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Gunfight leaves one dead in Khagrachhari

KHAGRACHHARI, July 30: One person was killed during a gunfight between security forces and a group of terrorists in a deep forest at Kalapahar in Mo-haichhari thana on Thursday, reports UNB.

Police said Mo-haichhari UP chairman Sajid Marmia recovered the victim's body from Manikchhari School premises this evening and handed it over to police. Identity of the victim could not be known immediately.

The security forces came under sudden attack by the terrorists. The two sides traded at least 100 shots during the fighting.

However, the terrorists managed to escape, police said.

The security forces and police went there to rescue Hari-pada, one of two villagers, abducted on Wednesday. Another, Shankar, managed to escape from the grips of the terrorists.

Degree (Pass) Exam results today

By DU Correspondent The results of Degree (Pass) and Certificate Course Examinations of 1998 under the National University will be published at 4 pm today, said a press release yesterday.

The results will be published simultaneously from all the examination centres of the country.

Necessary arrangements have been made to publish the results.

The students have been asked to collect results from their respective colleges or examination centres. Results will not be available at the National University office, the press release added.

Teenage maid succumbs to burn injuries

By Staff Correspondent A teenage maid, who allegedly torched herself at a flat in Mirpur area in the city, died at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday noon.

The dead was identified as Bina, 14, daughter of Abu Bakar of Sujanagar in Pabna, according to police. Bina had been a maid at the flat of Moazzem Hossain, an engineer, at Mirpur section-I for the last two years.

The engineer was quoted to have told the police that Bina had a love affair with son of a gatekeeper of the apartment. When members of the family rebuked her for the relationship, she torched herself pouring down kerosene all over her body.

According to police, the family members found Bina engulfed in fire in the bathroom adjacent to the servants' room of the flat at about 2 am yesterday.

With critical burn injuries, the maid was admitted to DMCH where she succumbed to her injuries at about 12 noon.

The officer-in-charge of Mirpur thana told The Daily Star last night that they suspected the death was a suicide. "We, however, are waiting for the post mortem report," he added.

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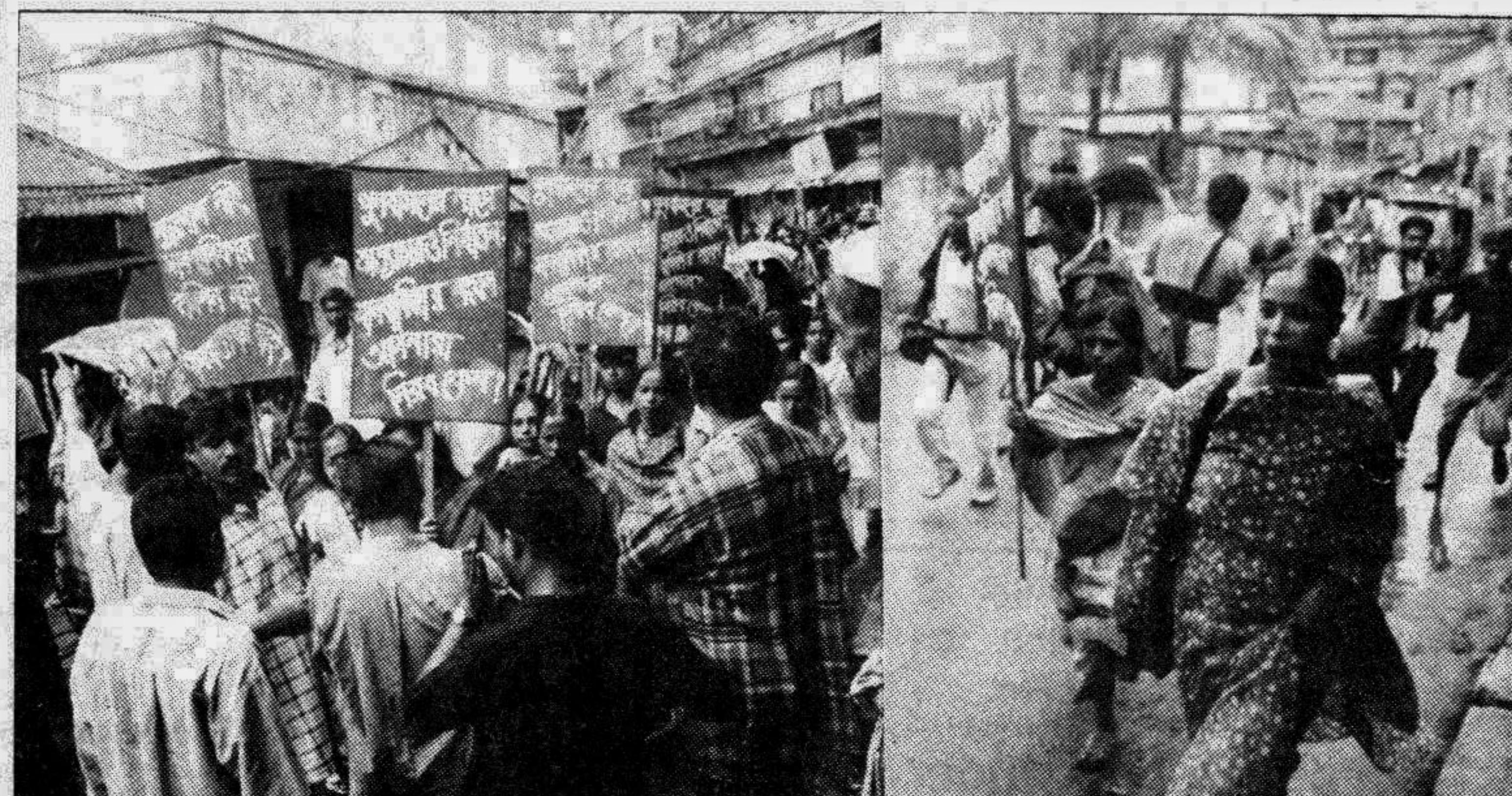
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Prayer Timings

July 31		
Fajr	Azam	Jamaat
4:10	4:15	
Johr	12:50	1:25
Asr	5:00	5:10
Maghrib	6:55	7:00
Esha	7:55	8:15

Source: Islamic Foundation



Muslemen obstructed the woman and human rights activists at Tanbazar and (right) some activists run for dear life following the attack. —Star photo

Gunshots, cracker blasts near Tanbazar

Muslemen attack women, human rights activists

From Ehsanul Haque

NARAYANGANJ, July 30: Armed goons attacked a procession of activists from 69 women and human rights organisations as they tried to proceed to Tanbazar brothel here this morning for staging a demonstration protesting the recent eviction of sex workers.

The activists started running helter skelter as the attackers fired about 50 shots in the air and exploded crackers when the procession reached near the brothel.

The attackers who are known as local *mastaans* chased the processionists and put up a barricade on the road to obstruct the procession and foil the scheduled demonstration.

Police virtually joined hands with the attackers as they charged batons on the activists, local people alleged.

Witnesses said that soon after the procession reached near the brothel at around 10:30 am.

A total of 267 sex workers were evicted from the two

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the programme earlier and asked for security.

The demonstrators took shelter in nearby houses. Shopkeepers in the area downed their shutters as the situation turned tense.

Later, the activists assembled near the Sadar thana in a fresh bid to move to the brothel. But the goons chased them again, firing shots in the air and exploding bombs.

The demonstrators then took shelter on the thana premises while police simply looked on.

The agitated women and human rights activists then left for Dhaka. The hooligans also followed them up to the bus stand and fired several more shots in the air around 11:30.

None was, however, injured in the hour-long incident.

The demonstrators earlier

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Little attention, poor diagnosis' Patients grumble about city doctors

By Naimul Haq

Majority of patients seeking medical advice at doctors' chambers are disappointed over the time given to an individual for consultation and the quality of diagnosis.

During a recent investigation by The Daily Star, patients waiting outside some doctors' chambers complained about the quality of diagnosis. They also said the medical practitioners "see maximum number of patients within a limited time, ignoring proper diagnosis".

"I have come to see the doctor for the third time in last eight days for tracheoscopy (examination of throat). The doctor did not explain to me what is the problem. On an average, he gave me not more than five minutes' time. I have already spent Tk 500 as consultation fee," a discontented patient told this correspondent at a chamber at the Green Super Market at No. 7.

"Frankly speaking, doctors here do not consider patients' needs. They seem to be busy seeing as many patients as possible. Had the doctor examined me carefully, he could have detected what was wrong with me. I am sure he has the capacity."

Another patient at a chamber at Dhammtoni Road No. 8 said, "We avoid consultation at crowded government hospitals and instead come at private chambers of doctors to get proper attention. But there is no sign of proper diagnosis despite payment of high amount of fee."

At Green Super Market, there are at least 60 chambers of private practitioners.

On Sunday (July 18), this correspondent approached 20 doctors on the first and second floors at the market. But only four agreed to talk to The Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

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