

MARTYRED INTELLECTUALS' DAY OBSERVED

Call to start trial of war criminals without delay

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Socio-political and cultural organisations yesterday observed the Martyred Intellectuals' Day in a befitting manner yesterday with a call to start the trial of war criminals soon.

The Sector Commanders' Forum (SCF) formed a human chain in front of the Rayer Bazar Martyred Intellectuals Memorial and observed one-minute silence in memory of the martyred intellectuals.

The forum leaders vowed to put pressure on the government to start the trial without delay.

Sector commander Maj Gan (ret'd) KM Shafiqullah said, "We will launch a campaign

again to make the people aware about the trial and the people will force the government to begin the trial."

Sammilito Sangskritik Jote, a platform for cultural organisations, held discussions at five separate places in the city to mark the day.

They also presented cultural programmes, including drama, musical performance and screening of documentary films.

Dhaka University teachers, students and employees took part in a silent procession from the base of Aparajeyo Bangla at around 8:00am to pay tributes to the martyred teachers, students and employees of the university.

Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique led the procession and placed wreaths at different memorials on the campus.

Later, they placed wreaths at the Martyred Intellectuals Memorial at Mirpur.

DU authorities also organised a discussion at the Teacher-Student Centre auditorium at noon.

Prof Arefin demanded that the war criminals be brought to justice immediately.

Different political and social organisations, including Communist Party of Bangladesh, Bangladesh Juba Union, Bangladesh Muktiyoddha Sangsad, Amra Muktiyoddhar Santan,

Bangladesh Chhatra League, Left Democratic Front, National Awami Party (Bhashani), Bangladesh Juba Moitri, Bangabandhu Sangskritik Jote, Samajtantrik Mohila Forum, Samajtantrik Chhatra Front, Jatiya Party (JP), Bangladesh Mohila AL, Shadinata Chikitsak Parishad, Bangladesh garment Workers Unity Council, Jahangirnagar University, Chhatra Oikya Forum, Kendrio Khelaghar Ashor, National Front of Teachers and Students, Crime Reporters Association of Bangladesh and Biswa Bangalee Sammelan, placed wreaths at the Martyred Intellectuals Memorial at Mirpur.



Sector Commanders' Forum forms a human chain near the Rayer Bazar Martyred Intellectuals' Memorial in the city yesterday demanding immediate trial of the war criminals.

16 killed in road accidents

METRO DESK

Sixteen people were killed in separate road accidents in Gaibandha, Narsingdi, Chandpur and Gazipur yesterday.

BSS in Gaibandha reports: Eight people were killed and 32 others injured in separate road accidents in Gaibandha Sadar upazila yesterday.

Hospital and police sources said the first accident took place this morning when a Belka-bound minibus collided head-on with a tempo at Kabilor Bazar on Gaibandha-Belka road of sadar upazila, leaving five passengers of the tempo dead on the spot and injuring six others.

In another accident at Panch Juma of the upazila three persons were killed and 26 others injured when a

Chittagong-bound coach fell into a ditch when giving side to a truck on Gaibandha-Lakhipur road in the district.

Identities of three dead were known. They are -- Moynul, 40, Mahub, 60 and Atwar, 45.

The injured were admitted to Gaibandha Sadar Hospital, Rangpur Medical College Hospital and private clinics, sources said.

UNB in Narsingdi reports: Four people were killed and six others injured in a road accident at Itakhola on Dhaka-Sylhet highway under Shibpur upazila in Narsingdi yesterday.

Police said the accident occurred at about 9:30am when a Raypura-bound human hauler hit a truck, parked on roadside, killing Mistu Mia, 13, and Billal

Hossain, 35, on the spot and injuring eight others.

Of the injured, Abul Hamid, 45, and Suruj Mia, 40, died on the way to a local hospital while the others were rushed to Sadar hospital.

Later, they were sent to Dhaka Medical College Hospital as their condition deteriorated.

Police seized the human hauler, but its driver managed to escape.

The bodies were sent the morgue for autopsy.

A correspondent in Chandpur adds: One person was killed in a road accident in front of Rony Brick field on Hajiganj-Ramganj road in Chandpur yesterday.

The victim was identified as Saleh Ahmed, 50, head master of Joyshara Registered

Primary School and president of Hajiganj Non-government Primary Teachers Association.

Police said the accident occurred when a CNG-run autorickshaws collided head-on with a tempo due to dense fog at 8:00am, leaving him dead on the spot.

UNB adds: Three people were killed in separate accidents in Gazipur yesterday.

The deceased were identified as Nurul Islam, 70, Bakul, 28, and Habib.

Police and locals said Nurul was run over by a Dhaka-bound truck at Bhabanipur Bazar at about 9:00am.

In another accident, Bakul and Habib were crushed under the wheels of an oil tanker at Telipara at about 6:00am.

Death anniversary of Fazle Rabbee today

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 38th death anniversary of Dr. Md. Fazle Rabbee, a martyr of the 1971 war.

Pakistani occupation forces and their collaborators Al-Badr picked him up from his house at Shiddheswari on this day in 1971 and killed him brutally at Rayer Bazar at night. His body was recovered from Rayer Bazar killing ground on December 18.

Dr. Rabbee was a professor of Medicine and Cardiology at Dhaka Medical College.

To mark the day, wreaths will be placed at his grave and food will be distributed among the destitute.

3 martyred brothers

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Today is the 38th death anniversary of three martyred brothers -- Badiuzzaman (Badi member), Shahjahan and Karimuzzaman (Mulluk Jahan) of Gopibagh in Dhaka, says a press release.

They were Awami League leaders and also sports organisers.

Pakistani occupation forces and their local collaborators picked them up in the early hours of December 16 in 1971 and killed them brutally. Later, their bodies were recovered from the Rayer Bazar killing ground.

Family members of the martyrs will place wreaths at their graves and hold a Qurankhwan.

A milad mahfil will be held at 98 Ramkrishna Mission Road, 6th Lane, Gopibagh in the city after Zohr prayers today.

Prof SM Fazlul Haque

STAFF CORRESPONDENT



Today is the 14th death anniversary of Prof. SM Fazlul Haque, former head of the

Department of Islamic History and Culture, Government Brojomohon College in Barisal, says a press release.

On this occasion, Quran khwan and doa mahfil will be held at his residence in College Road area after Asr prayers today.

Obituary

DU CORRESPONDENT



Alhaj SM Hafez Ahmed, father of Bangladesh Kallyan Party Chairman Maj Gen (Retd) Syed Muhammad Ibrahim Bir Pratik, passed away at a Chittagong city hospital yesterday at the age of 85, says a press release.

He had been suffering from cancer for long. He left behind his wife, five sons, four daughters and a host of admirers to mourn his death.

His first namaz-e-yanaza will be held at Baitush Sharaf Masjid in Chittagong city at 9:00am today.

He will be buried at his family graveyard at North Burishchar village under Hathazari Upazila in Chittagong after his second namaz-e-yanaza after Zohr prayers today.

Bangladesh Kallyan Party Secretary General Mohammad Abdul Malek Chowdhury expressed deep shock at the death of SM Hafez. He also conveyed sympathy to members of the bereaved family and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Staff correspondent from Chittagong adds: former foreign minister Morshed Khan and former whip Syed Wahidul Alam also condoled the death, conveyed sympathy to members of the bereaved family and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Sahera Banu

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Sahera Banu, mother of Momtaz Uddin, a reporter of the Janapad, and Halim Mohammad, a reporter of the daily Amader Shomoy, passed away due to brain haemorrhage at Dhaka Medical College Hospital on Sunday at the age of 78, says a press release.

She was laid to rest at her family graveyard at Govindapur village in Comilla. Akhtaruzzaman Lablu and Abu Saleh Akon, president and general secretary of Crime Reporters' Association of Bangladesh (CRAB) expressed deep shock at her death.

Kazi Md Nuruzzaman

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Kazi Md Nuruzzaman, a noted businessman and father of Md. Mafizur Rahman,

secretary general of Bangladesh Association of International Recruiting Agencies (BAIRA), passed away due to old age complications at his residence at Peerkot village under Senbagh upazila in Noakhali on Sunday at the age of 95, says a press release.

He left behind his two sons to mourn his death. BAIRA President Golam Mostafa expressed deep shock at his death and prayed for salvation of the departed soul.

Ashwini Kumar Roy, freedom fighter, joint secretary general of Jatiya Party (JP) and president of Dinajpur district JP passed away at his own residence yesterday at the age of 67, says a press release.

He left behind his wife, four daughters and a host of relatives to mourn his death. In a statement, JP Chairman Anwar Hossain Manju and Secretary General Sheikh Shahidul Islam expressed deep shock at this death.

Reshuffle in admin

DCC CEO made acting secretary

UNB, Dhaka

A good number of additional and joint secretaries have been transferred or made officer on special duty (OSD) in a latest reshuffle in the administration.

Additional secretary (OSD) M Abdul Kalam Azad has been made chief executive officer of Dhaka City Corporation while M Ajmal Hossain, additional secretary of the Prime Minister's Office, member of the Land Reforms Commission, an official announcement said yesterday.

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) M Nurul Haq (additional secretary) has been transferred and made acting secretary of Labour and Employment Ministry while joint secretary (OSD) M Samsuzzaman Bhuiyan made secretary of the

National Human Rights Commission.

M Momen Uddin Ahmed, additional director general of the Water Development Board (joint secretary), has been made officer on special duty while Ananta Kumar Chowdhury, member of the Land Reforms Commission (joint secretary), attached to Establishment Ministry for next posting.

M Abu Talib Miah, director general of the Anti-Corruption Commission (joint secretary), has been appointed director of Labour Department while SM Shawkat Ali, joint secretary of Expatriate Welfare and Overseas Employment Ministry, director of Jute Department.

Joint secretary (OSD) Sukumar Chandra Saha has been made additional DG of the Water Development Board.

Six get Dhaka DC's Victory Day Award

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Office of the Deputy Commissioner, Dhaka yesterday announced the names of the winners of Dhaka Deputy Commissioner's Victory Day Award 2009.

The winners are Dr Sanjida Khatun in culture, Dhaka University Vice Chancellor Prof AAMS Arefin Siddique in education, Abed Khan in journalism, Dr Muhammad Jafar Iqbal in science and information technology, Mohammad Abdul Mobarak in public administration and Sakib Al Hasan in sports.

The prize carries Tk 25,000, a medal and a certificate.

President Zillur Rahman is

Depression over Bay

UNB, Dhaka

The deep depression over southwest Bay and adjoining area moved slightly westwards over the same area yesterday.

It was centered about 1795km south-southwest of Chittagong port, 1725km south-southwest of Cox's Bazar port and 1670km south-southwest of Mongla port at 10:00am yesterday said a Met office special bulletin.

Maximum sustained wind within 48km of the depression centre is about 50kph rising to 60kph in gusts/squalls. Sea will remain moderate near the depression.

Maritime ports of Chittagong, Cox's Bazar and Mongla have been advised to keep hoisted distant cautionary signal No. one @ one.

KOICA workshop begins

METRO DESK

A three-day performance-sharing workshop began at Westin Hotel in the city on Sunday, says a press release.

Korea International Cooperation Agency (KOICA) and Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Academy (BCSAA) jointly organised the programme under the project titled 'Developing the training capacity of Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Academy'.

HT Imam, adviser to the prime minister, attended the opening ceremony as the chief guest while Suk Bum Park, Ambassador, Embassy of the Republic of Korea, and Iqbal Mahmood, secretary, Ministry of Establishment, were the special guests. Golam Mostakim, director general of Bangladesh Civil Service Administration Academy presided over the programme.

AHSANULLAH MURDER

SC stays HC bail to convict

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The Supreme Court yesterday stayed a High Court order that granted bail the same day to Aiyub Ali, who was earlier convicted and sentenced to life term imprisonment in the Awami League leader Ahsanullah Mastermurder case.

Chamber Judge of the Appellate Division Justice Md Abdul Aziz passed the stay order upon a government petition moved by Additional Attorney General Md Khalilur Rahman.

An HC bench of Justice AFM Abdur Rahman and Justice Md Emadul Haque Azad granted bail for six months to Aiyub Ali earlier yesterday upon a pending appeal filed by him against his conviction.

Post-independence govt failed to identify killers of intellectuals

Says Jamaat

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Jamaat-e-Islami yesterday said the government that came to power after independence failed to identify the killers of intellectuals martyred on December 14 in 1971.

Its Secretary General Ali Ahsan Mohammad Mojaheed also indirectly claimed that Jamaat leaders were not involved in the killing of the intellectuals, as, what he said, "Jamaat leaders were allowed to contest the elections." Mojaheed was speaking at a discussion and doa mahfil marking the Martyred Intellectuals' Day at Al-Falah Auditorium in the city.

The killers of intellectuals could have been identified if proper investigation had been conducted at that time, said leaders of the Jamaat, who opposed the country's liberation war.

"But the then government had failed to identify and bring the killers to book," Mojaheed said.

Jamaat lawmaker AHM Hamidur Rahman Azad and assistant secretary general ATM Azharul Islam also spoke at the meeting presided over by Rafiqul Islam Khan.

45 Bangladeshi students get Australian scholarships

METRO DESK

The Australian government announced 45 new scholarships for Bangladeshi students to pursue postgraduate studies in Australia at a ceremony in the city yesterday, says a press release.

"Australia is committed to continuing our support for human resources development in Bangladesh to promote social and economic development and to further strengthen people-to-people ties between our countries," Australian High Commissioner Dr Justin Lee said the ceremony.

The scholarships are offered annually and managed by the Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID).

Drawing competition for children

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Bangladesh National Museum will organise a drawing competition for children on Friday marking the Victor Day, says a press release.

Interested participants are requested to register their name with a testimonial from his/her educational institution by Thursday at the museum.

Children from Nursery to Class X will be put in four groups with separate themes in the competition.

Body to enforce govt-fixed admission fees at schools

BSS, Dhaka

The education ministry yesterday formed a seven-member committee to enforce the admission fees as fixed by the ministry at secondary-level schools across the country.

Joint Secretary (secondary) will head the committee as its convener, said a press release here.

Earlier, the ministry fixed Tk 5,000 as maximum fees, including all charges, for admission at secondary-level schools.

Other members of the

committee are: Director (secondary) of secondary and higher secondary education directorate, school inspector of Dhaka Education Board, Dhaka district additional deputy commissioner, deputy director (Dhaka region) of secondary and higher secondary education directorate, headmaster of a private educational institution and senior assistant secretary (secondary-2) of the ministry of education.

The committee has been empowered to bestow charge of supervision on district-level committees in the country.



Dry weather likely

UNB, Dhaka

Weather may remain mainly dry with partly cloudy sky over the country in next 12 hours until 6:00pm today.

Moderate to thick fog may occur over the river basins and light to moderate fog may occur elsewhere over the country, Met Office said.

Night temperature may fall slightly over the country during the period.

The sun sets in the capital at 06:14pm today and rises at 07:34am tomorrow.

Country's highest temperature 29.0 degrees Celsius was recorded yesterday at Cox's Bazar and lowest 11.0 degrees Celsius at Srimongal.

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

City/Town	Temperature in Celsius		Humidity in percentage	
	Max	Min	Morning	Evening
Dhaka	26.1	15.0	74	76
Chittagong	25.8	16.0	98	62
Rajshahi	26.3	12.5	99	76
Khulna	27.5	14.5	99	79
Barisal	28.0	13.2	97	90
Sylhet	27.5	15.5	81	73
Cox's Bazar	29.0	17.0	82	68

DHAKA TODAY

Publication ceremony

The publication ceremony of the Bangalee Scientists issue of the Telescope will be held. Venue: Bangladesh Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (BCSIR). Time: 4:30pm.

Discussion

A discussion on 'Pratyasha 2021: The thoughts of mass people' will be held. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 10:30am.

Roundtable

Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), Economic Research Group (ERG) and International Growth Centre (IGC) will jointly organise a roundtable on 'Operationalising pro-poor growth: Research-policy links'. Venue: Hotel Sheraton. Time: 10:00am.

Annual sports

The annual sports programme and award giving ceremony of Uttarban School for Underprivileged Children will be held. Venue: Playground adjacent to the school. Time: 2:30pm.

Discussion

Bangabandhu Parishad will hold a discussion to mark the Victory Day. Venue: National Press Club. Time: 4:30pm.