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WEDDING SEASON GIFT

TRANSCOM ELECTRONICS

PAPER BAGS/INNOVATION

Fakhruddin
returns home
UNB, Dhaka

Chief Adviser (CA) Fakhruddin Ahmed returned home yesterday morning after performing hajj. On December 16, the chief adviser and Army Chief General Moeen U Ahmed left Dhaka for Jeddah to perform hajj.

A regular flight of Biman Bangladesh Airlines carrying the CA landed at Zia International Airport at 10:40am.

Law Adviser Mainul Hosein, Communications Adviser Maj Gen (retd) MA Matin, Foreign Adviser Iftekhar Ahmed Chowdhury, diplomats, chiefs of navy and air force and senior civil and military officials received the CA at the airport.

After performing hajj, the CA

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THAI ELECTION

Pro-Thaksin party claims support to form coalition

APP, Bangkok

Allies of ousted Thai premier Thaksin Shinawatra claimed yesterday they had enough support to form a coalition government, after falling short of a majority in the first polls since last year's coup.

The People Power Party (PPP), which has promised to bring Thaksin back from his self-imposed exile in Britain, looked set to win 232 of the 480 seats in parliament, according to an unofficial

count of all the ballots.

Analysts had forecast protracted hard bargaining with the smaller parties that won seats, but PPP secretary general Surapong Suebwonglee said they already had the support needed to form a government.

"Other parties have agreed to join a coalition, which would give us more than half of the seats in parliament," Surapong told reporters, but declined to name their future partners.

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The first batch of this year's hajj pilgrims returns home from Saudi Arabia yesterday with others to follow soon. The photo was taken at Zia International Airport.

Biman starts return hajj flights

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Biman Bangladesh Airlines yesterday began its operation of return hajj flights.

The first return flight landed in Zia International Airport (ZIA) in the capital at 4:30am yesterday with 314 hajis on board, Biman sources said.

Some hajis complained of

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Prayer Timing

December 25

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5:25	6:00
Zohr	12:45	1:15
Asr	3:45	4:00
Maghrib	5:24	5:27
Esha	7:00	7:30

Source: Islamic Foundation

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Celebrating the 8th year

Get the recognition of your business,
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Rules of Eligibility

The awardee should be involved in private business enterprise and must be a Bangladeshi citizen or ordinarily a resident in Bangladesh. He/she must have clean banking and tax records. There is no restriction on age or race. In case of Enterprise Award, only Bangladeshi companies will be considered with published balanced sheets. In case of Financial Institution Award, Bangladeshi and joint venture financial institutions will be considered with published balanced sheet. In case of joint venture financial institutions, a company incorporated in Bangladesh for carrying out business activities jointly by a Bangladeshi and foreign investors will be considered. The shares of the company are to be held by Bangladeshi and foreign shareholders as per the joint agreement. The Bangladeshi investor must have invested at the start-up capital of the company. Shareholding by Bangladeshi shareholder(s) as a nominee shareholder in a subsidiary company in Bangladesh of a 100% foreign owned company will not fall under this category.

Selection Process

An independent eleven-member jury panel comprising of leading intellectuals, business persons, academicians, lawyers, financial experts and eminent personalities with high social standing, credibility and prestige including CEO's of the two sponsoring organisations shall select the winners.

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Amini, 8 others charged with looting house

COURT CORRESPONDENT

The charge sheet of a looting case against former lawmaker and chairman of a faction of Islami Oikyo Jote (IOJ) Mufti Fazul Haque Amini and eight others was submitted yesterday.

Sub-inspector (SI) Kazi Barkat Ali of Lalbagh Police Station, also the investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted the charge sheet against them to the Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's Court showing 27 people as prosecution witnesses.

The other accused are Mufti Taiyab, Moulana Haydaryullah, Mufti Abul Khair, Mohammad Ali

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Pak polls campaign intensifies

AP, APP, Sukkur

Pakistan's election campaign intensified Monday with the three top political leaders travelling across the country to rally supporters and lash out at President Pervez Musharraf just two weeks before a hard-fought parliamentary poll.

The elections, demanded by Pakistan's Western allies, are seen as a crucial step in restoring democracy here after Musharraf's November 3 declaration of emergency rule and his crackdown on the judiciary.

Political opponents and the independent media, Musharraf lifted the state of emergency after six weeks.

Former prime ministers Benazir Bhutto and Nawaz Sharif, who both returned from exile for the

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keep beards, and pray regularly. It is difficult for foreigners to distinguish their affiliations by their attire, he said.

Noor, who joined Brac

Afghanistan on December 22, 2005

and was abducted by armed men

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Polls to 4 city corporations to be delayed
Says Brig Sakhawat

UNB, Dhaka

Elections to Rajshahi, Khulna, Sylhet and Barisal City Corporations will be held at the end of April next instead of March as the SSC examinations across the country have been deferred to March 27 due to the recent cyclone, said Election Commissioner Brig Gen (retd) M Sakhawat Hussain yesterday.

He, however, told journalists that the Election Commission (EC) would request the government, when it deems necessary, to create an appropriate environment

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Fire again at BSEC Bhaban

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Panic gripped the staff of the offices housed in Bangladesh Steel and Engineering Corporation (BSEC) building at Karwan Bazar in the capital following a fire in a room on the ground floor of the building last night.

The building houses several

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The Daily Star  

Inviting Nominations for

DHL The Daily Star Bangladesh Business Awards 2007

Nomination Deadline January 15, 2008

Celebrating the 8th year

Get the recognition of your business,
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Criteria

Business Person of the Year

The nominee will be selected for his/her leadership, financial performance, personal qualities, managerial skills and contribution to Bangladesh's development. In financial performance, the nominee must have made outstanding contribution to his/her organization. In case of a public company, he/she must have contributed to a substantial increase in the returns on shareholders' funds. In case of a private company or sole proprietorship, he/she must have contributed to an improvement in return on capital invested. Personal qualities will include integrity, entrepreneurial abilities and personal leadership. Managerial skills will depend on depth of management, adaptability, tenacity, innovation, productivity, creativity and good labour management.

Outstanding Woman in Business

The nominee must be an entrepreneur who has proven her capability to successfully establish and run a business on her own. She must be a person of integrity and tenacity and her success should be a source of inspiration for others. She must be an example to others that women can be successful in business against all odds that they are faced with. Focus would also be given on her dynamism, innovation, determination, adaptability and depth of management.

Enterprise of the Year

Open to small and medium-sized companies, the nominee will be based on innovation, financial performance, productivity, company management and contribution to the community. Innovation will mean success of the company either in products, services or new markets. In financial performance/productivity, the enterprise must have made outstanding growth in profit. Company management will focus on creative management style in developing harmonious relations within the organisation.

Best Financial Institution of the Year

Open to Financial Institutions- Commercial Banks, Insurance Companies and Leasing Companies. The nomination will be based on innovation, financial performance, productivity, company management and contribution to the community. Innovation will mean the success of the institution in innovation of products, services or new markets. In financial performance or productivity the company must have an outstanding and sustainable growth in profit. The company must also have clean banking, client and tax records. In the area of management, the company must display an effective management style and have a viable organization structure. The company must have a track record of establishing and maintaining harmonious relations within the organization and set examples for the industry. The company should

have made positive contribution to Bangladesh's development and society through Corporate Social Responsibility programmes.

Previous Winners: 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004, 2005 & 2006

Business Person of the Year

Samson H. Chowdhury, Chairman, Square Group, 2000

Anisur Rahman Sinha, Chairman, Opex Group, 2001

Syed Manzur Elahi, Chairman, Apex Group, 2002

Mohammed Mizanur Rahman, Chairman, PHP Group, 2003

Kazi Zahedul Hasan, Managing Director, Kazi Farms Ltd., 2004

Fazlur Rahman, Chairman, City Group of Industries, 2005

Md. Nasir Uddin, Managing Director, Pacific Jeans Limited, 2006

Outstanding Woman in Business

Salma Akther, Proprietor, Aakor, 2000

Rehana Kashem, Proprietor, Saatrong Handicrafts & Fashion, 2001

Geeteara Safiya Choudhury, Chairman & Managing Director, Adcomm Ltd., 2002

Monjulika Chakma, Proprietor, Bain Textiles, 2003

Selina Quader, Proprietor, Agro Concern, 2004

Hasina Newaaz, Proprietor, Orchid Printers, 2005

Zinet Fatema, Proprietor, Jahan Metal, 2006

Enterprise of the Year

Concord Engineers & Construction Ltd., 2000

Rahimafrooz (Bangladesh) Ltd., 2000

Otobi Ltd., 2001

Micro Electronics Ltd., 2002

M. M. Ispahani Ltd., 2003

Incepta Pharmaceuticals Ltd., 2004

BRB Cable Industries Ltd., 2005

ACME Laboratories Ltd., 2006

Best Financial Institution of the Year

Dutch-Bangla Bank Limited, 2006

The decisions of the Jury shall be final and binding and cannot be contested. Please fill the attached form and send it to:

BBA Secretariat c/o DHL EXPRESS:

4-5th Floor, Molly Capita Center, Road-127, Holding-76,