

## Justice Khaliq passes away

Justice MA Khaliq, an adviser to the first caretaker government of 1990, passed away due to a cardiac arrest at Ibrahim Cardiac Hospital in the city at 12:45pm yesterday at the age of 87, says a press release.

He was laid to rest at Banani graveyard following separate Namaz-e-janazas on Supreme Court premises and Banani Jame Mosque yesterday.

Born in 1921 in the village Sonarai at Domar in Nilphamari district, MA Khaliq graduated from Carmichael College Rangpur and obtained his MA and BL degrees from Calcutta University.

Justice Khaliq joined the then East Pakistan Civil Service (judiciary) in 1947 and served the judicial service and the law and legislative department. He also served as the secretary to the East Pakistan Assembly during 1956-66.

Having served as District and Session's Judge, he joined the Supreme Court as its registrar.

After his retirement in 1983, he also served the Administrative Appellate Tribunal and Journalists' Wage Board Commission as chair-

He was also a member of the Trustee Board of Dhaka Shishu Hospital.

He left behind two daughters, three grandchildren and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

His elder daughter Shaheen Sultana and son-in-law AH Mahmood Ali, former high commissioner to the UK, were present beside him at the time of his death.

His younger daughter Monwara Sultana and her husband Dr Shahabuddin Ahmed are professors at the Oklahoma State University in the USA. can help save millions of goats, said

His gulkhwani will be held at his son-in-law's residence (Kanchan, an official handout House No 13, Road No 1) at Dhanmondi in the city after Asr prayers tomorrow.

### Abzarun Nesa

Abzarun Nesa, mother of Md Rafiqul Islam, deputy secretary at the shipping ministry, passed away at a hospital in Comilla on Wednesday at the age of 75, says a press release.

She left behind four sons, eight daughters and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn her death.

SM Anwar Hossain Apu, presi dent of Suryamukhi Samaj Kalyan Sangsad, prayed for the salvation of the departed soul and conveyed sympathy to the bereaved family.

### Death anniversary



death anniversary of engineer Haji Khandaker Zahidul Haq, father-in-law of SM Khorshed Alam Ashrafee, says a

Today is the first

press release.

He passed away at the residence of his eldest daughter Ismat Ara Begum at Tomtom Bridge Housing Society in Comilla on this day in 2007.

### Marzia Mahzabin Jeba



Today is the 4th death anniversary of Marzia Mahzabin Jeba, founder editor of fortnightly Sukanya, says a press release. On the

occasion, a milad mahfil and religious programmes will be held at the residence of her husband Dr Asaduzzaman Ripon, editor of The People and president of Democratic Foundation, today.

A doa mahfil will also be held at Agargaon Mosque and madrasa after Asr prayers.

Her relatives and admires are requested to attend the programmes to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

### Nurjahan Begum Tuku

Today is the 10th death anniversary of Nurjahan Begum Tuku, wife of poet and architect Rabiul Husain says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at the Dormitory Mainul Quran Hafizia Kaumia Madrasa and Orphanage at Green Road in the city after Asr prayers

Tuku passed away due to brain | National Parade Square yesterday.

hemorrhages in 1998.

# Formulate nat'l policy to safeguard indigenous languages

Prof Anisuzzaman tells Asiatic Society Founding Day Lecture

DU CORRESPONDENT

Livestock

Research Instt

develops goat

Bangladesh Livestock Research

Institute (BLRI) has developed a

vaccine for goat pox, a contagious

viral disease, which kills a large

number of goats every year in the

Dr Md Rafigul Islam, Dr MJFA

Taimur and other scientists of

livestock health division developed

the homologous vaccine, which

torate yesterday at a function in

Savar for its large-scale production

lions of goats from the disease

every year, thereby helping save the

country Tk 52 crore in goat losses

Dr CS Karim was present as the

chief guest at the vaccine technol-

ogy transfer ceremony at the BLRI

Rahman, BLRI Director General Dr

Jahangir Alam and Director

General of the Directorate of

Fisheries and Livestock Sunil

Chandra Ghosh were also present.

representatives'

confce tomorrow

A conference of the elected local

government representatives will be

held at National Parade Square at

Sher-e-Bangla Nagar in the city

A total of 10,000 representatives

of the local government will be

informed about the recommenda-

tions submitted by a seven-member

formed a seven-member commit

tee led by former secretary Dr AMM

Shawkat Ali on June 3, 2007 in this

four-part recommendation to the

Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed

tives to strengthen the local govern-

ment on the basis of the feedback

provided by the representatives

address the first session of the con-

12:00noon where Army Chief

General Moeen U Ahmed, Anti-

Corruption Commission (ACC)

Chairman Lt Gen (retd) Hasan

Mashhud Chowdhury, Regulatory

Reforms Commission Chairman Dr

Akbar Ali Khan, Bangladesh Bank

Governor Salehuddin Ahmed and

UNDP representative will be present.

one-third of the seats in union

parishad, municipality and city

corporation for women, LGRD

Adviser Anwarul Iqbal said while

addressing a press briefing at the

He added that many commis-

but none of their reports had yet

been implemented.

The report suggested reserving

ference that will begin at 9:00am.

Chief Adviser Dr Fakhruddin will

The second session will start at

about the recommendations.

on November 13, 2007.

The committee submitted a

The government will take initia-

The caretaker government

committee at the conference.

Livestock Secretary Syed Ataur

Fisheries and Livestock Adviser

and Tk 22 crore in import cost.

conference room.

Local govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

tomorrow.

regard.

The vaccine will protect mil-

Senior scientific officers of BLRI

pox vaccine

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

needed to help promote the proper use of Bangla and safeguard endangered languages of indigenous communities in the country, presenting the keynote paper on tem of spelling Bangla words, as

Prof Anisuzzaman said yesterday. A national language policy is communities in the country, but Day Lecture of Asiatic Society of their languages are struggling to Bangladesh in the city. survive and many of them do not

'The state of languages in There is a number of ethnic Bangladesh' at the 56th Founding

have written forms, he said while for introduction of a proper sys-

Prof Anisuzzaman also called

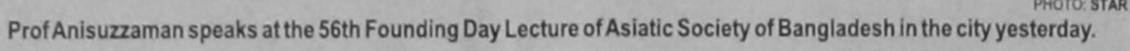
some writers and journalists are creating confusion about correct spelling through their innovative Speaking on the occasion,

Asiatic Society President Prof. Emajuddin Ahmed mentioned the negative impacts of globalisation on languages, which are being considered as a new threat and has been emerging as the language imperialism in the world.

This might create survival crisis for many small languages, as over 50 crore people across the globe use English as the first language, over crore people use it as the second language and another 100 crore people are desperately trying to learn English, he added.

Citing statistics of the United Nations, Prof Ahmed said many small languages are dying fast. If languages of the minority groups in the country are not preserved, they will become extinct, he observed.

Former chief justice Muhammad Habibur Rahman, University Grants' Commission Chairman Prof Nazrul Islam, former Bangladesh Bank Governor Lutfor Rahman Sarker, Prof M Akhtaruzzaman, Prof Sirajul Islam, Prof Monsur Musa and Prof Momin Chowhdury attended the programme.



## Falu's employee gives statement before magistrate

COURT CORRESPONDENT

GRAFT CASE

An employee of detained former BNP lawmaker Mosaddak Ali Falu giving statement yesterday before a magistrate in a graft case against Falu admitted that the BNP leader bought him a piece of land worth Tk 51 lakh at Nayatola in the city.

Ashraf Uddin, the employee, gave the statement after Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) Assistant Director Jahangir Alam, investigation officer (IO) of the case, submitted a petition before the Dhaka Chief Metropolitan Magistrate's (CMM) Court for recording his statement.

CMM AKM Enamul Haque assigned Metropolitan Magistrate Mohammad Al-Mamun to record the statement of the witness.

ACC Assistant Director Rahela Khatun filed the case against Falu and his wife Mahbuba Sultana on July 8 last year for concealing information about their property in the wealth statement submitted to the ACC.

In the First Information Report filed with Motijheel Police Station, the complainant said the amount of wealth mentioned in the statements does not match with their actual properties.

Falu's wife Mahbuba Sultana was made an accused in the case for abetting her husband.

The complainant said Falu mentioned in the wealth statement that he owns movable and immovable properties worth Tk 42 crore while an ACC investigation revealed that he did not mention his wealth worth Tk 15.97 crore in the statement.

# Workshop of BNCC Air Wing begins

The Annual Training Workshop of Bangladesh National Cadet Corps (BNCC) Air Wing started at Recruits Training School at BAF Base Zahurul Haque in Chittagong yesterday, says an ISPR press release.

A total of 250 cadets are taking part in the workshop.

Officer Commanding (Flying Wing) of BAF Base Zahurul Haque Group Captain Anisur Rahman inaugurated the workshop as the chief guest. Air Office Commanding of BAF Base Zahurul Haque Air Commodore Md Golam Haider will attend the concluding ceremony as the chief guest.

The workshop will conclude with a cultural session and campfire on January 19.

#### Khandker Delwar's condition improves UNB, Dhaka

The condition of BNP Secretary General Khandaker Delwar Hossain, who is undergoing treatment at the Birdem Hospital, improved yesterday.

Delwar was admitted to the hospital on Wednesday afternoon with acute diarrhoea, his family members said.

The 74-year old BNP leader has been suffering from various diseases, including diabetes and heart ailment. He is under treatment of Prof Oamr Faruq.



Awami League Acting President Zillur Rahman speaks at a meeting of AL presidium at his residence in the city yesterday.

# Protect Osmani Udyan from land grabbers

Speakers urge DCC

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at a meeting yesterday urged the Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) to take legal measures to recover a portion of land at Osmani Udyan which has been grabbed by a 'vested quarter.'

They also urged the Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) to take necessary steps against those who are out to grab the land of 200year-old historic park.

The view exchange meeting was held at the Nagar Bhaban where leaders of Nagorik Sanghati, Nagorik Committee, environmentfriendly organisations and officers from government departments concerned were present.

Presided over by DCC Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka, the meeting was addressed by noted educationist Prof Serajul Islam Chowdhury, Prof Abdullah Abu Sayeed, Architect Dr Nizamuddin, DCC Chief Executive Officer Alauddin, Chief Engineer Col Ashfaqul Islam, Chief Health Officer Col Shawkat Ali, Dhaka Metropolitan Police Commissioner Naim Ahmed and Bela representative Imran Kabir.

The discussants urged people from all walks of life to defend their demand for protecting the Udyan, the only breathing space in the area, as it is again on the verge of becoming a private property.

According to DCC, the government allocated some 23.14 acres of land for Osmani Udyan and handed it over to the corporation.

But one Monwara Begum filed a case with a sub-judge court demanding ownership over 2.8172 acres of land. Later the High Court (HC) gave

the verdict in favour of Monwara after examining the documents and ordered the Dhaka Metropolitan Police to help her take the possession of the land. Prof Serajul Islam said how

Monwara got the HC verdict in her favour is really a mystery as DCC is the legal owner of the Udyan. "Osmani Udyan has been a

public property for the last 200 years. How did Monwara win the legal battle?" he posed a question with a surprise.

Criticising the government officials concerned for their failure to protect the state property, Prof Islam said it is the state's responsi-

bility to protect its property. "Why the state property will go under private ownership?" he ques-

mayor to inform the ACC of the matter for taking necessary steps against the persons concerned. "It's a corruption and as such the

Prof Islam requested the DCC

ACC has to be informed," the veteran educationist demanded. Prof Abu Sayeed said people

wanted to know how did the court give the verdict keeping one party (DCC) in the darkness and ignoring people's interest. "There might have been some problems in the court," he said,

adding that the absence of both the attorney general and the deputy attorney general from the court on the day of hearing is quite suspi-He urged the DCC to take all legal

measures to protect the park.

Sadeque said no one will be able to grab the land of Osmani Udyan as it is the property of people and there is no doubt about it.

"We will go for legal battle to winthe case by appointing noted lawvers of the country," he added.

### Roundtable

National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power and Port organises a roundtable titled Troubled power sector and national interest. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10:00am.

### Exhibition

The inaugural ceremony of a weeklong photography exhibition titled '100 Nations Native American in the 21st Century' by Obaidullah Mamun. Venue: Zainul Art gallery, Institute of Fine Arts. Time: 4:30pm.

### Lecture

FROM PAGE 20

Research and Development Collective (RDC) organises a lecture titled 'Political economy of globalisation: New era of protest'. Venue: WVA auditorium. Time: 4:00pm.

### Book launch

The launching ceremony of a book on the history of Chhatra League will be held. Venue: Liberation War Museum. Time: 3:00pm.

## Conference

The inaugural ceremony of Rotary District Conference 2008 will be held. Venue: Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre. Time: 9:30am.

# Reunion

Khelaghar Dhaka Mahanagar organises a post-Eld reunion. Venue: Dhanmondi Road No 8 (beside the lake). Time: 3:00pm.

## Discussion

National People's Party (NPP) will hold a discussion on implementing election roadmap. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 3:00pm.

## Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Joynab Begum, mother of ENT specialist Dr Abdur Rouf Sardar, will be held at the residence of her son at House # 23, Road #3, Dhanmondi after Maghrib prayers today, says a press release.

Joynab Begum passed away at Bangladesh Medical College Hospital on Sunday at the age of 103. She is survived by fours sons

### Fakhrul Islam Bhuiyan

and two daughters.

Qulkhwani of Fakhrul Islam Bhuiyan, a social worker and father of Dr Saiful Islam Dildar, secretary general of Bangladesh Human Rights Commission, will be held at his village home at Daudpur at Rupganj in Narayanganj after Juma prayers today, says a press release. He passed away at a city hospital

on December 31. Relatives and admirers are requested to attend the qulkhwani and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

# 5,000 rice mills in North sitting idle

said he would have to close his mill in a few days due to lack of paddy

In Lalmonirhat where there are just about 300 rice mills, all except a few remain inoperative due to poor supply of paddy, said Sheikh Abdul Hamid, president of Lalmonirhat rice-mill owners' association.

Our Dinajpur correspondent reported quoting farmers, mill operators and district food controller office sources that at least 2,500 medium and small rice mills in four northern districts -- Dinajpur, Thakurgaon, Panchagarh and Joypurhat -- remain inoperative each day to operate each mill but member of district rice-mill owners'

price hike of paddy and unstable At least 1 lakh people of these mills are now jobless. Of 1,500 mills

in Dinajpur, 1,092 have stopped

son, according to the district mill operator sources. General secretary of Thakurgaon

Eight hundred out of 1,300 mills in Thakurgaon, 300 out of 740 in Joypurhat and 250 out of 455 in Panchagarh remain inoperative during this pick aman harvest sea-

rice mills operators' association, Mahmud Hossain, said they need at least 150 to 200 maunds of paddy during aman harvest due to unusual they cannot afford to purchase association.

paddy at an "abnormally high Price of paddy further went up as

buyers from other districts gathered there to procure rice, he alleged. In the previous year, they

required at least Tk 1 lakh each day as they purchased a bag of 84 kg paddy at Tk 900 to 950 while the same rice is now selling at Tk 1,700 to 1,750 per bag, requiring at least Tk 2 to 3 lakh a day, he added.

Our Nilphamari correspondent reports: About 335 rice mills of the district are on the verge of closure as they are not getting necessary paddy, according to Omar Ali, a

# French court blocks return of Maori head

onWednesday. Donated by a French collector in

1875, the head has been held since then in a museum in the western city of Rouen, which decided last year to return it as an "ethical gesture of respect" for the Maori peo-

But the French culture ministry stepped in to block the transfer, arguing the head was now part of France's cultural heritage. On December 27, an administra-

tive court ruled that city authorities had failed to consult a scientific committee before withdrawing the head from a national museum collection, definitively blocking the transfer.

The preserved heads of warriors with facial tattoos were popular

with European collectors in the 19th century before their trade was outlawed. New Zealand's national

museum, Te Papa Tongarewa, has been campaigning for the return of preserved heads and other human remains kept in overseas collections.

Following the settlement of New Zealand by mainly British Europeans from the 19th century, the indigenous Maori now make up about 15 percent of the country's 4.1

million people. However, New Zealand's national museum, Te Papa Tongarewa, is still hopeful it could persuade France to return the preserved head of a Maori warrior despite the court ruling.

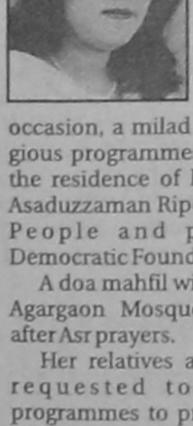
City authorities wanted to return areas.

the head as an "ethical gesture of respect for the Maori people." But the court said they had failed to consult a scientific committee before withdrawing it from a national museum collection.

"What we're hoping for is the Rouen museum and the French government will discuss this matter further," Te Papa repatriation manager Te Herekiekie Herewini said.

"We're leaving it up to the French government and we want to have further discussion about it in the near future. "We will be delighted if they come to a decision that the toi moko -- the ancestor -- is returned."

The museum has been campaigning for the return of the heads for burial in their traditional tribal



today.

Her relatives and friends are sion had previously been formed requested to pray for salvation of the departed soul.

# TRANSFERS, POSTINGS OF JUDGES SC registrar denies underhand dealings

transfers and postings of subordinate court judges, Supreme Court registrar Ikteder Ahmed yesterday told journalists that he was ready to face any investigation of the matter for administrative transparency in

They also innovated a method to diagnose the disease.

An expert committee at a meeting on November 15 approved the **DU CORRESPONDENT** vaccine for its use at the field level. The vaccine was formally Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL), handed over to the livestock directhe student wing of Awami League

> anniversary today. The BCL, formerly East Pakistan Student League, was formed in 1948 under the leadership of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, then a student leader and

(AL), will observe its 60th founding

a student of DU law department. Since the inception of the organi sation, it contributed a great deal to 1952 Language Movement, 1959 Mass Upsurge, 1971 Liberation War,

other movements of the country. programmes will be inaugurated at

Curzon Hall through cutting a cake at 8:00am.

at 9:00am. At 10:00am, leaders of the BCL will go to the sub-jail to greet AL chief Sheikh Hasina.

be present as the chief guest. Meanwhile, the Jatiya Samajtantrik Dal (JSD)-backed BCL will also observe the day amid vari-

#### executive fetters. there is a 12-member committee dealing with the matter. He said one or two judicial officers might BCL founding be victim of harassment. "I'm clear to my conscience in this regard." anniversary Barrier, the registrar said the 242 regular appointed judicial magis-

rate of disposing of cases is satis-

He said if the remaining 391

vacant posts of judicial magistrate

are fulfilled and they start function-

ing with the present strength, it

would be possible to bring down

the rate of pending cases to zero

level after next one and a half years.

the vacancies will be filled up by the

Six arrested

with stolen

telephone

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Six people were arrested in the early

hours of yesterday when they were

stealing underground cables of

Bangladesh Telegraph and

Telephone and board (BTTB) in

Dhaka University's Curzon Hall area.

tons of stolen cables and a truck at

Shahbagh police also seized 1.5

The arrestees were identified as

They confessed to the police

Humidityin

percentage

Evening

61

75

78

79

73

62

66

Morning

85

94

87

80

Manir, Labon, Litan, Ratan, Akbar

that they often steal cables and

then sell them to scrap metal shops

at Badda in the city, the police said.

end of March.

cables

about 2:30am.

and Nurunnabi.

Fall in temperature likely

Weather is likely to remain mainly dry with temporary partly cloudy

Night temperature may fall by 1-2 degree Celsius over the coun-

Highest temperature 28.9 degrees Celsius was recorded yester-

The sun sets in the capital at 5:24pm today and rises at 6:42am

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some

Min

14.9

16.4

12.9

13.6

12.7

16.2

18.5

sky over the country in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

day at Cox's Bazar and lowest 12.3 degrees Celsius at Dinajpur.

Temperature in

Celsius

Replying to a question, he said

trates in December 2007 have today resolved 49,987 cases out of 5,64,301 backlog cases across the The pending cases now stand at 602,173, he said, adding that the

1990 Anti-Autocracy Movement and To mark the day, the BCL has chalked out elaborate programmes across the country. The

The BCL leaders will place wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Bangabandhu Bhaban

It will also hold a discussion, where

ALacting president Zillur Rahman will

ous programmes today. At 8:00am, leaders of JSD-BCL will place wreaths at the Central Shaheed Minar. They will hold a

discussion on the occasion at its

central office at 11:00am,

UNB, Dhaka

tomorrow.

City/Town

Chittagong

Cox's Bazar

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Sylhet

Dhaka

try, Met Office said.

major cities and towns yesterday were:

Max

26.9

25.2

26.3

26.2

27.0

28.5

28.9

#### the authority constitutes an UNB, Dhaka inquiry committee to investigate Denying underhand dealings in the allegation, I'm ready to face it,' he said responding to a reporter while briefing on the progress of functioning of the subordinate courts after two months of the separation of the judiciary from the the highest judiciary. He said he does not do it alone-"I don't have any objection. If