

DHAKA TODAY

Water colour exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of a water colour exhibition by a group of four artists titled 'Barnikavanga' will be held with Vice Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof S M A Faiz as chief guest. The artists are Nasreen Begum, Abdul Aziz, Rabeya Begum Lipi and Fahmida Khatun. Venue: Gallery Chitrak, Dhanmondi. Time: 5.30pm. The exhibition will remain open till August 31 from 10.00am to 9.00pm daily.

Russian film show

Zahir Raihan Film Society and Russian Cultural Centre will jointly screen two films adapted from classic Russian literature: Leo Tolstoy's 'Anna Karenina' by Bernard Rose and Anton Chekhov's 'Vanya on 42nd Street' by Louis Malle. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.30pm and 6.30pm.

Film show

Academy Film Society will screen two films titled 'Two weeks' notice' and 'Forest gum'. Venue: 21/C, Jigatola. Time: 3.30pm and 6.30pm.

Movie show

Alliance Francaise will screen a movie titled 'L'incorrigible', directed by Philippe de Broca (1975). Venue: Alliance Francaise auditorium, Mirpur Road. Time: 10.30am and 6.00pm.

Cultural function

In observance of the 27th death anniversary of national poet Kazi Nazrul Islam, Nazrul Sangeet Shilpi Parishad organises a discussion and cultural function with State Minister for Cultural Affairs Begum Selima Rahman as chief guest. Venue: National Museum, Shahbagh. Time: 6.00pm.

Sabina evening

Fantasy Kingdom organises Sabina Yasmin evening. Venue: Fantasy Kingdom.

Exhibition

The opening ceremony of fourth Tex-Tech exhibition will be held with Commerce Minister Amir Khosru Mahmud Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: Sonargaon Hotel. Time: 10.00am.

Conference

The third national conference of Doctors for Health and Environment will be held

with Vice Chancellor of BRAC University Prof Zamilur Reza Chowdhury as chief guest. Venue: Planning and Development Academy, Nikhet. Time: 10.00am.

Stipend giving ceremony

Mothbaria Kalyan Samity organises its stipend giving ceremony and cultural function. Venue: Poet Sufia Kamal auditorium, National Museum. Time: 4.00pm.

AGM

The annual general meeting of Dustha Swasthya Kendra will be held. Venue: YWCA auditorium, Mohammadpur. Time: 4.00pm.

Rally

A rally of Bangladesh Sangiukta Garments Sramik Federation will be held. Venue: Muktangan, Rama. Time: 3.00pm.

Mahfil

The weekly Ashek-e-Rasul (Sm) mahfil will be held. Venue: Dewanbag Sharif, Arambagh. Time: 10.00am.

DHAKA TOMORROW

Russian film show

Zahir Raihan Film Society and Russian Cultural Centre will jointly screen two films adapted from classic Russian literature. These are Alexander Pushkin's 'Eugene Onegin' by Martha Fiennes and Fyodor Dostoyevsky's 'Crime and Punishment' by Joseph Sargent. Venue: Russian Cultural Centre, Dhanmondi. Time: 4.30pm and 6.30pm.

Painting exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of a painting exhibition organised by Purbita, an organisation of female artists, will be held with Hashem Khan as chief guest. Venue: Bhaskar Novera Hall of National Museum. Time: 3.30pm. The exhibition will remain open till August 27 from 10.30am to 4.30pm daily.

Cultural function

Kranti organises a cultural function to mark the closing ceremony of its two-month long training workshop with language veteran Abdul Matin as chief guest. Venue: Bishwa Sahitya Kendra auditorium, Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 6.30pm.

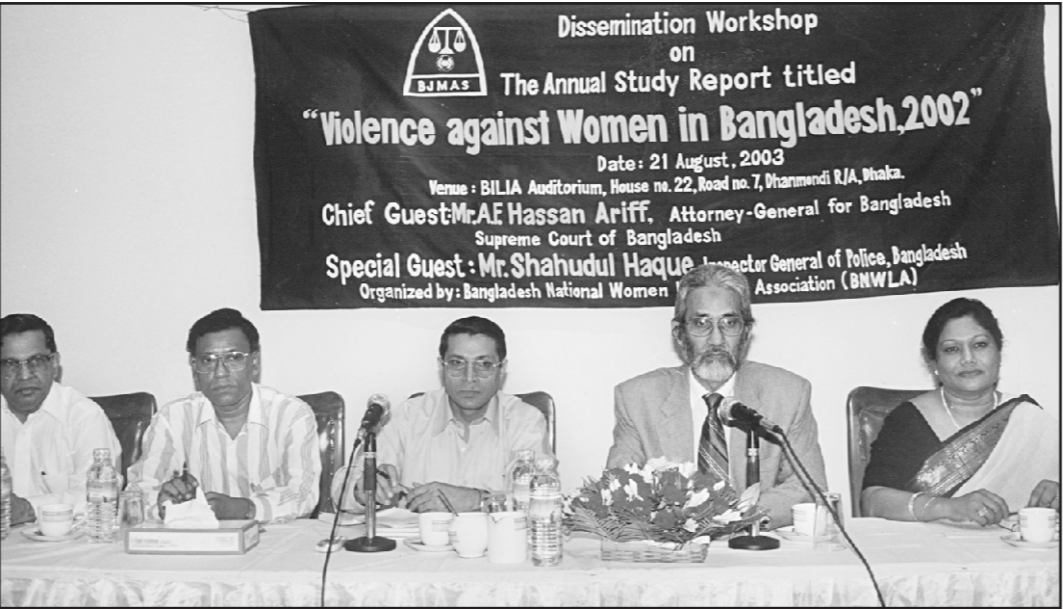


PHOTO: STAR

Attorney General AF Hasan Ariff speaks at a workshop on the annual study report titled 'Violence against women in Bangladesh, 2002' at the BILIA auditorium in the city yesterday. The Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association organised the event.

River erosion to ease due to more sediment flow

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh would see a decrease in river erosion and an increase in land reclamation due to rising sediment flow into the major rivers, a leading morphologist said yesterday.

According to the expert, Maminul

Workshop on ICT for teachers

The Aga Khan School, Dhaka organised a week-long workshop for incorporating information and communication technology (ICT) into the curriculum, says a press release.

Participants from East Africa, Central Asia, India and Pakistan joined the senior section teachers of the school at the workshop.

Fifty-four teachers took part in the training programme designed to make learning for students and teachers more exciting.

Azra Naseem, a faculty member from Aga Khan University-Institute for Educational Development, and two instructors, Henry Wilmer and Joshua Farber from the International Academic Partnership (IAP), conducted the workshop.

Both the institutions are partners with the Aga Khan Education Service in the professional development and training of teachers.

Haque Sarker, although the Jamuna had eroded 82,000 hectares of lands in past 30 years, only 12,000 hectares of land were accreted (land lifted from river) during the period.

He showed data that against 1,000 hectares of accretion in 15 years (1984-99), the Padma had devoured 26,000 hectares of land and against 500 hectares of accretion in 10 years (1990-99), the Meghna had eroded 11,500 hectares.

The Centre for Environmental and Geographic Information Services (CEGIS), an independent analysis wing of the water resources ministry, organised the seminar at the BRAC Centre.

Presenting a paper at the seminar on the morphological evolution of Jamuna, Padma and Meghna, the morphologist said rivers tend to erode riverbanks when flow of sediment from upstream decreases.

According to Sarker, dearth of sediment from upstream accelerates the celerity of down-bound water in sloppy and braided rivers, resulting in massive bank erosion.

"The braided river-systems of Bangladesh annually erodes large areas of floodplains making thousands of people homeless. Severe bank retreat associated with widening of the major rivers has caused

great sufferings," said Sarker.

Dr Ainun Nishat, water resources expert and country representative of the International Union of Conservation of Nature (IUCN), stressed on further studies on the behaviours and courses of rivers.

Director General of the Water Resources Planning Organisation (WARPO) Dr Mosaddak Faruq and Executive Director of CEGIS Dr Riaz Khan also spoke at the seminar.

Certificate award ceremony of BAF

The certificate award ceremony of the 63rd Junior Command and Staff Course of Bangladesh Air Force was held at the BAF Command and Staff Training Institute (CSTI) at Dhaka Cantonment yesterday, says an ISPR press release.

Chief of the Air Staff Air Vice Marshal Fakhru Azam attended the ceremony as chief guest and distributed certificates among the passed-out student-officers of the course. Student-officers included one from Bangladesh Army, one from Bangladesh Navy, one from Sri Lanka Air Force, one from Indian Air Force, one from Royal Malaysian Air Force, one from Royal Saudi Air Force and 13 from Bangladesh Air Force.



Participants of the ICT workshop at the Aga Khan School, Dhaka.

All CU examinations under grading system postponed

CU CORRESPONDENT

The Chittagong University (CU) syndicate has postponed all examinations and other related activities under the grading system till September 10.

A decision to this effect was taken at an extra-ordinary meeting of the syndicate held at the VC's office on Wednesday night.

Presided over by Vice Chancellor Prof AJM Nuruddin Chowdhury, the meeting began at 3.00pm and ended at 12.00 midnight.

The meeting, however, did not take any decision over the cancellation of the grading system in evaluating the answer script.

Campus sources said the syndicate waits for some official formalities to cancel the grading system.

The syndicate has sent back the matter to the dean offices concerned for a primary recommendation. If the deans of the faculties concerned recommend, then it will be sent to the planning committee.

The planning committee will then refer it to the academic council for its approval.

After these formalities, the issue will be placed again before the syndicate for final decision.

When contacted, a syndicate member and Assistant Professor SM Nasrul Quadir told The Daily Star that the syndicate has the power to take any decision but it does not want to dictate. If other

bodies recommend then the syndicate would take ultimate decision.

Meanwhile, students of the Institute of Forestry and Environmental Science (IFES) have also launched a movement demanding the cancellation of the grading system.

Due to their movement, the syndicate has also postponed all IFES examinations till September 10.

Earlier, following a series of movement, the university authorities had assured the striking students that the system would be cancelled only for three academic sessions of 1998-99, 1999-2000 and 2000-01.

However, the authorities are willing to keep the grading system in marking the year final examinations from 2001-02.

The students of the university are now split into two groups. One group

belonging to these three academic sessions has postponed their movement while the other group who were admitted in science faculty in 2001-02 session had launched a fresh movement demanding the total cancellation of the grading system.

The agitated students of the 2001-02 session on Wednesday staged a sit-in programme on the registrar building premises and observed a token hunger strike to press home their demand.

The syndicate during its meeting on Wednesday night assured the science faculty students of 2001-02 session that the grading system will also be cancelled for them.

When contacted, a senior teacher of the law department said the university authorities might have to face a legal hazard if they cancel the grading system and revive the old class system.



Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

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

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

Highest temperature 36.0 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sylhet and the lowest 24.5 degree at Rangamati and Sitakunda.

The sun sets in the capital at 6:26pm today and rises at 5:36am tomorrow.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	35.1	27.0	81	63
Chittagong	32.5	25.8	80	76
Rajshahi	34.5	27.0	80	--
Khulna	35.0	27.5	84	77
Barisal	34.2	26.6	84	76
Sylhet	26.0	26.5	83	76
Cox's Bazar	34.2	27.0	86	90

Inter-cadet college competition concludes

The Inter-Cadet Literature and Music Competition-2003 concluded at the Faujdharhat Cadet College Auditorium in Chittagong on Wednesday, says an ISPR press release.

Competitors from all the 10 cadet colleges took part in the five-day meet.

The Rajshahi Cadet College became the champion in literary group and the Jhenidah Cadet College became runner-up.

Meanwhile, Faujdharhat Cadet College lifted the title in musical group while Pabna Cadet College became runner-up.

Besides, Cadet Rafiad of Rajshahi Cadet College won the

individual trophy in literary competition while Cadet Miftah of Jhenidah Cadet College bagged the individual trophy in musical event.

The host Faujdharhat Cadet College become overall champion in the competition.

General Officer Commanding of 24 Infantry Division, and Area Commander of Chittagong Area Major General Moeen U Ahmed attended the function as Chief Guest and later gave away the prizes.

Earlier, Lieutenant Colonel Mahmud Ul Alam, Principal of the Faujdharhat Cadet College inaugurated the meet on Saturday.

UITS starts functioning in September

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

One more private university is going to launch its academic programmes in September.

"The vision of establishing the University of Information Technology & Sciences (UITS) is to bring about a holistic development of personality of students," said Vice-Chancellor (designate) Dr A Majeed Khan at a press conference yesterday.

The university has been set up to meet the growing need for quality education, its founders said.

Medium of instruction at the university will be English to enable its students meet the global standards and get them fit in the international job market, said Dr A Majeed Khan.

The university will induce a blend of liberal arts and technological skills in moulding the 'attitudes and aptitudes' of learners, he added.

The campus is housed in the PBL Tower on Kamal Ataturk Avenue in the city's Gulshan-2 area.

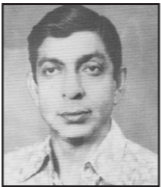
At present, the university has seven classrooms with 12 full-time teachers.

The university offers undergraduate BBA programmes in accounting, economics, banking & insurance, information technology, management and marketing. It also offers B.A. in English

language and literature, B.Ed. in computer education, and B.Sc. in nursing and community health, electronics and communication engineering, and computer science and engineering.

The admission tests will be held on September 4 at seven different venues across the country, and its first academic session is scheduled to begin on September 14.

Death anniversary



Today is the 15th death anniversary of Dr Syed Anwar Ali, a veteran freedom fighter, one of the pioneers of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra, and a renowned physician, says a press release.

Mazar Ziarat at Banani graveyard, quankhwani, doa and milad mahfil will be held on the occasion.

Abdur Rab Mridha

Today is the third death anniversary of Abdur Rab Mridha, an educationist and social worker of Babuganj Upazila under Barisal district, says a press release.

He was the founder-convenor of Babuganj welfare association, senior member of the governing body of Gandaria High School, Dhaka, and legal adviser to Sadhana Oushadhalay Ltd.