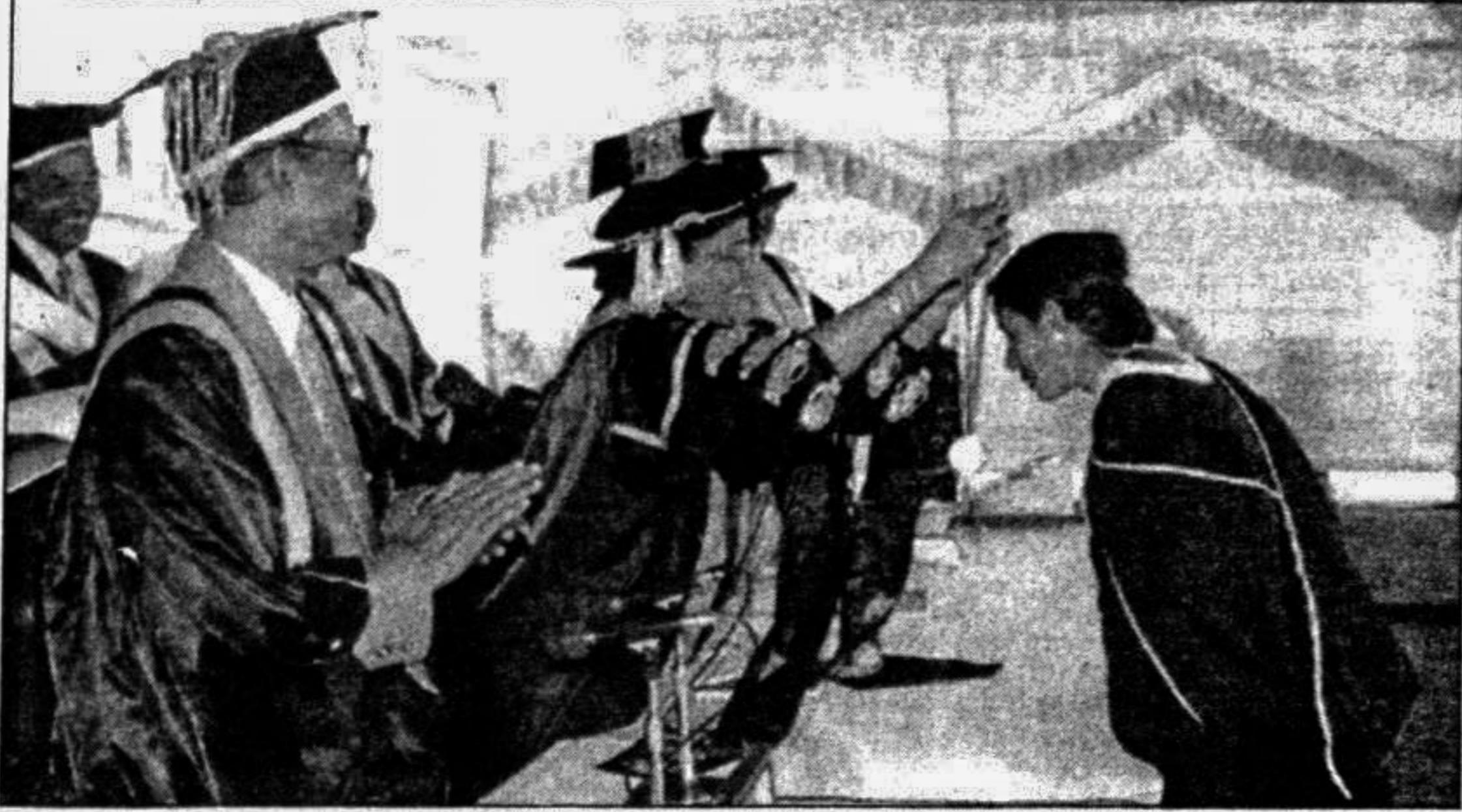


## Metropolitan



Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina distributed Gold Medals among meritorious graduates at the second convocation ceremony of the Islamic University in Kushtia yesterday. — PID photo

## 2nd convocation of Islamic University held

## Our education has no link with tradition: Prof Anisuzzaman

KUSHTIA, Dec 5: Noted educationist Anisuzzaman today said that though our education system, imported from abroad, was in conformity with modern civilisation, it had no links with our national tradition as well as hopes and aspirations of the country's common man, reports BSS.

The colonial rulers imported this system directly from abroad, planted it on our soil, and propagated it through a language which is alien to us, he said while addressing the Second Convocation of the Islamic University as "Convocation Speaker."

In his thought-provoking speech, Prof Anisuzzaman of Dhaka University, who has 40 years of dwelt on various aspects of the colonial education system and pointed out some common ills that have crippled our total education arena.

He said it was also ironical that this colonial education system have created some personalities who have enriched the nation through their contribution in various fields of national life but, he regretted, in the post-colonial era such personalities were rarely created.

Speaking about the 'golden days' of Dhaka University, founded in 1921, Prof Anisuzzaman said the provosts and house tutors not only used to supervise the studies of the residential students but also sent university employees to see the environment and condition of the houses of the students outside the campus. "But today it is not possible on the part of provosts or house tutors even though they reside in the halls. They do not even know if there are books or bombs in the

rooms of their beloved resident students.

Prof Anisuzzaman said that excess students' pressure in the higher seats of learning also causes deterioration of educational standard. In the face of increasing pressure, the authorities are sometimes compelled to recruit such teachers whose ability is not above question. Their dedication to the profession and search for wisdom are less than their enthusiasm towards fortune hunting. They are exploiting their professional identity to make fortunes by delivering speeches at coaching centres or involving themselves in consultancy services.

Prof Anisuzzaman also said, in the western world the teachers have full accountability but it is lacking in our country. At lower tiers, there is some system of signing the attendance book but there is no such obligation at the higher level.

He said that in foreign countries even students are required to provide evaluation reports about their teachers to the institutions' authorities, which are taken into consideration seriously. But such a venture is likely to bring trouble for the students in our country.

Stressing the need for introduction of mother tongue at all levels of education, including higher education, Prof Anisuzzaman said, during Pakistani period the nation fought for introduction of Bangla language in all spheres of national life. But after achieving independence we became thoroughly confused, becoming inclined to English. Education through a foreign language generates memorisation-based education

which helps only in obtaining certificates, he observed.

Prof Anisuzzaman said the middle class, which once was ready to shed blood for their mother tongue, has today become interested in giving its off-springs education in English and sending them abroad.

We may have a 'thirst' for learning English as an alternative language but it must not be at the cost of our mother tongue. After recognition of Ekushey February as the International Mother Language Day, perhaps we may exert a new push towards our mother tongue and utilise this opportunity for introducing Bangla as medium of our national education, he suggested.

Turning to the Islamic University, Prof Anisuzzaman said this institution has set a brilliant and commendable example that both religious education and general education can go together. He also suggested thinking over introduction of studies on other religions in this university so that it can be turned into a seat of education in all religions.



A delegation of Greater Mymensingh Cultural Forum, led by chairman of Poet Nazrul University Trust and State Minister for Land Alhaj Rashed Mosharraf, called on President Justice Shahabuddin Ahmed at the Bangabhaban yesterday. — PID photo

## Khaleda visits injured BNP activist at DMCH

By Staff Correspondent

BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia yesterday evening visited injured party activist, Raisul Islam Chandan at Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH).

Chandan, general secretary of unit No. 20 of Ward No. 56 received serious head injury in the police attack at Naya Paltan during the hartal hour. He is now in a critical condition, said a press release.

She passed sometime with the injured party activist and inquired about his treatment.

City BNP convenor Sadek Hossain Khoka MP, Nazimuddin Alim MP, Major (Retd) Abdul Mannan, Lutfuzzaman Babar, Abdus Salam and Lokman Hossain Bhuiyan accompanied the BNP chairperson.

Meanwhile, BNP Secretary General Abdul Mannan Bhuiyan yesterday visited party MP Abdul Mannan Talukder, Jatiyatabdul Taufiq Dal general secretary Humayun Islam Khan and Mosaddeq Ali at South Asian Hospital.

The leaders were wounded allegedly in attacks of Awami League terrorists while returning from a party programme at Beluchi thana under Sirajganj

## Work on WASA sewerage project suspended

Work on a storm sewerage project of WASA designed to remove problem of water logging in and around the Prime Minister's Secretariat remained suspended due to harassment by local musclemen and extortions, reports UNB.

In a written complaint Executive Engineer of WASA A K M Abdul Hamid informed Telgaon police on November 3 that its workers and employees engaged for the work were beaten and forced to abandon the site by a group of armed terrorists.

The WASA official sought to ensure security of its employees and unhampered progress of the work for its completion on schedule.

Officials said the project financed by the World Bank covering Shahibnagh and Nakhalpara areas was taken up to overcome serious water and sewerage logging problem in and around the Prime Minister's Secretariat.

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WASA will take up the matter with higher authorities to ensure security and unhampered progress of the work, the officials said.



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## JU programmes to mark Int'l Mother Language Day

Jahangirnagar University (JU) has chalked out an elaborate programme to mark the first International Mother Language Day, to be observed in recognition of the country's Ekushey February on Tuesday, reports UNB.

A colourful rally will be brought out from the Registrar's Building at 3 pm, which will end at the university Central Shaheed Minar after parading the campus.

Later a discussion meeting and cultural programme will be held at the Shaheed Minar premises at 4 pm.

## Chhatra Moitri founding anniversary today

By DU Correspondent  
Bangladesh Chhatra Moitri (BCM), a student organisation based on anti-colonialism and fundamentalism, will observe its 19th founding anniversary on the Dhaka University campus today.

The left-leaning BCM has chalked out various programmes to observe the anniversary. The programmes include hoisting of the organisational flag at its office and placing of wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar in the morning and a discussion meeting at DUCS cafeteria on December 10.

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## Martyr's of the Liberation War

## The freedom fighters of Narsingdi

NARSINGDI, Dec 5: Although 28 years have passed since the end of our Liberation War, many people of this district still nurse the bitter memories of the atrocities of the brutal Pak forces. Their acts of arson, loot and rape, in their orgies of violence the occupation army massacred thousands houses of innocent people, plundered their wealth and raped their womenfolk, reports BSS.

Anjana Rani living in a hut near Srirampur Bazar under Raipura thana still cannot wipe out from her mind the brutalities of the occupation army and the harm they had done to her family. On May 10, 1971, some Pakistani soldiers entered her house and dragged away her teenage daughter Bina to Srirampur Bazar camp where they violated. They then killed her. They also gunned down Bina's father, Anjana Rani, who is now 55 years old, can never forget what 1971 did to her.

Though unarmed and unarmed, the heroic people of Narsingdi resisted the onslaughts of the brutal Pak soldiers with bravery. During the bloody encounters with people from all walks of life forged solid unity to resist the soldiers. Many people were killed. Around 15 mass graves in the

town are a stark reminder of the genocide unleashed by the invading army.

The Pakistani forces brutally killed hundreds of innocent people at several points of the town, especially around the telephone exchange, crematorium area, Shilmandi, Tara pond in Madhabdi and Khatra Hara Bridge areas.

The freedom fighters of the district fought courageously. Their confidence were elevated when several thousand members of the EPR, Ansars and Police forces from Dhaka joined the local people on March 29. A company of Bengal Regiment under the leadership of Captain Saigol also reached the district town on March 31. The freedom fighters set up camps at different places including Dab-Banglow, Aljan Jute Mills, Baghbari and Palbari areas. The local people provided all necessary support to them as best as they could.

The Pakistani forces raided the camps of freedom fighters and killed people randomly on April 4. Thirteen people were killed at a time in 'Mach Bazar' (fish market) area. A few days after the incident, the freedom fighters encountered the Pak forces in Baghbari and Palbari areas. Many were killed including Sirajuddin, Mir Imdadul

The surviving people of Narsingdi still nurse the horrific memories of the war they fought to win.

Haq, Imanuddin, Abdul Mannan, Abdul Hamid Bhuiyan, Akhtar Hossain, Shamshudin Huda Bachhu, Abul Haseem Miah, Tara Mastar, Mannan Bhuyan, Goyesh Ali Mastar, Bazlur Rahaman and Abd Ahmed Prodhan during the encounter.

Subedar Abdul Bashar, Momtajuddin, Abdus Salam, Abdul Haq and Abdul Barli were killed in another encounter on the bank of the river Arial Khan of Nirkhutia area under Belabo thana of the district. Thirty-five others were also killed in a brushfire by the occupation forces at the same place. The Pakistan army let loose a reign of terror and massacre in Raipura, Palash and Shibpur thanas of the district. Around twenty people were buried in each mass grave at Raipura thana complex pond, College Road, Rail Line area and Palashati union of Metikanda Rail Station. Mass graves were also found in front of Padmalochon High School of Goyeshpur and Jinardi village under Palash thana. Shonkhola village, Putia Bazar and Ghasidri Primary School under Shibpur thana.

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