# DCC HONOURS 10 INDIVIDUALS, ORGANISATIONS

# Dhaka has already become unlivable city

Say eminent personalities

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) yesterday honoured 10 individuals and organisations with Dhaka Nagar Padak 2005 and 2006 in recognition of their contribution to the development of the metropolis.

Dhaka Nagar Padak 2006 was awarded to Bangladesh Paribesh Andolon (Bapa) for protection of the environment, Chhayanaut for education, literature and culture, Victoria Club for sports, Prabeen Hitoishi Sangha for social welfare and columnistABM Musa for journalism.

The award for 2005 was conferred on Abul Khair of the Ittefaq for journalism, Zakaria Pintu for sports, Anjuman Mufidul Islam for social welfare, Bulbul Academy of Fine Arts (Bafa) for education, literature and culture and Dhaka Community Hospital for healthcare services.

The award carries Tk 50,000, a gold-inscribed crest and a certifi-

Language movement veteran Abdul Matin and deputy commander-in-chief of the Liberation Forces Air Vice Marshal (retd) AK Khandker gave away the awards to the winners.

Speaking on the occasion, eminent personalities raised concern about the future of Dhaka as it has already become an unlivable city due to unplanned urban growth, massive pollution and lack

Transparency International

Bangladesh (TIB) has invited reports

for giving awards in investigative

journalism on corruption in newspa-

per and TV channel, says a press

In 2008, the awards will be given in

three categories, national and

regional newspapers and TV channel

lished from the capital will be treated

as national while those published

from outside the capital will be con-

sidered as regional newspapers and

Reports will have to be sent by

March 31, 2008 to Advocacy

Department, Transparency

International Bangladesh, Progress

Tower, House-1 (6th floor), Road-23,

from January 1 to December 31 of

2007are entitled to take part in the

published in national or regional

newspaper will have to be submitted

and no photocopy will be accepted.

Only in case of series reports, more

along with the full script will have to

be submitted. The investigative

ted mentioning contact address and

phone number. The word 'Investi-

gative Journalism Award 2008' will

have to be written on the envelope.

Unit General Secretary Sazzad Sagib

Badsha, met Vice chancellor Prof

SMA Faiz demanding release of the

of the 'false charge sheet' of the case

against 25 people, mostly DU stu-

Committee President Sohel Rana

Tipu and Banglabazar Patrika DU

Correspondent Golam Azam

Khomeni were included in the

Khomeni was present on the spot

when the incident of torching the car

with 'students against repression' in

Justice Murshed's

anniversary of

birth of today

happened on August 21.

They said neither Tipu nor

Badsha expressed his solidarity

They also demanded withdrawal

The case was filed a few days back

detained teachers and the student.

filed for torching an army car.

charge sheet.

The reports will have to be submit-

feature reports are also acceptable.

For television, a CD of the report

Reports published or telecast

The original copy of the report

owners will meet the criteria.

Gulshan-1, Dhaka-1212.

than one report is allowed.

Newspapers or periodicals pub-

for investigative reports.

periodicals.

competition.

Each winner will get Tk 60000 in

JOURNALISM AWARD

TIB invites

reports

Dhaka since 1944, said, "There are

do they have spaces to sleep.

facing tremendous difficulties."

Lower-middle class people are

Khandker said Dhaka could have

become a wonderful lake city, but

its condition is so bad today that it

is doubtful whether the metropolis

lacked foresight. They drew up

plans only for five years," he said,

adding that the criminals who

committed crimes just before the

birth of the nation in 1971 could

It is difficult to stamp out cor-

Mayor Sadeque Hossain Khoka,

ruption unless the war criminals

"This is because our leadership

could be protected.

not be tried as yet.

are tried, he added.

Air Vice Marshal (retd) AK

Winners of Dhaka Nagar Padak pose with the guests at the award giving ceremony at Nagar Bhaban Auditorium in the city yesterday.

of various facilities.

Bapa President Prof Muzaffer no latrines for the poor people, nor Ahmad said, "I thank DCC for recognising the movement of Bapa, but it is regretful that the rivers around the city -- Buriganga, Balu, Turag and Shitalakkhya -- are still highly polluted."

Prevalence of adulterated food and polluted air and water can bring disastrous consequences to human lives, he said, adding that Bapa has been trying to curb environmental crimes, but it is yet to achieve success in its efforts.

Language movement veteran Abdul Matin said the capital city of Dhaka, which was famous for its Muslin fabric, greeneries and lakes, has now become a filthy city because

of unplanned development. Matin, who has been residing in

plan for the Dhaka city. ABMG Kibria of Anjuman Mufidul Islam, Bafa Principal Rehiza Khanam, Dhaka Community Hospital Trustee Member Kazi Habibur Rahman, Chhayanaut General Secretary Khairul Anam Shakil, Probeen Hitoishi Sangha President Dr Rashid Ahmad received the awards on behalf of their organisations.

who presided over the ceremony,

said it is time to develop a master

### Death anniversary



anniversary of Justice Abdur Rahman Chowdhury, says a press release.

Today is the 8th

sary of ASM

freedom fighter,

says a press

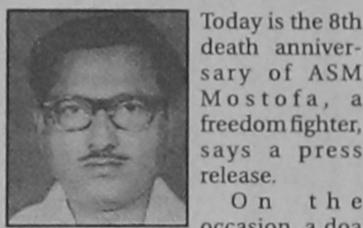
On the

Mostofa,

release.

Son of Alhaj Khan Bahadur Abdul Latif Chowdhury, Justice Chowdhury represented Bangladesh in the United Nations General Assembly in 1977 and played a very crucial role in Bangladesh's election to the Security Council for the first time. He was appointed as an arbitrator in the International Court in Paris in 1993.

ASM Mostofa



occasion, a doa mahfil will be held at Rahmania Jaame Mosque at Laxmipur at Sonagazi in Feni after Juma prayers.

His family members have requested all to pray for the salvation of his departed soul.

### Tofazzal Haque Malik

Today is the 4th death anniversary of Mohammad Tofazzal Haque Malik, a social worker and chairman and managing director of Malik Group of Rubber Estate, says a press release.

He was also the founder of Shere-Bangla National Academy. On the occasion, a milad mahfil will be held at his residence at KM

Das Lane, Tikatuli in the city after Asr prayers. His relatives, friends and admirers have been requested to attend

the milad and pray for salvation of the departed soul.



Today is the 4th death anniversary of Koruner Nesa, mother of Abul Kashem Rana, founder and secretary general of the central com-

On this occasion, Qurankhwani

and milad mahfil will be held at her village home at Aliabad at Debidwar in Comilla after Juma prayers and food will be distributed among the destitute.

observed that although the govern-

ment in the face of continued

demand of DU Teachers' Association

and people had earlier assured that

the detained teachers and student of

DU will be released after the contin-

ued demand of DU Teachers'

are yet to be freed.

Association and country people, they

teachers also said that the family

members of the detained teachers

have been suffering a lot and educa-

tional activities at DU are being

teachers to protest against any injus-

tice. We think that they did not take

part in any violence and did not lead

This has been proved by the

report of the judicial investigation

commission probing the DU inci-

dent and through the release of the

take necessary steps for the release of

the detained teachers and students of

among others, recently freed former

RU vice chancellor Prof Saidur

Rahman Khan, Prof M Abdus

Sobhan, Prof Moloy Kumar

Bhowmik, Sayed Selim Reza Newton,

Abdullah Al Mamun, Prof Dr Golam

Sabbir Sattar Tapu, Prof Dr

Chowdhury Sarwar Jahan Sajal, Abul

Mansur Ahmed, Fayekuzzman,

Anando Kumar Shaha, Muklesur

Rahman, Saiful Islam, Emran Ali,

Ohidul Islam, SM Abu Bakker,

Shamsuddin Ilias, Zafar Siddik,

Hasibul Alam Prodhan, Rabiul Islam,

DU and 10 convicted students of RU.

They urged the chief adviser to

The statement was signed by,

eight RU teachers, they said.

any anarchy," the statement read.

"We believe that it is a duty of the

hampered due to their arrest.

In a written statement, the RU

### worth Tk 1cr seized OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj Shafi Uddin of Dhamrai. Shafi brought the statute from Pabna, Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) mem-Rab sources said.

Touchstone statue

bers seized a touchstone statue of Vishnu worth about Tk 1 crore from Sombhag area under Dhamrai Police Station in Dhaka yesterday and arrested three people in this connection.

The arrestees are identified as Nurul Haque, 55, his son Khokon, 23, and Abul Kalam Azad, 40, of Uttar Nougao village under Dhamrai Police Station.

Rab sources said Rab-4 members in the guise of buyers set a date with Nurul a few days ago. As per In case of TV channel, BTV and | the agreement, the peddlers came other private channels of the native | to the spot with the statue weighing about 17 kilograms at 10:00 am yesterday and the Rab members arrested them.

> In Rab custody, Nurul confessed that he brought the statue from one

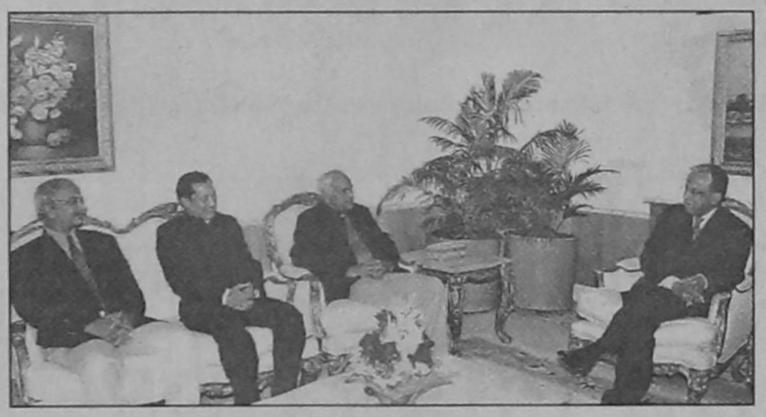
In charge of Savar Camp of Rab

4 Lt Commander Ariful Islam said the arrestees are active members of a gang of smugglers. They are quizzing the arrestees for more information about the gang, he added.

# Free treatment

National Professor Nurul Islam will provide free treatment to patients at the stall of Hamdard at Dhaka International Trade Fair on Saturday from 10:00am to 12:00 noon, says a press release.

Prof Nurul Islam has been the vice-chairman of Hamdard Trustee Board since 1988. Hamdard brought 120 types of medicines to the fair.



Three newly appointed special assistants to chief adviser call on Chief Adviser Fakhruddin Ahmed at his office in the city yesterday. (Story on Page 1)

# Awami League leaders place wreaths at the portrait of Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman at Dhanmondi in the

city yesterday on the occasion of his homecoming day.

# Behave in a friendly, humane Today is the lath manner with public

impartiality and a sense of responsi-

bility towards the society and the

state are required for performing

Action Battalion (Rab) in curbing

militancy side by side maintaining

law and order has not only set an

scope for further improvement.

President asks policemen

UNB, Dhaka

METROPOLITAN/NEWS

President Iajuddin Ahmed yesterday underscored the need for an efficient and patriotic police force for serving the country and the people.

"We need trained, modern and meritorious police force side by side an efficient administration for facing the challenges of globalisation," he said while addressing a programme on the occasion of Police Week 2008 at Bangabhaban yesterday.

Iajuddin asked the policemen to utilise their knowledge for facing the internal and external challenges and enrich themselves with technological knowledge along with time befit ting training.

He said police should behave in a friendly and humane manner with the public in all situations so that they could be considered as friends. "To achieve such confidence, all

members of police forces in Bangladesh should come out of the cycle of old beliefs and thoughts," he said. "A positive change of their attitude from grassroots to top level is very important."

President Iajuddin reminded the policemen that providing service to the people is their motto. Good professional knowledge, sincerity



## Appeal for help

A father has appealed to all for financial assistance for the treatment of his son Abu Naser, a student of class three, who has been suffering from Guillain-Barre Syndrome, a condition which affects the nervous system and paralyses sufferers. Nine-year-old Naser is now

fighting for his life at the Intensive Care Unit of Asian Cardiac and General Hospital at Lalmatia in the But the huge cost is the main

obstacle to the treatment of the boy, whose father Emdad Hawladar is a day-labourer. Moreover, they are victims of cyclone Sidr. The hospital authorities have

been bearing the cost -- Tk 8,000 a day -- since the boy was admitted to the hospital on December 20. He needs to stay at the ICU three or four more months and it will cost anotherTk2.5lakh. His father has appealed to gener-

ous people to extend a hand to save the life of his son. Contributions can be sent to Abu

Naser, Asian Cardiac and General Hospital, 3/3 Block-B, Lalmatia, Mohammadpur, Dhaka-1207, or to A/C No. 71800006899, Mercantile Bank, Dhanmondi Branch, Dhaka. Interested persons can also call

at 8123086 or 8122967 for further information.

### Chehlum



Chehlum of Rowshan Ara Khandaker, wife of former inspector general of police AR Khandaker, will be held today at 4:00pm at her

residence at Banani, says a press

She passed away on December 1 due to a cardiac arrest and was laid to rest at Banani graveyard.

### Qulkhwani

Qulkhwani of Md Ruhul Amin, Bangladesh ambassador to France, will be held at Charukunja, 77 Gulshan Avenue, after Asr prayers today, says a press release.

He passed away due to brain haemorrhage in Paris on Thursday. Relatives, colleagues, friends and well-wishers have been requested to attend the qulkhwani.

members who won the Bangladesh He said law and order situation has Police Medal and the President's improved a lot recently and there is Medal. President Iajuddin also paid "The role of police and Rapid

example in Bangladesh but also in

He congratulated the police

the world.

homage to those policemen who sacrificed their lives while perform ing duties.

"The history of humanitarian

military intervention is replete with

examples of stronger states or coali-

tions invoking the doctrine of

humanitarian intervention in order

to conceal their own geopolitical

Bosnia, Kosovo and East Timor are

examples of such interventions.

0 D

Wildlife Trust of Bangladesh organises

a seminar on the Hoolock Gibbon

conservation in Bangladesh. Venue:

Bangladesh Society for Non

Destructive Testing (BSNDT) and Saj

Engineering and Trading Company

jointly organise a workshop on

advanced NDT. Venue: Bangladesh

Atomic Energy Commission. Time:

Islamic Law Research Centre and

Legal Aid Bangladesh (ILRCLAB) and

Bangladesh Institute of Islamic

Thought (BIIT) jointly organise a two-

day international seminar on Islamic

law and its application in the

contemporary society beginning from

today. Venue: Multipurpose Hall, Biam.

Society for Peace and Progress will

organise a roundtable on change in the

scenario after one-eleven. Venue:

Japan International Cooperation

Agency (JICA) organises JOCV Japan

Festival. Venue: LGED Bhaban. Time:

Citi Foundation organises the prize-giving

ceremony of Citi Microentrepreneurship

Awards 2007. Venue: Dhaka Sheraton

95

76

National Press Club. Time: 3:00pm.

National Press Club. Time: 9:30am.

"Somalia, Haiti, Sierra Leone,

interests," said Shaheen.

she added.

Seminar

Workshop

Seminar

Time: 9:00am.

Roundtable

**JOCV** festival

Prize giving

Hotel, Time: 12:00am.

10:00am.

# 'Non-democratic rule turns country into fragile state'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Prolonged rule by non-democratic regime and absence of democratic culture turns a country into a fragile state, said researchers and educationists at an international seminar yesterday.

They said weak political institutions, economic decline, poverty and violent conflict are the main drivers of fragility.

Bangladesh might turn into a fragile state if the pre-1/11 situation could not be handled peacefully they added.

The seminar titled 'Humanitarian intervention in fragile states' was organised by Bangladesh Institute of Peace and Security Studies (BIPSS) in collaboration with International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) at Hotel Lake Shore in the capital.

BIPSS President Major General ANM Muniruzzaman, DGFI Director Brig Gen ATM Amin, Dr Delwar Hossain of Dhaka University, Dr Shaheen Akhtar, a research fellow of Pakistan National Defence University, and Finn Ruda, head of mission of ICRC in Dhaka spoke at the seminar.

"Global as well as regional peace and security are threatened by the conflict and creates humanitarian crisis in the fragile states," said Major General ANM Muniruzzaman.

"The notion of 'right to intervene' should be reconsidered as the 'responsibility to protect' by the international community," he said, adding that any debate on humanitarian intervention is needed to harmonise intervention with the principle of sovereignty. Delwar Hossain said prolonged

rule by non-democratic regimes and absence of democratic culture are incapable of delivering public goods. He said poor legitimacy at home

and abroad and weak or nearly absent civil society are some of the characteristics that turn a country into a fragile nation. There are 46 fragile countries in

the world, and of them 26 states are in Africa, 10 in Asia and five in Pacific region, he added. Shaheen Akhtar said weak political institutions, economic decline,

poverty and violent conflict are the drivers of fragility. "Violent conflict is the ultimate

manifestation of state fragility," she

### Dry weather likely UNB, Dhaka

Rajshahi

Khulna

Barisal

Sylhet

Cox's Bazar

Weather is likely to remain dry with temporary cloudy sky over the country in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today. Slight rise in night temperature is expected over the country, Met Office said.

Highest temperature 29.6 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Mongla and Jessore and lowest 10.4 degrees Celsius at

The sun sets in the capital at 5:29pm today and rises at 6:44am tomorrow.

Highest and lowest temperature and humidity recorded in some major cities and towns yesterday were:

Humidityin Temperature City/Town percentage incelsius Morning Evening Max Min 27.7 14.5 Dhaka 15.7 26.1 Chittagong 90 11.4 27.6

13.0

13.4

13.8

28.8

27.3

28.6 16.5

### BCS viva voce now on Feb 3

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The viva voce of 150 candidates in the 27th Bangladesh Civil Service (BCS) examinations, which was scheduled for January 20, will now be held on February 3, said an official handout.

The January 20 viva voce has been postponed due to unavoidable reasons.

The candidates have been asked to be present at Public Service Commission (PSC) office with their interview cards at 10:00 am on February 3, the handout added.



### Photojournalist Mohammad Alam passes away

BSS, Dhaka

Mohammad Alam, chief photographer of the Daily Ittefaq and a freedom fighter, passed away due to a cardiac arrest at his residence in the city

onWednesdaynightattheageof61. A pall of gloom descended on the Jatiya Press Club (JPC) premises when his body was brought there. His colleagues paid their last tributes, laying down their cameras beside his coffin and observing a minute's silence.

As a mark of respect to a freedom fighter, a police contingent gave him a guard of honour.

His namaz-e-janaza was held on the JPC premises twice.

A large number of people, including political leaders Tofail Ahmed, Rahmat Ali, Saber Hossain Chowdhury and Asaduzzaman Noor, his friends, colleagues, leaders of political parties, journalist unions, press club and photojournalists' association, attended the janaza.

Alam, an effervescent, amiable and ever-smiling person, was an active lensman, who worked till his

He was laid to rest at the Jurain graveyard in the city with state honour yesterday afternoon.

A witness to many national events, Alam began his career with the Daily Azadin 1968. He joined the Mujibnagar Government during the Liberation Warin 1971 as a photojournalist. He joined the Press Information

Department in 1972 after independence. Later, he served as a photographer for the then Prime Minister Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on deputation. He resigned from the government job

in 1975 and joined the Daily Sangbad. Later, he joined the Daily Ittefaq in 1983 as aseniorphotojournalist. Staff Correspondent adds: Awami

League Acting President Zillur Rahman and acting General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam expressed deep shockathis death. They conveyed sympathy to

members of the bereaved family and prayed for the salvation of the departed soul. Bangladesh Federal Union of

Journalists (BFUJ) President Manjurul Ahsan Bulbul and Secretary General Abdul Jalil Bhuiyan, Dhaka Union of Journalists (DUJ) President Altaf Mahmud and General Secretary Omar Faruque, Jatiya Press Club President Shawkat Mahmud and General Secretary Kamaluddin Sabuj and Bangladesh Photojournalists' Association AKM Mohsin and Mir Ahmed Miru also condoled his death.

### Shirin Banu Shirin Banu, principal officer of Sonali

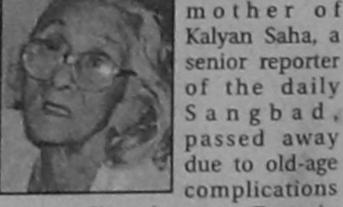
Bank, Nilphamari Regional Office, passed away due to blood cancer at Padma General Hospital in the city yesterdayattheage of 56. She left behind her one son and a

daughter, eight brothers and sisters and a host of relatives, colleagues, friends and admirers to mourn her death. Her namaz-e-janaza will be held at Nilphamarithismorning and then she will

belaidtorestatDakBanglagraveyard. She was the eldest sister of Ziaul Haq Swapan, joint news editor of The DailyStar.

Snehalata Saha

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Manikganj Snehalata Saha,



Kalyan Saha, a senior reporter of the daily Sangbad, passed away due to old-age complications

at her village home at Teota in Shivalaya yesterday at the age of 98. She left behind her one son and one daughter to mourn her death.

Shova Ranjan Chanda

Shova Ranjan Chanda, father of Subrata Ranjan Chanda, an artist and member of the publicity subcommittee of Awami League, passed away on Wednesday at the age of 86, says a press release. He left behind his wife, one son,

three daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death. Awami League acting President Zillur Rahman and acting General Secretary Syed Ashraful Islam expressed deep shock at his death.

# grave at Banani in the city while Syed Mahbub Murshed Memorial

grave.

press release. Qurankhwani will be held at his

Committee will place wreaths at his

Today is the 97th anniversary of birth of former chief justice Syed Mahbub Murshed, says a On the occasion,

Teachers' Association (Duta) failed to hold an executive committee meeting on Wednesday night due to

holding the programme.

quorum crisis. Only five executive members were present while at least six are required to fill the quorum. The meeting was called following the request of 49 Duta members. The executive committee mem-The names of BCL DU Unit bers are losing their interest in being

> Siddique, also former Duta presithe decision of holding the meeting. It might be held in a day or two,

present at meetings as the current

committee's tenure is about to end,

Executive Member Prof AAMS Arefin

sources said. The issue of holding the meeting came to the fore after the acting president and general secretary refused to take any programme to get the detained teachers and the studentreleased.

RAJSHAHI UNIVERSITY The students of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday demanded the government release their 10 convicted fellow students and a university employee within five days, reports our RU Correspondent.

Besides, 62 RU teachers urged the caretaker government to free the detained teachers and students of Dhaka University (DU) immediately. The RU teachers also demanded the government withdraw the cases against the students of both RU and

last year acquitted two RU teachers, an officer, but convicted 10 students

Protest for release of teachers, students and a RU employee in a case filed for torching a DGFI vehicle. They each Earlier, Dhaka University were sentenced to three years' rigorous imprisonment and fined Tk5,000.

> mass communication department at around 1:30pm, the students demanded international investigation under United Nations (UN) into the atrocities of the law enforcement agencies against the students on August 22 and 23. If the government fails to fulfil their demand, the students would go

for demonstrations including form-

ing human chains, wearing black

ribbons, boycotting classes and

In a press conference in front of

Now the members would make examinations and enforcing student strikes, Badhon Adikari said during the press conference. "We are disappointed at the December 12 court verdict that convicted 10 students in DGFI car torching case and charge framing against DU teachers and students,"

> Arif Reza Mahmud said reading out a written speech. Explaining their demand for international probe, the students pointed out that no impartial investigation was made regarding the RU incidents, although a judicial investigation commission probed the DU

> campaign for collecting signatures to strengthen their demand for release of the convicted students and employee. Readul Haque, Jarin Zahan,

The students have also started a

Mahmudul Hassan, Toimur Faruk and Monira Sharmin were present A Rajshahi court on December 12 among others at the press confer-Meanwhile, 62 RU teachers Akter Zahan and Dil Afroz.

(Zisas), says a press release.

mittee of Zia Sanskritik Sangathan



at Hamdard stall

# Koruner Nesa