METROPOLITAN/NEWS

Educate yourselves properly to establish peace, build a poverty-free world

Nobel Committee chief tells students

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chairman of the Norwegian Nobel Committee Ole Danbolt Mjøs yesterday called on the students to properly educate themselves to fight global warming, establish peace and build a poverty-free world, which would also be free of nuclear weapons.

"You have the potential and power to do it. Let's do it together," he said while delivering a lecture at Bangladesh-China Friendship Conference Centre in the city. Some 3,200 university and college students from across the country attended the programme.

Encouraging the students to study peace studies, Prof Mjøs said they can also take advantage of the exchange programmes to pursue peace studies abroad.

Replying to a question from the students, he said the young people can also win the peace prize by promoting peace worldwide.

He also suggested to the students that they organise a peace conference in Bangladesh and invite students form the neighbouring countries. "Each of you present here has the potential to win the Nobel Peace Prize," he

In his lecture titled 'Some Reflections on the Nobel Peace Prize', Prof Mjøs said majority of the world's poor people are women and children.

Poverty may be the greatest challenge confronting the world over the next few decades, he said. adding that every country and nation must come forward to help tackle the challenge.

He also stressed the need to address the root causes of poverty to eradicate it. Development from below also serves to advance democracy and human rights, thereby ensuring worldwide peace,

"The struggle against poverty is the work for peace of the first

The Nobel Committee chairman noted that microcredit has proved itself to be a liberating force in societies where women in parrepressive social and economic edge to lead the world.

world, a polio-free world and an apartheid-free world. Creating a poverty-free world would be greater than all these accomplish-

ments while at the same time reinforcing them. This would be a world that we could be proud to live in," he quoted Yunus as saying.

The Bangladeshis are living in a vulnerable position due to poverty and climate change, he said, add ing that the whole world needs to tackle the challenge together as these are global problems too.

He also asked the students to establish a knowledge society. "Let's together create a world without poverty, let's build peace and prevent war, focus on integrity, fight global warming and protect environment, and let us work for a world free of nuclear weapon," he said.

Speaking on the occasion, Nobel laureate Dr Muhammad Yunus said Grameen Bank is the only organisation in Asia to receive the Nobel Peace Prize.

Winning the Peace Prize has reminded the nation of its potential, he said and urged the students ticular have to struggle against to equip themselves with knowl-

"Bangladesh has to be turned "We have created a slavery-free into a nation which will never fall behind any nation," he said.

Norwegian Ambassador to Bangladesh Ingebjørg Støfring was

Road crashes kill 5, injure 7

METRO DESK

At least five people were killed and seven others injured in separate road accidents across the country yesterday and on Wednesday.

Our C'nawabganj Correspondent reports: A freedom fighter died in a road accident at Uparajarampur on Chapainawabganj-Rajshahi highway in Chapainawabganj yester-

The victim was identified as freedom fighter Abdur Rashid, 55, of Kumarpara in Chapainawabganj poura area.

dent occurred at around 4:30pm when a Chapainawabgani-bound passenger bus hit the freedom fighter while he was crossing the road. He died on the spot.

Police recovered the body and sent it to Sadar hospital morgue for autopsy.

The driver and helper of the bus

adds: A police constable was killed and five others injured when a tempo skidded off and fell into a roadside ditch near Barisal-Patuakhali highway yesterday

The victim was identified as Khalilur Rahman, 42, son of Arab Ali at Charamoddi under Bakerganj



Obituary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Advocate Dewan Abul Abbas, former president of Dhaka Bar Association, passed away at a city hospital on July 16 at the age of 83, says a press release. He was also an MNA from

Nabinagar-Banchharampur in Brahmanbaria and member of the Draft Constitution Formulation Committee. Advocate Abbas has long been

suffering from old-age complications. He left behind a host of admirers to mourn his death.

His qulkhwani and a milad mahfil will be held at his residence at 32/1 Bhajahari Saha Street, Wari, after Asr prayers today.

Relatives, friends, colleagues and well-wishers have been requested to attend the milad and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Nurul Islam Monjur

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Captain (retd) Nurul Islam Monjur, a freedom fighter, passed away at a city hospital on Monday at the age of 59.

He left behind his wife, daughter and a host of relatives and admirers to mourn his death.

He was buried with state honour at Uttara graveyard in the city

yesterday. Freedom fighter and former lawmaker Shah Md Abu Zafar expressed deep shock at his death.

Officer-in-Charge of Kotwali Police Station Rafigul Islam said Khalilur Rahman, a police constable deployed at Barisal Range Reserve Force (RRF).

around 12:30pm.

Khalilur Rahman was going to his village home after collecting ration from Barisal RRF line.

Police and locals said the acci- sent to Barisal Sher-e-Bangla Medical College Hospital, where the on-duty doctor declared Khalilur Rahaman dead. The bus fled away from the scene.

The injured others are Nisaruddin Khan, Obhiram Ghosh, Sekandar Ali, Bazlur Rahman and Binov Kundu.

Our Correspondent from Tangail reports: Two madrasa Our Barisal Correspondent students were killed in a road accident at Modhupur upazila in Tangail on Wednesday night.

The victims were identified as Billal Hossain, 17, son of Nurul Islam of Bekerkona village, and Monowar Hossain, 16, son of Moulvi Abdul Kader of the same

highway in Gangair area.

Billal died on the spot while Monowar succumbed to his injuries on way to Madhupur Upazila

Police sources said the accident occurred at Bakultola intersection on Dinajpur-Phulbari highway when a speeding truck lost its

upazila in Barisal.

Eye-witnesses said a passenger bus of Antora Paribahon on Barisal-Patuakhali route directly hit a tempo carrying eight passengers from opposite direction in front of Sonargaon Textile Mills at

The injured passengers were

village in the upazila.

Police said a Tangail-bound passenger bus ran over Billal and Monowar, students of class X at Gangair Nazmul Islam Fazil Madrasa, when they were walking beside the Tangail-Mymensingh

Health Complex.

Our Correspondent from Dinajpur reports: At least one person was killed and two others injured in a road accident here at Dinajpur on Wednesday afternoon according to the police sources.

The dead was identified as Shahidul Islam 25, son of Ayub Uddin, at Goshaipur village under Dinajpur Sadar upazila.

control and turned turtle, leaving

one dead on the spot and two others injured critically.

The injured were identified as Md Rashedul Islam, 26, and Saidur Rahman, 27. They were rushed to Dinajpur Medical College

On the other hand, more two people were injured as a steelmade bailey bridge at Bakultola intersection on Bhochaganj-Pirganj highway around 18km away from Bochaganj upazila of Dinajpur collapsed this afternoon when a cement-laden truck was crossing the bridge.

However, the road communication between four upazila of Dinajpur and Thakurgaon districts got snapped.

The injured driver and helper of the truck were rushed to Pirganj Upazila Health Complex.

Ex-BNP lawmaker Alal's bail prayer turned down

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A Dhaka court yesterday rejected the bail petition of detained former BNP lawmaker and General Secretary of Jatiyatabadi Jubo Dal Syed Moazzem Hossain Alal in connection with the case filed under the Emergency Power Rules

Judge Mohammad Azizul Haque of the Metropolitan Sessions Judge's Court passed the order following a criminal appeal filed against the rejection order of the Chief Metropolitan

Magistrate's Court on July 13. Alal was released after getting bail from the High Court on July 13. He was rearrested for the third time soon after he came out of Dhaka Central Jail at about 2:40pm.

The former lawmaker from Barisal-2 constituency was sent to jail on that day after being produced before the court.

Alal was first arrested on February 8 this year under section 16/2 of the EPR at his Lalmatia residence. He was arrested for the second time on April 23 in front of Rangpur jail soon after he came out

on another HC bail.

Moderate rain or thundershowers accompanied by temporary gusty wind is likely at many places over all the six divisions in the next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Moderately heavy to heavy rainfalls are also likely at places during the period, Met Office said, predicting nearly unchanged day temperature over the country.

Highest temperature 35.2 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Dinajpur and lowest 22.8 degrees Celsius at Sandwip. The sun sets in the capital tomorrow at 6:48 pm and rises on Saturday at 5:22am.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Dhaka	31.5	26.0	78
Chittagong	28.8	25.2	90	90
Rajshahi	33.7	26.4	89	100
Khulna	30.3	27.0	88	88
Barisal	29.0	26.0	93	92
Sylhet	33.2	25.2	83	73
Cox's Bazar	30.5	24.6	95	92

BSF withdraws objection to embankment construction

UNB, C'nawabganj

Indian Border Security Force (BSF) yesterday withdrew its objection to construction of an embankment to protect Bholahat from erosion by the river Mahananda.

Work on more than 1000 metres-long embankment at Gilabari and Poladanga was suspended three years ago following objection by BSF that led to exchange of gunfire with BDR.

BSF withdrew its objection to construction of the embankment at a meeting with BDR at Silk Research Institute at Bholahat. AK Agarwal, DIG of BSF, led the Indian side at the meeting, while Bangladesh side was led by Lt Col Saiful Islam.

The border river, Mahananda, has already devoured a large area on Bangladesh side.

Water Development Board had taken up the embankment project at a cost of Tk 3 crore to protect Bholarhat area from river erosion.

201 RU teachers

protest attack on FF

RU CORRESPONDENT

Some 201 teachers of Rajshahi University (RU) yesterday strongly protested the assault on a freedom fighter by Jamaat-Shibir cadres at a programme in Dhaka recently.

In a joint statement, they also demanded punishment to Jamaat-Shibir cadres involved in the attack and a ban on 'Jatiya Muktijoddha Parishad' backed by Jamaat-e-

Freedom fighter Sheikh Mohammad Ali Aman was assaulted by Jamaat-Shibir cadres as he called for trial of the war criminals at the programme of 'Jatiya Muktijoddha Parishad'. A journalist was also harassed by the Jamaat-Shibir cadres at that time.

The incident of attack is testimony to how the Jamaat men tortured the people during the liberation war, the teachers said in the They also expressed concern that

the caretaker government did not take any action the attackers although several days have passed after the incident.

The teachers also called on the government to initiate the process for the trial of war criminals immediately. The signatories to the statement

include former vice chancellor Prof. Saidur Rahman Khan, Prof Abdus Sobhan, Prof Mizan Uddin, Prof Ananda Kumar Saha, Prof Abul Kashem, Prof Mahabubur Rahman, Prof Fayekuzzaman, Prof Muklesur Rahman, Prof Julfiker Matin, Prof Anik Mahmud, Prof Jalal Uddin, Prof SM Abu Bakkar, Prof Shafiqunnabi Samadi, Prof Jannatul Ferdous, Prof Golam Sabbir Sattar Tapu and Prof Entajul Haque.

Ex-cop murdered in Mymensingh

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

An ex-police constable was stabbed to death near Telihati Bazar in Gouripur upazila on Wednesday night.

The victim was identified as Moon Faruq, 50, of Betandar village. Police said when Faruq was returning home at around 10:00pm, a gang of miscreants swooped on him and stabbed him indiscriminately resulting his

death on the spot. Police suspect the killing might have occurred on establishing supremacy in the area.

The victim's wife filed a case with Gouripur Police Station in this connection.

. Police arrested one Kajal, 40, for his alleged involvement in the killing.



DU LLM Lawyers' Assoc executives

METRO DESK

ABM Waliur Rahman Khan and Md Abdun Nur Dulal were elected president and secretary of Dhaka University LLM 'Lawyers' Association for the term 2008-10, says a press release.

The election of the 3rd executive committee of the body was held on Wednesday.

Other office bearers are: vicepresidents: Md Atiqul Karim and Md Jafor Ali, treasurer: Kazi Md Ezarul Haque Akondo (Sagor), joint secretaries: Sk Shaifuzzaman and Mohammad Bakir Uddin Bhuiyan, and women affairs secretary: Parvin Hannan. Members are: Mustafa Zaman

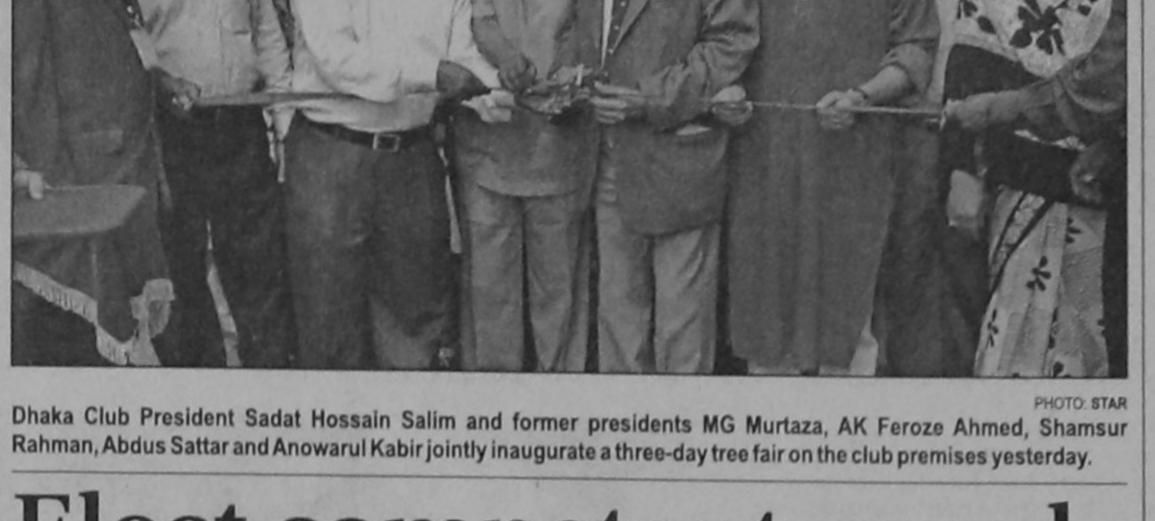
Islam, Kazi Ebadoth Hossain, Md

Shohrowardi, Mohammad Ali,

Momiruzzaman Rubel, Sheik Ali

Ahmed Khokan, Md Abdur

Rahman Howlader, Md Najmul



Dhaka Club President Sadat Hossain Salim and former presidents MG Murtaza, AK Feroze Ahmed, Shamsur

Elect competent people

Speakers tell Shujan programme

end without decision

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Mymensingh

The corrupt politicians snatched the rights of people over the years in the past, now time has come to give them a befitting reply in the coming polls, said Dr Badiul Alam Majumder, general secretary of Shushashoner Janney Nagorik (Shujan), yesterday.

Speaking at a programme titled 'Janatar Mukhomukhi' (meet the people) at Phulbaria Degree College auditorium, he said, "We shall have to work together for establishing democracy at the grassroots level." Shujan Phulbaria upazila unit

candidates running for local municipal polls scheduled to be held next Shujan Phulbaria unit, presided

organised the programme for the

over the function. Channel i, The Daily Star and The Prothom Alo are the media partners

of the programme.

Moderating the programme, Dr Majumder said, "We shall have to remain vigilant so that the public representatives who will be elected in the next polls cannot breach their promises given to people before the

Dileep Biswas, coordinator of develop the infrastructure of the Shujan's Central Secretariat, said the voters should be more vigil so that the candidates cannot use their muscles and black money to win the election.

He said people will have to create a congenial atmosphere for holding a free and fair election. Shujan's district committee member Sheikh Bahar Majumder,

its Phulbaria unit Secretary

Ayubullah Fayez, and Principal (incharge) of Phulbaria Degree College Bashir Ahmed, president of Abdul Hakim were present at the inaugural session of the programme. Principal Hakim urged the people to vote for those candi-

and reliable for the development of

Eight out of 10 candidates running for the mayoral post of Phulbaria municipalily addressed the open discussion session of the programme.

Md Omar Faruq said he will

area if elected. Md Abdur Rahim said he will work for the overall development of

the municipality. Abdullahel Mustaq said he will work to stop child marriage, dowry

system and other social crimes.

Students, teachers and businessmen also took part in the discussion. They included Prof Golam Mustafa, Shamsul Alam Talukder, Enamul Haque, Abdul Jalil, Rafiqul Islam Milon, Ashraful Islam, Rony, Reaz Uddin, Kamrul Ahmed, Shafiqul Islam Khokon, Abdullah, Muklesur Rahman, Abdus Sattar

dates who are honest, competent and Nurun Nahar Lipa. Pry teachers' talks with govt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Primary school-teachers and ministry of primary and mass educa- " tions if the government does not tion did not reach any consensus yesterday on the issue of the government permission to Brac in order to supervise all primary schools in 20 upazilas under a pilot programme.

between leaders of eight primary teachers associations and Teachers Association (BGPTA) Primary and Mass Education Adviser Rasheda K Chowdhury was ended without taking any decision. After the dialogue at the direc- country's primary educational

torate of primary education

(DPE), the adviser said the care-

taker government wants to continue the dialogue to convince the teachers for allowing Brac to supervise primary schools. However, schoolteachers said they would continue their move-

ment against the government

step, adding that they will not

work as presiding and polling officers in the upcoming four cities and nine municipal eleccancel the decision by July 30.

Bangladesh Private Primary Teachers Association (BPPTA) President Muhammad Samsul Alam said they will continue their protest programme until the A three-hour dialogue cancellation of the pilot project. Bangladesh Graduate Primary

General Secretary M Badrul Alam Mukul raised a question about the standard of education provided by Brac schools, saying the system will be ruined if monitored or supervised by such inexperienced institution like Brac as it cannot continue its own schools in remote areas for 'mis-

management' Leaders of the four organisations -- Bangladesh Primary Teachers Association (BPTA),

Community Primary Teachers Association (BCPTA) participated in the dialogue

Primary and Mass Education Secretary Mosharaf Hossain Bhuiyan, DPE Directorate General M Nazrul Islam Khan and Director Ratan Kumar also took part in the dialogue.

Young girl found dead in city

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police yesterday recovered the body of an unidentified girl aged about 25 from Tejgaon railway gate in the city.

12:00noon. Her hands and legs Police suspects that she was

The body was found at about

were tied.

strangulated to death as a napkin BPPTA, BGPTA and Bangladesh was tied in her throat.

Economy regains growth momentum

FROM PAGE 1 by different sectors. Import of capital machinery, which went down to \$371.67 million during January-March 2008, showed an upward trend as higher number of LCs were opened in July-May 2008,

according to the review.

tance from abroad increased by 50 percent in Q4 from 47.2 percent in Q3 of FY08. Implementation of the ADP is estimated to reach Tk 8,900 crore in Q4 as opposed to Tk 3,272 crore in Q3. Lastly, and more significantly, the inflation rate came down to

7.44 percent in May from 10.06

It also mentioned that remit-

percent in March of 2008, the review mentioned. The MCCI in the review, however, said the business community felt that the failure to improve supply of gas and electricity has been a major lapse on the government's part. Besides, they are also

transition to democracy. "The large and medium level entrepreneurs feel that the overall business climate and the government's commitment to be business-friendly are proving to be helpful to business confidence. They stated that continuation of stable monetary policy, improved performance of the infrastructures and check on borrowings by the government from the banking sector would prove to be mutually beneficial to the business community and the economy."

"On the other hand, the busi-

nessmen in small and micro sec-

tors are found to be less optimistic.

Businessmen engaged in poultry

farms, food processing, engineer-

ing workshops, transportation and

packaging and printing complain

against lack of policy support from

the government and more particu-

larly, against non-availability of

electricity and gas. They point out

that higher prices of gas and elec-

tricity and the law and order situation pose a grim future for small and micro enterprises," it said.

Analysing the price situation, the MCCI in the review said price pressures remained strong in April-June 2008, with the average rate of inflation rising to 9.9 percent from 9.8 percent in the previous quarter. "The point-to-point inflation, however, fell to 7.44 percent in May 2008 from 10.06 percent in March 2008 and 11.59 percent in croreinJune 2007. December 2007.

line with higher global oil and agricultural commodity prices. In particular, the increased passthrough of the prices of rice and other food products led to the acceleration in food inflation. The inflation rate in the rural areas remains higher than in the urban areas. The prevailing short-term measures like OMS of food grains at subsidised prices, duty-free import concerned over the process of of food grains and edible oil, increasing the import of food grains, lowering of interest rate against import credit of food grains, regular market monitoring, and fixation of maximum retail price for edible oil need to be con-

tinued," it observed. The Bangladesh Bank continued its accommodative monetary policy, it said adding that credit flow to the private sector up to April 2008 increased by 23.1 percent compared to the corresponding period of FY2006-2007. "Credit to the government sector increased by 22.6 percent, while credit to the public sector enterprises declined by 13.3 percent compared to 15.7 percent, 31.5 percent and 6.6 percent increases, respectively, during the corresponding period of FY2006-2007."

"M2 (currency outside banks, demand deposits and term deposits) recorded an increase of 11.2 percent during July-April 2007-2008 against the 11.9 percent increase

during July-April 2006-2007, while the more liquid narrow money (M1) grew by 10.4 percent compared to 12.1 percent in the corresponding

It said the total liquid asset in

the banks was Tk 47,967 crore in

period last year," it continued.

April 2008 against Tk 44,841 crore in June 2007. The Central Bank mopped up excess liquidity. In April 2008 excess liquidity was Tk 13,325 crore as against Tk. 14,279 "The disbursement of long-"Domestic inflation has been in term industrial loans during July-March of the current fiscal year increased by 66.3 percent, which was only 26.0 percent during the

corresponding period of FY2006-

2007. Disbursement of agricultural

credit also registered an increase of

60.6 percent during July-May of FY

2007-2008 compared to the 9.3

percent negative growth of dis-

bursement during the corresponding period of the previous fiscal, said the review. According to the MCCI publication, the total amount of remittance in July-May of FY08 was \$ 7,164 million compared to \$ 5,462

million in July-May FY07. The review also made detailed analysis on service sector, public finance, balance of payments and the foreign exchange market.

Death anniversary METRO DESK

College, says a press release.



Maleque, former head of Department of Pharmacology of Dhak Medical College and former principal of Sher-e-Bangla Medical

Today is the

fifth death

anniversary of

Dr Abdul

10 hurt as JCD, Shibir clash in Rajshahi

RU CORRESPONDENT

At least 10 students, activists of Jatiyatabadi Chhatra Dal (JCD) and Islami Chhatra Shibir, were injured yesterday on the Rajshahi Polytechnic Institute campus in a clash between the two student organisations.

Two of the critically injured JCD activists, Tuhin and Bappi, were undergoing treatment at Rajshahi Medical College Hospital (RMCH), said sources.

The other injured JCD activists were identified as Asad, Jahid, Roni, Reza, Shyamol and Mamun.

According to the sources, the clash erupted when activists of both the student organisations went to the administrative building of the institute to buy admission forms for prospective freshman

At one stage JCD activists attacked and beat up Shibir activist Saiful with sticks.

The Shibir activists, armed with iron rods and bamboo sticks, later regrouped and swooped on the JCD activists near the administrative building. As the clash erupted unexpect-

edly, the panic-stricken students including the prospective students fled for shelters and the distribution of admission forms had to be suspended for about an hour. The institute Principal Joynal Abedin confirmed the incident

brought under control and police were deployed to avert any further incidents. Ataur Rahman, president of Shibir's Rajshahi Polytechnic Institute unit, alleged that it was an unprovoked attack on his men by

saying that the situation was

rejected the allegation and accused Shibir activists of illegally making profit by reselling admission forms to prospective students.

JCD leader Roni however

ICD activists.

KCC ELECTION

violate electoral

code of conduct

candidates

STAFF CORRESPONDENT, Khulna Two candidates for councillor posts in Khulna City Corporation

(KCC) have been accused of violat-

ing electoral code of conduct. The accused are Kamrul Islam and Shah Alam, councillor candidates of the ward-24.

Police filed a general diary that the candidates used loudspeakers before 2:00pm violating electoral code of conduct.

The matter was brought to notice of the returning officer. Police seized their loudspeakers and warned the candidates not to violate electoral code of conduct

any further. Oulkhwani

METRO DESK



Shahjahan Sinha, will be held at her Mirpur residence in the city today, says a press release. Khaleda Sinha passed away at a

Qulkhwani of

Khaleda Sinha,

an authoress

and wife

city hospital on Tuesday at the age She has written 25 books. Relatives and admirers are

requested attend the qulkhwani

and pray for her departed soul.

Anwara Khalil

occasion.



be held at Aboni Apartments, House #11/C, Road #14 (New), Dhanmondi after Asr prayers today, says a press release. She died of cancer on July 14.

Relatives, friends and wellwishers are requested to attend the qulkhwani and pray for the salvation of the departed soul.

Maleka Akhter Khatun

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A doa mahfil will be held on the



press release.

Kishoreganj, will be held after Juma under Karimganj upazila, says a

Qulkhwani of

She passed away on June 5 at Mirpur in the city. Relatives and admirers are

requested to pray for her departed

Moderate rain likely UNB, Dhaka