

## NEWS SNAPS

## Three killed in Chittagong road mishap

**UNB, Chittagong**  
Three passengers of a microbus were killed in a road accident at Bashbaria in Sitakunda upazila of Chittagong on Dhaka-Chittagong highway on Sunday.  
Police and witnesses said a Dhaka-bound overloaded bus rammed into the microbus coming from the opposite direction killing the three passengers on the spot at about 3 pm. Police recovered the bodies, but identity of the victims could not be known. The driver of the bus escaped and police seized the vehicle.

## Manikganj road accident claims 2 lives

**UNB, Manikganj**  
Two people were killed and 26 injured in traffic mishaps on the Dhaka-Aricha Highway in Ghior upazila of Manikganj area on Saturday.  
Police and witnesses said an unidentified old man aged about 35 years was killed and 23 other passengers were injured when a Jessore-bound coach fell into a roadside ditch while trying to give side to a minibus at Zoka. With critical wounds six people were sent to Dhaka while 10 others to Sadar Hospital. In another accident, Sabur was killed and three other passengers were injured when a tempo dashed against a tree beside the same highway in Kholra area. The injured people were admitted to Sadar Hospital. Bodies of the deceased were also sent to Sadar Hospital morgue. Separate cases were filed with local police station.

## Man killed in Jessore road accident

**UNB, Jessore**  
A man was killed and two others were injured in a road accident at Hashimpur Bazaar on Jessore-Magura road in Jessore on Tuesday.  
Police and witnesses said private car driver Jamaluddin, 35, died on the spot and two others were injured when a Jessore bound private car from Dhaka collided with a Dhaka bound bus at the point. The injured were rushed to Jessore General Hospital while the body of the deceased was sent to hospital morgue for autopsy. Police seized the private car and bus.

## Alleged extortionist beaten to death

**UNB, Bagerhat**  
An alleged extortionist was beaten to death and another injured in a mass beating at Kandapara in sadar upazila of Bagerhat on Sunday morning.  
Police and witnesses said local people caught two youths Ferdous and Mahub at about 6:30 am when they went to the village for toll collection. The mob left them on a road after giving them a good beating. On information police rushed to the spot and rescued them. They were admitted to Bagerhat sadar hospital where Ferdous, hailed from Kartikdia village, succumbed to his injuries at about 12 noon.

## Sabash Bangladesh: A glorious monument at RU

**RU CORRESPONDENT, Rajshahi**

"Sabash Bangladesh", is a glorious monument of the Liberation War at Rajshahi University (RU).

Its architectural beauty charms visitors from home and abroad. It has already attracted the attention of innumerable art lovers.

The sculpture is the unique art work of artist Nitun Kundu.

The foundation of the monument was laid by the then Vice-Chancellor of the university Prof M Amanullah on March 26 in 1990 in face of strong demand of the students and progressive teachers for setting up of a liberation war sculpture. It was opened by late 'Shaheed Janani' Jahanara Imam on February 10, 1992.

The aesthetic 'Sabash Bangladesh' is not a result of single effort. Former RUVU Prof M Amanullah, teachers and students worked relentlessly to set up the monument. Leaders of Rajshahi University Central Students' Union (RUCSU) in 1988-89 played a pioneering role in this regard. The leaders communicated with artist Nitun Kundu and proposed an additional subscription from the

students as the varsity had no sufficient fund to build such an ambitious monument. So, the students, teachers, officers and employees contributed financially for realising the dream of RU family members.

However, the remarkable contribution was made by the artist himself who took no money as remuneration. His generous sacrifice will remain ever fresh as long as RU exists.

Of the three mentionable stages of 'Sabash Bangladesh', the first is 40 ft by 40 ft square premises which is 6 feet high. The second portion is a six feet high altar on which figures of two freedom fighters carrying two rifles in their hands, is the main attraction of the monument. There is a replica of Bangladeshi flag, 36 feet in height, behind the two figures. The red circle of the national flag is symbolised with a hollow imposition of the two figures, one is lungi clad and the other wearing a pant. Both of them are the symbol of freedom fighters. The former is an illiterate one and patriotic freedom fighter representing a villager and the later represents an urban citizen.

A part from this, on the front walls

of the altar, there are two white panels on which the artist portrayed common masses of Bangladesh including students, youths, women who were united against the ill-forces of our liberation war in 1971.

At the end of the two figures a brass plate is attached on which are inscribed verses of Sukanta Bhattacharya starting with "Sabash Bangladesh ...." that ignites the Bengali nationalism.

Artist Nitun Kundu has initiated a new dimension in its construction using red oxide with cement in addition to concrete. It is the first of its kind in Bangladesh.

The sculptor, Nitun Kundu said about his creation after the inauguration of "Sabash Bangladesh", "I have tried to attract the attention of all towards the future alongside the glorious past and present of the nation."

A large number of visitors came to the campus every day from different parts of the country to enjoy the beauty of the monument. The stage of its pedestal becomes the centre of various cultural functions on the campus since its inauguration.



'Sabash Bangladesh' - a monument of our glorious liberation war.

PHOTO: STAR

## Victory Day celebrated in dists

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

People of various districts on December 16 celebrated the 30th anniversary of victory and paid rich tributes to the heroic sons of the soil who made supreme sacrifices to liberate the country from the Pakistan occupation forces in 1971.

In Chittagong, a large number of people thronged the central Shaheed Minar at zero hour of the day and placed wreath in memory of the martyrs of independence.

Programmes of the victory day was heralded with 21-gunfire from atop the court hill at 12.01 am.

In the morning national flag was hoisted atop all important public and private buildings and roadside shops and in the evening important buildings, roads and roadside islands were illuminated.

Besides, special prayers were offered in different mosques and other places of worship seeking

eternal peace of the martyrs as well as progress and prosperity of the country.

Leaders and workers of ruling BNP, opposition Awami League, 11-party, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD) and Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal (BSD) also placed wreaths at the Shaheed Minar.

In the morning a large number of social, professional and cultural organizations also placed wreath at the Shaheed Minar and paid homage to the martyrs of the liberation war.

To mark the day a ten-day Bijoy Mela (victory fair) was inaugurated at outer stadium and its adjoining areas in the afternoon.

In Rajshahi, the day's programme began with 21-gunfire by Rajshahi district administration at district police line at 00.01 am. Post and Telecommunication Minister Barrister Mohammad Aminul Haque place wreath at Rajshahi central

Shaheed Minar at the same time. Later, the minister offered special prayer and fateha at the mass grave at Rajshahi Police Line. Rajshahi City Mayor Mizanur Rahman, MP was present at that time.

National flag was hoisted atop all government and non-government offices with the rising of sun and all important buildings were illuminated.

Improved diets were distributed among the inmates of hospitals, jails, orphanages and children's home.

Besides, special prayers were also offered seeking continued peace and progress of the nation in all mosques, temples, churches and other place of worships.

Mobile police team played bands in different important areas of the city.

In Khulna, the day's programme began with 21-gunfire by Khulna district administration at the Collectorate premises at 00.01 am. At the same time, people of the city and its adjoining areas placed wreaths at the martyred memorial at Gallamari. National flag was hoisted atop all the government and non-government offices and organisations with the rising of sun.

Improved diet was distributed among the inmates of hospitals, jails, orphanages and children's home. Special prayers were also offered seeking continued peace and progress of the nation in all mosques, temples, churches and other place of worships. The Navy ship at Khulna BIWTA Ghat was

open for all in the afternoon.

All important government buildings and establishments were illuminated just after setting of the sun.

As part of the day's programmes, the national flag hoisting ceremony and parade was held at Khulna Stadium at 8 am on December 18. Khulna district police, metropolitan police, Ansar, VDP and children of different children homes and educational institutes took part in the programme.

Cinema based on the War of Liberation was screened at all cinema halls of the city without fee at 11 am.

In Narayanganj the day's programme was heralded with 21 gun-salute at 5.30 in the morning.

National flag was hoisted atop all important public and private buildings.

A painting competition was held at Deobhug Fine Arts Institute on the War of Liberation at 11 am. About 50 competitors, mostly children participated in the competition. The deputy commissioner, Narayanganj gave away prizes among the successful competitors.

The district unit of BNP, Awami League, Left Democratic Front and other socio-cultural organisations placed wreaths at Chashara Shaheed Minar at 7 am.

Special prayer was offered after Zohr prayers for peace, progress and prosperity of the country.

Victory Day was also celebrated in all other districts of the country befittingly.



PHOTO: AMINUL ISLAM

Rural women take training on cleft grafting of mango in Mymensingh. Kewathkhal Horticulture Centre arranged the training programme recently.

## Eid celebrated in Chandpur on December 16

**UNB, Chandpur**

In line with Arab countries, some 50,000 people of 25 villages in Chandpur celebrated Eid-ul-Fitr on December 16 although the festival was observed at other places in the country on December 17.

The main congregation was held at the house of late Pir Hazrat Maulana Ishaq at Hajiganj upazila at 11 am. Twenty-two other congregations were held at different parts in Hajiganj, Faridganj and Matlab upazilas.

The people of 25 villages in these three upazilas, who are the followers of Pir Maulana Ishaq, have been celebrating various religious festivals, including Eid, since 1931 following the schedule of Saudi Arabia and other Arab nations.

## Public fund misappropriated in Jessore

**UNB, Jessore**

The Bureau of Anti-corruption submitted charge sheet against a physician and a branch manager of Agrani Bank in Jessore for misappropriating public fund amounting to Tk 10 lakh.

Official sources said Hassan Al Mamun, a local physician in Ghop area in Jessore town, prepared fake document imitating the signature of the then ADC (revenue) Saheb Ali Mrida in 1996.

He drew Tk 10 lakh from Agrani Bank Nawapara bazar branch in Avoyanagar upazila in collusion with its manager Shahjahan Mia.

The then anti-corruption Officer Dulal Uddin Akanda filed a corruption case against the duo.