



Pakistani journalists shout slogans during a protest against the killing of a journalist in the troubled Swat valley in Islamabad yesterday. Hundreds of journalists protested across northwest Pakistan to condemn the killing of a television reporter who was covering a peace mission led by a pro-Taliban cleric.

## Journalist killed while covering Swat peace rally

THE DAWN, Mingora

Musa Khankhel, a local journalist, was killed by unknown assailants in Matta area of Swat district on Wednesday. Musa Khankhel, correspondent of The News and Geo TV, was kidnapped by unidentified people from Matta area, where he was covering the convoy of the Tehreek Nifaz-i-Shariat Muhammadi's chief Maulana Sufi Mohammad.

Later his bullet-riddled body was found near Dedpani area of Matta sub-division. He became the third journalist killed in the Swat valley during the turmoil, while eight media men have so far been killed in the violence-hit districts of the Frontier province and adjacent tribal belt.

## Cleric, Taliban leader talk peace in Pakistan

AP, MINGORA, Pakistan

A hardline cleric sought yesterday to convince the Taliban to disarm under a pact with Pakistan's government that has been criticised at home and abroad as giving into militants ravaging the country's northwest, a militant spokesman said.

Monday's deal allows for the imposition of Islamic law in the former tourist resort of Swat and surrounding districts in exchange for an end to a brutal insurgency that has killed hundreds and sent up to 1/3 of its 1.5 million people fleeing.

A similar deal in Swat last

year collapsed in a few months and was blamed for giving insurgents time to regroup.

The cleric, Sufi Muhammad, met with Swat Valley Taliban leader Maulana Fazlullah in an undisclosed location, Taliban spokesman said. Muslim Khan, Fazlullah's son-in-law of Muhammad, an Islamist leader once imprisoned but who has since publicly renounced violence.

"They are discussing how to ensure peace and how to ensure the provision of speedy justice" to the people, he said.

On Tuesday, a Pakistani TV reporter who had been covering a peace march by

Muhammad and his supporters was shot and killed. Authorities have not speculated about who was behind the killing of Musa Khan Khel, 28, and neither has his employer, Geo TV.

Khan condemned the killing, saying the whoever did it wanted to "derail the peace process."

Over the last 18 months, militants have routed the police, beheaded political opponents and burned scores of schools for girls in the Swat Valley, which lies next to Pakistan's tribal regions close to the Afghan border, where Taliban and al-Qaida militants have long held sway.

## Nato ministers review Afghan strategy

### US urges long-term effort

AFP, Krakow

Nato defence ministers reviewed yesterday strategy on Afghanistan under pressure to match fresh US efforts to combat a virulent Taliban-led insurgency.

At talks in the Polish city of Krakow, US Defence Secretary Robert Gates was to spur his allies on to meet the massive challenge the militia poses to Nato's Afghan operation, its biggest and most ambitious ever.

Of particular concern is the spectre of insurgents, including al-Qaeda and drug runners with rear bases in Pakistan, undermining the elections in August, seen as a litmus test of Nato's efforts to help spread democracy.

The meeting comes just after Washington announced the dispatch of 17,000 extra troops, heaping new pressure on European allies to match the new Obama administration's efforts.

But Gates will seek civilian help from nations unable to stump up soldiers, in line with the new US "comprehensive" strategy to also boost the Afghan police and fight chronic government corruption.

"There is a requirement out there in terms of the desire to have people sign up for additional troops during that period and frankly the response so far has been disappointing," he told reporters travelling with him to Krakow.

However "where the allies can make a significant longer term contribution is particularly on the civilian side, on governance, training of the police, development, rule of law issues, corruption, counter-narcotics," he said.

"I hope that it may be easier for our allies to do that than significant troop increases, especially for the longer term."

The bulk of the US troops will be deployed in the south, where the insur-

gency and opium production are flourishing, but more will be required to hold ground that has been seized from the Taliban and then build on it.

The lack of troops and equipment has fuelled resentment between allies, with some refusing to deploy to the south, where US, Australian, British, Canadian, Danish and Dutch forces have been suffering casualties.

Nato Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer has said that around 10,000 troops will be needed to provide security for the elections on August 20, but few nations have come forward with offers.

Germany confirmed Thursday that it would send 600 extra troops ahead of the polls.

Nato officials have warned that security is likely to be a bigger problem in coming months, as Afghan President Hamid Karzai faces a "constitutional crisis" with his mandate set to run out in May.

## Lankan troops unearth LTTE aircraft research site

PTI, Colombo

After uncovering attempts of Tamil Tigers to build crude submarines, Sri Lankan forces yesterday said they had unearthed a possible rebel aircraft research wing that apparently studied ways to either repair planes or construct new ones.

Sri Lankan security forces engaged in search operations in Waddaichchchi area of Mullaitivu, found several parts of an LTTE aircraft left burnt by the rebels while fleeing from the area yesterday, the Defence Ministry said.



UN humanitarian chief John Holmes (2nd R) addresses a press conference while Sri Lankan Foreign Minister Rohitha Bogollagama (R) looks on in Colombo yesterday.

## UN on alert ahead of Beshir arrest warrant decision

AFP, Khartoum

Peacekeepers in Sudan are on high alert for fear of a potential hostile reaction against foreigners if the International Criminal Court accepts a recommendation to issue a warrant for the arrest for President Omar al-Beshir.

The United Nations has 9,800 peacekeepers overseeing a 2005 peace deal that ended two decades of deadly conflict in south Sudan.

## Pakistan unrest displaces over 300,000 in northwest

AFP, Islamabad

More than 300,000 people in northwest Pakistan have been displaced over the last six months because of fighting between Taliban insurgents and government troops, officials said Wednesday.

A total of 55,729 displaced families, or 337,772 individuals, have been registered by the authorities, Shaukat Tahir, a

senior official from the national disaster management authority, told a news conference in Islamabad.

Another official said the number displaced was for the time period since August.

The Pakistani military has launched major operations in Bajaur, Swat and other areas in the country's semi-autonomous tribal zones along the border with Afghanistan,

where both al-Qaeda and Taliban are said to have bases.

Around 70 percent of the internally displaced persons (IDPs) were from the Federally Administered Tribal Areas on the border with Afghanistan, Tahir said, stressing that people were now beginning to return.

He said people had left their homes because of an "ongoing operation in tribal areas".

## Mojahid, Babar

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around 2:30pm for their home.

Talking to The Daily Star, Babar said, "Despite the High Court clearance the immigration officials did not let me leave."

"I need to go to Singapore for medical treatment and I had shown them the copy of the High Court order and the medical board's recommendations. But they did not bother," Babar said, adding, "As I was not allowed to leave, my sister and nephew also returned home with me."

Replying to a question, he said he would talk to his lawyers about the immigration officials' "ignoring" the High Court order.

Babar's lawyer Ahsanul Karim in a press release said it was not expected of a democratic government to prevent Babar from leaving the country.

The HC cleared Babar's going abroad on February 8. He is now on bail till March 4.

According to sources, Mojahid had booked a trip on Qatar Airways. But when his

personal officials contacted immigration authorities, the immigration officials told them that Mojahid is barred from leaving the country.

Mojahid later went to the Jamaat office instead of the airport, sources said.

His personal assistant Shahidul Islam denied that he had attempted to leave the country. Mojahid's personal secretary Nasiruddin Biswas said he was not aware of the matter.

On February 16, immigration officials prevented former minister air vice-marshal (ret'd) Altaf Hossain Choudhury and former BNP lawmaker Mosaddak Ali Fala, political secretary to former prime minister Khaleda Zia, from leaving the country.

Sources said Fala with his wife, daughter and personal assistant was supposed to leave for Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, and Altaf for Bangkok.

Former BNP lawmaker Syed Iskandar, brother of former prime minister Khaleda Zia, was also prevented from leaving the country last month.

## Armed forces

FROM PAGE 1  
"In the backdrop of the changed security scenario in the present-day world, the roles of the armed forces have become multidimensional. In my view, this should be reflected realistically in the education and training programmes of the armed forces," she told the function.

The premier said the principle of competence, merit, fitness and seniority will be strictly followed for recruitment, appointment and promotion.

Autonomy as consistent with the constitution will be granted in the matters of internal discipline, administration and management. Welfare-oriented projects will be undertaken for the members of the defence forces.

Government's intention is to build up strong, efficient, and modern armed forces within the available resources. "We need to emphasise advanced training and exercises to attain the goal," the PM said.

She observed that Bangladesh believes in the peaceful resolution of all bilateral, regional and international disputes in all corners of the globe.

"The basic principle of Bangladesh's foreign policy is 'friendship with all and malice to none'. We are committed to the establishment of international peace and security. Our standpoint against all kinds of terrorism is very clear. Armed forces must move forward imbued with that ideal," she told her military audience.

Praising the quality and

effectiveness of the Defence Service Staff College, she said with the passage of time this institution has been acclaimed in the international arena as a unique military educational institution.

She hoped that the knowledge the officers gathered through the training would be helpful in discharging their professional responsibilities.

To the officers of the foreign countries, the PM said through the foreign military officers' participation in the Staff College training courses, friendly relations between Bangladesh and the foreign countries would be deepened.

"I firmly believe that your positive impressions have been imprinted in your minds about the people and culture of this land while studying here. As goodwill ambassadors, you will convey the good wishes of our people to your government, armed forces and your countrymen," she said.

A total of 170 officers, including 90 from Bangladesh Army, 16 from Bangladesh Navy and 28 from Bangladesh Air Force, and 36 overseas officers from Brunei, China, India, Jordan, Malaysia, Myanmar, Nepal, Nigeria, Pakistan, Palestine, the Republic of Korea, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Turkey and the USA attended the graduation course.

Earlier, the prime minister distributed certificates to the officers of the armed forces.

Ministers, advisers to the PM, chiefs of three services, diplomats, and high civil and military officials were present.

**BRAC**  
75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212.  
Phone # 8824180 - 7, Ext. 2017.

**Invitation for Tender for Transportation of Dairy Foods**

Name of the project	BRAC Dairy & Food Project
Source of fund	BRAC Own Fund
Tender Package No.	BDP-Transport /02-09
Invitation for tender ref. & date	IFT/BRAC/ BPD-BDFP/09-06 Dt. 18-02-2009
Time of completion of Transportation	For 01 (One) Year.
Price of tender documents	Tk 5,00/= (Tk Five Hundred) only.
Amount of tender security	Tk. 50,000/= (Fifty thousand) only In the form of Pay Order.
Name & address of selling tender documents	4 <sup>th</sup> Floor, Annex Building, BRAC, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Time & date of selling tender documents	22-02-2009 to 10-03-2009 (Daily From 9.30 am to 2.30pm)
Name & address of receiving tender documents	Procurement Department, (Ground Floor) BRAC, 75 Mohakhali, Dhaka-1212
Date & Time of submission tender	11-03-2009 from 9.30am to 2.45pm
Date, time & place of opening tender	11-03-2009 at 3.00 pm at BRAC Staff Canteen (3 <sup>rd</sup> Floor) BRAC 75, Mohakhali, Dhaka

**Career Opportunity**

Steeltech Industries Ltd a Leading Stainless Steel Pipe manufacturing company has a vacancy for a candidate to fill up the position for:

**Chief Accountant.**

**Requirement**

- Should be a CA / MBA / ICMA (part)
- At least 10 to 15 years experience in financial administration with any reputed company.
- Will be responsible for financial administration, including financial planning and control, budgeting, producing financial reports.
- Should have adequate knowledge in Tax and VAT related issues in respect of payment and prepare reports depending on business needs.
- Working knowledge of modern accounting software required.
- Preferred age group is 30 to 40 Years.
- Salary: Negotiable.

Prospective candidates may apply with detailed CV with certificates of academic qualifications & experience and one recent passport size photograph to

**Head of HR Department**  
**Steeltech Industries Ltd.**  
219-220 Nawabpur Road, Gawsia Palza (3<sup>rd</sup> floor)  
Dhaka-1100 on before 28 February, 2009.

**UTAH CAREER OPPORTUNITY WITH UTAH**

Utah Group, one of the most reputed organizations in Bangladesh Garments Industry with Spinning, Knitting, Dyeing, Knit & Woven Garments, Washing & Labels making factories has the following vacancies in Dhaka, Gazipur & Chittagong.

Department	Position	Qualification	Experience	Responsibilities
Administration	General Manager	Masters, Ex Police DIG/Retd. Brigadier/Colonel from Army preferred	15 years in any manufacturing company (Min. 6 yrs in similar position). May be relaxed for very competent persons	Should be capable to supervise & execute all administrative & logistic matters of the group. Know different administrative and legal issues for garments factory and effectively liaise with Govt. offices, Police Department, Board of Investment, Immigration, Embassies etc.
	Deputy General Manager	Masters/Graduate, Retired Armed forces / Police Officers may apply	10-12 years in any manufacturing company (Min. 6 yrs in similar position). May be relaxed for very competent persons	Must have aptitude to organize and lead the administration team related to personnel, office support and maintenance. Also have thorough knowledge in labour laws to handle the factory management effectively.
	Assistant General Manager-Security	Graduate/ Masters, Retd. Army officers are encouraged to apply	Above 5 years in garments sector	Should be responsible to plan, organize overall security aspects of the company and manage the security related issues of whole group. Need excellent leadership & interpersonal skill.
Merchandising	General Manager Merchandising	Graduate /Masters	Above 15 yrs in Woven /Knit	To follow up Marketing, Merchandising & Production of the factories. Must be able to control production & quality as per Buyer's requirement. To supervise & coordinate with Merchandising team. Able to do costing of woven /knit.
	Merchandising Manager	Graduate /Masters	9-10 yrs in Woven /Knit	5 yrs in management of high volume of sales department. Must be able to supervise and coordinate teams of merchandiser. Must be able to do costing in meeting with Buyer.
	Senior Merchandiser	Graduate /Masters	7-8 yrs in Woven /Knit	Should be on Top in costing of woven Garments, sample handling, raw materials handling. Must be thorough knowledge on fabric and able to manage account /buyer independently.
Sales & Marketing	Senior Executive Sales & Marketing	MBA / Masters in any discipline (preferably Marketing)	2-3 yrs in Labels Marketing	Should be able to work under pressure. Well spirited and self motivated as well as target oriented. Able to communicate efficiently in English & Bengali. Able to ensure target acquisition and identify opportunities for additional customer base.
Printing	Manager Printing	Graduate preferred	10 yrs in well reputed printing factory	The incumbent will run M&R and automatic printing machines, table /flock transfer print unit. Must be able to work independently and have good knowledge on printing, design and have good interpersonal skills.
Store	Manager -Store	Graduate /Masters	8-10 yrs in Knit /Woven Garments/ Knitting - Dyeing Factory	Should have adequate knowledge in Store Department. Must be able to operate related software & work independently.
	Senior Store Officer	Graduate /Masters	6-7 yrs in Knit/ Woven Garments/ Knitting - Dyeing Factory	Should know well record keeping, store management, inventory control, store related reporting and coordination with relevant Departments.
Compliance	Assistant Manager- Compliance	Graduate /Masters	Above 5 yrs in Garments Sector	Must have the capability to handle Buyers Audit independently. Should have thorough knowledge in Buyer's COC and Bangladesh Labor Laws.

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