

What's on today . . .

Film show: British Council will screen Shakespeare's *Henry V* and *Anthony and Cleopatra*. Venue: British Council auditorium. Time: 4:00 pm and 6:30 pm respectively.

Weather

Moderate rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers with temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at most places over the country with moderately heavy to heavy falls at places over Khulna, Barisal and Chittagong divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Day temperature may remain nearly unchanged during the period, Met Office said.

The country's highest temperature yesterday was recorded 32.6 degree Celsius at Khulna and the lowest 23.5 degrees at Barisal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:05 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:44 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	28.3	25.9	78	83
Chittagong	31.7	24.7	92	83
Rajshahi	29.5	25.2	98	83
Khulna	32.6	24.8	95	93
Barisal	26.0	23.5	92	93
Sylhet	31.2	24.6	98	89
Cox's Bazar	27.2	24.0	100	91

HERE and THERE

BCGP
The College of General Practitioners of Bangladesh (BCGP) held the orientation programme of the 9th batch of its FCGP course on Friday, says a press release.

Bangladesh Jubo Union
Bangladesh Jubo Union (Youth Union) in a meeting has urged the international communities to press Indonesian government to compel stop genocide in East Timor, says a press release.

Forum to resist attacks on newsmen writers floated
An organisation, Forum to Resist Attack on Newspapers, Journalists and Writers, has been floated to mould public opinion to resist attacks on newspapers, journalists and writers, reports BSS.

6 killed in Assam bomb blast
GUWAHATI, India, Sept 12: Six members of one family were killed when a bomb went off in their house today in the north-eastern Indian state of Assam, police said, reports Reuters.

Ctg: 30 hurt
From page 1
Both Badsha and Md Hossain lost their wrists. Hossain was making bomb at BNP office at Nur Alam Road, police said. BNP however claimed that a bomb was hurled into its office by the activists of rival political party.

Nasim
From page 1
ical parties had hired terrorists and miscreants from different parts of the country for creating anarchy and unrest in the capital during their sit-in programme, but failed to do so thanks to the correct and timely steps by the administration.

JP: Ershad
From page 1
sion to allow transit to India in the name of transshipment".

Obituary
Mirza Sirajul Islam, father of Yeahia Mirza, Public Relations Officer of The City Bank Limited died on September 7 at his 113, New Paltan Azim-pur residence in the city. He was 72, says a press release.

BARISAL, Sept 12: A B M Zahid Hossain Jahangir, a veteran freedom fighter and former president of Barisal town Awami League, died of old age ailments here today. He was 78, reports UNB.

Final peace deal with Israel in a yr: Erakat
JERicho, West Bank, Sept 12: A leading Palestinian negotiator said Sunday he was confident that a final peace deal with Israel could be reached within a year and reasserted the Palestinians' right to statehood.



The leftover evidence
The street in front of Baitul Mukarram Mosque lies covered in a sea of shoes and sandals left behind by party leaders and activists as they flee police action in the area. Tokais had a field day later selling these left over pieces, they hiked higher prices for matching pairs and let go of mismatched ones at give-away prizes. — Star photo

NDC team visits Indian defence installations

NEW DELHI, Sept 12: The 25-member delegation from Bangladesh National Defence College (NDC) during its week-long stay in India visited different defence installations and other institutions of the country, reports BSS.

The team, which reached here on September 4 on its first leg of the multi-country tour, was received by senior officers of the Indian Air Force at the IGI Airport. They left for Bangalore on Saturday from Mumbai.

The NDC team visited Indian Air Force station at Jodhpur and Headquarters of 12 Corps. It attended a dinner at Bangalore hosted by Air Officer Commanding in Chief of Headquarters Training Command of Indian Air Force which is stationed at the capital of Karnataka state.

The team also visited Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).

In Delhi, the team laid wreaths at *Amar Jawan Jyoti*. They called on President K R Narayanan, Foreign Secretary K Raghunath, Chief of the Naval Staff Admiral Sushil Kumar, Chief of the Air Staff Air Chief Marshal AY Tipnis and Deputy Chief of the Army Staff Lieutenant General SK Jetley.

The delegation also visited Confederation of Indian Industries (CII), National Defence

Khaleda

From page 1
it believes in and practises democracy, she said that in the past the nation had witnessed how that party introduced one-party Baksl system in the name of democracy. Then it banned all political parties, closed down all newspapers and snatched away independence of the judiciary. Moreover, they resorted to killing and kidnapping by raising "private forces", she added.

Neither was any mention made of a timeframe for their arrival.

But he did say it was imperative the chaos in East Timor was brought to an end swiftly.

Refugees in Dili were jubilant.

Journalist Marie Colvin told the Cable News Network (CNN) that refugees were coming up to her and kissing her, praising and thanking the international community for their salvation.

US National Security advisor Sandy Berger said he had been heartened to see Indonesian military chief General Wiranto standing side by side with Habibie as he spoke.

Army-backed pro-Jakarta militias have rampaged through East Timor since the territory voted for independence from Indonesia, causing tens of thousands to flee, leaving hundreds dead and a trail of destruction.

But Habibie defended the role of the defence forces, who have been accused of acting in tandem with pro-Jakarta militias.

He said they had operated in a "very complex situation" in trying to stabilise East Timor before and after the August 30 vote.

Australia stands ready to assist the UN in whatever way we're asked, Defence Minister John Moore said in Canberra after Habibie's announcement.

Australia has committed 4,500 troops to any peacekeeping effort -- the largest force since the Vietnam War -- out of an estimated total of about 7,000.

Neighbours to provide peacekeepers
Led by Australia, Indonesia's neighbours have spearheaded moves to put together a peacekeeping force for strife-torn East Timor, increasingly nervous at the anarchy on their doorstep.

Indonesian President B.J. Habibie Sunday finally bowed to international pressure and agreed to an international peacekeeping force to stop the carnage in the territory.

He said he was immediately despatching Foreign Minister Ali Alatas to New York to discuss the details with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan.

Secretary General Kofi Annan to inform him about our readiness to accept international peacekeeping forces from friendly nations to restore peace and security in East Timor," Habibie said in English.

But in the version delivered in Indonesian he outlined a continued role for the Indonesian armed forces -- a reference that was omitted in the later English version.

He had decided "to invite an international UN peacekeeping force who will together with the Indonesian armed forces, engage in security cooperation in East Timor to create peace in East Timor, to protect the people who have suffered a catastrophe," he said in Indonesian.

Habibie did not specify who were "friendly nations", if any countries would be excluded from the force, or how the military would cooperate with the foreign troops.

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Indonesia accepts int'l peace force in E Timor

JAKARTA, Sept 12: Indonesian President B.J. Habibie on Sunday caved in to intense international pressure and agreed to accept an international peacekeeping force to end the carnage in East Timor, reports AFP.

The United States and Australia, which are expected to play a prominent role in any peacekeeping plan, welcomed the move and East Timorese independence leader Xanana Gusmao called it "courageous."

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US hails Jakarta's decision
The United States on Sunday hailed Indonesia's decision to allow peacekeepers into East Timor but warned that no conditions should be placed on an

accord, the Cabinet decision on transit and the proposed Public Security Act, resignation of the Home Minister and the Chief Election Commissioner.

The opposition resolution also calls for checking price hike of essentials, ending "repression on the opposition activists", stopping the practice of "bypassing" the parliament while deciding on major national issues and protests government failure to protect the national sovereignty.

BNP vice-chairman and Deputy Leader of the Opposition Prof A Q M Badruddoza Chowdhury and city BNP chief Sadek Hossain Khoka, MP, also addressed the press conference held at 29 Minto Road residence of the Leader of the Opposition.

Khoka produced a "primary" list of some 25 party leaders who were injured in yesterday's attack. They include: Chief Whip of the Opposition Khondaker Delwar Hossain, Khurshid Jahan Haq MP, Amanullah Aman MP, Shahidul Islam MP, AY M Khalilur Rahman MP, Salahuddin Quadek Chowdhury MP and Fazlul Azim, former mayor Mirza Abbas, PS to the Opposition leader Zakirul Islam, Rabeya Siraj, Akhtari Begum, Rabeya Ali and Sadiq Haq.

He said the list of injured would be much longer and claimed many of their activists were still missing. Hundreds of workers were also arrested, he added.

B Chowdhury and Mannan Bhuiyan strongly condemned the attack on the BNP demonstration and blamed the government for it.

Barricade
From page 1
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Hundreds of passenger buses and trucks loaded with perishable goods were stranded till police police removed the trucks at about 2:30 pm.

The Opposition's five-hour sit-in demonstration around the Secretariat ended at 2 pm. The barricades prevented many Opposition activists and supporters from joining the sit-in.

Local people alleged that AL leader and Siddhirganj Union Parishad Chairman Noor Hossain and his men were responsible for barricading the highway. Hossain, however, could not be contacted for his comment.

The activists also broke winduppanes of dozens of stranded vehicles and robbed many passengers, but police did not come to their help, the victims alleged.

When contacted, SP of Narayanganj Sanaul Haq said "It might have been a normal traffic congestion."

Similar barricades were put up on the highway on June 9 and November 7 last years. There was a BNP 'long march' towards Chittagong on March 9 and a 'grand rally' of the party in the city on November 7.

60-hr hartal from today

From page 1
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Chowdhury termed the attack "an ominous sign" for the nation and charged the government with "going for the cruel way to suppress the process of democracy" in the country.

"We don't have word to condemn this heinous incident. It can only be compared with the acts of repression during the BKSAL regime. The government has lost the right to stay in power after today's act of cruelty and barbarism," he said.

He accused the government of making "direct and indirect attempts" to reintroduce one-party rule in the country. "All the political parties and the people will reject this government by observing the three-day hartal," Chowdhury hoped.

Referring to the prime minister's invitation to the opposition leader to have tea at the Secretariat during yesterday's demonstration, Chowdhury commented, "What a cruelty! We had been offered bullets, bombs and teargas shells," he said, warning that the people would never accept such a behaviour.

The BNP leader also condemned police attack on the Baitul Mukarram Mosque and showed a piece of bullet collected by a party colleague Tariqul Islam from inside the mosque. "We've also heard that there was bloodshed inside the mosque."

Bhuiyan described how Khaleda Zia and others came under police attack during yesterday's demonstration.

"We planned to hold a peaceful demonstration despite all sorts of provocation. And our programme was going on very peacefully. But police fired teargas canisters targeting Khaleda Zia's car, barely one or one and a half minute after she had started speaking. She continued speaking but could not do so as the police went on firing teargas shells indiscriminately."

"The government has totally destroyed the atmosphere for all democratic means of protest, which has forced us to go for a three-day hartal," he said.

Anti-mosquito pilot project ends in Bandarban
BANDARBAN, Sept 12: Anti-Mosquito Pilot Project to free Bandarban Poursabha area from mosquito menace ended here on Thursday, reports BSS.

SKS complex opening ceremony postponed
Senia Kalyan Sangstha has postponed the inaugural ceremony of its Commercial Complex in Tongi due to unavoidable circumstances, according to a telephone message received from the Secretary of the Sangstha.

Army chief Lt Gen Mustafizur Rahman was scheduled to inaugurate the complex.

PM leaves
From page 1
Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman to address the UN session in mother tongue.

Her visit to the UN headquarters coincides with the 25th anniversary of Bangladesh's membership of the United Nations, the officials said.

The prime minister will lead a 46-member delegation on the official trip to New York. A 23-member business delegation will also accompany her.

Hasina will have meetings with UN Secretary General Kofi Annan and UNGA President Dr Theo-Ben Gurirab, who is also foreign minister of Namibia, on September 16.

The same day she will sign the Statute of International Criminal Court and have exclusive meeting with potential investors. Nobel Laureate Jody Williams, coordinator of the International Campaign to Ban Landmines, will also meet Hasina.

On September 17, the prime minister will join a commemorative event of ECOSOC of UN marking the silver jubilee celebration of the United Nations in the evening, she will attend a reception at the UN on the occasion of Bangladesh's 25 years in the world body.

She will also have a meeting with Bangladeshis living in US on September 19.

On the last day in New York on September 21, Hasina will have talks with French Prime Minister Lionel Jospin, Slovak premier Mikulas Dzurina, Pakistani premier Nawaz Sharif and Colombian President Andres Pastrana.

The prime minister will arrive in Paris on September 22 and meet Jacques Chirac, President of France the day after.

On September 24, she will receive UNESCO's Flix Houphouet Boigny Peace Prize at its headquarters. She earned the peace prize for ending the long-running tribal insurgency in the Chittagong Hill Tracts.

DMP version
From page 12
parties yesterday observed their secretariat siege/sit-in programme. But the workers of these political parties tried to create anarchy around the Secretariat and other parts of the capital through widespread bombings.

The DMP said the opposition activists damaged around 12 vehicles at Jatrabari at around 11:30 am. They set fire to a minibus in front of Banglar Bani office. They also tried to set ablaze the Pakirapool Petrol Pump.

Besides, the opposition activists pelted stones, hurled bombs and opened fire in the areas of Raisaheb Bazar, Dainik Bangla Intersection, the park area of the Bangabhaban, Motijheel, Nayapaltan, Mohakhali, Joykali Temple, Kamalapur, New Market, Katabon and Syedabad.

Police had to lob tear gas shells used shot gun and fired rubber bullets to maintain law and order, the statement added.



A young man was wounded yesterday when police opened fire on opposition activists near Baitul Mukarram Mosque during the opposition's demonstration programme yesterday. — Star photo