

Harry Potter in Bangla

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Ankur Prakashani, Dhaka has published the Bangla translation of world famous children's novel 'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' by JK Rowling, says a press release.

Sohrab Hasan and Shehabuddin Ahmed have translated the book in Bangla.

Only two publication houses of this subcontinent have got the rights for translating the novel - Ankur Prakashani, Dhaka in Bangla and Oxford University Press, Lahore in Urdu.

'Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone' has been translated in 58 languages and over 20 crore copies have so far been sold across the world.

The novel has created a sensation across the world.

Maintain quality of education

Prime minister tells private universities

BSS, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia yesterday called upon the private universities to maintain quality of education and make education affordable to all.

She made the call when a five-member delegation of the Moulana Bhasani Science and Technology University (MBSTU) called on her at the Prime Minister's Office yesterday.

Khaleda Zia appreciated the objectives of the private university named after the late leader of the downtrodden, Moulana Abdul Hamid Khan Bhasani, and assured all-out cooperation of her government for its development and welfare.

The MBSTU delegation told the prime minister that the academic activities of the university would begin in September this year and invited her to the launching ceremony on September 1.

The prime minister accepted the invitation. She said Moulana Bhasani was respected as a struggling public leader of Afro-Asia and Latin America and the university named after him should reflect his struggle and pursue international standard of education.

"We can pay due respect to the late leader by imparting high quality education to the students in the University named after him," she said. Its academic and extracurricular activities would reflect the ideals of Moulana Bhasani, she added.

The delegation apprised Khaleda Zia of different aspects of the university and sought government assistance for development of its infrastructure. They urged the prime minister to allocate land to the university at a token price.

The delegation also requested her to provide the university with some quality manpower at the initial stage.

Khaleda advised the university authorities to send a proposal on the demands to the ministry concerned and gave the assurance that the proposal would be considered.

The MBSTU delegation comprised Vice-chancellor Prof Dr Yusuf Sharif Ahmed Khan, Bhasani Trust chairman Prof Yusuf Zahid, Trust member-secretary Syed Irfanul Bari, Trust member M Shamsul Haq and registrar Shah M Sarwar Islam.

As the delegation apprised the prime minister of various aspects of the university, she lauded the features of the MBSTU and said it could be a model for other private universities.

She said the government will do everything possible, in line with its programmes for education, for the development and welfare of the university. Besides, she said, she would watch over the university personally.

The MBSTU it will offer stipend to the poor and meritorious students. English will be the only medium of teaching and the university will follow the international standard of education, including semesters and credit hours along with academic calendar, the delegation numbers said.

They said the MBSTU will give emphasis on the subjects Computer Science and Information Technology (IT). The focus will be on human resource development through constant and appropriate linkage with the job market.

The university set up on 58 acres of land will have highly experienced and qualified full-time teachers and it will hire, if needed, internationally reputed teachers from home and abroad, they added.

DHAKA TODAY

Silver jubilee
The inaugural ceremony of the silver jubilee ceremony of Vigarunnisa Noon College will be held with Prime Minister Khaleda Zia as chief guest. Venue: College campus, New Baily Road. Time: 5.00pm.

Conference
An international conference on 'Interrelation between trafficking in women and children and HIV/AIDS: South Asian Perspective', organised by Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association (BNWLA), will be held with Health and Family Welfare Minister Dr Khandaker Mosharraf Hossain as chief guest. Venue: BRAC Centre Inn, Mohakhali. Time: 10.00am.

Seminar
The inaugural session of a two-day seminar on 'Women in challenging situations in Bangladesh', organised by Refugee and Migratory Movements Research Unit, will be held with Prof SMA Faiz, vice-chancellor of Dhaka University, as chief guest. It will be followed by an exhibition on working women. Venue: CIRDP auditorium. Time: 4.00pm.

Scientific seminar
A scientific seminar on the 'Role of Medicine in pregnancy associated nausea and vomiting' organised by Peoples Pharma Limited, will be held. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 12.30pm.

Movie show
Academy Film Society will screen two films titled 'Amaan' and 'Bowling for Columbine'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

Film show
Bangladesh Short Film Forum in collaboration with Liberation War Museum will screen two films titled 'Charukalai Muktiuddha (liberation war in fine arts)' and 'Tears of Fire'. Earlier, a discussion on problems and prospects of making films on liberation war will be held. Venue: Museum auditorium, Segun Bagicha. Time: 5.00pm.

Photography exhibition
The inaugural ceremony of a weeklong photography exhibition will be held. Venue: National Institute of Mass Communication, Darussalam, Mirpur. Time: 10.00am.

Recitation festival
The inaugural ceremony of recitation festival, organised by Swarkalpan Abritti Chakra on the occasion of its seventh founding anniversary, will be held. Venue: Shoukat Osman Memorial auditorium of Central Public Library, Shahbagh. Time: 6.00pm.

Rotaract meeting
Regular meeting of the Rotaract Club of Dhaka Fort will be held. Venue: Rotary High School and College, Mirpur. Time: 5.00pm.

Blood donation
Orca blood for life organises a voluntary blood donation camp. Venue: Bangladesh Computer Institute, Kalabagan. Time: 10.00am.

Certificate giving ceremony
A coordination meeting and certificate giving ceremony under Institutional Computer Support Programme of Muslim Aid (UK) Bangladesh will be held with State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haque Milon as chief guest. Venue: Hamdard Auditorium, Sonargaon Road. Time: 11.00am.

Meeting
A meeting of the relief and agricultural rehabilitation committee of Bangladesh Jatiyatabadi Dal will be held. Venue: 28/1 Naya Paltan. Time: 7.00pm.

DHAKA TOMORROW Painting exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of first solo painting exhibition of Fayekah Assanah will be held with Mustafa Monwar, a personality of excellence, to inaugurate. Venue: DRIK Gallery, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.00pm. The exhibition will continue till July 29 from 3.00pm to 8.00pm daily.

Movie show
Academy Film Society will screen a film titled 'The Mask of Zorro'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm.

Film show
Alliance Francaise will screen a film titled 'Danton' directed by Andrzej Wajda. Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium, Mirpur Road. Time: 10.30am and 6.00pm.

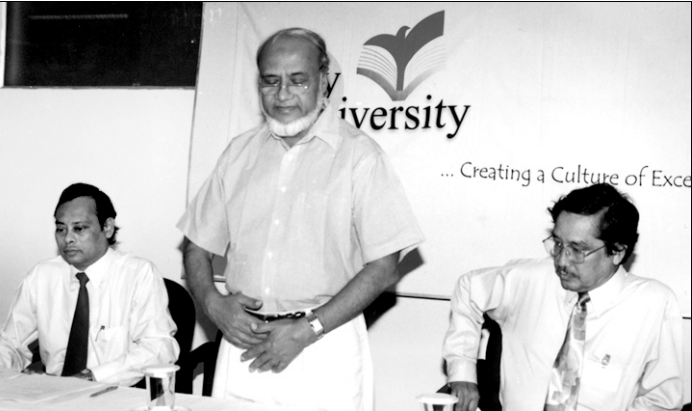
Cultural programme
Proftristi, a cultural organisation, holds a programme that includes monsoon song, dance and recitation. Venue: Amphitheatre adjacent to Dhanmondi Lake. Time: Afternoon.



The Amra Kajan accorded a reception to Toab Khan, advisory editor of the Janakantha, for his contribution to journalism at the National Press Club yesterday. Elderly politician Oli Ahad presents a citation to Toab Khan at the reception.



Bangladesh Chhatra League formed a human chain on the Dhaka University campus yesterday to commemorate the police atrocities on female students of Shamsunnahar Hall.



Prof. Dr M Shamsul Haque, vice-chancellor of City University, speaks at the inaugural ceremony of a course titled 'English for executives' on its Banani campus on Sunday.

Call for adaptation measures to offset global climate change

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Climate experts and environmentalists yesterday called for synchronisation of political efforts at local and international levels and adaptation measures to offset the impacts of global climate change.

The climate change is now a global phenomenon and it would affect the developing countries like Bangladesh badly, although the developed countries create this problem, they said at a lecture session on 'Climate Change and Development in Bangladesh'.

Bangladesh have to come up with solutions of her own, as the developed nations find out solution for them only, the experts said.

Forum of Environmental Journalists of Bangladesh (FEJB) organised the lecture, first of a series, to mark its 20th founding anniversary. FEJB Chairman Quamrul Islam Chowdhury presented.

Dr. Saleemul Huq, chairman of Bangladesh Centre for Advanced Studies (BCAS), emphasised on long-term strategy to cope with the adverse effects of climate change, particularly sea level rise.

He said that the green house effect is causing the global warming that leads to rise of the sea level, threatening to submerge vast coastal areas throughout the world.

ANH Akhtar Hussain, chief engineer, Bangladesh Water Development Board, said the country has weather forecasting system not the climate forecasting system.

He called for installing climate forecasting system for effective disaster management and policy planning.

Dr. A Atiq Rahman, executive director of BCAS, warned that 20 to 25 million people of Bangladesh will become victims of climate change if adaptation measures are not taken immediately.

He said that although the developed countries are responsible for this hazard, they are avoiding their responsibilities.

Deputy secretary of Ministry of Environment and Forest Dr. Mahfuzul Haque also spoke.



Dr Saleemul Huq, chairman of BCAS, speaks at a lecture session on 'Climate change and development of Bangladesh' in the city yesterday.

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He said that although the developed countries are responsible for this hazard, they are avoiding their responsibilities.

Deputy secretary of Ministry of Environment and Forest Dr. Mahfuzul Haque also spoke.

'English for Executives' course

'English for Executives' course was inaugurated at City University on July 20, says a press release.

Prof Dr M Shamsul Haque, vice-chancellor, inaugurated the course at Banani campus in the city.

He emphasised the over-riding importance of English in the context of globalised economy.

City University has established an English Language Institute to sharpen the skill of the executives in spoken and written English.

Twelve senior executives of GlaxoSmithKline Bangladesh Limited are taking part in the course.

Concerned faculties and officers of the university were present on the occasion.

Chehlum

Chehlum of Ayesha Begum will be held at her residence at 15/8 B, Modhubag, Moghbazar in the city on 25 July after Asr prayers, says a press release.

Relatives and admirers have been requested to attend the milad mahfil and pray for her departed soul.

Smuggled goods worth Tk 44 cr recovered

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Navy personnel have recovered smuggled goods worth over Tk 44.15 crore in Chittagong and Khulna coastal areas since March 23.

During their anti-smuggling, anti-piracy and fishery protection patrol, the navy personnel also arrested 60 smugglers and seized 53 boats and trawlers used for smuggling.

The contraband include fishing net, fertilisers, nylon rope, electronic goods, sundari timber and Jatka and other fishes, says a press release.

The items were deposited with the authorities concerned and the smugglers were handed over to the police.



Dina secures GPA 5 in SSC exam

Badrunnahar Dina, a student of Vigarunnisa Noon School and College, secured GPA 5 (A+) in the SSC examination this year, says a press release.

She aspires to become a physician.

Dina is the only daughter of Md Wahidur Rahman, superintending engineer of LGED, and Sufia Khatun, assistant manager of BJMC.

Police atrocities Punishment to attackers demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Jubo Mohila League yesterday demanded exemplary punishment to those responsible for police atrocities on female students in Samsunnahar Hall of Dhaka University in the midnight of July 23 last year.

In a statement, the Mohila League expressed concern that the government has not yet taken any action against the attackers although 12 months have elapsed since then.

Instead, the government has rewarded some of them, it alleged.

The League also expressed concern over the delay in publishing the probe committee report on the incident.

Obituary

UNB, Dhaka

Momtazuddin Ahmed, father of Ahmed Musa, Director of Folk and Handicraft Foundation, died of old age complications here early yesterday.

In a message of condolence, State Minister for Cultural Affairs Begum Selima Rahman has expressed deep shock at the death of Momtaz.

She prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the members of the bereaved family, said an official handout.

Rahima Ahmed

BSS, Dhaka

Rahima Ahmed, wife of late Tayebuddin Ahmed of Jhitka, Manikganj, died at a city clinic early yesterday due to kidney failure at the age of 70.

The deceased is survived by three daughters and two sons.

She was buried at Mirpur intellectual graveyard yesterday.

Death anniversary

Today is the 5th death anniversary of Prof ABM Abdul Majid, former acting controller of examination of Bangladesh Madrasah Education Board, says a press release.

A milad mahfil will be held at his family residence at Dhanmondi after Maghrib prayers.

Relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend the milad.



Participants of Jatiya Zia Shishu Shilpi Competition - Shapla Kuri 2003 pose with State Minister for Education ANM Ehsanul Haq Milon and the judges at the Shishu Academy yesterday. The Zia Shishu Academy organised the competition.

WEATHER TODAY

Light to moderate rain likely

UNB, Dhaka

Light to moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at a few places over Chittagong, Khulna, Barisal and Sylhet divisions and at one or two places over Dhaka and Rajshahi divisions till 6pm today.

Day temperature may rise slightly over the country. Met Office said.

Highest temperature 36.3 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakunda and lowest 25.4 degree at Patuakhali.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:46pm today and rises at 5:24 am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature		Humidity in	
	Max	Min	percentage	
Dhaka	35.3	27.5	72	64
Chittagong	35.2	26.5	76	74
Rajshahi	34.6	26.8	74	65
Khulna	35.2	26.6	86	69
Barisal	34.2	26.4	83	78
Sylhet	34.8	26.2	80	64
Cox's Bazar	33.5	26.0	72	78