Int'l Day of Families today

UNB, Dhaka

The UN declared 'International Day of Families' will be observed in the country as elsewhere in the world today.

This year the main theme of the day is 'Families and Ageing: Opportunities and Challenges.'

The main objective of observing this day is to focus on the importance of the day and creating mass awareness in support of family system. To observe the day, the government chalked out elaborate programmes which include discussion meeting, rally and publication of special supplement in the national dailies.

In a message on the eve of the day, President AQM Badruddoza Chowdhury said healthy and beautiful family life is an essential precondition for the proper growth of human life.

Family, especially joint family, is the main education centre of mutual esteem, responsibility, dutifulness and tolerance, the President said.

He mentioned that the gradual extinction of the 'nuclear family system' has emerged as a great challenge to the traditional family

"It is our social responsibility to face the challenge in order to keep the family tie intact and ensure peaceful life for the older people," Prof Chowdhury said.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia in a of women in the country. separate message termed family a traditional institution of our society. "Social and political life of a person evolve around family," she

year's International Day of Families she said "I believe the slogan will raise our awareness to be more dutiful to the older family members."

UN Secretary General Kofi Annan in his message stressed on the government for its failure in helping families promote the active participation of their older members in society and develop-



Petroleum dealers, distributors, agents and filling station owners brought out a mourning procession in memory of slain petrol pump owner Shahed Newaz Babla in the city yesterday.

6.58 lakh VGF cards to be distributed

UNB, Dhaka

The government will distribute 6.58 lakh VGF (vulnerable group feeding) cards among the distressed families affected by storms and flashflood in 18 districts.

Disaster Management and Relief Minister Chowdhury Kamal Ibne Yusuf gave the directive at a meeting of the Relief Ministry here vesterday.

An additional amount of 6,575 metric tons of rice will be allocated and 10 kg of rice will be distributed against each VGF card.

The effected districts are - Dinajpur, Sunamganj, Thakurgaon, Panchargarh, Rangpur, Nilphamari, Kurigram, Lalmonirhat, Gaibandha, Jamalpur, Sherpur, Mymensingh, Netrakona, Kishoreganj, Tangail, Sylher, Rajbari and

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Mohila AL brings out silent procession

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Mohila Awami League, the women's chapter of AL, brought out a silent procession in the city yesterday demanding arrest and trial of the criminals responsible for murders and rapes

The procession led by Mohila AL president Ivy Rahman, brought out from the party's Bangabandhu Avenue office, was intercepted by police at Paltan crossing on its way Praising the theme of this towards National Press Club, a press release said.

Later the processionists refrained from proceeding further and returned to Bangabandhu

The Mohila AL leaders blamed curbing crimes in the country and referred to the recent killings of 20-month old Naushin and a I young girl Ratna in the city.



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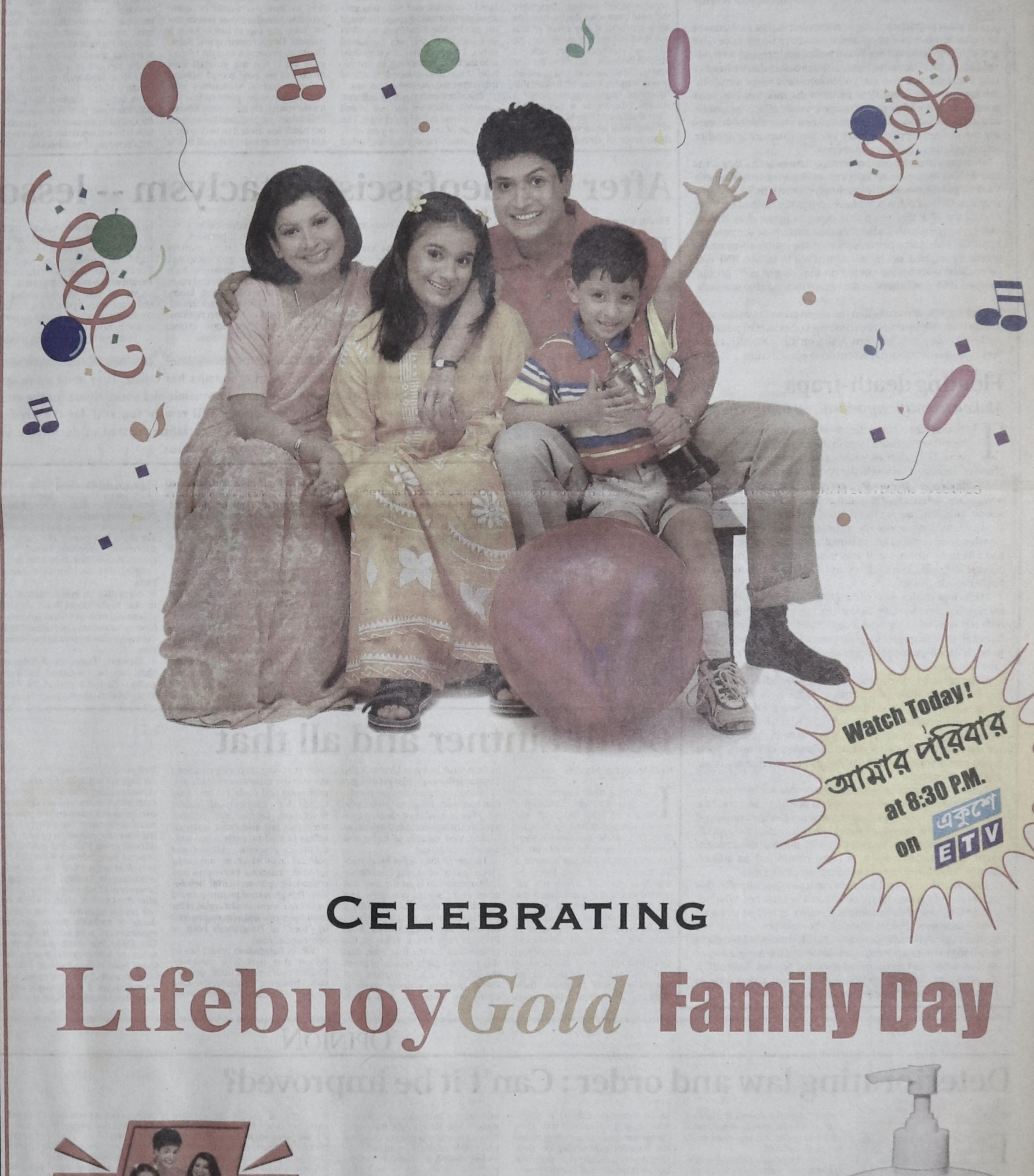
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