

Proshika staff detained for one month

COURT CORRESPONDENT
Two arrested Proshika staff were given one month's detention by the District Magistrate's Court, Dhaka yesterday.

Ashura on March 25

BSS, Dhaka
The holy Ashura will be observed on March 25, the National Moon Sighting Committee announced yesterday.

Ensure rule of law to eliminate terrorism, seminar urges

DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT
Speakers on the concluding day of a seminar on 'Post-September 11 Society' felt that international terrorism could be eliminated only by following democratic practices, ensuring rule of law and ensuring human rights.

9 alleged robbers beaten to death in 3 districts

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Nine alleged dacoits were beaten to death in Narayanganj, Manikganj and Jessore districts in the early hours of yesterday. Of them, four were beaten to death in Bandar upazila of Narayanganj, two in Singair upazila of Manikganj and the rest three in Sadar upazila of Jessore.

Murder in custody SI jailed for 10yrs, 9 others for life in Natore

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Natore
The Additional District and Sessions Judge Court, Natore yesterday sentenced a police sub-inspector (SI) to ten years rigorous imprisonment and nine others to life term in connection with the murder of a youth in police custody in Shingra.



State Minister for Education Ehsanul Huq Milon visits a madrasah at Chandina during the Dakhil examinations yesterday and detects cheating in examination.



Fastest feet... Fautzia Huda Jui crosses the finish line way ahead of the chasing pack to take the ladies 100-metre sprint honours of the 7th Bangladesh Games. (Inset) Maruf Reza of Bangladesh Krira Shiksha Protisthan (BKSP) flashes V-sign after shattering the national mark in the men's 100 metres.



PHOTO: STAR

Battle line drawn at Ayodhya

Police, Hindu hardliners brace for showdown today
AFP, Ayodhya
The Indian government vowed yesterday to prevent Hindu activists from staging an inflammatory holy ceremony in this northern town as security forces brace for a possible showdown.

It boils down to bad governance

SHAIKH NAZRUL ISLAM
Police records show the number of murders took a significant turn in 1986 and then in 1996. Now, the post-1996 figures clearly show an upward trend. Other types of crime such as robbery, repression on women and children, mugging, abduction and extortion have also demonstrated upward curves.

Wife alleges torture on Nasim

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Dr Sultana Shamim Chowdhury, wife of AFM Bahauddin Nasim, has alleged that her husband was severely tortured by 'investigators' in clear violation of the United Nations declaration on human rights.

Three killed in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
A final-year BA student of Titumir College was gunned down yesterday and another young man was slaughtered in separate incidents in the city yesterday.

Ahad Chy gets ad-interim bail in criminal case

COURT CORRESPONDENT
The Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court, Dhaka yesterday granted ad-interim bail to Prof Abdul Ahad Chowdhury in a criminal case.

Bangladesh has failed in its poverty alleviation goals

UN Asst Secy-Gen Hafiz Pasha tells The Daily Star
M ANWARUL HAQ
Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations Hafiz Pasha has said Bangladesh has failed in its goal for poverty alleviation despite making some significant progress in economic and social sectors.



UN, he said, has kept poverty reduction at the top of its agenda and plans to reduce it further by 2015.

Port city in severe water crisis

SHAHIDUL ISLAM from Chittagong
A perennial water crisis continues to plague the life of about four million people of the port city with the authorities concerned yet to take necessary steps to resolve the problem.

Table with Prayer Timings for Mar 15, including Sun Rises, Sun Sets, Azan, and Jamaat times.

Daily Star reporter robbed

STAFF CORRESPONDENT
Armed muggers snatched cash and other valuables from a senior reporter of The Daily Star at Shahbagh in the city's Ramna area yesterday evening.