



PHOTO: STAR

Chehlum of former finance minister Shah AMS Kibria was held at his Dhanmondi residence in the city yesterday.

Chehlum of Kibria held

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chehlum of former finance minister and Awami League leader Shah AMS Kibria was held at his Dhanmondi residence in the city yesterday. Kibria's family members, relatives, friends and admirers as well as political leaders and workers and a large number of people attended the milad mahfil on the occasion and offered munajat for the salvation of the departed soul. Awami League presidium member Tofail Ahamed, Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal leader Moinuddin Khan Badal and Privatisation Commission Chairman Enam Ahmed Chowdhury, among others, attended the chehlum. Shah AMS Kibria was killed in a grenade attack at a public rally in Habiganj on January 27.

Obituary

UNB, Dhaka

Professor Abu Sayeed Talukder, a teacher of pottery department at the Institute of Fine Art, passed away at Samarita Hospital in the city yesterday. Prof Talukder, who joined the institute in 1987, had been suffering from cancer. He is survived by his mother, wife, one son and one daughter. His namaz-e-janaza will be held at the Dhaka University Central Mosque after Zohr prayers today.

11 get life for killing police constable

A CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

A court here on Thursday sentenced 11 people to life imprisonment for killing a police constable in 1996. First Additional District and Sessions Judge Aftab Uddin handed down the verdict on Abdul Rahman, Fazal Haque, Yar Ali, Tikka Khan, Minju, Akbar Miah, Osman Gazi, Kantu alias Kutu, Abdul Aziz, Monu and Moinul Haque of Baropakhia village in Delduer upazila. Of the convicts, Tikka Khan, Minju and Monu were tried in absentia. The court, however, acquitted 15 other accused as the charges brought against them were not proved. According to the prosecution, the convicts killed Abdul Hamid, a constable of Delduer thana police, when he raided an area to arrest one accused in connection with a case on June 4, 1996.



PHOTO: STAR

Law Minister Moudud Ahmed presents a crest to former chief justice Mostofa Kamal at an award giving ceremony organised by the Seerat Academy, Bangladesh at the National Press Club in the city yesterday to mark its 50 years.

Bus-truck collision kills three

UNB, Sirajganj

A head-on collision between a bus and a truck on the Bogra-Nagarbari highway in Raiganj upazila yesterday left three people dead -- two of them are women -- and 21 others injured. One of the dead was identified as Rana, 26, the helper of the bus, but the identities of the two women could not be known. Police and witnesses said a Nagarbari-bound bus and a truck collided at Chandaikona Tantubari at about 11.30am, killing the bus helper and a woman on the spot. Another died on way to hospital. Three of the injured were rushed to Bogra Mohammad Ali Hospital and 12 others to Sirajganj Sadar Hospital.

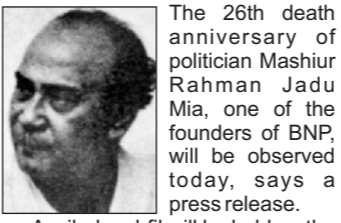
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Bangladeshi farmer killed by Indian hoodlums

BSS, Rajshahi

A Bangladeshi farmer was killed by Indian hoodlums at Rokonpur border under Gomostapur upazila in Chapainawabganj on Thursday night, local people said. The victim was identified as Monirul Alam, 35, son of Jharu Master. Villagers said about 10 or 12 Indian hoodlums, locally known as 'Ghosh Bahini,' armed with lethal weapons intruded into Rokonpur frontier village at around 8:30pm and abducted Alam at gunpoint. The gang took him to their territory and killed him there. Later, they dumped the body in a crop field about half a kilometre inside their territory. Local BDR authorities confirmed the incident. They sent a protest letter to their counterpart for a flag meeting in this regard. In response the Indian BSF agreed that they would sit at a company commander-level flag meeting today, BDR sources said.

Death anniversary



The 26th death anniversary of politician Mashiur Rahman Jadu Mia, one of the founders of BNP, will be observed today, says a press release. A milad mahfil will be held on the premises of his graveyard after Asr prayers. A discussion will also be held at the National Press Club at 4.00pm on March 17.

Abdur Rob Mia

Today is the 25th death anniversary of Abdur Rob Mia, a freedom fighter and social worker of Lalmoan upazila, Bhola, Says a press release. Milad mahfils will be held at his village home and at the house of his son at Maghbazar in Dhaka.

Nasim Biswas

Today is the seventh death anniversary of Dr Ehteshamul Haque Nasim Biswas, a former MP and son of former president Abdur Rahman Biswas, says a press release. Qurankhwani and milad mahfil will be held at House # 4, Road # 10, Block # H, Banani after Asr prayers.

Mahmuda Begum

The seventh death anniversary of Mahmuda Begum, wife of former president Abdur Rahman Mian, a retired government officer, will be observed today, says a press release. A doa and milad mahfil will be held at the house of her son AKM Mohsin, a photojournalist of The Daily Star, at 18 Faridabad Lane in Dhaka after Asr prayers.

Md Shariar Rony

The first death anniversary of engineer Md Shariar Rony will be observed today, says a press release. He was the only son of Md Rahmatullah, chief engineer of Bangladesh Agricultural University. Doa mahfil will be held at BAU Baitul Aman Mosque and at the residence of his father after Asr prayers.

'Declare FFs as nat'l pride force'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Freedom fighters yesterday demanded of the government to ensure all state facilities declaring them as 'National Pride Force.' They urged the government not to pay any allowances to freedom fighters through the social welfare ministry which is headed by a Razakar, the local collaborator of Pakistani occupation forces. The freedom fighters made the demands at a meeting of the preparatory committee of their National Convention in the city. An 11-point charter of demand was placed in the meeting. The freedom fighters demanded expulsion of all anti-liberation people from the cabinet immediately. They also called for preparing a list of the freedom fighters in an impartial manner. "The freedom fighters fought the liberation war with a dream to establish a non-communal Bangladesh, but we have failed to materialise their dream," said Abul Barkat, general secretary of Bangladesh Economic Association. The anti-liberation forces are alarmingly increasing their hold in the country, he said, adding, "The total profit of the Jamaat-e-Islami-backed different organisations now stands at Tk 1206 crore a year, and it is possible to recruit 10 lakh full timers if they just use 10 per cent of this total profit." "Our politicians are least concerned about the welfare of the

freedom fighters, rather they always remain busy to capture the power," said Language Movement veteran Abdul Matin. "It is very shameful for the nation to bury the freedom fighters with state honour as they remain deprived of all state facilities throughout their lives," said Shahid Bablu, a valiant freedom fighter. "We, the freedom fighters, have become the defeated force in every aspect of life despite our winning the war in 1971," said Ishtiaque Aziz

Ulfat, convenor of the preparatory committee of the Freedom Fighters' National Convention. He, however, hoped that the freedom fighters would be able to organise themselves once again like 1971 to realise their 11-point demand. Senior journalist Ataus Samad, Major General (ret'd) Syed Mohammad Ibrahim (Bir Pratik), freedom fighter Dr Nazimuddin Ahmed, Sadeque Ahmed Khan and Didar Bakht also spoke.



PHOTO: STAR

Language Movement veteran Abdul Matin speaks at a meeting of the preparatory committee for Freedom Fighters' National Convention at Mohanagar Natyamancha in the city yesterday.

Protest rally of Jatiya Oikya Mancha today

UNB, Dhaka

Jatiya Oikya Mancha will bring out a procession and hold a rally at Muktangan in the city at 4.00pm today to protest the price hike of essentials, frequent load-shedding, water crisis in the city. Leaders of the Oikya Mancha will also press their demand for trial of those involved in all grenade attacks. Oikya Mancha president Dr Kamal Hossain will attend the rally as chief guest.

Seminar on Canadian immigration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a seminar said it is the perfect time to apply for Canadian immigration since the Canadian authorities have relaxed the immigration requirements by lowering the pass marks to 67. They said many of the Bangladeshi nationals willing to immigrate to Canada, may qualify to become permanent residents of Canada. Galaxy Consultants organised the free seminar on Canada Immigration at the National Press Club in the city recently. Galaxy Consultants Representative S Ahmed and Country Representative Jameel Akther spoke at the seminar.



Tasmima Hossain, editor of the Anannya, a fortnightly magazine for women, hands over a crest to Ayasha Zafar at an award giving ceremony at Drik Gallery in the city on March 8 while Prof. Anisuzzaman looks on. The Anannya awarded Ayasha on the occasion of International Women's Day for her contribution to upholding the ideologies of Begum Rokeya.

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