

What's on today....

Vocal classical recitation: High Commission of India presents a vocal classical recitation by Indian artist Sulochana Brahaspati and her Bangladeshi disciples. Venue: High Commission auditorium, House No 25, Road No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 10:30 am.

DRU talk: Dhaka Reporters Unity (DRU) will hold a talk on Bangladesh-German relations. Venue: DRU auditorium, Segun Bagicha. Time: 11:00 am.

BSA annual conference: The 18th annual conference and scientific seminar and annual general meeting of Bangladesh Society of Anaesthesiologists will be held. Venue: Academy for Planning and Development, Nilkhet. Time: 11:00 am.

Views exchange meet: National Committee for Beijing Plus Five Review (NCBPR), Bangladesh will hold a Views exchange meet between editors and columnists of national dailies on the subject of increase of reserved seats for women in the parliament. Venue: VIP lounge, Jatiya Press Club. Time: 11:00 am.

Rabindra Sangeet competition: Bangladesh Shishu Academy will hold a Rabindra Sangeet competition for children in observance of Rabindranath Tagore's 139th birth anniversary. Venue: Academy premises. Time: 3:00 pm.

Closing ceremony: The closing ceremony of Bangladesh Sanjukt Tanti Samitee's exhibition of Sonargaon Jamdanis will be held. Venue: Handloom Weavers Service office, House No 69, Road No 9/A, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 4:00 pm.

Satyajit Ray Retrospective: Satyajit Ray, a documentary by Shyam Benegal and Kapurush O Mahapurush (The Coward and the Holy Man) by Satyajit Ray will be screened. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Rd No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 4:00 pm and 6:00 pm.

SAFA Assembly meeting: The SAFA Assembly meeting will be held. The Technical sessions of SAFA seminar and valedictory session will also be held. Venue: ICMAB Bhaban, ICAB auditorium and Winter Garden of Hotel Sheraton respectively. Time: 9:30 am, 3:30 pm and 7:00 pm.

Seminar: School of Business of Asian University of Bangladesh will hold seminars on "Corporate Banking," "WTO and Globalisation" and "E-commerce." Chief guest: Science and Technology Minister Lt Gen (retired) Mohammad Noor Uddin Khan in the morning session and Fisheries and Livestock Minister A S M Abdur Rouf in the afternoon session. Venue: School of Business, Asian University of Bangladesh.

Memorial meet: United Nations Association of Bangladesh will hold a memorial meet to mark the first death anniversary of former secy general of the association and educationist General Syed Ahmed Hossain. Venue: Hotel Purbani. Time: 5:00 pm.

..... and tomorrow

JU workshop: A day-long workshop will be held on writing texts for higher education in Bengali. Venue: Senate Hall of Jahangirnagar University. Time: 9:00 am-6:00 pm.

Seminar: Prothom Bangladesh, a socio-political organisation will hold a national seminar on "Development of mines in Bangladesh: Crises and Prospects." Venue: VIP lounge of Jatiya Press Club. Time: 3:00 pm.

Film show: The British Council in association with Lever Brothers Bangladesh Ltd will screen *Meeting Venus and Queen of Hearts*. Venue: British Council auditorium, 5, Fuller Road. Time: 4:00 pm and 6:30 pm respectively.

Meeting: The Dhaka central secretariat of Democratic Lawyers Association will hold a meeting. Venue: Room No 74 of Supreme Court Lawyers Association Building. Time: 4:30 pm.

Satyajit Ray Retrospective: *Aranyer Dinatri* (Days & Nights in the Forest) will be screened. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, Road No 2, Dhanmondi R/A. Time: 6:15 pm.

Weather

Temperature may rise

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty or squally wind is likely at a few places over Dhaka, Rajshahi, Barisal, Chittagong and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Khulna division till 6pm today, reports UNB.

Met office predicted one to two degree Celsius rise of day temperature over the country during this period.

The country's highest temperature 35.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Chuadanga and the lowest 21.7 degree Celsius at Srimangol.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:30 pm and rises on Sunday at 5:20 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	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	33.3	24.4	68	78
Chittagong	31.1	23.3	83	74
Rajshahi	34.6	23.6	59	61
Khulna	33.2	24.0	74	58
Barisal	31.0	23.2	78	73
Sylhet	32.7	23.0	80	62
Cox's Bazar	29.2	22.4	97	80

HERE and THERE

Dhaka College 63-65 Batch Assoc

The Association of Dhaka College 63-65 batch students yesterday held a meeting to condole the death of former Managing Director of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Kalyan Trust SJM Akramuzzaman at Palli Karma Sahayak Foundation (PKSF), reports BSS.

The speaker at the meeting presided over by PKSF Director General Dr Salauddin Ahmed highlighted different aspects of the life and works of late Akramuzzaman especially his contribution to war of liberation.

Late Akramuzzaman who studied in Dhaka College in 63-65 batch died on April 22 following heart failure while taking over charge of his new assignment of Divisional Commissioner of Sylhet.

Bangladesh Scouts, BINP

A colourful procession was brought out as part of the National Nutrition Week on April 27 at 7:30 am from National Scout Bhaban to National Press Club, says a press release.

Bangladesh Scouts and Bangladesh Integrated Nutrition Project (BINP) organised the procession and held a rally to mark the week which was observed on April 23 to 29.

Abdul Matin Khazra, Minister for Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs formally inaugurated the rally as chief guest.

Manzoor Ul Karim, president, Bangladesh Scouts, M Fazlur Rahman, Chief National Commissioner, Md Ataharul Islam, Line Director (in charge), BINP, also spoke on the occasion regarding the necessity of nutrition in our daily life.

Buddhist Peace Fellowship of Bangladesh

The new executive committee of the Buddhist Peace Fellowship of Bangladesh (BPPF) was constituted at a special general meeting held in the city recently, reports BSS.

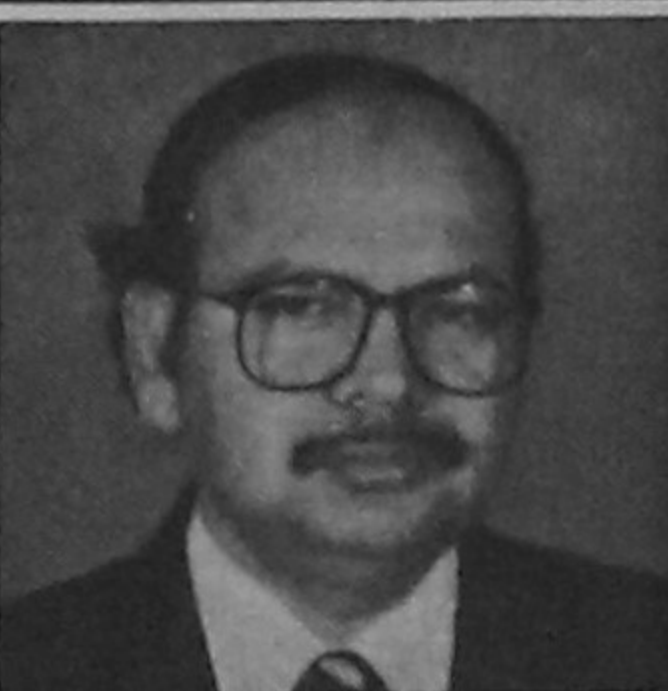
The office bearers are: chairperson - Sumanalankar Mahathero, vice chairperson - U Shit Maung, secretary - Parimal Mutsuddi, treasurer and coordinator - Brother JD Souza, members - Uattalankar Bhikkhu, Samanta Bhadra Barua and Major Retd Maung Saw Nyunt.

Bangladesh City & Pura Karmachari Federation

General Secretary of Dhaka City Corporation of Business, North Karmachari League Khorshed Alam has been elected president of Bangladesh City and Pura Karmachari Federation, reports BSS.

Shamsuddin Asalat, Habibur Rahman and Salma Begum have been elected secretary general, organising secretary and women affairs secretary of the federation respectively.

Congratulations



From RU Correspondent

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, May 5: The university authorities have conferred PhD degree on Samad Shikdar, an eminent freedom fighter.

He obtained the degree from the Institute of Bangladesh Studies (IBS) for his research on Practice of Contraceptive in relation to gender disparity in Bangladesh: A study of three villages in Rajshahi district." Prof PC Sarker was his research coordinator.

Dr Samad completed his masters in Political Science from Dhaka University in 1977 and began his career as family planning officer.



Bangladesh Scouts Leader Trainer and National Deputy Commissioner (Training) Hassan Mahmud Babar obtained PhD from Bangladesh Agricultural University, Mymensingh under a scholarship of Osimi Foundation, Switzerland, says a press release.

The subject of his research work was 'Studies on collar rot of sunflower' and coordinator was Prof Dr. Bahadur Mia, BAU.



Andrew Alak Kumar Dewari, research fellow of the Institute of Bangladesh Studies (IBS) of Rajshahi University has obtained PhD degree from Rajshahi University recently, says a press release.

The title of his thesis was "Mass media and the growth of agriculture with reference to principal crops in Bangladesh." His research coordinator was Dr M Zainul Abedin, Professor of Economics IBS, Rajshahi University.



Touhida Tasnima Lima stood First Class First in MSS final examination held in 1999 (Academic Year-1997) from Dhaka University in Public Administration, says a press release.

She also secured First Class 2nd position in BSS (Hons) in 1998. Touhida Tasnima Lima is the wife of Sanjib Bashir Ahmed, and the eldest daughter of Ghulam Rahman, Executive Director of Eastland Insurance Company and Mrs. Kamrunessa Rahman.



M Masrur Reaz has received Meissner's Award as a recognition of his performance in the "Business counseling training for small and medium enterprises" organised by German Technical Cooperation (GTZ), says a press release.

He is a faculty member of School of Business, North South University. He is an MBA from USA and a member of the American Alumni Association in Bangladesh.

He is also a member of Centre for Human Excellence (CENCE), a human resource development organisation. Reaz is working as a consultant in various development projects.



Youngsters lead a colourful procession of the Kendriyo Khelaghar Ashor in the city yesterday brought out to mark its 48th founding anniversary. —Star photo

Congratulations



Anupam Das, a student of Southdherree Government Primary School has obtained primary scholarship in talent pool, says a press release.

He is the son of Jogendra Das of P S Sulla, district Sunamganj.



Miss Farzana Noshin Chowdhury (Promi), daughter of Mr & Mrs Shaheen Chowdhury of Crescent Road, Dhaka obtained Kindergarten (class II) scholarship (exam held in 1999) from YWCA Girls School.

She is now a student of class III of Vigarunnisa Noon School.

RU confers PhD, M Phil degrees on 20

From RU Correspondent
RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY, May 5: The university authorities have conferred PhD and M Phil degrees to twenty researchers, according to the recommendations of the Academic Council and Syndicate of the University.

The PhD degree holders are: M Abdur Rashid (IBS), Md Osman Gani (UGC), Md Shafiqur Rahman (IBS), Shahnaz Parvin (History), M Tahas Uddin (Philosophy), Shikha Arefin (Bangla), Mahbuba Begum (Zoology), Md Zahurul Haq (Chemistry), Md Mohatab Hossain (Zoology), Md Sarwar Jahan (Applied Chemistry), Bimal Kanta Saha (Zoology), Muhd Samad Shikdar (IBS), Abul Kalam Md Rafiqullah (IBS), and Andrew Alok Kumar Dewari (IBS).

The M Phil degree holders are: M Abdul Karim (Islamic History and Culture), M Nurul Amin (Philosophy), M Rabiul Alam (Zoology), SIMA Razaque (Accounting), M Anwarul Islam (IBS) and Ajit Kumar Das (Political Science).

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Former secretary Mushfiqur Rahman presenting flowers to BNP chairperson Khaleda Zia at her 29 Minto Road office yesterday to mark his joining the party. —Star photo

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DU Gha unit admission test held

The admission test of 'Gha' unit for First Year Honours (1999-2000) of Dhaka University was held yesterday, reports BSS.

About 15 thousand students sat for the test.

Vice Chancellor Prof A K Azad Chowdhury, Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof M Shahadat Ali, Treasurer Abul Hashem, Dean of the Social Science Faculty Prof Mohammad Asaduzzaman, Deans of other faculties, Proctor and senior teachers visited the examination centres.

Ex-cabinet secty Siddiqur Rahman dead

Former Cabinet Secretary Mohammed Siddiqur Rahman died of lung cancer at the Mount Elizabeth Hospital in Singapore early yesterday. He was 67, reports BSS.

Rahman graduated from the Dhaka University with distinction and was a University Blue from Sir Salimullah Muslim Hall.

He joined the erstwhile civil service of Pakistan in 1957 and during his career held secretarial positions in different ministries. He was also appointed Ambassador of Bangladesh to Egypt and was the president of Bangladesh Football Federation.

Besides his official service he was also involved in many social and benevolent activities.

He left behind his wife, three sons, two daughters and numerous relatives, friends and admirers.

He will be buried at his family graveyard at village Dharabhangha, thana Nabinagar of Brahmanbaria district.

The first namaz-e-janaza of Siddiqur Rahman will be held at Banani Jamah Masjid today at 8 am.

His qulhwani will be held on May 8 at his Banani residence (House No 42/1, Road No-7, Block-H) after Asr prayers. Another qulhwani will be held at his village home Dharabhangha on May 7.

Blast kills 1 in Karachi

KARACHI, May 5: A bomb exploded in front of a police station in Karachi today, killing at least one and injuring four other people, police and residents said, reports AFP.

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3 admission seekers expelled in DU

Three admission seekers to Dhaka University were expelled for adopting unfair means during the admission test of the 'Gha' unit yesterday, reports UNB.

Sources said three admission seekers under 'Gha' unit (Subject change) at the Curzon Hall examination hall were expelled as one of them was a 'proxy' examinee. The remaining two were expelled for changing their question and answer sheets with each other.

Meanwhile, Pro-Awami Chhatra League, BNP's student front Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal and JSD backed Chhatra League brought out separate processions on the campus welcoming the fresher yesterday.

Journalist Sukhendu dead

CHITTAGONG, May 5: Journalist and eminent cultural organiser Sukhendu Bhattacharya died of cardiac arrest last night at the age 57, reports BSS.

A senior sub editor of The Daily Azadi, Bhattacharya suffered the massive heart attack while he was going to office. He died on way to hospital.

He left behind his wife, mother, two brothers, and host of admirers to mourn his death.

He began his career as a journalist with local English daily 'The People's View' and joined The Daily Azadi in 1986.

The body of Sukhendu was taken to his office and kept there for sometime where his colleagues paid last respect to him.

Mayor of Chittagong City Corporation A B M Mohiuddin Chowdhury also paid tribute to him at Azadi office.

Police Super Shamim Reza dies

Superintendent of Police and valiant freedom fighter Shamim Reza Khan died of cancer yesterday at the National University Hospital in Singapore. He was 51, says a press release.

He left behind his mother, wife, two daughters, six brothers, one sister and a host of relatives to mourn his death. He was the First Secretary of Bangladesh High Commission in Singapore till his death.

His body will arrive in the city at 5 pm today aboard a Bangladesh Biman flight from Singapore and a namaz-e-janaza will be held at Rajabagh Police Line in the evening. Then the body will be sent to his Sheikh Char residence in Rajshahi town and after a second namaz-e-janaza there at Alupatti tomorrow after Asr prayers, he will be buried at Tikapara Graveyard.

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Death anniversary of Syed Ahmed Hossain today

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Love Bug havoc

From Page 1
The new variant changes that have been detected by Computer Associated are a new subject line with the words 'Love, Joke,' in them and an attached file called 'Very Funny VBS'.

Experts have warned users not to open any electronic mail file with the subject 'Love, Joke' and should immediately delete them. The company also encourages computer users to update their antivirus software.

However, BCS, the association of computer vendors, issued an alert notice:

• People who receive the e-mail "LOVEYOU" or "VERY FUNNY JOKE" should not open it, but delete it immediately.

• If the message is opened, users should on no account open the attachment "LOVE-LETTER-FOR-YOU.TXT.vbs".

• If the attachment is opened, users should log off, switch off the computer and contact experts.

People can get detail information and necessary help from the BCS after dialing its general secretary M Atiqul Ahsan at 9121537 or 9121998, said a release of the association today.

He's behind the screen

The person behind the devastating "LOVEYOU" computer virus hid behind a screen of hacked e-mail accounts and pre-paid Internet user cards, a Philippine Internet service provider said Friday.

"Actually, we don't know who he is," said Jose Carlotta, chief operating officer of AccessNet.

Ransom

From Page 1
ing a case, but you try to find out a dala (broker or middleman) to recover your vehicle," a Sub-Inspector told him.

Rahman, an experienced transport owner from the old part of the city, soon found out 'the broker in-charge' of Agar-gaon area.

"Give me two days' time," the broker said in a polite voice.

The next day, the broker turned up at Rahman's garage with photocopies of his vehicle's bluebook and other documents. "Your vehicle has been traced, but you need to pay Tk 33,000 to get it back," he said.

Rahman thought for a while. The autorickshaw had cost him more than Tk one lakh. "Okay, here is Tk 25,000 and the rest will be paid after I get the vehicle back," he said. Within hours, Rahman's vehicle was returned to him.

According to police, similar thefts are taking place almost every day in the city. At least half a dozen organised gangs are operating in the city and autorickshaws are their prime targets. The gangs are mainly operating from Shanir Akhra, Mirpur, Agar-gaon and Demra areas.

Rahman quoted the dala as saying, "Part of the ransom money would go to the police station concerned".

Rahman went on, "Not only autorickshaws, but every day dozens of motorcycles are also stolen in the same way. If you have connections and know the dala, chances are there to get back the stolen vehicles, otherwise not. Police will not help you." In the past, he lost four vehicles which could not be traced.

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