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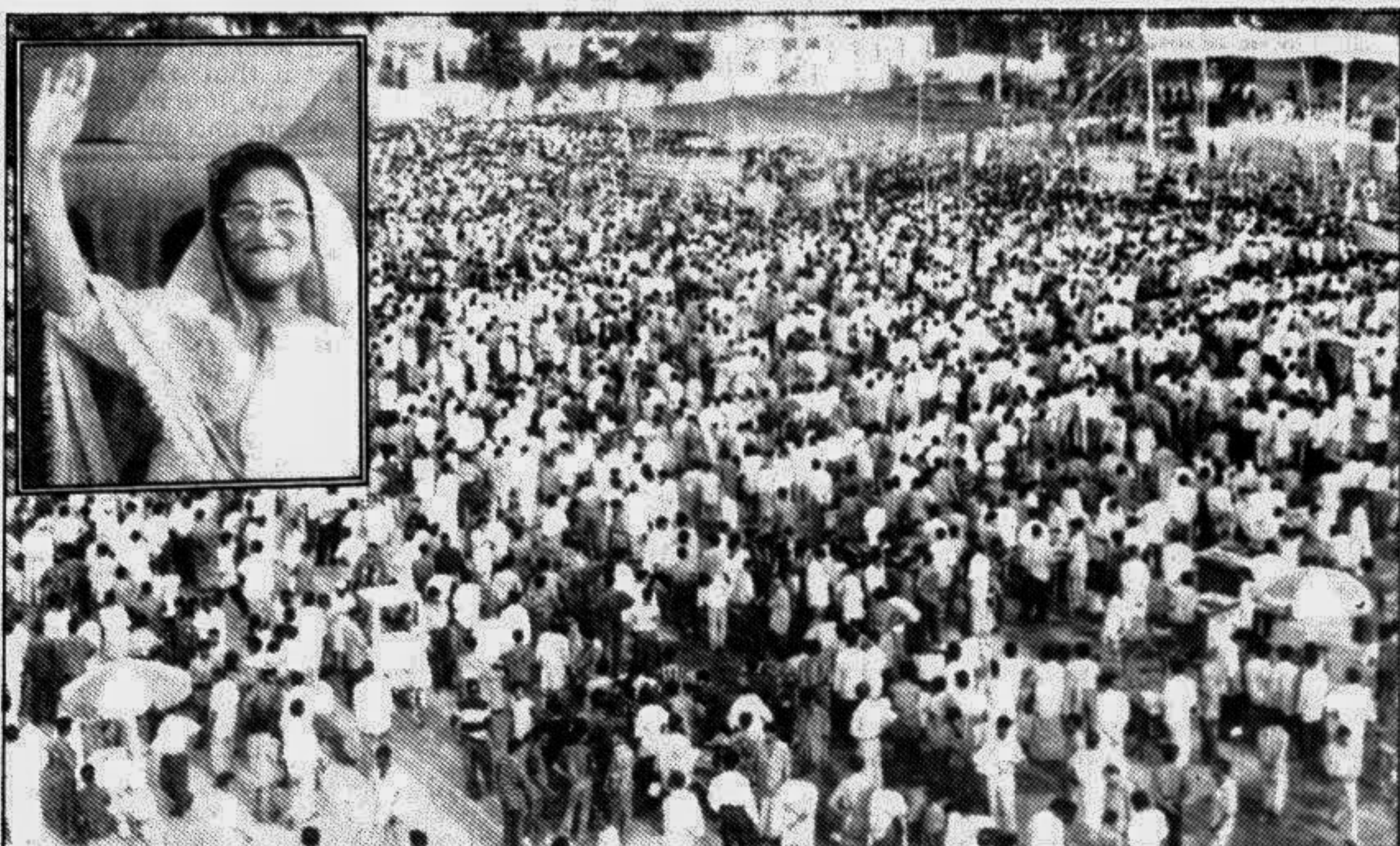
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PHILIPS



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina (inset) addressing a Jatiya Sramik League May Day rally in the city on Friday.

## PM urges BNP to shun path of terrorism

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina on Friday called upon opposition BNP to shun the path of terrorism and violence and work for the interest of the people, reports UNB.

"The BNP has become mad after losing power and resorted to terrorism and killing to create unrest in the country," she said while addressing a rally at the Paltan Maidan in the afternoon.

Jatiya Sramik League, the labour front of the ruling Awami League, organised the rally on the occasion of historic May Day.

The rally was also addressed by Foreign Minister Abdus Samad Azad, Awami League leaders Amir Hossain Amu, Abdul Jalil, Mofazzal Hossain Paltu, Labour Minister MA Mannan, State Minister for LGRD Mofazzal Hossain Chowdhury Maya, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin, Abdul Mannan and Sramik League leaders Fazlul Huq Montu, Shahjahan Khan MP and Habibur Rahman Akhand, Sramik League President Abdus Salam Khan presided.

The Prime Minister said when BNP was in power it had killed innocent people, including workers and farmers. It has again resorted to killing and terrorism to take revenge against the people, she alleged.

She said the BNP is "unleashing terrorism everywhere, even in Parliament and in educational institutions, including the Dhaka University."

But the people want peace and stability and the present government is striving hard to restore peace everywhere, Hasina said.

"We also want to ensure peace on the campuses... if needed, we'll ban the student politics."

Referring to the BNP's rowdiness in Parliament, Hasina said when the ruling party was striving to make parliament the centre of all activities, the BNP MPs, led by Deputy Leader of the Opposition and former Speaker, attacked the Speaker and damaged public property.

## Gayoom leaves

From Page 1  
said that sub-regional cooperation within SAARC was agreed upon at the Male summit. It was agreed upon that such cooperation might be useful and added that the Maldives welcomes such initiatives.

BSS adds: Referring to his discussions with Bangladesh leaders on bilateral issues, he said the two countries who share many commonalities decided to enhance further cooperation for mutual benefit.

Responding to a question, he said, "once SAFTA comes into effect by 2001 we will have freer access to each others market and there would be more commercial trade... on leading to greater prosperity."

Earlier, President Shahabuddin Ahmed spoke of the excellent relations Bangladesh maintains with the Maldives. He thanked the Maldives for its recognition of Bangladesh very soon after the country became an independent state.

## Nari Samaj

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women and children.

Nari Samaj, a forum of women organizations, in a press release yesterday said that it would organise street rallies and hoist black flags at places where incidents of repression took place.

Expressing deep concern at the increasing incidents of repression on women and children in the country, Nari Samaj said its programme would be launched from the Jatiya Press Club at 11 this morning.

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## One killed in blast while making bomb

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 2: A young man was killed and two others were injured in bomb explosions at Alauddin colony in the city today, police said.

The dead was identified as Pradip Banik 22. The injured were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

The explosions took place at 11 am while they were making crude bombs, police said.

The explosion left three youths injured and of them Pradip died at the hospital in the evening.

## ALPP meets today

A meeting of the Awami League Parliamentary Party (ALPP) will be held at 9 am today at the Sangsad Bhaban, reports BSS.

## Jabbar Khan's daughter found dead in her Uttara flat

By Staff Correspondent

A daughter of former Speaker late Abdul Jabbar Khan was found dead inside her flat at Uttara in the city on Friday.

Police identified the dead as Sabera Sultana, 44. Her body was found partially decomposed inside her bedroom.

It could not be known immediately how Sabera died. Police said they were waiting for the autopsy report.

Quoting her neighbours and relatives, police said she had been suffering from diabetes and high blood pressure. She died two or three days before the recovery of her body, police thought.

Sabera lived alone as a tenant at the third floor flat of a three-storey building at Section-3 in Uttara.

Her neighbours informed police yesterday morning that a bad smell was coming from inside the flat. Police broke open the door of the flat and found her body lying on the floor in her bedroom.

Sabera's body was handed over to her relatives, after the autopsy at Dhaka Medical College Hospital morgue yesterday.

Dewan Mohammad Habibur, owner of the flat, filed an unnatural death case with Uttara police.

Sabera was laid to rest at the Banani Graveyard after namaz-e-Janaza at Gulshan Central Mosque after Zohr prayers yesterday.

Her Quikhwani will be held at her Uttara residence at road no 113, House No 22 after Asr prayers Tuesday.

## Shazneen: 'False' statements

From Page 1  
second phone was located in the corner of the corridor outside Shazneen's room, about 20 to 25 feet away.

2. How blood soaked Shazneen was taken to a place on the floor in front of the attached toilet in her bedroom. The distance between Shazneen's bed and her body, when it was discovered at about 10:15 pm, was about six feet.

Shazneen fell down on the bed after receiving some deep stab injuries and then she was taken to that place.

Shahid told police that he lifted blood soaked Shazneen and kept her lying on the floor. But the white floor was found clean when the body was discovered. Even if blood soaked Shazneen was lifted, it was natural that drops of blood would have stained the white floor.

3. CID was also examining whether more than one sharp weapon was used in killing her. Police have so far recovered one kitchen knife, the edge of which was about five inches.

4. Why did the security guard, Humayun Kabir, give false statement to police that he found Shahid leaving through the main entrance of Rahman's

## Bills to be placed today

From Page 1  
bills, seeking to implement the CHT peace agreement.

The parliamentary party of the ruling Awami League is due to meet at the Sangsad Bhaban at 9 am today, to decide on its strategy to face the Opposition on the CHT bills. Leader of the House and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will chair the meeting.

Talking to The Daily Star, Rahmat Ali, Chairman of the Sangsad Special Committee that scrutinised the CHT bills, hoped that the lawmakers would concentrate on the legal aspects of the bills instead of trading political rhetoric.

The Opposition BNP and Jatiya Party had already given their notes of dissent on the RC bill saying it contradicts with certain constitutional points.

However, the special committee report on the CHT district council bills did not contain BNP's note of dissent saying the note was not received on time. Both the reports were placed in the House on Wednesday.

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia met some of

her top aides in the party at her Minto Road official residence last night to discuss the party's strategy on the CHT bills.

BNP lawmaker MK Anwar told The Daily Star last night that his party would participate in the process of passing the CHT bills. "But we hope, good sense will prevail upon the government to accept at least some of our amendments," he added.

A meeting of the JP parliamentary party yesterday decided to be vocal in the House for the amendments the party has proposed on the RC bill.

Meanwhile, the Opposition lawmakers have submitted a large number of notices to the Sangsad Secretariat, suggesting amendments to the CHT bills, eliciting public opinion on these and sending these to the select committee. The Secretariat is now working round-the-clock to sort out the notices and is trying to reduce their number by bringing similar notices under a single head, the sources said.

Besides, the Secretariat also received some notices from the AL lawmakers who want to counter the Opposition proposals on the bills.

## Silent procession in city

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Dhanmondi Tutorial, South Breeze, Mastermind, Green Herald and several other schools. Nilufar Manzur, Principal of Sunbeams School, Zeenat Chowdhury, Principal of South Breeze and Nahid Alam of Dhanmondi Tutorial were among the participants.

The students and teachers carried placards which read, "Silence is equal to death," "Your daughter could be next," "Raise awareness about sexual violence against children" and "Newspapers should learn to respect the deceased."

Members from many other organisations including Rotary Club, Lions Club, Zonta International Clubs 1, 2 and 3; Inner Wheel Club, Professional Women's Association, Gulshan Ladies Club and Naripakkha also participated in the march.

Among the participants were Dr Feroza Begum, Khorsheeda Alam, Akku Chowdhury, National Professor Sufia Ahmed, Mustafa Zaman Abbasi, Abdul Awal, Munira Khan, Prof Roushan Ara Rahman and Muhammad Ozair Faruq.

## Garments

From Page 1

turers Saiful Islam, Anisul Huq, Ozair Abdullah, jute sector leader Shahadat Hossain and representatives of ILO and UNICEF took part in the round table.

Political stability came up as the second most important condition for the survival and growth of the garment sector.

Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury initiating the discussion on the point said political stability must be maintained not for the continuity of the present government but it is essential for the future governance of the state to bring about continued economic prosperity. Political instability affects all endeavours for national development, the speakers opined.

Quddus said, "It is unfortunate that the manufacturers are being held hostage by the bankers." Despite meeting a lot of unjust demands of the bank officials, the manufacturers cannot escape harassments, he alleged.

Anisul Huq, a leading manufacturer, said the government has not yet taken effective measures to establish backward linkage industries and develop textile industries to cope with the coming realities the garment sector will have to face after phasing out of the multi-fibre agreement by 2005. It will be mandatory for Bangladesh, a signatory to GATT and WTO, to use locally made fabrics for its garment export.

On Friday, several activists of the group stormed into Hussain's apartment in this western metropolis, after a local newspaper reported that a 20-year-old painting, 'Rescued Sita', was again displayed at an exhibition in another city.

## Fida Hussain's house ransacked

BOMBAY, May 2: Members of a radical Hindu group faced charges of trespass before a local court today after they ransacked the house of a Muslim painter to protest his depiction of a Hindu goddess, reports AP.

Magbool Fida Hussain, India's most famous painter, has been the target of several attacks over years by members of the right-wing Bajrang Dal Party, which enforces its brand of Hindu culture at music concerts, art exhibitions and cultural performances.

On Friday, several activists of the group stormed into Hussain's apartment in this western metropolis, after a local newspaper reported that a 20-year-old painting, 'Rescued Sita', was again displayed at an exhibition in another city.

after he reached there from Myseningsh by a local train Friday afternoon.

CID sources said the owner and some staff of the hotel identified Shahid in front of the investigators. Shahid also showed a tubewell nearby and said he washed his blood-stained shirt there. According to him, blood stained only a small portion under a sleeve of his white striped shirt. Earlier, he had told police that he washed his shirt in a ditch near Tongi railway station.

Later, on afternoon at about 3 pm, Shahid went out of the hotel telling the staff there that he was going to toilet. But he boarded inter-city train Urmil Godhuli and went to Chittagong.

The hotel owner and the staff told CID they could not imagine that Shahid was a fugitive alleged killer.

CID officials said they may visit Chittagong and Myseningsh for investigation.

Meanwhile, the materials seized by Dhaka Metropolitan Police from Shazneen's room as evidences were handed over to the CID.



BNP chief Begum Khaleda Zia addressing a May Day rally of Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal at the Institution of Engineers in the city on Friday.

## CU train

From Page 1  
losophy final year and Akhter Hossain of Political Science final year. All of them are the activists of Bangladesh Chhatra League.

They were admitted to Chittagong Medical College Hospital (CMCH) where the attending doctors stated their conditions as critical.

The attackers also swooped on the students of another compartment with lethal weapons which left six with serious wound.

The injured included one JCD activist. He was identified as Sohail Mahmood of Economic final year.

Other injured students included two activists of Chhatra Union, one of Chhatra Front and the rest two are general students, campus sources said.

The attackers managed to flee the scene exploding crackers at the station.

The railway workers refused to operate trains following the incident.

Meanwhile, Chittagong University authorities have accused Islami Chhatra Shibir of pushing the lives of teachers, students, employees and their family members at stake by their terrorist activities.

Without mentioning the name of Shibir, the University acting Registrar in a press release today said "a student organisation, in the name of movement, has been unleashing terrorist activities on the campus and its adjoining areas, and in Chittagong city for the last few days."

## Liquor poisoning

From Page 1

died after suffering from tuberculosis and jaundice respectively.

Both of them died Friday night on way to Mitford Hospital, police said.

The DNC is likely to submit a report today about the incident at TT Para colony.

No case was filed with Shabubagh thana in this regard till filing of this report last night.

The rally demanded increase in the strength of women police.

## Anti-state policy, says Khaleda

## Handing over all gas blocks 'not wise'

BNP chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia on Friday warned the government against entering into anti-state agreement with any foreign companies on gas exploration, reports UNB.

"No future government will take the responsibility of any agreement with foreigners on gas exploration if it goes against the country's interest," she said addressing a discussion organised by Jatiyatabadi Sramik Dal, the labour front of BNP, marking the historic May Day.

Held at Engineers' Institution, the meeting was presided over by acting president of Sramik Dal Abdullah Al No-man. More than 40 leaders of BNP and its front organisations addressed the meeting.

"It's true that the foreigners are coming here to invest in the gas sector, but the government's policy to hand over them all the blocks at a time is not wise," Begum Zia said.

She alleged that it's an ill design of the Awami League government to destroy the country's resources. "The country will simply be ruined if the gas blocks are given to them and the next generation will never forgive us if we allow the government to do it."

Describing that how Nigeria was destroyed by the foreign oil companies, Begum Zia said, "The government is out to cripple the country for ever. They are engaged in a deep conspiracy to destroy the country."

"We will thwart the conspiracy of the government at any cost," she said adding that her party is not waging movement to remove the government and will not do it. The Leader of the Opposition said.

"We are doing movement to

protect our national interest and will continue it. If one loves the country and wants to safeguard its sovereignty should join the movement," Begum Zia told the meeting.

The Leader of the Opposition said the nation is now divided into two groups: Conspirators and patriotic forces. "The patriotic forces are ready to protect the country at any cost."

Urging the people to intensify the ongoing movement to protect the country's interest, Begum Zia said, "You people should think whether you want the government to complete its term. If they are allowed to remain in power for the full term, the country will be destroyed," she said.

Among others, BNP secretary general Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan, Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain, Mirza Abbas and Sadek Hossain Khoka addressed the meeting.

## Gulshan Lake

From Page 1

northern side of the mosque project. It read Lake Breeze Apartments Baridhara. Rajuk officials said that some land on the northern side belonged to private owners. It was not under any Rajuk project.

When contacted a top Rajuk official requested anonymity and said that he was not aware of any Rajuk project to construct a mosque in that particular place. "We are earth filling the site at a cost of Tk 94 lakh to construct a road to properly connect Baridhara with Gulshan on the northern side," he said.

The distance between Baridhara and Gulshan, at the particular point is hardly 100 feet with nearly half of it already earth-filled."

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