



FIRST STAGE OF ADMISSION BATTLE: Several guardians make frantic attempts to reach their kids to the seat for test of admission into the nursery class of St Mary's School in Chittagong yesterday.

PHOTO: ZOBAER HOSSAIN SIKDER

3 JMB men jailed in Ctg

Chandpur Shibir leader remanded for alleged link with the outfit

STAR NATIONAL DESK

Three outlawed Jama'atul Mujahideen Bangladesh (JMB) men, including its Chittagong divisional commander Javed Iqbal, were yesterday sentenced to jail in Chittagong in a case under Explosive Substances Act, while a Shibir leader was taken on remand in Chandpur the same day for his alleged link with the militant outfit.

Chittagong Divisional Judge Md Shafiqul Karim awarded 20 years imprisonment to Javed Iqbal alias Mohammad and 15 years to Naimuzzaman alias

Sohag and Rafiqul Islam each, according to our staff correspondent.

Rapid Action Battalion (Rab) arrested Javed Iqbal and Naimuzzaman at a house at South Kattoli under Pahartali Police Station on December 14, 2005 and seized explosives from their possession. Rab official Abdul Hannan filed a case with Pahartali Police Station the same day under Explosive Substances Act.

Later, police pressed charges in the case against JMB chief Abdur Rahman, Siddiqui Islam alias Bangla Bhai, JMB operation wing chief Ataur Rahman Sunny, Zahidul Islam alias Boma Mizan,

Javed Iqbal alias Mohammad, Naimuzzaman alias Zafar alias Sohag and Rafiqul Islam. Of them, Abdur Rahman, Bangla Bhai and Sunny were executed in March 2007 in Jhalakathi judges' murder case.

After examining 25 witnesses, tribunal judge yesterday pronounced the verdict. The court acquitted Boma Mizan as charge brought against him could not be proved.

In Chandpur, Haimchar upazila Islami Chhatra Shibir President Iqbal Hossain, arrested on Monday for his alleged involvement with JMB activities, was taken on a three-day remand yesterday, reports a

correspondent.

Police produced Iqbal in Chandpur Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court with a prayer for seven days' remand. Judge Md Mozammel Haque granted a three-day remand for the Shibir leader.

Police said Iqbal was carrying out JMB activities staying in an orphanage adjacent to Faruq-e-Azam Dakhil Madrasa at Algi Bazar in Haimchar upazila and recruiting members for the outfit at the madrasa.

Abdus Samad, officer-in-charge of Haimchar Police Station, said on receiving the information, they raided the madrasa, led by Upazila Nirbahi Officer (UNO) Shawgatul Alam, on Sunday but could not arrest Iqbal as he fled the scene, sensing the presence of the law enforcers.

When asked, Madrasa Superintendent Md Wali Ullah, also the secretary of Jamaat-e-Islami upazila unit, claimed Iqbal is a Dakhil examinee from the madrasa.

On checking the students' attendance register, police found the superintendent's claim to be false and asked the madrasa superintendent to hand over Iqbal to the police within 24 hours.

Later, the law enforcers searched Iqbal's room at Siddiqui Akbar Orphanage near the madrasa and seized some important papers from there.

As superintendent Wali Ullah handed Iqbal over to Haimchar Police Station on Monday, police arrested him under Section 54.

Police said Iqbal Hossain, son of Abul Hossain of Nijmehar village under Shahrasti upazila, is a first year student of Islamic studies at Chandpur Government College. He told police that he was carrying out Shibir activities in the area at the directive of the party high command.

Madrasa superintendent Wali Ullah claimed that Iqbal was carrying out organisational activities in the area as president of upazila Chhatra Shibir and was not involved with JMB activities.

12 robbers arrested in Comilla

UNB, Comilla

Police arrested 12 robbers and seized a minibus from Mankasair in Kosba upazila in Brahmanbaria district early yesterday.

Police said, a gang of inter-district robbers came to Laksam Bazar by a minibus to loot a jewelry shop Monday night.

As they failed to commit robbery, they took passengers on their minibus from Comilla cantonment area and left for Dhaka.

On the way, the gang looted money and mobile-phone sets from the passengers and dropped three of them at Kalikapur in Debidwar upazila after beating them up.

Highway police detained the robbers and seized their minibus at about 3:00am after Debidwar police informed them about the matter. The law enforcers also seized the booties from the gang.

Correction

A photo caption was published on this page on December 14 inadvertently mentioned Rangamati Environment Conservation and Development Organisation as co-organiser of a human chain in Rangamati. In fact, the programme was organised by Global Village.

'I have come to motherland to pay tribute to intellectuals'

A RU CORRESPONDENT

Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay, eminent Bengali author of the Subcontinent on Monday said any important event in 'epar Bangla' (Bangladesh) always has a big effect on in 'epar Bangla' (West Bengal) and so, Martyred Intellectuals Day is also a mourning day for the people of West Bengal.

He was speaking as chief guest at a discussion on Martyred Intellectuals Day at

Shaheed Shamsuzzoha Hall of Rajshahi University (RU).

Shirshendu said, the tyrants and autocrats always fear pro-people, freedom-loving intellectuals. For this reason, the intellectuals were killed in Bangladesh by Pakistani occupation forces during the liberation war in 1971. The day is equally mournful for the people of West Bengal, he added.

"I am not on a pleasure trip here. I have come to my motherland only to pay

tribute to the martyred intellectuals. I always do so when anything important happens here."

Praising the hospitality and warmth of Bangladesh he said, "People here always showered me with love and affection."

Shirshendu urged the new generation to study the historical events like the Martyred Intellectuals Day and take lesson from the torch-bearers.

RU vice-chancellor Prof Abdus Sobhan presided the discussion while pro-vice-chancellor Prof Muhammad Nurullah, former pro-vice-chancellor Prof Wazed Ali and Shaheed Shamsuzzoha Hall provost Dr Martuza Khaled addressed it.

After the discussion, Shirshendu inaugurated a three-day film festival on the Liberation War at Shaheed Shamsuzzoha Hall gallery which will conclude today.

Besides teachers and officials, several hundred students of the university joined the lively programme.

Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay was born at Bainkhara village in Bikanpur, Bangladesh. After the 'partition' of India in 1947, he along with his family moved to Kolkata in West Bengal.

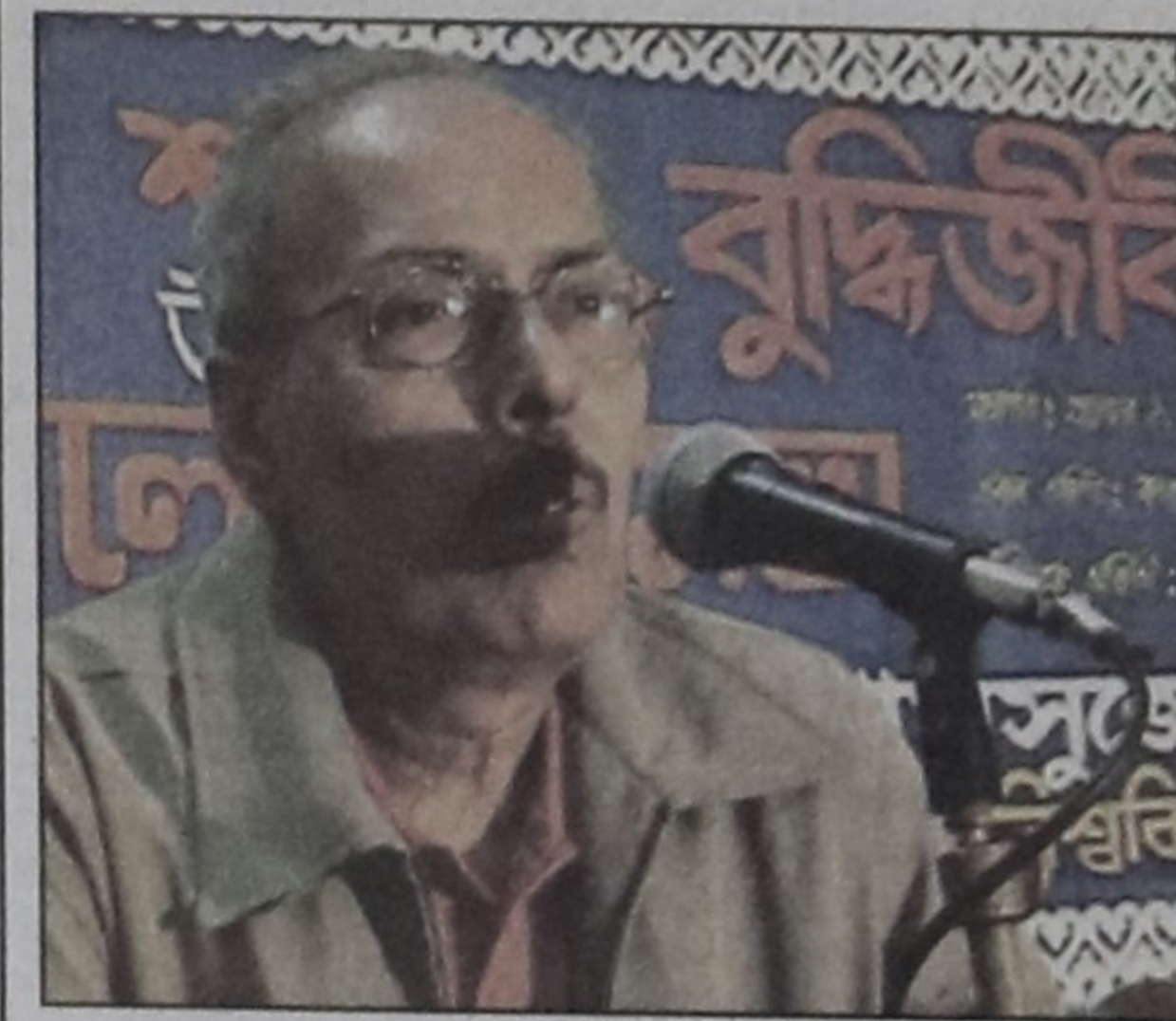
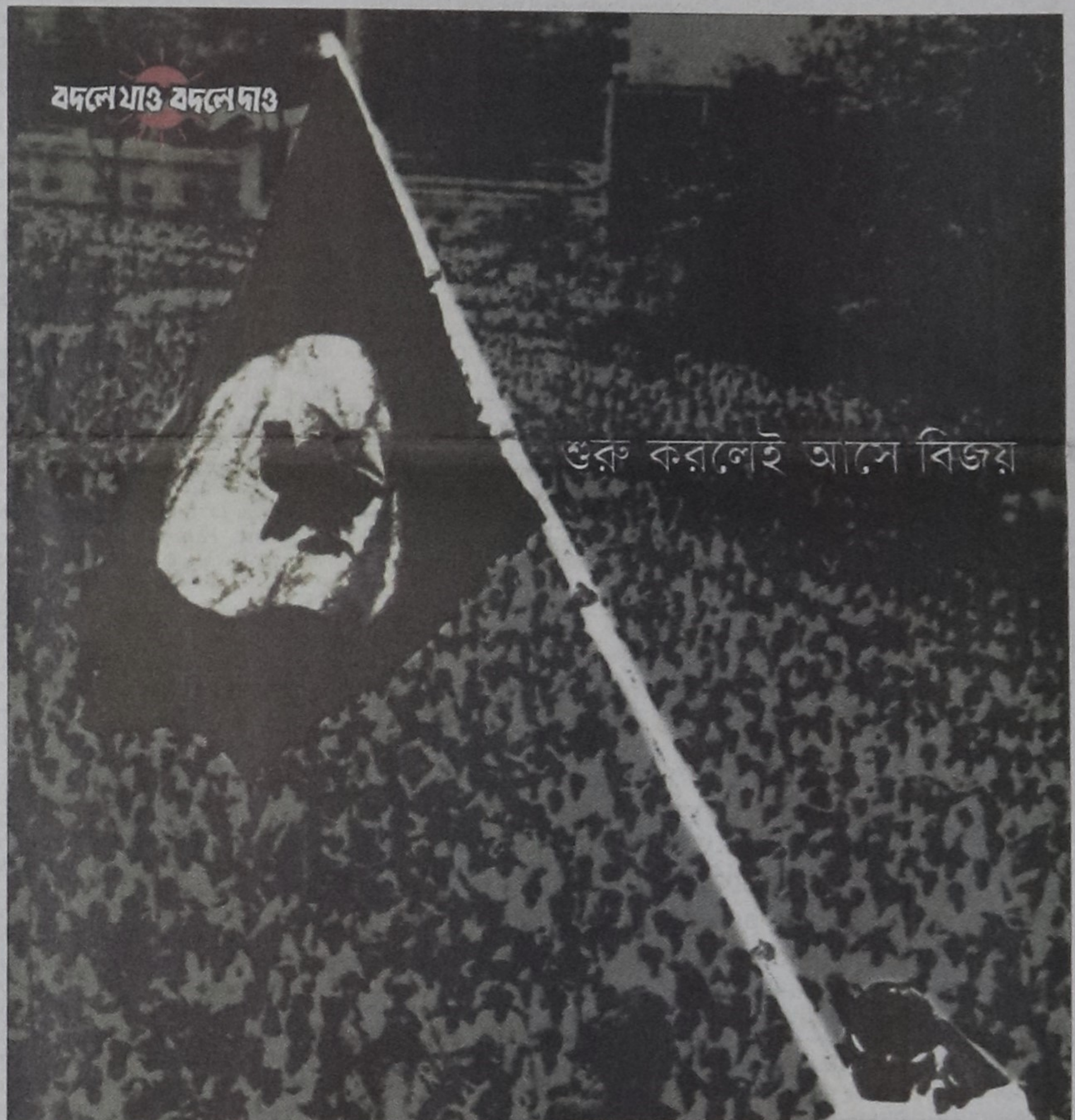


PHOTO: STAR

Shirshendu Mukhopadhyay addresses a discussion on Martyred Intellectuals Day at RU Shahid Shamsuzzoha Hall.



২ মার্চ ১৯৭১, ঢাকা বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ে এক বিশাল সমাবেশে ছাত্রনেতারা এই পতাকা আনুষ্ঠানিকভাবে স্বাধীন বাংলাদেশ পতাকা হিসেবে তুলে ধরেন।

আপনিও শুরু করুন, বদল আসে, আসবেই...বিপুল গৌরবে।

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