

Homage to language martyrs



Leader of the Opposition in Parliament Sheikh Hasina



Bangladesh Nationalist Party



14-party opposition combine



Foreign diplomats



Chief Justice Syed JR Mudassir Husain



Dhaka University Vice-Chancellor Prof SMA Faiz



Supreme Court Bar Association



Dhaka University Teachers' Association



Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka



Bikalpa Dhara Bangladesh



Wounded freedom fighters



Bangla Academy



Dhaka University Alumni Association



Committee to Resist Wartime Criminals and Collaborators



Kendriya Khelaghbar Asar



Prajmonmo '71

PHOTO: STAR

Individuals and different organisations place wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar in the city yesterday to pay homage to the Language Movement martyrs.

Ekushey observed in WB, Tripura

BDDNEWS, Kolkata

Amar Ekushey and International Mother Language Day was observed in Kolkata of West Bengal in India with due respect and solemnity yesterday.

The other districts of West Bengal too observed the day at the initiatives of the district administrations. Agartala, the capital of Tripura and Bangla speaking regions, were reported to have paid homage to the language martyrs to mark the day.

The Bhasha O Chetana Samity placed wreaths at the altar of the Shaheed Minar at the Curzon Park in Kolkata at one minute past the zero hour on February 21.

Later, the Samity brought out a provat ferri (morning procession) and torch procession chanting slogans of February 21, which paraded the city thoroughfares.

Every body, including the chief minister B. B. D. H. D. B. Bhattacharya, sang the theme song 'Amar Bhaiyer Rakte Rangano Ekushey February'.

On the occasion, a recitation programme was held at the Shishir Mancha organised jointly by the Bangladesh-India Moitree Samity and Suchetan Academy.

The renowned reciters, Kolkata mayor Bikashranjan Bhattacharya, and Kolkata Doordarshan Kendra director poet Jagannath Basu also took part in the programme.

Among the renowned personalities who participated in the programme were Ratna Mitra, Dr. Maya Ghosh, Urmila Basu, Mal Debnath, Partha Mukhopadhyay, Partha Ghosh, Gouri Ghosh, Chandan Majumder, Pranati Amitava Bagchi and Thakur Shankar Roy Chowdhury.

Many intellectuals of both the Bangla including Syed Hasan Imam of Bangladesh participated

in rendering songs and recitation.

Students of Bangladesh organised a cultural function at the Netaji Subashchandra Engineering College.

Meanwhile, a six-day Barkat Fair had already begun two days ago at Babla village of Bishnushava area in Bharatpur under Mursidabad, birthplace of language martyred Barkat.

About 15 thousand villagers paraded the village roads with torches in their hands singing the theme song of the Amar Ekushey on the night of February 21.



Congratulations

Prof Dr Iqbal Hasan Mahmud, a chest diseases specialist, has recently been awarded FRCP by the Royal College of Physicians of Ireland, says a press release.

Earlier, he obtained FRCP from the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh and FACP from the American College of Physicians.

The chairman of the International Institute of Integrated Medical Science (BC), Dr Iqbal is also a presenter of 'Prescription', a health programme on BTV.

He is also the author of 'Priyo Doctor'.

JOURNO MURDER BNP leader turns over accused nephew to police

UNB, Munshiganj

Bogra Zila School teacher sued for beating student

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Bogra

A local BNP leader turned over his nephew to police yesterday in connection with the killing of newsman Rizvi in the district.

Police said Mobarak, 18, a nephew of local BNP leader Masud Rana, was wanted in connection with the murder.

On information, Officer-in-Charge of Sadar Police Station Nazmul Islam went to Mubarak's Gulpara residence where his family members, including Masud Rana, and town BNP president Shahjahan Sikder handed him over to the police.

Masud Rana in his reaction said that as his nephew was wanted in a murder case, he could not give him undue indulgence.

"It isn't like me to tolerate injustice... Rather I help family," Rana said. OC Nazmul said Mubarak has already disclosed how the killing of Rizvi occurred.

FAKE MOBILE CARDS Forger arrested

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Narayanganj

Police arrested a member of a prepaid mobile card forgers' gang with 50 fake prepaid cards at Fatulla in Narayanganj yesterday.

Sources said Salam, 30, son of Abdus Salam of Pabna district, with his accomplice Sujan of Koltabazar in Dhaka approached Shaymol Miah, owner of Prokash Telecom Centre, to sell some prepaid mobile cards asking for lower price than the usual.

On suspicion, when Shaymol along with some locals, challenged Salam, his partner fled away.

Police seized 50 fake mobile cards of different mobile companies from him. In the spate of police quizzing, Salam admitted that his gang doctorred used cards by putting wrong passwords on them.

Hasina assures Shaheed Salam's family of financial help

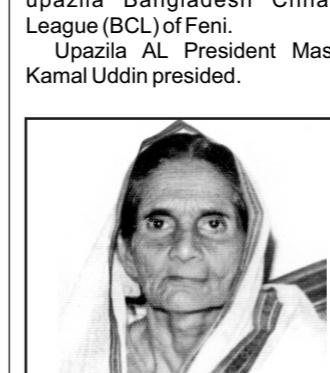
BDNEWS, Feni

Awami League (AL) President Sheikh Hasina yesterday assured the family of Shaheed Salam of financial help.

Hasina, also Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, conveyed this message over telephone to AL Joint Secretary Obaidul Kader who was present at the chief guest at a reception to the members of the family of Language Movement martyr Salam.

The function was organised by Dagonbhuiyan upazila AL and upazila Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) of Feni.

Upazila AL President Master Kamal Uddin presided.



Obituary

Umme Salema Ghani, wife of late Alhaj Abdul Ghani, noted educationist and social worker of Jaymongal at Shibpur in Narsingdi, passed away at her house on Friday at the age of 92, says a press release.

She was buried at the family graveyard.

She left behind five sons, six daughters and a host of grand sons and daughters to mourn her death.

A doa mafil will be held for the salvation and peace of the departed soul at her Jaymongal house on February 24.

2 killed, 27 injured in road accidents

STAR REPORT

At least two people were killed and 27 others injured in separate road accidents in Patuakhali and Pabna yesterday.

Our correspondent from Patuakhali reports: One killed and at least 25 people injured in a road accident at Patuakhali-Kalapara road at about 2:00pm yesterday.

The victim was identified as Jahangir Sardar, 25, of Tiakhal village under Kalapara upazila.

Passengers said, a Patuakhali-bound passenger bus named Mridha Paribahan fell into a roadside ditch at Fakirbari area as the driver lost control.

Seriously injured 16 passengers were sent to Kalapara upazila health complex.

Police seized the bus but its driver and helpers managed to flee away.

Our correspondent from Pabna adds: A young boy died and two others were injured critically in a tragic road mishap at Ishwardi upazila of the district yesterday.

According to police and locals, three young boys riding on a motorcycle were going to Lalan Shah Bridge at Pakshy in the afternoon.

A sand-laden truck ran over the motorcycle killing its driver on the spot and injuring two others critically.

The dead was identified as Rashid of Muladuli.

The injured were rushed to Ishwardi hospital.

Police seized the truck but the driver managed to flee the spot.

Timber traders call hartal in Rangamati

UNB, Rangamati

Timber Traders and Employees' Sangram Parishad yesterday called a 48-hour hartal beginning on February 26 in Rangamati.

The Parishad leaders took the decision to enforce the shutdown on February 26 and 27 at a meeting at their office after the environment and forest ministry postponed today's meeting with them for reasons not known.

Earlier, the Parishad withdrew a daylong hartal for February 19 after State Minister for Environment and Forest Jafur Chowdhury assured them of solving timber transportation problems at today's meeting.

But on Monday night, Jafur Chowdhury's chief secretary phoned the Parishad leaders to inform them that the ministry has decided to postpone the meeting.

Outraged by this decision, the Parishad leaders staged demonstrations in the town and called the hartal to press for their demand.

On February 14, the state minister held a meeting with the Parishad leaders, but without any fruitful outcome.

WEATHER TODAY

Thundershowers likely

UNB, Dhaka

Rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at one or two places over Sylhet division and the region of Comilla in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky elsewhere over the country, Met Office said predicting nearly unchanged night temperature.

Highest temperature 34.2 degree Celsius was recorded yesterday at Jessore and lowest 19.0 degree Celsius at Rangamati.

The sun sets in the capital at 5:58pm today and rises at 6:26am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	30.6	23.8	82	65
Chittagong	30.0	20.7	69	87
Rajshahi	31.7	20.0	98	69
Khulna	32.8	22.8	91	59
Barisal	32.5	22.5	91	68
Sylhet	29.0	20.3	85	73
Cox's Bazar	30.0	20.5	82	77