



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League President Sheikh Hasina and her sister Sheikh Rehana offer munajat at Ajmeer Sharif dargah in India on Wednesday.

MOTOR PARTS TRADER MURDER

60-year-old to die, 6 get life term

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka Court yesterday sentenced a sixty-year-old man to death and six others to life imprisonment for killing a motor parts trader at Amin Bazar in Savar on March 8 last year.

The convict with death is Mohammad Nasir while his two sons-Mohammad Arman and Mohammad Shahadat and Joinal Abedin, Mohammad Ripon, Mohammad Sentu and Mohammad Anzad were given life in jail.

The court also acquitted six others

including Nasir's wife as the charges brought against them were not proved. The acquitted are Nasir's wife Lalbanu, Mosammat Hafiza Khatun, Afsar, Aslam, Nazim Uddin and Amzad Hossain.

Judge Shahed Noor Uddin of the Speedy Tribunal-1 gave the verdict at jam-packed courtroom in presence of the convicts.

The convict with death can appeal to the High Court against the verdict in 30 days, the judgement said.

Earlier, the prosecution and the defence completed their statements

of 16 prosecution witnesses.

In the case filed with Savar Police Station, it has been alleged that Nasir along with others stabbed Zhirul Islam to death at Hizla under Savar thana in Dhaka district at about 5:00pm on March 8 last year over a land dispute with victim's maternal uncle.

Later, victim's maternal uncle Abu Bakker Siddiq filed a murder case accusing Nasir and 10 others the same day. The investigation officer pressed charges against Nasir and 12 others on June 22 last year.

Depoliticise police

Say speakers at discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday said police often harass general people in violation of code of conduct.

They also called for depoliticising the police force to make them efficient and play a greater role in maintaining law and order.

Odhikar, a human rights organisation, arranged the discussion on 'Human Rights and police custody: A perspective of Dhaka Metropolitan Police' at the Cirdap auditorium.

Speaking as chief guest, Law Minister Moudud Ahmed said police are now performing better although they have earned a bad reputation.

"It is possible to get better service from the police if we can provide them with better facilities," he added.

He also suggested motivating and educating the police.

Jesmul Hasan and Sazzad Hossain of Odhikar presented a keynote paper at the discussion.

In the paper, they said the Dhaka Metropolitan Police (DMP) now use sections 86 and 100 of the DMP ordinance more frequently follow-

ing the High Court directive regarding section 54 of the Criminal Procedure Code (CrPC).

During the period September 2003 to May 2004 a total number of

Out of 69,715 people arrested by DMP from September 2003 to May 2004, over 45,000 were held under sections 86 and 100 and over 4,000 were arrested under section 54 of the CrPC.

The keynote paper also quoted the Police Regulatory of Bangladesh (PRB) which says, "No police force can work successfully unless it wins the respect and good will of the public and secures its co-operation."

A list of instructions by Inspector General of Police (IGP) has been sent to every police station in the capital mentioning what to do and how to behave with people, but those are not followed by the police, according to the keynote paper.

Chaired by Dr Tasneem Siddiqui, the discussion was also addressed by former advisor of caretaker government Major General (ret'd) Moinul Hossain Chowdhury and Vice-chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council Barrister Rokonuddin Mahmud.

Enforce law to check vulgarity in films

Speakers tell roundtable

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a roundtable yesterday called for strict enforcement of law to check vulgarity in films.

They also called on the associations of producers, directors and artists to come forward to save the film industry from the current debacle.

The Prothom Alo, a Bangla daily, organised the roundtable on "What are the means to bring back healthy atmosphere to film industry?" at Hotel Sheraton in the city.

The speakers also underscored the need for stamping out video piracy to boost the growth of film industry and preserve the culture and heritage of the country.

"We will take steps very soon to stop different satellite channels showing indecent movies," said Information Minister M Shamsul Islam.

"Government should help build some cinemas providing ideal environment in big cities and towns to screen good movies so that people go back to the cinemas again," said Jahid Hossain, joint

secretary of the home ministry.

Renowned director Tanvir Mokammel suggested setting up a film institute to produce talented young directors, artists and cameramen.

He also said each film should be rated through a grading system so that people can have an idea about the movie.

Film star Kabori said how can one expect good movies when the same producers and directors who are engaged in making vulgar films serve at the censor board.

"Out of 1200 cinemas across the country, about 900 are totally unfit. The government should provide loans to the owners of these cinemas to improve the environment," said actor Elias Kanchan.

Directors Chasi Nazrul Islam, Shahidul Islam Khokan, Kazi Hayat and Mostafa Sarwer Faruqi, and actors Razzaque, Uzzal, Reaz, Ferdous, Rozi, Mousami and Purnima also spoke.

Matiur Rahman, editor of the Prothom Alo, moderated the roundtable.



Information Minister M Shamsul Islam speaks at a roundtable on "What are the means to bring back healthy atmosphere to film industry?" at Hotel Sheraton in the city yesterday. On his right are actor Abdur Razzaq and actress Kabori Sarwar and on his left is Chasi Nazrul Islam.

'Scrap distortion of history'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a discussion yesterday demanded the scrapping of the reprint of 'Swadhinata Juddher Dalilpatro' by providing exemplary punishment to the members of the authentication committee.

The discussion on 'Distortion of Liberation War: Conspiracy of the Anti-War Forces' was organised by Bangabandhu Jubo Parishad (BJP) at its office in the city.

Awami League (AL) Presidium Member Mohiuddin Khan Alamgir attended the discussion as chief guest while Dhaka University Teachers' Association President AAMS Arefin Siddique and Mukti Juddha Oikya Parishad Convenor Mahbub Uddin Ahmed as special guests.

Arefin Siddique said history cannot be distorted. When a quarter

wants to distort history, it becomes a mockery which cannot last long.

"Former president Ziaur Rahman could announce the start of the liberation war on March 27 but Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman proclaimed the independence of the country on March 7," he added.

BJP General Secretary Rezaul Karim Khan Reza said BNP-led coalition government reprinted the documents of the liberation war to make Ziaur Rahman the proclaimer of independence.

"We want exemplary punishment to the members of the authentication committee which allowed the distortion," he headed.

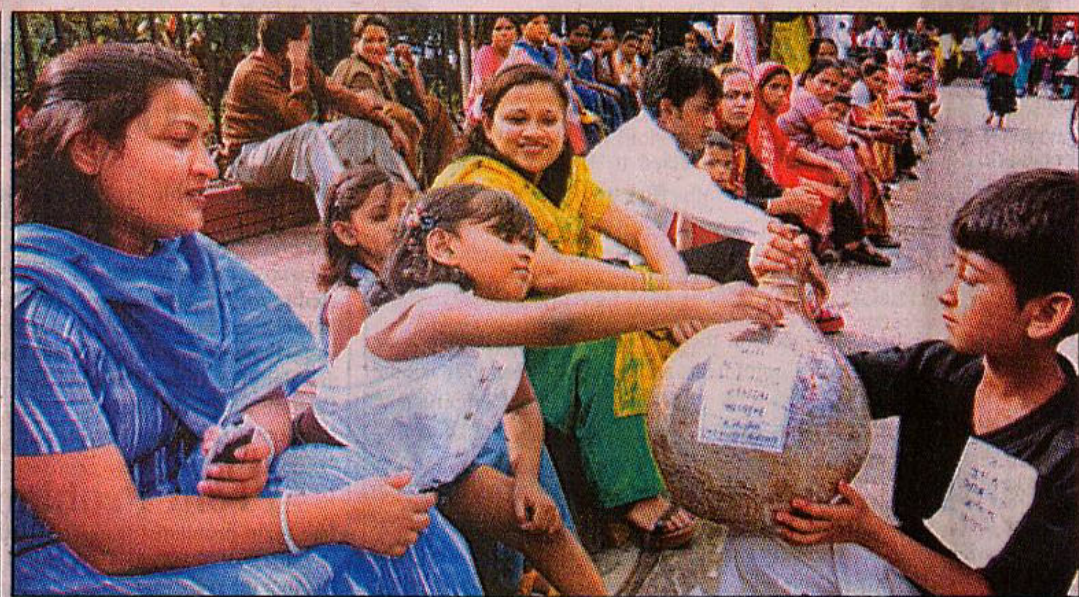
Jubo Parishad Vice-President Gulshan Akhter, City President Prabir Kumar Sarkar, Nurun Nahar Mona and Ataulah Bachchu also spoke.

WANTED

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Interested candidates may apply with full C.V. along with attested copies of educational certificates & 2 (two) copies of photographs with in 10 August, 2004 to The Daily Star, in Box no. A-154, 19, Kawran Bazar, Dhaka.



A boy collects money from his friends and their guardians for the children of flood-hit areas at the Shushu Academy in the city yesterday.

BRTC launches website

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) yesterday launched its website to bring transparency in its service.

Inaugurating the website, Communications Minister Nazmul Huda said the BRTC will raise the number of its buses to 1000 to meet the growing demand of the public in and outside the capital.

A total of 580 BRTC buses are now plying in the city and other parts of the country, he added.

Huda said the BRTC will set a

standard of service for other buses too without hampering the investment of private enterprises.

The minister also unveiled the cover of a driving manual book that includes traffic codes and guidelines for the drivers.

He said the driving manual will make significant contribution to ensure road safety and reduce road accidents.

BRTC Chairman Advocate Taimur Alam Khandaker presided over the function at the BRTC conference room in the city.

The BRTC website reads www.brtc.govbd.com.

Publication ceremony postponed

The publication ceremony of "Smriti Katha" and "Ganit Sastri Itihas" by Dr. Qazi Motahar Hossain scheduled to be held today at Sofia Kamal auditorium at the National Museum organised by Qazi Motahar Hossain Foundation has been postponed due to the deteriorating flood situation, says a press release.

The fresh date will be announced later on.



LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION

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Position will be based in Dhaka, but will require extensive field visit. Only those who will be selected after initial screening will be informed in writing.

Interested persons are requested to apply with details of work experience, educational background, other relevant details and two recent passport-size photographs to BRAC-HRD, BRAC Centre, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212 by 26 August, 2004. Please mention "BU-IED Specialist Teams" on the top of the envelope.

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FOR DETAILS PLEASE CONTACT:

- ICMAB Office, ICMA Bhaban, Nilkhet, Dhaka. Ph.: 8619649, 8613443, 8611482
- ICMAB Office, CMA Bhaban, Plot # 43, Rd. # 27, CDA, Agrabad R/A, Chittagong. Ph.: 727638
- Mr. Mohd. Nirjor Rahman, Associate Professor of Marketing, Rajshahi University. Ph. 750041-9
- Principal, Azam Khan Govt. Commerce College, Khulna. Ph. 722335 (KBC)
- Principal, Victoria Govt. College, Comilla. Ph. 65245/68463

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- ☐ Must be efficient in English, both oral and written.
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ADMISSION

fall 2004

admission

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last date for application : tuesday 24 august 2004 / admission test : saturday 28 august 2004

the university of asia pacific


graduate programme

master of business administration (MBA)

admission test : sunday 29 august 2004

ms in pharmaceutical technology (MS Pharm. Tech.)

admission test : saturday 18 september 2004



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