

Dhaka Day by Day

When Money Loses Face

by Shamsad Mortuza

Three of the fingers freed themselves from the fist — reluctantly — only for a while, and then again went back to their earlier place to hold the umbrella. But, something had been added, something that could only be felt by the white umbrella bearer — the policeman. The Mishuk driver started his three wheeler and sped away. He was on the wrong side of the Kakrail traffic crossing the other day — probably to do a favour to his passenger.

The traffic-police constable had every right to take legal action, which he did by snatching away the papers of the vehicle. The driver, however, knew from the 'collective consciousness' that money was all you need to avert the legal harassment, and he acted accordingly. No doubt, the fist of the policeman opened and closed to take the money which by then acquired the status of unearned income conveniently called in some East Asian countries the 'tea money'.

"It is impossible to meet your expenses with the fixed salary you get," said one policeman, of course on request of anonymity, adding, "extra income like this becomes essential."

Besides, this was not a severe crime, the driver would have to pay at the court, he had to part with 'tea money' there too to get his papers out.... I, in a way saved his sufferings," he conceded.

"What will they do... After all they have to take their postings in Dhaka, paying their superiors... That's the way it is, it has become a system," remarked one inquisitive passer-by.

Everyday, in the visual media, they remind the viewers of the theological threats for taking bribes. Are not these people afraid of getting roasted perpetually in their after life? So far we are concerned, these policemen are pious; they attend the *star parties* with due rituals!

Few months back I encountered a similar incident — maybe the incident was rather special. An aged man was shouting, standing as he was, on the middle of the road by his car parked at Shantinagar crossing. "See, this man is asking for bribe... see..." and the fingers of the man was pointed at a traffic police — neatly dressed in blue ad khaki. Needless to say, within minutes a throng formed around and the constable was at a loss.

"I asked him to file a case or whatever... but this man asked for money... now you tell me?" the owner of the white car was explaining the situation to the spectators. Without trying to argue the traffic constable left the scene, both in shame and fear. But his departure symbolised the triumph of the good over evil because someone was there to point out that bribe is not part of the system. Nor it should be.



230 get imprisonment of various terms

Five persons have been sentenced to life imprisonment for hijacking and murder by the courts during the last 10 months under Anti-terrorism Act, reports BSS.

A total of 230 offenders were given imprisonments of various terms by the courts in their final judgements delivered in 102 cases during this period.

Out of them 96 persons were convicted for hijacking and sentenced to various jail terms. Of them, 3 received the highest 20 years jail term.

A total of 37 people for

forceful toll collection and 36 for terrorism and looting have been convicted while 22 persons have been convicted for rioting and causing injuries to people.

Two persons have been convicted and sentenced to 20 years imprisonment by the court for abducting and teasing girls while two persons to six years jail term and one person to five years imprisonment for the same offence. Each of 18 persons has been given 8 years jail term for murder and abetment.

Dacoits loot ornaments worth Tk 70,000

By Staff Correspondent

A group of dacoits looted gold ornaments and other articles worth about Taka 70,000 from a residence at East Goran in the city early hours yesterday.

The dacoits entered the house at 382, East Goran at about 4 am by breaking the grill and snatched the key of the locker at gun point, sources said.

A case has been filed with the Shahjibagh police station in this connection.



Employees of Secondary and Higher Secondary Schools and Colleges brought out a rally in the city in support of their 7-point demand. — Star photo

Mitigate distress of humanity, AG asks rotarian

Attorney General M Aminul Huq yesterday called upon the service organisations like Rotary Club to enhance their services to mitigate the sufferings of humanity, reports BSS.

"A lot more should be done to help the distressed humanity," he said, adding that the rotarians were already, more or less, dedicated to the welfare services in society.

Aminul Huq, also a reputed author on human rights, was addressing as the chief guest the 11th installation ceremony of the Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka at Hotel Purbani here.

It was also addressed, among others, by immediate past President Rtn Mahbubur Rahman Khan, new President Rtn Harun-ur-Rashid, outgoing Secretary Rtn MA Matin, President-elect of 1994-95 Rtn Ashfaq Ahmad Khan and Rtn Mahub Jamil.



The installation ceremony of the Rotary Club of Metropolitan Dhaka was held at a local hotel yesterday. Aminul Huq, Attorney General, was present as chief guest. — Star photo

DIG's directive to cleanse Ctg of terrorists

CHITTAGONG, July 18: Deputy Inspector General of Police (DIG) Abdus Salam today ordered a combing operation to cleanse the district of terrorists within 15 days, reports UNB.

A press release said the Chittagong Range DIG warned police officials of departmental action if they failed to do their duties properly.

He ordered the officials to nab all troublemongers and their patrons, but asked them to make sure that innocent people are not harassed during the operation.

His instructions came at a meeting of police officials of Chittagong (North) district and other senior officers at Hathazari resthouse. It discussed overall law and order situation in the trouble-ridden areas of the district, where armed clashes frequently occur between rival groups.

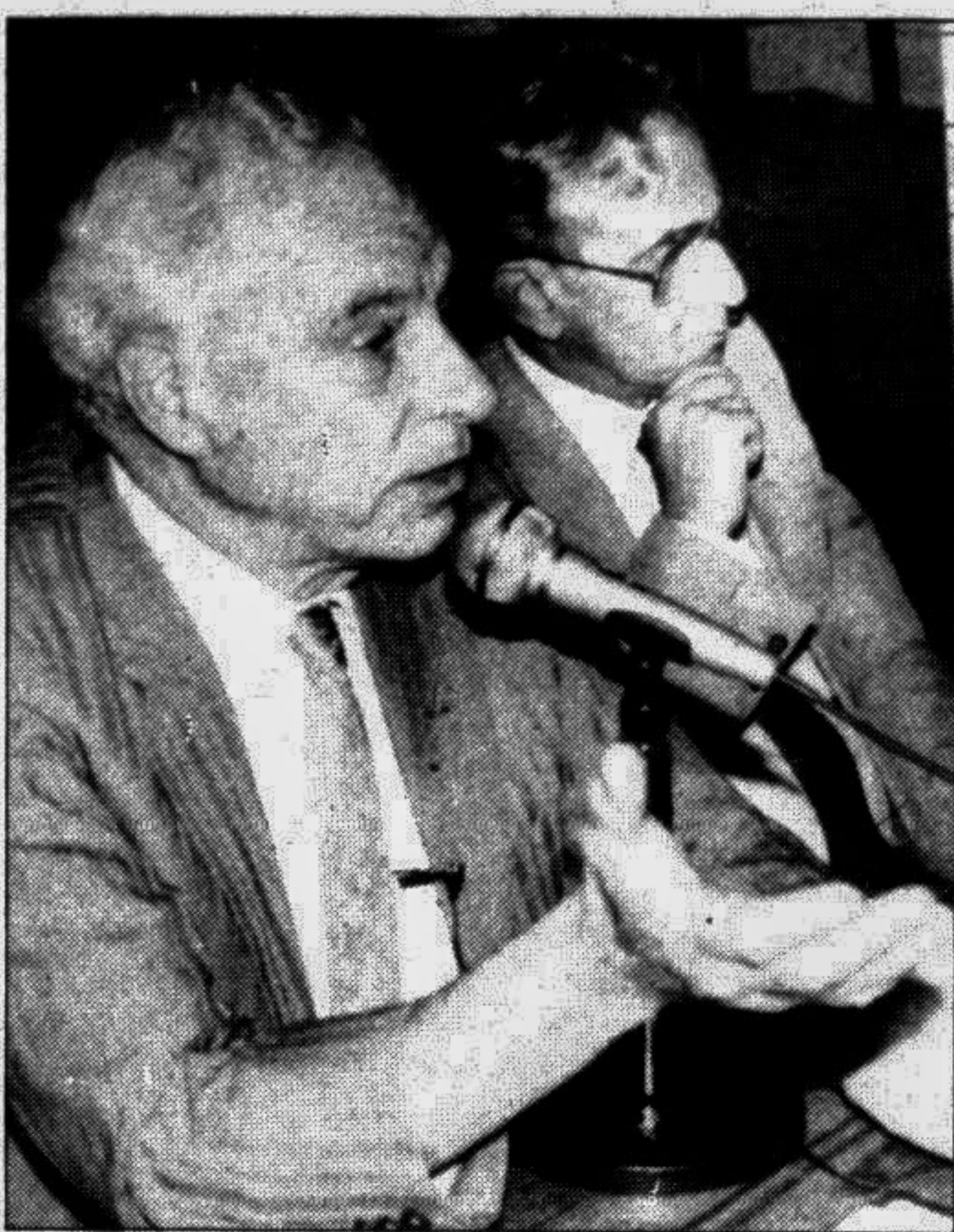
Death anniversary of Fazlul Quader Chowdhury observed

CHITTAGONG, July 18: The 20th anniversary of death of AKM Fazlul Quader Chowdhury, minister and speaker of the then Pakistan was observed here today through different programmes, reports BSS.

Fazlul Quader Chowdhury Smriti Parishad and Chittagong city chapter of Muslim League placed floral wreaths at the grave of Fazlul Quader Chowdhury at Gohira and held Quran khwai and mlad mahfil on the occasion.

Chittagong city unit of National Democratic Party also held similar programme in observance of the death anniversary of the late leader.

A discussion on the life and activities of Fazlul Quader Chowdhury will be held at Zia Parishad Hall tomorrow.



Sidney Sober, chairperson of South Asian Area Studies at the Foreign Service Institute of the US Department of State speaking at a seminar on US position in South Asia after the Cold War at BISS auditorium yesterday. Chairman, BISS, Barrister Morshed is on his left. — Star photo

JCD rally held on DU campus

By DU Correspondent

The Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders yesterday alleged that an identified quarter is conspiring to jeopardise democracy by disrupting normalcy in the country through different ways including hartal.

The JCD at a rally on the Dhaka University campus yesterday morning urged all to work untidely to give democracy an institutional shape.

The rally presided over by Shaikhuddin Chowdhury Anny, was addressed, among others, by the JCD President Fazlul Huq Milon, General Secretary Najimuddin Alam, Abul Khair Bhuiyan, Monturuzzaman Monir, Nasiruddin Pintu, Sayed Sohrab, Shahjahan Halder Sujon and Awlad Hossain.

The JCD President Milon called upon the students to resist terroristic activities in the campus.

The JCD leaders said that they would not tolerate, if anybody or group try to terrorise the campus and hamper the academic atmosphere.

The student rally was arranged by the Dhaka University unit of the JCD.

Hartal designed to tarnish govt's image: Zia Parishad

Leaders of Zia Parishad yesterday urged the opposition parties to refrain from calling hartal to mislead people and foil democracy, reports BSS.

In a joint statement they deplored today's hartal called by the opposition and said it was designed to tarnish the image of the government of Prime Minister Begum Khakda Zia.



- 5:00 Opening announcement
- Al Quran Programme summary
- 5:10 News in Bangla
- 5:25 Sports programme
- 5:30 Dosh O Biggan
- 7:00 Open University
- 7:25 Nazrul songs
- 8:00 News in Bangla
- 8:30 Janamat
- 9:00 Magazine: Aarshi
- 10:00 News in English
- 10:30 Comedy series: Murphy Brown
- 11:00 Musical programme: Disco rally
- 11:30 Khabar/The News
- 11:40 Tomorrow's programme summary
- 11:45 Closing

UN team in city to prepare report on administration

A United Nations team on Public Administration Reform is now in the city to discuss its findings and prepare report on an administrative overhaul in Bangladesh, reports UNB.

A UNDP press release said here yesterday the team initiated its work in October last year by interviewing over 50 public and private sector officials and developing terms of reference for carrying out studies by local consultants.

During the current trip, it is analysing key topics such as organisation and structure, decision-making process, performance and accountability, civil service management, human resource development and training, and women in public service.

The team, led by Dr AT Rafiqur Rahman, Head of the UN Programme on Public Administration, will discuss its findings with a high-level advisory team under the chairmanship of State Minister for Establishment Barrister Aminul Haque.

Muggers stab businessman, snatch Tk 95,000

By DMCH Correspondent

A group of unidentified miscreants stabbed one person and snatched Taka 95,000 in cash at the Dainik Bangla road crossing in the city yesterday afternoon.

Sources said that the muggers intercepted the scooter of Farid Ahmed a travel agency worker near Dainik Bangla and snatched away the money stabbing him.

Ahmed was travelling with Abu Taher at about 3 pm yesterday.

Publication ceremony

By Staff Correspondent

A publication ceremony of eight books published by monthly 'Computer Jagat' on computers was held Saturday at the Jatiya Grontho Kendro auditorium.

Eminent scientist Dr Abdullah Al-Muti Sharfuddin attended the function as special guest while Dr Jamilur Reza Chowdhury presided.

Dr Md Ibrahim, Dr M Lutfar Rahman, engineer Rezaul Karim, Mostafa Jabbar and M Abdul Kader took part in the discussion on different aspects of computers and its use.

Weather

Dry weather likely

By Staff Correspondent

Weather forecast valid for the next 24 hours commencing 6am today (Monday) says, light to moderate rain or thunder-showers accompanied by temporary gusty wind may occur at one or two places over Chittagong, Rajshahi divisions and weather is likely to remain mainly dry over Dhaka, Khulna and Barisal divisions.

The Met office forecasts, day temperature is likely to rise one or two degree Celsius over the country. The country's highest temperature yesterday of 34.8 degree Celsius was recorded in Iswardi and the lowest 23.4 degree was in Sylhet.

The sun sets today (Monday) at 6.48 pm and rises tomorrow (Tuesday) at 5.22 am.

The maximum and the minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some of the major cities and towns of the country yesterday were:

Cities/ Towns	Temperature in degree Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	9am	6pm
Dhaka	31.6	26.4	80	88
Chittagong	31.3	24.5	86	92
Rajshahi	34.6	25.3	86	79
Khulna	33.2	27.8	-	-
Barisal	32.4	25.8	89	95
Cox's Bazar	31.6	26.2	92	85
Sylhet	29.5	23.4	100	96
Dinajpur	33.7	26.8	88	74

Law reform commission soon

RAJSHAHI, July 18: Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs Minister Mirza Golam Hafiz has called upon the officials to discharge their responsibility with utmost sincerity and accountability to fulfil hopes and aspirations of the people, reports BSS.

Addressing the divisional level officials at Circuit House on Saturday, the Law Minister said, every government employee was accountable to the people for their deeds in the present democratic system which is established after nine years of struggle against the autocracy.

Hafiz said, the BNP govern-

ment was trying hard to implement all-out development of the country after eliminating the accumulated problems which the government inherited from the last autocratic government. The activities of the present government aimed at the welfare of the people were acclaimed abroad, he added.

The Law Minister said, a law reform commission would be formed soon to change the age-old colonial laws to cope with the changing situation.

The minister advised the officials to consult local people and investigate themselves in field level if any problem arises in executing the department

programmes. Since functions of every government department is interrelated, proper cooperation and coordination among themselves is imperative, he pointed out.

Hafiz urged the officials to change their traditional attitude and perform their duties to serve causes of the people.

Rajshahi city Mayor Mizanur Rahman Minu and Rajshahi Divisional Commissioner M Aminul Islam were, among others, spoke on the occasion.

Threadbare discussions were held in the meeting about the activities of various departments.

'External forces want to keep Shantibahini issue alive'

Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury yesterday called upon all to foil untidely the conspiracy against the country and said each and every patriotic citizen should ponder over who were arming the outlawed Shantibahini, reports BSS.

Justice Chowdhury pointed out that the outlawed Shantibahini was armed by external forces with their ulterior motives to disturb the peace-loving citizens of Bangladesh.

Addressing a national seminar on Terrorism and Conspiracy in the Hilltracts and the Solution' here at the National Press Club auditorium, Justice Chowdhury came down heavily on the external forces and said they wanted to keep alive the so-called Shantibahini issue only to disrupt the development programmes, peace, progress and prosperity.

Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalist (BFUJ) President Gias Kamal Chowdhury, BFUJ Secretary General Amanullah Kabir, Dean of Dhaka University Law Faculty Dr Ershadul Bari, Jagpa President Shaiful Alam Pradhan, Journalist Masud Nizami, Repatriate Shantibahini Welfare Trust President Babu Shaahi Kanti Chakma, Parbatya Gana Parishad leaders Babu Bijoy Tripura Philip and Mohammad Yunus also spoke. Parbatya Gana Parishad President Jalal Uddin Ahmed presided.

Justice Chowdhury regretted that the same external forces were responsible to create the Farakka and Talpatti issues only to destabilise the internal affairs of Bangladesh.

Kerry to inspire us in tree plantation: Noman

Minister for Environment-Forest, Fisheries and Livestock Abdullah Al Noman said that service to humanity did not go in vain, reports BSS.


He was addressing as chief guest a discussion meeting on 'William Kerry: His contribution in conservation of environment' at the Baptist Sangha Blind Girls School at Mirpur here Saturday.

The minister said that a few humanist Englishmen contributed to the social development of our country during the British colonial rule. He said that William Kerry was one of the brilliant name whose contribution to the development of our language, literature, education and culture will remain alive in the years to come.

Referring to the contribution of William Kerry in horticulture, Noman said that recent research provided us with various informations about his love for trees and nature and his hard labour to collect different species of trees for his own garden.

He said the global effort for conservation of environment has given much importance on tree plantation and from that point of view William Kerry will inspire us in implementation of national tree plantation programme.

Presided over by M S Adhikari, the function was addressed, among others, by Prof Susanta Sarkar, Denia Dilip Datta and First Secretary of British High Commission Dr Herry Potter.



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Notice to Consignees

It is notified for information of the Consignees that the arrival Schedule of the Cargo covered by Bills of Lading issued by Nippon Yusen Kaisha Line, Japan are as under:

Loadports	Mainline Vessel	Voy	Feeder Vessel	Voy	Imp. Rot. No	Date of Arrival At Chittagong
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Kobe	Ax Lily	38	Optima	842	564/93	11-7-93
Hong Kong	Hoechst Express	09/32				
Hong Kong	Sino Marine	02				
Hong Kong	Ax Lotus	40A	Kota Buana	014	565/93	14-7-93
	Xetha Bhum	02				
Madras	Sea Dragon	02W				
Kobe	Tiger Creek	322N	Fong Shin	9321	574/93	19-7-93
Hong Kong	Pacific Arrow	13A				
Hong Kong	Ludwig Shaffen	08/326				
Hong Kong	Ludwig Shaffen	08/326	NGS Express	20	580/93	19-7-93
Hong Kong	Ax Lily	41A				

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