INTERNATIONAL

Kenya violence toll climbs to 328 Tens of thousands displaced, diplomatic efforts on to end ethnic strife

AFP, Nairobi

The overall death toll of Kenya post-electoral violence climbed to 328 after overnight violence yielded 22 more fatalities in the country's western towns, officials said on yesterday.

"Four bodies were brought in the night and four others brought in at dawn. The bodies had bullet wounds," said a mortuary attendent in the western city of Kisumu, an opposition stronghold where the riots have been severe.

Two police officers were killed in the western town of Kericho when a group of youth armed with bows and arrows attacked them, a police official told AFP.

"The officers died on their way to hospital," he said.

overnight taken to a mortuary in Eldoret's Moi Teaching and Referral Hospital, bringing the total number of dead people in the polls fell short of international mortuary since polling day to 84, an hospital official said.

battlefields in the outskirts of erstoopenadialogue. Eldoret.

to least 328 people dead in politi-

cally related-violence since December 27 polling day, according to an AFP tally compiled from police, mortuary attendants and

A Kenyan government security document put the death toll at 177.

"At least 177 people have been killed, 209 properties destroyed and 260 people arrested," a top government official told AFP, citing an official security briefing document prepared early Wednesday.

The official, who requested to remain unnamed, said police were still collecting figures across the east African nation that has seen its worst rioting since 1982 coup attempt.

Rioting and tribal clashes intensified on Sunday after the electoral panel announced President Mwai Kibaki the winner, but opposition Some 12 more bodies were leader Raila Odinga has rejected The European Union electoral

monitoring mission has said the standards and called for an investigation while foreign governments The 12 had been killed in the have prevailed upon the rival lead-

This brings the countrywide toll yesterday to seek a solution to the crisis in Kenya, where post-

election violence was threatening to escalate into a tribal war, with tens of thousands displaced and hundreds murdered.

presidential ballot -- focused on discrepancies in the counting region process -- has triggered Kenya's worst urban unrest in 25 years.

The head of the African Union, Ghanaian President John Kufuor, was expected in Nairobi later Wednesday to lead a joint mediation effort with the Commonwealth, represented by the head of its observer mission, former Sierra Leonean president day. Ahmed Tejan Kabbah.

President Mwai Kibaki's narrow re-election and his swearing in on Sunday sparked violence across the country -- much of it along tribal lines.

Defeated opposition challenger Raila Odinga, who claims Kibaki stole the election, plans to hold a mass rally Thursday declaring said. himself the "people's president". Commonwealth spokesman

Julius Mucunguzi said Kabbah had met with the rival leaders and they Diplomatic efforts accelerated had "agreed to his mediation".

With Kibaki belonging to may have been inaccurate. Kenya's largest tribe, the Kikuyu,

and Odinga to the second largest, the Luo, the violence has taken on a distinctly ethnic hue, with tit-fortat killings and targeted arson The dispute over last week's attacks that carry worrying echoes of other ethnic conflicts in the

"If no urgent step is taken to arrest the killings, Kenya is bound to sink into the abyss and join the ranks of war-torn countries like Cote d'Ivoire, Somalia, Rwanda and Sierra Leone and others which have experienced genocide on an unimaginable scale," an editorial in the Daily Nation warned yester-

In a statement issued in London yesterday, US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice joined British Foreign Secretary David Miliband in pressing for a resolution.

"We call on all political leaders to engage in a spirit of compromise that puts the democratic interests of Kenya first," the joint statement

Odinga's charges of electoral fraud were lent extra weight when the chairman of Kenya's electoral commission, Samuel Kivuitu, acknowledged the election result

"I do not know whether Kibaki

won the election," Kivuitu told The Standard, one of Kenya's leading dailies.

Kibaki, 76, has publicly called for consultations with party leaders, but Odinga has insisted he will only negotiate if the president

acknowledges he cheated. On Tuesday, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown said he had spoken to Kufuor and Kabbah and discussed how a joint AU-Commonwealth mission could oversee the process of reconcilia-

"What I want to see is them coming together, I want to see talks and I want to see reconciliation and unity. I want to see the possibility explored where they can come together in government," he told reporters.

Western Kenya, where Odinga enjoys broad support, has witnessed some of the worst violence, and the director of the Kenyan Red Cross Society, Abbas Gullet, who visited the region, described the situation there as "unimaginable and indescribable".

"This is a national disaster," Gullet told reporters. "From the area we visited today there are roughly about 70,000 (displaced)."

Bomb kills 5 in

Lankan capital

Suspected Tamil Tiger rebels set off

a powerful roadside bomb in the Sri

Lankan capital yesterday, killing at least five people and wounding 26

fragmentation bomb packed with

ball bearings -- targeted an army

bus transporting wounded soldiers,

although hospital officials said most

five people were killed in the attack

-- three of them died instantly,

while two others died en route to

and rushed to Colombo National

Hospital, officials said. Seven of

Weerasinghe said most of those

killed or injured were civilians --

with just one soldier reported killed

and 11 hurt. There were no reports

of any foreign nationals among the

bus passed the low-budget Nippon

Hotel in Colombo's commercial

Slave Island area, where the mili-

tary has several key installations,

bomb," a police official at the scene

said. "There are several civilian

casualties. At least another civilian

4 killed, 16 hurt

"We suspect it was a roadside

police and witnesses said.

bus was also hit by the blast."

in Iraq suicide

The mine went off as the army

them were in critical condition.

Twenty-six more were injured

Hospital director Hector

A police official at the scene said

of the victims were civilians.

The powerful Claymore mine -- a

AFP, Colombo

others, police said.

the hospital.

casualties.

VACANCY AT BFTI

Body of a kenyan lies in an alley in the Dandora district of Nairobi, yesterday. The overall death toll from post-election

violence in Kenya climbed to 328 after overnight violence yielded 22 more fatalities in the country's western towns,

The Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute (BFTI), a trade policy think tank in publicprivate partnership and a national focal point for international trade related issues, invites applications from qualified Bangladeshi candidates for the following project-based positions under the EC-funded Bangladesh Trade Support Programme that ends in December 2008.

Position: Programs Director.

Job Profile

officials said.

This is a senior level position in Bangladesh Foreign Trade Institute. The position is the monitoring authority of the programs of BFTI. The Key job responsibilities

- Providing innovative ideas to foster the international trade by leading a team of intellectual and generous researchers specialized in international
- Planning the research and identifying the newest research areas;
- Outlining the priorities, trade development planning;
- Outlining the business development goals and objectives;
- Developing and suggesting tools of the trade negotiations and other aspects; Outlining the training program for the stakeholders and the government officials depending on the findings of research and ensure timely implementation of training courses;
- Monitoring closely the efficiency of consultancy services provided by BFTI limiting the range of services;
- Opordinating interdisciplinary activities and ensure the information and communication flow within the disciplines through public relations and information wing and through formal official communication;
- Liaising with different government institutions and stakeholders and build a strong network with government departments, international trade bodies and institutes, international trade organizations and mass media.

Personal Profile

- Advance university degree in Public/Business Administration, Economics. International Relations, International Trade or other related discipline.
- Numerous publications in the reputed national and international journals;
- Skilled in computer operation:
- Training on trade negotiation, trade defense, trade safeguard measures, etc. will be an added advantage.

Experience

- Minimum 12 years experience in human resource (HR) development of which at least 7 years should be in senior administrative management position in local/international/multicultural organization dealing with foreign trade issues;
- Considerable knowledge of Bangladesh and international trade laws and
- Strong verbal and written Bangla and English communication skills;
- Innovative problem-solving and demonstrated analytical skills;
- Experience in participatory decision-making and overcoming resistance in implementing changed decisions;

Excellent interpersonal, mobilization, facilitation and trade negotiation

- Strong ability to innovate ideas, understand and analyze foreign trade issues critically in global context and take decision thereon;
- Expertise/experience in economic diplomacy and global trade issues will be
- an added advantage;
- Training on foreign trade promotion/management will be an added advantage.

Position: Research Associate: 5(five) Job Profile:

Assist the Fellow(s) in carrying out the following tasks:

- Establish, maintain and strengthen liaison with different stakeholders-trade bodies and sectoral associations, concerned government departments, trade research institutes (both local & international), donor agencies, WTO/UNCTAD/ITC/ITTC/WIPO and such other bodies, trade experts. professionals in trade related field, academia, etc. to strengthen training and
- Prepare Event Calendar for Training, Research, Seminar/Roundtable, etc.
- · Prepare, maintain and update a database of current and potential Provide research assistance on international trade negotiations, trade
- agreements, and trade-related issues to the Fellow(s) of the Research & Policy Advocacy Wing of the Institute to conduct a research on a particular

Data collection, analysis and interpretation.

- Develop research methodology and terms of reference (while taking on a research) for approval of higher authority.
- Develop training modules.
- Organize programmes/events and prepare, preserve and disseminate reports on different programmes.
- Perform any other duties as may be assigned.

Personal Profile:

- Masters in Human Resources Development/International Trade/Economics/ Statistics or related discipline.
- Experience in trade-related research and/or training will be an added
- Fluent in oral and written English and Bangla. Ability to write good reports.
- online video conferencing. Strong interpersonal communication skill.

Must be conversant with modern communication technology like e-mail and

- Self-starter, organized, self-disciplined and punctual.
- Salary: Tk. 20,000 30,000 per month (consolidated) based on qualification and

If your profile fits the above position(s), you are requested to send a detailed CV with two recent passport size photographs and a cover letter stating suitability for the position, addressed to Box No. A-01 C/O The Daily Star, 19 Kawran Bazar, Dhaka-1215 on or before 15 January 2008 Please mention the name of the post applied for on the top of the envelop. Only short-listed candidates will be contacted for interviews. Telephone inquines are discouraged.



Chua Soi Lek

Malaysian minister resigns over sex video scandal

AFP, KualaLumpur

Malaysia's health minister resigned yesterday after admitting his role in a video showing him having sex with a female friend in a hotel room.

Chua Soi Lek, 61, the most senior member of Prime Minister Abdullah Ahmad Badawi's government to resign after a sex scandal, announced that he was also step-

ping down from parliament. "I won't be the first and I won't be the last (politician to be caught in such a situation)," Chua, a married man with three children, told a hastily convened news conference.

"It is up to the public to judge me," he added.

Chua admitted on Tuesday that he was in the video, which has been splashed on the front pages of Malaysian newspapers since the DVD started circulating in southern Johor state last week.

Chua is vice president of the Malaysian Chinese Association, a key part of Abdullah's coalition

Dubai mourners join Bilawal in prayers

AFP, Dubai

The teenage son of assassinated Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto received condo-Gulf emirate of Dubai yesterday.

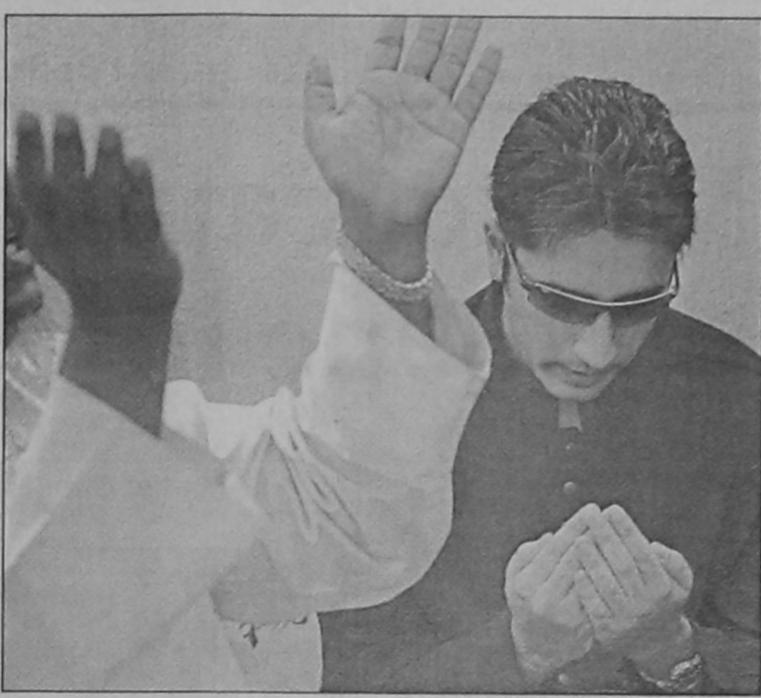
Dozens of mainly Pakistani expatriates paid their respects to Bilawal Bhutto Zardari at his family residence in Dubai and joined him in mourning prayers.

The newly appointed leader of the Pakistan People's Party (PPP) declined to speak to reporters and it was not clear how long he would spend in Dubai, which is a member ning of the party will be looked

The 19-year-old Oxford University undergraduate arrived in Dubai on Tuesday with his sisters following Bhutto's killing in an lences for his slain mother in the attack at an election rally last

> The Bhutto family, especially the children, spent much of their time in Dubai while their mother, a two-time premier, lived in exile from 1999 until October last year.

Bilawal was appointed chairman of the PPP on Sunday, although his role will be largely ceremonial for now and the run-



Bilawal Bhutto Zardari (R), son of assassinated Pakistani opposition leader Benazir Bhutto, takes part in prayers during a memorial service for his

of the United Arab Emirates federa- after by his father, Asif Ali Zardari. mother at their residence in Dubai yesterday. 6 Palestinians killed 27 militants killed

in Israeli airstrike

AFP, Gaza

An Israeli airstrike in the northern Gaza Strip killed six Palestinian militants early yesterday, medics said, including three from the Hamas movement that has ruled ranks. Gaza since June.

The overnight helicopter strike near the border fence with Israel wounded another 11 people, Palestinian medics said.

Earlier reports indicated that the fighters were all members of the armed wing of Hamas, but in a statement released Wednesday the Islamist movement said only three of the fighters came from its own

Another two militants came from the Popular Resistance Committees, and the sixth was a member of the armed wing of the radical Islamic Jihad movement.

in clashes in northwest Pakistan

At least 27 militants were killed in two days of clashes in restive northwestern Pakistan along the border with Afghanistan, a military official told the news agency

napped four Pakistan soldiers in the troubled South Waziristan tribal district on Tuesday, the official said. "Five militants were killed

yesterday and 22 overnight," he said.

South Waziristan is the stronghold of Baitullah Mehsud, an alleged top al-Qaeda commander who was blamed by the government for orchestrating the assassination of opposition leader attacks. Benazir Bhutto last week.

Through a spokesman, Mehsud denied any involvement in her death.

The official said that the alleges is used as a base for kidnapped soldiers were cross-border attacks on delivering food rations from Afghan and international one post to another when troops based in Afghanistan.

militants seized them. Their fate was not immediately After Pakistan forces fired

at militants, five of them were

custody, the official said. Later a tribal peace council was convened but failed to resolve the stand-off, he said.

Both sides used heavy weaponry in tit-for-tat firing that went on through the night, resulting in the death of 22 militants with no loss of life on the army side, he said.

Pakistan's rugged tribal areas along the Afghan border are a known hub of al-Qaeda and Taliban militants who slipped into the region after the US-led invasion of neighbouring Afghanistan in the wake of the September 11 Pakistan has deployed

90,000 troops to hunt down

militants in the region, which

the Afghan government

attack killed and 20 were taken into AFP, Baguba, Iraq

> A suicide bomber blew himself up in the restive Iraqi city of Baquba yesterday, killing at least four people and wounding 16 in an attack aimed at an anti-Qaeda patrol, police said. "Four people were killed and 16

injured," said police captain

Mohammed Al-Bawi. "Three

women were injured and also a police officer." Among the dead was Abu Sajad, a leader of a local "Awakening Council" -- US-backed militia groups made up of Sunni fighters who have turned against al-Qaeda. An Awakening patrol with 20

The local hospital in Baquba, 60 kilometres (40 miles) north of Baghdad, confirmed the toll.

members in three vehicles was the

target of the suicide attack, police

US and Iraqi forces are involved in massive assaults against al-Qaeda operators in the flashpoint province of Diyala, of which Baquba is the capital.

Thailand mourns death of Princess Galyani

AFP, Bangkok

Thailand yesterday mourned Princess Galyani, only sister of revered King Bhumibol Adulyadej, whose death from cancer at the age of 84 also put a temporary halt to post-election coalition haggling.

Thousands of Thais flocked to Bangkok's Siriraj Hospital where the king's elder sister died in the early hours of yesterday after battling abdominal cancer for about six months.

Many of them were wearing black and clutching pictures of the princess, while Thai television stations interrupted their regular programming to report her death with footage showing her life. All newscasters wore black.

TAKE THE LEAD win the Challenge!



Responsibilities:

Effective planning, implementation; monitoring and documentation of Event management activities such as coordinating all aspects of high profile live events i. e. Awards giving ceremony, Brand Experience, Fashion Shows, Concerts, Themed Parties, Conferences Exhibitions, or/and entire

event management. Qualification & experiences:

be an added advantage

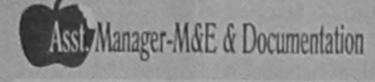
 Masters in any business disciplines;
 Marketing is preferable o A minimum of 5 years relevant experience with 3 years in relevant managerial position in any Advertising Agency
o Experience in HIV/AIDS sector will



Lead the Design dept to conceive, develop and produce effective Communication materials such as computer graphical designs, visualization for digital and other printing version, etc. i. e. provide the visual images of the verbal or written scripts, which involves sketching, drawing, and designing for Audio-Visual production for all

o A minimum of 5 years relevant experience with 3 years in relevant position in any Advertising Agency o Imagination skill and be update always current fashion of communication

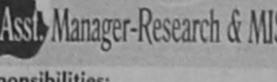
o High-level skills on different graphics software preferred as Adobe Photoshop, Adobe Illustrator, Quark Express, Adobe PageMaker, CorelDraw



Effective planning and implementation, documentation and reporting of monitoring and evaluation aspects such as designing the system and develop/revise tools and guidelines and for facilitating project progress tracking; undertaking process documentation of the project and writing monitoring and other routine reports.

o Masters in Statistics or Demography or other Social science disciplines; Public Health is an added qualification

relevant managerial position in HIV/AIDS projects
o Strong background on narrative, interactive, analytical
Reporting skill, Documentation skill o High-level skills on different statistical software preferred as STAT-PAC, Access, SPSS



Responsibilities:

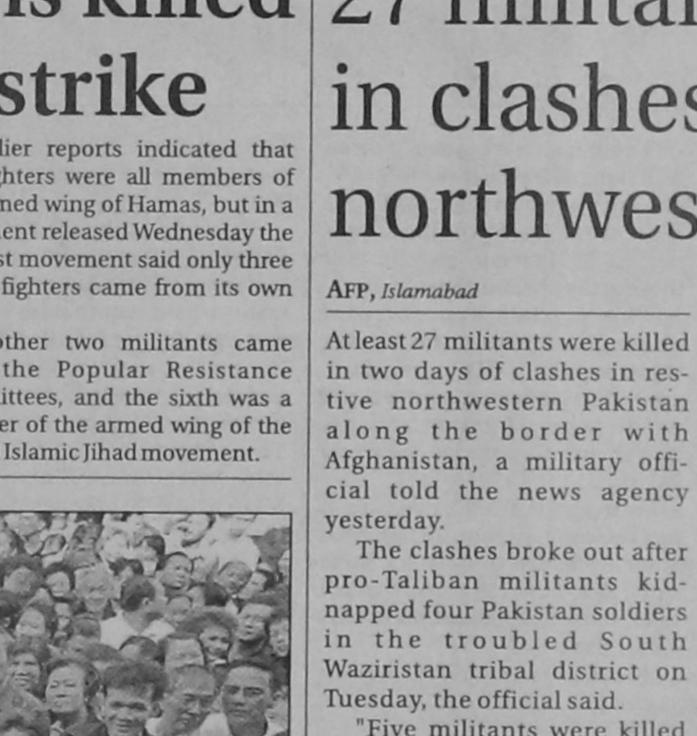
Effective planning and implementation, Documentation and Reporting of Research activities including study design, develop/revise tools and guidelines, maintain MIS, findings sharing as well as coordinating program's routine reports. Qualification & experiences:

o Masters in Statistics or Anthropology; Public Health is an added qualification

National/International NGOs including 3 years of experience in relevant managerial position in HIV/AIDS projects Strong background on database

software preferred as STAT-PAC, Access,

Please send your Application and CV with passport size recent photograph within 12 January 2008 to the address below. Please do not attach copies of certificate or any other supporting papers that we will ask for only at interview from the short listed candidates. Address: Box No: A-184, The Daily Star, 19 Karwan Bazar, Dhaka-1215









Responsibilities:

sorts of media campaign. Qualification & experiences:

o Masters in Fine Arts or any other relevant disciplines; Academic background may be relaxed for highly experienced person

Responsibilities:

Qualification & experiences:

o A minimum of 5 years experience in National /International NGOs including 3 years of experience in

o A minimum of 5 years experience in

management and data analysis
o High-level skills on different statistical