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AL doesn't use religion for political gain: PM

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina said yesterday Awami League does not believe in using religion as a political tool; instead it is working for the welfare of the people, which is the main teaching of Islam, reports UNB.

"We do not want to use religion for political gain as was done in the past," she said, addressing members of Madrasah Teachers' Association, principals of different Madrasahs and Ulama at the International Conference Centre in the city.

She said Islam is the religion of welfare, service, peace and humanity and urged the Madrasah teachers to preach Islam to the people in an easy way.

Madrasah teachers from all over the country came to the Prime Minister's office to apprise her of their problems. They also placed some demands to the PM.

Hasina said some political parties dish out propaganda that Islam will be at stake if Awami League is in power. Before every election, they try to confuse the people by spreading such lies.

But, she said, Islam was not at all affected during the rule of the present government. The government has taken every possible step for the development of Islam, instead.

Elaborating the steps taken for the development of Islamic institutions, the prime minister said the government has taken up a project for the beau-

tification of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque by constructing minarets.

She said the government has undertaken another Tk 21.80 crore project to impart training to Imams under Imam Training Academy.

Besides, a mass education programme is being conducted through different mosques of the country at a cost of Tk 37.50 crore.

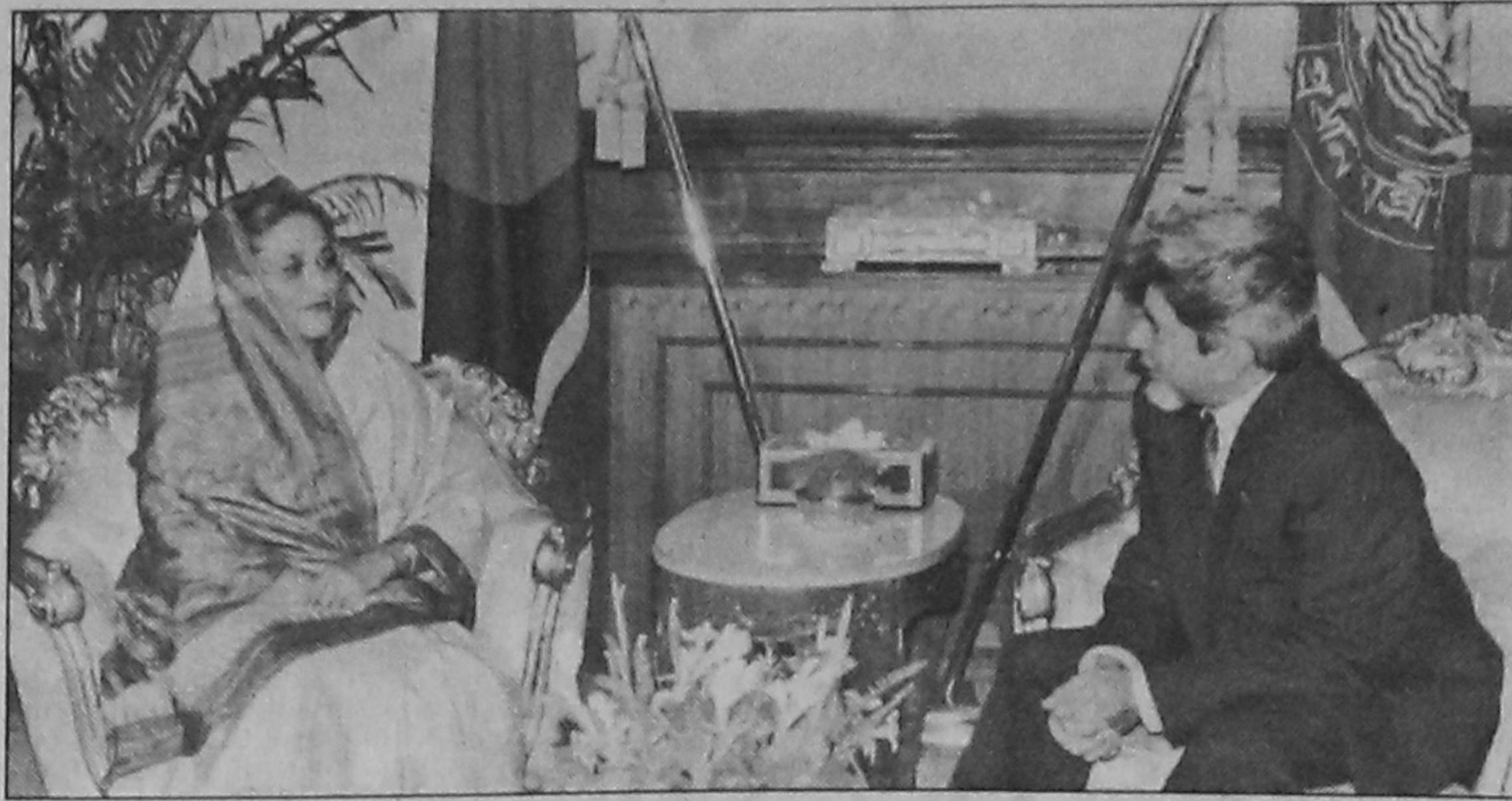
She said some 839 new madrasahs have been included in the MPO while development of 1156 others are going on. In the year 2000, the government has enlisted 485 madrasahs for development.

Hasina said the government has come up with a new pay scale doubling the salaries of the government employees. Salary of the Madrasah teachers has also been increased under the new pay scale. She assured that other problems of the Madrasah teachers will also be looked into.

About the appointment of new chief election commissioner, the prime minister said the government sincerely tried to appoint the CEC on a consensus and invited the opposition leader for discussion.

But she regretted that the opposition leader did not respond to the invitation. "When the process of dialogue was going on, the opposition leader at a meeting in Kurigram said that there will be no discussion with the government."

"They (opposition) believe in See page 11 col 8



SAARC Secretary General Nihal Rodrigo called on Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina at her office yesterday. — PID photo

'Syed was never a governor under Baksal system'

A spokesman of the Prime Minister yesterday strongly refuted BNP chairperson Khaleida Zia's press statement that the new chief election commissioner was a district governor under the BAKSAL system, reports UNB.

"MA Syed had never been a governor under the BAKSAL system in 1975," he said, adding that Syed was a Director, Marketing of BJMC at that time.

The spokesman said Khaleida should know that a former chief servant, Mozammel See page 11 col 4

Govt may intervene in cable TV dispute

By Mustak Hossain

The government may intervene in the dispute between cable television operators and a pay channel distributor over the hike of renewal fees.

The Communication Ministry has formed a committee with joint secretary of the ministry as convenor to investigate various irregularities of the pay channel distributors and cable TV operators.

Cable operators suspended transmission of 12 pay channels including Star Movies, Star Plus, Star World, AXN Action TV, Zee Cinema, TNT/Caribbean Network and Nickelodeon after Nationwide Communications Limited (NCL), the pay channel distributor, increased its renewal fees.

The row has caused serious inconvenience to thousands of satellite TV viewers in the country.

The government is likely to introduce a law to regulate the operation of satellite television channels in the country, which has been free of any government control since its introduction, sources said.

"We feel there should be a regulation for the sake of control of transmission of programmes in the wake of the rise in cultural hegemony of satellite television since these channels mostly air alien culture," an official in the ministry told the Daily Star on condition of anonymity.

The law also aims to establish control over the cable television operation in the country as the government is being deprived of huge revenue.

Satellite television was allowed in the country in 1995 through transmission of two famous news channels, BBC World Service and CNN. But there were no pay channels then, sources said.

Conscious quarters have long been pressing for introduction of a satellite TV regulation to control the satellite culture, which goes against the country's culture in many respect.

The proposed act will be placed before the parliament for endorsement to enact it, the official said.

Presently, there are several thousand cable operators in the country engaged in the satellite TV business that involves an annual turnover of about Tk 100 crore.

Meanwhile, Nickelodeon See page 11 col 7

Rubel murder Proceedings of case adjourned till June 13

By Court Correspondent

Cross-examination of Ashrafuzzaman, the 12th prosecution witness in the Rubel murder case was completed in the third Additional Metropolitan Sessions Judges Court, Dhaka yesterday.

Judge Mollah Mostafa Kamal adjourned the proceedings of the case till June 13.

Zaman in his statement said there was a conflict between the victim's family and the accused Mukul Begum after setting up of a shop in front of Mukul's house. He also said that Mukul Begum filed a general diary (GD) with Ramna thana to remove the shop from there.

Shamim Reza Rubel, 24, a BBA student of the Independent University was picked up by a team of DB police from his Sid-deshwari residence on July 23, 1998 and was tortured to death in DB custody the same day.

Indian decision to fence border won't promote friendship: Bangladesh

Bangladesh yesterday expressed its displeasure at the Indian government's renewed decision to construct barbed wire fencing all along its border with Bangladesh.

It would not "promote friendship" between the two countries, a source at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs told BSS yesterday.

Replying to a question, the source said Bangladesh has "consistently rejected and now rejects" the allegation or insinuation by India and asserted that there is no "large-scale infiltration" to India from Bangladesh. "There is no reason for such act," he said.

A Home Ministry spokesman in Delhi on Tuesday said the Indian Government has decided to fence the entire Indo-Bangladesh border.

Night guard killed in Ctg

From Our Correspondent
CHITTAGONG, May 24: A night guard identified as Md. Bacha Mia was killed by some unidentified miscreants at Faujdarhat Bazar in Sitakunda thana here at around 2.30 am last night.

The miscreants stabbed and beat Bacha Mia with iron rods. Bacha died on the spot. The miscreants managed to escape.

A case has been filed in this connection.

Fruit trader shot dead in Narsingdi

NARSINGDI, May 24: A fruit trader was killed by unknown assailants at Railway Station road in the town today, reports UNB.

Police and witnesses said Chandan Shaha, 30, a fruit shop owner at Kandapara, was attacked by the hooligans near Muktar Saw-Mill when he was passing the area along with his sister and a video showpwner at about 5.30 pm.

The gang, who came in a private car, fired on him and stabbed him when he fell on the street, witnesses said. The gang immediately fled the scene.

Locals sent him to Sadar hospital where the doctors declared him dead.

Boarding house manager murdered in city

By Staff Correspondent

Manager of a boarding house in the city's East Hajipara under Khilgaon thana was killed by a boarder and his girl friend yesterday, police and hospital sources said.

Manager Jamshir Ali was hit with a grinder stone at about 11:00 am when he allegedly caught them in an objectionable position, hospital sources said quoting some boarders.

Earlier, Jamshir had requested the alleged killers not to use the boarding house for such unsocial activities.

They attacked Jamshir when he went to their room See page 11 col 1

Downpour in Ctg: Low-lying areas flooded

From Staff Correspondent

CHITTAGONG, May 24: Heavy downpour in the port city triggered water logging in the low-lying areas of Chandaigon, Masterpool, Bakalla, Chaktai, Bahaddarhat, Bibirhat and Katagong.

Local Met Office recorded 309 mm rain fall in the past 24 hours ending at 3 pm today. It also forecast more rains in the next few days.

However, normal life was paralysed in the port city because of heavy downpour that continued till this afternoon.

Cargo handling at Chittagong port was disrupted, but movement of ships was normal.

Sindh governor resigns

KARACHI, May 24: The governor of Pakistan's volatile southern Sindh province resigned today, the official APP news agency said, less than a week after the murder of a prominent Islamic scholar sparked widespread violence, reports Reuters.

Governor Azim Daudpota was the first senior official appointed by military rulers after an October 12 coup to resign.

Daudpota cited personal reasons for his decision to quit, APP said.

His departure from office comes in the wake of a pledge from military ruler Pervez Musharraf to stamp out sectarian violence and get a grip on law and order.

SEC cancels registration of a brokerage house

By M Shamsur Rahman

The capital market watchdog in an unprecedented move cancelled registration of a brokerage house yesterday for illegally renting out its online trading facility.

The Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), the regulators, fined Tk 1 lakh to another securities house, Al-Madina Securities, for using the illegal connection to trade in the share market.

The registration of M/s Mohammad Ullah and Shabbir Ahmed, membership number 154, was cancelled for renting out the workstation to Al-Madina Securities going against conditions of the registration certificate issued by the SEC.

The axe on the brokerage house came down following an SEC investigation launched after the brokerage firm failed to settle a deal involving purchase of two lakh shares of Paper Processing at Tk 205 each.

The brokerage house had purchased the shares but failed to make the payment to the Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE). The SEC formed a three-member committee to probe the allegations and the committee in its report said the brokerage firm rented its online trading facilities to Al-Madina in violation of the condition that the certificate could not be sold, donated or transferred for trading of securities. The investigation also revealed that the firm had rented the facility to Al-Madina Securities as its sub-agent on the basis of a commercial deed.

The commercial deed is tantamount to de-facto transfer of the registration certificate. Shabbir Ahmed, managing partner, and Mohammad Ullah, partner, of the firm later said to the probe committee that the DSE installed the workstation at the office of Al-Madina Securities in accordance with the application of the member, which the SEC later found to be incorrect.

They also said although the workstation was installed at the office of Al-Madina Securities it was in fact operated by

Another accomplice of Shikdar held

From Staff Correspondent

KHULNA, May 24: Khulna police arrested Kabir Hossain, another accomplice of Ershad Shikdar and chief body guard of 'Jama' Faruque today.

Kabir, 28, wanted in several criminal cases was arrested from railway colony area. He returned from hiding few days back to start reconstruction of the structures demolished by police last year during drive against Shikdar and his armed cadres.

জাতীয় বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়
গাজীপুর
সূত্র ০১(১৬০) জাতীয় বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়/৯২/অংশ-৭/১/৭০০০(১২০০) তারিখঃ ২১-০৫-২০০০ইং

জরুরি বিজ্ঞপ্তি
জাতীয় বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধিভুক্ত কলেজসমূহে বিভিন্ন কোর্সে আসন অতিরিক্ত ছাত্রছাত্রী ভর্তি না করা প্রসঙ্গে

এতদ্বারা জাতীয় বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধিভুক্ত কলেজসমূহের অবগতি ও প্রয়োজনীয় ব্যবস্থা গ্রহণের জন্য জানানো যাচ্ছে যে, বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের অধিভুক্ত কোন কলেজ/শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানে স্নাতক, স্নাতক (সম্মান), স্নাতকোত্তর, বিএড বিপিএড, এমএড, এলএলবি/সহ অন্যান্য কোর্সে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত আসনের অতিরিক্ত ছাত্রছাত্রী ভর্তি করা যাবে না। কোন কলেজ/শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান আসন অতিরিক্ত ছাত্র ভর্তি করলে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় থেকে তাদেরকে রেজিস্ট্রেশন দেয়া হবে না। কলেজ কর্তৃক নির্ধারিত আসনের অতিরিক্ত ছাত্র ভর্তির কারণে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কর্তৃক রেজিস্ট্রেশন না দেয়ার ফলে কোন কলেজ/শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানে ছাত্র অসন্তোষ দেখা দিলে বা কোন অপ্রীতিকর পরিস্থিতির উদ্ভব ঘটলে তার দায়-দায়িত্ব বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের উপর বর্তাবে না। নিয়ম বহির্ভূতভাবে নির্ধারিত আসনের অতিরিক্ত ছাত্রছাত্রী ভর্তির দায়ে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয় কোন কলেজের অধিভুক্তি বাতিল করলে তখন কোনরূপ আপত্তি করা চলবে না। সংশ্লিষ্ট সকল কলেজ/শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠানকে বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের সংবিধি, রেগুলেশন এবং ভর্তি বিজ্ঞপ্তিতে উল্লিখিত নিয়ম অনুসরণ করে ছাত্রছাত্রী ভর্তি করার জন্য অনুরোধ করা যাচ্ছে।

জিডি-৪৮৬ ফিরোজ আহমদ আখতার
রেজিস্ট্রার

জাতীয় বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি জাদুঘর
আগারগাঁও, শেরেবাংলা নগর, ঢাকা-১২০৭

বিশেষ দৃষ্টি আকর্ষণী বিজ্ঞপ্তি

জাতীয় বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি জাদুঘর একটি আনুষ্ঠানিক বিজ্ঞান শিক্ষা প্রতিষ্ঠান। সর্বস্তরের জনসাধারণের মধ্যে বিজ্ঞান মনোভা ও বিজ্ঞান সচেতনতা সৃষ্টির লক্ষ্যে প্রদর্শনী গ্যালারীর মাধ্যমে এর কার্যক্রম পরিচালিত হয়ে আসছে। এই প্রদর্শনী গ্যালারীকে সমৃদ্ধ করার জন্য জাদুঘর কোন ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নিকট যদি কোন পুরাতন বিজ্ঞানভিত্তিক দ্রব্যাদি, ইঞ্জিন কিংবা সরঞ্জামাদি থেকে থাকে যা দেখে আমাদের পরবর্তী প্রজন্ম বিজ্ঞান বিষয়ে উদ্বুদ্ধ হতে পারে সেসকল যত্নপাতিসমূহ বর্ণনাসহ বিজ্ঞান জাদুঘর দান (Donation) হিসেবে গ্রহণ করতে অগ্রহী। দানকৃত যত্নপাতি দানকারী ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের নামসহ বিজ্ঞান জাদুঘর সংরক্ষণ করবে। বিজ্ঞান ও প্রযুক্তি প্রসারের লক্ষ্যে যেকোন ব্যক্তি/প্রতিষ্ঠানের এ প্রয়াসকে জাদুঘর কৃতজ্ঞ চিত্তে স্বরণ করবে।

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DFP-12476-21/5
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Court seeks govt clearance to try Mahiuddin Chy

CHITTAGONG, May 24: The Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court today sought clearance from the government for trial of Mayor A. H. M. Mahiuddin Chowdhury, who is holding the rank of a state minister, reports UNB.

The Mayor and three employees of the Chittagong City Corporation were accused in a criminal case filed by city BNP president Meer Mohammad Nasiruddin last year for dumping stinking garbage in front of his house causing serious health hazard.

The incident took place on October 24 last year and the case was filed on October 26 the same year in this connection. The Judge, M Ismail Mia, in an order asked the Home Ministry for clearance of the government within 60 days. It said the court could not admit the case without the government's clearance.

Kader Siddiqui's brother Murad arrested

From Our Correspondent
TANGAIL, May 24: Police today raided Kader Siddiqui's residence here and arrested his younger brother Murad Siddiqui.

Police said they arrested Murad at around 10 am in connection with a murder case.

Bangladesh signs Bio-safety Protocol

Bangladesh signed Bio-safety Protocol yesterday at the Convention of Biological Diversity (CBD) in Nairobi, Kenya, a message received in Dhaka said, reports BSS.

Environment and Forest Minister Syeda Sajeda Chowdhury signed the Bio-safety Protocol on behalf of Bangladesh in the convention at UNEP headquarters in Nairobi.

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