

Kader Siddiky demands trial of betrayers

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bandhu it was a welcome move, because the bill was the bill of the whole nation, not just a party bill. But Siddiky hastened to add the bill could have been moved in 1979 or in 1986 as well when there were parliaments.

Only he revolted against the murder of Mujib, he said and called upon all Mujib followers to go about to ensure the trial. "One Kader Siddiky is not enough. Every Mujib follower must turn into a Kader Siddiky", he said.

In an emotion-choked voice, the freedom fighter said "I lost 16 years of my golden youth in exile and today's Kader Siddiky and that of 16 years ago are not the same. So it is now your turn to carry forward the movement for the trial", he told the gathering. "It cannot be that I will do everything and you will remain on-lookers", he said.

Condemning the alleged conspiracies against him in past 16 years Siddiky said, "I never surrendered to the military rulers and will never do so in future. I am ready to pass the rest of my life in the jail, but won't compromise with the undemocratic forces", he said.

The AL leader thanked the Supreme Court for doing justice to him and called for ensuring that every citizen in the country get justice easily.

He criticised the Government of Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia for bringing US Task Force after the April 29 cyclone. This was an insult to the armed forces and people of Bangladesh, he observed.

Referring to the widespread violence on the educational campuses, Siddiky said, "I have seen plenty of arms in my life. Use of arms in politics can never bring well-being of the people". He called upon all concerned to shun the politics of violence for the sake of fair politics and good of the nation.

Release order

Earlier, our Supreme Court Correspondent reported, the Appellate Division of the Supreme Court found the detention of Kader Siddiky illegal and ordered his release forthwith. The Court delivered the

operative portion of the judgement on Sunday.

The Court comprised Justice M H Rahman, Acting Chief Justice, A T M Afzal, Justice Mostafa Kamal and Justice M Latifur Rahman.

The appeal was filed by Mrs Naarin Kader Siddiky, challenging the order of a Division Bench of the High Court, which held the detention of Kader Siddiky lawful, accepting the stand taken on behalf of the state that the detenu was sentenced by a ML court to undergo 7 years RI and pay a fine of Tk 3,00,000 in default, to suffer RI for 3 years more.

The conviction was given by the Chairman, Special Martial Law Court No 1 Ganabhaban, Dhaka, under regulation 11/9 of the Martial Law Regulation, 1975.

Barrister Amirul-Islam and Kazi Shahabuddin among others, appeared for the petitioner while Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan, Additional Attorney General and Sharifuddin Chaklader, Assistant Attorney General appeared for the State.

Barrister Amirul Islam assisted by Kazi Shahabuddin Ahmed appeared for the petitioner while Additional Attorney General Abdul Wadud Bhuiyan appeared on behalf of the State.

UNB adds: Abdul Kader Siddiky, a freedom fighter, who returned home December 16 after 15 years of self-exile in India was taken into custody January 17 under the Special Powers Act.

Siddiky failed to return in the February 27 parliamentary election he contested from his home constituency in Tangail. He was then in Jessore jail.

Kader Siddiky was later shifted to PG Hospital for treatment, from where he was released Sunday evening. His elder brother Abdul Latif Siddiky and a large number of Awami League workers and admirers who went there in small processions from different parts of the city received him at the hospital gate.

Siddiky crossed into India following the political changeover on August 15, 1975, and with a group of his followers organised armed resistance against the Bangladesh government.



Police blocked a pro-AL Chhatra League procession marching towards TV bhavan in the city yesterday. Story on Metropolitan Page — Star photo

Mizan, Moazzem

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was yet to be taken, according to sources.

Antul Haq Chowdhury of AL will contest from Rangpur 2. Jatya Party has not nominated anybody for the seat. The name of the BNP nominee could not be collected.

In Bogra 7, Azam Khan of Awami League will contest Md. Abdur Razzak Millat of JP. The name of the BNP nominee was not made known till late last night.

Neither BNP nor AL finalised nominations against Chittagong-8 constituency. Amir Khazru Chowdhury and Zahiruddin Khan are vying for the BNP nomination for the seat. AL is likely to nominate its central leader Aatur Rahman Kaiser.

Awami League has nominated Ritan Chowdhury, son of Ilyas Ahmed Chowdhury, and Shahjahan Khan (former JSD leader) from Madaripur 1 and 2 constituencies. BNP is learnt to have been considering to nominate Motaah Hossain Siddiqui for one of the seats. Jatya Party has nominated Abul Khair Chowdhury in Madaripur-1 constituency, and Sirajul Islam Bhuiyan alias Baacchu in Madaripur-2.

Anwarul Islam of AL and Siddiqui Rahman of JP are likely to face each other for the Bholia-2 seat. It was not clear by Sunday who got the BNP ticket for the seat.

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia and former President HM Ershad vacated four seats each, AL leaders Abdur Razzak and Tofayel Ahmed one seat each following the February 27 elections. One seat became vacant following the death of AL leader Ilyas Ahmed Chowdhury.

In Cantonment-Gulshan constituency BNP has nominated Major (Retd) Qamrul Islam, and JP Shaiful Islam Sentu. AL sources indicated last night that the nomination of Advocate Shahara Khatun from this constituency has not been finalised.

In Rangpur-1, the candidates are: Al-Haj Rahimuddin Bharasa of BNP, and Al-haj Karimuddin Mia of JP. AL is likely to nominate Md. Majibur Rahman, but a final decision

Countries with poor human rights record won't get UK aid

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LONDON, Aug 18: The British government will no longer grant aid to Third World countries with a poor human rights record, and is seeking European Community support for its stand. Minister for Overseas Development Lynda Chalker said, reports AFP.

Foreign Secretary Douglas Hurd has informed EC President Jacques Delors of the British plans, Chalker told the Sunday Times.

Poverty rather than tyranny or corruption, Chalker said adding, "Errant regimes can no longer cloak their authoritarian tendencies in Marxist jargon or look to a superpower to bail them out."

Prime Minister John Major is to raise the issue at the next Commonwealth summit meeting in Zimbabwe due next October and in talks with the 11 other EC nations.

Hurd asked the EC to link the granting of aid from the 1.5 million pound (2.5 million dollar) community fund to human rights records, pledges for the introduction of democratic rule and a sound social and economic policy, Chalker said.

Britains' annual Third World aid contribution totals 1.6 billion pounds (2.7 billion dollars), of which 40 per cent are tied to assistance granted by the EC, the United Nations or other international agencies.

London has already scrapped all but emergency humanitarian aid to Sudan, Somalia and Burma and will not grant new assistance to Sri Lanka and Ethiopia.

Judgement in Peer Matur Rahman case Aug 21

From Our Correspondent

JHENIDAH, Aug 18: Judgement in a criminal case against Peer Matur Rahman, a retired Major and his two followers for the kidnapping of a minor boy will be delivered August 21.

The Court of the Additional District Magistrate (ADM), Jhenidah heard the case lodged on January 20, 1989 with Jhenidah thana under section 265 and 368 of the BPC.

Major (ret'd) Matur and his two followers were accused of kidnapping and concealing a minor boy Debobrotto Ghosh, son of one Shushil Kumar Ghosh of Jhenidah.

The ADM examined a total of 16 witnesses. The argument was held on August 11.

Mustafizur Rahman argued for the prosecution while Advocate Badiuzzaman defended the accused.

The Midnight File

100 killed in Kabul bombing

ISLAMABAD, Aug 18: An Afghan guerrilla news service said today that government aircraft killed 100 civilians and wounded 300 in bombing raids on northern Afghanistan over the past two days. The Afghan news agency of the radical Hezb-i-Islami guerrilla party quoted radio messages from the area as saying the planes bombed trading centres, densely populated areas and orchards in Badakhshan, Takhar and Kunduz provinces, reports Reuter.

Japan orders 50 Aerospace 125-800 aircraft

LONDON, Aug 18: Japan has ordered some 50 British Aerospace 125-800 aircraft, Jane's Defence Weekly says in its latest issue published this week. The order by Japan's Defence Agency (ministry) is worth more than 200 million pounds (340 million dollars), reports AFP.

Indian artillery attack on Kashmiris

ISLAMABAD, Aug 18: A militant group said Indian troops fighting separatist Muslim militants in Kashmir attacked a village with artillery today, killing 45 people, reports Reuter.

Special Pak envoy in Delhi

NEW DELHI, Aug 18: A special Pakistani envoy arrived here today with a message for the Prime Minister, PV Narasimha Rao, and suggested that Pakistan's role at the recent OIC meeting in internationalising the Kashmir issue was unlikely to cast a shadow on his visit, reports PTL.

Over thousand held in 2 days of Operation Doorbar

Police have seized a good number of illegal arms and arrested more than a thousand persons on charge of different crimes under its countrywide 'Operation Doorbar' which was launched Saturday, an official handout said here yesterday, reports BSS.

Press Note

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As a preliminary step, the government has decided to close the Officer-in-Charge of Sitakunda thana and constitute a one-member committee with the district magistrate to probe the incident.

The government expressed the hope that this press note on the incident would end all kinds of confusion.

New SSC exam

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to introduce it in the SSC examination of 1992. He said the students who were now reading in class ten were taking their lessons under the new system for the last two and a half years and were appearing in the internal examination under this system.

The Education Minister said no objection had so far been raised by the students, teachers and guardians in this regard because all had taken this progressive system with ease.

He said the examination system so far followed in our country had many lapses. So far the examination system was narrative, he said adding that this type of question papers encourage the students to adopt unfair means in the examination which now has become a massive national problem.

Khaleda

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The country, Begum Zia said, needs foreign assistance at the present stage of development. "But we cannot depend on foreign aid for ever," she said, stressing utilisation of the borrowed money for achieving self-reliance.

Begum Zia said the commissioning of the Shambhuganj bridge would bear testimony to deep friendly relations and co-operation between the peoples and governments of Bangladesh and China.

She thanked the visiting Chinese delegation and its leader Chen Muhua, the government of China and all involved with the bridge construction.

Begum Zia said her government was committed to maintaining law and order, containing price like, constructing roads and bridges and ensuring supply of electricity besides containing population boom.

In her speech, Chen Muhua said the bridge would be another bond of friendship between China and Bangladesh. China would come forward with assistance in Bangladesh's development efforts, she said.

Ershad: Recovered property

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From 1972 to 1986 Ershad drew a total of Taka 14,45,992 of which Taka 1,44,051 was as provident fund and Taka 6,81,950 as pension.

Following are excerpts of the cross examination:

Sirajul Haque: How did you pay Ershad's pension?

Farid Ahmed: Ershad's pension was paid to the authorised bank up to February 1990.

S H: Is there any provision for any government employee to take a loan for the construction of a house?

F A: Yes.

S H: Is there any system of getting usury in the army?

F A: I don't know.

Ershad (from the dock): There is TA/ DA for servicemen.

S H: If anyone goes outside the country he gets TA/DA.

F A: All these facilities have been paid under government decision.

S H: Do you know whether any president of a country gets any pension?

Attorney General: If any president commits suicide, he does not get pension.

The Attorney General also said that the money Ershad received as President was donated to the Ershad Shishu Hospital.

Then the prosecution produced witness no 37, Mohammad Mukhlesur Rahman, the Accountant in the Personal Department of the President's Secretariat.

Deposing before the Court Mukhlesur Rahman said that he drew salary for 51 months and 6 days as President. The total salary he drew as President amounted to Taka 5,11,925. Of this amount Taka 4,40,000 was donated to the Ershad Shishu Hospital.

Rahman was cross-examined by the Defence Lawyer.

Sirajul Haque: What is your duty in the President's Secretariat?

Mukhlesur Rahman: Accountant.

S H: How many officers are there?

M R: In total 22.

S H: What is the duty of the

DU Syndicate

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ruzzaman Miah in chair.

Vice-Chancellor Prof Maniruzzaman Miah informed the Syndicate about the decisions of the Teachers Association and the Academic Council on campus situation.

The Teachers Association in its meeting held Sunday at the University Club opted that it was against the reopening of the university before getting assurances of full security for people living on the campus.

The Academic Council in its meeting held on the same day said the responsibility of maintaining law and order on the campus lay on the government and the government would have to ensure it.

The Academic Council stressed the need for creating favourable atmosphere to help the law-enforcing agencies in performing its duties independently.

The meeting also felt that the law-enforcing agencies should maintain neutrality in every aspect.

College teachers

Secretary General respectively of the association, said the strike would be enforced again from August 31 if all their 12-point demands were not fulfilled by that time.

The press release followed a government announcement earlier the day that it had taken effective steps to promote 1,234 lecturers to assistant professors and that their other demands would be considered sympathetically. The release however did not mention anything about the government announcement.

BSS adds: Education Minister Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury said Sunday that the government had already taken effective steps for the promotion of 1,234 lecturers to assistant professors.

He said the government would also consider other demands of the Lecturers' Association sympathetically.

Addressing a press conference, the Education Minister said permission of the Acting President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed in this regard had already been received.

Prof Badruddoza expressed the hope that the Lecturers' Association would withdraw their programme of abstention from work with immediate effect.

He said provision of taking examination for promotion of the lecturers had been exempted for the first and last time.

Replying to a question, the Education Minister said there are 2650 lecturers in the government colleges.

Referring to the promotion of the assistant professors to associate professors, Prof Chowdhury said about 200 cases out of 800 had already been completed while the rest was under process.

Prof Badruddoza Chowdhury said it was the legacy of the past government and a case of injustice.

Replying to a question whether their promotion cases had been considered because of their movement, the Education Minister said in fact it was considered before they went on abstention from work programme.

He produced 31 gift items of Ershad.

When the items were being produced Ershad was seen showing some of them to the journalists from the dock saying that those were given by different branches of the Jatya Party. However among the gift items was a canopy from Baghdad.

After the gift items were produced Ershad's lawyer Mosharruf Hossain Kazal asked the court to produce the items once again so that they could take note of the prices of the gift items.

The Attorney General said that the total value of the personal gift items would be Taka 11 lakh.

The Attorney General further said that Ershad also did not adjust a sum of over Taka 20 lakh drawn from the Treasury prior to his visits to different states.

Ershad visited different foreign countries 67 times. He drew a very handsome amount of money for his personal expenditure on each occasion. But most of the money has not been adjusted with the Treasury till today.

The Court yesterday continued till a quarter past four in the afternoon and was adjourned till 10:30 am tomorrow.

Ershad's lawyer T I M Fazle Rabbi, M P, came to the Court yesterday but left after a few minutes. He had talks with Ershad for a while.

The Chief Defence Counsel Sirajul Haque and Counsel Youasuf Hossain Humayun left the Court when prosecution witness Yar Ali was producing the gift items for taking note of their prices.

Sajeda

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Bazur Rahman, Krishak League President Rahmat Ali, former state minister Noorjahan Murshed and Professor Panna Kaiser spoke on the occasion.

Begum Sajeda Chowdhury said that an autocrat had gone with the fall of Ershad regime but the system still existed. She said that the repeal of the indemnity Ordinance was the demand of the people.

She demanded scrapping of the Special Powers Act and autonomy for Radio and Television which were election pledges of Prime Minister Khaleda Zia.

She lamented that the Prime Minister banned the name of 'Bangabandhu' in Radio and Television.

Speaking as chief guest Dr Mosharruf Hossain said that the government's commitment to establishing true democracy will be proved if the ruling party cooperates in passing the indemnity (Repeal) Bill.

He said trial of every killer was necessary. He said there was nothing like the selective application of law.

Change of the socio-economic condition was necessary for making independence fruitful, he maintained.

Syeda Zohra Tajuddin said Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib and the four leaders were killed with a view to eliminating the ideals of the Liberation War.

Bazur Rahman said that the Joint Declaration of the three alliances had promised the repealing of all undemocratic provisions in the Constitution.

He said that non-broadcasting of any programme on Sheikh Mujib on Radio and Television on his death anniversary questioned the commitment of Khaleda Zia to democracy.

Professor Panna Kaiser said that there was no difference between the killers of 1971 and those of 1975.

She said that the aims of the War of Liberation cannot be achieved by keeping in force the process which hinders a democratic system.

President of Mahila Awami League Ivy Rahman presided over the discussion.

JP

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He said the party had violated its constitution by voting in favour of the passage of the Constitution 12th Amendment Bill, which prescribes parliamentary democracy replacing the presidential system favoured by JP.

"It is not possible to do politics of talliam and abide by the capricious decisions of the party in the name of organisational discipline," the former minister said, adding, "Furthermore, instead of democratic practice, a coterie has been created within the party which is dangerous for it."

Earlier, the JP secretary General had asked Strajul Hossain Khan to show cause for making anti-party statements and also ordered suspension of the activity of Jatya Krishak Party, the peasant front of the party, of which he was also the acting president. He termed the JKP order as "illegal, undemocratic and capricious."

APSU to begin

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APSU today held a student mass rally in front of the Municipal Bhavan at Andarkilla protesting Shibir's 'ceaseless terrorising'.

The APSU leaders blamed the Shibir activists for making the academic life of about 12,000 students uncertain.

They also alleged the administration was not yet taking any measures to control terrorism let loose by Shibir activists, even after a 24-hour ultimatum given by APSU.

The APSU leaders vowed they would flush out the 'terrorists' from the campus to restore academic atmosphere.

Presided over by CUCSU VP Nazim Uddin Ahmed, the rally was addressed among others, by CUCSU GS Azim Uddin Ahmed and Chhatra League (A-A) CU unit President Manjur Shahin.

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- (d) 14-9-91 to 19-9-91 Jatrabari & adjacent areas (Zone - 1).
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