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# \$ 24,645 US grant to preserve Bengali art

UNB, Dhaka

The Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, US Department of State, has announced that the 2005 Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation awards will support 87 cultural preservation projects in 76 countries, including Bangladesh.

The 24,645 US dollar grant to the International Centre for Study of Bengal Art (ICSBA), headed by Dr Enamul Haque, will support the preservation of nearly 30,000 negatives, prints, and slides related to ancient and medieval Bengali art and architecture.

The collection was compiled over the last 50 years, and the

preservation project will run for one year. The project will document and digitise the images, create a data-base of the collection, provide proper storage and train staff.

The Ambassador's Fund for Cultural Preservation is administered by the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs.

Through a range of cultural preservation activities, the Bureau promotes cooperation with other countries to reduce the threat of pillage of irreplaceable cultural heritage, and develop long-term strategies for preserving cultural property.

Prior projects in Bangladesh included "Preserving the Music and Cultural Traditions of the Baul" in 2004, "Traditional Metal Craft Preservation" in 2003, "Preservation of Historical Documents from the Museum Commemorating Bangladesh's War for Independence" in 2002, and "Conservation and Improvement of Display of the Varendra Museum Collections" in 2001.

## Environmental programme for students at British Council

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The British Council, Dhaka and biotechnology research organisation Debtec jointly organised a programme titled 'Doctor Plant' on the Council premises on Tuesday to familiarise young school students with medicinal plants, says a press release.

Some 146 students representing 10 city schools took part in a two and half hours programme, formally opened by the British Council Deputy Director Richard Funderland.

Debtec Executive Director Dr Ferdousi Begum described the uses and cultivation processes of 12 medicinal plants to the participants. The organisation also staged a drama with songs on these plants.

Tuesday's programme was organised for the young learners as part of the British Council's six-month long series of activities under the theme 'Getting to Grips with the Environment.'

## BANGABANDHU MURDER Execution of verdict demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Krishok League (BKL) and Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad (BMS) yesterday formed separate human chains at Muktangan in the city demanding execution of the verdict in Bangabandhu murder case and trial of bomb attackers.

At the closing day of the month long programmes to mark the National Mourning Day, Bangladesh Krishok League demanded impartial international

investigation into the August 17 and 21 bomb blasts and trial of the perpetrators.

An hour-long human chain was participated by Awami League Joint General Secretary Obaidul Kader, Dr Abdur Razzaq MP, Haji Rashed Mosharaf, Dr Mirza Jalil and Motaher Hossein Mollah.

Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad also demanded trial of all recent bomb blasts including the August 17 and 21, and exemplary punishment to the killers of Bangabandhu.

## CJ nominates 2 judges for vacation benches

UNB, Dhaka

Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassir Husain nominated two judges of the Appellate Division for disposal of important matters during its 44-day autumn vacation, beginning Saturday.

An official announcement yesterday said Justice MM Ruhul Amin will hear cases for disposal at chamber court on September 5, 14 and 21, while Justice M Tafazzal Islam on September 28, October 5 and 12.



PHOTO: STAR

The Daily Star Press Sramik Karmachari Union and the Daily Star Employees Union accorded a reception to the children of the staffs for their brilliant results in the SSC examinations at The Daily Star office yesterday.