

Justice Habibur Rahman: A profile

By A S M Nurunnabi

As an old friend of Muhammad Habibur Rahman, appointed as Chief Adviser of the non-party caretaker government, I feel it may be of interest to recount some aspects of his early career.

As a History honours student of the Rajshahi College, he had been a good speaker in debates and cultural functions of the college. After obtaining a First Class in honours in History from that college, he repeated the same feat at the Dhaka University, standing First Class First in History. His later involvement with the

Language Movement is a matter of record.

After serving for a brief spell as a teacher of history at the Sirajganj College and the Jagannath College in Dhaka, he obtained a Burmah-Shell scholarship for studying at Oxford. After obtaining his Oxford degree, he studied law and became a barrister-at-law. In this respect, I came to know that he was influenced by the wish of his deceased mother Musammat Gul Habiba who wanted to see him as a judge of the High Court.

This wish might have guided his later career, for, after serving a short period as Reader in History and part-time lecturer in law at the Rajshahi University, he gave up the job and came to Dhaka to practise law.

I have always found in him a penchant for writing. His publications include:

Law of Requisition 1966, Bachan O Prabachan (Idioms and Proverbs), 1985 Matrihashar Sapakshay Rabindranath (Tagore for Mother Tongue), 1995: Rabindra Prabhakar Songya O Parthakyabichar (Definitions and Different citations in Tagore's essays), 1995: Rabindra-Rachanar Rabindra-Byakhya (Tagore on Tagore), 1986: Rabindrabakkay Art, Sangest O Sahitya (Tagore on Art, Music and Literature), 1986: Gangaridhi Theke Bangladesh (From Gangaridhi to Bangladesh), 1994: 'Yathashabda' (Right World), 1st Thesaurus in Bangla: 'Koransutra' (Koranic Reference), 1994. He is a literary awardee and fellow of Bangla Academy, Asiatic Society of Bangladesh.

After his retirement as Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, he used to write articles on various aspects of law in different newspapers and periodicals.



Justice Habibur Rahman



The letter of request to dissolve the sixth Jatiya Sangsad from Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia was delivered to President Abdur Rahman Biswas by Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Oli Ahmed at Bangabhaban yesterday. Finance Minister M Saifur Rahman was present. —PID photo

Arrangement for viewing Hyakutake

The Bangladesh Astronomical Association has taken up elaborate preparations for the members of the public for viewing the comet Hyakutake from 7 pm to 1 am today at the Dhanmondi Club playground, says a press release.

WVA meet Apr 11

The general meeting of Women's Voluntary Association (WVA) will be held on April 11 at 3:30 pm at its auditorium in the city. All members have been requested to attend, says a press release.

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Dhaka **A F NESAR UDDIN**
31 March 1996 Company Secretary

Chiefs of three services meet PM

Chiefs of the three defence services made a courtesy call on Prime Minister Begum Khaleda Zia at her office yesterday afternoon, reports UNB.

Chief of Army Staff Lt Gen Abu Saleh Mohammad Nasim, Chief of Naval Staff Rear Admiral Mohammad Nurul Islam and Chief of Air Staff Air Vice-Marshal Jamal Uddin Ahmed expressed their gratitude to the Prime Minister for her continued support for development and welfare of the Armed Forces.

Reciprocating Begum Zia thanked them and also to all members of the Armed Forces for performing their duties with sincerity, dedication and the spirit of patriotism.

Through the three chiefs, the Prime Minister conveyed good wishes to the members of the Armed Forces.

The three chiefs wished Prime Minister Begum Zia good health, long life and happiness.

Meanwhile, Director General of BDR Maj General Ejaz Ahmed Chowdhury and IGP A S M Shahjahan also made courtesy call separately on the Prime Minister in the afternoon.

They also expressed their gratitude to the Prime Minister for her continued support for development and welfare of BDR and police forces.

People urged to remain vigilant

Motiuur Rahman Nizami, secretary general of Jamaat-e-Islami Bangladesh, yesterday called upon the people to remain vigilant against any design to foil the victory of democracy, reports BSS.

He said, to consolidate this victory, all concerned have to be pledge-bound, a press release said.

Nizami said let the present movement for establishment of democracy be the last struggle. Let there be a system so that we don't have to struggle to establish the right to vote and democracy, he said.

Nizami was speaking as the chief guest at a rally organised by city Jamaat on the north gate of Baitul Mukarram Mosque in the afternoon.

The Jamaat leader said we all have to devote ourselves to the development of the country after giving democracy an institutional shape so that Bangladesh can become self-reliant. All ways for the return of undemocratic and autocratic rules have been stopped, he opined.

Habibur's decision to head caretaker govt hailed

Left Democratic Front hailed the decision of former Chief Justice M Habibur Rahman to head a nonparty caretaker government as it's Chief Adviser at this moment of national crisis, reports UNB.

A delegation of LDF leaders met Justice Habibur Rahman at his residence yesterday noon and assured him cooperation in discharging his duty as chief of the caretaker administration.

Earlier on Friday, LDF leader and Workers Party General Secretary Rashed Khan Menon talked to Justice Habibur Rahman over telephone and conveyed him the front's support.

CPB

Communist Party of Bangladesh termed the decision of former Chief Justice Mohammad Habibur Rahman to become the chief adviser of the non-party caretaker government as the victory of the people's movement.

In a joint statement, CPB president Shaheedullah Chowdhury and secretary general Mujahidul Islam Selim said the decision to dissolve the parliament which was formed by a 'farical election' was the victory of the democratic movement of the country.

Teachers' fed

Leaders of Bangladesh Federation of Teachers' Association and its affiliated bodies in a joint statement, hailed the appointment of Justice Habibur Rahman as the chief adviser of the non-party caretaker government.



Out-going Prime Minister and BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia leaving *Gonotantra Mancha* after attending a huge public rally in city's Purana Paltan area yesterday evening. —Star photo

WP for free, fair polls

Workers Party general secretary Rashed Khan Menon yesterday called upon the people to continue their strive for free and fair election even after realisation of the demand of caretaker government, reports UNB.

He was addressing a party rally in the city in observance of mass resistance programme of the Left Democratic Front.

"We have just made free our next parliament election from the clutch of the power mongers and now it is our task to make the election free from the influences of black money, arms, hoodlums and communal forces," he said.

The Workers Party leader emphasized on the prime responsibility of the caretaker administration to take appropriate measures immediately against terrorist activities and the armed hoodlums.

Menon also congratulated the government officials and employees for their unprecedented role in expressing solidarity with the people's legitimate movement.

Course date shifted

The three-month certificate course in paediatrics will now begin on April 15 instead of April 1, due to unavoidable circumstances, says a press release.

The last date for submission of application has been refixed on April 9. Bangladesh Institute of Child Health is sponsoring the course.

Tenure extended

The tenure of office of Bangladesh High Commissioner to the UK, Dr A F M Yusuf, has been extended from May 1 to July 31, reports BSS.

A PID handout said that his tenure had been extended by the government under terms of the contract of his appointment. The government has appointed Mohammad Abdus Salam, member (implementation) of the Water Development Board, as the chairman of the board, said the handout.

It said that the government placed the services of Sheikh Mostafa Harun, Chief engineer of the Water Development Board with the Ministry of Water Resources for his appointment as member of the Water Development Board.

Weather

Thundershower likely

Rain or thundershower accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind may occur at few places over Sylhet, Dhaka and Rajshahi and at one or two places over Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions in next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Met Office said temporary west and north westerly squalls at the speed of 45-65 kilometers per hour or more with chances of hails is likely to occur at one or two places over the regions of Rajshahi, Pabna, Bogra, Jessore, Kushtia, Tangail, Mymensingh, Faridpur, Dhaka, Comilla, Noakhali and Sylhet during the period.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, the forecast said.

Meantime, Sylhet experienced 25 mm rain yesterday. The sun sets today at 6:15 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:54 am.

Country's highest temperature was recorded 38.2 degree Celsius at Rajshahi and the lowest 21.8 degrees at Rangpur.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	max	min	morning	evening
Dhaka	34.4	26.7	75	72
Chittagong	31.7	25.4	77	82
Rajshahi	38.2	26.5	84	44
Khulna	34.8	26.8	84	44
Barisal	32.1	26.0	78	81
Sylhet	28.8	22.0	91	80
Cox's Bazar	41.5	26.8	77	

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