

Metropolitan

Tributes paid to Zia

Speakers at a discussion here yesterday paid tributes to the late president Ziaur Rahman for his contribution to the Liberation War and what they termed to 'safeguarding the independence and sovereignty of the country'.

They also recalled his contribution, what they described, to 'economic progress and prosperity'.

The discussion titled 'Shaheed Zia and contemporary politics' was organised by 'Nationalist Professional Parishad' (NPP) in connection with the 64th birth anniversary of Ziaur Rahman in CIRDA auditorium here. Former Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Professor Imazuddin Ahmed was the main speaker.

Chaired by the convener of NPP central committee Abul Kashem Haider, the discussion was also addressed by parliament member BNP central committee member Dr Moin Khan. Major General (ret'd) Syed M Ibrahim, Chairman of Dhaka University Botany Department Dr Z N Tahmina Begum, journalist Al Mujahid, joint convener of NPP Prof Mahfuzur Rahman, convener of Dhaka city NPP ABM Shahidul Islam and NPP central leader Dr Jahangir Hasan Sardar.

The speakers termed Ziaur Rahman a 'heroic freedom fighter' and said he was a 'successful soldier and president'.

Prof. Imazuddin said late Zia respected his political opponents and never used filthy words in politics.

He said Ziaur Rahman used to believe that the aim of politics should be to develop the socio-economic condition of the poor by involving them in the development process. With this end in view he created 'Gram Sarkar' (people's government) in every village.

Dr Moin Khan said Zia was ahead of his time both in thought and action and added new dimensions to both national and regional politics.

He said Democracy in Bangladesh was killed in 1975 by a political party and alleged that coming to power after 21 years the party again was leading the country towards that direction.

Al Mujahid paid tributes to Zia for his role in the War of Liberation.

Listing the development programmes and nation-building activities of Ziaur Rahman, Prof Tahmina said he made marks in every sphere of national life.

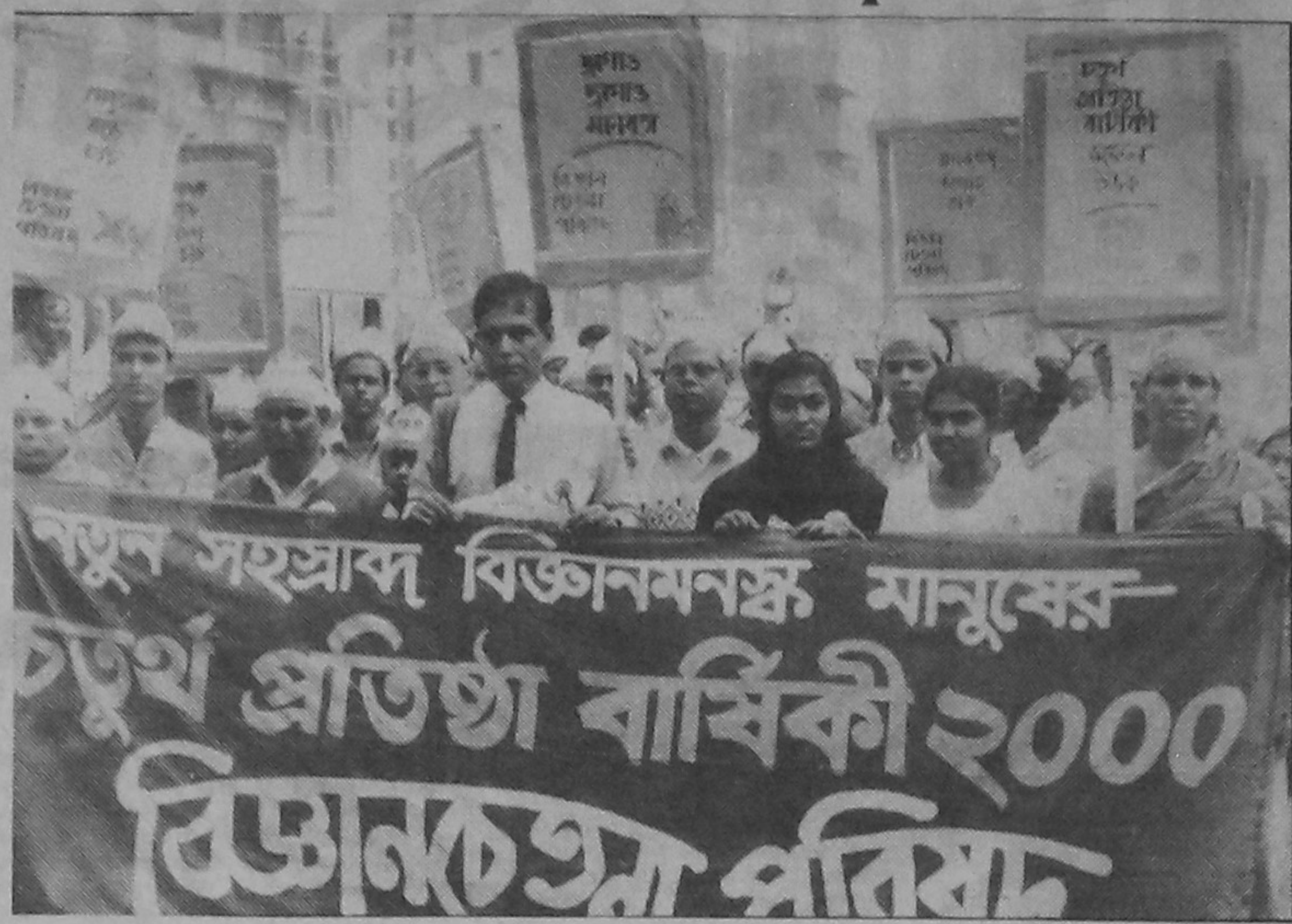
Major General (ret'd) Syed M Ibrahim said honesty and hard work had helped Ziaur Rahman to overcome problems in running the state affairs.

Meeting in memory of Prof Razzak today

A meeting in memory of eminent scholar Prof Abdur Razzak will be held at 'Bakultala' at the Institute of the Fine Arts of Dhaka University at 3:30 pm today, reports BSS.

A 60-member 'Nagarik Parishad' has been formed with Justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman as its president to make the meeting a success.

Eminent litterateurs and educationists including poet Shamsur Rahman, Prof A K Azad Chowdhury, Badruddin Umar, Abu Jafar Obaidullah, AMA Muhit, Prof Rehman Sobhan, Prof Borhan Uddin Khan Jahangir, Dr Hamida Hossain, Prof Antusuzzaman, Ahmed Sofa, Mahfudul Huq and Dr S H Khondokar will take part in the meeting.



Bigyan Chetana Parishad brought out a procession in the city yesterday to mark its fourth founding anniversary. —Star photo

Theft in Khulna BSS office

A typewriter, a cassette recorder and a gas cylinder were stolen from the BSS office at East Lane of Khulna police line on Thursday, reports BSS.

The total value of the stolen goods is estimated at about Taka 15,000.

A case was registered with Khulna Kotwali Police, but none was arrested till last night.

'Youth vital force for development'

Commerce Minister Abdul Jall yesterday described the youth force as the most vital force for the development as they could contribute their best towards the gradual socio-economic progress of the country, reports BSS.

The government has already provided various incentives in all key sectors for using the talent of the country's youth force in the field of development," he said while addressing as the chief guest the installation ceremony of Rajshahi Students Association based in Dhaka.

It was also addressed by Abu Hena MP. Former Minister Sardar Anjad Hussain and the Association president Enamul Huq and general secretary Md Yakub Ali, an official handout said here tonight.

The Minister laid stress on organizational strength for any achievement and called upon all to extend their cooperation to each other to resolve all problems now facing the country.

Confce on 'Edn for All' begins in Brazil Jan 31

Education Minister ASHK Sadique left Dhaka yesterday for Brazil to attend a special conference on "Education for All" beginning on January 31, reports BSS.

The education ministers of E-9 Group, a forum of nine populous nations, are attending the UNESCO sponsored four-day conference.

The group comprises Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, Indonesia, China, Egypt, Nigeria, Mexico and host Brazil.

This is a follow-up meeting in line with a decision of the previous meeting in Bangkok held this month.

The conference will review the state of education in their respective countries and discuss strategies for job-oriented functional teachings.

The Bangkok meeting praised Bangladesh's success in the field of literacy and mass education.

DU English alumni get together

By Staff Correspondent  
Hundreds of former students of English Department of Dhaka University joined a colourful get-together yesterday at the TSC in fond remembrance of their alma mater.

The annual get-together of the DU English Department Alumni Society brought together many of the celebrated citizens of the day whose studentship dated as far back as early forties.

The function was chaired by former secretary AH Mofazzal Karim, president of the Alumni Society.

Among others, former minister AMA Muhit, DU Vice-Chancellor Prof AK Azad Chowdhury, former secretary Mohammad Ali and teachers attended the function.

The get-together was rounded off with presentation of a few scenes from William Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Dream".

The get-together re-elected the incumbent executive committee and decided to extend its tenure to two years.



The Dhaka University English Department Drama Society presents a scene from Shakespeare's 'A Midsummer Night's Dream' at the annual get-together of the English Department Alumni Society. The event was held at TSC auditorium on the campus yesterday.

DU students too dependent on traditional notes than books

Old notes of seniors, some of them moth-eaten, are changing hands over the years while photocopyers heating up perceiving the mk. Love it or loathe it, Dhaka University students mostly digest traditional notes before exams instead of reading books, reports UNB.

Once upon a time the older brothers and sisters, usually brilliant ones, had prepared the notes for their own necessity to qualify at examinations.

But later the juniors grabbed the chits, popularly known as 'Additional Notes', to cross over the hurdles of exam through a shortcut.

Nowadays, it has reportedly become a common practice for students to 'manage' the ancient notes hunting the golden deer from hall to hall, home to home of the forerunners and alumni.

"Hei, do you have the notes of Alam Bhai? He is brilliant and often appreciated by Prof." This is thus common in any chat on the campus. Books can hardly steal in.

The DU authorities started integrated course system couple of years ago to upgrade education standards resisting note culture. But, notes of respective courses are now on that track as the main topics were split into courses.

Some names are very common. Their notes are popular. Maximum students try to get those notes. Some others are not so easy available, only few

'lucky' chaps can clutch those. Shafiqul Alam, Rubaiyat Ferdous Mukti of Mass Communications and Journalism Department, Jahangir, Bhuvan, Golam Rabbani, Shaheen, Robi, Kabita Krishnamurti of Social Welfare, Tajim of Chemistry, Riya and Tiplu of Public Administration, Ekram, Mahfujul Huq Shupan of Law, Belal, Faruk of Sociology, Reza and Sagar of Political Science, Akhter (now Rajshahi University teacher), Golam Azam, Popy and Zabbar of Philosophy and hundred others are among the authors.

Many of the note-makers now became teachers of the respective departments, like Anwar Hossain Bhuiyan of Geology, Shafiqul Alam Bhuiyan of Journalism and so on.

Botany, Geology, Geography and Environment Science and Chemistry students have notes, some are 20 years old, a student of Science Faculty said.

On the other hand, the students of Computer Science Department, Institute of Business Administration (BBA and MBA), Pharmacy Department do not even get time to bother about the scribble. They have to read books, and of course a lot of those as there is no alternative.

Many first-class holders begin private tuition with the juniors and then give their notes to the students.

One of the 'Brilliant's' of philosophy department told UNB that he earned Tk 17,000 in 1999 from private tuition of the juniors. He used to give his 'exclusive' notes only to his pupils.

Some notes do not have their 'father's' name on them. Then the student who got it first renamed it. Thus the real author's name got erased from its body and passed for the latter's name.

Liton, a student of Social Welfare department, said many of their teachers got their incumbent positions compiling and updating the notes of the seniors.

Generally, the students, at their first-year stage, follow the lectures of their teachers and try to read books that are suggested by the teachers for respective topic. But when they see some of their fellowmen get the 'easiest' way, to read any topic before the exams they also become eager to discover that wonder way.

In course of time he falls into the booby trap of traditional notes that never satisfy him and let him delve deep into his or her discipline of knowledge or taste the real pleasure of reading books.

Nargis Sultana, librarian of the seminar library of Sociology Department, said the rate of taking books decreased from the decade of 90s. Now very few students take books from the seminar. "All of them thrive on traditional notes."

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