

What's on today....

Meeting: A meeting of former students, teachers and well-wishers of Kalma Laxmikanta High School of Lathajong Thana of Munshiganj district will be held in order to form a committee to celebrate the centenary of the school. Venue: Priyanka Community Centre, House No-50, Road No 6/A, Dhammondi (adjacent to Eidgah Mosque). Time 10 am.

Installation ceremony: Faridganj Thana Samity, Dhaka will hold the installation ceremony of its newly elected executive committee 2000. Venue: Bhatmancha, Bangabandhu Avenue. Time: 3:00 pm.

PHAS rally: Poverty and Hunger Alleviation Society (PHAS) will hold a mass rally to mark the conclusion of its month long free treatment for dengue programme. Venue: Manoh Bandhan General Hospital, K-66, Kuril, Badda. Time: 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm.

BCF open discussion: Bangladesh Chhatra Federation (BCF) of DU will hold an open discussion. Venue: DUCSU cafeteria, DU campus. Time: 4:00 pm.

Protest rally: Council of Hill People Dhaka City Committee will hold a rally to protest the Baghachhari Tragedy of 1996. Venue: Muktaganga. Time: 4:00 pm.

Meeting: Nagarik Samaj will hold an extended meeting of its convening committee. Venue: CIRDAP auditorium, Chameli House, Tophkhana Road. Time: 5:00 pm.

Lions' Seminar: Lions Club International, Dist 315A1, Bangladesh will hold a seminar on "Step Beyond Self". Venue: Ballroom of Hotel Sheraton. Time: 4:30 pm.

Film show: Indian High Commission in association with Chalachitrom Film Society will screen The Bridge on River Kwai starring Sir Alec Guinness on the first day of its special 3-day film on Sir Alec Guinness. Venue: Indian High Commission, House No 25, Road No 2, Dhammondi R/A. Time: 6:00 pm.

Discussion meeting: Lions Club of Dhaka South has organised a discussion meeting on "Business in the 21st Century". Guest speaker: Rtn Mosharrar Hossain, Managing Director, Rapport Bangladesh Ltd. Venue: Zenaat Bhabhan, 41/1, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue, Karwanbazar. Time: 7 pm.

Recitation programme: Abritee Angan will present the drama Laili Shalun in versus as part of its celebration to mark its 7th founding anniversary. Venue: Shawkat Osman auditorium of Public Library, Shahbagh. Time: 7:00 pm.

French Musical evening: Alliance Francaise de Dhaka will organise a French Musical evening dedicated to the famous French Composer Maurice Ravel. Venue: Alliance Francaise premises, 26 Mirpur Road. Time: 7:00 pm.

..... and tomorrow

Training: A four-day training on Good Prison Management for Prison Personnel of Bangladesh. Venue: BRAC Centre Inn. Time: 9:30 am.

CRP film show: Centre for Rehabilitation of the Paralyzed (CRP) will be screened. Chief guest: State Minister for Social Welfare Dr Md Mozammel Hossain. Venue: National Museum auditorium, Shahbagh. Time: 5:30 pm.

Film show: Indian High Commission in association with Chalachitrom Film Society will screen A Passage to India starring Sir Alec Guinness. Venue: Indian High Commission auditorium, House No 25, Rd No 2, Dhammondi R/A. Time: 6:30 pm.

Conclusion: The week-long exhibition of Sonargaon Jamdani organised by Sanjukta Tanti Samity will conclude. Venue: Eurotouch, Rare House NW (J), 2 Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Gulshan-2.

Weather

Light rain likely

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over Chittagong, Rajshahi, Barisal and Khulna divisions and at a few places over Dhaka and Sylhet divisions till 6 pm today, reports UNB.

Moderately heavy rainfall is expected at places over Chittagong, Barisal and Khulna divisions during the period, Met office said adding day temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country.

The country's highest temperature recorded yesterday was 33.2 degree Celsius at Khulna and the lowest 23.5 degree Celsius at Barisal.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6:08 pm and rises tomorrow at 5:43 am.

Maximum and minimum temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Table with columns: City/Town, Temperature in Celsius (Max, Min), Humidity in percentage (Morning, Evening). Rows include Dhaka, Chittagong, Rajshahi, Khulna, Barisal, Sylhet, Cox's Bazar.

Sister stabbed to death by brother

By Staff Correspondent

A sister was killed allegedly by her brother at Nayanagar in Gazipur early yesterday.

Jahura Akther, 30, was stabbed to death by her brother Naimul Huda Babul at their house following an altercation over sale of her gold ornaments, hospital sources said quoting neighbours.

Babul allegedly sold some of her ornaments. When Akther, wife of one Ibrahim Sheikh, asked her brother to return those, he refused to do so and this led a quarrel.

At one stage, Babul Stabbed her fatally and fled away. She was rushed to a clinic at Tongi and then shifted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital at 2 am yesterday. Doctors there declared her dead.

Her body was kept at the DMCH morgue.

AL will not move away from secularism

CHITTAGONG, Sept 8: Labour and Employment Minister MA Mannan today emphatically said that Awami League (AL) would not deviate from the ideal of secularism, reports BSS.

"Annulment of the eighth and fifth amendments of the constitution is not possible without two-third majority in the parliament and as such it is very difficult to change something if that is incorporated in the constitution," the minister told a function marking the birth anniversary of Sree Sree Lokanath Brahmachariya at Nandan Kanan here.

ICM vows to establish Islamic fundamentalism

By Staff Correspondent

Ameer of Islamic Constitution Movement (ICM) Moulana Syed Muhammad Fazlul Karim yesterday vowed to establish 'Islamic fundamentalism' in the country even by sacrificing lives, reports UNB.

Addressing a party conference in the city, the Peer of Charmonal accused the ruling party of hatching a conspiracy to turn Bangladesh into a secular state.

"They have been carrying out naked attacks on Islam one after another to please their western bosses. The subversive government even threatened to stop Islamic politics on the pretext of Harkatul Jihad, Taleban and Jamaat-Shibir," the ICM chief said.

giving a befitting reply to them. He called upon the people to attend a protest rally at Muktaganga on Sept 16 and a mass rally at Paltan Maidan on Sept 29 in order to build up a mass movement against the oppressive government.

The conference was chaired by City ICM Ameer Moulana ATM Hemayet Uddin.

Prisoners

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mand, he said. The official said the central jails accommodate prisoners three times their capacity.

He however said the government would think of setting up more industrial units and making payments for prisoners' labour when the Dhaka Central Jail will be shifted to Kasimpur. This will be followed in other central jails gradually, he added.

Congratulations

Taskina 5th among girls in Commerce under Comilla Board

Taskina Bintu Mahmud of Comilla Victoria College has secured the fifth position in the merit list of girls in Commerce group under Comilla Board in this year's HSC exams, says a press release.

She obtained 751 marks with distinctions in one subject.

Taskina is the eldest daughter of Dr. A. F. Muhammad Ullah, Director, Comilla Modern Hospital and Syeda Zinnat Ara. She is also grand daughter of a noted political leader, philanthropist Marhum Advocate A.T. Saadi and Begum Zebunnesa Saadi. Taskina seeks blessings from all.



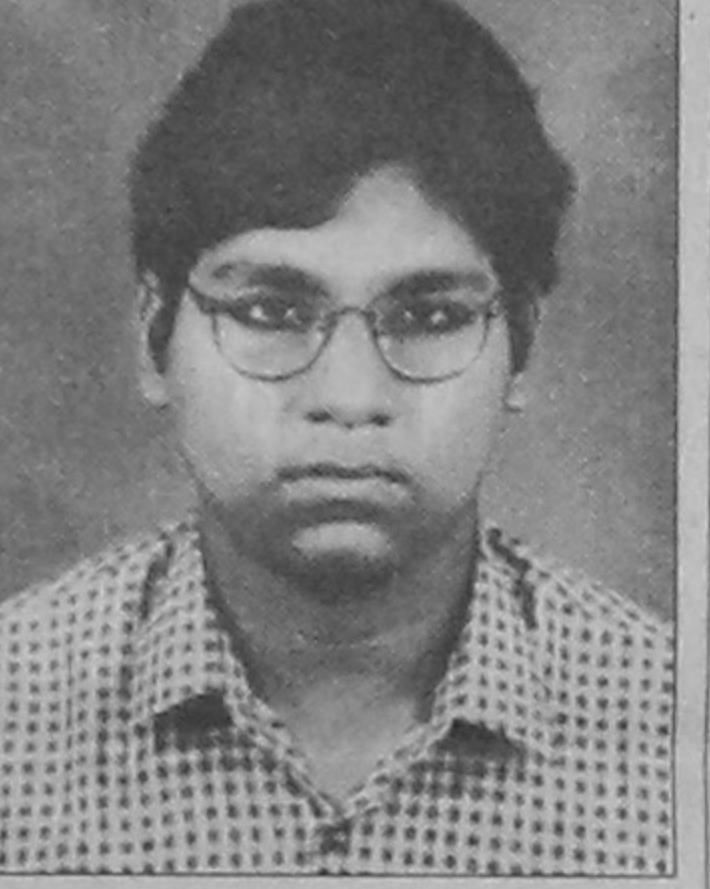
Khaled wants to study MBA

Md Khaled Mansur of Dhaka Commerce College has stood eighth in the Commerce group under Dhaka Board in this year's HSC examination, says a press release.

He obtained 832 marks with distinctions in three subjects.

Khaled is the son of SAKM Mansur and Shahin Akther.

Khaled wants to study MBA in future.



Ahsan stands 13th in Science under DB

Muhammad Ahsan-ul-Karim (Rumil) of Dhaka College stood 13th in the combined merit list of Science group under Dhaka Board in this year's HSC examination, says a press release.

He secured 923 marks with distinctions in four subjects.

He is the eldest son of Mohammed Hossain and Kamrun Nahar.



Shalini Kashiem becomes 2nd woman to obtain membership of Chartered Accountants of Bangladesh (ICAB) and Institute of Cost and Management Accountants of Bangladesh (ICMAB), says a press release.

She passed the Chartered Accountancy final examinations from the ICAB recently.

She had completed her Honours and Masters in Accounting from Dhaka University with first class in both exams.

Now she is working for the Halcoron Asia Pacific as Senior Accountant.

RAJSHAH, Sept 8: Rajshahi University has conferred M-Phil Degree on six researchers and Ph.D Degree on sixteen researchers recently, said a university press release, reports BSS.

M-Phil degrees were conferred on Mostafizur Rahman (Statistics), Kamrun Nahar (Islamic History and Culture), M Hafizur Rahman (Institute of Bangladesh Studies), Israt Ara Kaka (Physics), Nurun Nahar (Institute of Bangladesh Studies), and Wahida Khatun (Botany).

PhD degrees were conferred on Abdus Sabur Khan (Applied Physics and Electronics), Prof Nazrul Islam (Philosophy), M Rafsanoori Rahman (Zoology), Zesmin Nahar (Zoology), AFM Rajaul Karim Siddiki (English), M Ashrafuzzaman (Islamic Studies), M Aib Ali (Mathematics), M Abdus Salam (Applied Chemistry), M Toifique bin Karim (Applied Chemistry and Chemical Technology), Khabir Uddin Ahmed (Institute of Bangladesh Studies), Mobina Siddika (Institute of Bangladesh Studies), Saïad Nasar Ahmed Rumi (Institute of Bangladesh Studies), Rukhsana Saïad (Institute of Bangladesh Studies), M Abdul Majid (Institute of Biological Science), Tasira Amin (Institute of Biological Science) and M Intajul Haque (Institute of Biological Science).



Children taking part in an international poster drawing competition, organised by UNFPA at the premises of Institute of Fine Arts in the city yesterday. - Star photo

UN Summit ends

UNITED NATIONS, Sept 8: The UN Millennium Summit comes to its historic close today with the adoption of a wide-ranging wish list that promises to cut poverty, protect planet Earth and improve the ability of the United Nations to keep the peace, reports AP.

The summit declaration, negotiated for weeks but expected to be adopted by acclamation, also commits the 150 heads of state and government who gathered for the three-day meeting to promote democracy, strengthen respect for human rights and reverse the spread of AIDS.

Secretary-general Kofi Annan has warned that the leaders not be satisfied unless the pledges in the document. He told a news conference on the eve of the summit that he expected every one of them "to go back home and begin to do something about it."

The last day of the summit opened this morning with a speech by Gambian President Yahya Jammeh, at 35 the youngest African leader attending. The last scheduled speaker was Techeste Alderom, who chaired a May summit of grass-roots organisations who gave their own advice on how the United Nations could remake itself to better address the challenges of the 21st century.

On Thursday, it was the Security Council's turn to take up that task, pledging an overhaul of UN peacekeeping operations so troops can respond more quickly and robustly to world trouble spots.

The council's pronouncement, however, was not in the typical form of a Security Council resolution — an indication that the 15 — presidents and prime ministers weren't entirely comfortable with making such concrete, legally binding pledges to better finance

peacekeeping operations. But the document will nevertheless be one of the major outcomes of the summit, which featured a notable first — a chat and handshake between President Clinton and Cuban President Fidel Castro.

Another summit legacy will be the apparent failure to reach a Mideast, peace deal. Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Thursday rejected Clinton's proposal to split control of Muslim and Jewish holy sites in east Jerusalem.

But the three-day meeting, which clogged New York city streets with motorcades and protests, will likely be hailed as a success, merely for having occurred, drawing more leaders together than ever before to discuss the challenges confronting the globe in the third millennium.

"What's the point of stepping foot on Mars if there is still hunger in several regions of our planet?" asked Rene Preval, the president of Haiti, the Western Hemisphere's poorest country.

Such questions were raised throughout the second day of speeches Thursday and continued Friday.

Clinton raised the issue of the disparities between rich and poor in his address to the council, saying it must address broader security issues related to disease, poverty, education and climate change if it wants to make a change in keeping the peace.

"Until we confront the iron link between deprivation, disease and war, we will never be able to create the peace that the founders of the United Nations dreamed of," he said.

The world body is currently engaged in 14 peacekeeping operations — most of them in the world's poorest countries — with more than 37,000 troops and civilian police deployed from East Timor to Cyprus and Sierra Leone at an annual cost

of about \$2.2 billion. Nearly 1,000 UN civilian staff are engaged in 14 other political and peace-building missions from Afghanistan to Burundi and Guatemala.

Council members met against a sobering backdrop: the killing of three UN relief workers assisting refugees from East Timor; the rebel seizure of 500 UN peacekeepers in Sierra Leone; highly critical reports of the UN role in the 1994 Rwanda genocide and the 1995 slaughter of thousands of Bosnian Muslims in Srebrenica.

At the end of the two-hour meeting, the council leaders — from Argentina, Bangladesh, Canada, China, France, Jamaica, Malaysia, Mali, Namibia, Netherlands, Russia, Tunisia, Ukraine, Britain and the United States — vowed "to strengthen the central role of the United Nations in peacekeeping."

They underlined the importance of rapid deployment of UN peacekeepers and called for realistic mandates that the soldiers can fulfill, proper training and equipment for them, and an overhaul of the UN peacekeeping department.

But their proclamation wasn't in resolution form. A one-paragraph resolution was adopted, but it said only that the council "decides to adopt" the attached annex, which contained the text of the council pledge.

Diplomats were divided on whether the annex itself was legally binding. It was a compromise after more than a week of closed-door negotiation. Council diplomats said several countries couldn't agree to make such specific pledges in a full-fledged resolution.

Rather than watering down the resolution to be palatable to all, they decided to adopt the declaration as an annex to a resolution, the diplomats said.

Shuttle Atlantis roars into space

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida, Sept 8: Space Shuttle Atlantis lifted off today from the Kennedy Space Centre carrying seven astronauts on an 11-day mission to prepare the International Space Station (ISS) for its first crew's arrival in November, reports AFP.

Atlantis, on its second flight to the ISS, lifted towards orbit at 8:45 a.m. (18:45 BST) into a sky dotted with light clouds. "The orbiter is in great shape," exclaimed NASA spokesman Bruce Buckingham. It must now catch up to the ISS, an in-space laboratory still under construction which currently comprises a US module, Unity, and Russian modules Zvezda and Zarya. A supply vessel called Progress docked at the station in August.

This mission truly represents the beginning of a long and fruitful adventure for NASA and the international space community," Daniel Goldin, a NASA administrator, said before launch.

Sixteen countries have contributed to the conception and construction of the ISS, which is due to be completed in 2005.

Delhi training Bhutanese soldiers to fight Indian insurgents

GUWAHATI, India, Sept 8: Some 2,000 soldiers from Bhutan are being trained in India to fight Indian rebels who have moved into the Himalayan kingdom and set up camps there, an Indian government official said today, reports Reuters.

The Bhutanese soldiers had also been given assault rifles to tackle the guerrillas operating from southern Bhutan, said Indian home (interior) ministry official, Gopal Krishna Pillai.

The United Liberation Front of Assam (ULFA) and the National Democratic Front of Bodoland (NDFB) guerrilla groups, both fighting Indian rule in northeast India, set up camps across the border in Bhutan after Indian forces launched offensives against them in 1990, officials said.

Hasina gets wide coverage in US media

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, now attending the three-day Millennium Summit at the UN headquarters in New York, got wide coverage in the US media including the prestigious New York Times, reports BSS.

The New York Times in its Thursday issue published a big front-page news item headlined "The words of many government leaders, and many views of the world" where excerpts from Sheikh Hasina's speech was prominently displayed.

This was the first-ever coverage of the speech along with picture of Bangladesh head of government by the New York Times.

During the last two days, over one hundred heads of the state and government delivered their speeches. Of them only 10 including that of Sheikh Hasina got coverage.

The New York Times in its Friday issue also prominently featured the prime minister's speech made on Thursday at the Security Council meeting.



Visitors at the aquarium exhibition being held at Rina auditorium at 22/2 Sonargaon Road in the city. The exhibition ends tomorrow. - Star photo

PM for UN action

contribution to the preservation of peace and security is a reflection of Bangladesh's commitment to peace, security and harmony among nations and peoples.

Hasina said to be relevant, the Security Council has to be more proactive. "In recent months, we have seen special council missions to Kosovo, the Democratic Republic of Congo and Ethiopia. Another mission would be going to Sierra Leone soon. The council held the first-ever public hearing on abuse of diamonds in fuelling the conflict in Sierra Leone."

About reforms in another area of critical importance, she said Bangladesh had all along advocated reforms that promote transparency, openness and participation in the work of the council. Dhaka believes that the Council must be more representative and responsive to the view of all United Nations members.

The prime minister said a well-reformed Security Council needs to be well-resourced and suggested that there must be predictability of resources for the tasks the council is engaged in. Its initiative should not be paralysed by financial constraints.

Bangladesh is encouraged that there have been a seminar report, before this summit meeting, on the whole question of improving the United Nations peace operations to make it more relevant.

Focusing on the ordeals the Bangladeshis have went through at war and under unconstitutional rule, Hasina said in 1971 the Bengalis acquired the experience of how harmful the effect of wars and conflicts can be for the girl child and

Troops, Tigers trade fire: 15 killed

COLOMBO, Sept 8: Government forces traded fire with Tamil Tiger rebels in northern Sri Lanka killing at least 14 guerrillas, the government said today, reports AFP.

Troops ambushed groups of rebels from the separatist Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) Thursday in the Jaffna peninsula killing 11 of them while another three were killed elsewhere in the north, the government said.

105 BNP MPs

Razzak Ali, Col (ret'd) Akbar Hossain, Barrister Nazmul Huda, M Shamsul Islam, Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf, MK Anwar, Khurshid Jahan Haq, Major (ret'd) Hafiz Uddin Ahmed, Barrister Jamir Uddin Sircar, Salahuddin Quader Chowdhury, Sadeque Hossain Khoka, M Morshed Khan, Shamsul Islam Khan, Barrister Aminul Haq, Shamsuzzaman Duda and Giasuddin Quader Chowdhury.

Six muggers held in city

A gang of six muggers were arrested in the city's Chankharpul area while escaping after snatching Tk 652 from a bicycle rider in the early hours today, reports UNB.

They are Mintu, Masud, Ismail, Akter, Hossain, Shaheen Jasin, Mohor Ali and Suman alias Humayun Kabir.

Police said they mugged Zahidul Islam in the area at about 3 am. Zahid cried for help but police rushed to the spot and caught all the muggers.

Better late

green and red appears in every national flag. A ceremonial hand-over from one host city to the next takes place at the end of each Olympiad.

Samaranch was speaking at his first public engagement since arriving in Sydney, attending an International Service for Peace and Fallen Olympians at the Anzac Memorial in Hyde Park in the centre of the city.

He unveiled a permanent monument to Olympians who lost their lives in battle, performing the ceremony in conjunction with Bob Carr, the premier of New South Wales, in the presence of Frank Sartor, the mayor of Sydney.

WHO: Arsenic

dren's Fund, the US government and other agencies, that Bangladesh is facing huge health risks because of the arsenic.

In the past three decades, the Bangladesh government has dug 5 million wells to provide drinking water and save millions of people from cholera, diarrhoea and other waterborne diseases. But the naturally occurring arsenic poison in the ground water now threatens to overturn these health benefits.

Smith's study urged the government to do more to provide arsenic-free water, educate communities about the risks and treat and monitor patients.

British minister

children of humanity at large. "Our freedom-loving people fought valiantly under the great leader, Father of the Nation Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, and became victorious. But the vanquished forces killed the Father of the Nation with all his family members on August 15, 1975."

She said children and women were not spared by the assassins, her mother, brothers, sisters-in-law were killed most brutally. "Even my 10-year-old brother was not spared."

She said the conspiracy had not ended yet, several attempts were made to kill her. "With the infinite mercy of Allah I escaped unhurt. I thus have full experience of war, arms game, terrorism and what ghastly role they can play in snatching away human rights and their fearsome manifestations."

About the Security Council summit, Hasina said the Council ever summit of the council took place in the aftermath of the end of the cold war and resulted in an Agenda for Peace.

The second summit takes place at the turn of the century requiring yet a greater initiative. "Given the enormous challenges ahead, we believe, the Council should meet more often at the summit level that it has in the past. The world looks up to its leaders for making history."

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