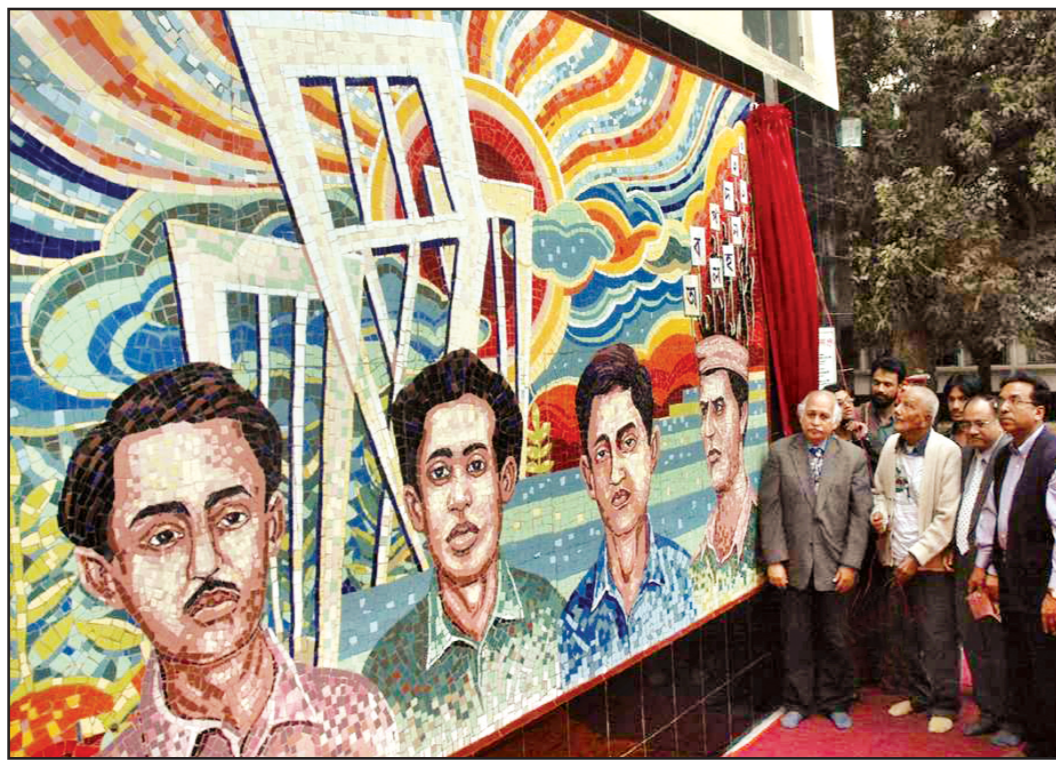


PHOTO: STAR

Language Movement veteran Abdul Matin, second from left, inaugurates a mural in honour of the martyrs of the 1952 Language Movement on the wall of Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducusu) building yesterday. Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz, extreme left, was present.

## DU unveils mural of Language Movement

DU CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka University (DU) authorities yesterday unveiled a mural in honour of the martyrs of the 1952 Language Movement.

Created by Abdul Aziz, a teacher

of the Institute of Fine Art, the mural titled 'Chetonay Ekushey' features portraits of four martyrs -- Rafiq, Salam, Barkat and Jabbar -- with Shaheed Minar in the background.

They along with others sacrificed their lives on February 21 in 1952 for

the mother language, Bangla.

In 1999, the Unesco declared February 21 as the International Mother Language Day.

Language Movement veteran Abdul Matin formally inaugurated the mural on the wall of Dhaka University Central Students' Union (Ducusu) building.

Vice-chancellor Prof SMA Faiz, Pro-VC Prof AFM Yusuf Haider, Treasurer of Ducusu Prof Delowar Hossain, caretaker of Ducusu Archives Gopal Das and a number of teachers and students were present at the programme.

Gopal Das had taken the initiative to create the mural.

Addressing the programme, Abdul Matin recalled the days during the Language Movement.

He also thanked the university authorities, specially Gopal Das, for taking such an initiative to promote the spirit of the Language Movement.

## Regional confce on 'Exploring Masculinities' today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The inaugural ceremony of a three-day regional conference on 'Exploring Masculinities' organised by the Department of Women and Gender Studies, Dhaka University (DU) and AAKAR, India, will be held today at the Senate Building of the university.

DU Vice Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz will attend the inaugural session as chief guest and Fritz Meijndert, Charge d' Affaires, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, as guest of honour.

Dr Harun-or-Rashid, dean, Faculty of Social Science, and Dr Sadrul Amin, dean, Faculty of Arts, will be present as special guests in the seminar to be chaired by Prof Dr Najma Cowdhury, Department of Women and Gender Studies, DU.

Rahul Roy, AAKAR representative, Habib-ur-Rahman, Dr Mangesh Kulkarni and other distinguished resource persons of South Asia will present papers on the first day of the conference today.

Dr Sanjay Srivastava, Dr Deepak Mehta, Shankar Ramaswamy and Saghir Bukhari-or-Luna will also present papers tomorrow. On Friday, the concluding day, Nicola Perera and Deeptha Achar will present papers.

Cultural programmes, including drama show, will also be held on the occasion.

## LDP urges all to make tomorrow's hartal a success

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) Secretary General Major (Rtd) Abdul Mannan called upon all to make tomorrow's hartal a success.

The hartal was called demanding resignation of the president/chief adviser, says a press release.

Blaming the president/chief adviser for the present political impasse in the country, he added that it is impossible to hold a free and fair election under Iajuddin Ahmed who has tarnished the country's image for his personal gain.

The president favoured a vested quarter and failed to create a congenial environment for the upcoming election, added the press release.

Abdul Mannan urged all walks of people to make tomorrow's hartal a success in order to save the country from a volatile situation.