



(Left) Singer Azam Khan performs at the first ever anti-corruption concert at Gulshan Youth Club in the city yesterday. (Right) A section of the audience. Transparency International Bangladesh (TIB) organised the concert with a view to inculcating anti-corruption values in youths.

'Journalists accountable to society'

Amin-al-Rashid gets Monajatuddin Smrity Award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Investigative reports must dominate the daily newspapers in order to attract the readers in the face of challenges posed by the electronic media, said the speakers at a prize giving ceremony yesterday.

They said people can know the daily events instantly through radio and television, and as a result they are less interested in reading the same events again in newspapers.

The prize giving ceremony was organised by Charon Sangbadik Monajatuddin Smriti Sangsad at Dhaka Reporters Unity auditorium on the occasion of the 11th death anniversary of journalist Monajatuddin.

At the function, Amin-al-Rashid, Jhalakathi correspondent of Prothom Alo, was awarded Monajatuddin Smrity Award 2005 for his investigative reports.

Akbar Ali Khan, former adviser to the caretaker government, said the journalists should write their reports correctly and objectively as they are accountable to society.

Speaking as the chief guest, he said, "Reporters should write for distressed people, and for this they will have to mix with poor people."

He said Monajatuddin was an icon of investigative journalism as he used to visit remote areas and portrayed the real pictures of their life.

The speakers said the daily newspapers will lose their readers drastically if investigative reports and their follow-ups are not published regularly.

They said Monajatuddin became popular due to his investigative reports about the sufferings of distressed humanity.

Manzurul Ahsan Bulbul, executive editor of daily Sangbad, said

the practice of writing and displaying investigative reports is absent both in electronic and print media in the country.

"It is very frustrating that our reporters are less interested in writing investigative reports," he added.

Shyamal Dutta, editor of daily Bhorer Kagoj, said the print media is facing a big challenge from electronic media which is airing daily events instantly.

Economist Dr Atiur Rahman, president of the Smriti Sangsad, said Monajatuddin had no institutional training in journalism, yet he set up a unique example of objective journalism.

Moderated by Dinesh Das, the function was also attended by Columnist Mohiuddin Ahmed, Munajat's wife Nasima Aktar Eti and reporters of different electronic and print media.

Schoolboy beaten to death in Ctg

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Ctg

A schoolboy was beaten to death at Shahidnagar in the port city yesterday during an altercation between two neighbouring families over a land dispute.

The boy, identified as Riad, 14, son of Md Yasin of Kasaipara, was a student of class VI.

Police said Riad's father and his relatives were locked into an altercation with their neighbour Ledu Mia at around 11:00am as he (Ledu) built a boundary wall recently on a disputed land.

The two families have been at loggerheads over the land for about two years, sources said.

During the altercation, Ledu Mia and his men -- Jasim Uddin, Badsha Mia and Jahangir -- beat up Riad with hammer, leaving him seriously injured, the sources alleged.

Riad was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where he succumbed to his injuries at around 4:30pm.

Four awarded Bangla Academy fellowship

BSS, Dhaka

Bangla Academy yesterday conferred honorary fellowship on four distinguished persons for their remarkable contribution to respective fields in 2006.

They are Kazi Azhar Ali for education and social services, Kazi Abdul Fattah for botanical science, Prof TA Chowdhury for gynaecology and midwifery in medical science and Prof Jamilur Reza Chowdhury for engineering education and research.

Bangla Academy conferred the fellowship at its 39th annual general meeting held on its premises, a press release said.



Former adviser to the caretaker government Dr Akbar Ali Khan speaks at the Journalist Monajatuddin Memorial Award giving ceremony at Dhaka Reporters' Unity auditorium in the city yesterday. On his left are Dr Atiur Rahman and Nasima Aktar Eti, wife of Monajatuddin, and on his right are Shyamal Dutta and Manzurul Ahsan Bulbul.