

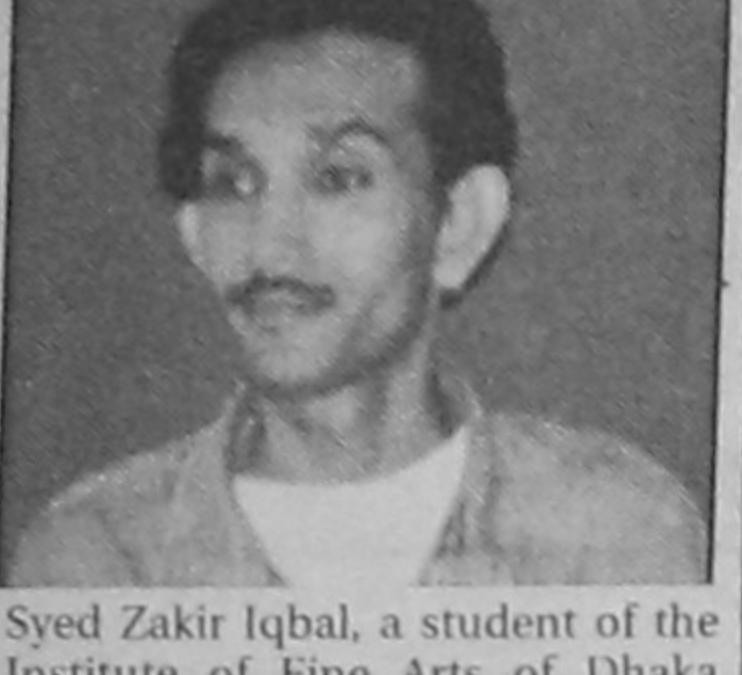


Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Nazneen Hossain (Nazu), wife of Delwar Hossain, died of cardiac ailments at Bangladesh Medical Hospital at Dhanmondi on March 31. She was 35.

She is survived by her husband, a daughter and two sons. Nazneen's *qadhiwani* will be held at her residence at 27 Ali Reza Real Estate, Baskhali, Mohammadpur after Asr prayers tomorrow.



Syed Zakir Iqbal, a student of the Institute of Fine Arts of Dhaka University died of a cardiac arrest on April 2 at Bangladesh Medical College Hospital, says a press release.

He was buried at Azimpur graveyard.

His quikhwani will be held at his residence at 34, Mitali Road, Dhanmondi Road No 15 after Asr prayers on Friday.

Gul Raihan, wife of late peer of Sarsina Silsila Shah Sufi Mouli Ahmed, died of old age complications at her residence in Dharambanda village in Monohordi thana in Narisingdi on March 29. She was 75, says a press release.

She is survived by her two daughters, a son and a host of relatives.

An *Esval-E-sawab mahfil* will be held at the Dharabanda Senior Madrassah Maidan after Asr prayers on April 13.

Speakers at a discussion yesterday observed that fundamentalist forces are still the main obstruction to the women movement and said human rights of women are being violated due to misuse of religion.

While addressing the 31st founding anniversary of Bangladesh Mahila Parishad (BMP) at the National Press Club Auditorium, they noted that new laws have to be formulated to strengthen the involvement of women in the country's economic and political activities.

Stressing on the need to create more awareness on empowerment of women, the speakers also underscored the need to make social and cultural environment confirm human rights of women.

They urged the administration and judiciary of the country to cooperate to accelerate the women movement and added that, "the mass media and political parties have to play strong roles to play in the anti-repression

WEATHER TODAY

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Khulna, Dhaka and Sylhet divisions and the regions of Pabna, Bogra, Noakhali and Comilla till 6pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry elsewhere over the country, the Met office said yesterday.

Yesterday's highest temperature of 37.9 degree Celsius was recorded at Rajshahi and the lowest 17.0 degree at Tetulia.

The sun sets in the capital today at 6.16 pm and rises tomorrow at 5.46 am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius			Humidity in percentage		
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening		
Dhaka	34.4	25.0	68	56		
Chittagong	36.7	23.0	59	57		
Rajshahi	37.9	23.4	74	29		
Khulna	35.0	23.7	82	60		
Barisal	34.6	22.0	76	53		
Sylhet	33.7	21.8	64	56		
Cox's Bazar	35.5	24.0	56	71		

Misuse of religion violating women's rights

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The speakers called on the government to increase the number of women's seat in the parliament and demanded direct election to those reserved seats.

They also called upon the Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia to come back to the parliament to help this cause.

The leaders also focused on the different activities of the BMP and said, "the activities of the women organisation is more or less like a political party."

Presided over by chairperson of BMP Hena Das, the discussion was also addressed, among others, by noted women leader Noorjanan Murshid, editor of Daily Sangbad Bazlur Rahman, general secretary of BMP Ayesha Khanom and Dr. Malek Banu.

Following the discussion, the BMP held a publication ceremony of the book *Muktijuddha Diner Smriti*. The BMP published the book, comprising articles on personal experience on Liberation War of 142 women, to mark the founding anniversary.

Residents of city's Sutrapur-Postgola brought out a procession in the area yesterday to press home their demand for immediate reconstruction of the main road while Mayor Mohammad Hanif was attending a programme at Dhaka Cotton Mills.

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