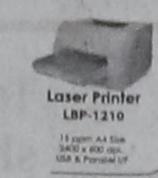


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Obama vows to renew America's promise

McCain names Palin as running mate

AFP, Denver/ Dayton

Barack Obama savaged John McCain and "broken" Republican politics, vowing to restore America's promise in a tumultuous climax to the Democratic convention before an 84,000 strong crowd.

"America, we are better than these last eight years," Obama said late Thursday, as he set course for November's presidential elections as the first African-American with a real shot at the White House.

"We are a better country than this," Obama said underlining the American promise of opportunity for all, 45 years to the day since Martin Luther King laid out his "I have a dream" vision of racial unity.

"This moment, this election, is our chance to keep in the 21st century the American promise alive," Obama said, handcuffing McCain to unpopular President George W Bush.

this country too much, to let the next four years look like the last eight. On November 4, we must



Barack Obama

stand up and say: 'Eight is enough.

Obama held the massive crowd crammed into an open-air American football stadium in thrall as he swept through his speech, punctuated by multiple standing

A barrage of multi-coloured fireworks and blizzard of confetti "We are here because we love filled the Rocky Mountain skies when he was done, in a speech, which his former primary foe Hillary Clinton praised for its "bold

there are many buyers who lost

everything after being trapped by

dishonest developers. This ordi-

nance is very necessary to protect

buyers from harassments and

Architect Iqbal Habib in a state-

ment said most of the 43 clauses in

the proposed ordinance will be

acceptable to everybody. A number

of them are already under two

rules--Land Development Rules

for Private Housing Project, 2004

The developers are opposing a

number of clauses, including

clause-29 and 41, in which punish-

ment for defrauding a client is

mentioned to be non-bailable and

against which a prayer will be

been kept for valid reasons but the

criteria for the punishment can be

cheats, he said.

solutions and optimistic vision for our nation and our children's future."

Hoping to steal the thunder, the McCain campaign announced that

he had chosen his running mate. The name was not revealed but the two were expected to appear together at a rally in the battleground state of Ohio on Friday in

an effort to reclaim the headlines. Minnesota Governor Tim Pawlenty, former Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney and independent senator Joseph Lieberman were thought to be high on the Arizona's senator's short-

Hitting new heights just four years after exploding onto the US political scene, Obama gave notice on Thursday he would fight back hard against Republican assaults on his capabilities and patriotism.

He said McCain did not understand the struggles of working Americans, as they see their jobs disappear abroad, living expenses rise, and prospects dim.

Tigers take on

SEE PAGE 15 COL 8

FAO pledges help to ensure food security UNB, Dhaka

A visiting high official of United Nation's Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) yesterday assured Bangladesh of providing necessary help in its efforts to ensure food security.

Making a courtesy call on Finance and Planning Adviser Mirza Azizul Islam at the planning ministry, FAO Asia Pacific Region head Hey Cheng Chyue also assured that the UN body would provide assistance in the country's fight against bird flu, ongoing agriculture census and agriculture research activities.

"Bangladesh has got what is necessary for food security. If the country can utilise the potential, food security will be ensured," he told reporters after the meeting.

Mirza Aziz said the FAO official gave importance to developing hybrid as well as deep and saline water-resistant seeds to increase food production in the country while assuring technical assistance in this regard, if necessary.

He said Cheng appreciated Bangladesh for taking food security measures like increasing endowment fund for agriculture research and climate change fund.

Vow to continue

agitation for

trial of war

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Freedom fighters, civil society

members and cultural activists

yesterday vowed to continue the

movement demanding trial of war

criminals at all levels across the

country until the execution of

verdicts against the war criminals.

taker government to take initia-

tives to bring the war criminals to

book as the whole nation wants

criminals has become a demand of

the entire nation and the govern-

ment will have to respond to it. This

movement will continue until our

demand is met," said liberation

forces deputy chief Air Vice

Marshal (retd) AK Khandakar, Bir

AK Khandakar was addressing a

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

EDITOR: MAHFUZ ANAM-Published by the Editor from Transcraft Ltd., 229 Tejgaon Industrial Area, Dhaka-1208 on behalf of Mediaworld Ltd. 52 Motijheel C.A., Dhak

two-day national conference of

"The demand for trying war

their trial.

Uttam.

They urged the present care-

criminals

SEE PAGE 15 COL 5

Georgia snaps diplomatic ties with Russia

Pedestrians duck while walking on the pavement of Green Road yesterday as a tangle of electric, cable TV, and tele-

West faces stark choice

communication wires hangs loosely over their head.

AFP, AP, Tbilisi

Georgia has broken off diplomatic ties with Russia and ordered Russian diplomats to leave Tbilisi, Deputy Foreign Minister Grigol Vashadze told AFP yesterday.

ties with the Russian Federation,"

he said. "In such situations, Russian diplomats will have to leave Georgia.' Georgia is to withdraw all of its ing Moscow's actions, European diplomats from its embassy in democracies and the United States sion to find allies for a coalition

"Georgia is cutting diplomatic

Moscow in "the coming days," a foreign ministry spokeswoman Moscow has seized on the opening told AFP on Friday.

Georgia will withdraw all diplomats from its embassy in Moscow. Abkhazia. Consular relations with the Russian Federation will be main- tough with Secretary of State end to the relative and growing on August 26 for chemotherapy. tained," said the head of the foreign ministry's press department, Moscow that the West will not sit Khatuna Iosava.

Russia's invasion of Georgia presents the West with a difficult choice: Punish Moscow by kicking it out of clubs like the Group of Eight or pursue a strategy of placating it that could invite further bullying in places like Ukraine, the Baltic states or Moldova.

So far, the West's actions have War." not matched its tough words.

Other than cancelling some joint military exercises and decryhave found little consensus, and on Tuesday formally recognising responsibility not to start one." "Within the coming days, the independence of South Ossetia

Condoleezza Rice warning idly by like it did during the Cold

War invasions of Hungary and Czechoslovakia. On Wednesday, her British

counterpart, David Miliband, reacted to Russian President Dmitry Medvedev's claim that his nation is "not afraid of anything. including the prospect of a Cold "The Russian president says he

is not afraid of a new Cold War," Miliband said during a visit to Ukraine, where he was on a misagainst Russian aggression. "We don't want one. He has a big

Miliband suggested Thursday and another Georgian enclave, that an unwelcome chapter had begun in European history: "We are The US and Britain have talked in a situation which marks a clear calm in and around Europe since | But doctors said his condition has the collapse of the Soviet Union,"

SEE PAGE 15 COL 1



Thursday.

Liton said. He said the anti-liberation forces are still active in administration and also involved in conspiracy against Bangladesh.

Public Library auditorium on

verdict of the lower court and

expected justice from the High

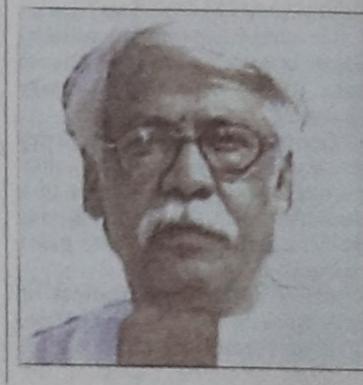
Court. But the HC verdict disap-

pointed us, acquitting the main

killers of the four national leaders,"

"We had earlier rejected the

Liton urged all progressive forces to come forward and launch fresh movement against the SEE PAGE 15 COL 5



Zia Hyder critically ill

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Renowned and pioneering figure in the country's theatre and former teacher of theatre at Chittagong University Prof Zia Hyder has been fighting for life at a city hospital. He has been suffering from Non Hodgkin's Lymphoma for four months.

Hyder, founder president of theatre troupe Nagorik Natyasampradaya, was admitted to City Heart Hospital at Lalmatia deteriorated because of old age SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

'Promulgate ordinance to save buyers from dishonest developers'

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh Paribesh Andolan (Bapa) yesterday demanded immediate promulgation of the Realestate Management Ordinance, -2008 to reduce harassment of property buyers.

The proposed Real-estate Management Ordinance, 2008 is all right and objections raised by developers can be solved through discussions and it has to be done within the shortest possible time, said President of Bapa Prof Muzaffer Ahmad during a press conference and Building Construction Rules, held at WVA Auditorium on 2007. Dhanmondi Road-27.

"We are not against the reasonable amendment but this ordinance is very important for protecting the interest of property buyers," he said.

He said it cannot be that a per- untenable. The punishment has son will not face any punishment

for committed crimes. Vice-president of Bapa and

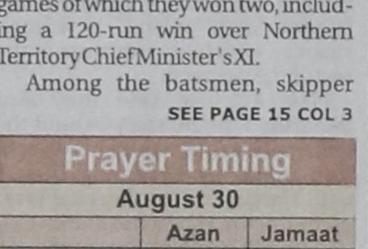
Aussies in first ODI today SPORTS REPORTER Bangladesh cricket team take on former adviser to a caretaker government ASM Shahjahan said

world champions Australia in the first one-day international of a three-match series at the TOI Stadium in Darwin today. The match will be telecast live

on Star Cricket from 6:00am. The Tigers have been in the northern Australian city for almost two

weeks and played five warm-up games of which they won two, including a 120-run win over Northern Territory Chief Minister's XI.

Prayer Timing August 30	
4-30	5-05
12-45	1-15
4-45	5-00
6-33	6-36
8-00	8-30
	August 30 Azan 4-30 12-45 4-45 6-33



juvenile cultural organisation Khelaghar Ashor. He inaugurated



PHOTO: STAR

Farmers at Shajahanpur in Bogra harvest paddy which they grew between Boro and Aman seasons.

Local-variety paddy as interim crop

HASIBUR RAHMAN BILU, Bogra

Farmers in Bogra produced large quantities of local-variety paddy as interim crop between Boro and Aman. According to Department of Agriculture Extension (DAE) Bogra, the farmers of Bogra would earn around Tk 210 crore in addition by

growing the interim crop. Deputy Director (DD) of DAE, Bogra, Rustam Ali said the department expects about 70,000 tonnes of local variety rice, including Jhapri and BR-5, produced in 12 upazilas without any irrigation cost and with very little agricultural inputs used.

The DAE had the target to pro-

duce 63,994 tonnes of local variety rice in Bogra on 26,120 hectares of land but farmers cultivated on 11,446 hectares more land and look forward to crossing the production target. Sherpur Upazila Agriculture

Officer Abul Hashem said on an average BR-5 yielded 7.5 tonnes per hectare in his upazila.

The DAE official told The Daily Star that 40 kg of finer quality moist paddy is selling between Tk 560 and Tk 600 now while dry paddy was being sold at Tk 700.

Farmer Khorshed Alam of Kharna in Shajahanpur upazila said he produced about 400kg of SEE PAGE 15 COL 3

