

# Regain lost glory of Islam: Biswas

President Abdul Rahman Biswas Thursday underscored the need for establishing Islamic code of life on the basis of the teachings of holy Quran and Hadith to regain the lost glory of Islam, reports BSS.

Speaking at the foundation laying ceremony of Noor-e-Alam Islamic Centre at Tejguri Bazar Jame Masjid premises in the city the President said the society was suffering from distress as we forgot the glorious past of Islam.

He said the people, especially the new generation should be acquainted with the Islamic code of life. He said along with Masjids and Madrasas, centres of Islamic education, culture and knowledge should be established to spread the teachings of Quran and Hadith to people.

The President said Islam is a complete code of life and establishment of a society based on equality and justice could bring welfare to all.

Referring to the benefits of the Ramzan he said this month should be spent through fasting, prayers, and donations.

Later, the President laid the foundation stone of the centre which was followed by a munaajat.

The function was also addressed by Deputy Speaker of the Jatiya Sangsad Humayun Khan Panni, State Minister for Religious Affairs Prof M A Mannan, Vice-President of Tejguri Bazar Jame Masjid Committee, M A Sattar and General Secretary M A Karim. President of the Committee Fakir Abdul Mannan presided over the function.

The centre will have a primary madrasa for the children, a secondary madrasa for the boys, a Hafezia Madrasa and a Kamil Women Madrasa apart from having research programmes on Islamic culture and education.

The Deputy Speaker emphasised the need for Islamic education to women as it was the mother who teaches the children and moulds their character on the basis of religious teachings.

The State Minister for Religious Affairs regretted that though 90 per cent population of Bangladesh are Muslims the number of centres for religious (Arabic) education is very few. He said one should know the directives of Islam to practice it in his own life.



Jatiya Juba Sanghati brought out a procession in the city yesterday demanding the release of all political prisoners including former President and Jatiya Party Chairman Hossain Mohammad Ershad. —Star photo

# Dhaka unaware of Delhi's 'no' to raise refugee issue at UN

Bangladesh is not aware of Indian opposition to any Bangladesh move to raise the issue of the influx of Myanmar refugees at the United Nations as reported in section of press here Wednesday.

Highly placed official sources told BSS that Dhaka is not also in the know that China has taken a neutral posture on the issue.

Reports emanating from foreign media quoting diplomatic sources said India is making brisk lobbying against Dhaka's initiatives to call an emergency meeting of the United Nations Security

Council to discuss the violation of human rights in Myanmar resulting in the exodus of large numbers of Muslims from there.

The sources said reports to this effect appear to be highly premature since Dhaka's moves to call the Security Council session has not crystallised as yet.

Additionally, Indian opposition to any such move does not sound tenable since Indian government had earlier expressed concern at the influx and sympathised with Dhaka over the existence of a big

# PM rewards Rubel for bravery

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia yesterday handed over a cheque for Taka ten thousand and a certificate to Master Rubel Mahmud who saved the running passenger train from an accident, reports BSS.

Rubel a student of class one at Chandpara Government Primary School under Bogra Sadar upazila, had stopped a passenger train on the morning of March 6 when he found that rail track of more than one foot was propped by the miscreants. He waved his red wrapper with the help of a stick and halted the incoming train.

Begum Zia commended his service which helped save life and property.

Talking to newsmen after receiving the prize for bravery, Rubel said "I thought people would die if the accident occurs." He said he had seen miseries of train accidents in the past. A shy Rubel, who was accompanied by his father Mohammad Ali, a small trader, said he would give the money to his father. The Railway authority had earlier gave him Taka one thousand for his act of bravery.

# Muslim leaders congratulate President

Heads of state and government of different Muslim countries have congratulated President Abdul Rahman Biswas on the occasion of the holy month of Ramzan, reports BSS.

King Fahd Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud of Saudi Arabia and custodian of the two holy mosques, prayed to the almighty Allah to make the month of Ramzan as the month of blessings for the whole Muslim world.

King Fahd also wished peace and prosperity of the people of Bangladesh and the Islamic Ummah as well.

Saudi Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Abdullah Bin Abdul Aziz Al-Saud also sent a message to President Abdul Rahman Biswas, praying to the almighty to make the month of Ramzan as the month of benevolence and blessings to the peoples of the two countries and as well as Islamic Ummah.

President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt expressed his greetings to President Biswas on the occasion of the holy month and prayed for the happiness and progress of the Islamic Ummah.

The Sultan of Oman Qaboos Bin Sa'id prayed for happiness and prosperity of the people of Bangladesh on the occasion of the holy month of Ramzan.

President Yasser Arafat of the state of Palestine congratulated the President and the people of Bangladesh on the occasion of Ramzan and hoped that this holy month would bring to the Muslim Ummah the welfare and much desired unity and strengthen its cohesion and solidarity for peace and progress. He also prayed for realising the just demands of Palestinian people in their holy war for homeland.

Amir of Bahrain Isa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, President of the UAE Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayyan, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE Maktoum Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Amir of the state of Qatar Khalifa Bin Hamad Al-Thani and President Mawmoo Abdul Gayom of Maldives also sent similar messages to President Biswas on the occasion.

# President takes Iftar with SC judges

President Abdul Rahman Biswas had his Iftar with the judges of Bangladesh Supreme Court at Bangabhaban yesterday, reports BSS.

Among others, the Iftar was attended by the Chief Election Commissioner, Attorney General of Bangladesh, President of the Supreme Court Bar Association and the former presidents of the association.

Khaleda

Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia had her Iftar with the children of SOS (save our soul) Shishu Palli at her office yesterday evening.

The Prime Minister talked to the children affectionately and enquired about their welfare.

State Minister for Social Welfare and Women Affairs Begum Sarwari Rahman and Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister S Hasan Ahmed were present.

# Policy for Zakat demanded

Participants at a seminar on "Zakat," Thursday called for social endeavour to make the best use of Zakat fund towards eliminating social disparities as enshrined in the holy Quran, reports BSS.

Presided over by the Executive President of Islami Bank Bangladesh Limited, Lutfar Rahman Sarkar, the seminar was attended by the Vice Chancellor of Jahangirnagar University, Prof Kazi Saleh Ahmed, as the chief guest.

Noted Islamic theologian Maulana Abul Kalam Azad read out a key-note paper on "The essence and blessings to Zakat," one of the five pillars of Islam.

Shah Abdul Hanman, member, Board of Revenue, Azizul Huq, Deputy Executive President of Islami Bank and Mir Quasem Ali of the bank spoke on the occasion.

"Zakat is a permanent social guarantee for the security of the poor, helpless and suffering humanity" the participants said, adding that "at same time it is an important economic driving force in attaining development and economic growth."

Prof Saleh in his chief guest speech said Zakat could help remove poverty from the society. The government should have a definite policy for encouraging people to give Zakat and for perform its proper use, he said.

# Decision to sell Edn Equipment Board

The government has decided to sell the Education Equipment Board out to the private sector, reports UNB.

The decision was reached at a meeting of the ECNEC (Executive Committee of the National Economic Council) Wednesday, official sources said.

With the decision, jobs of 131 people working for the board became uncertain.

The Ministry of Finance and the Education Ministry had long been locked in debate on whether to or not to privatise the enterprise which manufactures various educational appliances.

The Finance Ministry, the sources said, pleaded for selling it because of staggering losses over the years. The Ministry of Education was, however, strongly in favour of retaining it.

# HERE and THERE

## Drug Resistance Committee

The fourth founding anniversary of Bangladesh Drug Resistance Committee was held Wednesday at National Bangla High School at Mirpur.

Presided over by the president of the Committee, Saifur Huda Zahedi, the function was addressed, among others, by general secretary, Syed Rashid Alam and Ram Das.

## JU Workers' Union

The Employees Association and the Workers Union of Jahangirnagar University on Thursday arranged a reception to the newly-elected Vice-Chancellor of the university, Kazi Saleh Ahmed.

Registrar Mohammad Ali was the chief guest while the president of Workers Union, Sakawat Hossain presided over the function.

## Janata Party

Jatiya Janata Party yesterday called upon the government to raise the Rohingya Muslim refugee issue in international forums for ensuring safe repatriation of the refugees who fled their country amid persecution.

Janata Party chief Sheikh Asad, in a statement after returning from visits to eight refugee camps, expressed concern over the unabated influx of Rohingyas Muslims in Bangladesh from Myanmar.

## Combined Garments Workers Front

A meeting of the Regional Committee of the Combined Garments Workers Front was held on Wednesday at its office at Malibagh.

The meeting presided over by Bacchu Mia, President of the Regional Committee was addressed, among others, by Shaikat, Abu Taher, Babul Aktar Rami, Iqbal Karim Jewel, Israfil, Ruhul Amin and Eltas.

## Jatiya Sramik Party

Shah Mohammad Abu Zafar, Chairman of the Jatiya Sramik Party and also the Organising Secretary of the Jatiya Party, left Dhaka on Thursday for Venezuela to join the 15th World Congress of the International Confederation of Pre-Trade Union.

The Congress will be held

## Janadal

The Chairman of Janadal, Khandakar Mahtabuddin and Secretary General, Md Shamsed in a statement on Thursday said the country's democracy is at stake due to rampant crimes.

They said the government role in maintaining law and order situation is disappointing. They also said the price hike is hitting the common people and the government is doing nothing to check it.

## Pregotishil Chhatra Dal

Pregotishil Jattiyatnabad Chhatra Dal on Thursday held a protest meeting against the repression of the Rohingyas.

The meeting was presided over by the Dal president Motahar Hossain Chowdhury while Shethk Shawkat Hossain Nilu and A T M Golam Maula spoke at the meeting.

# Development work of Netrokona PBS complete

The construction of electrical lines (both distribution and feeder) and the headquarters buildings of the Netrokona Pali Bidyut Samity, the largest PBS of Bangladesh, will begin in the next fiscal year, reports BSS.

Institutional development work of this PBS, which has a command area of 2,811-square kilometers covering the entire district consisting of ten Upazilas, has just been completed. Meanwhile, the infrastructure work of the PBS was progressing, sources to the Rural Electrification Board (REB), the supervising agency said in Dhaka on Thursday.

component of the project as grant.

Netrokona PBS planned to provide over 4,50,000 electrical connections including 3,60,710 domestic, 65,463 small commercial, 15,385 irrigation and 8,522 industrial type.

Sources said membership drive for the PBS would start soon.

He said that nearly ten lakh families of Netrokona Sadar, Atpara, Barhatta, Durgapur, Khaliyari, Kalmakanda, Kendua, Madanganj, Mohanganj and Purbadaha upazilas will be benefited with electric power from the PBS.

# System loss of T and T discussed

The second meeting of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Post and Telecommunications Ministry was held at the Sangsad Bhavan Thursday with Post and Telecommunications Minister Mohammad Keramat Ali in the chair, reports BSS.

The meeting discussed elaborately different aspects of possibilities to curb system loss of T and T Board for increasing revenue earnings.

Power, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Dr Khondaker Moharrar Hossain, State Minister for Law and Justice Barrister Aminul Hoque, Advocate Fazlee Rabbi MP, Principal M M Nazrul Islam MP, Mohammad Mizarul Rahman Manu MP, Mohammad Nasruddin MP, Barkatullah Bhulu MP, Telecommunications Secretary Azizul Hoque, Chairman of T and T Board and senior officials of the ministry were present at the meeting.

The meeting also decided to submit a report on the functions and activities of Bangladesh Postal Department in the next meeting.

# \$ 1.26 lakh UAE contribution for ICTVTR

The United Arab Emirates has paid its mandatory contribution of 1.26 lakh US dollar towards the Islamic Centre for Technical and Vocational Training and Research (ICTVTR) for the year 1989-90, reports BSS.

The Charge d'Affaires of the United Arab Emirates, Hassan Issa Mahmood, handed over a cheque for the amount to the Director General of ICTVTR, Prof A M Patwari Thursday.

# Hye, Aman have given shelter killers of Shahin: BCL

Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) has strongly protested the police chargesheet on the killing of student leader SM Shahin in Munshiganj, reports UNB.

BCL President Shahe Alam and General Secretary Ashim Kumar Ukil alleged in a statement that the investigation officer being influenced by ruling party leaders prepared the chargesheet without accusing any one for the murder.

Shahin was brutally killed on September 29 last in a Munshiganj hospital where he was admitted with severe injuries from armed attack allegedly by the Chhatra Dal hoodlums.

The BCL leaders complained that State Minister for LRD Abdul Hye and DUCSU VP Amanullah Aman gave shelter and protection to the killers of Shahin and influenced the investigation in a bid to protect the killers.

They alleged that the previous Officer-in-Charge of Munshiganj Sadar thana was transferred and new officer appointed to destroy the murder case under a conspiracy.

The Chhatra League leaders urged the higher authorities to take legal actions against those who conspired to protect the killers and spill the case.

They said people will lose their confidence in rule of law if the killers of such a brutal murder were released without punishment.

# Agreed minutes with Bhutan

Bangladesh and Bhutan agreed to identify prospects for setting up a cement factory in Bangladesh using clinker from Bhutan under an agreed minutes signed in Dhaka Wednesday between the two countries, reports BSS.

Commerce Minister M K Anwar and visiting Bhutanese Minister for Trade and Industry Lyonpo Om Pradhan signed the agreed minutes on behalf of their respective governments.

Supply of boulders from Bhutan for road and bridge construction as well as for railways also included in the agreed minutes, a PID handout said.

While agreeing to review trade talks on periodical basis, it was decided that a delegation from Bangladesh should visit Bhutan for exploring prospects for Bangladeshi goods there.

Earlier, the Commerce Minister M K Anwar referring to the prevailing trade imbalance between two countries underlined the need for efforts to balance the trade.

Bhutanese Minister Lyonpo Om Pradhan recalled the development of trade between two countries and proposed that possibilities should be explored for mutually beneficial projects between two countries.

The Bhutanese side showed keen interest to import items like LPG gas, dry fish, jute bag, soybean oil etc.

The discussion between two countries took place in a very frank and cordial atmosphere and with complete understanding. Both the ministers reaffirmed the desire to do their best to further strengthen the relations in different areas for mutual benefits.

Among others, Commerce Secretary Nazem Ahmed Chowdhury and Bhutanese Ambassador Karma Darjee were present at the ceremony.

After concluding their five-day visit the Bhutanese delegation left for home Wednesday.

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# 'Try killers of Shibir activists'

Islamic Chhatra Shibir Wednesday demanded trial of the killers of its activists across the country, while it blasted those going to try Golam Azam in public, reports UNB.

The present government will be toppled like the Ershad regime if it stoops to the killers and they are not put on the dock immediately," said president of the organisation Abu Jafar Mohammad Obaidullah at a rally at the Baital Mukarram north gate.

They have killed 41 Shibir activists, including 8 student leaders of Rajshahi University, since 1982 in a bid to stop Islamic movement, he said, adding "you can kill our activists but not our movement."

Turning to the campaign for public trial of Jamaat-e-Islami leader Prof Golam Azam, he said "agents of India" are trying to create chaos and confusion by raising this issue.

# Alim Al Razee's anniversary of death today

The Tangail Samity has chalked out an elaborate programme to observe today (Friday) the 7th anniversary of the death of Dr Alim Al Razee, its President, reports UNB.

The day-long programme includes discussion on the life and works of Dr Razee at 3 pm at the Samity office at 102, Sidweshawari Road, Milad Mahfil and special prayers for the departed sole after Asr prayer to be followed by Iftar.

The samity's life member Shireen Al-Razee Khan, late Razee's only daughter with her husband Amanullah Khan, will be among those invited to attend the function.

# German envoy meets Speaker

The German ambassador to Bangladesh, Dr KH Scholtysek, called on Speaker Shaikh Razaque Ali at his office chamber at the Sangsad Bhavan in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

The envoy stayed with the Speaker for some time and discussed parliamentary issues and other matters of mutual interest.



People of Mirpur Section 11 brought out a procession in the city yesterday protesting the 'corruption and misappropriation of relief by ward commissioner Ishrael. —Star photo

# British lawyer gives lecture at SC Bar

Anthony Lester QC, a British lawyer now visiting Bangladesh, delivered a lecture on "the evolution of administrative law since 1977 and its impact on government and the legal system" for the members of Bangladesh Supreme Court Bar Association here Thursday, reports BSS.

Lester, who is the special adviser to the British Home Secretary, dwelt on the judicial system of three countries of the sub-continent and its importance, judicial review and autonomy of the press media.

Earlier, Dr Rafiqur Rahman, President of the Bar Association, introduced Lester to the audience.

The British lawyer gave a lecture on "British adherence to the European convention on human rights and the legal tension between the rights of state and individuals" here Wednesday.

# Plea for change in teaching method

Deputy leader of the Jatiya Sangsad Prof AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury yesterday laid stress on bringing about a qualitative change in teaching method and improving student-teacher's relations, reports BSS.

He was addressing as chief guest the annual prize distribution ceremony of Prabati Bidyaniketan in Dhaka.

Presided over by Khandaker Asaduzzaman, president of the Managing Committee of the school, the function was also addressed by the principal of the school Zebunnesa Hossain.

Prof Chowdhury said the student-teacher relations should be cordial like the members of a same family. He underlined the impera-

tive need for improving the teaching standard as well as education to make the nation resourceful.

The Deputy Leader called upon the teachers and guardians of the children to find out their prospects in other fields besides education.

Prof Chowdhury also stressed the need for taking proper health care of the children to make them enable for proper study.

He assured the school management that he would do everything possible to give financial assistance to the school.

The Deputy Leader also distributed prizes among the talented students of the school.

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