



Nina Schleifer (left), her child Tiia Schleifer and mother Magda Schleifer look over the grave of the 'Unknown Child' at the Titanic Memorial in the Fairview Cemetery in Halifax on November 5. The 'Unknown Child' has been identified as Eino Viljami Panula thanks to DNA samples from Magda Schleifer, whose grandmother's sister was the mother of the unknown child.

DNA identifies child victim of Titanic shipwreck

REUTERS, Halifax, Nova Scotia

It has taken 90 years, the latest in DNA technology and a television documentary to do it, but the "Unknown Child" from the doomed Titanic has finally been identified.

The crew of the Canadian recovery ship Mackay-Bennett found the body of the young, fair-haired boy a few days after the steamer sank, with the loss of 1,517 lives.

But there was no identification and the crewmen decided to take the body to Halifax and pay for a proper funeral, burying the little coffin at the top of a hill in Fairview Lawn Cemetery, along with 120 other Titanic victims.

The headstone reads "Unknown Child" and over the years it has attracted the attention of cemetery visitors.

Now the experts have determined it was the body of Eino Viljami Panula, who was thirteen months old when the Titanic sank on April 15, 1912. He was one of five brothers from Finland who died in the disaster, along with their mother. "The unknown child is now a known child, identified

and returned to his family," said Ryan Parr of Canada's Lakehead University, who coordinated the work of over 50 scientists, genealogists, and Titanic researchers.

The infants relatives, Magda Schleifer from Helsinki, and her daughter and son-in-law, Nina Schleifer and Jyrki Uutrla and their one-and-a-half-year-old daughter, arrived in Halifax this week to pay their respects at the grave.

Magda Schleifer, who is 68 with a shy smile and gently beaming eyes, said she knew that her grandmother's sister and her five sons had drowned when the Titanic sank.

But the family's loss became more real when blood tests confirmed the unknown child was Eino, she said. "It has been more and more a family story and now, it's more like something really happened," she said, speaking through her son-in-law.

Eino's mother, Maria Emilia Ojala, and her five sons were travelling to the United States to join her husband, John Panula, who was working in Pennsylvania when the Titanic hit an iceberg and sank. The family in Finland

never knew that any family bodies had been found from the sinking.

Then, early last month, producers of the television series "Secrets of the Dead" contacted Magda Schleifer and asked if she would donate a small blood sample for DNA testing, to see if the unknown child was from her family.

It was the first time she had heard about an unknown child, and she said she wanted to help if she could, especially as the lost child was around the age of her granddaughter.

Uutrla said the visit to the cemetery with the documentary film crew had been very emotional for the grandmother.

"Of course, you are there, at the cemetery, where so many bodies are, have their graves, and people bring toys to the few babies that are lying there," he said.

"You see the toys, the graves, it is something concrete, not just a story, and remember how the Mackay-Bennett crew took care of the child -- who would not be emotional? She's a very emotional woman, so it was shocking, moving."



The Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal organised an art competition on late President Ziaur Rahman and the 7th November at the Fine Arts Institute of Dhaka University yesterday. BNP joint secretary general Tareque Rahman attended the programme as chief guest.

Garlic may prevent cancer: Study

AP, Washington

Men in China have the lowest rate of prostate cancer in the world, and a diet rich in garlic, shallots and onions may be one of the reasons. Researchers at the National Cancer Institute report in a new study that a diet with lots of vegetables from the allium food group — which includes garlic, shallots and onions — reduces the risk of prostate cancer by about half. And the common Chinese diet includes hearty servings of these vegetables.

The study, appearing this week in the Journal of the National Cancer Institute, is based on interviews with 238 men with prostate cancer and 471 men who were free of the disease.

Men in the study, all residents of Shanghai, China, were asked how frequently they ate 122 food items.

The results showed that those

who ate more than a third of an ounce a day from the allium food group were about 40 percent less likely to have prostate cancer than those who ate less of the foods.

"We checked on many food items and the allium food group stood out (as protective against prostate cancer)," said Ann W. Hsing, an NCI epidemiologist and the first author of the study. "But the conclusions need to be replicated in another study." She said the study was conducted in Shanghai because China has the lowest rate of prostate cancer in the world.

Scallions seemed to be the most protective. According to the study, men who ate about a tenth of an ounce or more a day of scallions reduced their prostate cancer risk by about 70 per cent. For garlic consumption of the same amount, the prostate cancer risk was reduced by about 53 per cent.

Hsing said that the typical Chinese diet is much more heavily seasoned with garlic, scallions and onions than is the traditional American diet. But even so, the amount of allium vegetables consumed is measured only in fractional ounces. For instance, the study suggests that an effective level of prostate cancer protection can be achieved with about one clove of garlic a day.

"The reduced risk of prostate cancer associated with allium vegetables was independent of body size, intake of other foods and total calorie intake," the study authors reported.

Hsing said the study reinforces earlier studies that have linked high vegetable consumption to a reduced risk of prostate cancer. For instance, earlier studies have found that eating tomatoes and tomato products can lower risk of prostate cancer. Italy,

where tomato sauce and garlic are favorites, has one of the lowest rates of prostate cancer in Europe, said Hsing.

Janet Stanford, a cancer epidemiologist at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center in Seattle, said the study by Hsing and her co-authors continues to support the general finding that "eating vegetables is a good thing."

Stanford said her group, in an earlier study, linked broccoli, cauliflower and related vegetables to a reduced prostate cancer risk, while a high fat diet increased the risk.

"This shows that your mother was right," said Stanford. "Eat more vegetables."

The Shanghai study was conducted by researchers at the National Cancer Institute, one of the National Institutes of Health, and at the Shanghai Cancer Institute in China.



Heather Forbes of the British Council speaks at the concluding session of the four-day workshop on 'Combating Trafficking in Women and Children' at the BIAM auditorium in the city on Wednesday. The Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit organised the workshop.

Workshop on combating trafficking in women ends

BSS, Dhaka

The four-day workshop for Trainers on Combating Trafficking of Women and Children ended here on Wednesday.

The Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit (RMMRU) and the British Council jointly organised the workshop at the auditorium of Bangladesh Institute of Administrative Management (BIAM), a press release said yesterday.

Twenty-five participants including Union Council members and NGO officials from five bordering districts participated in the

workshop. The programme of the workshop was prepared by RMMRU in collaboration with the International Organisation for Migration.

Among other things, difference between trafficking and other forms of migration; causes, methods, rescue and routes of trafficking and national and international laws pertaining to the issue were discussed in the workshop.

Various techniques, including bazaar and street meetings and folk songs were developed as tools for raising awareness about trafficking in women and children.

Coffee drinking lowers diabetes risk

REUTERS, London

Good news for coffee drinkers.

The cup that helps millions of people get started in the morning, and several more cups throughout the day, may reduce the risk of diabetes, Dutch researchers said Friday.

Scientists at Vrije University in Amsterdam said components in coffee seem to help the body metabolise sugar, thereby reducing the risk of diabetes, which affects 130 million people worldwide.

"This is the first study that comes up with the idea that coffee could actually be beneficial for type 2 diabetes," said Rob van Dam of the university's depart-

ment of nutrition and health.

Whether it's filter, cappuccino, latte or espresso, coffee contains minerals such as magnesium, potassium and other micronutrients that have health benefits.

Van Dam and his team do not know which of the compounds in coffee are involved or how they work against diabetes, but when they compared coffee consumption with the risk of type 2, or adult onset diabetes, they found the more people drank, the lower their risk.

Individuals who drank seven or more cups of coffee a day, were 50 percent less likely to develop the disease. Fewer cups a day had less

of an impact.

"For most people it is not bad to drink moderate amounts of coffee," Van Dam said.

But he said the findings, which are reported in The Lancet medical journal and need to be confirmed in other studies, do not mean people should drink large amounts of coffee every day.

Studies have shown drinking too much coffee can raise cholesterol levels and increase the risk of osteoporosis, or brittle bone disease, in some people, according to Van Dam.

"It's quite an individual choice to drink coffee or not," Van Dam said in an interview.

But he added if scientists knew

more about the active components in coffee, it might be possible to make a type of coffee or another product with more of the beneficial compounds and fewer of the detrimental ones.

Diabetes is a chronic disease caused by a deficiency or lack of insulin. Type 2 diabetes is caused by an inability to make enough, or properly to use insulin. Type 1 sufferers do not produce enough insulin and need daily injections.

Most people with Type 2 diabetes are overweight or obese. Excess weight is the most common and avoidable risk factor for the illness, which experts estimate will afflict 220 million people by the year 2010.

Award ceremony of qirat, azan competition of army held

UNB, Dhaka

The prize distribution ceremony of Bangladesh Army's annual inter-region qirat and azan competition was held at the cantonment garrison mosque in the city yesterday.

Dhaka signal team emerged as champion scoring 970.37 points out of 1200 points while air defence artillery team scored 900.18 points to become runner-up.

In the individual qirat competition, corporal Muhammad Hafizur Rahman of Dhaka signal team obtained the first position and the second position went to lance corporal Muhammad Sanahullah of the same team.

In the individual azan competition, lance corporal Muhammad Sanahullah has been declared first while lance corporal Muhammad Humayun Kabir got the second position.

Chief of Army Staff Lt General Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury gave away prizes among the winners.

Extortionist arrested

UNB, Nilphamari

A youth was arrested here on Thursday for allegedly demanding Tk 50,000 from the editor of a local weekly.

Police said Mithu, 28, demanded the amount from Abdul-fah, editor of Neel Samachar, and threatened to blow up his office if his demand went unheeded.

Mithu was arrested after a case was filed against him.



Chief of Army Staff Lieutenant General Hasan Mashhud Chowdhury with the winners of Army Inter-Area Qirat and Azan Competition at the prize giving ceremony held at the Garrison Mosque at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday.



Actor and AD maker Atzal Hossain speaks at a seminar on 'Prospects of career in fashion design of Bangladesh', organised by the National Institute of Fashion Design, on its campus in the city recently.

102 community clinics set up in Pirojpur

UNB, Pirojpur

A total of 102 community clinics were set up in the district during the last fiscal year aiming to reach healthcare facilities to the doorsteps of rural people.

Health and Family Welfare Ministry constructed the community clinics at a cost of Tk 2.4 crore.

Nine of the clinics were set up in Bhandaria upazila, seven in Kankhali, 20 in Sadar, 18 in Nazirpur, 22 in Nesarabad and 26 in Muthbaria upazilas.

Four union-level health and family welfare centres were also set up in Sadar, Nazirpur, Bhandaria and Zhanagar upazilas at a cost of Tk 1.59 crore, officials said.

... for fear of arrest

UNB, Brahmanbaria

A newly elected UP chairman in Sadar upazila did not turn up at the oath-taking ceremony at the UNO office here on Wednesday for fear of arrest.

Sources said M Sirajul Islam was re-elected chairman of Ichhapura union parishad and his oath-taking ceremony was scheduled for Wednesday at the UNO office.

But Sirajul did not turn up at the function as army men and plainclothes policemen gathered there apparently to arrest him.

Sirajul was wanted in a murder case.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Executive Engineer
Road Division, Tangail

(R&D) Tender Invitation Notice

Sealed tenders are invited through Bangladesh Form No 2911.

- 1) Tender Notice No 7 (seven)/TRD, Year-2002-2003.
- 2) Name of work : Supply of spare parts fixing and repairing of different inspection vehicles and mechanised vehicles under Tangail Road Division during 2002-2003 financial year. Divided in 5 (five) groups.
- 3) Estimated cost : Taka as per group list.
- 4) Earnest money : Taka as per group list, should be submitted through Bank Draft/Treasury Challan etc. from any scheduled bank in favour of the Executive Engineer, R&H, Road Division, Tangail.
- 5) Prescribed time limit for completion of work : As per group list.
- 6) Eligibility of tenderer : "As per group list", General class (R & H) enlisted contractors.
- 7) Offices where tender to be had at : Executive Engineer, R&H, Road Division, Tangail/Mymensingh/Jamalpur/Kishoreganj/Netrokona/Sherpur/Deputy Commissioner, Tangail/Police Super, Tangail/Sub-Divisional Engineer (R&H), Road Sub-Division, Tangail/Mirzapur/Modhupur under Tangail Road Division/Assistant Engineer (R & H), 1st Line Workshop Sub-Division, Tangail.
- 8) Offices to receive tender : Superintending Engineer, R&H, Road Circle, Mymensingh/Executive Engineer, R&H, Road Division, Tangail/Mymensingh/Jamalpur/Kishoreganj/Netrokona/Sherpur/Deputy Commissioner, Tangail/Police Super, Tangail.
- 9) Last date of selling tender : 18-11-2002 up to office hours.
- 10) Last date of receiving tender (in sealed condition) : 19-11-2002 up to 12:30 pm.
- 11) Date & time of opening tender : 23-11-2002 at 02:00 pm.
- 12) Date of lottery : 27-11-2002 at 11:00 am, will be held at the office of the undersigned.

NB: Officers of the tender receiving offices are requested to receive tenders on the prescribed date as per the tender notice and also requested to send the tenders in sealed condition to the Executive Engineer, R&H, Road Division, Tangail through special messenger.

Group List

Supply of spare parts, fixing and repairing of different inspection vehicle and mechanised vehicles under Tangail Road Division during 2002-2003 financial year. Divided in 5 (five) groups.

Group no.	Name of work	Head of expenditure	Estimated cost	Earnest money	Time for completion of work	Price of tender document	Eligibility of contractor	Remarks
1 (one)	Supply of spare parts, fixing and repairing of inspection vehicle Toyota Land Cruiser Jeep No. SUS-65-3728 of 1 st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Tangail Road Division during 2002-2003 financial year.	168-Road, Bridge and Ferry	Taka-89,860/-	Taka-1,798/-	15 (fifteen) days	Taka-270/-	"A" to "E" (Presently G-1 to G-5) General Class (R&H) contractors.	
2 (two)	Supply of spare parts, fixing and repairing of inspection vehicle Mitsubishi Jeep No.-Chittagong-Gha-8123, assigned to Road Sub-Division, Modhupur of 1 st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Tangail Road Division during 2002-2003 financial year.	-do-	Taka-87,325/-	Taka-1,747/-	15 (fifteen) days	Taka-270/-	-do-	
3 (three)	Supply of spare parts, fixing and necessary repairing of Pajero Jeep No.-Tangail-Ka-163 of the 1 st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Tangail Road Division during 2002-2003 financial year.	-do-	Taka-1,10,090/-	Taka-2,202/-	15 (fifteen) days	Taka-520/-	-do-	
4 (four)	Supply of spare parts, fixing and necessary repairing of Bedford truck nos Tangail-Ta-80 and Tangail-Ta-84 of the 1 st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Tangail Road Division during 2002-2003 financial year.	-do-	Taka-1,22,820/-	Taka-2,457/-	15 (fifteen) days	Taka-520/-	-do-	
5 (five)	Supply of spare parts, fixing and repairing of China Roller no.-009 of the 1 st Line Workshop Sub-Division under Tangail Road Division during 2002-2003 financial year.	-do-	Taka-1,59,100/-	Taka-3,182/-	15 (fifteen) days	Taka-520/-	-do-	

Md Hamidur Rahman
Executive Engineer, R&H
Road Division, Tangail.

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