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Dhaka University Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. AFM Yusuf Haider speaks as chief guest at the inaugural session of 'The Daily Star 3rd Inter Hall English Debate Championship and 1st Inter University Public Speaking Competition-2005' at the RC Majumder Arts auditorium yesterday. Sitting from left are DUDS President Mehidy Hasan Tamim, DUDS Moderator Dr. Syed Manzoorul Islam, Managing Editor of The Daily Star Syed Fahim Munaim and DUDS General Secretary Abdur Rahim.

DAILY STAR 3RD INTER HALL ENGLISH DEBATE CONTEST BEGINS

'Debate helps students become worthy citizens'

DU CORRESPONDENT

A four-day long 'The Daily Star 3rd Inter Hall English Debate Championship and 1st Inter University Public Speaking Competition-2005' began at the RC Majumder Arts auditorium of Dhaka University (DU) yesterday.

The Dhaka University Debating Society (DUDS) has organised the debate, sponsored by The Daily Star, with the slogan 'Where the mind is free and the spirit fearless'.

Addressing the inaugural session as chief guest, DU Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof. AFM Yusuf Haider said debate is one of the most important co-curricular activities at the university and its popularity among the students is increasing.

He said the DU authorities have increased the allocation for the debating society and different debating clubs in the residential halls. "Due to lack of regular practice, the English debating activities of the university could not achieve the same quality the Bangla debating has gained," he added.

Dr. Syed Manzoorul Islam, moderator of the DUDS, called on the students to make a habit of English debate.

He also thanked The Daily Star for sponsoring the event.

Syed Fahim Munaim, managing editor of The Daily Star, said logical debating can help prepare this generation to become the best citizens of the country.

He called on the students to practice the English language everyday to contribute effectively to the fields of science, economics as well as politics.

Fahim Munaim also underscored the need for enhancing the English debating skills and called on the students to speak out without fear.

He also assured the DUDS of further assistance in organising such event.

Later, a mock debate was held on the motion 'Disaster preparedness begins at home'.

Shamim Reza, associate professor of Mass Communication and Journalism Department, briefed the debaters on the rules of the competition.

DUDS President Mehidy Hasan Tamim presided over the inaugural session while General Secretary Abdur Rahim conducted it.

A total of 16 DU halls are taking part in the competition along with around 40 participants from different public and private universities in public speaking competition.

BPC-BRTC tourist service

BSS, Dhaka

The Bangladesh Parjatan Corporation (BPC) and the Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) will jointly introduce a tourist service in the country.

One murdered, father arrested

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A young man, who was beaten allegedly by his father and younger brother at their Shyampur residence in the city on Monday night, succumbed to his injuries at the Dhaka Medical College Hospital (DMCH) yesterday.

Victim Jahiruddin Shamim, 35, was seriously injured after his father Haji Shahidullah and younger brother Jashim Uddin Babu beat him with sticks and iron rods at their house at Alambagh in Shyampur on Monday following a family dispute over business, police said.

"During the beating, the younger brother also joined his father and started kicking, punching and hitting Jahir with stick and rod," an officer of Shyampur Police Station said quoting a witness.

Shamim was admitted to the DMCH in a critical condition on Tuesday and was taken back home the same day. He was taken to the DMCH again yesterday as his condition deteriorated. Later, the doctors declared him dead at the hospital.

Angered by the brutality, some locals took out a procession in the

Alambagh area yesterday morning demanding arrest of the culprits.

Police arrested Shamim's father in this connection but his brother Babu managed to flee.

Victim's wife Farhana Yasmin filed a murder case accusing father-in-law Shahidullah and brother-in-law Babu with the Shyampur thana in this connection.

3 die in road accident

UNB, Dhaka

Three persons died in a road accident on Mohammadpur embankment in the capital yesterday.

The victims are Babul, 34, and his son Masud, 7, and a child Hridoy, 4. Witnesses said the victims were run over by a pickup van at about 12:45pm.

On information, police rushed to the spot and recovered the bodies. They also arrested the helper of the van, Raju, from the spot.