



PHOTO: STAR
Bangladesh Awami Sechchasebok League lays siege to Chittagong Wasa Bhaban in the port city yesterday demanding adequate supply of water.

State terrorism has violated constitutional rights

Lawyers tell discussion

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

State terrorism and incorporation of crime in politics have seriously violated the constitutional rights of the people, said eminent lawyer Barrister Amirul Islam at a discussion yesterday.

He said the killing of people in the name of 'crossfire' gives them no access to justice, and the government's willingness to separate the judiciary has become a farce.

The discussion on 'Declaration of Liberation War in March 7, 1971 and Present Bangladesh' was organised by Bangabandhu Ainjibee Parishad at the Supreme Court Bar Association Auditorium to mark the 85th birth anniversary of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman and the 13th founding anniversary of the parishad.

Barrister Amirul called upon the lawyers to be united in a bid to end the malpractice in the judicial system and play their due role to bring a positive change in governance and political process.

Supreme Court Bar Association President Barrister Rakanuddin Mahmud said even in the Pakistani regime, political leaders were given bail in the courts of sessions judges and magistrates, but now they have to go to the Supreme Court for bail.

"Today's politics totally goes

against the spirit of the liberation war," he added.

Rakanuddin said Bangladesh is known in the whole world as an independent country because of the revolutionary leadership of Sheikh Mujibur Rahman.

"Bangabandhu's historical speech on March 7, 1971 was in fact the declaration of the liberation war, and the seed of independence was sowed in his six-point demand in 1966," he said.

But, the present government is now distorting the history terming Ziaur Rahman as the announcer of independence, he noted.

Rakanuddin said the country's independence now seems to be threatened as the anti-liberation people have become the ministers and travel in cars with national flags, he added.

Presided over by Barrister Shawkat Ali Khan, the discussion was also participated by Former law minister Abdul Matin Khasru, Language Movement Veteran Advocate Gaziul Haque, Dhaka University teacher Dr Sultana Shafi, Advocate Abdul Based Majumder, Advocate Mahbub-e-Alam, and Advocate Enayetur Rahim.



PHOTO: STAR
11-Party forms a human chain at Muktangan in the city yesterday protesting the US invasion of Iraq.

Businessman stabbed to death

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Criminals stabbed a businessman to death apparently for a dispute over money and a piece of land at Lalbagh in the city on Saturday.

Police said three criminals stabbed Shaharoom Shikder, 25, at Chak Mughaltuli in Old Dhaka when he was returning from a relative's house at Babu Bazar to his Kamalbagh residence at about 11:00pm by rickshaw.

Owner of Ashik Products (calendar and gift card shop) at Chakbazar, Shaharoom suffered critical wounds as the criminals stabbed him in his chest. Locals rushed him to Dhaka Medical College Hospital where he succumbed to his injuries.

Police arrested three persons from the area suspecting their connections

with the incident. They were identified as Belayet, Rubel and Ahsanullah.

The victim's elder brother Harun Shikder alleged that his distant brother-in-law Ahsanullah hired the killers to kill his brother following a dispute over money and a piece of land in the old town.

He said Shaharoom borrowed Tk 2.5 lakh from Ahsanullah a few months back and returned Tk 2 lakh later on. But, Ahsanullah continued to demand Tk 2.5 lakh resulting in a dispute.

"Ahsanullah even threatened to kill Shaharoom at least eight times in the past," Harun said.

Harun filed a case with Lalbagh Police Station accusing the three arrestees and four to five unknown others for the killing, police said.

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