

# The Daily Star

TRINITY COLLEGE  
UNIVERSITY  
DELAWARE USA  
Professional MBA  
SPRING 2001 - REGISTER NOW  
CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDIES  
H - 34C Rd 6 BANANI CALL: 8822729

BUY NOW - PAY LATER

**Whirlpool**  
HOME APPLIANCES USA  
Refrigerator

Transcom Electronics Limited  
Authorized distributor in Bangladesh for Whirlpool Appliances, USA

VOL. X NO. 328 REGD. NO. DA 781

www.dailystarnews.com

DHAKA MONDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2000

Wishing the  
BEST  
for the  
3rd Millennium

POUSH 4, 1407 BS

RAMADAN 21, 1421 HJRI

16 PAGES PRICE : TAKA 6.00

## New army chief to take over Dec 23

By Special Correspondent

Major General Harun-ar-Rashid, Bir Pratik, rds, psc, is going to be appointed Chief of Army Staff, it is reliably learnt.

The Defence Ministry is likely to make an announcement in this regard shortly, sources concerned said yesterday.

He will succeed Lt Gen Mustafizur Rahman, Bir Bkram, whose tenure expires on December 23.

The 'handover and takeover' will take place on December 23.

Gen Rahman was called back from LPR, appointed Chief of National Security Intelligence (NSI) and then PSO in the Army. He was later appointed Chief of Army Staff on a three-year contract.

Prime Minister Sheikh



Maj Gen Harun-ar-Rashid  
Hasina called both Mustafizur Rahman  
See page 11 col 6

## Coalition unlikely, says PM

# AL to launch polls campaign in Mar

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina yesterday disclosed that she would launch her formal election campaign after performing Hajj in March, exuding the confidence that she would form the next government with people's mandate, reports UNB.

"Inshallah, I will start my electioneering after performing the holy Hajj," she said at a press briefing with the members of Overseas Correspondents Association of Bangladesh (OCA) at Sheraton Hotel.

Hasina, who appeared confident in her assertions, said the next election would be free and fair and "Inshallah, we would be able to form the next government."

In reply to a question, the prime minister said even if her party secured majority, she would form

the next government inducting other parties to continue her policy of consensus government and ensure peace and economic development.

However, Hasina would not say specifically when the next polls would be held. "It is now a matter of months and days," she said, adding smilingly: May or June each year may not be lucky month for her as per zodiac signs as happened in the last elections.

The prime minister said credibility and acceptability of Awami League increased among the people after her four and a half years of rule. Also, anti-Awami League campaign by her opponents proved false, she told the newsmen.

"Whatever hesitation might have been there among the people were removed after the 1996

See page 11 col 2



President Shahabuddin Ahmed and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina paying homage to martyrs of the Liberation War by placing wreaths at the National Memorial at Savar on Victory Day. —Star photo

Enter the Future  
learn and lead



available and affordable

## Bangabandhu Murder Case

# State attorneys seek copies of verdict

By Special Correspondent

State attorneys have applied for certified copies of the High Court's judgement in the Bangabandhu murder case.

Court sources said Deputy Attorney General Shamsuddin Choudhury Manik yesterday filed a petition for certified copies of the split judgement given on Thursday.

Senior judge of the Death Reference Bench of the HC Justice Ruhul Amin confirmed the death sentence of 10 of the 15 accused and acquitted five.

The other judge of the Bench, Justice Khairul Huq, upheld the death sentence of all the 15.

Both the judges gave only the order portion of the judgement on Thursday.

The 15 former army men were sentenced to death by a trial

court on November 8, 1998 for killing Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and his family members at his residence on August 15, 1975.

As the HC gave a split verdict, the matter would be referred to the Chief Justice who would constitute another Bench. The new Bench would hear the death reference of the five acquitted by one judge.

Defence attorneys said there would be no further proceedings concerning the 10 others till the new Bench completes its hearing.

But sources close to the state attorneys said that only the matter relating to the five would be taken up by the new Bench. This would not affect further proceedings regarding the others.

## AL rally at Paltan today

By Staff Correspondent

Ruling Awami League will hold a rally at Paltan Maidan in the city at 2 pm today demanding early execution of death sentences of all self-confessed killers of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

Prime Minister and AL President Sheikh Hasina will preside

See page 11 col 1

## Inside Today

### Article

In Quest for Ultimate Weapon  
Column: Perspectives  
By Brig (Rtd) M  
Abdul Hafiz  
Page 4

### Supplement

One page Supplement on the "National Day of Bhutan" on Page 10

**Aarong**  
Low Fat Milk  
1% fat only

BRAC Dairy &amp; Food Project

	Sun Rises	Sun Sets
Dec 18		5.15 pm
Dec 19	6-36 am	

## Prayer Timings

December 18

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-09	5-17
Zuhr	12-45	1-20
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-14	5-22
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

**Colgate Total**  
TOOTHPASTE  
For round the clock protection

## Sehri, Iftar timings

Ramadan	Dec	Sehri	Iftar
21	18	5-10	5-18
22	19	5-10	5-19
23	20	5-11	5-19

# REST IN PEACE



Here lies the black, thin, long-legged creature that had a brief career buzzing around you. Distracting you to annoyance, Stinging you to exasperation. But soon peace and quiet returned as the most effective insect spray did its work in one short burst.

The effective insect spray..



Rush for  
EID  
Collections.....  
To any of our  
4  
Show-Rooms



Since 1966

Exclusive Diamond collections at Gulshan Branch

**Amin Jewellers Ltd.**

Glushan-2 Dhaka  
Phone: 9884197, 8812347, 8802698

New Market, Dhaka  
Phone: 8614137, 8619723

Baitul Mukarram (Ground Floor) Dhaka  
Phone: 9555873-4, 9551390

Baitul Mukarram (Ground Floor) Dhaka  
Phone: 9555871-4, 9559302, 9558638

E-mail: amin@transbd.net.

You are welcome for e-shopping to  
Website: www.munshigi.com