



Awami League President and Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina was received by central leaders of the party yesterday upon her arrival at the Zia International Airport after a six-week visit to the United States and the United Kingdom.

## 'Rab violates HR by killing in crossfire'

Speakers say at discussion on Suhrawardy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) are violating human rights by killing 'criminals in crossfire', said the speakers at a discussion yesterday.

The discussion was organised in observance of 41st death anniversary of Husein Shahid Suhrawardy, one of the great leaders of undivided India.

"Every people including a criminal has an equal right to get justice in a democratic society, but Rab members are ignoring this fundamental rights by killing the criminals in 'crossfire' before taking them to the court," said Barrister Amir-Ul-Islam, an eminent lawyer of the country.

He also asked, "How could we establish democracy in the country when there is no independence of judiciary?"

"Now I don't like to comment on Rab as the High Court has issued a rule on the validity of its action," said Moudud Ahmed, law, justice and parliamentary affairs minister, while participating in the discussion as chief guest.

The discussion was organised by Jatiya Party (Manju) at the National Press Club to pay homage to Husein

Shahid Suhrawardy, who dedicated his life for public welfare by upholding democracy above all.

Paying tributes to the great leader, Moudud said the nation would always remember him for his contributions to democracy, rule of law and communal harmony.

"The prime objective of Suhrawardy's politics was to establish good governance," said Anwar Hossain Manju, chairman of the Jatiya Party.

Jugantor Editor A B M Musa, JP Secretary General Sheikh Shahidul Islam and Begum Kamrunnesa Jafor also spoke.

## JU admission test from Dec 18

JU CORRESPONDENT

Admission test for first year honours courses in Jahangirnagar University (JU) under 2004-05 academic session will be held from December 18 to 28.

A total of 52,818 forms had been sold under four faculties against about 1100 seats.

Of them, 10735 forms were sold under life science faculty, 18575 under social science faculty, 13350 under arts faculty and 10158 under science faculty.

Around 48 students are to vie for each seat.



Masih-ul-Karim, Managing Director, Berger Paints Bangladesh Ltd, inaugurates the 5-day art exhibition of the 9th Berger Young Painters' Art Competition-2004 at Ziaul Gallery of the Institute of Fine Arts in the city yesterday. The exhibition will continue till December 10 and remain open from 11.00am to 7.00pm everyday.



Standard Chartered Bank organised a beach cleaning programme in Cox's Bazar recently as part of its campaign to create awareness about environment. Earlier, SAA Masrur, head of client relationship of the bank, inaugurated a three-day supply chain finance conference there.



Unocal Bangladesh Dhaka office organised its annual blood donation programme on its premises recently. Unocal employees donated 40 bags of blood conducted by Sandhani Dhaka Medical College unit.

## Tk 8 crore donations to AMCH fund

Around Tk 8 crore was received as donations from individuals, organisations and other bodies for the proposed 500-bed Ahsania Mission Cancer Hospital (AMCH) to be established at Uttara in the city by Dhaka Ahsania Mission, says a press release.

Earlier, during the months of July and August, about Tk 7 crore was received which included a historic donation of Tk 4 crore by Duch-Bangla Bank. Names of all donors, including that of Duch-Bangla Bank, had been published in different national dailies.

Around Tk 1 crore more has been received from September till date, raising the total amount up to Tk 7,98,62,726.

The names of these donors and amounts of their donations are as follows:

Barrister Rafiqul Haque-Tk66 lakh, one anonymous family-10 lakh, Engr. Rezaul Karim 5 lakh, Several Bangladeshi expatriates in the USA-1.05 lakh, Kazi Abdul Khaleque and Ahmed Rajeeb Samdani-1 lakh each, Saifur Rahman and Suraiya Rahman-75 thousand, Nurul Islam, Md. Mostaq Ahmad and Dr. Nazim Maula-50 thousand each, Officers and Employees of DPHE-DANIDA Project-45 thousand 7 hundred and two, Safia Mansur and Abdul Mansoor-30 thousand, Azmal Hossain and Dr. Enamul Haque-25 thousand each, Arzila Choudhury-20 thousand, Shirin Banu, M N Khan, Razia Haque, an anonymous family and Shakil Hossain-10 thousand each, in the name of four deceased persons-Abdul Gafur, Sofia Begum, Sayed Said Hossain and Mazharul Anwar Tk 10 thousand and individual donations in different amounts from Dr. Hayat Chowdhury, Md. Shahjahan, Rabeya Siraj, Runa Laila, Dr. Ziaul Haque, employees of Prime Bank Madhabdi Branch, ANM Haider, Diba Ali, Siddika Kabir, Sayeda Zohra Ali, Mostafa Hasan Nasir and Nurul Ambia Tk 35 thousand 5 hundred.

Dhaka Ahsania Mission President Kazi Rafiqul Alam expressed his gratitude to all donors and requested all others to donate generously to help build the hospital which will cost approximately Tk 110 crore.

## Rebeca hospitalised

Rebeca, the first woman film director (Bindu Thekey Britto-1969/70), has been admitted to Dhaka Community Hospital, Maghbazar with kidney ailments, says a press release. She is now under treatment at cabin 24 of the hospital. Her relations, friends and well wishers have been requested to pray for her.



## MBA Club executives

Mahmudur Rahman, executive chairman of Board of Investment, and Intekhab Mahmud, head of marketing & sales of CityCell, have been elected president and general secretary of the MBA Club.

Other office-bearers are Senior Vice-President: Nazmul Hasan of Beximco Pharmaceuticals, Vice President: Azizul Haque of Glaxo Wellcome, Joint Secretary: Shams Rasheed of Citibank NA, Treasurer: SH Aslam Habib of Delta Brac Housing, Cultural Secretary: Rezauddin Mosharraf of Windmill, and Sports Secretary: Rezwana Rab Zia of ESYS Distributions.

Executive Committee members are: Mamun Rashid of Citibank NA, Towhid Hossain of Kazi Farms, Shoaib Ahmed Masud of Business Automation), Sania Mahmud of Aktel), Saeed Ahmed of Radisson Water Garden Hotel) and Zakir Ahmed Zakir of Halcrow.

## 'Reform UN for global peace'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Education is the backbone of global peace, said the speakers at a roundtable in the city yesterday.

Speaking as chief guest, Reaz Rahman, advisor to the Prime Minister, said, "Education is the mother of all infrastructure for conflict resolution, peace and tranquility in the world."

The roundtable on 'Conflict resolution and effective governance for peace: The role of the UN' was jointly organised by East West University in collaboration with the United Nations University of Peace based in Costa Rica, South America.

The speakers said although conflict resolution was the mandate of the United Nations (UN), it was never effectively enforced by the world body.

Without mentioning the name, they said one country for its narrow national interest and security has reduced the UN to an ineffective organ.

The speakers, however, pointed out that the recent wars and conflicts and violation of human rights and values have awakened renewed interest in the UN as an instrument of conflict resolution for a peaceful world.

They proposed reform of the security council and other organs of the UN.

They lauded the role of Bangladesh as peacekeepers by lending the members of its armed forces.

"We would like to learn more from Bangladesh how it maintains discipline and how it can contribute more in global peace missions," said one of

the speakers from University of Peace.

Prof M Ataur Rahman of Dhaka University, delivered the opening speech while Narinder Kakar from New York office of the University of Peace, and Abul Hasan, former secretary general of Saarc, spoke as special guests.

Vice-chancellor of East West University Prof Mohammad Farashuddin, Prof C R Abrar of Dhaka University and Sajjad Zahir of BIDS also spoke.

## 3rd Int'l Festival of Photography begins in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The third International Festival of Photography Asia 2004 Chobi Mela 111, began amid much festivity in the city yesterday.

A colorful inaugural function was held at the Alliance Française gallery on this occasion.

The festival would provide tremendous opportunity for people to know the present trend of photography in Asia as well as other parts of the world, said the speakers while addressing the inaugural ceremony.

Presided over by festival director Shahidul Alam, the opening ceremony was attended by noted photographer Pedro Meyer of Mexico, Tarek Al-Ghoussein of the United Arab Emirates and Geerte Wachter of the Netherlands.

Four legendary Bangladeshi photographers Golam Kashem Daddy, Manzoor Alam Beg, Amanul Haque and Shamsul Alam Almazi were honored by Lifetime Achievement Award at the inaugural function.

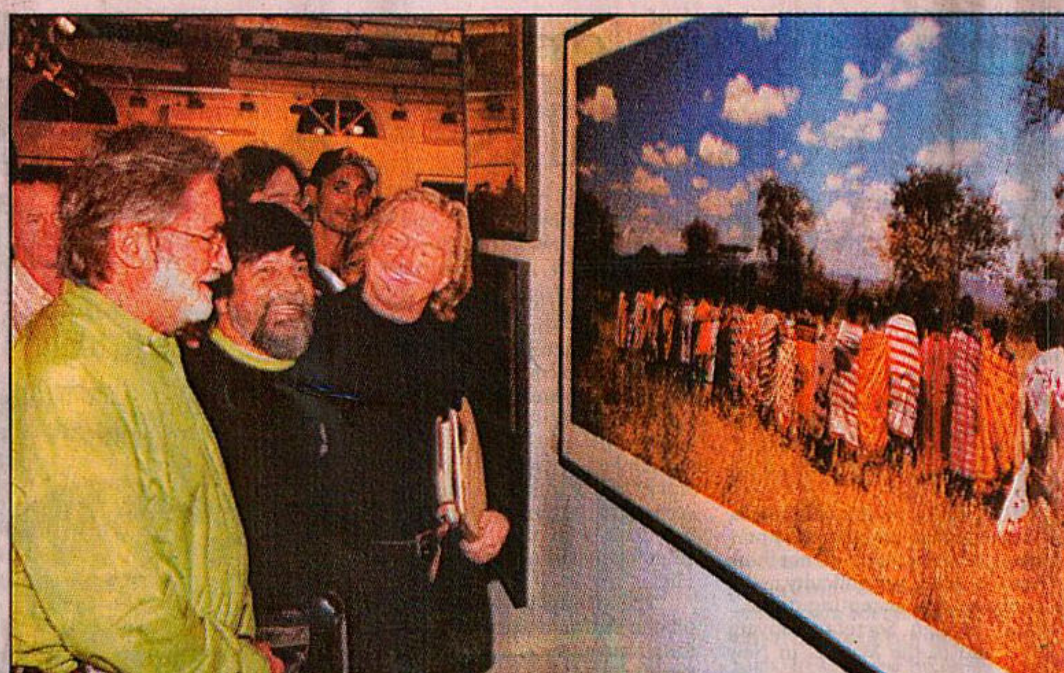
A total of 1068 photographs from 17 countries are being exhibited in the festival.

The exhibitions are being held at seven venues Alliance Française, Goethe Institut, British Council, Russian Cultural Centre, Muldhara International Centre, Drik Gallery and Abahani ground.

## Obituary

Mosammat Maksuda Khaton, mother of Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh Public Relations and Publicity Secretary Advocate Shah Ahmed Badol, died at Bijoynagar village in Lakshimpur district yesterday at the age of 88, says a press release.

Maksuda left behind her five sons and three daughters. She was buried at her family grave.



The 3rd International Festival of Photography Asia 2004 began at Alliance Française in the city yesterday.

## Form right-based society for disabled children

Speakers tell regional seminar

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A three-day regional seminar ended in the city yesterday with a call to form a right-based society for disabled children.

The seminar on childhood disability observed that only four percent of disabled children attend schools regularly.

According to an epidemiological survey report presented at the seminar, around 4.5 million children under 15 years have disability, and most of them are living in rural areas.

It recommended the involvement of local government at upazila and union levels to identify the families with disabled children and bring them under poverty reduction programmes.

Healthcare for the disabled requires financial involvement and many families are unable to get required services due to financial barriers, it added.

The seminar was told that

over 17 percent children were at the risk of various kinds of disability in the country today.

It also observed that accidents and injuries were the biggest risk factors for disability in Bangladesh and other countries.

Besides, many street children, who were the victims of physical, sexual and emotional abuses, also suffered from severe physical and mental health problems in the long run, the seminar observed.

It noted that doctors, primary healthcare providers and social workers were also reluctant to provide them necessary services.

The seminar felt that major political parties should include the rights of disabled children in their party manifestos.

Speaking as chief guest at the closing ceremony at BIAM auditorium, former Vice-Chancellor of Dhaka University Prof Shamsul Huq urged all concerned to work for making a

better future for the children.

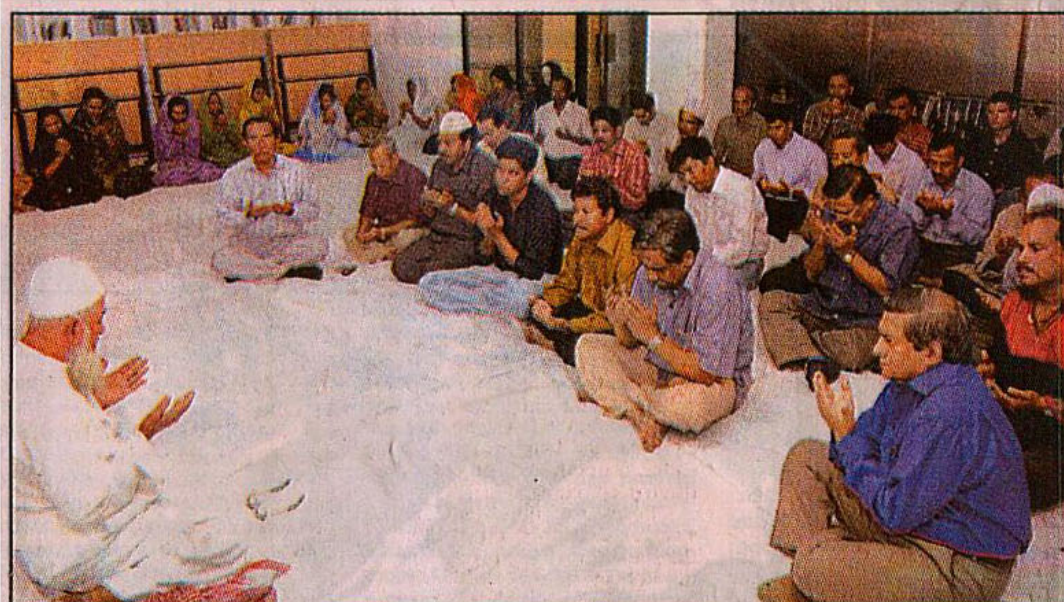
He said the children should be educated and trained properly, other wise this nation would not survive.

Director of British Council Dr June Rollinson, Coordinator of Centre for Rehabilitation of Paralyzed Valerie Taylor, Father Brenden O'Connell, Dr Naila Zaman Khan and Dr Selina Husna Banu also spoke.

National Professor Dr M R Khan was the special guest at the closing session chaired by Zebunnesa Rahman.

More than 40 representatives from different countries attended the seminar and held brain storming discussion over different issues related to disability.

They also decided to form a South Asian regional network on childhood disability for gathering information and sharing experiences.



Staff of The Daily Star offer prayers during a doa mahfil at their office yesterday to mark the 76th birth anniversary of Syed Mohammad Ali, better known as SM Ali, founder editor of the daily.

## DHAKA TODAY

### French film festival

Zahir Raihan Film Society, in collaboration with Alliance Française, will screen three films titled 'Hiroshima My Love' (1959) and 'Last Year at Marienbad' (1961) both by Alain Resnais, and 'And God Created Woman' (1956) by Roger Vadim. Venue: Alliance Française, 26 Mirpur Road. Time: 4.30pm, 6.00pm and 7.30pm.

### Asian film week

As part of the Asian Film Week, Dhaka Film Society will screen three films titled 'The Scent of Green Papaya' (1993) by Anh Hung Tran of Vietnam, 'Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon' (2000) by Ang Lee of Taiwan and 'Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter and Spring' (2003) by Ki-dik Kim of South Korea. Venue: World Literature Centre, 14 Kazi Nazrul Islam Avenue. Time: 3.00pm, 5.00pm and 7.00pm.

### Children's film festival

Under 'The Children's Showcase' programme, Bangladesh Federation of

Film Societies will screen four films titled 'City of Mice' of Iran, 'Rani Khaler Shako' of Bangladesh, 'Tikiki' of Bangladesh and 'Little Tiger Banban' of China. Venue: Bangladesh Shishu Academy Auditorium. Time: 10.00am, 12.00noon, 4.00pm and 5.30pm.

### Muldhara discussion

Weekly discussion meeting of Muldhara, a forum of writers, journalists and artists, will be held. Venue: House-15, Road-7, Dhanmondi. Time: 6.00pm.

### Seminar

A seminar on 'Protection of minorities' right, in the South Asian Sub-continent, organised by the Organisation To Safeguard Human Rights, will be held. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 3.00pm.

### Reception

Dhaka University Teachers' Association will accord a reception to the teachers who will retire this year with Vice-chancellor Prof S M A Faiz as chief guest. Venue: TSC Auditorium. Time: 4.00pm.



## No change in night temperature

UNB, Dhaka

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry over the country till 6.00pm today with light to moderate fog during early morning.

Night temperature may remain nearly unchanged over the country during the period, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 31.7 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Sitakunda and Rangamati and lowest 12.5 degree Celsius at Dinajpur.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:11pm today and rises at 6:29am 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	29.0	16.0	67	61
Chittagong	30.2	16.7	58	50
Rajshahi	28.3	14.2	77	76
Khulna	29.2	16.0	74	71
Barisal	29.2	15.2	87	92
Sylhet	29.0	16.5	--	63
Cox's Bazar	30.6	18.0	67	68



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