

# FFs for immediate start of trial of war criminals

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Freedom fighters, the best sons of the soil, yesterday called on the government to start the trial of war criminals immediately, saying that the rule of law would not be established until the war criminals are brought to justice.

They also urged the people to boycott the war criminals socially.

The war heroes made the call at a 'Reunion of freedom fighters living in Dhaka and the Sector-2' organised by the Dhaka City Corporation at Osmani Uddan in the morning.

Sectors Commanders of the Liberation War and hundreds of freedom fighters along with their family members attended the programme.

Festivity was in the air as freedom

fighters wearing colourful bands and caps embraced each other and recalled the memories of the Liberation War of 1971.

A sculpture featuring war-related incidents and information in the Sector-2 was also unveiled at the programme.

The city corporation has also a plan to build more sculptures featuring information of other sectors at the Osmani Uddan.

Speaking on the occasion, Planning Minister AK Khandker, also deputy chief of the liberation war forces, said that the government would start the trial of war criminals at the beginning of the next year.

"Our dreams and hopes are yet to be materialised," he said, adding that the trial of war criminals must be held in the soil of Bangladesh.

Former army chief Lt Gen (retd) Harun-Ar-Rashid said, "The anti-liberation ele-

ments have been strengthened over the years under the cover of dirty politics and are conspiring against the country."

Maj (retd) Ziauddin, a freedom fighter, said, "Different political parties exploited the freedom fighters over the years and some political parties even rehabilitated the war criminals and those who opposed the liberation war."

Sector Commander Maj Gen (retd) KM Shafiqullah also spoke.

Acting Mayor of DCC Anwar Hossain and Chief Executive Officer Nurul Islam welcomed the freedom fighters at the programme.

Cultural activists, including singers Abdul Jabbar, Fakir Alamgir, Timir Nandy, Shaheen Samad of Swadhin Bangla Betar Kendra, sang songs, which inspired the freedom fighters during the liberation war.

## Attack on Sandhani programme at DU: 5 hurt

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Some students of Dhaka University (DU) attacked a voluntary blood donation programme of Sandhani when the students were barred from creating unnecessary gathering at the programme at TSC yesterday, leaving at least five people injured.

Of them, Mujaheed Hossain, 30, Zakaria, 27, and Sujon, 18, were rushed to Dhaka Medical College Hospital while the rest were taken to other hospitals. All the injured were volunteers of Sandhani.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) Rezaul Karim of Shahbagh Police Station said a group of DU students made the attack on the blood donation programme arranged by Sir Salimullah Medical College unit of Sandhani around 1:30pm.

The authorities concerned tried to bar the students when they tried to create unnecessary gathering on the arrival of film actor Riaz to inspiring people for donating blood, he added.

Being enraged, they students came back within a few minutes and carried out the attack with bamboo sticks on the people present at the programme.

## DU Gha Unit admission test tomorrow

BSS, Dhaka

The written test of Gha Unit (group change unit) for first-year honours admission at Dhaka University (DU) for academic session 2009-10 will be held at 10:00am to 11:00am tomorrow.

Detailed seat plan for the admission test is available on the notice board of Arts Building and on university website [www.univdhaka.edu](http://www.univdhaka.edu)

Some 46,000 candidates will sit for the admission test with 51 students vying for each seat.

## Pledge to resist export of natural resources

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Members of the National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Electricity and Port yesterday pledged to resist any move to export natural resources.

They made the pledge at a programme at the National Mausoleum at Savar to mark the Victory Day.

Committee Convener Engineer Sheikh Muhammad Shahidullah administered the oath at the programme attended by people of all walks of life, says a press release of the Committee.

"We, the citizens of Bangladesh, reiterate that the soil, water, forest, sand and all natural resources under the soil are owned by the people of

Bangladesh. These resources are very important for energy security, industrialisation, electricity, agriculture and food security, employment and above all national security," says the oath.

"So, we pledge to play an active role to realise our demands to establish peoples' authority over these resources. Our victory is certain in the new war for liberation," it added.

National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Electricity and Port Member Secretary Prof Anu Muhammad, Prof M Shamsul Alam, Ruhin Hossain Prince of Communist Party of Bangladesh and Ragib Ahsan Munna of Workers Party and many others were present.

## Another BDR man dies

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A member of Bangladesh Rifles (BDR) died of rectum cancer at BDR Hospital at Pithkhan in the city yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Havildar Abdul Mannan Hawlader, 52, posted at 23 Rifles Battalion in Khulna, says a BDR press release.

Mannan went on a medical leave on August 24 and took treatment at Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib Medical University (BSMMU) and Cancer Institute Hospital at Mohakhali.

He had been undergoing treatment at Pithkhan BDR Hospital since December 1, the release added.

With the death of Mannan, so far 63 BDR personnel have died in separate incidents since the mutiny on February 25-26.



Indigenous people, who came from north-eastern Indian state of Meghalaya, perform a tribal dance number on the Dhaka University campus yesterday on the occasion of the Victory Day yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

## Cleanliness drive on Gulshan avenue

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The December Initiative, a voluntary organisation, carried out a cleanliness drive in the city's Gulshan avenue yesterday as part of increasing citizens' awareness.

It launched the drive to observe the Victory Day in a different way.

In association with MNA 'Barrister and Advocate' and Pizza Inn, some 60 people from different professional bodies, including the members of Youth Wave Student Society, participated in the drive.

They voluntarily picked up the trash from the roadside and threw those in the dustbins and urged the corporate houses to make their office premises clean.

Convener of the organisation Barrister Naser Alam, President of Youth Wave Student Society Abdullah Al Masud and Director-in-Operation of Pizza Inn Nazmul Anwar Jewel also took part.

## CU Day today

NUR UDDIN ALAMGIR

The Chittagong University (CU) authorities are all set to observe 'University Day' amid a daylong programme today for the first time in the history of the university, which was set up in 1966.

The campus has worn a festive look for the last few days ahead of the day to be marked with the biggest ever reunion of former students as well as the CU teachers.

The inaugural ceremony of the event would be held at the podium erected in front of Social Science Faculty at 10:00am in presence of the former students.

Dr Alauddin Ahmed, adviser to prime minister on education, would inaugurate the programme which includes a discussion and recollection of memories.

Primary and Mass Education Minister Afsarul Ameen will be present as the chief guest at the event where Chief Whip Abdus Shahid and Chittagong City Corporation Mayor ABM Mohiuddin Chowdhury would also be present.

The day's main programmes would be followed by a cultural event where artists of the university will perform with popular singers Kanak Chapa and Subir Nandi, said Assistant Prof Ali Asgar Chowdhury, also information and publicity subcommittee convener of the

programmes.

The traditional dance drama 'Malka Banu' will also be staged in the local dialect at the cultural programme.

A friendly football match, prize-giving of essay competition and a reception to the CU cricket team, which became the first runner-up in the Second Asian Inter-Varsity Cricket Invitational Tournament-2009 held recently in Malaysia, would also feature in the programmes.

A hanging bridge was built on the canal between the Social Science and the Arts faculties symbolising strong bond among the students of all disciplines.

Mohammad Rashedul Hasan, a former student of CU, said the first-ever observance of the day generated much enthusiasm among the former students.

Another alumnus Mohammad Saifuddin echoed Rashedul and said, "I feel happy to think of meeting many of my university friends whom I have been missing so much."

Vice Chancellor Prof Abu Yusuf looked much pleased to make arrangement marking the day.

"The gathering of former students, who are now holding responsible posts at different organisations or established as professionals, business and political personalities, would inspire the present students to achieve their goals," he hoped.

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