

Nat'l Eidgah jamaat at 8am

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The main Eid jamaat (congregation) of the holy Eid-ul-Azha will be held at the National Eidgah on the High Court premises in the city at 8:00am.

Prof Maulana Muhammad Salah Uddin, Khatib of Baitul Mukarram National Mosque, will conduct the prayer, reports UNB.

President Zillur Rahman, the chief justice, cabinet members and other high officials and distinguished personalities are likely to attend the main congregation.

Car parking system, water supply, and information centre in the Eidgah are among the necessary measures taken in service of the devotees.

Five Eid jamaats will be held at the national mosque at 7:00am, 8:00am, 9:00am, 10:00am, and 10:45am.

At Bashiruddin Road Jame Mosque in Kalabagan, the Eid jamaat will be held at 8:30am and two jamaats will be held at the Dhaka University Central Mosque at 7:00am and 8:00am.

The jamaat of the holy Eid will also be held at Gulshan Central Mosque and Eidgah Society at 8:30 am and at Kallyanpur Housing Estate ground at 7:45am.

Dhaka City Corporation (DCC) will arrange Eid congregations at 361 mosques or fields of 90 wards in the city including the DU playground.



Anis-uz-Zaman third Brac ombudsman

METRO DESK

Anis-uz-Zaman Khan, ex-secretary and former managing director of Social Marketing Company, has been appointed the third ombudsperson for Brac, says a press release.

For a three-year period, Khan will have a comprehensive mandate to investigate any incident of misadministration and misuse of power within Brac.

His responsibilities include finding out of grievances, corruption, abuse of power or discretion, negligence, oppression, nepotism, rudeness, arbitrariness, unfairness, and discrimination.

Khan will have unrestricted access to Brac's main and field offices, personnel and documents in order to fulfill his tasks of investigation, assessment, and preparation of reports.

He will also examine the activities of Brac and determine whether fairness, equity (including gender), and social responsibility are being maintained in its various non-profit activities.

The new Brac ombudsperson occupied important posts in different government and non-government organisations during his career starting in 1960.



Mirkadim Cow Our own 'Kobe-style' raising

Mirkadim cows, raised especially for the Eid cattle market, on sale exclusively at the Rahmatganj cattle market in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: STAR

HELEMUL ALAM

We may not have Kobe beef, the Japanese bovine meat famous for its tenderness and flavour, but we have something similar of a delicacy-- the Mirkadim beef.

The cattle from Mirkadim, an area in Munshiganj, are one of the most sought after among the country's beef connoisseurs. And you won't get Mirkadim cows everywhere or in large numbers.

There is just one cattle market during every Eid-ul-Azha where traders sell the particular sub-species of cattle. The numbers are limited and the cows are, like those from Kobe, quite pricey.

For around five decades, Mirkadim cows are exclusively being sold at the Rahmatganj cattle market every year.

What is so great about this Rajasthani breed of cattle raised specially for the Eid cattle market?

Firstly, the meat of this cow is extra tender with a distinct flavour, different

from any other. Secondly, you won't find a bull among the cattle being sold. The cows are all white in colour with a reddish tint. Their eyebrows and horns are also white, making them look quite different from a distance.

"This species are generally brought through West Bengal," said Ziaul Haque, one of the cattle traders who brought 40 such cows in the market yesterday, "but we also bring them from Rajasthan."

This year, the traders have brought only around 250 such cows. Only a decade ago, the number soared as high as 3,000, traders say.

Lack of supply from India and rise in the price of cattle feed are the main reasons for the declining availability of Mirkadim cows, said the traders.

With such restrictive availability, its no surprise that each cow would be sold at a price of Tk 70,000 or 80,000, almost double the price of an ordinary cow of the same size. Some of them will

cost even higher, even up to Tk 2.5 lakh each.

The traders have no difficulty selling them too.

"I will buy seven Mirkadim cows from the market for my family as the meat is very delicious and it is one of our family traditions to buy one," said Selim who comes here every year on a particular day like his father and grandfather.

The same goes for Mohammad Sani, a resident of Sundor Rai Sen Lane of Lalbagh in the city, who has also gone there to buy Mirkadim cows to maintain his family tradition.

Traders said there are over 50 such families of old town to surely visit the market to buy this particular species as their choice of sacrificial animals during Eid-ul-Azha.

The Mirkadim cows are typically sold out within just one day, said Nure Alam, a resident of Lalbagh who also came to buy this cow. What he implies

is that you may not get to see any of these cows today.

But there are a huge number of cows of other species in that market.

Traders from Mirkadim collect the cows from different districts of the country and India and rear those for around eight months in order to make them fit for sale in the market, said Ziaul.

"We rear the cows like our own and ensure special diets like Jau rice (a specially cooked rice), grounded maize powder and chick peas for which the cow's price remains high," said Shukkur Miah, another trader.

The tradition of selling this cow in the Rahmatganj market started five decades ago when the field (used as the market) was called Gani Miyar Hat, said Mofizur Rahman, general secretary of Garu Babshayi Samity in Mirkadim.

The Rahmatganj club took charge of the field after independence.

Language hero for Bangla in pvt varsity curricula

UNB, Dhaka

Language movement veteran Abdul Matin yesterday urged the government's necessary initiatives for conducting proper research on the mother tongue in all concerned institutions.

He requested the president to introduce the mother language in the curriculum of private universities which do not include Bangla in their educational program.

"I think, private universities should immediately introduce education of Bangla language."

Abdul Matin yesterday called on President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban in the city.

During the meeting, the language hero also said no country can develop without improvement of their mother language.

He appreciated the role of the present government in improving the mother language by establishing institute of mother language.

Bangla has been recognised as an international language for proper steps taken by the government, he added.

President Zillur Rahman gave him a patient hearing and assured his all-out support for the development of the mother language.



Language movement veteran Abdul Matin calls on President Zillur Rahman at Bangabhaban in the city yesterday.

PHOTO: PID

Housewife strangled in Chittagong

A CORRESPONDENT, CTG

A housewife was allegedly strangled at Khulsi upazila early hours yesterday.

The deceased was identified as Parvin Akhter, 45, hailing from Feni.

Being informed by the locals, police recovered Parvin's body hanging from ceiling fan from her residence at Ismail Bari of Biswa Colony at around 9:00am.

Parvin's husband Abul Kasem remained absconding.

Quoting Parvin's daughter Tithi, Sub Inspector (SI) Shahjalal of Khulsi Police Station said her father beat her mother mercilessly yesterday early hours and left the house.

Parvin was the second wife of Abul Kasem, Shahjalal said.

He suspected that the killing might have committed over family feud.

Japan gives 100 waste collection vehicles

UNB, DHAKA

Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) yesterday handed over 100 waste collection vehicles to Bangladesh to facilitate better waste management in the city.

Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina received the vehicles from Dr Takao Toda, chief representative of JICA, Bangladesh, at a ceremony at the PM's official residence Gono Bhavan.

LGRD Minister Syed Ashraf Islam, State Minister for LGRD Jahangir

Kabir Nanak, and Japanese Ambassador to Bangladesh Tamotsu Shinotsuka were present at the programme.

On the occasion, the PM termed Japan a long-trusted friend of Bangladesh. She said the vehicles would be of great help to keep the capital clean and the environment fresh.

Japan contributed a lot in Bangladesh's socio-economic development including in the construction the Jamuna Bridge, she added.

The 100 waste collection vehicles were provided under the environment grant aid project of JICA, which include 20 arm-roll trucks, 45 container carriers, and 35 modern trash compactors.

The vehicles will operate in different areas of the city under JICA's technical cooperation project "Strengthening of Solid Waste Management in Dhaka City".

About 1,100 tonnes of wastage, which is a quarter to the total estimated wastage in the city, can be transported daily with the vehicles.

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