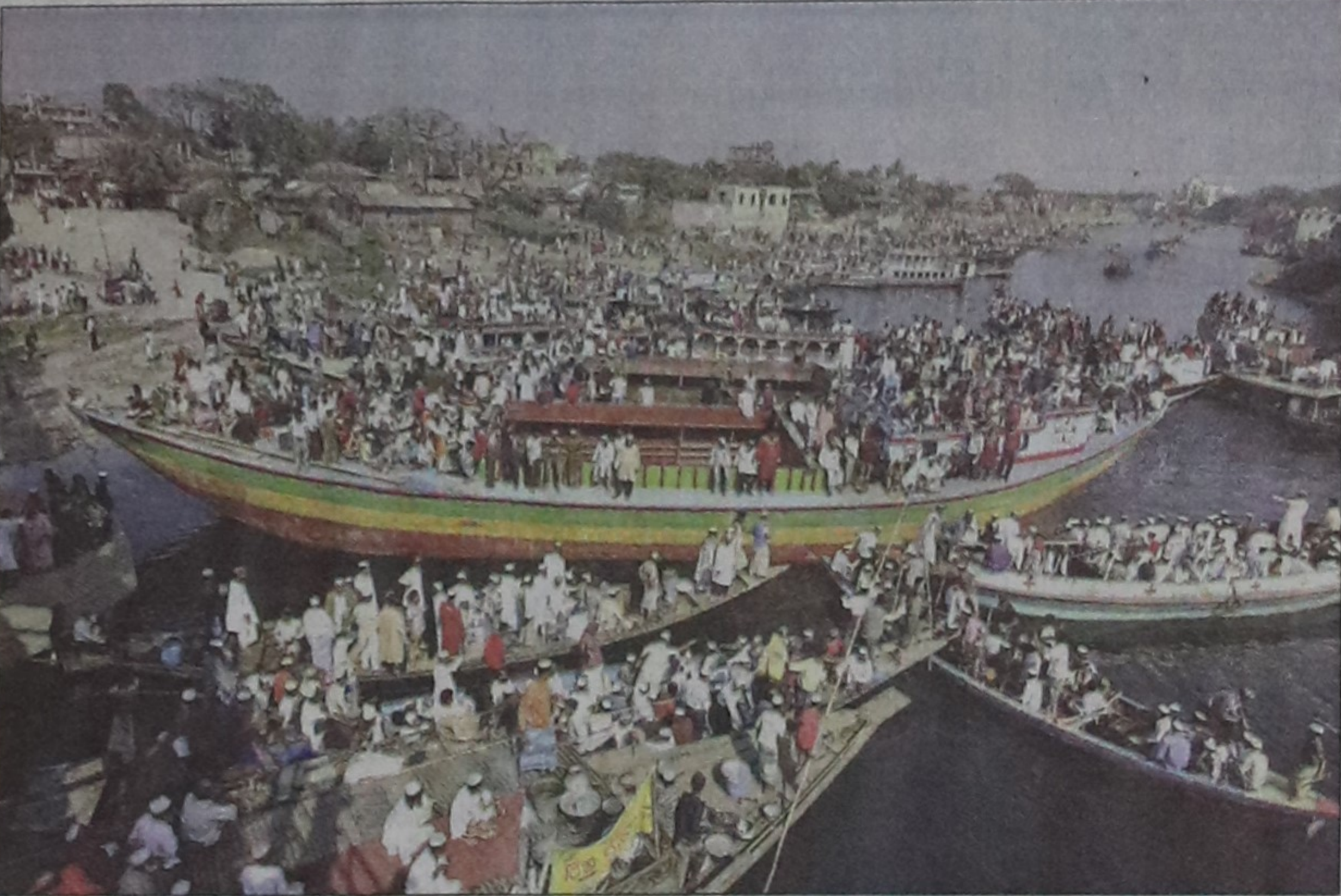


BISWA IJTEMA ENDS SEEKING DIVINE BLESSINGS



(Clockwise) Leader of the Opposition Khaleda Zia and Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina offer prayers during the Akheri Munajat of Biswa Ijtema at Tongi yesterday. Thousands of devotees return to the city on the boats. Divers search for the missing after a trawler carrying devotees capsized in the river Turag. Devotees attend the Ijtema on boats on the Turag since there was no space left on the Biswa Ijtema ground.

20 BNP men killed since Dec 29 polls

Says Delwar

DU CORRESPONDENT

BNP Secretary General Khandker Delwar Hossain yesterday expressed grave resentment over the killing of party activist Daud Hossain by the ruling party cadres at Banesar union under Puthia upazila in Rajshahi.

In a statement, Delwar said since the December 29 elections, Awami League cadres have been attacking BNP men and looted their valuables

across the country. He also alleged that around 20 leaders and workers of BNP have been killed by the AL cadres since the elections, saying though the countrymen are protesting such activities against humanity, AL men are yet to stop such violent hostilities.

Delwar demanded exemplary punishment to the people involved in the murder of Daud, who was vice president of Banesar union parishad BNP.

Writ for probing 2001 post-polls violence

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A writ petition was filed yesterday with the High Court (HC) for directing the government to form a judicial commission to probe into the post-election violence in 2001.

Seven lawyers of Human Rights and Peace for Bangladesh (HRPB) jointly filed the petition as public interest litigation (PIL) that also challenged the inaction of the law enforcers to prevent the crimes

including killings, tortures, rapes and lootings after the parliamentary polls in 2001.

The HC bench of Justice ABM Khairul Haque and Justice Md Abdul Hye yesterday adjourned the hearing of the petition and fixed the matter for further hearing on Monday (today).

During the hearing, petitioner's counsel Advocate Manzil Murshid told the court that after the holding of the parliamentary election in 2001, hundreds of people were killed and their properties were damaged.

Since the law enforcers did not discharge their legal and constitutional duties to prevent those incidents, the human rights of people were seriously violated, he said.

Manzil Murshid said police even did not accept cases submitted by the victims.

The petitioners are M Asaduzzaman, Sarwar Chowdhury, Ekhlasuddin Bhuiyan, Farhad Ahmed, Tapan Kanti Das, Atiar Rahman and Swapan Kumar.

Home secretary, cabinet secretary, principal secretary to the prime minister's office (PMO), inspector general of police (IGP), additional IGP and six deputy inspector generals (DIGs) of six divisions have been made respondents in the petition.

Ahad Chy sued

COURT CORRESPONDENT

A freedom fighter yesterday filed a civil suit against Abdul Ahad Chowdhury on charges of holding the post of chairman of the Central Command Council of Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad (BMS) illegally as his tenure of office expired four years ago.

Anwar Hossain Pahari, Bir Protik, filed the suit with the Fourth Assistant Judge's Court of Dhaka seeking a temporary injunction on his (Ahad) different functions in the name of BMS at different places.

After the hearing, the judge issued a notice upon defendant Ahad Chowdhury to explain within seven days of this order as to why he shall not be restrained by an order of temporary injunction to hold the post illegally.

In the complaint, the petitioner mentioned that after the liberation war in 1971, BMS was formed for the welfare of wounded freedom fighters and their children, and its chairman, vice-chairman and secretary general were elected by the direct votes of the councillors of freedom fighters.

Ahad Chowdhury was elected chairman in 2001 for a three-year term which expired earlier.

Then a new committee was formed during the four-party alliance government which was dissolved by the caretaker government for its alleged involvement in corruption and formed an ad-hoc committee on October 4, 2007.

But Ahad Chowdhury, claiming himself as chairman of BMS and being instructed by Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina, issued letters on January 8 this year asking freedom fighters for sending necessary documents of their serviceable children which is illegal, the plaintiff added.

MADARGANJ UZ POLL

Re-election demanded

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Democratic Left Alliance yesterday demanded holding re-election of Madarganj upazila election under Jamalpur district as it was farcical.

The alliance leaders placed their demand at a meeting at the party office at Topkhana Road in the city.

They expressed strong resentment over filing a false case against chairman candidate of the election and central member of Biplobi Workers' Party Shibli Bari Raju.

They said miscreants hijacked his definite victory using their muscle power and filed a false case against him.

The leaders called on the government to file a case against the miscreants.

Bangladesh Communist Party (ML) Convener Badrul Alam, Bangladesh Samajtantrik Dal Convener Khalekuzzaman, Biplobi Party General Secretary Saiful Haque, Tipu Biswas, Nazrul Islam, Babul Biswas and Jonayed Saki took part in the meeting.

New chairmen of 3 edn boards

UNB, Dhaka

The government has given appointment to the posts of chairmen of Dhaka, Jessore and Rajshahi Secondary and Higher Secondary Education Boards on deputation.

Principal M Shamsul Haq of Govt Sa'dat College was appointed chairman of Dhaka Board while Principal Hafizur Rahman of Tala Govt College Jessore Board and Principal Dr Dipendra Nath Das of Govt Carmichael College Rajshahi Board, said an official release.

Pirojpur Govt School reunion on Feb 13

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A reunion of former students of Pirojpur Government High School living in the city will be held at Biam auditorium at 5:00pm on February 13.

The interested students are requested to communicate to the following persons by February 6: Prof Mahbulul (Manna): 8314439/ 01739-799926, Sayem Ahmed: 01711-530003 or M Mahmud: 01711-826126.

China to further consolidate ties with Bangladesh

Says envoy

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Chinese Ambassador in Dhaka Zheng Qingdian yesterday paid a courtesy visit to the office of The Daily Star in the city.

During the visit, the ambassador and his senior officials discussed with the Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam and other senior members of the paper issues related to media of the two countries.

They also discussed ways to improve cooperation between the media of two countries.

The Chinese envoy said his country has great interest in the socio-economic development of Bangladesh, and would continue support for peace, progress and development of Bangladesh and its people.

Zheng Qingdian said the Chinese government is happy with the swearing in of new government elected through overwhelming support of the people of Bangladesh.

He said the Chinese leadership has expressed the desire to further consolidate relationship with Bangladesh through increased cooperation and assistance.

The envoy was accompanied by Economic and Commercial Counsellor Lin Weiqiang, Chief of Political Section and Embassy Spokesman Mu Yongpeng and another political section official Zhou Hui.

Govt to resolve CHT land disputes

Law minister tells EU envoys

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law Minister Shafique Ahmed yesterday said the government is weighing measures to settle the land disputes between indigenous communities and Bangladeshi settlers in Chittagong Hill Tract (CHT) areas.

He also said the government will closely monitor the matters concerned so that no conflict takes place between the members of parliament and the upazila chairmen during discharging their responsibilities.

"As per laws concerned, there are specific (separate) functions for parliament members and upazila chair-

men. They will discharge their respective duties defined by the laws," he added.

The minister said this at a meeting with nine European Union (EU) diplomats, led by Swedish Ambassador Britt F Hagstrom, at his secretariat office.

Other members include Swedish Dutch envoy Bea Ten Tusscher, Italian Ambassador Itala Maria Marta Occhi, EU Commission Ambassador Dr Stefan Frowein, Danish envoy Einar Hebogard Jensen, German envoy Frank Meyke, Charge d' Affaires of France Patrick Branco, Charge d' Affaires of Spain Edward Romero and Acting

British High Commissioner Duncan Norman.

Shafique told the EU envoys that a separate secretariat would be set up under the Supreme Court for the judiciary to work independently, according to an official of the ministry.

Replying to a query on what facilities the opposition parties in parliament will get, the minister said they will enjoy all the facilities as per the rules of the constitution and the laws.

On the government stance on 'extrajudicial killings', Shafique told the EU delegation that the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) would be strengthened to look after

the issue.

"The democracy will not be restored unless the rule of law is established," he added.

The envoys assured the minister of extending all-out cooperation to strengthen the NHRC and to modernise the case management system.

After the meeting, the Swedish envoy told reporters that they did not discuss the trial of war criminals, but they were observing what the government was doing over the issue.

Later, a five-member delegation of Bangladesh Judicial Service Association, led by its president M Abdul Gafur, called on the Law Minister at his office.



Chinese Ambassador in Dhaka Zheng Qingdian speaks at a meeting at the Daily Star office yesterday. On his left is Editor and Publisher of The Daily Star Mahfuz Anam.

Nat'l defence course begins

BSS, Dhaka

The inaugural ceremony of National Defence Course-2009, which is being conducted by National Defence College (NDC), was held on the college premises at Mirpur Cantonment in the city yesterday.

State Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Hassan Mahmud inaugurated the educational programme on the course titled 'Defence policy and national security'.

NDC Commandant Lt Gen M Amirul Karim delivered his welcome speech at the 47-week course, says an ISPR press release.

The course comprises nine major generals and brigadier generals from Army, two commodores from Navy, two group captains from Air Force, one additional secretary from administration and other cadres of civil services, eight joint secretaries, one director general from foreign service and one deputy inspector general from Bangladesh Police.

A total of 24 officers are participating in the course. Besides, 22 course members from 12 friendly countries also are participating.

The members from overseas countries include one air commodore (Air Force) from Sri Lanka, one commodore (Navy) from Sudan, one brigadier Pakistan Army, one brigadier general from Nepal Army, three brigadier general and colonel from Saudi Arabia Army, one colonel from China Army, one colonel from Qatar Army, one air commodore from India, one brigadier general from Malaysia Army, one colonel from Jordan Army, one colonel from Indonesia Army and nine members from Nigeria Army, Navy and Air Force.

Major reshuffle in administration

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Newly promoted Additional Secretary Dr Khandoker Shawkat Hossain has been made the divisional commissioner of Dhaka.

He was joint secretary at the establishment ministry in charge of appointment, posting and deputation.

Mohammad Mahbubur Rahman, now Bangladesh Small and Cottage Industry Corporation (BSCIC) chairman, has been made chairman of Bangladesh Chemical Industries Corporation (BCIC).

The previous BCIC chairman Mokhesur Rahman had earlier been made an OSD at the establishment ministry.

Additional Secretary to primary and mass education ministry Kazi Akhter Hossain has been made managing director (MD) of family planning directorate,

Additional Secretary Mostafa Kamal Haider has been posted to Bangladesh Handloom Board as chairman while chairman of Trading Corporation of Bangladesh (TCB) Ziaul Islam has been made chairman of Bangladesh Jute Mills Corporation (BJMC).

OSD Joyanal Abedin will become the new chairman of TCB.

OSD Khandaker Asaduzzaman (additional secretary) has been made secretary of Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC) while Additional Secretary Roushan Ara Begum was named as the new head of women's affairs directorate and additional secretary KH Masud Siddiqui will be new DG of youth development.

Kala Chand Mandal has been appointed DG of National Institute for Population Research (NIPORT). OSD Pranab Chakrabarti was made

Biam Foundation DG while OSD Ahmed Hossain Khan was appointed new Mongla Port chairman.

Dr SM Nazmul Islam was made chairman of Bangladesh Fisheries Development Corporation while Golam Mostafa was made chairman of Bangladesh Inland Water Transport Corporation.

Joint Secretary Joyanal Abedin Talukder, now a BIWTC director, has been transferred to Bangladesh Forest Industries Development Corporation as one of its directors. Ikram Hossain, now DG of women's affairs, has been sent on deputation as executive director of Jatiya Mahila Sangstha.

The divisional commissioner of Chittagong, Hossain Jamil, has been transferred to Bangladesh Public Administration Training Centre at Savar as a member directing staff (MDS).

STAMFORD UNIVERSITY
 BANGLADESH (Govt. Approved)
 Education for tomorrow's world... Admission Spring 2009

Are you seeking internationally recognized **MBA** degree?

STAMFORD offers internationally recognized Regular & Executive MBA.

Membership of International Accreditation Bodies

Do You Know?
 Business School of Stamford is one of the top 1000 business schools of the world according to Universal rating
 Graded as one of the top universities in Bangladesh by Govt.
 Special Batch For Students With BBA Background

Specialization Areas: **Mode of Study:**
 ★ Marketing Full Time & Part Time
 ★ Finance
 ★ Management
 ★ Human Resource Management
 ★ Bank Management
 ★ Management Information System

Class Time:
 ★ Evening Class (from 6:30 p.m.)

Contact Address: Last Date of Application: February 18, 2009
 Admission Test: February 20, 2009

Head Office & Dhanmondi Campus: 744, Satmosjid Road, Dhanmondi, Dhaka
 Tel: 9124161, 8156122-3, 8153168-9
 (Ext- 118, 119, 124, 125, 126, 127 & 128)
 Mobile: 01713082401, 01713082402, 01713082403

Siddeswari Campus: 51, Siddeswari Road, Dhaka
 Tel: 8355626, 8355596, 8354577, 8355512-13
 (Ext- 114, 116, 119, 121, 122, 191 & 192)
 Mobile: 01937082093, 01937085783

E-mail: stamford@stamforduniversity.ws, Web Page: www.stamforduniversity.edu.bd