

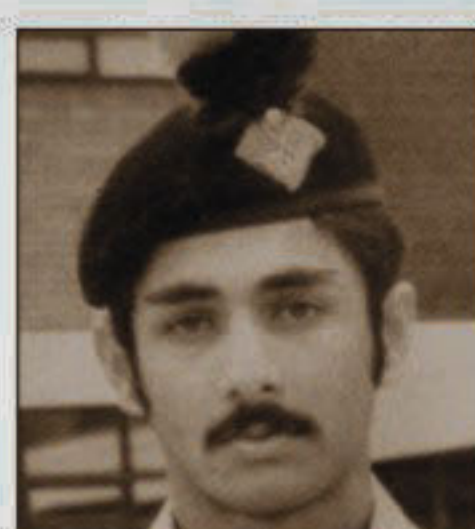
SOME OF THE AUGUST 15 VICTIMS



Begum Fazilatunnesa Mujib



Sheikh Kamal



Sheikh Jamal



Sheikh Russell



Sultana Kamal



Parvin Jamal Rosy



Sheikh Abu Naser



Abdur Rab Serniabat



Sheikh Fazlul Huq Moni



Begum Arzoo Moni



Baby Serniabat



Sukanto Abdullah



Shahid Serniabat



Abdul Nain Khan Rintu



Arif Serniabat

A citation that DU could not render on Bangabandhu

BSS, Dhaka

Dhaka University yesterday corrected a "historic mistake" it made 62 years ago by expelling one of its best-known students Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman, but the premier university could not pay its ceremonial tributes it had planned for the leader on August 15, 1975.

On 15th August 1975, Dhaka University prepared a citation to be conferred upon Bangabandhu at a special convocation ceremony, which could never happen as Bangabandhu was killed along with most of his family members in a predawn putsch on that very day.

The then vice chancellor Prof Dr Abdul Matin Chowdhury was supposed to render it on behalf of the teachers, students and employees the university conveying their support for the success of the "Second Revolution".

Bangabandhu also was scheduled to deliver a speech before the teachers, students and employees of the university and exchange views with them at the programme at the Teacher-Student Centre (TSC).

The full translated text of the citation, which was supposed to be read out by the then, Dhaka University vice chancellor was as follows:

"The following is a citation to show respect to the founder of the nation, the Honorable President of the Peoples' Republic of Bangladesh, Honorable Chancellor of Dhaka University Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman on behalf of all the teachers, students and employees of this university" Honorable Chancellor, We are glad that you have come to the University of Dhaka for the first time as its honorable Chancellor. We are proud that you are the first Chancellor

to visit this university in 54 years of its history. We warmly welcome you. You know the glorious heritage of this university and its contributions to students' mass movement. We remember with due respect on this auspicious occasion those teachers, employees and students who sacrificed their lives in our struggle for Independence and all other struggles. We are grateful to you for your gracious help to this university.

Honorable Chancellor,

A second revolution under your leadership has begun across the country. We congratulate you for initiating this second groundbreaking revolution. This university will support and materialise this second revolution like the first one. Your arrival at Dhaka University at a time of revolutionary change is indeed a memorable event.

Honorable Chancellor,

You know the problems of Dhaka University. There is no need to tell you about the problems again. In fact the university has problems and all of them cannot be solved. We firmly believe that facing problems with courage and trying to solve them are the main signs of development. There were 7000 students in this university before our Independence and now there are 15000 students. As a result we have to face the problems of residence, classroom shortage, lack of resources in the library and seminars etc. Teachers and employees have some problems too. We know that all the problems cannot be solved overnight. Initiatives to solve the problems should be taken in the light of overall situation of the country. Despite the fact, we have to remember that Dhaka University is the oldest, biggest and according to people the best university in Bangladesh. I have discussed the prob-

lems of this university with you many times before. You said that you wanted to turn Dhaka University into the national university. We want your kind sympathy, goodwill and consideration in this regard.

Honorable Chancellor,

No individual or institution is eternal. But this university will exist as long as Bangladesh exists. And according to our belief, this university will determine the political, social, economic and cultural future and way of life in Bangladesh. So we hope for special consideration of you, your government and the people of Bangladesh for this university.

Honorable Chancellor,

We extend our heartfelt thanks to you on behalf of the teachers, administration and employees of this university for your arrival despite having busy schedule. This university is yours, mine and ours. We want to assure you that we will work hard to materialise the second revolution announced by you. We pray to the Almighty for the success of the second revolution, because it has no alternatives.

The second revolution is the only way to freedom for the oppressed people of Bangladesh. We express our allegiance and gratefulness to you again. We also pray to the almighty for your good health and long life.

Long live Bangla (Joy Bangla), long live Bangabandhu (Joy Bangabandhu), and long live Dhaka University (Joy Dhaka Biswabidyalaya).

August 15, 1975

Yours obedient,

On behalf of all the teachers, employees and Students of Dhaka University
Abdul Matin Chowdhury
Vice-Chancellor

Foreign currency worth Tk 1 crore seized

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

A team of customs surveillance last night recovered foreign currencies worth around Tk one crore at Shahjalal International Airport.

Superintendent Md Iqbal Hossain of the customs department said the currencies contained in three packets were found hidden under the seatbelt of a flight of Biman Bangladesh that arrived in Dhaka from Jeddah via Chittagong.

He said the currencies include 4.22 lakh of Saudi riyal and 1.35 lakh dirham of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Iqbal said the Biman flight landed at the airport at around 7:30pm and they recovered the currencies in an abandoned condition.

Installation ceremony of Inner Wheel Club held

METRO DESK

The 20th installation ceremony of Inner Wheel Club of Metropolitan Dhaka was held at Hotel Lake Shore in the city recently, says a press release.

Chairman of Inner Wheel District-328 Tahera Muzaffar was present at the ceremony as the chief guest while club's National Representative Sophia Kabir was the guest of honour.

Shaheen Anam, executive director of Manusher Jonno Foundation, was present as the special guest.

Shaheen Anam in her speech emphasised issues like women's rights, healthcare, child labour and child education. She also called for establishing a crime-free society where all can live safely.

Club President Kashfia Chowdhury sought cooperation of all members so that she could carry out her responsibilities for the betterment of club. The new president also pledged to continue to run different projects of the club.

Club members, different club presidents and secretaries and representatives of different international women's organisations in Bangladesh attended the ceremony.

District chairman and national representative spoke on different social issues of the organisation.

The installation ceremony is one of the important events of the club where a new executive committee takes over charge for one year.

Bangabandhu faced more problems than contemporary leaders

Says Mark Tully

BSS, New Delhi

Celebrated BBC journalist Sir William Mark Tully, reputed particularly for his extensive coverage of the Liberation War, believes Bangabandhu had to steer a new born nation facing more problems than any other leader of that time.

"He (Bangabandhu) faced more problems than his contemporary leaders," Tully said in an interview at his New Delhi residence ahead of Bangabandhu's 35th martyrdom anniversary.

Tully said, "He had bigger problems-the nation was broken, then there was global economic recession, coupled with rise of prices of petroleum products."

"There was the open border with India making it impossible to stop smuggling... he had faced more problems than any other leaders of his time," added Tully.

While revisiting memory lanes recalling his personal acquaintance with Bangabandhu particularly after the independence, the British journalist described him as a leader who was "extremely friendly and open, a man who loved his people most."

"I found him extremely friendly and open, he was a very friendly man, a very big person in every sense of the term of the word," the elderly British journalist recalled.

He also recalled the memories of Bangabandhu's public meetings, which he had attended and said, "He (Bangabandhu) had a wonderful voice that could mesmerise the crowd. I could feel from their reactions when Sheikh Shaheb used to address public meetings."

Tully recounted that he was deeply saddened 35 years ago on hearing news of Bangabandhu's assassination when he was working at the London head office of the radio service. He was expelled from India some time before following a state of emergency in 1975 proclaimed by then premier Indira Gandhi.

"I was working in the night shift when the news of his brutal assassination came. I was obviously very sad as Bangabandhu had been very kind to me," said Tully.

"Personally I was sad because when I met him for the first time, I saw the high hopes and optimism he had for his people and his belief in the future of Bangladesh," said the journalist.

During his visit after Bangladesh's independence, Mark Tully was to make some reports on the new-born country and sought an interview with the charismatic leader of the new-born Bangladesh.

"Of course I wanted to interview the Bangladesh leader. But I never knew he would grant permission to actually see me so soon. I was told Sheikh Saheb was interested to meet me. We had a long discussion and he spoke a great deal about the new-born Bangladesh," he added.

"Sheikh Shaheb told me about his determination to establish secular democracy in Bangladesh and all about his dreams."

Tully recalled that Bangabandhu, at the very outset of the interview, thanked him for his contribution to the Liberation War while he replied saying "I merely reported the news, many other journalists had done like me."

But Bangabandhu would not agree and at the end of the conversation he presented him with a painting, which "is still with me."

"I was very much touched by this gesture (the gift) and you might be knowing we (BBC journalists) are not supposed to accept gifts."

"I told my BBC head office in London about the gift and informed them that I would put the painting in the BBC office in Delhi, which I did."

At the end of the interview Sir Mark Tully showed the painting hung in his living room. It was a painting by artist Muzimul Azim, in 1973.

Asked how he managed to do so, "I simply took it from the office," Tully quipped with a smile as the rare gift from Bangabandhu would remain a treasure to him for a long time.

Tully, recipient of 'Padmashri Award' from the Indian Government in 1992, said he had met the Bangladesh leader several times after that. But he could not recollect the number of times that Bangabandhu told him that he was upset with the mountain of problems.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Inner Wheel Club of Metropolitan Dhaka President Kashfia Chowdhury, right, receives charter of the club from the immediate past president Ifat Siddiky at its installation ceremony in the city recently while District Chairman of Inner Wheel District-328 Tahera Muzaffar looks on.



PHOTO: COURTESY

Dhanmondi community police organises a meeting at the Retired Government Employees' Welfare Association Bhaban in the city recently with a view to easing traffic jam in the area. Owners of different schools, colleges, universities, hospitals, clinics, community centres, super markets of Dhanmondi attended the meeting. Dhanmondi Traffic Community Police President Nazmul Hasan presided over the meeting while Bangladesh Press Council Chairman Justice Ebadul Haque was present as the chief guest. Sitting from left are Abdul Quayyum Thakur, Advocate Nazmul Hasan, Justice Ebadul Haque, DMP Deputy Commissioner Md Akram Hossain and Nazmul Islam.

4 injured in BCL factional clash at Titumir College

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

At least four students were injured when two groups of Bangladesh Chhatra League (BCL) clashed at Government Titumir College in the city early hours yesterday.

The injured are Shamim Ahmed, 22, Ariful Islam, 21, Abu Sayeed, 22, and Mohammad Ibrahim, 22. All of them were admitted to Dhaka Medical College Hospital with stab injuries.

Shamim said the injured were BCL activists who were expected to be included in the organisation's college unit committee to be formed soon. The attackers and the injured are residential students of Shahid Ankhil Hall.

Shamim said Biplob and his men of the college BCL unit called the victims out over cell phone at around 12:30pm. About 10 to 12 activists of Biplob's group attacked them with sharp weapons and left them seriously injured.

He alleged that Biplob and his men were peddling drugs such as phensidyl, yaba and cannabis in the campus using BCL's name. They had taken a strong stand against such activities.

Officer-in-Charge (OC) of Gulshan Police Station Kamal Hossain said two groups of students clashed over establishing supremacy on the campus. None filed any complaint with police yet. Police has been trying to arrest the accused students.

IUB freshers' reception

METRO DESK

Independent University, Bangladesh (IUB) organised an orientation programme on campus at Bashundhara yesterday for the newly admitted students of the Autumn 2010 semester, says a press release.

In his acquaintance speech Pro-Vice Chancellor Prof Omar Rahman spoke on the distinctive nature of IUB education, which places importance of professional education on the foundation of cross-disciplinary liberal arts curricula. Vice-Chancellor Prof Bazlul Mobin Chowdhury welcomed the new students and thanked them for choosing IUB and urged them to utilize the time to come out as the best professionals in their fields as well as better human beings.

The programme included a multi-media presentation on the university and its study programmes, future prospects and the facilities available for the students at the schools, computer labs and laboratories and described the on-going academic activities of the university by the School of Business (SB), School of Engineering & Computer Science (SECS), School of Environmental Science & Management (SESM) and School of Liberal Arts & Social Sciences (SLASS). Ms Lima Choudhury conducted the ceremony.

The newly admitted students, their parents, guardians, members of the faculty and management were present on the occasion.

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