

Shaheed Day observed

By Staff Correspondent

Different socio-cultural and political organisations, professional groups Friday observed the Shaheed Day commemorating the sacrifices by the martyrs of the 1952 Language Movement. In observance of the day, wreaths were placed at the graves of the martyrs at the Azampur Graveyard and at the Central Shaheed Minar. Besides, discussion meeting were held and photographs and posters on the events and significance of the day were also displayed.

Bangladesh Shilpakala Academy: The academy concluded its two-day programmes Saturday with holding a discussion meeting in memory of the language martyrs at its auditorium. Chaired by Dr Anisuzzaman, the meeting was also addressed by the Academy Director General Kamal Lohani, Dr Rafiqul Islam, Murtaza Bashir, Abdul Matin and Abdul Latif memorised language movement events and their participation. The Academy also released an album titled 'Dhaka 1948-1971' containing rare photographs on the national events from 1948 to 1971.

Bangabandhu Anjiboli Parishad: The forum arranged a discussion meeting at its office with the Parishad convenor Dewan Ziauddin in the chair on Friday. Mohammad Jamshed Khan, Mohammad Kamrul Islam, Mizanur Rahman, Riazur Rahman Rumel, Nazma Akhter, Subir Kumar Sarkar, Mohiuddin Bar Bhuyan, M R Sarkar, Hasina Akhter and others also spoke on the occasion.

Biman Bangladesh Airlines: The airlines observed the 40th anniversary of the historic Language Movement 'Amar Ekushey' by paying tributes to the language martyrs. Its programmes include, hoisting of the national flag at half-mast atop all Biman Offices at home and abroad and placing of wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar and offering munajat for the salvation of the departed souls of the martyrs.

Dr Alim-ul-Raji Smriti Sangad: The organisation held a discussion meeting as part of its day-long programme in observance of the day on Friday. Held at the temporary office of the organisation, the meeting was presided over by Amanullah Khan and addressed, among others, by Munna Morshed, Dr Delwar Hossain Khan, Belayet Hossain Dhali and Bachchu Mia.

Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal: The party organised a discussion meeting at its office on the Language Movement Friday. President of the JSD faction, Mohiuddin Ahmed chaired the meeting.

Chhatra Oikya Forum: The organisation's discussion meeting on this occasion was held at the IBA building of the Dhaka University. Titled 'forty year of the Language Movement', the meeting was addressed by Jacd Iqbal Khan, Rezauddin, Monir Hossain and Faruk Ahmed.

Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association: The association's programme on the Shaheed Day was a discussion on 'The role of the physicians in the Language Movement' at its office. Chaired by Dr. C M Dilwar Rana, the meeting was also addressed by the Editor of the Newsday A B M Musa, Prof Abdul Gafur, Prof Kabir Uddin Ahmed, Prof Maksud Ahmed, Begum Mamtaz Hossain, Dr Manjusri Choudhury, Syed Ahmed Hossain and Dr Ashiqul Alam.

Sramik Krishok Mukti Andolon: The party observed the day through holding a discussion. Presided over by Faiz Ahmed, General Secretary of the party, Jahangir Khan, and Hanif also spoke.

Garmants Sramik Karmachari Union: The union placed wreaths at the martyrs' graves and at the Central Shaheed Minar and held a discussion meeting in observance of the day. Mohammad Hanif Mukta chaired the meeting.

Jamaat-e-Islami: The party held a discussion meeting at the Al-Falah auditorium in the city Saturday in connection with the observance of the Shaheed Day. The meeting was followed by a 'do'a mahfil'. Party leaders including Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mujahid, A T M Ashraful Islam and Jashimuddin Mandol addressed the meeting. They called for resisting alien culture to pay real tributes to the Language Movement martyrs.

Samajtantrik Chhatra Front: The organisation on this occasion held a display of posters at the Dhaka University's Central Library premises.

Bangladesh Biman Sramik Union: The union's programmes in observance of the Shaheed Day included: holding of a milad mahfil, discussion meeting on the Language Movement and musical session. Union President Motahar Hossain was in the chair.

Gonatantrik Juba Parishad: The organisation held a two-day programmes which concluded on Friday. Its Shaheed Day programmes included: Quran Khwani, placing of wreaths and discussion meeting. Prof Abdul Mutalib chaired the meeting which was also participated by Golam Kibria Khan, Parveen Begum and Humayun Kabir.

Bangladesh Garib Dal: The party placed wreaths at the Shaheed Minar, visited the graves of the martyrs and held a discussion meeting at the Suhrawardy Uddyan. Dr Delwar Hossain, Munna Morshed, Atiqur Rahman and Anwara Khanam addressed it.

Bangladesh Jana Parishad: The organisation held a discussion meeting which was addressed by Minhazul Islam as the chief guest. Chaired by Rezaul Karim, the meeting was also addressed by K M Mohiuddin Choudhury, S M Mohammad Alam and Abu Nasir.

Jatiya Party: The party observed the Shaheed Day by holding a discussion meeting at its temporary office at Gulshan in the city Friday afternoon. Acting President of the JP Mizanur Rahman Chowdhury presided over the meeting while party leaders including Moudud Ahmed, Kazi Zafar Ahmed, Shah Moazzem Hossain and others spoke.

Sacheton Juba Samaj: The association after placing wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar held a discussion on the Language Movement. Faruk Ahmed presided over the meeting.

Sramajibi Samaj Kallyan Sangad: The organisation held a discussion to mark the day. A Q M Mahfuzullah, Keshab Chattopadhyaya, Bijoy Chattopadhyaya, Abul Kalam, Dr Mohammad Shah Alam and Prof Abdul Ilye addressed the meeting. The meeting was rounded off by a cultural session.

Shooting of Purba-Paschim begins
By Staff Correspondent
The shooting of TV serial 'Purba-Paschim' (East-West) began on Friday on the occasion of Ekushey February (February 21). Sculptor Abdur Razzak inaugurated the shooting at the Shaheed Minar premises showing the claspstick of the serial. The script for the serial is written by Mohit Chattopadhyaya from one of the best seller novels 'Purba-Paschim' by Indian writer Sunil Gangopadhyaya. It is directed by Nasiruddin Yousof and produced by the Open Air Communication (Pvt) Limited. The long-serial is expected to be telecast in Bangladesh Television, Durandarshan press release of the Open Air Communication Ltd. On the first day of the shooting shots were taken from Shaheed Minar and from the graveyard of Shaheed Barkat and Shaifur Rahman.

Obituary
Abdul Khaleque Chowdhury an eminent journalist and a lawyer of Chandpur died at Dhanmondi, Dhaka on Friday night. He was 86.

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Artists of the Anamika Sangskritik Sangsad rendering patriotic songs at Ramna Park Friday in observance of Shaheed Day — Star photo

Tourism Week begins today

Tk 640 cr master plan to develop historic places

A Tk 640-crore master plan for the development of tourism in Bangladesh has been formulated with assistance from World Tourism Organisation, officials here said Saturday, reports UNB.

The 10-year plan envisages Tk 202 crore public sector and Tk 431 crore private sector investment for the development of historic places in Cox's Bazar, the Sundarbans, Sylhet and North Bengal. Meanwhile, the government has approved a Tk 177.99 crore plan for a railroad up to Cox's Bazar and for tourism facilities in the Sundarbans, Cox's Bazar and some coastal islands.

The officials said several other projects of Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC) are under active consideration of the Ministry of Civil Aviation and Tourism.

These projects include rehabilitation of cyclone and tidal bore affected people, construction of a warehouse for tax-free items at Zia International Airport, and motels and tourism centres in Cox's Bazar, Sylhet and Rangpur.

BPC has also proposed for development of Sonadia island, increase of tourism facilities in

Mongla and the Sundarbans as well as development of the Hotel and Tourism Training Centre.

Tourism Week
A Tourism Week-1992 will be observed from today (Sunday) as part of a campaign to promote the tourism industry.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas will inaugurate the week at Osmany Memorial Hall at 6.30 pm. State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Abdul Mannan will attend the opening function as special guest.

The week's programme includes a seminar on 'Tourism Industry in Bangladesh by the year 2000' at Hotel Abakash at 4 pm and fashion and craft show at Sonargaon Hotel on Monday. Tourist desks will be opened at Sonargaon, Sheraton and Purbani hotels and at Zia International Airport on the same day.

A golf tournament will be held at Cox's Bazar Golf Course while a craft show will be organised with the help of ISIC at Hotel Shaibal on Tuesday. The show will continue till Feb 27.

Wednesday's programme:

More fire stations to be set up

Home Minister Abdul Matin Chowdhury Saturday said more fire stations are underway to gear up extension of the existing fire brigade services shortly, reports UNB.

Speaking at the inaugural function of the Fire Week '92 at the Fire Services Complex, Mirpur, he said orders have already been passed for fire stations in many important places including three district towns. He however did not specify.

The minister regretted that largescale loss of property and life due to fire accident each year were mainly due to carelessness and ignorance of the people.

He underlined the importance of preliminary knowl-

edge regarding fire fighting well before the blaze gets out of control.

Matin hoped the fire week would help build-up awareness among the people so that they could take protective measures to save loss of life and property.

The number of fire incident could be minimised if the people are made aware of the causes leading to fire and ways to control it at the initial stage, he hoped.

Lauding the role of the Fire Service, Matin said firemen by their sincere and dedicated service could save huge property and loss of life each year.

He also called upon the firemen to continue help peo-

ple in distress during accidents and natural calamities. They have already earned reputation for their bravery in rescuing people from death and devastation.

The minister later took salute from the smartly turned out parade of the firemen.

Among others, Director General of Bangladesh Fire Service and Civil Defence Brig (Retd) Nurul Islam Lashkar spoke on the occasion.

High civil and military officials including people from the fire service were also present in the inaugural function.

The opening session was followed by a spectacular display of fire service rescue operation.

Girl Guides observe Thinking Day

Some 2,000 girl guides, rovers and yellow birds from 16 educational institutions in the capital at a grand rally displayed colourful performances Saturday in observance of 'Thinking Day', reports UNB.

The 'Thinking Day' is observed in different countries since 1932 as a day of thought, action and sharing love and peace.

The grand rally was organised by Bangladesh Girl Guides Association at Azampur Girls' High School playground in the morning.

Moyceena Hedayatullah, Chairperson of the Asia Pacific Committee of World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts addressed the assembly with a call to make the world an abode of peace and love.

Zeba Raashid Chowdhury, National Commissioner of Bangladesh Girl Guides Association also spoke on the occasion.

Attack on book stall at Bangla Academy slated

Forty-five eminent writers, artists and intellectuals Saturday called upon all sections of the society not to interfere with the freedom of the writers, which, they said is one of the pre-requisites for healthy growth of art and literature in the country, reports BSS.

In a joint statement, the signatories condemned the attack on a book stall at the Bangla Academy Book Fair, when a group of people damaged the books of poet and essayist Taslima Nasreen, tried to attack her and forced the publisher and other stall owners to withdraw her books.

The signatories said the writings of any writer could be criticised or disapproved by any reader but the show of physical strength should not be the proper way to oppose the works of any writer. Defending the right of the writer to express his or her views fearlessly, the signatories said such use of physical force could not be acceptable

for healthy democratic growth. They urged the Bangla Academy and the authorities of the book fair to take immediate action to curb such unwarranted incidents in the fair.

The signatories, among others, are Shamsur Rahman, Enayetullah Khan, Zia Iydr, Wahyud Hluq, Maffur Rahman, Ilyat Mahmud, Shahtur Kabir, Zaharara Imam, Asad Chowdhury, Purabi Basu, Ataur Rahman, Mohammad Zahangir, Nirmalendu Goon, Ahmed Safa, Haroon Hlabib, Khairul Alam Sabuj, Shaif Ahmed, Ruby Rahman, Jamaluddin Hussain, Ramendu Majumder, Asim Saha, Makid Hyder, Maruf Raihan, Samudra Gupta, Azfar Hussain, Shamim Akhric, Abul Hossain, Lutfar Rahman Itton, Ahmed Mazhar, Mahmuda Chowdhury, Fazul Alam, Milia Ali, Samaresh Debnath, Mafidul Hluq, Mainul Ahsan Sabar, Nasima Hluq, Altaf Hussain, Mohammad Khairur, Anjana Saha, Saifulah Mahmud Dulal and Hasan Shaif.

Scouts asked to take part in service-oriented activities

President Abdur Rahman Biswas Saturday underlined the need for spreading scouting movement throughout the country and developing the children as worthy citizens by imbuing them with the ideals and principles of scouting, reports BSS.

The children and juveniles of the country can lead the whole nation toward progress if they are developed with the ideals and principles of scouting, he said. While addressing a function of scouts at Bangabhaban, Saturday morning.

The president was addressing as chief guest a function organised in observance of the 136th birth anniversary of Lord Baden Powell, the founder of Scout Movement, and the award-giving ceremony of scouts who excelled in long-

service. Chief national commissioner of scouts, Manzurul karim and president of Bangladesh Scouts M Mahbubuzzaman also spoke on the occasion.

Twelve persons were awarded for their long service in the scouting movement.

President Biswas laid stress on building an organised and dedicated work force to spread the movement to all children fit to become scouts.

Biswas said the present democratic government had been carrying out efforts in achieving self-reliance at all spheres of national life.

President Biswas urged the members of all quarters, including scouts, to be imbued with the spirit of patriotism for helping the process of self-reliance.

He said the government had introduced the system of accountability at all levels of administration to firmly establish the rule of law and democratic system and stressed greater unity and understanding of all to achieve this objective.

The President also asked the scouts to participate in the tree plantation drive, illiteracy eradication move and other service-oriented activities to strengthen these works.

Biswas described the youth force as a great resource of the country and said the youth force could be turned into an active manpower by involving them into constructive activities like scouting movement.

He also urged the members of youth force to face all challenges of life by earning self-confidence, hopes, potentiality and constructive thinking through scouting movement.

What's on today

Painting Exhibition
A fortnight-long exhibition of paintings by Masudul Hassan begins in the city today (Sunday). Planning Minister Zahiruddin Khan is expected to open the exhibition at the Saju Art Gallery at Gulshan Road Number Two at 4.30 in the afternoon. State Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs Aminul Haque will be the special guest on the occasion. Seventy one oil and water colour paintings of contemporary issues will be put on display. The exhibition will continue through March 8.

Eye camp at Dohar
An 8-day eye camp organised by Lions Club of Dhaka Golden with the active cooperation of A Laskar will be inaugurated today at Joypara, Dohar.

Seminar on Geotextile
United Enterprises and UCO Technical Fabrics NV, Belgium will organise a seminar on Geotextile today (Sunday) at 9 am at Sonargaon Hotel. LGRD and Cooperatives Minister Abdus Salam Talukder will attend as the chief guest while Minister for Energy and Mineral Resources Dr Khondoker Mosharrar Hossain will be the special guest on the occasion. Chaired by Professor Dr M Shahjahan, Vice Chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Engineering and Technology (BUET), State Minister for Irrigation and Flood Control Mosharrar Hossain Shahjahan and State Minister for Communication Fazlur Rahman will also attend the seminar as guests of honour.

Dhaka Mancha
On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Language Movement, Dhaka Mancha will stage the trilogy 'Surjyadayar Agye', 'Lash 74' and 'Akhono Juddha', written and directed by Sheikh Akram Ali, at the Public Library auditorium in a three-day performance beginning today (Sunday). Information Minister Najmul Huda will attend the inaugural nights production as chief guest while Islamuddin Malek, Secretary, Ministry of Cultural Affairs, will be the special guest.

Chattagram Samity-Dhaka
The executive committee of the Chattagram Samity-Dhaka will hold a meeting today (Sunday) at 6.30 pm at its Tophkana Road central office in the city.

Lions Club of Dhaka Progati
Lions Club of Dhaka Progati will observe 'Past President Honour Day' today (Sunday) at Dhaka Club at 7 pm. Minister for Works Barrister Rafiqul Islam Mia will attend as the chief guest. Lt Colonel (ret'd) Hissamuddin Ahmed, Secretary, Ministry of Science and Technology and Md Ashraful Huda, Commissioner Dhaka Metropolitan Police, will also attend as special guest and guest of honour respectively.

Press Conference
Commitment, a voluntary organisation, will hold a press conference today (Sunday) at Hotel Sheraton at 4 pm to launch a programme to create public awareness about the environment.

Inauguration ceremony
The inauguration ceremony of MT Muttaquee, 800 DWT Bay crossing oil tanker built by Highspeed ship-building and heavy engineering will be held today (Sunday) at 10 am at the company shipyard at Fatullah.

EFA consultation meeting
A two-day meeting of the South Asian Regional Consultation of Education For All (EFA) — network will begin tomorrow (Monday) at Hotel Abakash. Organised by Gano Shakkharata Oviyan, representatives of SAARC countries, Afghanistan, UN and other international agencies will take part in the consultation meetings.

Bangla Academy Award handed over

Bangla Academy Literary Award-1991 was formally handed over to the recipients — Bipradas Barua and Habibullah Siraji — at a function in the Academy premises Saturday, reports BSS.

Bangla Academy President Gazi Shamsur Rahman gave away a cheque for Taka 25 thousand and a citation to each recipient.

Director-General of the Academy Prof M Harun-ur-Rashid presented the recipients with bouquets.

Power supply suspension

Power will be suspended on Monday and Tuesday from 9 am to 4 pm at Zakir Hossain Road, Mirpur 3rd Colony, Lalkuthi, 1st Colony, Mazar Road, west side, On February 23 and Monday at same time at Shyamoli Ring Road, Mirpur, Sec 1 partly, Gulshan Road 20 to 37, Gulshan Central Avenue and west side. On Wednesday at same time at Gulshan Second Circle to west side of North Avenue Road 52 to 62, Mirpur Rupnagar Tinsed Area and from Wednesday to February 29 at same time at Mohammapur Shahid Salmullah Road, says a DESA press release.

Teachers hailed for calling off strike

The leaders of central teachers liaison committee and Bangladesh Jatiyatibadi Teachers Association Saturday hailed the government and the non-government teachers for calling off the programmes of strike by the non-government teachers, reports ISS.

Weather

Rain with gusty wind likely
By Staff Correspondent
Rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Khulna and Chittagong divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions during the next 36 hours commencing 6 pm Saturday, 'Met office says.

Night temperature is likely to remain nearly unchanged over the country, it added.

Little change in weather will be noticed during subsequent two days.

Temperature and humidity recorded at important cities and towns on Saturday were:

Cities/Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	26.0	16.8
Chittagong	27.0	16.5
Rajshahi	25.2	15.5
Khulna	27.8	18.6
Barisal	25.5	17.4
Feni	24.8	17.6
Cox's Bazar	25.2	17.0
Srimangal	26.8	14.6
Mymensingh	23.0	15.6
Dinajpur	26.3	13.0

Speaker off to Khartoum

Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Sheikh Razaque Ali left Dhaka for Khartoum Friday on a six-day official visit to Sudan, reports UNB.

He was seen off at the Zia International Airport by the Deputy Speaker Humayun Khan Panni.

During the tour the Speaker will attend the inaugural session of the new Sudanese Parliament.

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UNDP aid for land reforms assured

The resident representative of United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Charles H Larismont called on State Minister for Land M Kabir Hossain at the latter's secretariat office Saturday, reports BSS.

The UNDP representative was apprised of the various

steps undertaken by the present government in the field of land reforms.

He was highly pleased over the land reform policies of the government and assured of all possible co-operation and assistance of the UNDP.

Among others, the assistant representative of the UNDP in Bangladesh, Mrs Christine Spoerel and Secretary, Ministry of Land, M Aminul Islam were present.

Milad mahfil at Bangabhaban

A milad mahfil was held Friday evening at the Bangabhaban on the occasion of 'Ekushey February', the Shaheed Day, reports BSS.

Munajat was offered seeking divine blessings for peace of the souls of the martyrs and progress and prosperity of the nation.

President Abdur Rahman Biswas attended the milad mahfil.

Ministers, MPs, judges, chiefs of three services, leaders of different political parties, diplomats, intellectuals, journalists and high civil and military officials were present.

Reception

US Ambassador William B Milam held a reception at his residence in Dhaka on Saturday evening to celebrate American President's Day.

The reception was attended by ministers, politicians, high military and civil officials, journalists, businessmen and the elite.

Body recovered
Police recovered body of a young man from a pond near Hussain-e-Dalan at Nawabganj area in the city Saturday, reports UNB.

The body identified that of Shah Alam (30), a sweeper of Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

According to the police, the victim drowned Friday night when he went to take a bath.

A case of unnatural death has been filed with Lalbagh police in this connection.