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# Of '71 butchers

SHAHNAZ PARVEEN

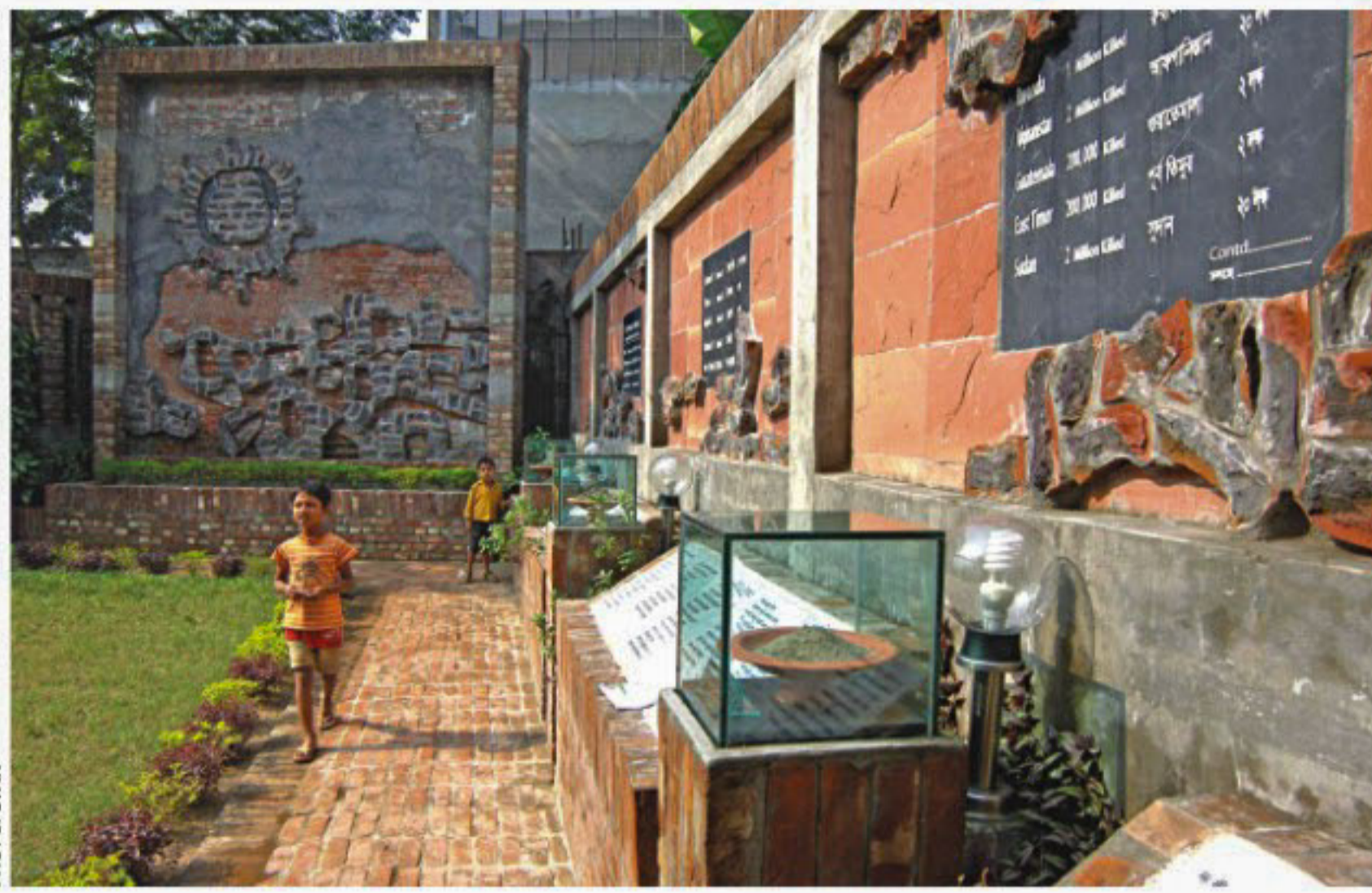
Blood and death greeted his eyes as his 'friends' dragged him inside the pump house to slit his throat, Sharikul Islam Bablu shuddered while narrating his spine-chilling experience on July 28, 1971 in Mirpur 'Jalladkhana'.

Till then, Bablu, who was a teenager, had only heard horror stories about the Jalladkhana, a mass killing site that witnessed the gruesome demise of hundreds of martyrs during the liberation war.

"Those grisly tales suddenly became real as my playmates took me there," he said in a tone of shock.

Bablu was nearly unconscious with pain as he was severely beaten before being dragged inside the pump house. They were about to kill him, when for suddenly they took pity on him and let him go, recounted Bablu.

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The memorial at the Mirpur Jalladkhana (butcher's den) in the city's Mirpur area. During the Liberation War, occupying Pakistani forces and their local collaborators brutally killed many Bangalees and threw their bodies here, an abandoned pump house at that time.

## SQ Chy's city house raided

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Law enforcers searched BNP standing committee member Salauddin Quader Chowdhury's Dhanmondi residence in the capital yesterday.

A police squad including detectives entered the house at about 6:00 pm and left around 9:30pm.

The BNP leader or any of his family members was not in the house at the time, sources said.

A domestic help said police personnel entered five rooms by breaking the locks. And they took away video footage captured by security cameras at the house.

Contacted, the BNP leader's counsel Parvez Ahmed said he was staying at his Chittagong residence for the last two days.

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## Bepza chief withdrawn

### 11 Youngone units resume production

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

Production resumed at 11 factories of Korean-owned Youngone Ltd in Chittagong Export Processing Zone (CEPZ) yesterday after a two-day suspension due to labour unrest over implementation of the new pay scale.

Workers of all the 158 factories inside the CEPZ joined work in the morning, said SM Abdur Rashid, CEPZ general manager. The violence over alleged wage anomalies left four dead and 100 injured in the port city Sunday.

In the wake of the unrest, the government yesterday withdrew Chairman of Bangladesh Export Processing Zone Authority (BEPZA) Brig Gen Jamil Ahmed Khan, officials said.

Maj Gen ATM Shahidul Islam, who had earlier been deputed to Prime Minister's Office, will replace Jamil Ahmed, said a handout of Press Information Department, adding that Jamil Ahmed has been redirected to the Armed Forces Division.

BEPZA officials, however, could not confirm the reshuffling.

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## WikiLeaks' Assange granted bail

REUTERS, London

WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange, arrested in Britain on Swedish allegations of sex crimes, was granted bail by a British court yesterday.

The prosecution has until 1730 GMT to lodge an official appeal in the same court after judge Howard Riddle granted Assange bail with conditions until another hearing on January 11.

Assange remained in court pending a decision on the appeal. His supporters must also lodge 200,000 pounds in bail (\$317,400) before he can be set free.

The 39-year-old Australian, whose website has provoked US fury by publishing some of a trove of 250,000 classified US

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## Ship breakers get HC rebuke

STAFF CORRESPONDENT

The High Court today will pass an order on Bangladesh Environmental Lawyers Association's petition seeking directives for the government to frame specific rules to regulate the import of scrap ships.

After hearing on the petition yesterday, the bench of Justice AHM Shamsuddin Chowdhury Manik and Justice Sheikh Md Zakir Hossain fixed today for delivering the order.

During hearing, it rebuked the leaders of Bangladesh Ship Breakers Association (BSBA) for holding a press conference on the issue, which is sub judice.

Referring to the news published in The Daily Star on Monday's BSBA press conference, Justice Shamsuddin, leading judge of the bench, asked the counsels for BSBA to call the association leaders before the bench for explanation in this regard.

The ship breakers held the press conference on a matter that is sub-judice to influence this court, the bench observed.

Rokanuddin Mahmud, Anisul Huq and Sheikh Fazle Noor Taposh apologised to the court on behalf of their clients (BSBA leaders).


Bela filed the petition on Sunday as supplementary to the original writ petition upon which the HC on March 17 last year directed the government to frame specific rules in the perspective of labour and environment protection laws and Basel Convention restricting import of hazardous ships.

But the environment and forest ministry apparently ignored the HC order and allowed the ship breakers to import ships with 'inbuilt' toxic materials.

Syeda Rizwana Hasan and Iqbal Kabir appeared for Bela.

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**CONGRATULATIONS**

City Bank heartily congratulates Mr. Rubel Aziz, one of our honorable directors, on being re-elected as the President of one of the most distinguished clubs - Gulshan Club - in the country. He is also the current Director of Partex Group, Chairman of Janata Insurance Company Limited, Director of IDLC Finance Limited, Vice-Chairman of ITC (Q-cash) Limited - a few among many other leadership positions held by him at different organizations.

We are confident that Gulshan Club will reach new heights under his visionary leadership.

From The City Bank Ltd. Team



**OnlinePoll** ✓

Do you agree to BNP leaders' statement to the diplomats that the government is out to eliminate the opposition?

Yes (78.4%)  
 No (20.8%)  
 No Comments (0.8%)

**Total votes: 1950**

**TODAY'S POLL**

Do you agree with Awami League General Secretary Syed Ashrafur Islam that BNP has extended its support to the December 26 nationwide hartal to protect war criminals?

Please cast your vote at [www.thedailystar.net](http://www.thedailystar.net)

**Prayer Timing**

December 15

	Azan	Jamaat
Fajr	5-20	5-55
Zohr	12-45	1-15
Asr	3-45	4-00
Maghrib	5-22	5-25
Esha	7-00	7-30

Source: Islamic Foundation

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