



## Six JMB militants hanged

**Countrywide security alert**

Security measures have been beefed up in the capital as well as elsewhere in the country on suspicion of reprisal from militants following the execution of six kingpins of the outlawed militant group Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) early yesterday.

Security measures were stepped up and members of the law enforcement agencies have been asked to remain alert on

**JULFIKAR ALI MANIK and SHARIFUL ISLAM**

Six top militants including Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) supreme leader Abdur Rahman and his deputy Bangla Bhai were executed late Thursday night for killing two Jhalakathi judges.

They swung from the gallows between 11:45pm and midnight at four different jails amid tight security, said prison sources.

The executions mark in all probability the end of country's first overt militancy campaign that rattled the nation through a series of coordinated blasts and suicide bombings in 2005.

They came within three years of the BNP-Jamaat alliance government's denying the existence of Islamic militancy. The ruling coalition high-ups even went on to describe JMB operations commander Siddiqui Islam alias Bangla Bhai as mere creation of the media.

But later on February 23, 2005 the government was forced to eat humble pie and ban JMB and its offshoot Jagrata Muslim Janata, Bangladesh (JMB) that sought to establish Shariah (Islamic law).

Abdur Rahman was hanged at Comilla jail, Bangla Bhai and Abdul Awal, JMB Majlis-e-Shura (highest decision-making body) member and Rahman's son-in-law, at Mymensingh jail. The outfit's military commander and Rahman's youngest brother Ataur Rahman Sunny and suicide bomber Iftekhar Hasan Mamun were executed at Kashimpur jail in

**The deadly terror outfit, rise of its kingpins**

**STAR REPORT**

Militant activities of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) came to spotlight in April 2004 when its vigilantes started operations and killing people in Rajshahi-Naogaon regions. The extremist organisation, however, had long been running its activities secretly.

Local administration, lawmakers and a few ministers of the then BNP-led four-party coalition government were alleged for supporting the JMB activities.

When newspapers started

**We got justice, say families of slain judges**

**STAR REPORT**

Families of assassinated Jhalakathi judges Jagannath Pandey and Sohel Ahmed expressed their happiness about the execution of the killers and their masterminds.

Suicide squad of Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) killed the two judges on November 14, 2005 in front of their quarters in Jhalakathi.

"I am delighted that we got justice in a relatively short time," said Sohel Ahmed's wife Farhana Kanta, now an employee of Dhaka University.

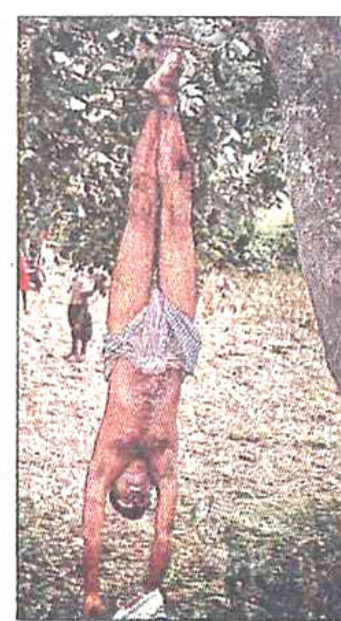
Kanta said she did not know even the name of any JMB leaders or about their activities as her whole world centred about her family. She sought blessing to

**Militants buried, veil of mystery remains**

**JULFIKAR ALI MANIK**

With the funerals of executed Islamist militant kingpins, many secrets and mysteries about the rise of the particular kind of militancy, its masterminds and patrons were also buried yesterday.

Although the investigators since the August 17, 2005 orchestrated bomb blasts across the country had been saying that the mysteries behind the



**Trail of terror attacks**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

JMB killed at least 64 people including Rajshahi University teacher Prof Mohammad Yunus and two Jhalakathi judges, and carried out more than a thousand bomb attacks across the country between 2000 and 2005.

The militant Islamic fundamentalist group killed at least 22 people in Rajshahi division alone, according to Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) and intelligence agencies.

The identities of the people killed by JMB, ranges from common people to progressive teachers, intellectuals, judges, militant outlaws, religious persons and others, whomsoever it considered a



Atika Begum receives the bodies of her brothers Abdur Rahman and Ataur Rahman Sunny at Jamalpur, left, and Nazir Uddin Master receives the body of his son Siddiqui Islam Bangla Bhai in Gabtali upazila of Bogra after the militant leaders were hanged yesterday.



PHOTO: STAR

**Execution says it all**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

The execution of six JMB militants, including its chief Abdur Rahman and second-in-command Siddiqui Islam alias Bangla Bhai, proved that the media reports about the militants were right although the previous government repeatedly denied their existence.

The immediate past BNP-Jamaat alliance government found the reports on JMB's militant activities very hard to swallow and termed those cooked up.

Describing the newspaper reports as not based on facts, the then government said Abdur Rahman and Bangla Bhai are 'fictitious characters', and mere creation of the media.

**Rejoinder**

Bangladesh Society for the Enforcement of Human Rights (BSEHR) in a rejoinder to the story headlined 'Corruption cases filed against Huda, Sigma, Nasim, Tuku, Lobi' published in The Daily Star on March 22 said the report is totally baseless, false and fabricated.

The rejoinder claimed that barrister Nazmul Huda and his wife Sigma Huda, also general secretary of BSEHR, did not receive any bribe from BSEHR and the organisation did not give them any bribe.

**'Execution to help ensure rule of law'**

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Leading lawyers, politicians, intellectuals and people of various sections of the society yesterday expressed satisfaction over the execution of six top Islamist militants and hoped that this would help establish and consolidate the rule of law in the country.

In his immediate reaction to execution of the top militants,

eminent Jurist Dr Kamal Hossain said the rule of law is being finally established in the country, and people are now quite satisfied. Court had awarded death penalty to the militants in accordance with law. All arrests, trial of offenders and court judgements on them would now be as per laws as, he observed.

"The main objective of the

## ICC WORLD CUP 07

### Tigers take on Aussies today

**SPORTS REPORTER**

An upbeat Bangladesh face a stiff challenge when they launch their Super Eights campaign in the Cricket World Cup against defending champions Australia today at the Sir Vivian Richards Stadium in Antigua.

The Tigers are going through exciting time after their historic entry into the second round but it would be an acid test for them against the awesome Australians who have already issued warning by comprehensively beating the West Indies in their first game.

The match will start at 7:30pm Bangladesh Time with state-run Bangladesh Television (BTV) and SET Max beaming live coverage from the Caribbean.

Making the Super 8s is a momentous step for Bangladesh but Habibul Bashar's men have to prove that they are not in this stage only to make up the numbers due to expectation of good and competitive cricket from them.

The Tigers crossed the prelimi-

## BANGLADESH BUSINESS AWARDS 2006 Corporate heroes honoured

**STAFF CORRESPONDENT**

Four prominent businesspersons and corporate houses were honoured with the Bangladesh Business Awards 2006 in the city yesterday for outstanding performance in different fields last year.

Managing Director of Pacific Jeans Limited Md Nasiruddin won the Business Person of the Year award while Zinet Fatema Jahan, proprietor of Jahan Metal, was named the Outstanding Woman in Business of the Year.

Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited (DBBL) was adjudged the Best Financial Institution of 2006 while Acme Laboratories Ltd the Best Enterprise.

This was the seventh consecutive year that the Bangladesh Business Awards, jointly introduced by The Daily Star and DHL.

Worldwide Express, were announced to give the champions of corporate Bangladesh their due recognition.

Finance and Planning Adviser AB Mirza Azizul Islam gave away the accolades as the chief guest at a gala ceremony in the Ballroom of Pan Pacific Sonargaon Hotel.

Anwarul Alam Chowdhury Parvez, president of Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (BGMEA), announced the winner of Outstanding Woman in Business award while Rokia Afzal Rahman, president of Women Entrepreneurs Association, Bangladesh, announced the name of the Enterprise of the Year 2006.

Craig Grossgart, vice-president (South Asia-International) of DHL, announced the name of the Best Financial Institution of the Year



From left: Managing Director of Acme Laboratories Mizanur Rahman Sinha, Managing Director of Dutch-Bangla Bank Yeasin Ali, proprietor of Jahan Metal Zinet Fatema, Managing Director of Pacific Jeans Md Nasiruddin, Finance Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam, Vice President (South Asia-International) of DHL Craig Grossgart and DHL Country Manager Desmond Quiah are seen at the Bangladesh Business Awards 2006 presentation ceremony in Dhaka yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

### আপনার হাঁস-মুরগি 'বার্ড ফ্লু' মুক্ত রাখুন

▼ পরিচিত ও নির্ভরযোগ্য সূত্র থেকে বাচ্চা মুরগি সংগ্রহ করুন। নতুন মুরগি আলাদা রাখুন।

▼ অন্যের মুরগি-খামারে যাবেন না, আপনার মুরগি-খামারে কাউকে ঢুকতে দেবেন না।

▼ মুরগির শেড-এ ঢোকার এবং শেড থেকে বেরবার আগে জীবানু নাশক-এ পা ডুবিয়ে নিন।

▼ এক খামারের পোল্ট্রি সামগ্রি ও যানবাহন অন্য খামারের সাথে ভাগাভাগি করে ব্যবহার করবেন না।

▼ অসুস্থ মুরগিকে আলাদা করে ফেলুন এবং মৃত মুরগিকে গর্ত করে মাটি চাপা দিন।

▼ মুরগি অসুস্থ হলে বা মারা গেলে স্থানীয় জনপ্রতিনিধির মাধ্যমে অথবা সরাসরি স্থানীয় পশুসম্পদ কার্যালয়ে খবর দিন। রোগ নিয়ন্ত্রণে সরকারকে সব ধরনের সহযোগিতা করুন।

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