



Jatiya Oikya Mancha President Dr Kamal Hossain and Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh President Badruddoza Chowdhury hold up the copies of 'mass manifesto' after they jointly announced it at Mahanagar Natya Mancha in the city yesterday.

Ekushey Book Fair begins today

UNB, Dhaka

Month-long Amar Ekushey Book Fair 2006, dedicated to the language martyrs who laid down their lives for the mother tongue in 1952, begins on the Bangla Academy premises in the city today.

The fair, organised every year by Bangla Academy, is one of the biggest annual festivals for book-lovers, scholars and publishers as they can buy and sell books on the occasion. Moreover, the publishers get a chance to know about the expectations of readers from on-spot interaction.

Prime Minister Khaleda Zia will inaugurate the book fair at 2.30pm and lay the foundation stone of the Bangla Academy Bhaban.

A total of 461 stalls of 305 organisa-

tions have been set up at the fair this year, with a unanimous decision of all the publishers, including the Bangla Academy, to sell books at 30 percent discount this time to attract more buyers.

Although the number of new books that are expected to hit the stalls during the fair by publishers were not available, but Bangla Academy will publish 23 new books during the knowledge festival.

The Amar Ekushey Book Fair is held marking the Language Martyrs Day on February 21, which is now also observed as the International Mother Language Day.



PHOTO: STAR
Teachers of community primary schools began a fast unto death at Muktangan in the city yesterday demanding nationalisation of their jobs.

Two get 30 yrs' RI for keeping heroin

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday sentenced two people, including a woman, to 30 years' rigorous imprisonment for possessing 200 grams of heroin 13 years ago.

Judge Shamsunnahar Begum alias Mema of the Environment Appeal Court handed down the sentence in absence of the convicts.

The convicts are Abdul Mannan of Chapainawabganj and Aleya Begum of Madaripur districts.

Punishment to the fugitives will be

effective from the day of their arrest or surrender, the judge said.

Earlier, the prosecution and the defence completed their arguments and the court recorded statements of 11 prosecution witnesses.

A team of Narcotics Control Department raided a house of East Monipur at Mirpur at about 11:00am on August 9, 1992 and arrested the two with 200 grams of heroin.

Special Public Prosecutor Khalilur Rahman conducted the case on behalf of the state.

Doa Mehfil



We mourn for the departed soul of our beloved father Mr. Shamsul Huda, who led the Cosmopolitan Corporation & many other organizations, who has been a great spirit and courage for us all through his life. He has passed away on 28th January at 11 am. He was 78.

We his daughters & sons, on behalf of the family, have organized a Doa Mehfil on February 2, 2006 after Asr prayer at his residence 38 New Eskaton Road, Dhaka. All relatives, friends, acquaintances and well-wishers are requested to join the occasion.

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