

Khaleda to recite poem

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Leader of the Opposition in Parliament and BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia will recite a patriotic poem for a video presentation on the party's founder late president Ziaur Rahman.

The video will be shown in the party's council session on December 8.

Sources said the party's cultural affairs sub-committee formed for the national council will make the video to be shown during the cultural programme of the council session.

The recitation by Khaleda will be recorded soon, they added.

The video will also be distributed among the councilors in the council.

Dhaka seeks Tokyo's aid for river dredging

BSS, Dhaka

State Minister for Environment and Forest Dr Hasan Mahmud has sought Japanese assistance in river dredging in Bangladesh to allow uninterrupted flow of water for stopping shrinkage and erosion of the river.

"Attempt if could be taken under the Japanese assistance can reduce meandering of the river letting enough land/area for cultivation and other uses," he said during a meeting with Minister for Environment of Japan Sakihito Ozawa at his office in Tokyo on Thursday.

The state minister sought the support of the Japanese government to supply the specially designed vehicle for the coastal areas in order to produce safe drinking water for the inhabitants of the coastal belt.

Mahmud thanked his counterpart for the invitation in Japan to attend the 3R programme where he informed the strong desire of the Bangladesh government to combat the global warming that has been seriously deteriorating the environment of Bangladesh.

Workshop for English teachers ends

METRO DESK

A two-day seminar-cum-workshop titled 'Fundamentals of Language Assessment' for English teachers, assessors and teacher trainers concluded yesterday, says a press release.

Bangladesh English Language Teachers Association (BELTA) organised the workshop at Brac Centre Inn in the city. The seminar was held under the ETS (Educational Testing Services) banner.

The facilitators led by Dr Christine Coombe included assessment specialists Dr Annie Brown, Paul Jaquith and Peter Davidson -- all based in the UAE. The participants included 50 English teachers from schools, colleges and universities.

The inaugural presentation by Sarah North, curriculum specialist, UK Open University and English in Action project, highlighted the need for a fit between curriculum objectives, teaching and testing.

Andrew Jones, ETE project Leader of the British Council, gave away certificates to participants.



Garment Sramik Trade Union Kendra stages a demonstration in the city yesterday demanding payment of wages as well as bonuses to garment workers.

PHOTO: STAR

TRIENNIAL COUNCIL OF HARIJAN OIKYA PARISHAD

Call to end discrimination against Harijans

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Speakers at the triennial council of Bangladesh Harijan Oikya Parishad (BHOP) yesterday called for removal of discrimination against Harijans or low-caste Hindus.

Speaking as the chief guest, Shipping Minister Shahjahan Khan pledged to work towards ensuring their rights.

"I know, you have a lot of problems such as low and discriminatory wages, lack of facilities and job insecurity. But I tell you this government is pro-people and believes in equal rights of all as enshrined in the constitution. We shall raise your issue in the next parliament session," he said.

BHOP organised the council in association with

Manusher Jonno Foundation and FAIR, a local NGO, on the Dhakeswari National Temple premises in the city.

There are around 15 lakh Harijans in Bangladesh and mostly they work as cleaners of city corporations and municipalities. But their wages are very low -- ranging from Tk 600 to Tk 1200, BHOP leaders said.

As people consider them 'untouchable', they undergo immense sufferings in public places. They live in the colonies dubbed as 'sweeper colony'. Even when someone gets highly educated and applies for jobs, they are not invited for tests because of their status, they noted.

Shahjahan Khan, also an adviser to Madaripur chapter of BHOP, said, "We all --

Hindus, Buddhists, Christians and Muslims -- fought together during the liberation war. We are all equal."

But society is cheating the Harijan community, he said, adding that the prime minister herself wants to eliminate all discrimination from society.

Addressing as special guest, Dr Mostafa Jalal Mohiuddin MP said there should not be any discrimination among people in society. This government is working to end all discrimination.

BHOP Secretary General Nirmal Chandra Das said Harijans keep the cities and towns clean, but they are forced to live in shabby and congested colonies.

"Nowadays, people from other communities are filling

up the posts of sweepers in the city corporations and municipalities in exchange for bribes," Das said.

He demanded that the wages of sweepers be increased considering the market price and uniformity be maintained in all the city corporations and municipalities in this regard.

Manusher Jonno Foundation Programme Manager Rezwanul Karim said the government should frame a law to remove all discrimination against them.

Akhtaruzzaman of FAIR, Kazal Debnath of Dhaka Mahanagar Puja Udjapon Committee, and Harijan district and divisional level leaders from across the country also spoke.

DU 'Ka' unit admission test held

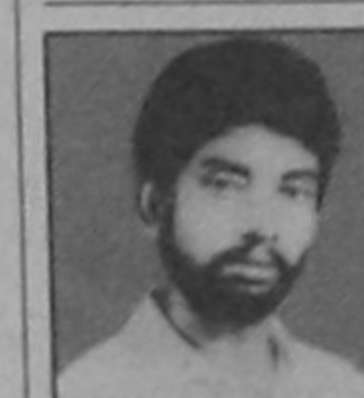
DU CORRESPONDENT

The admission test of 'Ka' Unit for first year honours courses under science faculty at Dhaka University (DU) was held peacefully on the campus yesterday.

This year, some 32,000 candidates vied for 1,343 seats in 18 departments under five faculties (Science, Biological Sciences, Pharmacy, Earth and Environmental Sciences and Engineering & Technology) and three institutes.

Death anniversary

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 38th death anniversary of Rezaul Karim Manik Bir Protik, chief of Dhaka (west) Mukti Bahini during the Liberation War and a former student of History department at Dhaka University (DU), says a press release.

On the occasion, a doa and milad mahfil will be held at his father's residence (189, Hasnabad Colony, Baro Maghbazar) in the city.

Father Charles J Young

METRO DESK



Today is the 21st death anniversary of Father Charles J Young, founder of Co-operative Credit Union Movement in Bangladesh, says a press release.

He died on this day in 1988 in a road accident in front of National Press Club in the city.

On the occasion, Co-operative Credit Union League of Bangladesh Ltd (CCULB) chalked out different programmes to pay homage to him.

Dr Mahfuza Banu Shelly

METRO DESK



Today is the 11th death anniversary of Dr Mahfuza Banu Shelly, former assistant

director of Health Directorate, says a press release.

On the occasion, a milad mahfil and Qurankhwani will be held at "Mahfuza", House # 38, Road # 9, Sector # 9, Uttara, after Maghrib prayers.

Anwara Begum

METRO DESK



The 17th death anniversary of Anwara Begum, former managing director and former president of Bangladesh Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association, was observed yesterday, says a press release.

On the occasion, milad mahfil and Qurankhwani was held at the residence of her eldest daughter Sultana Daula, a former member of parliament, and at Anwara Memorial Complex in Joydevpur, Gazipur.

'Reinforce movement to try war criminals'

DU CORRESPONDENT

Leaders of Sector Commanders' Forum (SCF) yesterday called on the Dhaka University (DU) students to take the lead to strengthen the movement for bringing the war criminals to trial.

Marking DU as an icon of the country's history, SCF leaders at a view exchange meeting on the campus said this premium educational institution has some glorious histories and its students had always taken position against any social injustice.

"No other institution has that much liveliness as DU holds. So, its students have to come forward to strengthening the movement," SCF Secretary General Lt Gen (ret'd) Harun-or-Rashid said at the function.

"With the assistance of war criminals, 30 lakh people were martyred, thousands of villages were put on fire and thousands of women were insulted during the liberation war in 1971."

This crime was against the nation," SCF President Air Vice-Marshal (ret'd) AK Khandakar said.

Leaders and members of different student organisations spoke at the function.

Replying to queries, the SCF secretary general said fanaticism and criminal activities rise in the country through reestablishing war criminals politically.

"We started the movement on this national interest in 2006 and no political motivation was behind it. We want to disseminate the message of the liberation war among young community," he said, adding: "We will continue the movement until the demand is fulfilled."

DU students assured the SCF leaders of providing all-out support in favour of the movement and forcing the government to implement its pledge.

DU Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique said every member of DU family is behind SCF's movement and will remain.

Two girls found dead

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Police recovered the bodies of two girls floating in a water body at Kaowla in Dakkhinkhan area of the city yesterday morning.

The two girls -- Shilpi, 5, and Mariam, 7, -- had been missing since Thursday noon.

Local people had seen them picking lilies in the water body near the Kaowla Namapara playground on Thursday noon, Dakkhinkhan Police Station Officer-in-Charge Jamiruddin Ahmed said.

Shilpi's father Abdur Rahman, a labourer, said his daughter along with her friend Mariam went missing after they went to pick lilies and that he also filed a general diary with the police.

Locals spotted the floating bodies yesterday morning.

Locals lay siege to police camp in Jhenidah

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Jhenidah

Hundreds of local people laid siege to the Tamaltala police camp at Shoilokupa upazila in the district after the camp-in-charge had beaten a professional motorbike driver.

Sources said Assistant Sub-Inspector (ASI) Abdus Salam asked Showkat Hossain to hand over the motorbike, which the latter refused.

Being enraged, the cop started beating up Showkat mercilessly.

After the ASI had left, Showkat was rushed to Shoilokupa Health Complex. As his condition deteriorated, he was later shifted to a hospital in Jhenidah Sadar.

Hundreds of agitating people laid siege to the police outpost, demanding exemplary punishment to the ASI.

On information, Upazila Parishad Chairman Nayeab Ali Joarder and Officer-in-Charge of Shoilokupa Police Station Anwar Hossain rushed to the spot and brought the situation under control.

When asked, Additional Superintendent of Police Jobaidur Rahman said the ASI had been closed to Jhenidah Police Lines.

FOUR YEARS OF KILLING OF JHALAKATI JUDGES
Members of suicide squad yet to be traced

OUR CORRESPONDENT, Barisal

Although four years have passed since the two judges were killed in a suicide bomb blast in Jhalakati, five of the six-member suicide squad could not be traced as yet.

Shaheed Sohel Ahmed, senior assistant judge of Nalchhiti upazila, and Jagannath Pandey, senior assistant judge of Sadar upazila, were killed in the blast

when the microbus carrying them to the court was blown up on this day in 2005.

Of the six suicide bombers, only one member, Iftekhar Hasan Al Mamun, was critically injured in the blast.

Soon after the blast, in his confessional statement, Mamun named Arif, Mehedi, Muazza, Talha and Mahmud as his accomplices.

Md Muzibur Rahman Nantu, former special public prosecutor of Barisal

Divisional Speedy Trial Tribunal, told The Daily Star yesterday that the investigation officer (IO) of the case couldn't identify the accomplices of Mamun. So, the IO could not include them in the charge sheet.

However, Mamun was executed on March 29, 2007 along with top Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) leaders, including Shaikh Abdur Rahman and Shaikh Rahman alias Bangla Bhai.



PHOTO: BELTA

Participants with facilitators at the two-day English language testing and assessment seminar and workshop organised by BELTA and ETS at Brac Centre Inn in the city. The workshop ended yesterday.

সরকার কর্তৃক স্বীকৃতিপ্রাপ্ত, বিএসবি ফাউন্ডেশন পরিচালিত এবং প্রথম ISO সনদপ্রাপ্ত
২০০৭, ২০০৮ ও ২০০৯ সালে ১০০% পাসসহ ঢাকা বোর্ডের মেধা তালিকায় ২০০৯ সালে ৩য় স্থান এবং ২০০৮ সালে ২য় স্থান অর্জনকারী

ক্যামব্রিয়ান কলেজের স্কুল শাখায়

ক্যামব্রিয়ান প্রি-স্কুল
৪ থেকে ৫ বছর বয়সী শিশুদের জন্য

যে সকল শিশুর বয়স ৩৯
ডিসেম্বর ০৯ পর্যন্ত কমপক্ষে ৩ বছর
পূর্ণ হবে তারাই প্রি স্কুলে
ভর্তি হওয়া বসে বিবেচিত হবে।
জেট ৫০ শিশুর ভর্তি প্রতি দল।

ক্যামব্রিয়ান প্রাইমারী স্কুল
(১ম থেকে ৫ম শ্রেণী পর্যন্ত)

শ্রেণী কক্ষন শিক্ষার্থীর সংখ্যা
১ম শ্রেণী ৪ টি ৮০ জন
২য় শ্রেণী ৩ টি ৬০ জন
৩য় শ্রেণী ৩ টি ৬০ জন
৪র্থ শ্রেণী ৩ টি ৬০ জন
৫ম শ্রেণী ৩ টি ৬০ জন
প্রতি কক্ষনে ২০ জন করে শিক্ষার্থী বসে।

ক্যামব্রিয়ান স্কুল
(৬ষ্ঠ থেকে ৯ম শ্রেণী)

শ্রেণী কক্ষন শিক্ষার্থীর সংখ্যা
৬ষ্ঠ শ্রেণী ৬ টি ১৮০ জন
৭ম শ্রেণী ৩ টি ৯০ জন
৮ম শ্রেণী ৩ টি ৯০ জন
৯ম শ্রেণী ৬ টি ২৪০ জন
প্রতি কক্ষনে (১৫ কক্ষন করে) ৬ষ্ঠ থেকে ৮ম শ্রেণী পর্যন্ত ৩০ জন করে ৯ম শ্রেণীতে পর্যন্ত ৪০ জন করে শিক্ষার্থী বসে।

১৫ নভেম্বর পর্যন্ত
নির্ধারিত আসনে
ভর্তি চলবে

ক্যামব্রিয়ানের কোন শিক্ষার্থীকে প্রাইভেট পড়তে হয় না
ক্রিমিনাসহ সকল শিক্ষা উপকরণ ফ্রি দেওয়া হয়

নবীন বরণ ১৫ ডিসেম্বর নন্দন পার্কে
ক্লাস শুরু ২ জানুয়ারি

আগামী ১৫ ডিসেম্বর নন্দন পার্কে বিএসবি ফাউন্ডেশন পরিচালিত ক্যামব্রিয়ান স্কুল এন্ড কলেজ, মেট্রোপলিটন কলেজ ও কিংস কলেজের সকল শিক্ষার্থী, শিক্ষক এবং ঢাকা ও তার পার্শ্ববর্তী এলাকায় আমন্ত্রিত ৬ষ্ঠ থেকে ৯ম শ্রেণী পর্যন্ত ১ম স্থান অর্জনকারী মেধাবী শিক্ষার্থীদের নিয়ে বার্ষিক বনভোজন, বোদাপূর্ণা ও কালচারণ অনুষ্ঠানের আয়োজন করা হয়েছে। উক্ত অনুষ্ঠানে ক্যামব্রিয়ান স্কুলের শিক্ষার্থী মেরেডিয়ান চ্যানেল আই ফুড গানারাজ জুয়েল, দিলয়, তোহানাহ বহু মেধাবী শিল্পীরা অংশ নিয়ে।

অনুষ্ঠানে বিশ্বের সকল সম্মানিত মহিলা সরকার প্রধানদের (বর্তমান এবং প্রাক্তন রাষ্ট্রপতি / প্রধানমন্ত্রী) ছবি প্রদর্শন করা হবে।

ভর্তি ও তথ্য কেন্দ্র: প্লট-২, গুলশান সার্কেল-২, ঢাকা। ফোন: ৯৮৮১৩৫৫, ০১৭২০৫৫৭১৫০/৭০/৮০

DHAKA
TODAY

Seminar

The Institution of Engineers, Bangladesh (IEB) organises a seminar on gas reserve and its optimum utilisation. Venue: IEB seminar room. Time: 11:00am.

View exchange meet

National Forum of Organisation Working with the Disabled organises a view exchange meeting on human rights of people with disabilities. Venue: BISS auditorium. Time: 11:00am.

Conference

ActionAid organises a two-day national conference on community based climate adaptation. Venue: LGED Bhaban. Time: 9:00am.

WPB Congress

The inaugural ceremony of the 8th Congress of Workers Party of Bangladesh will be held. Venue: Mohanagar Nattya Mancha. Time: 2:30pm.

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