

Dispel misunderstandings among different faiths

Iftekhar urges UN members

UNB, New York

Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury called upon the UN members to dispel "misunderstandings among different faiths".

He said followers of different religions and faiths in Bangladesh live in a state of tranquil harmony, as we have been able to inculcate in our peoples a sense of tolerance and respect for diversity.

He made these remarks at a high level meeting on inter-religious understanding, chaired by the president of the General Assembly

Dr Srgjan Kerim, UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon attended the meeting on Thursday.

About 72 speakers, mostly foreign ministers representing their countries spoke at the conference, says a press release.

He added that the current state of globalisation poses many challenges to some countries.

Iftekhar said spread of education, alleviation of poverty, empowerment of women and polarisation in the community are needed to bring peace and harmony. He sought interna-

tional cooperation in this regard.

He said every year Bangladesh introduces a resolution in the General Assembly on 'The Culture of Peace'. This year too Bangladesh would do the same.

Bangladesh initiative receives an overwhelming support among the UN members, he added.

He noted Bangladeshi contribution in peacekeeping and said whenever Bangladeshi peacekeepers are present the message of social harmony is being propagated.

Two cattle thieves die in mob beating

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Tangail

Two cattle thieves were lynched by angry mob at Madhupur in Tangail in the early hours of yesterday.

The dead were identified as Mohammad Ainal Miah, 30, son of Khalilur Rahman Khoka of Bekerkona village and his younger brother Mohammad Ripon Miah, 25.

Police said a gang of cattle thieves entered Mohishmara village by a three-wheeler at around 3:30am in a bid to steal cattle.

Sensing their presence, the villagers surrounded the gang and caught two of the thieves and beat them mercilessly to death.

The rest of the thieves, however, managed to escape the scene with the three-wheeler, they said.

On information, Madhupur police rushed to the spot, recovered the bodies and sent them to Tangail General Hospital morgue for autopsy.

ANM Golam Mostafa, officer-in-charge (OC) of Madhupur Police Station, told The Daily Star that Ainal and Ripon were professional cattle thieves.

"Madhupur police had arrested them with four stolen cows on April 22 but they were released on bail recently," he added.

Road crashes kill 3, injure 73

STAR REPORT

At least three people were killed and 73 others injured in separate road accidents in Chittagong, Bagerhat, Brahmanbaria and Sathkira yesterday.

Staff correspondent from Chittagong reports: One person was killed and three were injured in a road accident on Chittagong-Hatkhazi Road at Madhatan Jamtala at around 8:00am, leaving CNG-passenger Liton Chowdhury, 30, dead on the spot and three others injured.

The injured were rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Staff correspondent from Khulna adds: A woman was killed and 40 others were injured in a road accident at Joydhi village under Mollahat upazila of Bagerhat yesterday.

The accident occurred when a truck from the city collided head-on with a CNG-run auto-rickshaw on Chittagong-Hatkhazi road at Madhatan Jamtala at around 8:00am, leaving CNG-passenger Liton Chowdhury, 30, dead on the spot.

Our correspondent from Sathkira says: At least 30 people were injured, 12 of them seriously, in a road accident on Tala-Paikgacha road near Mobarakpur in Tala upazila yesterday.

The injured were rushed to Chittagong Medical College Hospital.

Staff correspondent from Khulna adds: A woman was killed and 40 others were injured in a road accident at Joydhi village under Mollahat upazila of Bagerhat yesterday.

The dead was identified as Afroza Begum, 30, wife of Shahadat Hossain of Khulna city.

Of the injured, 14 were rushed to Mollahat Upazila Health Complex.

Police and witnesses said the accident occurred when a Dhaka-bound passenger bus from Khulna collided head-on with a minibus bound for Bagerhat from Mollahat upazila.

Drivers managed to escape while police seized the two busses from the spot.

The dead was identified as Afroza Begum, 30, wife of Shahadat Hossain of Khulna city.

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