

Metropolitan

Govt urged to enact law against fatwa

Coalition for the Urban Poor (CUP), a coordinating body of NGOs working for the urban poor and slums, expressed its strong indignation over the audacious remarks of two Islamic Okva Jote (IOJ) leaders against a High Court verdict on fatwa and demanded their immediate arrest, reports BSS.

In a statement in the city yesterday, CUP called for introducing a bill in the Jatiya Sangsad for enacting a law against those who were involved in motivated and ill-conceived explanation of religion in the name of fatwa in the country. It dubbed the most objectionable

remarks made by IOJ leaders, Mufti Fazlul Haq Anumit and Moulana Azizul Haq against the recent High Court verdict against fatwa as a direct attack and insult upon the rule of law as well as the independence of judiciary. It also demanded legal action against the two IOJ leaders.

These two persons under the mask of religion most obediently served the Pakistani Army as collaborators and helped in the brutal killing of innocent Bangladeshis and violation of our mothers and sisters during the war of Liberation in 1971, the statement said.

adding their identity is clear to the people of Bangladesh. CUP said the High Court verdict against fatwa had in fact reflected the minds and desire of the people of Bangladesh as a section of the heinous fatwabaz through their ill-conceived and half-hearted explanation of religion had been exploiting the innocent rural people by taking the advantage of their simplicity as weakness.

The statement added, the High Court verdict against fatwa is time-befitting and proper in view of the hopes and aspirations of the people of Bangladesh.



Leader of Opposition in parliament and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia addressing the concluding ceremony of Bangladesh Medical College Alumni Trust's Millennium 2001 reunion in the city yesterday.

FF-people rally in Barisal Jan 27

The next grand rally of the freedom fighters and the people (Muktijoddha-Janata) will be held in Barisal on January 27, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina will address the grand rally as the chief guest which will be held under the auspicious of

Sammilita Muktijoddha Front. The decision was taken at a meeting of the steering committee of the front last week at its central office with its chairman and Political Adviser to the Prime Minister Dr. S A Malek in the chair.



We thank everyone who attended the reception following the wedding of our only daughter, Sunehra Akhter Ali, to Syed Amir Reza, at Senakunja, Dhaka Cantt, on 30th December 2000, and also those who conveyed their blessings to the bride and groom.

Selina Mahmud Ali
Syed Mahmud Ali

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Rotary confce begins Jan 19

The two-day 17th annual district conference - Proutee-2001 of Rotary International Dist. 3280, Bangladesh will be held in the city begins at the Winter Garden of Dhaka Sheraton Hotel, says a press release.

About one thousand five hundred Rotarians along with their spouses and lets from home and abroad are expected to attend the two-day conference.

Rotary International President Frank J. Devlyn has nominated a Past R.I. official from Philippines Rtn. Jocelyn Joe-Joe Bolante to represent him at the conference.

Meanwhile, Rtn. Hasan Maniruzzaman, Dist. Governor R.I. Dist. 3280 has formed a conference committee with Rtn. AKM Shamsuddin, Rtn. Humayun Kabir and Rtn. Kazi Wahidul Alam as chairman, secretary and treasurer respectively to the committee. Rtn. Kazi Wahidul Alam will also act as Chairman of the registration committee.

Registration fee for the conference has been fixed at Tk. 1500.00 for the Rotarians and chairman of the registration committee has urged upon the Rotarians to register their names before January 10, at City Heart, 9th floor, 67, Naya Paltan, in the city.

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Megawati visits Bangabandhu Museum

The visiting Indonesian Vice President Megawati Soekarnaputri visited the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Memorial Museum at Dharmondi in the city yesterday, reports BSS.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina received the Indonesian Vice President at the Museum premises. On her arrival at the museum Megawati Soekarnaputri placed wreath on the portrait of the Father of the Nation.

Megawati Soekarnaputri signed the visitors book and wrote "Body decays but spirit gets immortality and ideals live forever in it".

The Indonesian leader was accompanied by her husband Louwique Kinas, foreign minister Dr Alvi Shihab, her other family members and two members of parliament.

Call to resume publication of Banglabazar Patrika

By Staff Correspondent

Journalists, workers and employees and thana district correspondents of The Banglabazar Patrika yesterday demanded immediate resumption of publication of the daily.

They made the call during a two-day meeting in front of its office at Tejjagon Industrial area in the city.

The speakers warned the authorities of the daily that they will have to face dire consequences if they try to publish the newspaper in an alternative way.

Presided over by Shahmewaj Dulal, convener of Banglabazar Patrika Journalist, Workers and Employees Unity Council and Unit Chief, the meeting was addressed, among others, by GM Yeakub, acting president of Bangladesh Federal Union of Journalists (BFUJ), Alaf Mahmood, president of Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) and M. Auwaral Haq, President of Dhaka Reporters' Unity (DRU), Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, General Secretary of DUJ, Mollah Anzad Hossain, chief reporter of the daily.

Other leaders of BFUJ, DUJ and journalists and workers of the recently closed newspapers also addressed the meeting. The meeting will continue till today (Sunday), said a press release.

Obituary

Mohammad Hasan Ali, the second son of former minister M. Korbani Ali, died of cardiac arrest Friday morning in the city, family sources said yesterday. He was 33, reports BSS.

He left behind his wife, one child, mother, brothers, sisters and a host of relations to mourn his death.

The *qukhuan* of the deceased will be held at his paternal house at 4 Hare Street, Wari in the city.

The family of the deceased has requested his friends, relations and admirers to attend the *qukhuan*.

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