

# She prays for materialisation of martyrs' dreams

By Z A M Khairuzzaman back from Nilphamari



Rizia Ahmed

Rizia Ahmed, octogenarian mother of Shaheed Captain Bashar, prays to almighty Allah for materialisation of the dreams of all the martyrs of our Liberation War in 1971.

"Millions of sons of the soil like my son shed their blood to wrest the national independence, but the dreams for which they fought are yet to be materialised fully."

She was talking to this correspondent recently at her residence at Nilphamari.

"Bashar was my eldest son who made me a proud mother of lakhs of sons of this soil by sacrificing his life for independence of the country from the clutches of the autocratic Pakistani rulers", physically weak but mentally strong Rizia Ahmed said.

Recalling her sweet memory of meeting Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at the Third Reunion of Army Service Corps (ASC) at Jahanabad Cantonment in Khulna on November 4 last year, she said that she had

forgotten the unbearable pain of losing her son for a while when the prime minister (PM) consoled her addressing as *Maa* (mother). The PM wished that none would embrace the fate of Captain Bashar who was killed by the occupation Pakistan Army after brutal torture for days together.

In response to an appeal from Rizia Ahmed, the prime minister assured her that all the martyrs of the liberation war including her son would be awarded state honour.

The Shaheed mother attended the ASC Reunion pro-

gramme after receiving an invitation from Bangladesh Army where she said my eldest son Bashar made me a proud mother. My son is still alive among the proud members of Bangladesh Army.

However, it is more tragic for the Shaheed family that the then Pakistani rulers did not hand over the body of the Shaheed to members of the family. Till now no trace of the body of Captain Bashar has been detected. So nobody can offer *fateha* or place wreaths to pay homage to this brave son of the soil.

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A gate named after Shaheed Captain Bashar at Jahanabad Cantonment in Khulna.

## Ershad criticises govt's diplomatic policy

HABIGANJ, Mar 25: Jatiya Party Chairman H M Ershad on Friday said that Awami League could not go to power if his party did not lend support to it in forming the government, reported UNB.

He alleged that after assuming power the ruling party did not keep any of its pledges. "So this repressive government can't be kept in power any more."

Addressing a public meeting at Mdinayya Bazar under Churnaghat thana, Ershad said US President Bill Clinton did not go to the Smriti Soudha for the

diplomatic failure of the government and thus damaged the dignity of the country and its people in the world arena.

Depicting various failures of the government, the deposed President said the country has turned into dens of terrorists and black marketeers. The country is being turned into a market of India, he added.

The Jatiya Party chief said the four-party alliance would soon take up tough programmes to overthrow the incompetent and failure government.

He called upon the people to elect Jatiya Party in the coming

election and promised to wipe up terrorism from the country within six months.

Ershad said the next election will be to protect the Islamic values and to throw out the repressive government from power.

The meeting, presided over by Alhaj Sadeq Mia, was also addressed by Nitai Roy Chowdhury, Abu Lais Md. Mobin Chowdhury MP, Md Nasiruddin Chowdhury MP, Major (ret'd) Iqbal Hossain Chowdhury, Khalilur Rahman Chowdhury MP and Kawasur Gani.

MOULVIBAZAR, Mar 25: A new union parishad (UP) has been established here.

It is the 68th union parishad in Moulvibazar district and 18th in Kulaura thana.

Habibur Rahman Khan, Thana Nirbahi Officer (TNO) of Kulaura thana declared "Qwasim Nagar Union Parishad."

The UP was named in memory of Hazrat Qasim Uddin (R), one of 360 companions of the great saint of Sylhet Hazrat Shahjalal (R). Holy Mazar Sharif of Hazrat Qasim Uddin is located in the new UP.

Official source said Qasim Nagar Union parishad is constituted with the villages of Montrippura, Yougmora, Ratna Tea Estate, Elapur, Puthi Chhara, Jalalpur, Batighat, Kashinagar, Kaprapahar, Patila Sangar, Beergulai and Motharpur.

25 hurt in Sirajganj

From Our Correspondent

SIRAJGANJ, Mar 25: At least 25 people were injured in a clash between youths of two localities at Bazar Station area here on Friday evening, police and witnesses said.

They fear if the pro-liberation forces come to power again, their existence will perish, the minister told the freedom fighters.

The Home Minister said present government is pledged to maintain law and order in the country and change the fate of countrymen.

During the hartal, shops remained closed and buses and rickshaws wet off the road.

Police arrested him from his office at Natun Bazaar on Wednesday night in connection with several complaints, including a launch damage case.

After the arrest, local Jubo League, Chhatra League and Sramik League workers staged demonstration in the town and called for the shutdown demanding his release.

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