



PHOTO: STAR

A motorcade of State Minister for Home Affairs Lutfuzzaman Babar waits on a road while the state minister visits the New Market in the city yesterday to see the security measures for the markets and Eid shoppers. But the motorcade caused suffering to people as the road was closed to traffic during his visit.

PM performs ziarat at prophet's mazar

UNB, Dhaka

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia, now on a pilgrimage to Saudi Arabia for performing Umrah, offered Ziarrah at the holy Rawja Mubarak of Prophet Hazrat Mohammad (SM) in Madina after Tarabi prayers on Tuesday night.

According to a message received here yesterday, she also offered ziarat at the mazars of Hazrat Abu Bakar (RA) and Hazrat Omar (RA).

Khaleda, who arrived in Madina on Monday night, spent her second day offering prayers during which she sought divine blessings for peace, progress and prosperity of the people of Bangladesh and the Muslim Ummah.

At Masjid-e-Nabobi, she offered her Magrib, Asr, Esha and Tarabi prayers in Jamaat.

Prime Minister's youngest son, Arafat Rahman, State Minister for Civil Aviation and Tourism Meer Mohammad Nasiruddin, Mosaddeq Ali MP, Bangladesh Ambassador to Saudi Arabia Maj General (Retd) SM Ikramul Huq and Consul General of Jeddah Consulate Ashrafuddin also accompanied the PM during the rituals at the sacrosanct site of Islam.

She is due to leave Madina for Makkah today to perform Umrah.

In Makkah, she will observe Jamatul-Wida and holy Lailatul Qadr.

Three JCD leaders jailed for mugging

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced three Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) leaders of Dhaka College unit to different terms of punishment for mugging Tk 12 lakh from a jewellery shop employee on June 19.

The convicts are Golam Ohab Liton, 24, science and technology affairs secretary of JCD Dhaka College unit, Azizul Haq, 23, a member and Mohammad Ruhul Amin, assistant general secretary of the college unit JCD.

Of them, Ruhul Amin was awarded five years' rigorous imprisonment (RI) while Liton and Azizul Haq were given four years' RI. They were fined Tk 10,000 each, in default, to suffer three months more in jail.

Convict Ruhul Amin was tried in absentia and his punishment will be

effective from the day of his arrest or surrender, the court said.

Metropolitan Magistrate Mir Ali Reza of Speedy Trial Court-6 handed down the sentence at a packed courtroom in presence of the convicts Liton and Azizul Haq.

Earlier, the prosecution and the defence completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 17 prosecution witnesses.

Motijheel police arrested Liton and Azizul Haq, who were caught red-handed while mugging the sum from a jewellery shop employee in Motijheel area. But Ruhul Amin managed to escape.

The investigation officer pressed charges against them on June 28, showing 25 people as prosecution witnesses.

Dhanmondi police on June 19 seized about Tk 10 lakh from a room at the International Hostel of Dhaka College following the arrestee's statement.

Mohammad Abul Kashem, manager of Uma Jewellers, filed a case against three JCD leaders with Motijheel Police Station under the Speedy Trial (Law and Disruption) Act.

Police filed another case under the Arms Act against Liton and Azizul Haq and the case is now pending with Special Tribunal-9.

Relatives of the convicts were not found in the court area.

Court Sub-Inspector Azgar Ali Khan appeared for the state while advocates Monzur Alam and Ashraf-Ul-Alam defended the accused.



PHOTO: STAR

Awami League President Sheikh Hasina offers munajat at an Iftar party organised by Peshajibi Samannay Parishad at the Officers' Club in the city yesterday. On her right is Jatiya Oikya Mancha convenor Dr Kamal Hossain and on her left are Barrister Rakanuddin Mahmud and Tofail Ahmed.

Professionals host Iftar party

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Peshajibi Samannoy Parishad, a platform of professionals, yesterday hosted an Iftar party at the Officers' Club in the city.

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and Awami League (AL) Chief Sheikh Hasina attended the party as chief guest.

Vice-chairman of Bangladesh Bar Council Barrister Rakanuddin Mahmud welcomed the guests.

Other AL leaders who attended the Iftar party included Abdul Jalil, Zillur Rahman, Tofail Ahmed, Motia Chowdhury and Suranjit Sengupta.

Gono Forum President Dr Kamal Hossain, Communist Party of Bangladesh President Manjurul Ahsan Khan, Workers' Party President Rashid Khan Menon and Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal leader Syed Zafor Sazzad also attended the Iftar party.

Among others who attended the party included Supreme Court Bar Association President Advocate Mahbube Alam, Engineer Khabiruzzaman, Prof Dr Ruhul Haque, Journalist Iqbal Sobhan Chowdhury and Dhaka University Teachers' Association President Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique.