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Bangladesh win 'their final'

Green-and-red flutter as fans turn Edinburgh ground their home

From Nizamuddin Ahmed

EDINBURGH, May 24: The famous victory at Scotland's capital was transformed into a mini-Bangladesh as hundreds rejoiced amid fluttering green-and-white flags and Bengali songs to celebrate Bangladesh's first victory in the World Cup as they beat the home side by 22 runs.

Chasing Bangladesh's 185 for nine, England hopeful Gavin Hamilton led the highlanders with a smashing knock of 63 to make it an exciting match.

With Scotland losing wickets quickly in the last 10 overs and the asking rate climbing from five to eight runs an over, Bangladesh saw a match returning to its grip from the brink of near disaster.

It was man of the match Minhazul Abedin, the late entrant into the side, whose unbeaten 68 in three good partnerships saw Bangladesh recover from 26 for five to a fighting total.

Also deserving kudos for the famous victory are Bangladesh fielders, not always their best attribute. Faruque Ahmed, Hasibul Hossain and Manjurul Islam held catches that were a class apart. That is not to deny burlly Akram Khan for his two brilliant stops that were both bound for the rope.

Scotland seemed to have recovered from an early slip that saw them all muddled at three down for eight. But skipper Salmond (19), Hamilton (63) and Davies (32) put on useful breaks to pull the hosts out of the quagmire and almost cruised the team to the victory stands.

Under mounting pressure, Bangladeshis fielded beyond them and, despite the occasional loose ball, took back the reins. There was a time when Hamilton, who plays for Yorkshire in the County Championship and was on England call, was looking dangerous and

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BEGINNING OF THE END! Bangladesh's Hasibul Hossain celebrates after trapping Scotland opener Bruce Patterson leg before for a duck in Edinburgh yesterday. — AFP photo

A view from the Gully

By Tawfiq Aziz Khan

Alfred Hitchcock would have been pleased with the screenplay.

The setting was ideal for a contest between two titans of modern-day cricket but a contest as fierce, a finish so dramatic and proceedings so full of suspense were not originally on the menu. Despite the unpredictable nature of one-day cricket Sunday's match between Australia and Pakistan at Headingley was the best so far in this World Cup.

The Headingley wicket is generally credited with bounce and is deemed to be ideal for pace bowlers, specially when it is cloudy. Leeds-Headingley is not the original headquarters of Yorkshire cricket in the north of England. According to Wisden its first centre was at Bramall Lane, Sheffield, from 1863 until 1888 when a group of wealthy developers, who were also sportsmen joined together to buy a plot of land in the north-west of Leeds. Cricket and rugby football have been played at Headingley since 1890 when the first important match here was staged between the North and the touring Australians. Headingley staged its first Test match against Aus-

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BNP MPs parade city streets

Polls only means to oust govt: Khaleda

By Staff Correspondent

BNP chairperson and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Khaleda Zia has said her party wants to remove this government through election as it believes in democracy.

"Election is the only way to remove the government and this is why we have demanded early election. We must oust it from power through election," she said. "The demand for dissolving this government has come from the people as they are so fed up with it."

She was exchanging views with journalists at the Jatiya Press Club immediately after BNP MPs demonstration in the city yesterday.

The former prime minister said that instead of resolving problems of the people, this government rather created new crises and 'mismanaged' the country during the last three years.

Some 90 MPs led by Begum Zia brought out a procession protesting government 'harassment' on them including arrest and filing of 'false' cases against some BNP Whip Mashur Rahman claimed that

103 MPs participated in the procession.

The procession started from the party central office at Nayapalton at 11:37 am and ended in front of the Press Club at about 12:15 pm after marching through Fakirerpool, Dainik Bangla, Baitul Mukarram, Paltan and Topkhana areas.

After the street march, Begum Zia announced May 27 as 'Black Day' to protest formal installation of Shantu Larma as chairman of the Regional Council of Chittagong Hill Tracts. On that day, she said, opposition parties will stage demonstrations and bring out processions across the country to protest the CHT accord that 'created instability instead of establishing peace.'

She told newsmen, "We are in Parliament and we want to speak there on issues public interest and problems of the commonman. But we will be compelled to launch movement both inside and outside the Sangsad if we are not allowed to speak."

Replying to a question on

parliament boycott, she said Time will say when and what step we will be taken."

Asked about hartal, she said her party and other components of the opposition alliance have been taking up programmes considering people's sentiment. "Our objective is to involve people of all walks of life in our programmes and we are trying for that."

She went on "We are observing hartal and will also call hartal in future. We called hartal only when the government forced us to do so and in future we will call hartal when necessary."

Referring to her party's recent Dhaka-Panchagarh road march, the BNP chief said there are demands from different parts of the country including Jhenidah, Sylhet, Mymensingh and Barisal for similar march to those areas.

"We are greatly inspired by Dhaka-Panchagarh march as people of all walks of life spontaneously joined us. We will take up such programmes soon because we believe in people's

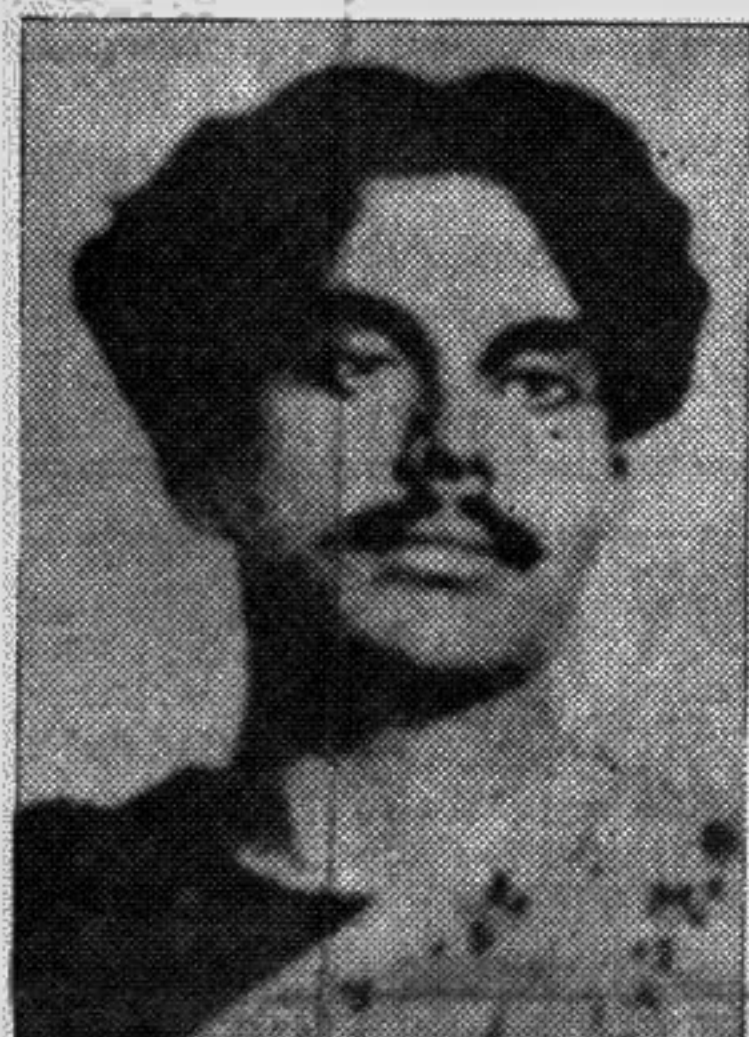
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WITH LONG LASTING MOUTHWASH & FLUORIDE

CLOSE-UP

SHINY WHITE TEETH • FRESH BREATH

For Long Lasting Fresh Breath and Sparkling White Teeth



Birth centenary of Nazrul today

The nation will celebrate the birth centenary of National Poet Kazi Nazrul Islam today in a befitting manner, reports BSS.

Born in 1899, Nazrul, popularly known as the rebel poet, inspired the people to fight against colonialism, exploitation and deprivation for establishing equality, justice and humanity.

Nazrul's writings worked as the key source of inspiration for achieving the national independence of the country in 1971.

President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina issued separate messages on the occasion.

Various socio-cultural and political organisations took elaborate programmes to celebrate the day.

Besides, the National Committee for the celebration of Nazrul's birth centenary has been observing different programmes over the last one year paying homage to the great poet.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will inaugurate the main programme of the day at Osmany Memorial Hall at 10 am today.

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Inside Today

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Issues in Water Management in Bangladesh

Column: Lest We Forget...

by Qazi Kholiquzzaman Ahmad
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Nazrul Centenary

Today's issue of The Daily Star contains a two-page special on birth centenary of Rebel Poet Nazrul
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Prayer Timings

May 25

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	4:15	4:20
Zohr	12:45	1:30
Asr	4:45	4:55
Maghrib	6:40	6:43
Esha	7:40	8:10

Source: Islamic Foundation

Windies blow away Kiwis

SOUTHAMPTON, England, May 24: Wicket-keeper Ridley Jacobs took five catches and scored a career-best 80 not out as the West Indies swept to a seven-wicket win over New Zealand here on Monday, reports AFP.

Skipper Brian Lara contributed 36 off 54 balls as West Indies centered to victory with 5.4 overs to spare.

The victory, set up by the West Indian bowlers who shot out the Kiwis for their lowest

World Cup score of 156, intensifies the battle in group B for the three places in the second round.

Both New Zealand and the West Indies now have four points, two behind group leaders Pakistan while pre-tournament favourites Australia have two points with just two games remaining.

Lara's arrival at the crease in the 21st over ignited the West Indian innings. Until then the

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Joyous explosions

By Hasan Masood

Bangladesh exploded into wild celebrations last night as the country's cricket captain Aminul Islam scooped Scotland's last batsman Asim Butt off an Enamul Haque delivery in the 47th over of the tension-filled World Cup match back in Edinburgh.

On Dhaka streets, youngsters sang, danced, chanted slogans, exploded fire-crackers, beat drums, blew whistles in a midnight reveling after the 22-run victory, the first ever in their debut cricket World Cup.

An ecstatic Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina led the nationwide celebrations, congratulating the team.

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Benazir to settle in London?

LONDON, May 24: Pakistani former premier Benazir Bhutto is to settle permanently in London instead of returning to her country to fight a conviction for corruption, the Daily Telegraph reported today, reports AFP.

Bhutto told the British paper that she had begun house-hunting in the capital from where she will coordinate opposition to the Pakistani Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif, who she accused of working towards a totalitarian Islamic state.

The former premier said she would be immediately thrown

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US experts on gasfields Invest more to increase recoverable reserves

By Staff Correspondent

Experts of US Geological Survey yesterday at a symposium said that adequate investment for development of gas fields could increase Bangladesh's existing recoverable reserves by 10 times.

The Ganges-Brahmaputra delta is one of the most underdeveloped regions of the world," said Robert C Millic of the US Geological Survey at a technical symposium on Gas Fields of Bangladesh: Reserves and Po-

tential Growth through Technology Advances organised by the Petroleum and Mineral Resources Engineering (PMRE) Department of BUET. He added that most gas fields were still immature and that the data available to make reserve estimates for these fields were limited.

Bangladesh is known to have a gas reserve of around 10 trillion cubic feet (tcf). But this

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HC verdict on transfer plea by 3 cos June 8

By M Shamsur Rahman

By the application of the notification when judges were transferred to the newly formed Metro Court the cases "which were being dealt with" by them were also transferred with them, lawyers of three companies accused in the 1996 share market scam told a High Court division bench yesterday.

The bench fixed June 8 for verdict as hearing ended on an application challenging Metropolitan Court's judgement which rejected transfer prayer by three accused companies —

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Sonia withdraws resignation

From Pallab Bhattacharya



Sonia Gandhi

NEW DELHI, May 24: Sonia Gandhi tonight withdrew her resignation as President of India's main opposition party of Congress following mounting pressure from Congress activists ending a week-long crisis in the party.

Sonia, the Italian-born widow of former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, communicated her decision to the Congress Working Committee, highest policy-making forum of the party, a week after she had put in her papers in the wake of three senior party leaders questioning her credentials to become India's Prime Minister because of her foreign origin.

"Sonia Gandhi has decided to withdraw her resignation and continue as Congress President," a terse announcement from senior Congress leader Pranab Mukherjee said.

Three senior Congress leaders Sharad Pawar, PA Sangma and Tariq Anwar had last week questioned Sonia's credentials to become the Prime Minister. The trio had been expelled from

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Beyond the boundary Questions Still Remain

By Shakil Kasem

Bangladesh began their one match campaign in this World Cup in the most disastrous fashion. It certainly did not appear that Bangladesh had prepared all that well over the last two and a half years, for this one solitary match they were supposed to win.

Against a team of rank amateurs who were only playing their third ODI, Bangladesh gave enough indication that they still have a mountain to climb if they are to have any impact at this level of the game. The contest was essentially between the two worst batting sides in this competition. From the very outset it was obvious that Bangladesh was trying desperately hard to walk away with this dubious prize.

Messrs One, Two, Three.

Four and Five, once again did what they had been doing so well throughout this competition. They made sure the team had its back firmly against the wall at a very early stage. It was only Rahman once again, who showed any degree of commitment to Bangladesh's cause. It was his tenacity, application and concentration that enabled the experienced Abedin to steer the team out of some singularly turbulent waters.

Once again the skipper and his senior colleagues failed to come to grips with the nature of their inputs to this side. Aside from scoring runs they are also meant to set an example for the rest of the batting. Typically, they did neither. Basic errors in judgement, lack of concentra-

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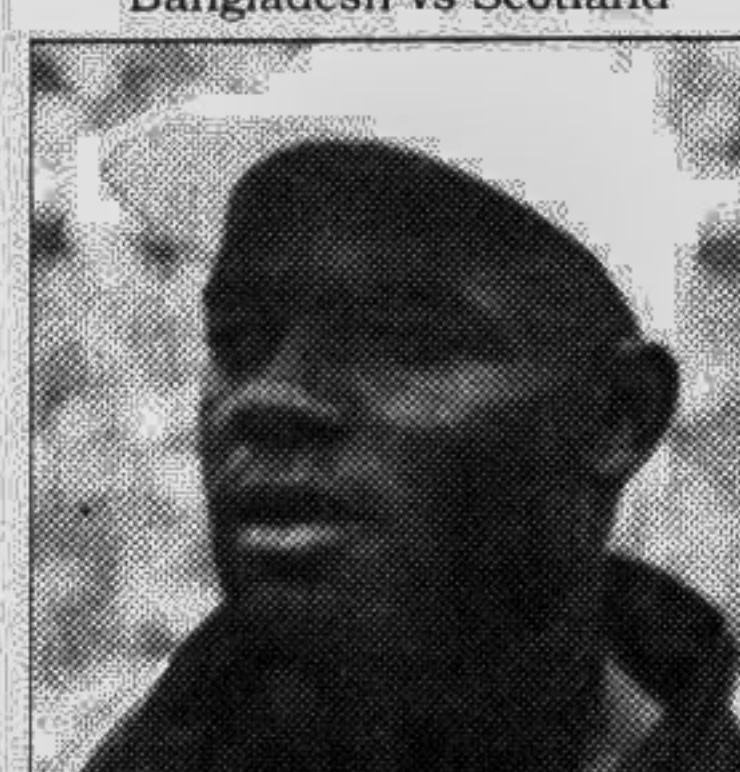
we score... while others watch

Standard & Chartered

APTECH
COMPUTER EDUCATION
We change lives



MINHAZUL ABEDIN
(Bangladesh)
Man of the Match
Bangladesh vs Scotland



RIDLEY JACOBS
(West Indies)
Man of the Match
New Zealand vs West Indies

RC
We give you MORE

TODAY'S MATCH

England vs Zimbabwe
Venue: Trent Bridge
Live Coverage: BTV and Star Sports (3:45 pm)

TOMORROW'S MATCHES

India vs Sri Lanka
Venue: Taunton
Live Coverage: BTV and ESPN (3:45 pm)

Kenya vs South Africa
Venue: Amsterdam
Live Coverage: Star Sports (3:45 pm)

a e yes!

Resource Applications Ltd.

Congratulates

The AES Corporation
and its EPC Contractor

Hyundai Engineering & Construction Co.

On the Commencement of the Construction of the 360 MW Power Project at Haripur