

## What's on today....

**Advocacy seminar:** Bangladesh Breastfeeding Foundation (BBF) and BINP has jointly organised an advocacy seminar on Breastfeeding for Bangladesh Private Medical Practitioners Association (BPPMA). Venue: Institute of Food Science and Technology (IFST), BCSIR, Science Laboratory. Time: 8:00 am.

**Inauguration:** Rudra Mela '99 will be inaugurated. Venue: TSC games room. Time: 9:00 am.

**Inauguration:** The inauguration of the Fourth Annual Quality Convention will be held. Venue: Auditorium of IDB Bhaban, E/8-A Rokeya Sharani, Sher-e-Bangla Nagar, Agargaon. Time: 9:00 am.

**Film show:** Three movies 'L'argent, (France) Gabbeh (Iranian) and Le grand bleu (France) will be screened. Venue: Auditorium of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka. Time: 11:00 am, 4:00 pm and 6 pm.

**Annual general meeting:** Bangladesh Cancer Society will hold its annual general meeting and conference. Chief guest: Salah Uddin Yusuf, Minister for Health and Family Welfare. Venue: Sasakawa auditorium, ICDDR,B, Mohakhali. Time: 3:30 pm.

**Certificate giving ceremony:** The certificate giving ceremony of a 3-day long workshop on 'Scientific writing' will be held. Organiser: Bangladesh Institute for Promotion of Essential and Reproductive Health and Technologies (BIRPERHT). Chief guest: Dr M Amanullah, State Minister for Health and Family Welfare. Venue: BIRPERHT Training Room, House No 105, Rd No 9/A, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 4:00 pm.

**Film show:** *Mukhtir Kotha*, a documentary by Tareque and Catherine Masud, will be screened. Venue: Outdoor stage of Shishu Academy. Time: 5:30 pm.

**Women lawyers congress:** The second women lawyers congress will begin. Venue: Democracy auditorium of Khan Foundation, Momenbagh. Time: 6:00 pm.

**Exhibition:** A group exhibitions 'Two Man Show' featuring paintings by Nipa and Biplob will be inaugurated. Venue: Zainul Gallery, Institute of Fine Arts, Dhaka University. Time: 4:30 pm.

**Annual conference:** The 14th Annual Conference of Bangladesh Law Association will be held. Venue: Science Annex Bhaban, Dhaka University. Time: 9:00 am.

**Astrologers' conference:** A 3-day long Asian Astrologers Congress '99 will be inaugurated. Chief guest: Abdur Razzaq, Minister for Water Resources. Venue: CIDRAP auditorium, Chameli House, 17, Topkhana Road. Time: 9:00 am.

**Founding anniversary:** Bangla Academy will celebrate its 44th founding anniversary. Programmes include wreath laying at Central Shaheed Minar and lecture and cultural programme. Venue: Central Shaheed Minar and Academy premises. Time: 10:00 am and 4:00 pm respectively.

## ..... and tomorrow

**Discussion:** A discussion on the works of Akhtar Hameed Khan, a pioneer of rural development, will be held. Venue: LGED Bhaban, Agargaon. Time: 10:00 am.

**Women lawyers' congress:** The 2nd day of the 2nd Women Lawyers' Congress will be held. Venue: Democracy auditorium, Khan Foundation, Momenbagh. Time: 10:00 am.

**Medal awarding ceremony:** Chattagram Samity, Dhaka, will hold *Mezban* and Chattagram Samity Medal awarding ceremony. A cultural programme will also be held. Venue: Shohag Community Centre, New Eskaton Road. Time: 10:00 am to 3:00 pm.

**Inauguration:** The inauguration ceremony of the Fifth Diabetes and Endocrine Conference will be held. Chief guest: Salah Uddin Yusuf, Minister for Health and Family Welfare. Venue: Proposed 'Bangladesh Institute of Health Science (BIHS)' ground, Dares Salaam, Mirpur. Time: 11:00 am.

**Meeting:** The 74th annual general meeting and reunion of Pabna Samity will be held. Chief guest: Prof Abu Sayeed, State Minister for Information. Venue: Ramna Restaurant, Ramna. Time: 3:00 pm.

**Film show:** *Mukhtir Kotha*, a documentary by Tareque and Catherine Masud, will be screened. Venue: Outdoor stage of Shishu academy. Time: 5:30 pm.

**Cultural evening:** A solo cultural show of folk singer Nayan will be held. Chief guest: ASM Abdur Rab, Minister for Fisheries and Livestock. Venue: Public Library auditorium. Time: 6:30 pm.

**Film show:** The 2nd production of Binota Visuals 'dushoho 71' directed by Imon Shukder, will be screened. Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka auditorium. Time: 7:00 pm.

**Consultation:** A day-long national consultation on Education for All (EFA) will be held. Organiser: Campaign for Popular Education (CAMPE), OXFAM and ACTIONAID, Bangladesh. Venue: Samajseba Bhaban auditorium.

**WEST workshop:** The second workshop of 'Workshop on Environment Science and Technology' (WEST) will be held. Organisers: Centre for Scientific and Technological Information (CESTI) of Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, Environmental Voluntary Association (EVA) and Toitomboor, a children's organisation. Venue: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka, 26, Mirpur Road. Time: 3:00 pm.

## Weather

## Night temp may rise

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country during next 12 hours till 6 pm today, reports UNB. Night temperature may rise slightly over the country during the period while it may fall in the subsequent two days. Met Office forecast.

The country's highest temperature 30.8 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and the lowest 13.5 degrees at Satkhira.

The sun sets in the capital today at 5:10 pm and rises on Saturday at 6:26 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius	Humidity in percentage
	Max	Min
Dhaka	28.6	15.5
Chittagong	29.0	18.4
Rajshahi	28.4	17.0
Khulna	29.5	15.4
Barisal	29.4	15.5
Sylhet	29.5	15.8
Cox's Bazar	30.8	19.2



The annual Education Fair of Dawn Grammar School was held at the school premises recently.



Dr MA Mazed, one of the candidates for the post of president at the recently held Bangladesh Medical Association (BMA) polls, flanked by other leaders at a press conference at a city hotel yesterday.

## Death anniversary of Begum Syed Mustafa Ali Dec 6

The first death anniversary of Begum Syed Mustafa Ali, mother of late SM Ali, founder editor of The Daily Star, will be observed on December 6, says a press release.

To commemorate the death anniversary a *Milad Mahfil* will also be held at her son Syed Ebadul Ali's residence on Saturday to be followed by feeding of orphans on December 6.

A *Qurankhawani* and *milad mahfil* will also be held at her son Syed Ebadul Ali's residence on Saturday to be followed by feeding of orphans on December 6.

Begum Ali died of lung failure at a clinic in Paris on December 6, 1998. Her son, Syed Mustafa Ali, is the Ambassador of Bangladesh to France. She went to Paris for treatment.



## Gulshan's solo exhibition opens today

The 5th solo art exhibition of Gulshan Hossain will be inaugurated at Alliance Francaise de Dhaka today at 5:00 pm, says a press release.

Jean-Guy de Wagny, Premier Conseiller of the Embassy of France will inaugurate the show. Artists Aminul Islam and Professor Samarjit Roy Chowdhury will be present as guests of honour at the inauguration while Professor Mahmudul Haque, Director of Institute of Fine Arts will be present as special guest.

The exhibition titled 'Echoes from My Heart' will feature 50 oil and acrylic paintings by the artist.

The exhibition will remain open from 10:00 am to 8:00 pm daily till December 15.

## Trader stabbed in city

By Staff Correspondent

A young trader was stabbed by a gang of extortionists at North Kamalapur under Motijheel police station last morning.

The victim was identified as Didar Hossain, 23, son of Jasimuddin and a resident of South Mugdipara under Sabujbagh police station.

The incident took place in the morning when a gang of toll collector came to his business installation at 49, North Kamalapur and demanded Tk 5000. The gang became angry and stabbed him in his back, leg and arms as he refused to pay.

Didar was admitted to the Dhaka Medical College Hospital.

When contacted Motijheel police last night, the duty officer said that they have not received any complaint in this regard.

## Education fair held at Dawn Grammar School

The Annual Education Fair of Dawn Grammar School was held at the school premises recently, says a press release.

Students ranging from four to fourteen years of age set up different projects at the fair on science and humanities subjects. The participants were divided into three categories. The first group comprised of students from Playgroup to KG II, the second group students from Class I to Class IV and the third and senior most group students from Class V to Class VIII.

The subjects of the different projects included the different people of the country, local crafts, problems of farmers, poverty, arsenic poisoning, environmental issues, pollution etc. Students also focused on the legacy of Islam, the Great Wall of China and even the current political crisis in Indonesia, giving the fair an international air.

## 2 murdered, BCL leader shot in Chittagong

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, Dec 2: Two people were killed and another was shot in separate incidents in the port city in the past 24 hours till 6 pm today, police sources said.

One Abul Hashem, 24, was shot dead by unidentified assailants at Rahmatganj at 11 pm yesterday while travelling by a motorbike, police said.

One Mojahar Ahmed, 40, was stabbed to death allegedly by muggers at Tigerpass at 8 pm yesterday.

Ahmed was stabbed as he tried to resist the muggers who attacked him for snatching money.

Bitu Sarkar, vice president of BCL Islamiya College Unit, received bullet wounds in his leg when his rivals opened fire on him at Majirhat Road at 3:30 pm today, police said.

He was rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital. Bitu came under attack while he was returning home in a rickshaw.

## Ban on politics on RU campus extended

From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI, Dec 2: Ban on student politics on the Rajshahi University campus has been extended for another two weeks, campus sources said.

The RU authorities have asked the student organisations not to hold rallies, bring out procession, and organise other political programme during the ban.

## Bangladesh to have national data bank

Bangladesh will have a national data bank to run with the information-technology era in the new millennium when the world would be moving fast round a cybernetic orbit, reports UNB.

Planning commission at a meeting yesterday approved a project costing Tk 4.31 crore to set up the computerised data bank and a permanent media centre.

The Project will be implemented by the Press Information Department of the Information Ministry.

## Shantu Larma

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a conspiracy to widen the discrimination among the different races in hill tracts.

Santu Larma was addressing a grand rally at Rajbari Maidan in the hilly district of Bandarban here today. The meeting was organised by Bandarban Adi (native) and permanent Bangali Welfare Council on the occasion of the 2nd anniversary of signing of the CHT accord.

Santu Larma alleged that the present government has so far shown no sincerity and transparency in matters of implementing the accord and called upon all hilly people, including permanent Bengalis to unite again to ensure implementation of the accord.

## December

From page 1

same time, the memories of losing the near and dear ones sadden the nation.

Various organisations are organising different programmes in memory of the War of Liberation.

Today, the Liberation War Museum, which earlier organised a wall magazine competition for school students, will hand over awards to the winners. It would be held at 11 am at the Museum auditorium.

Professor Sarder Fazlul Karim would exchange views with the students on the Liberation War on this occasion. Students of eight schools would participate in this programme.

Naripakkhha, the women's organisation that ceremonially remembers every year the near and dear ones who were lost in the War of Liberation in 1971, will hold this year's remembrance programme at the Central Shaheed Minar next Wednesday at 5 pm.

The programme will be observed by lighting lamps in honour of the relatives who lost lives during the war. By remembering the martyrs through the symbol of the lamps, Naripakkhha would renew its pledge to free the society from darkness.

## HC issues rule nisi on govt

A Division Bench of the High Court of Bangladesh comprising Justices Mainur Reza Choudhury and MA Aziz on Monday issued a *rule nisi* on the Chairman of Board of Intermediate and Secondary Education and the Inspector of Schools calling upon them to show cause as to why the order passed by them debarring the Shaturia Adorsho Pilot High School, Manikganj from enrolling female students should not be declared to have been passed without any lawful authority and of no legal effect. In the meantime the operation of the impugned order has been stayed, says a press release.

The Court also issued an order restraining the Ministry of Education and the two other respondents from interfering in creating hindrances to the smooth functioning of the said school in the manner in which the school has been running for 41 years.

Barrister Ziaur Rahman Khan appeared on behalf of the petitioner school. He was assisted by Barrister Fakhrul Islam.

## Khaleda likely to visit KSA

Opposition leader Khaleda Zia is likely to visit Saudi Arabia in the last week of this month at the invitation of Saudi King.

She will perform Umrah during her visit, party sources told UNB last night.

Khaleda will also hold meetings with Bangladeshi expatriates and leaders and workers of BNP unit in Saudi Arabia.

## Crime reporters' silent procession in city today

By Staff Correspondent

The Crime Reporters' Association of Bangladesh (CRAB) will bring out a silent procession today to protest Wednesday's alleged police assault on a crime reporter.

Azhar Ali Sarker, a senior staff reporter of Bangladesh Patrika, was confined in a room of DC South and tortured by police for almost half an hour on Wednesday.

CRAB announced its action programme yesterday as Commissioner of the Dhaka Metropolitan Police failed to take the constables involved in the manhandling to task within the stipulated time.

Following an emergency meeting of the Association yesterday the leaders demanded immediate removal of AC Humayun Kabir and exemplary punishment to the constables.

They also decided to file a case against those police personnel.

The CRAB will also boycott all news items sent by the public relation department of the DMP.

A three-member inquiry committee submitted its primary report to the CRAB authorities yesterday. Findings of the report revealed that police dragged Azhar from New Circular Road, confined him in a room at the office of the DC South and beat him up mercilessly for about half an hour on Wednesday.

Azhar is now undergoing treatment at a clinic in the city, CRAB officials said.

In separate statements, BFUJ president Abul Kalam Azad, secretary general Akhtar Ahmed Khan, DUJ president Altaf Mahmud and General Secretary Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, Dhaka Reporters Unity's Acting president Rashed Chowdhury and general secretary Muhiuddin Islam Razu condemned the police atrocity on Azhar Ali Sarker.

They also demanded exemplary punishment of the responsible persons.

## Qulkhwan

By Staff Correspondent

The *qulkhwan* of Syed Mahbubul Haque (Benu Mia), son of late Syed Masudul Haque, will be held at his Magura residence after the Juma prayers today. A valiant freedom fighter and a leading businessman in Magura, Syed Mahbub died of colon cancer on Tuesday.

He left behind his wife Anwar Mahbub, three sons - Syed Anwarul Haque, Syed Azharul Haque and Syed Ashfaul Haque - and only daughter Mahbuba Nasim, who lives in Melbourne.

## International Institute for language, culture planned

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday announced that an International Institute for Language and Culture would be established here for researchers to study languages, including Bengali that earned world recognition, reports UNB.

She unveiled the government decision at a national-level meeting that chalked out elaborate programme to celebrate the newly declared International Mother Language day through a fortnight-long function.

The meeting, presided over by the prime minister decided to start the celebrations from December 7 with a discussion meeting at Paltan Maidan in the morning followed by a colourful mass rally towards the Central Shaheed Minar.

Hasina will be present at the discussion meeting and later lead the march towards Shaheed Minar where she will lay floral wreath at the altar of the language martyrs' memorial on behalf of the nation. The celebrations would continue till 21st February.

Political leaders, including BNP Chairperson Khaleda, Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad and intellectuals and cultural activists were invited to the meeting.

Addressing the meeting the prime minister urged all political parties, cultural organisations and intellectuals to join the grand celebrations to be hosted by the state.

## Triple murder: Sattar placed on fresh remand

By Court Correspondent

Abdus Sattar, arrested in connection with the triple murder at Azampur in Lalbagh Police Station, was taken on a two day fresh remand yesterday.

Earlier, Sattar was taken on a five-day remand in two phases, police said.

The Lalbagh police have so far arrested five persons in connection with the murder case. The arrested are Sufia, her son Obaidul Akbar and her accomplices - Ahmad Hussain, Shaiful Islam, and Sattar.

Bodies of three persons, identified as Sajedunnessa, her daughter Sabiha Begum and her son Swapan, were recovered from their flat on Azampur Road on November 24, police said.

## Hartal

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went to see the 'subservient' government in power any more. 'We want national election prior to all polls within the shortest time'.

Bhuiyan called upon smaller opposition parties to join the alliance's anti-government movement. BNP has initiated talks with some parties he said and hoped they will join the movement soon.

BNP Standing Committee member Moudud Ahmed urged the government to hand over power to a caretaker administration as per constitutional provisions and also to advise the President to dissolve parliament immediately.

The meeting was addressed by, among others, Dr Khondaker Mosharraf Hossain, Abdul Matin Chowdhury, Tariqul Islam, Shahjahan Siraj, Major Gen (Retd) ZA Khan, Abdullah Al Noman, Amanullah Aman MP, Shamsuzzaman Dudu MP, Abdus Salam, Rezaul Ahmed, Kazi Abul Bashar, Shahjude Islam Dulal and Mainuddin Majumdar.

## WRIP gets

From page 1

'severely mismatched' with that of the government.

'Unocal's pipeline tariff is five to seven times higher than that of ours,' a Petrobangla official said.

They also highlighted other disputable areas on the 700 million dollar project that seeks to develop the Shahbazpur gas field in Bhola, develop a 150 km pipeline and set up four power plants spreading from Gopalganj to Khulna.

Besides, they argued that Unocal must give a 20 per cent carried-over interest to Gas Transmission Company Ltd (GTCL) as its partner in the pipeline scheme. Unocal had agreed on giving a 10 per cent carried interest but said, to get a 20 per cent share, GTCL must invest in the scheme.

However, officials said that GTCL was already enjoying monopoly in Bangladesh. For breaking its monopoly, GTCL must be given some extra incentive.

Unocal submitted the WRIP proposals in mid-97 when the government gave the company an exclusive opportunity to develop the Shahbazpur gas field, earlier discovered by BAPEX.

Later, to give the project a transparent look, the government decided to float a tender seeking matching proposals from other companies. However, as the WRIP components turned out to be more and more complicated, the US government extended its support to appoint a consultant to scrutinise WRIP first.

Knowledgeable sources, however, indicated that a highly placed and influential circle was backing up the Unocal scheme.

## Postponed

The passing-out ceremony of 34th batch cadets of Chittagong Marine Academy scheduled for Sunday has been postponed due to unavoidable circumstances, reports UNB.

## Sholay II, 25 years later

From Pallab Bhattacharya

NEW DELHI, Dec 2: People can forget a lot of film dialogue in 25 years, especially when Bombay churns out countless 'masala' movies year after year.

The sheer number of films is enough to weigh down one's memory. But not so when it's India's biggest blockbuster *Sholay*.

Few on the Indian sub-continent have forgotten lines like 'Ab Teri Kya Hoga Kalia' or 'Arey Oh Samba' immortalised by 'Gabbbar Singh' Amjad Khan's unforgettable delivery. Since its release in 1974, *Sholay* and other classics, such as *Mehbooba*, *Mehbooba* and *Yeh Dosti Hum Nahin Torengay*, have reverberated in the hearts of film buffs for a quarter century.

So it was a trip down memory lane when *Sholay*'s producers - the Sippys - addressed a press conference in Bombay on Tuesday evening celebrating the film's first 25 years and announced *Sholay II*, a sequel which will begin shooting next year.

Original actors in attendance included Dharmendra, who played Veeru, Hema Malini, who played Basanti, as well as Macmohan, and Jagdeep and others.

Amjad Khan and Sanjeev Kumar, who played the role of a police officer, are no more, while the Bacchan couple - Amitabh and Jaya - could not be present due to prior commitments.

G.P. Sippy said the 1974 film has 'become a cult classic by any standard, and it is my life's ambition to present another masterpiece before the countrymen which they will love and embrace as they did the first one.'

Sascha Vijay Sippy, G.P.'s grandson, will make the sequel. 'The new millennium calls for a new *Sholay*,' said Sascha Sippy. The cast, director and producer for *Sholay II* will be chosen through a national talent search tentatively scheduled to begin in January.

'We want to change the rule of the game in the film industry.'

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